

CITY OF WASHBURN
119 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 638
Washburn, WI 54891



715-373-6160
715-373-6161
FAX 715-373-6148

For Immediate Release:
December 30, 2017

CITY OF WASHBURN AWARDED HARBOR ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR COAL DOCK REHABILITATION

Mayor Scott Griffiths and Harbor Commission President Carl Broberg announced today that the City of Washburn has been awarded a Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Harbor Assistance Grant for the rehabilitation of the north side of the city's commercial (coal) dock. The grant is an 80 percent match up to \$1,299,480.

After a significant storm did further damage to the commercial dock in 2016, City administration renewed efforts to coordinate plans and financing to complete this crucial project. "We are elated," stated Griffiths, "We've been seeking a solution to the deterioration of the "Coal Dock" for many years. It is a project that is far outside the means of the City's taxpayers. This grant will allow us to repair this important regional asset without placing a significant burden on our residents. What a great way to kick off the New Year." When asked about the success of the application, Broberg observed, "We were very fortunate to have an increase of commerce and usage of the dock over this past year which helped to bolster our application. The contracts with Marine Tech from Duluth and Nelson Construction Company of LaPointe could not have come at a better time for us."

Both Griffiths and Broberg were grateful of the support of the Council and Harbor Commission and want to thank Governor Scott Walker, Transportation Secretary Dave Ross and the Harbor Advisory Council, Senator Janet Bewley, and Representative Beth Meyers for funding the program and supporting Washburn's application. We are grateful for the support we received from the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, and Michelle Shrider at the Washburn Marina. We are also grateful for the coordination provided by the City Administrator and City staff and the application that was put together by our marine engineers and consultants at the Madison office of Smithgroup JJR.

It is anticipated that the Council and Harbor Commission will be discussing the grant requirements and contract, final engineering, and financing plans in the coming weeks for this project anticipated to cost approximately \$1.6 million. "This is a project that needs to be done as soon as possible and we intend to push forward to make it happen in 2018," stated both Griffiths and Broberg.

* * *

Contact: Scott J. Kluver, City Administrator
Phone: 715-373-6160 x 4
Email: washburnadmin@cityofwashburn.org