

# WATERWAYS WORK
## FOR TEXAS

Waterways and ports support 207,970 Texas jobs and directly contribute $34 billion to our state's economy. Smart investment in this vital system will help create jobs and keep our economy growing.

### ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ARE SHIPPED TO AND FROM TEXAS THROUGH WATERWAYS AND PORTS:

**$206 Billion**
of petroleum products and crude petroleum that is refined into gasoline and sold at neighborhood gas stations

**$142 Billion**
of manufactured goods including computers and electronic products, appliances, machinery, electrical equipment and clothing

**$52 Billion**
of basic chemicals used in hundreds of consumer products from appliances to toys, from soap to cosmetics

### COMMODITIES TRAVEL TO AND FROM TEXAS ON MANY VITAL TRANSPORTATION LINKS, INCLUDING:

**WATERWAYS:**
Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Mississippi River, Ohio River, Tennessee River

**PORTS:**
Ports of Houston/Galveston, Port of New Orleans, Port of Charleston, Port of Anchorage

### WATERWAYS AND PORTS CONTRIBUTE DIRECTLY TO TEXAS'S ECONOMY:

**Total Revenue Impact:** **$34 Billion** = Direct Business Revenue: **$16.7 Billion** + Personal Income: **$14.1 Billion** + Local Purchases: **$3.3 Billion**

### TOGETHER, WATERWAYS AND PORTS SUPPORT

# 207,970 Texas Jobs

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Texas's commercial deepwater ports connect 152,000 miles of rail, 460,000 miles of pipelines, and 45,000 miles of interstate highways
- Texas has 11 deepwater ports, but hurricane damage and age threaten their ability to handle the next generation of post-Panamax vessels
- Over half of Texas port facilities require maintenance to fully accommodate the next generation of maritime shipping vessels

Waterways and ports help drive Texas's economy. Failure to invest in our waterways and ports will hurt Texas's exports, business sales and job creation.

With smart investment, we can handle increasing cargo loads efficiently, begin to address problems caused by congestion and delays and power Texas's economic growth.

**Sources:** Delcan Real-Time Freight Intelligence, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Waterborne Commerce Statistics, U.S. Department of Commerce International Trade Administration Import and Export Data, U.S. Department of Transportation's Commodity Flow Survey, National Waterways Foundation, Waterways Council, Inc., ASCE 2013 Infrastructure Report Card



# WATERWAYS WORK
## FOR AMERICA

### UNDERSTANDING THE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT (WRDA)

America's marine transportation system is vital to our nation's competitiveness and economic growth.

The system safely, efficiently and cost-effectively transports hundreds of commodities like petroleum, coal, industrial chemicals, building materials and agricultural products to destinations within the United States and to deep water ports for export.

The inland waterways and ports are maintained and operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps). But it's up to Congress to provide authority and funding for maintenance and operations. The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) is the primary legislative vehicle through which specific projects are authorized while annual appropriations bills are the legislative vehicle that funds these projects.

WRDA authorizes new projects for flood protection, port improvement and upgrades to the nation's aging locks and dams infrastructure. Additionally, the legislation promotes projects that improve hydropower, municipal and industrial water supply, ecosystem restoration and recreational opportunities.

### RELIEF FOR A SYSTEM UNDER STRESS

In 1986 Congress adopted a major overhaul of Army Corps programs and envisioned new WRDA legislation every two years. Unfortunately, it hasn't happened that way. It's been nearly six years since the previous WRDA passed in 2007 — and Congress had to override a Presidential veto to pass the legislation. Before that the previous authorization passed in 2000.

As a result, the Corps has been chronically underfunded. System maintenance has fallen behind. Critical new projects can't get started, and those project that do receive funds move slowly as resources are stretched to meet multiple priorities.

In fact, at current funding levels the Corps estimates it will take 77 years — the entire lifespan of an average American — to complete the 22 planned major construction and rehabilitation projects.

### A VITAL INVESTMENT IN AMERICA

Modernizing the nation's marine transportation system can create American jobs, increase exports, and inject billions of dollars into the U.S. economy. On average, investment in the marine transportation system infrastructure returns more than 10 times to the nation's economy what is spent.

The Water Resources Development Act will promote investment in the nation's critical water resource infrastructure, streamline project delivery and reform the implementation of Corps programs.

The 113th Congress has the opportunity — for the first time in six years — to move WRDA legislation. Congress can kick-start strategic investment in our ports and inland waterways, increase American competitiveness and, in the process, create hundreds of thousands of high-paying U.S. jobs.

### FAST FACTS

**77 Years**

At current funding levels it will take 77 years to complete 22 planned major projects.

**$1 = $10**

Every $1 invested in our inland waterways returns $10 to our nation's economy.

**Sources:**

2013 Report Card for America's Infrastructure, ASCE

National Waterways Foundation

Waterways Council, Inc.