

A Federal Update

Howard Marlowe



MARLOWE & COMPANY

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS CONSULTANTS

NCBIWA 2008: The Annual Conference

Agenda:

Change

Challenge

Opportunity

Economic Stimulus – When, What, How

March?

- **Timing is an issue** (Lame-duck passage, New Congress, Both?)

- **What will pass?**

 - Aid to States*

 - Funding for Infrastructure Projects (“Ready-to-go”)*

 - Other items*

- **How Much?**

 - \$150 to \$500 billion*



Appropriations Status – Postponed...

- FY 2009 Appropriations cycle postponed until next year
 - 9 bills remain
- Continuing Resolution package keeps government funded through March 6 at FY 2008 levels
- “Lame-duck” session beginning November 17



111th Congress – A New Deal

- Mounting talk about the need for significant increases in federal infrastructure spending – *Bipartisan support*
- **U.S. Conference of Mayors** recently asked Congress for nearly \$90 billion – more than half to transportation, water and wastewater infrastructure spending
- Congress has been given political excuse to invest – the next 10 years will see far more federal spending



Obama's Infrastructure

Support

- Longstanding commitment to and support of investing in our nation's infrastructure
- Strongly supported federal investment in water resources – WRDA 2007
- Supports creation of a *National Infrastructure Reinvestment Bank* – would expand federal investment and leverage it with private funding



WRDA 2009? 2010

- Water Resources Development Act of 2007 addressed backlog of projects since 2000
- WRDA '08 Stalled
- Next opportunity for a new WRDA is more likely in 2010

OTHER ISSUES

- Will Water Resources Get R-E-S-P-E-C-T?
- Will Lobbyists Get Run Out of DC?
- Will Cities and Counties Get More Clout?
- Will Congress Adequately Fund Beaches and Navigation?

Howard Marlowe

www.marloweco.com

howard@marloweco.com



MARLOWE & COMPANY

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS CONSULTANTS