



TEAM: FLOOD PROTECTION

Issue Experts:

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SUBJECT: WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2026

REQUESTED ACTION:

Support the passage of Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2026.

HOW THIS SUPPORTS BUSINESSES:

Regular, biennial authorization of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is critical to ensuring stable, predictable progress on flood risk reduction throughout the Capital Region. Consistent WRDA updates streamline federal water resources project delivery, allow Congress to refine project authorizations, prevent the backlog of inactive projects, and ensure engineering standards are aligned with current best practices – all of which strengthen public safety and economic resilience.

HOW THIS SUPPORTS RESIDENTS OF OUR REGION:

Proposed WRDA 2026 provisions would accelerate project delivery and reduce costs by expanding opportunities for non-federal partners to lead project planning, construction, and financing. The provisions also improve federal performance by requiring evaluations of environmental compliance and real estate processes – key factors that influence timely and successful project implementation.

Key elements include reauthorization of the National Dam Safety Program and National Levee Safety Program, along with updates to authorities governing alternative project delivery for feasibility studies, design and construction by non-federal sponsors.