

Legislative Committee & Port of Pittsburgh Commission Report – Scott Harshman (Port of Pittsburgh), Chair; Legislative Committee: Scott Harshman, Pat Kelly, and George Petrus

Legislative Committee:

1. Water Resources Development Act of 2022

- **President Biden signed the Fiscal Year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act into law on December 23, 2022 and this massive bill also included non-defense related authorizations including the Water Resources Development Act of 2022**
 - **WRDA makes permanent the 65% general revenues - 35% Inland Waterways Trust Fund (IWTF) cost-share for lock and dam construction and major rehabilitation projects**
- Looking ahead at next WRDA bill in 2024:
 - Continue to support Upper Ohio River Navigation System Project & Lower Mon Project
 - Oppose additional taxation, tolling, and lockage fees
 - Support continued efforts to change 65/35 cost-share to 75/25 cost-share
 - Reassess how the USACE conducts their Benefit-Cost Analysis

2. Annual Federal Spending Bills – \$1.7 trillion legislation signed into law on Dec. 29th

3. Legislator Outreach - New legislative maps for PA House, PA Senate, and US House of Representatives are in place with the start of the new year. Find out who are your state & federal legislators here for a particular house/business address:

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/findyourlegislator/#address>

4. Waterways Council, Inc. – 2023 DC Capitol Hill Day is February 8th

Port of Pittsburgh Commission:

1. Many grant funding opportunities forthcoming

- USDOT Port Infrastructure Development Program, USDOT RAISE, FEMA Port Security Grant Program, USDOT MARAD Marine Highway Program, PortPitt Small Grants & PortPitt CMAQ

2. Advocacy - Locks & Dams Infrastructure Funding

- Upper Ohio River Navigation System Project & Lower Mon Project

3. Inland Waterways User Board Quarterly Meetings

- Key take-aways from 2022 3Q & 4Q meetings – inflation, covid & supply chain issues continuing to have impact on cost over-runs:
 - ***Lower Mon Project likely still needs an additional \$109 million***
 - ***Montgomery Locks & Dam Project may need an additional \$200 million***
- Next IWUB potentially in Pittsburgh – last one held here was in May 2018

4. United States Marine Highway Program

- Part of NDAA – includes language in marine highway transportation definition to include: *“(iv) bulk, liquid, or loose cargo loaded in tanks, holds, hoppers, or on deck;”*
- Pursuing Marine Highway designation for both the Allegheny & Monongahela Rivers along with the City of Morgantown in 1Q 2023; Ohio River is already named M-70

END