

May 18, 2017

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515
c/o Nancy Fox

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
c/o Shalanda Young

The Honorable Mike Simpson
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development
2362B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
c/o Angie Giancarlo

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
c/o Taunja Berquam

Dear Chairmen Frelinghuysen and Simpson and Ranking Members Lowey and Kaptur:

The undersigned navigation stakeholders express their gratitude for your leadership in funding for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) navigation program at \$2.604 billion for the FY 2017 Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies (E&W) Appropriations Act. We appreciate your leadership in recognizing the nexus between water resources development and economic prosperity, and we appreciate your efforts to increase USACE navigation program funding.

As you turn your attention to the FY 2018 E&W appropriations bill, we respectfully request \$2.9 billion for the USACE navigation program. The amount will enable:

- FY 2018 funding to 'Hit the HMT Target' as established in WRDA legislation
- Full use of Inland Waterway Trust Fund revenues
- Full funding of the Donor and Energy Transfer Ports Program
- Existing USACE navigation planning studies to achieve the WRRDA 2014 three-year completion schedule

We also support providing funding and guidance for new study and construction starts.

Federal investments in navigation-related infrastructure are an essential and effective utilization of limited resources. These investments pay dividends through increased trade and international competitiveness, sustainable job creation and federal, state and local tax revenues. We welcome

the opportunity to work with you and members of the Subcommittee and full Committee in support of passing a FY 2018 E&W appropriations bill that will enable safe and efficient freight movement that is essential to our nation's 21st century economic growth.

Sincerely,

American Association of Port Authorities
American Association of State Highway and
Transportation Officials
American Great Lakes Ports Association
American Petroleum Institute
American Road and Transportation Builders
Association
American Waterways Operators
Associated General Contractors
Association of Ship Brokers and Agents
Big River Coalition
California Marine Affairs and Navigation
Conference
Dredging Contractors of America
Florida Ports Council
Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association

Gulf Ports Association of the Americas
Lake Carriers Association
Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River
and Bay
National Association of Maritime
Organizations
National Association of Waterfront
Employers
National Grain and Feed Association
New York Shipping Association
Pacific Northwest Waterways Association
Propeller Club of New Orleans
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
U.S. Maritime Association
Waterways Council, Inc.