



Chicago Harbor, IL

Project Features

- Located on Lake Michigan in the city of Chicago, Cook County, Illinois
- Authorization: The Rivers and Harbors Acts of 1870, 1880, 1912, 1919 and 1962.
- Controlling depths 29 feet in the Lake Michigan harbor approach, 28 feet in the outer harbor, and 21 feet to Rush Street.
- The Federal channel within the harbor is 2.20 miles and it connects to the deep draft Chicago River channel extending 4.02 miles to the North Avenue Turning Basin.
- This harbor is the secondary link of the Great Lakes and the Inland Waterway System. In 2006, 1.8M tons were shipped on the Main and North Branch of the Chicago River; 125 K tons were directly received through this harbor. The South Branch Chicago River connects to Chicago Sanitary & Ship Canal and IL River.
- 20,357 linear feet of timber crib, laid-up stone, and concrete caisson breakwater structures.
- Chicago Lock completes over 11,500 lockages annually, passing over 40,000 vessels.
- The harbor hosts a USCG Station, Chicago Marine Police, and Illinois Conservation Police, Chicago Fire Dept.'s Fire Boat and City tug.

Project Needs

- The Federal channel is at authorized depths. The channel has not been dredged in 20 years.
- The northwestern breakwater is the harbor's primary shield. It is in poor condition, several crib sections have failed, and the loss of additional sections is anticipated. The exposed timber cribs have rotted away, which is the result of low lake water levels in recent years.
- The lock gates leak in violation of a US Supreme Court decree regarding Great Lakes' water diversion. All four gates have out-lived their design life (70 years in service) and are unreliable. Previously approved Federal funding for this work has been suspended indefinitely.



Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- The Jardine Water Purification Plant is located in the harbor and serves nearly 5.0M consumers in 118 municipalities. It is the world's largest water treatment plant.
- The lock limits Lake Michigan water flows into the Illinois Waterway. It additionally provides flood damage reduction from Chicago River flooding of the downtown area, protecting \$1.40B in real estate.
- Navy Pier annually hosts 9.M visitors and generates nearly \$138.M in sales. Its operation employs 700 full-time and 2,000 part-time workers. Over 100 private businesses operate there, employing 750 workers.
- Tour and Charter Boat Operations – 20 companies operate 55 boats, and host approximately 370,000 passengers annually.
- Privately-owned marinas moor 1,450 recreational boats within the harbor.

Transportation Importance

- Commodities handled are general cargo, petroleum, newsprint, salt, and cement.
- The harbor is a safe refuge on southern Lake Michigan for barges and vessels traveling north from or south to the Port of Chicago.
- Bulk commodities that pass through Chicago Harbor generate nearly \$1.1M annually in direct revenue, support 15 jobs, and generate \$549.K per year in personal income.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2008, 2009 and 2010
Chicago Harbor, IL - Project Needs and President's Budget (\$1,000)**

Work Package	FY08 Need	FY08 Allocation	FY09 Need	FY09 President's Budget	FY10 Need	FY10 Budget*
Project Condition Surveys	80	74	90	90	90	
Lock Operations	1,575	1,457	1,695	1,695	1,761	
Routine Lock Maintenance	220	204	230	230	238	
West Lock Gates Replacement	8,000	0	8,600	0	8,720	
Structural Repairs - Northeast Breakwater Crib Stabilization by Contract (1 reach)	-	-	-	-	1,800	
Structural Repairs - Northeast Breakwater Crib Stabilization by Contract (2 reaches)	2,984	0	-	-	3,200	
Structural Repairs - Northeast Breakwater Crib Stabilization by Gov't Floating Plant (1 reach)	-	-	1,755	0	-	
TOTALS	12,859	1,735	12,370	2,015	15,809	

*FY10 President's Budget will be available in February 2009.

Congressional Interests

- Representative Danny K. Davis, D-IL-7
- Senator Richard Durbin, D-IL
- Senator Barack Obama, D-IL