



December 9, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell and Minority Leader Schumer:

On behalf of America's 3,069 counties, parishes and boroughs, the National Association of Counties (NACo) thanks Congress for developing new water resources legislation along a predictable, two-year timeline. Once enacted, the Water Resources and Development Act of 2020 will provide badly needed port infrastructure projects for county-owned and operated ports, as well as funding certainty for local governments over the next two years who rely on ports for both jobs and economic security. NACo urges Congress to immediately pass this legislation.

As frontline administrators of local government, county officials know where federal resources can be maximized and must have a seat at the table as water projects with the potential to impact our local communities are considered. A strong intergovernmental partnership is critical as water legislation advances, and we look forward to working with our congressional champions to move this legislation over the finish line.

Thank you for your bipartisan action to deliver a new and timely water resources reauthorization. Counties stand ready to work with our federal partners to improve America's ports and urge Congress to enact this critical legislation prior to the beginning of the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew D. Chase".

Matthew D. Chase  
CEO/Executive Director  
National Association of Counties