



CHAD A. LUPINACCI
Supervisor
Town of Huntington



GREGORY D. LETICA
Mayor
Village of Asharoken

January 12, 2018

Susan McCormick, Director
NYSDEC Coastal Erosion Management Program
100 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12233

Dear Mrs. McCormick:

In June of 2017, Gregory Letica, Mayor of the Village of Asharoken (Village) wrote to you about a depression that was forming on the landward side of the Asharoken Seawall (Seawall). It was clear that this depression was threatening the long-term stability of the Seawall which is critical to protecting the only road accessing Eaton's Neck. As the depression continued to deepen, along with severe corrosion of the top of the sheet steel and the erosion of the beach seaward of the Seawall, it became clearly apparent that the Seawall needed a long-term restoration. We are grateful for your help in starting the process to develop a plan to restore this critical infrastructure and therefore assure the safety of the Asharoken and Huntington residents who rely on it.

We are writing to follow-up on the meetings held in the Village of Asharoken on August 25th and December 15th, 2017. Thank you on behalf of the Village and the Town of Huntington (Town) for participating in the discussions regarding the emergency repairs of the Seawall and the future of protecting Asharoken Avenue. In mid-September the Village and Town completed the emergency repair of the Seawall as discussed with Mr. Tom Creamer and Ms. Chris Rasmussen of the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) at the August meeting. The Village and Town are grateful for their guidance. However, we must keep in mind that this was a very short-term repair and any serious storm could re-accelerate the growth of the depression accelerating the failure of the Seawall.

Not knowing how long the repairs of the Seawall will hold and based on the Engineering Report by Ms. Rasmussen that indicates the Seawall could fail at any time, the Village and Town are interested in finding a permanent solution to protecting Asharoken Avenue from future coastal storms and erosion in the area of the Seawall. We are respectfully requesting that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) ask the Corps to conduct a study and create a focused long-term solution, which we understand would be called a Locally Preferred Plan (LPP), for the area of the Seawall. The Village and Town understand that in order to receive federal money to construct any project resulting from the study, we will be required to implement public access requirements in the Seawall area, if any are deemed necessary by the study. The Village and Town will endeavor to work with the State and Army Corps to confirm any such requirements in a public access plan as part of the feasibility study.

Town Hall • 100 Main Street • Huntington, N.Y. 11743
Village Hall, 1 Asharoken Avenue, Asharoken, NY 11768

Mrs. McCormick
January 12, 2018
Page 2

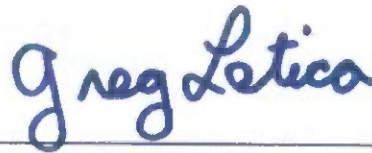
The Village and Town were advised that the public access requirements, if any, will be commensurate with the anticipated recreational use of the Seawall area. The Village and Town understand that they are under no obligation to implement any component of the study or to construct a LPP until they sign a Local Project Partnership Agreement with the DEC. Lastly, the Village and Town were informed that the cost of the study will be fully paid for with federal funds and that Corps will cost share up to 65% of implementing the LPP.

In conclusion, the Village and Town are interested in exploring a focused solution for the Seawall area as a LPP. Our support of such a plan will be based on the analysis that would come from development of a focused solution and completion of a study that supports it. We look forward to working together on the Seawall restoration.

Sincerely;



Supervisor Chad A. Lupinacci
Town of Huntington



Mayor Dr. Gregory Letica
Village of Asharoken