



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
4/23/2019

CONTACT: Senator Jon Erpenbach
608.266.6670

Representative Considine
608.266.7746

Senator Erpenbach and Representative Considine are happy to see DNR commitment to cleaning up Portage Canal

MADISON – In honor of Governor Evers’ Year of Clean Water, and in the spirit of Earth Day, Senator Jon Erpenbach (D-West Point) and Representative Dave Considine (D-Baraboo) were thrilled to hear that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) committed \$4.3 million to clean up the Portage Canal. The DNR is working with the City of Portage and the Department of Transportation (DOT) to clean up contaminated sediments in segment II of the Portage Canal Area. This grant will not only go a long way towards cleaning up the canal, but will leverage additional money from the federal government to improve the economy for all, including adding funds for a bicycle and pedestrian pathway.

“This announcement has been decades in the making. I have spent years advocating for this investment and I am happy to finally see it come into existence,” said Senator Erpenbach. “This grant will add something more to an already vibrant community. Clean water is essential to our way of life in Wisconsin, and it is about time that we take some action. Future generations deserve the same opportunities that we have, and this investment in Portage is a great step towards protecting the environment.”

"I am glad that DNR Secretary-designee Cole understands the importance of clean water," said Representative Considine. "Investing in our water is a public health issue, and this commitment is an important step to remediate the contaminants in the Portage Canal."

###