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**For Immediate Release
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Congressman Petri Announces Initial Army Corps of Engineers Funding for Port Washington Breakwater

PORT WASHINGTON, WI: Late yesterday, U.S. Representative Tom Petri (R-WI) announced that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would begin work on stabilizing and improving the surface of the Port Washington north breakwater this spring and summer. The Army Corps of Engineers informed Congressman Petri it would use \$950,000 in 2014 current year funding for the project.

“This is one of those surprises that wound up being great news for Port Washington,” said Petri. “Mayor Mlada has been working very hard to let the Corps know about the safety issues with Port Washington’s breakwater. Last year, we had the opportunity to meet with Corps officials in Washington to explain the urgency of the problem—which evidently made an impression. The Army Corps informed me this evening they had room in their budget to complete additional projects and were aware of repairs needed to Port Washington’s breakwater due to our outreach.”

“I’m very glad we were able to assist the Mayor in his efforts. While we must be clear this is only a short-term fix for a much larger long-term problem, this is great news not only for Port Washington residents who will now be able to safely walk and fish from the breakwater, but also for tourism and the local economy,” the Congressman added.

The Army Corps estimated that it would complete these initial repairs to the north breakwater later this summer, which will ensure safety along the breakwater for the short-term. Estimates to repair the north and south breakwaters entirely are between \$16 – 17 million.

“As a city, we are very grateful for the support we’ve received from vital city, county, and regional stakeholders, and for the advocacy on our behalf from our elected representatives, Congressman Petri very much at the forefront,” said Mayor Mlada. “While we know much work remains to be done to repair these federal breakwaters, this initial surface and stability work is an important first step to ensuring safe access and use by residents and visitors alike.”

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Sign placed near the entrance to the north breakwater by the Army Corps of Engineers, late Fall 2013