



STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

June 15, 2018

President Donald Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

Strong infrastructure is key to the success of our country and we appreciate your leadership in efforts to strengthen it. In your recent visit to Michigan, you referenced the imperative need to upgrade one of our nation's most important infrastructure assets - the Soo Locks.

As you know, only one of the four locks, the Poe Lock in Sault Ste. Marie, is large enough to accommodate the large shipping freighters that transport the iron ore that our country depends upon. Without it, our steel and manufacturing industries would stop production and up to 11 million American jobs could be lost. Congress approved construction of a second 1,000-foot lock in 1986, but funding for the project never followed.

We have been waiting decades for Washington to show support for this critical artery of our economy and are grateful that you recognize the need to make this a top priority. Since your visit to Michigan, we launched a public awareness campaign and have been building a coalition of supporters to help us make this critical need a reality.

The current estimate from the Army Corps of Engineers to build the new lock is more than \$900 million and is authorized at full federal expense. In Michigan, we recognize the critical importance of this project and want to do our part to make the upgrade possible. To leverage non-federal funds to jumpstart the project, Michigan has proactively committed \$50 million to lead this vital effort. We are having discussions with other states throughout the region in the hope that they will join us in committing resources to this critical project upon which our national economy depends.

This will remain a top priority for us and we hope to work with you and our federal partners in Congress to secure funding and begin construction as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Rick Snyder
Governor

Brian Calley
Lieutenant Governor

Arlan Meekhof
30th Senate District
Senate Majority Leader

Tom Leonard
93rd House District
Speaker of the House