WRDA 2018 and 2020

Harbors and Navigation meeting

Mobile, AL

Jim Walker

AAPA Government Relations

Director of Navigation Policy and Legislation

April 9, 2019

WRDA 2018

- Authorized 3 coastal navigation channel improvement projects for construction

- Extended the construction authorization, from 7 to 10 years, for channel improvements approved in WRRDA 2014 or WIIN 2016.

- Expedited qualifying projects currently under study to proceed into the preliminary engineering and design phase

- Approved modifications to authorized navigation projects

America's Water Infrastructure Act, S. 3021 WRDA 2018

- Directs the Corps to provide technical assistance when requested for sponsor-led navigation channel improvement studies

- Directs the Corps to maintain and provide a 'balance sheet' on cost-shared funding efforts to address dredged material placement facility cost-share issues

- Requires a maintenance backlog report that will inform progress being made on navigation channel and supporting assets being well maintained (aligns with AAPA HMT efforts)

America's Water Infrastructure Act, S. 3021 WRDA 2018

- Increases stakeholder involvement in Corps policy development; and

- Directs the Corps to have the National Academy of Sciences study the Corps' organizational structure, both among federal agencies and internal districts and divisions. (FY19 Energy and Water appropriation prohibited funds for this effort)

WRDA 2020 Requests

- **HMT legislation**
- **Initial Scope and Schedule discussions** needed prior to signing Feasibility Cost Share agreement?
- **Donor and Energy Transfer Ports**

  Extend the program authorization

  Revise the qualification criteria for most recent 3 years

  Include estimate of cruise passenger HMT revenues

WRDA 2020 Requests cont'd

- **What about past issues?**
- **Utility Relocations**
- **Section 408 evaluations**
- **Dredged material placement area tipping fees – construction cost versus market value**

Summary

- **Congress – kudos for returning WRDA to regular order – 2014, 2016 & 2018**
- **Congress seeking AAPA input for WRDA 2020 by this summer**
- **Please share ideas as they arise – now is the time!**

Thanks for all you do!

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