



May 16, 2014

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Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
2167 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Boxer and Chairman Shuster:

The members of the National Waterways Conference would like to thank you for your leadership and commitment to the nation's water resources infrastructure and offer our congratulations for finalizing H.R. 3080, the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014.

As you well know, our water resources infrastructure provides life-saving flood control, needed water supplies, shore protection, water-based recreation, environmental restoration, and hydropower production, essential to our economic well-being. Moreover, waterways transportation is the safest, most energy-efficient and environmentally sound mode of transportation.

We are pleased with the provisions designed to keep our ports and waterways open for business and protect the nation from floods. We appreciate the adjustment to the Olmsted cost share formula and the targets for increased expenditures from the harbor maintenance trust fund. In addition, the provisions to accelerate and streamline project delivery, enhance transparency, and provide for increased participation by non-Federal interests will assist in strengthening these critical investments.

We look forward to a swift enactment of this much-needed legislation, recognizing the critical role of our nation's water resources infrastructure to a robust economy, job creation, public safety and environmental well-being.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy W. Larson, Esq.
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Dedicated to a greater understanding of the widespread public benefits of our nation's water resources infrastructure.

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