

RESOLUTION 07-08

DULUTH-SUPERIOR METROPOLITAN INTERSTATE COUNCIL

Resolution of Support for Beneficial Use of Erie Pier Dredged Materials

Whereas, the Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC) was created by the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC) and the Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC) as the urban planning policy body and designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Duluth-Superior metropolitan area; and

Whereas, the Harbor Technical Advisory Committee (HTAC) is an assemblage of stakeholders for the Duluth-Superior port that advises the MIC on harbor related issues; and

Whereas, the National Dredging Policy recommends that federal/state/local partnerships like the HTAC cooperate on dredged material management and promote beneficial reuse of dredged materials; and

Whereas, the Erie Pier Management Plan, compiled by the Dredging Subcommittee of HTAC, directs dredged material management policy for Erie Pier that promotes reuse of dredged materials; and

Whereas, approximately 80 percent of materials dredged from the Duluth-Superior Harbor each year are placed in Erie Pier, which has a limited capacity; and

Whereas, most of the dredged materials placed in Erie Pier are not contaminated and can be used beneficially instead; and

Whereas, with proper testing and guidelines to protect human health and the environment, beneficial use of dredged materials offers a sustainable long-term management option for dredged materials management in the Duluth-Superior Harbor; and

Whereas, successful beneficial use projects have demonstrated that dredged materials can provide an alternative source of material for habitat protection, restoration and creation, landscaping, topsoil creation and enhancement, daily cover for landfills, and construction; and

Whereas, studies by the Great Lakes Commission have found that:

- Re-use and recycling of dredged material should take priority over disposal;
- Technological advances and risk assessment procedures can allow dredged materials to be used safely and beneficially;
- There is currently no federal regulatory framework governing the beneficial use of dredged material;

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Harbor Technical Advisory Committee (HTAC) and the Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC) recommend that area jurisdictions and agencies make beneficial use a policy priority for dredged materials management; and

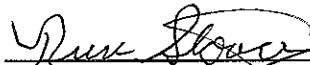
Be It Further Resolved, that HTAC member groups, agencies and jurisdictions work toward making Erie Pier a perpetual processing and re-use facility; and

Be It Finally Resolved, the HTAC and MIC encourages its member states to work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate state policies in the interest of developing of a port-wide framework for beneficial use of dredged materials.

ATTEST:



Nick Baker, Wisconsin Co-Chair



Russ Stover, Minnesota Co-Chair



Ron Chicka, MIC Director

June 20, 2007

Date