



## **MAKING WAVES**

### **January 19, 2010**

#### ***Asian Carp in the News***

The continuing threat of Asian Carp to the Great Lakes remains in the news across the basin. Since the State of Michigan filed a motion for a preliminary injunction in the U.S. Supreme Court in early December 2009 to close the locks between Lake Michigan and the Chicago Waterway System, five other states and the Province of Ontario have joined in with Michigan. The Supreme Court ruled Tuesday, January 19, 2010 to reject Michigan's for an injunction to close the locks. In addition, Senator Richard Durbin and Representatives Judy Biggert and Debbie Halvorson of Illinois held a hearing in Chicago on January 12, 2010 that covered much of the work already done to keep the Asian Carp out, and plans for future actions. Joe Deal appeared for Mayor Richard M. Daley at the hearing and Dave Ullrich attended. Earlier in December, an action was taken by a large consortium of federal, state, provincial, and local officials to successfully treat almost six miles of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal with poison to allow for repair work on the electronic barrier to be completed.

#### ***Chicago Park District Approves Plans for Gateway Harbor***

The Chicago Park District approved plans for a new harbor located between Navy Pier and the Chicago River's outlet to Lake Michigan. The harbor will include 15,500 square feet of restaurant and retail space, a 2,600 foot long pier and 240 new boat slips. The total cost of the project is \$40 million with \$3.2 million coming from Federal grants. In an effort to green the new harbor project, solar panels will cover 25% of the restaurant and retail building roof-top with the remaining area coated in a high albedo material to reduce air-conditioning costs and energy needs. Eighty-four trees will be planted along the harbor, with a curving break water for wave protection and pedestrian space. The project is part of the Chicago Lakefront Harbor Framework Plan and anticipates generating 64 jobs.

#### ***BEACH Act Grants for 2010***

The U.S. EPA is making almost \$10 million available in Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coast Health (BEACH) Act funding for 2010. This is consistent with the level of funding made available in previous years, but is still only one third of the amount fully authorized for the BEACH Act. BEACH Act funding goes to coastal and Great Lakes states in the U.S. to develop programs in partnership with local governments to monitor water quality at beaches and to notify the public of water quality problems. States apply for the funding and then distribute the funding to beaches and local governments for their monitoring and notification programs. If you have questions on your state's BEACH Act funding or beach program, please contact your state's beach

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[www.glslcities.org](http://www.glslcities.org)

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program coordinator (you can find them at  
[http://www.epa.gov/beaches/plan/whereyoulive\\_state.html](http://www.epa.gov/beaches/plan/whereyoulive_state.html) .

### ***Save the Date – Cities Initiative Annual Member Meeting & Conference!***

Mark your calendars - the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative 2010 Annual Member Meeting and Conference will be held June 16-18, 2010 in Milwaukee, WI! You should be receiving save the date notices in the mail this week or next.

### ***Membership***

Join the 70 Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative members in protecting and restoring the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River by clicking [here](#) for a membership application. If you are already a member, please encourage your neighboring communities to join, and be sure to renew your membership when you receive your notice.

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