

The Connecticut General Assembly

House Democrats



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State Representatives Chris Soto, Christine Conley, and Joe de la Cruz Urge State Bond Commission to Provide Grants for Dredging *The bond commission is expected to award New London with a grant-in-aid at its upcoming meeting*

The State Bond Commission is expected to award New London a \$5 million grant-in-aid for dredging at the commission's upcoming meeting on Thursday, Sept. 20.

State Representative Chris Soto (D-New London) said, "The Port of New London continues to demonstrate its value as an economically strategic investment. Glad to see our state's commitment to the Port as developments continue around offshore wind, defense, and commerce."

If awarded, the grant-in-aid will be used to finance maintenance of dredging along selected areas at the State Pier in New London. Dredging has numerous benefits; not only does it keep our water clean, a dredged body of water is less likely to suffer shoreline erosion. Dredging can also remove sediments that contain pollutants which greatly improves the quality of the water.

"There are so many benefits that we will see as a result of this grant-in-aid," said **State Representative Joe de la Cruz** (D-New London). "The ability to guarantee cleaner, more quality water is the obvious. But, investing in our shoreline will spur great economic development for our community. I thank the bond commission for seeing the importance of this investment."

"Ensuring clean water is essential to the future of New London," said **State Representative Christine Conley** (D-Groton, Ledyard). "With the shoreline as a major attraction and economic booster of our community, it is so important that we do everything in our power to keep it clean and protected. I encourage the State Bond Commission to vote in favor of this funding."

The state bond commission is expected to vote on this and other funding across the state at its upcoming meeting. The meeting will take place at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 20 in Room 1E of the Legislative Office Building. The meeting is open to the public.

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