



DELAWARE RIVER 45-FOOT MAIN CHANNEL DEEPENING PROJECT

Construction to deepen the channel from 40 to 45 feet, first authorized by Congress in 1992, is approximately 80% complete.

President Obama's FY17 proposed budget included \$33 million for the Delaware River Deepening Project. In addition to the Administration's funding, an additional \$22 million was included for the project in the FY16 Army Corps of Engineers' current fiscal year work plan. This combined funding of \$55 million, and a 35% match from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, will move this project toward anticipated completion by the end of calendar year 2017.

As evidenced by the fact that every other major port on the East coast currently enjoys channel depths of 42 to 50 feet, deepening the Delaware River navigation channel to 45 feet is critical to regional commerce and an important economic development priority.

Investment in this project protects approximately 135,000 existing direct, indirect and induced port-related jobs. Equally important, this project has the potential to generate approximately \$1 billion in port infrastructure projects throughout the region.

The potential availability of deeper water has had significant impacts on Delaware River investment.

- The Philadelphia Regional Port Corporation is in the process of soliciting proposals for the development of over 190 acres of land for port expansion (SouthPort and SouthPort West).
- The South Jersey Port Corporation is constructing a new port in Paulsboro, New Jersey.
- The State of New Jersey has entered into an agreement to develop a port at the former DuPont facility in Repaupo, New Jersey.
- The Port of Wilmington is in the process of updating its Master Plan to identify long-term expansion opportunities.
- New Castle County, Delaware is exploring the potential for a new container facility to be located between the existing Port of Wilmington and the ocean.
- Possible investment for these projects totals over \$1 billion.

The Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay, a not-for-profit trade association, serving the tri-state port community since 1875, is dedicated to promoting and encouraging commerce on the Delaware River and Bay. We represent regional members from all facets of international trade and related businesses and welcome members who support our mission, objectives, and goals. Working together to address and resolve issues of mutual concern, sharing information critical to the timely movement of cargo through the ports, and supporting conditions that allow our community to operate in the most positive economic climate possible are all Exchange hallmarks.

For further information, contact Dennis Rochford at dennis.rochford@maritimedelriv.com or Beverly Ford at bford@maritimedelriv.com.