



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®



Muskegon Harbor, MI

Harbor Features

- Located on the east shore of Lake Michigan, 114 miles northeast of Chicago, IL
- Authorization: Rivers & Harbors Acts of 13 Jun 1902, 3 Mar 1935, 30 Aug 1935, 23 Oct 1962
- Deep draft commercial harbor
- Project depths are 29 feet at the outer harbor entrance and 28 feet in the inner entrance channel. The project depth is 27 feet at the upstream limit of the federal project.
- 1.2M tons of material shipped and received in 2019
- Ranked 31st in tonnage among Great Lakes harbors in 2019
- Approximately 6,500 feet of maintained federal channel
- Dredged material from this harbor is used for beach nourishment.
- Over 6,200 feet of structures maintained, including breakwaters, piers, and revetments
- Major stakeholders: U.S. Coast Guard, Consumers Energy, Grand Valley State University, Lafarge, Lake Express Ferry Service, Michigan DNR, NOAA, St. Marys Cement, Verplank, West Michigan Dock and Market, a marine contractor, as well as multiple private marinas and charter fishing vessels.

Project Requirements

- The north breakwater was repaired in 2017 and the south breakwater connector was repaired in 2020 with FY19 funds.
- Additional funding is needed for design and construction of south breakwater repairs and north revetment walkway settlement repairs.
- Maintenance dredging of approximately 60,000 to 90,000 cubic yards is required on a 2-to-3-year cycle.
- The harbor was last dredged in 2017.



- Maintenance dredging is currently required.
- Beach nourishment is currently required.
- Sink hole repairs are currently needed for the south revetment.
- Navigation structure maintenance is currently required.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- If the harbor were closed to commercial traffic, commodities would have to be transported by rail and truck. This would increase annual emission rates by over 8.4M lbs of harmful particulate matter (PM-10) and increase costs by \$1.9M due to increased railroad related accidents, and \$1.3M due to increased trucking related accidents.
- Light loading; loss of between 2 and 3 feet of channel depth results in increased transportation costs of between \$260K and \$440K annually.

Transportation Importance

- Major receiving port on the Great Lakes
- Commodities include primarily sand, gravel, limestone, cement, and concrete
- Waterborne transportation facilitated by the harbor supports \$48.7M in business revenue, 229 direct, indirect, and induced jobs, and \$15.6M in labor income to the transportation sector.
- Commodities handled by the harbor support \$712.8M in business revenue, 4,154 direct, indirect, and induced jobs, and \$209.8M in labor income.
- The harbor serves as the port for Grand Rapids and the greater West Michigan Region for commercial and recreational traffic, education, and environmental research.
- The harbor is home to the NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory Lake Michigan Field Station, Grand Valley State University Annis Water Resources Institute, and the Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center.
- Harbor of refuge
- Home to the U.S. Coast Guard Station Muskegon
- Ten private marinas on Muskegon Lake, with more than 1,000 boat slips
- The City of Muskegon maintains one public marina and five public launches including Hartshorn Marina with 143 major boat slips, 30 small slips, and 102 moorings.
- Muskegon State Park, Laketon Township, and the city of North Muskegon each maintain public boat launch facilities.
- Harbor is home to Fisherman’s Landing, an 18.6-acre sport-fishing and recreational bass tournament camping facility.
- Harbor is the home port to the Lake Express, a commercial terminal providing high speed cross lake ferry service to and from Milwaukee, WI.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, 2021, and 2022 Muskegon Harbor, MI - Project Requirements and President’s Budget (\$1,000)

Work Package	FY20 Requirement	FY20 Appropriation	FY21 Requirement	FY21 Appropriation	FY22 Requirement	FY22 President’s Budget
Maintenance Dredging – Primary Work Package	0	0	0	0	1,200	1,200
E&D and Construction – South Breakwater Repairs	0	0	560	0	9,500	0
E&D and Construction – North Revetment Repairs	0	0	1,500	0	5,200	0
South Revetment Sink Hole Repairs	0	0	0	0	600	0
Navigation Structure Maintenance	0	0	0	0	50	0
Beach Nourishment	500	0	500	0	500	500
Real Estate Management	0	0	10	10	11	11
TOTAL	500	0	2,570	10	17,061	1,711

Congressional Interests

- Representative Bill Huizenga R-MI-2
- Senator Gary Peters D-MI
- Senator Debbie Stabenow D-MI