

***Congressman
J. Randy Forbes
Fourth District of Virginia***



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***Forbes announces \$150,000 for Appomattox River Dredging Project
House passes 2004 Energy & Water Appropriations Conference Report***

Washington, D.C. – Congressman J. Randy Forbes (VA-04) announced that the City of Petersburg would receive **\$150,000** in federal funding for dredging of the Appomattox River as part of the 2004 Energy & Water Appropriations Conference Report, which passed the House of Representatives today.

On behalf of the City of Petersburg, Forbes requested funding for the Appomattox River Dredging Project from the House Appropriations Committee.

“Funding for this project is wonderful news for Petersburg and for the entire Fourth District of Virginia, especially during the tough times we are in as a nation and amidst tight budgetary constraints across the Commonwealth,” Forbes said.

Dredging is necessary to restore the Appomattox River as a navigable waterway from Petersburg to the James River and to re-establish the harbor in Petersburg. The appropriation of \$150,000 will be used to conduct a study on where to place the spoil (sediment from the river bottom) after the dredging process is completed.

“This project is the primary component of development efforts for Petersburg’s Downtown Business District, and is necessary to ensure the success of the revitalization efforts for the City of Petersburg,” Forbes said.

Mayor of Petersburg, Rosalyn Dance, commented, “I think I speak for the city council and administration about Congressman Forbes’ continued commitment to this dredging project. We have come closer than we have in the last three decades to the completion of the dredging of the Appomattox River. This funding will keep us on schedule to hopefully have a groundbreaking in spring 2005.”