

QPI Initiative 2012 Work Groups and Outcomes

Presentation by
QPI Chairman Frank Hamons
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QPI Winter Meeting

Results:

- ▶ Results: 25 specific challenges addressed by work groups composed of some of the nation's best practitioners.
- ▶ Solutions: Ranging from operational improvements to high-level policy changes for more effective outcomes:
 - Ways to **reduce** time required to complete studies
 - **Flexibility for funding** and in-kind contributions by non-federal partners
 - **Steps for improving communications** among partners to share information on individual project needs, as well as to the overall process.

2012 Report and Status


- ▶ The 2012 report is available at www.aapa-ports.org as the “Quality Partnership Initiative Report 2012”
- ▶ Some are moving forward – some need more detailed action plans and assignments.

AAPA LPC Commitments

The Legislative Policy Council of AAPA affirmed the need to improve and promote the changes and efficiencies. They committed the AAPA staff to the following actions:

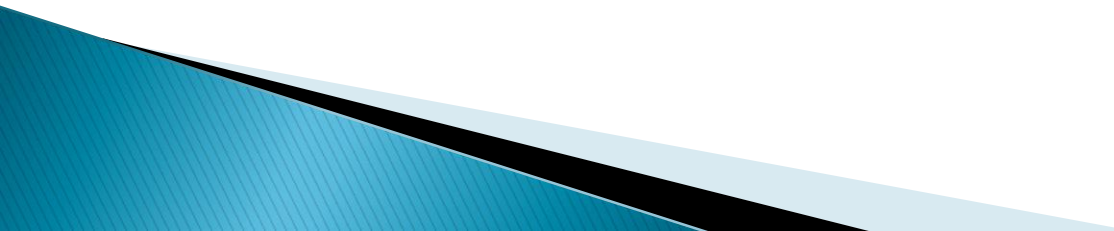
1. The AAPA will advocate for changes or additions to Corps authorities in Water Resources Development Act legislation;
2. The AAPA will work with Army and Corps offices for closer coordination and collaboration on communication needs consistent with the Partnering Agreement and MOU;

AAPA LPC Commitments


3. The AAPA and the Corps will continue to work together to identify and implement process improvements in the Corps' project delivery
 4. Corps and AAPA members should continue discussions through QPI to identify additional measures that contribute to the three workgroup topics of concern
 5. Corps and AAPA members should continue to meet annually to foster better understanding of the port industry and Corps institutional processes
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A Landmark Effort

What have we learned to date?

- ▶ We have a common goal- to maintain a healthy maritime nation
 - ▶ Solutions are not easy - but - Compromise can happen
 - ▶ As practitioners, we have essential knowledge and we can be heard
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Our Work is Not Finished

- ▶ Looking ahead – there are several open items.
 - ▶ Last year we:
 - Identified key target areas needing solutions
 - Laid out the possible answers
 - ▶ This year we need to:
 - Set out priorities from our remaining work
 - Develop the action plans, timeframes and assignments
 - Identify new challenges and solutions
 - Strengthen the senior review process
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Value of QPI Going Forward

- ▶ QPI has reset the relationship between ports and the Corps at the highest levels.
 - ▶ Rather than merely discuss problems, the partnership approach has enabled identification of solutions.
 - ▶ More importantly, both AAPA member ports and the Corps are committed to working together to move forward with solutions, while identifying additional challenges and finding workable solutions to them.
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