

Wilmington, Delaware  
 December 17, 2009

#3287  
 Sponsor:

Council  
 President  
 Griffiths

Council  
 Members  
 Shabazz  
 Bolden  
 Brown  
 Potter  
 Kelley  
 Walsh

**WHEREAS**, the Port of Wilmington is a valuable economic engine for the State of Delaware's interstate and international commerce; and

**WHEREAS**, the Delaware River Main Channel Deepening Project ("the Project") is a U.S. Army Corp of Engineers project that allows for the deepening (dredging) of the Delaware River from 40 feet to 45 feet; and

**WHEREAS**, the Project allows for larger vessels to traverse the Delaware River and dock at ports on the River, including the Port of Wilmington, encouraging existing shippers to continue to provide work for existing facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, with a deeper channel, the Port of Wilmington would also encourage shipping companies to consider not only maintaining their current level of port activity, but also to consider expanding such port activity, resulting in the need for additional jobs in and around the Port of Wilmington; and

**WHEREAS**, in the shipping industry, the trend is to build larger ships to accommodate more cargo and larger ships require more "draft" or deeper water in order to navigate safely; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to maintain the current business activity and to promote growth in the Port of Wilmington, the deepening of the Delaware River is essential; and

**WHEREAS**, the Port of Wilmington is geographically "blessed" in that it is between larger markets and has easy access to rail and highway transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, studies indicate that the Project could inject over \$500 million a year into the local and regional economy. (Source: 2006 report by John C. Martin & Associates, LLC); and

**WHEREAS**, the Project would maintain and create a total of 6,000 direct and indirect jobs in Delaware with 44% of those employed residing in New Castle County and 36% in Wilmington. (Source: 2006 report by John C. Martin & Associates, LLC); and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Delaware would receive total business revenues of over \$212 million and over \$22 million in State and Local taxes annually. (Source: 2006 report by John C. Martin & Associates, LLC); and

**WHEREAS**, the Project will allow the State of Delaware to keep family-sustaining jobs for those who work in and around the Port of Wilmington and will encourage future economic expansion and job growth; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers designed the project to be environmentally friendly by use of advance technology for monitoring and protecting Delaware's wildlife, including performing the deepening of the River at specific times of the year in order to protect the mating and spawning of particular species; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Delaware would also reap the benefits of beach replenishment and creation of new wetlands; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the City of Wilmington recognizes the significant economic value of the Project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON** that the City Council supports the Delaware River Main Channel Deepening Project. The City Council urges the U.S. Army Corp to comply with the proper permitting procedures through DNREC and encourage the Governor, the Lt. Governor and the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control to support this project.

Passed by City Council,  
December 17, 2009

ATTEST: Maribel Ruiz  
City Clerk

Approved as to form this 10<sup>th</sup> day of  
December, 2009.

John R. Sheridan  
City Solicitor

RESOLUTION # 09- 217

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE DELAWARE  
RIVER MAIN CHANNEL DEEPENING PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, the Port of Wilmington is a valuable economic engine for the State of Delaware's interstate and international commerce; and

**WHEREAS**, the Delaware River Main Channel Deepening Project ("the Project") is a U.S. Army Corp of Engineers project that allows for the deepening (dredging) of the Delaware River from 40 feet to 45 feet; and

**WHEREAS**, the Project allows for larger vessels to traverse the Delaware River and dock at ports on the River, including the Port of Wilmington, encouraging existing shippers to continue to provide work for existing facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, with a deeper channel, the Port of Wilmington would also encourage shipping companies to consider not only maintaining their current level of port activity, but to consider expanding it resulting in the need for additional jobs in and around the Port of Wilmington; and

**WHEREAS**, in the shipping industry, the trend is to build larger ships to accommodate more cargo and larger ships require more "draft" or deeper water to safely navigate; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to maintain the current business and to promote growth in the Port of Wilmington, the deepening of the Delaware River is essential; and

**WHEREAS**, the Port of Wilmington is geographically "blessed" in that it is between larger markets and has easy access to rail and highway transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, studies indicate that the Project could inject over \$500 million a year into the local and regional economy. (Source: 2006 report by John C. Martin & Associates, LLC); and

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**WHEREAS**, the State of Delaware would receive total business revenues of over \$212 million and over \$22 million in State and Local taxes annually. (Source: 2006 report by John C. Martin & Associates, LLC); and

**WHEREAS**, the Project will allow the State of Delaware to keep family-sustaining jobs for those who work in and around the Port of Wilmington and will encourage economic expansion and job growth; and

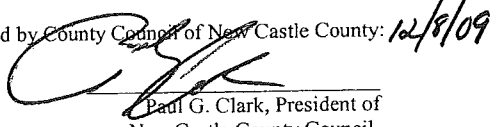
**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers designed the project to be environmentally friendly by use of advance technology for monitoring and protecting Delaware's wildlife, including performing the deepening of the River at specific times to protect the mating and spawning of particular species; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Delaware would also reap the benefits of beach replenishment and creation of new wetlands; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Castle County Council recognizes the economic value of the Project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** by the New Castle County Council that it supports the Delaware River Main Channel Deepening Project. The New Castle County Council urges the Governor, the Lt. Governor and the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control to support this project.

Adopted by County Council of New Castle County: 12/8/09

  
Paul G. Clark, President of  
New Castle County Council

SYNOPSIS: Same as title. This Resolution supports the Delaware River Main Channel Deepening Project and encourages the Governor, Lt. Governor, and Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control to support this project key to the economic development of the State of Delaware.

FISCAL IMPACT: No discernable impact upon approval of this resolution

