



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®



Chicago Harbor, IL

Harbor Features

- Located on Lake Michigan in the city of Chicago, Cook County, Illinois.
- Authorization: The Rivers & Harbor Acts of 1870, 1880, 1912, 1919 and 1962.
- Authorized depths are 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 2.2 miles and it connects to the deep draft Chicago River channel extending 4.0 miles to the North Avenue turning basin.
- The harbor is a part of the Port of Chicago and is the secondary link between the Great Lakes, the Inland Waterway System, and foreign ports.
- 30K tons of material shipped and received at the harbor in FY18.
- 20,357 linear feet of timber crib, laid-up stone, and concrete caisson breakwater structures.
- Chicago Lock was the busiest lock in the US in 2019; completing over 9,936 lockages, including 61,974 vessels, with 1,162,809 recreational and commercial passengers.
- The harbor hosts a U.S. Coast Guard Station, Chicago Marine Police, Illinois Conservation Police, Chicago Fire Dept. fire boat, and city tug.
- 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.

Project Requirements

- Chicago Lock has a Dam Safety Action Classification System rating of 3, which is considered conditionally unsafe. FY19 work plan funds were used to award a contract to repair the north pier. The work is scheduled to be completed in 2021.



- The 5,321 linear foot northeastern breakwater is the harbor's primary shield. Approximately 1,700 feet of the structure has been reconstructed or stabilized via grout injection. The remaining segments are in poor condition.
- The lock chamber walls are in poor condition. Funds were received in the FY19 & FY20 work plans to resurface a portion of the chamber.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- The Jardine Water Purification Plant is located in the harbor and serves 3 million consumers in 119 municipalities.
- The lock limits Lake Michigan water flow into the Illinois Waterway. It provides flood damage reduction of \$1.4B to the downtown area from Chicago River.
- Navy Pier hosted 9.2M visitors in 2017. Its operation employs approximately 250 full-time and 400 part-time workers. More than 70 private businesses operate there, employing over 3,000 workers.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project, cont.

- If the port was closed to commercial traffic, commodities would have to be transported by rail and truck. This would increase annual emission rates by over 69,101 tons of harmful particulate matter (PM-10) and increase costs by \$25.8M due to increased railroad related accidents, and \$41.6M due to increased trucking related accidents.

Transportation Importance

- The harbor is a safe refuge on southern Lake Michigan for barges and vessels traveling north from or south to the Port of Chicago.
- Waterborne transportation facilitated by the harbor supports \$627.3M in business revenue, 2,589 direct, indirect, and induced jobs, and \$175.2M in labor income to the transportation sector.
- Commodities handled by the harbor support \$20.7B in business revenue, 105,379 direct, indirect, and induced jobs, and \$5.6B in labor income.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, 2020, and 2021
Chicago Harbor, IL - Project Requirements and President's Budget (\$1,000)**

Work Package	FY19 Requirement	FY19 Appropriation	FY20 Requirement	FY20 Appropriation	FY21 Requirement	FY21 Appropriation
Real Estate Management	48	48	59	0	60	50
Environmental Compliance	58	58	59	59	40	40
Facility Security	106	106	51	51	85	85
Dam Safety Activities	44	44	60	60	215	125
Multi-Beam Lock Chamber Survey	19	19	11	11	15	15
Routine Lock Operations	2,400	2,400	2,492	2,492	2,648	2,648
Routine Lock Maintenance	408	408	407	407	613	613
Northeast Breakwater Grout Stabilization	6,090	0	6,178	0	6,373	0
Structure Repairs – Eastern Outer Breakwater Repairs (North End; by Gov't Floating Plant)	0	0	0	0	1,329	0
Security Lighting	250	0	400	400	400	0
Security Fence and Main Access Gate Replacement	1,200	1,200	0	0	0	0
Security Cameras, Fire Alarms, and Building Access Connect	240	0	325	325	0	0
E&D to Repair Lock Chamber Floor	420	420	0	0	0	0
Lock Chamber Floor Repairs	0	0	0	0	8,493	8,000
North Pier Reconstruction Phase 4 of 4	7,120	7,120	0	0	0	0
Switchgear for Backup Generator	0	0	0	0	625	623
Back-up Generator Relocation	600	600	0	0	0	0

Arc Flash Assessment	295	295	0	0	0	0
Chamber Walls Resurfacing, Phase 1 of 4	2,320	1,820	0	0	0	0
Chamber Walls Resurfacing, Phase 2 of 4	2,180	0	4,940	4,940	0	0
Chamber Walls Resurfacing, Phase 3 of 4	0	0	0	0	5,803	5,803
Chamber Walls Resurfacing, Phase 4 of 4	0	0	0	0	5,803	5,803
Chamber Stop Log Relocation	245	245	0	0	224	224
Sector Gates Reliability Study	0	0	200	200	200	0
Chicago Harbor Visitor Center Study	0	0	400	0	400	0
E&D to Repair to Chicago Harbor Breakwater	0	0	0	0	400	0
Lock Building Interior Renovation	0	0	0	0	556	0
TOTAL	27,973	14,783	20,497	8,945	34,282	24,029

Congressional Interests

- Representative Danny K. Davis D-IL-7
- Senator Richard Durbin D-IL
- Senator Tammy Duckworth D-IL