

Dennis Barbour
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Jack L. Lynch
Councilman



Pat Efird
Mayor Pro Tem

Gary Doetsch
Councilman

Calvin R. Peck, Jr.
Town Manager

TOWN OF CAROLINA BEACH
1121 N. Lake Park Boulevard
Carolina Beach, North Carolina 28428
910 458 5663 / FAX 910 458 2997

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Contact: Valita Quattlebaum
Town of Carolina Beach
Public Information Officer
(910) 458-5663

Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Dredging to Begin Soon

CAROLINA BEACH, NC --- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineer will begin a much-needed maintenance dredging of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway inlet crossings, including the Carolina Beach Inlet Crossing and Snow's Cut starting in mid-November and ending in approximately two months. The Army's contractor, Cottrell Engineering Corp. – a Virginia based dredging company - will pump dredged sand from the AIWW and dispose of it on the North End, also known as Freeman Park, and renourish some of the beach area.

According to a Corps spokesperson, people should be able to see Cottrell laying pipe for the project over the next few days. Currently, the Army Corps is doing a pre-dredging survey in the area. The dredging will not restrict vehicular access on the North End during the dredging process, according to Army Corps officials and signs about the project will be posted. This pipeline dredging project is being done with the cooperation of the Town of Carolina Beach.

“It is critical for the Intracoastal Waterway to be maintained and we are very pleased to have this maintenance dredging take place,” Mayor Dennis T. Barbour said. “This dredging project helps to ensure safe and efficient interstate commerce and allows for easier navigation of leisure boat traffic,” he added.

The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway is heavily used for business and recreational traffic and it is an important part of the economy in this region and along the Eastern seaboard. The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association and the New Hanover County Ports, Waterway and Beach Commission got their members to lobby Congress for funds to maintain the waterway earlier this year. Members started a successful letter-writing campaign that got the attention of the legislators which resulted in funding for dredging projects for the AIWW.

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