



Ottawa County

From the Desk of Commissioner Josh Brugger

Governor Gretchen Whitmer
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909

May 8, 2025

Dear Governor Whitmer,

We are writing today on behalf of the communities of Grand Haven, Ferrysburg, Spring Lake, and Spring Lake Village, to request your attention and assistance in resolving the delayed approvals for dredging in the Grand Haven Inner Harbor.

You have received correspondence on our behalf from Congresswoman Hillary Scholten, Congressman Bill Huizenga, State Senator Roger Victory, and State Representatives Luke Meerman and Greg VanWoerkom, and others. We have engaged with our representatives to help find a solution to the delays in the dredging of the Grand Haven Inner Harbor; they have been outstanding advocates for our communities.

These officials have noted and conveyed our assessment of the serious economic consequences to our communities and to the larger West Michigan region resulting from continuing delays in approvals to dredge our Inner Harbor. We wish to underscore the message that, without a timely resolution, this major port cannot be maintained, and our local economy may be significantly harmed. We are appealing for your assistance to expedite the process.

Others have already articulated the details and urgency for action on this matter, better than we can in this brief letter. However, we speak directly for our people, those most affected by the delays. Thank you for listening and for helping us navigate this process.

Sincerely,

Josh Brugger
District 10 Commissioner
Ottawa County

Robert Monetza
Mayor, City of Grand Haven

Jerry Rabideau
Supervisor, Spring Lake Township

Richard Carlson
Mayor, City of Ferrysburg

Mark Powers
President, Village of Spring Lake