



The Town of Rock Hall

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Rock Hall Citizens, Residents and Friends,

Good news! As many of you are aware, Town and Kent County Officials, together with citizen volunteers, have been working to address the severe shoaling plaguing the entrance to Rock Hall Harbor.

On January 26th I hosted a meeting with engineers from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and representatives from U.S. Senator Mikulski's office. Everyone recognized the severity of the problem, the impact on our Town's economy and even the near and long term solutions. Funding was the only thing missing to make any of our solutions a reality.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers does not have sufficient funding to cover "Shallow Water" projects on the Chesapeake Bay and it is highly unlikely that federal aide will be available in the foreseeable future. Furthermore, Maryland State funding for Waterway Improvement has similarly been slashed.

Today February 3rd, I'm happy to announce that Robert Gaudette, Director DNR's Boating Services, has identified funding to spot dredge. We are currently supporting our County Engineer, James Wright and his staff, as they prepare the application and necessary permits.

The work is still months away and the permits and paperwork will take some time but today --- we are a giant step closer to our goal!

To accomplish difficult things often requires a lot of time and money. It also often takes the efforts of many good people working together. Good people working together are our specialty here in Rock Hall.

I will continue to let you know our progress.

Bob Willis
Mayor