

U.S. Reps. Kind, Craig, and McCollum: Secure \$100 million For emergency dredging on the Mississippi River

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Washington, DC— Today, U.S. Reps Ron Kind (WI-03), Angie Craig (MN-02), and Betty McCollum (MN-04) announced that they have successfully secured emergency funding for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to address the impacts of this spring's devastating floods along the Mississippi River.

The funding was disbursed in response to [a letter the Reps. sent in September](#) pushing the Office of Management and Budget to distribute the \$100 million previously allocated through the *Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act*, which was signed into law in June 2019.

As a result of the severe flood season last spring, the Mississippi River and other rivers along the Inland Waterway System have heightened sedimentation in river beds. Every year, the system is responsible for one-sixth of the nation's intercity cargo and 25% of foreign exports. In order to maintain this level of economic operation, the Army Corps of Engineers must increase dredging efforts to overcome rising sediment levels, allowing barges to navigate successfully.

"The Mississippi River is an important part of western Wisconsin's DNA—it has helped shape our state's environment, culture, and local economy for centuries," said **Rep. Ron Kind**. "I'm proud to have worked with my colleagues across the River to push for this emergency funding to be released. Now the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will finally have the resources they need to ensure the Mighty Mississippi remains open for business and continues to be enjoyed by all."

“Farmers, families, and communities across my district depend on the Mississippi River for their economic livelihoods,” said **Rep. Angie Craig**. “I am proud to have helped to secure essential funding that communities and businesses rely on to export their goods, drive economic growth, and effectively respond to this year’s devastating spring floods.”

“Unfortunately, these funds were delayed – but now, this aid will help ensure the economic viability of the many agricultural businesses and farmers who have faced extreme weather, difficult market conditions, and other factors that threaten their long-term success,” said **Rep. Betty McCollum**. “This disaster aid will help Minnesota agricultural businesses recover fully so they can look towards the future.”