



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

My \$2,000,000 funding request for Winter Harbor's Dredged Material Management Plan and Maintenance of Upland Placement Site and \$1,000,000 request to secure dredged material sites are included in the Fiscal Year 2027 Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Act and Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Act for Fiscal Year 2027, respectively. Both bills have been approved by the House Appropriations Committee and await passage on the House Floor.



Maintaining Winter Harbor is critical to the economic activity of the communities that rely on this waterway. This funding would ensure safe and reliable navigation of the harbor and keep it accessible for watermen, recreational boaters, and local businesses. I am proud to advocate for Winter Harbor funding, and I remain committed to securing federal funding for the First District to address the needs of our coastal communities.

This funding would be used to develop a Dredged Material Management Program and to acquire upland dredge material storage sites. These projects would help localities on the Middle Peninsula restore safe and reliable navigation for commercial and recreational users. Maintaining navigable waterways is essential to supporting commercial fishing, aquaculture, marine trades, and recreational boating that drive coastal economies. When channels become unnavigable due to shoaling, dredging is required to ensure safe passage and sustain working waterfronts.

Funding for the Dredged Material Management Program and related environmental coordination and site maintenance efforts will enable regional and county efforts to better maintain Winter Harbor through a regional dredging program. In addition to funds for the management program project, Congressman Wittman advocated for funding to acquire upland dredge material storage sites. By providing designated upland storage sites—based on scientific analysis conducted by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS)—this project would enable continued dredging operations and support coastal resilience through the reuse of materials for shoreline stabilization and habitat restoration. Federal investment will preserve economic activity and ensure the long-term viability of coastal communities throughout Virginia's First Congressional District.

Community Project Funding (CPF) allows Members of Congress to bring tax dollars back home for district-specific priorities. Members have firsthand knowledge of their district's needs and can prioritize federal funding for the most critical local projects. For me, these projects address clear and present needs in communities across Virginia and enjoy broad community support. The federal dollars designated for CPF projects exist within existing budget limits. Community Project Funding gives me the ability to empower Virginians by ensuring they have a critical voice in directing their federal tax dollars back into VA-01 communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rob Wittman".

Rob Wittman
Member of Congress, Virginia's 1st District