



US Army Corps
of Engineers®



Sandusky Harbor, OH

Harbor Features

- Located on Lake Erie in the city of Sandusky, Erie County, OH
- Authorization: Rivers & Harbors Acts of 1899, 1902, 1919, 1927, 1935, 1945, and 1960
- Deep draft commercial harbor
- Project depths: 26 feet in the Mosely Channel, 25 feet in the Bay Channel, 22 feet in the Dock Channel, and 21 feet in the Straight Channel
- 2.5M tons of material shipped and received in 2019
- Ranked 106th among U.S ports and 23rd among Great Lakes harbors in 2019
- Interconnected with 11 commercial ports: ships to 8 ports and receives from 3 ports
- Over two miles of breakwater structures
- The Moseley, Bay, Dock, and Straight federal channels total 5.95 miles in length.
- Major stakeholders: U.S. Coast Guard, Norfolk Southern, Sandusky Dock Corp., George Gradel Co., Cedar Point Amusement Park, commercial ferries, and private marinas.

Project Requirements

- The harbor requires approximately 140,000 cubic yards of dredging every year to maintain the navigation channel. The harbor was last dredged in 2020, when approximately 165,000 cubic yards of material were removed. Maintenance dredging planned for 2021 was delayed and will be completed in 2022 if facilities are available to accept the material.
- Economic and environmental evaluation of dredged material placement alternatives for the harbor is required to ensure placement capacity for future maintenance dredging.



Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Light loading: losses of between 1 and 2 feet of channel depth would result in increased transportation costs of between \$631,000 and \$1,366,000 annually.
- Closing the harbor to commercial traffic would require commodities to be transported by rail and truck. This would increase annual emission rates by over 20,340 tons of harmful particulate matter (PM-10) and increase costs by \$4,553,000 due to increased railroad-related accidents and \$3,042,000 due to increased trucking-related accidents.

Transportation Importance

- Major receiving and shipping port on the Great Lakes and a harbor of refuge
- Major commodities shipped include coal, salt, slag, oats, and wheat.
- Waterborne transportation facilitated by the harbor supports \$129.2M in business revenue, 572 direct, indirect, and induced jobs, and \$42.7M in labor income to the transportation sector.
- Commodities handled by the harbor support \$1.4B in business revenue, 7,674 direct,



indirect, and induced jobs, and \$396.1M in labor income.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, 2022, and 2023
Sandusky Harbor, OH — Project Requirements and President’s Budget (\$000)**

Work Package	FY21 Requirement (\$000)	FY21 Appropriation (\$000)	FY22 Requirement (\$000)	FY22 President’s Budget (\$000)	FY23 Requirement (\$000)	FY23 President’s Budget (\$000)
Maintenance Dredging – Primary Work Package	3,050	1,053	1,001	1,001	1,001	0
Real Estate Management	12	12	12	12	6	0
Economic and Environmental Evaluation	150	0	150	150	150	0
TOTAL	3,212	1,065	1,163	1,163	1,157	0

Congressional Interests

- Representative Marcy Kaptur D-OH-9
- Senator Rob Portman R-OH
- Senator Sherrod Brown D-OH