

2013-545

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO FINALIZE THE NORTH SHORE OF LONG ISLAND BEACH EROSION CONTROL FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR ASHAROKEN, NY AND URGING CONGRESS AND THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENSURE THAT SUCH FUNDING IS ALLOCATED IN FISCAL YEAR 2014 AND SUBSEQUENT BUDGET CYCLES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO ENGINEER AND COMPLETE THE PROJECT TO REBUILD ASHAROKEN BEACH

Resolution for Town Board Meeting Dated: November 7, 2013

The following resolution was offered by: Supervisor Petrone, **COUNCILMAN COOK**

and seconded by: **COUNCILWOMAN BERLAND**

WHEREAS, the Village of Asharoken is an isthmus that connects Eaton's Neck, and the 1,500 people living there, the Eaton's Neck Fire Department and the personnel stationed at the U.S. Coast Guard facility, to the rest of Huntington via a single land route, Asharoken Avenue; and

WHEREAS, at its narrowest point the Asharoken isthmus is barely 100' across and fortified by a seawall engineered by the Army Corps that has been subject to major repairs following storm events Irene and Sandy; and

WHEREAS, the rate of erosion of the beachfront protecting the homes and Asharoken Avenues itself is accelerating, so much so that the seawall is now over-washed by Long Island waters in even moderate strength easterly and northeasterly winds, increasing the chances for a breach in another major storm event; and

WHEREAS, a dunes rebuilding project completed this past spring provides temporary respite, but the only effective method of protecting the integrity of dunes, sea wall and roadway is to completely rebuild Asharoken Beach from the Northport power plant to a point west of the seawall; and

WHEREAS, the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 makes funding available for the completion of feasibility studies and the construction to structural improvements to shoreline areas to protect public infrastructure like Asharoken Avenue from the effects of climate change and worsening weather patterns; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Asharoken, New York Department of Environmental Conservation and the Army Corps of Engineers have a joint agreement that will allow them to fund the Beach Rebuilding project upon the completion of the feasibility study using sand dredged from LI Sound and used to nourish the beachfront in the volume this project requires; and

WHEREAS, the Huntington Town Board concurs with the Village of Asharoken that this is a vital project that must be completed with all compulsory speed so as to forestall the potential impacts of future major storms; and

WHEREAS, the memorializing resolution is a Type II action pursuant to 6 N.Y.C.R.R. §617.2(b) and therefore no further SEQRA review is required.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE TOWN BOARD

HEREBY URGES the United States Army Corps of Engineers to finalize the North Shore of Long Island Beach Erosion Control feasibility study for Asharoken, NY and urges Congress and the New York State Legislature to ensure that such funding is allocated in fiscal year 2014 and subsequent budget cycles as may be necessary to engineer and complete the project to rebuild Asharoken Beach; and

HEREBY DIRECTS the Town Clerk to forward certified copies of this resolution to United States Senator Charles E. Schumer, United States Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand, United States Congressman Steve Israel, Col. Paul E Owen, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, Governor Andrew Cuomo, Joseph Martens, Commissioner of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Senator Carl Marcellino, New York State Assemblyman Andrew Raia and Mayor Gregory Letica, Village of Asharoken and the members of the Asharoken Board of Trustees.

VOTE: AYES: 5 NOES: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

Supervisor Frank P. Petrone	AYE
Councilwoman Susan A. Berland	AYE
Councilman Eugene Cook	AYE
Councilman Mark A. Cuthbertson	AYE
Councilman Mark Mayoka	AYE

THE RESOLUTION WAS THEREUPON DECLARED DULY ADOPTED.