



U.S. Congressman

Nick Rahall*WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****JUNE 11, 1992****CONTACT: STEVE SPINA****PHONE: (202) 225-3452****RAHALL LANDS FUNDS FOR PORT STUDIES**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) today announced \$1.5 million in federal funding for West Virginia is well on its way to approval by the U.S. House of Representatives, a portion of which will be used for Cabell and Wayne county river projects.

An appropriations bill that was reported out today would include \$750,000, a portion of which would be used for a feasibility study of development along the Virginia Point riverfront in Wayne County. Local matching funds would be necessary in receiving the funds, and local sponsors have agreed to provide the match.

It also provides \$750,000, a portion of which would be used for a comprehensive port development study along the West Virginia sides of the Ohio River and the Big Sandy River. The study would focus on the Cabell and Wayne riverfronts and no local matching funds would be required.

Rahall added that the work would be performed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who this spring completed the first phase of the Ohio River Urban Waterfront Study. The study was authorized by a resolution Rahall sponsored in 1988.

Earlier this year, Rahall testified before the Appropriations Committee in support of the funding.

"Riverfront development is one of the keys to unlocking the economic development potential that exists along the Big Sandy and the Ohio," said Rahall. "This funding will allow us to move forward with the next critical step in the process."

The funds are included in the House Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1993, which begins October 1, 1992.

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FROM CONGRESSMAN ALAN B. MOLLOHAN

Contact: Ron Hudok

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-----

WOOD AND OHIO COUNTY RIVER PROJECTS
FUNDED IN HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Representative Alan B. Mollohan, D-W.Va., announced today that he has placed federal funds for Wood and Ohio county river projects in a House appropriations bill.

Mollohan, a member of the Appropriations Committee, said the bill contains a total of \$1.5 million for West Virginia river projects. The measure was approved Thursday afternoon by the full committee; it next will be considered by the House.

The bill includes \$750,000 for feasibility studies of development along the Parkersburg and Vienna, Wheeling, Point Pleasant and Virginia Point riverfronts, he said. Local funds would be required to match the federal appropriation.

It also provides \$750,000 for a comprehensive port development study along the West Virginia sides of the Ohio River -- focusing on Wood, Ohio, Cabell and Wayne counties -- and the Big Sandy River, he said. No local matching funds would be required for the port study.

Mollohan said the work would be performed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which this spring completed the first phase of the Ohio River Urban Waterfront Study. The study was funded by a \$500,000 appropriation Mollohan secured in 1990.

While the Bush Administration recommended this year that no federal money be spent on subsequent phases, Mollohan characterized the additional funding as "vital to the development of our riverfront infrastructure."

"The feasibility studies would help community leaders in Wheeling, and Parkersburg and Vienna, formulate concrete plans for recreational and economic development along the Ohio River. They're a natural and necessary progression of the urban waterfront study," he said.

"Meanwhile, the comprehensive study along the Ohio and Big Sandy rivers would help us identify opportunities for riverport development. Information collected during the study would lay a foundation for future commercial uses of the two rivers," he said.

The funds are included in the House Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1993, which begins October 1, 1992.