

10 Steps to Get a Corps Project in the Work Plan

Tips for Staffers

If you have a Corps project that wasn't in the President's budget, **now is the time to act to get it into the Corps' FY20 Work Plan.** If you read our WaterLog blog in July, you know the President earmarks the Corps' budget, and Congress can only add pots of money. This year, it looks like those pots will total over \$2 billion! That's money that has to get allocated by the Corps with the approval of the Administration. Follow the 10 steps of this WaterLog Tip Sheet, and you will be in a great position to leverage your boss's influence to get that priority project funded.

- 1.** Identify the priority projects your boss wants to get into the FY20 Work Plan.
- 2.** In giving your boss advice about priorities, don't look at the bill. Report language also contains language about the priorities Congress urges the Administration to follow in allocating the additional money it added.
- 3.** Instead, look at the House, Senate and Conference Reports accompanying the bill for the important information about how much has been added for studies (Investigations), dredging (Navigation) and implementation (Construction).
- 4.** Is your boss' priority a "New Start"? If so, they're very limited!
- 5.** Make sure your Corps District and Division want the project included in the Work Plan. Ask if they have included the project in their recommendations for Work Plan Funding.
- 6.** Draft a letter for your boss to send to both the Chief of Engineers and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works urging inclusion of the project in the Work Plan.
- 7.** Draft another letter for your boss to send to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).
- 8.** Suggest to the State or local official who is the non-Federal partner sends these letters as well. If there is a non-federal cost-share in hand, be sure to let the Corps and OMB know that.
- 9.** Keep up the pressure by sharing any new updates about your boss' project with the Corps and OMB
- 10.** Good Luck!

