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A total of \$5.3 million has been allocated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to improve the shipping channel from Stockton to San Francisco Bay, says Rep. Jerry McNerney, D-Pleasanton.

The largest portion -- \$4,491,720 -- was awarded for operations and maintenance dredging at the Port of Stockton.

Another \$800,000 was awarded for the San Francisco Bay to Stockton "marine highway" project.

Construction and infrastructure jobs are vital to our regional economic health just as our infrastructure is vital to commerce, and this project will help put our community back to work," says Mr. McNerney.

The project last received federal funding in 2009. It is designed to improve the shipping channels between the Bay and Stockton, allowing more traffic to flow to the Port of Stockton, increasing the number of vessels that can reach the Port of Stockton.

The money for the maintenance dredging helps keep the channels clear and is significantly more money than was received last year, the congressman says.

In addition, a multi-year study that examines the best ways for San Joaquin County to determine what improvements are needed to reach and exceed a 200-year level of flood protection for residents and businesses, has received \$300,000 in funding, Mr. McNerney says.

