



## Black Rock Lock and Tonawanda Harbor, NY

### Harbor Features

- Located on the Niagara River in the City of Buffalo, Erie County, NY
- Authorization: River & Harbor Acts of 1888, 1902, 1905, 1916, 1919, 1922, 1925, 1935, 1945, and Flood Control Act of 1954
- Deep draft commercial project
- Project depths are 21 feet in the Niagara River Channel and 16 feet in Tonawanda Harbor channels.
- The Black Rock Lock and Channel permit pleasure craft and commercial vessels to travel between Buffalo Harbor and Tonawanda Harbor.
- The Black Rock Lock can accommodate pleasure craft and commercial vessels up to 625 feet long with drafts up to 21 feet.
- 165k tons of material shipped and received in 2018
- The Bird Island Pier is approximately 2 miles long and forms the west side of the Black Rock Channel.
- Project includes 4.1-mile federal channel connecting Buffalo Outer Harbor and Black Rock Lock, a 3.4-mile federal channel downstream of the Black Rock Lock, and a 2.5-mile federal channel and turning basin around Tonawanda Island approximately 8.1-miles downstream of the Black Rock Lock.
- Major stakeholders include U.S. Coast Guard, Suit-Kote, NOCO Energy Corp., and United Refining Co.

### Project Requirements

- In addition to routine operation and maintenance (O&M), critical requirements include gate diagonal and pintle replacement, repairs to the lower west guide wall, motor control center, chamber resurfacing and fabrication of new miter gates.



- Maintenance dredging is conducted infrequently to maintain the navigation channel. The lock and harbor were last dredged in 2009 when approximately 115,000 cubic yards of material were removed from the Black Rock Channel.
- Work to replace all 8 gate anchorages began in FY19. The lower gates were removed in and the failed diagonals and fractured lower east secondary gudgeon bracket were replaced. Additional work was also completed to address the worst areas with the mindset that these gates will need to be replaced within a five year time frame. The next step is to remove the upper gates and complete similar repairs to diagonals, pintles and other critical failed or degraded components.

### **Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project**

- Reduction of bulk commodities that pass through the harbor and generate \$56.3M annually in business revenue.
- Reduction in support for 246 direct, indirect, and induced jobs that produce over \$15M per year in personal income in the transportation- and commodity-related industries.
- Failure to adequately fund routine O&M could result in closure of the lock.
- Elimination of the U.S. connection to the Intercoastal Waterway from Lake Erie.

- Inability for commercial and recreational vessels to reach destinations on the upper Niagara River.

### **Transportation Importance**

- Asphalt is the primary commodity shipped or received through the lock.
- With 1,350 lockages in 2018, the lock provided safe passage for 2,416 vessels (167 commercial and 2,249 recreational).
- The lock provides the only means for deep draft commercial vessels to reach delivery ports on the upper Niagara River, including fuel storage facilities and refinery.

## **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2018, 2019, and 2020 Black Rock Lock and Tonawanda Harbor, NY Project Requirements and President's Budget (\$1,000)**

<b>Work Package</b>	<b>FY18 Requirement</b>	<b>FY18 Appropriation</b>	<b>FY19 Requirement</b>	<b>FY19 Appropriation</b>	<b>FY20 Requirement</b>	<b>FY20 President's Budget</b>
Operation of Lock	998	998	1,201	1,201	1,249	1,249
Operational Routine Maintenance of Lock	666	666	621	621	646	646
Real Estate	25	25	35	35	35	0
Project Condition Surveys	80	80	30	30	31	31
Facility Security Maintenance	60	60	60	60	61	61
Emergency Gate Anchorages Repair	3,500	3,500*	0	0	0	0
Motor Control Center Repair	200	0	50	50	550	0
Engineering & Design, Chamber Resurfacing	100	100	0	0	0	0
Operational Condition Assessment	0	0	33	33	0	0
Replacement of Pintles	0	0	1,655	1,655	0	0
Lower Operating Gate Diagonal Replacement	0	0	2,595	2,595	2,000	0
Design Miter Gates	0	0	500	500	0	0
Fabrication Miter Gates	0	0	0	0	4,500	0
Environmental Compliance Management	0	0	0	0	25	25
Periodic Inspection	0	0	0	0	60	60
<b>Other Business Lines</b>						
Environmental Stewardship	5	5	5	5	5	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,634</b>	<b>5,434</b>	<b>6,785</b>	<b>6,785</b>	<b>9,162</b>	<b>2,077</b>

*\*Funded with HQ's Emergency Funding*

### **Congressional Interests**

- Representative Brian Higgins D-NY-26
- Senator Charles Schumer D-NY
- Senator Kirsten Gillibrand D-NY