



Investments in infrastructure are investments in the long-term strength and security of the nation.

THE NATIONAL WATERWAYS CONFERENCE, INC.

Supports:

- Rational, balanced, common sense policies and programs that recognize the multiple uses of water and the essential contributions of a healthy and environmentally sound water resources infrastructure to the nation's economic prosperity, public health and national security.




- Robust investments in critical water resources infrastructure, including funding for operation and maintenance sufficient to preserve the value of prior investments, to ensure that water resources will continue to contribute to the quality of life enjoyed by every American and sustain our global economic prominence.

- An investment decision process for new projects that reflects the national interest in water resources premised upon proven analytical tools and an evaluation of a full range of alternatives.



- Cooperation among stakeholders and all levels and agencies of government that recognizes and respects national, regional, state and local differences in priorities and values related to water resources and that supports decision-making at the lowest practicable level.



Since 1960, the National Waterways Conference has advocated in support of national policy and laws that recognize the vital importance of America's water resources infrastructure to our nation's well-being and quality of life and has promoted a sound balance between economic and human needs and environmental and ecological considerations.

Reliable, well-maintained water resources infrastructure is fundamental to America's economic and environmental well-being, and is essential to maintaining our nation's competitive position within the global economy. Our water resources infrastructure provides life-saving flood control, abundant 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. Among the numerous benefits that water resources projects provide to our nation:

- Flood damage reduction programs that save lives and prevent more than \$700 billion in riverine and coastal damages – reducing damages by almost \$6 for each dollar spent.
- Effective management of our nation's floodplains – giving due consideration to the economic and human uses, as well as environmental and ecological considerations – ensuring the safety, security and well-being of all Americans.
- Hydropower facilities, built and maintained by the Corps, that produce nearly a third of the nation's total hydropower output: enough energy to serve about ten million households.
- Shore protection projects that provide protection from hurricanes and other storm events for transportation, petroleum and agriculture infrastructure around our coastlines, coastal waterways and deltas, as well as recreational benefits.
- Ports and waterways – the backbone of the nation's transportation system – that provide domestic and international trade opportunities and low-cost, environmentally sound goods movements.
- The cost of transportation by inland waterways is 2 to 3 times lower than other modes of transportation, translating into an annual savings of \$7 billion for American businesses.
 - Transportation by inland waterways is cleaner, producing fewer exhaust emissions than other modes.
 - More than 95% of U.S. imports and exports move through the nation's harbors.

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The National Waterways Conference, established in 1960, is the leading national organization to advocate for the enactment of common-sense water resource policies recognizing the widespread public benefits of our nation's water resources infrastructure. Conference membership is comprised of the full spectrum of water resources stakeholders, including flood control associations, levee boards, waterways shippers and carriers, water supply districts, industry and regional associations, port authorities, shipyards, dredging contractors, engineering consultants, and state and local governments.

www.waterways.org

