



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District

REVISED DRAFT
Integrated Hurricane Sandy
General Reevaluation Report
and
Environmental Impact Statement

Atlantic Coast of New York

East Rockaway Inlet to
Rockaway Inlet and Jamaica Bay

Appendix H

**Support from Non-Federal Sponsor,
Partners, and Cooperating Agencies**

August 2018

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Water, Bureau of Flood Protection and Dam Safety
625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-3504
P: (518) 402-8185 | F: (518) 402-9029
www.dec.ny.gov

August 28, 2018

Colonel Thomas D. Asbery
Commander and District Engineer
US Army Corps of Engineers
New York District
26 Federal Plaza, Room 2119
New York, NY 10278-0090

Dear Colonel Asbery:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (Department) support for the Rockaway Reformulation Study and the release of the *Draft Final Integrated Hurricane Sandy General Reevaluation Report and Environmental Impact Statement for East Rockaway Inlet to Rockaway Inlet and Jamaica Bay* (Report) for public review and comment. This letter also confirms the Department's continued interest in participating in the construction of the East Rockaway to Rockaway Inlet and Jamaica Bay Storm Damage Reduction Project (Project) as the United States Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) Non-Federal Sponsor.

Based on the information provided by the Corps to date, the Department supports the recommendations in the Draft Final Report. However, the DEC has not yet received a version of the draft Real Estate Appendix that identifies the specific real estate necessary for construction of the recommended plan and the costs associated with obtaining that real estate. The Department will not be able to provide a letter to the Corps fully supporting the Report's recommended plan until the complete Real Estate Appendix has been provided and we have had an opportunity to review it and provide comment.

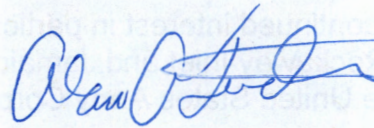
Additionally, the Department requires a letter of support from all of the potential local sponsors. The Department was copied on a letter of support from New York City (City) who is the State's local sponsor for the Study. The City's letter of support was sent directly to you on August 24, 2018 and is enclosed. The Town of Hempstead and the Village of Cedarhurst, who are expected to partner with the State on the construction of Project components within their given jurisdictions, have already provided conditioned letters of support to the Department, which are also enclosed. The concerns described in these letters will need to be resolved before these communities can provide letters fully supporting the findings in the Report to the Department, which is necessary before the Department can provide a similar letter to the Corps.

The Department understands that to the extent that the Disaster Relief Appropriation Act of 2013, Public Law 113-2 enacted January 29, 2013 (DRAA 13) funds appropriated by Congress are available, the Corps will construct the Project at 100 percent Federal expense. In the event that there are insufficient DRAA 13 funds to complete construction of the Project, the proposed Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) will need to be amended and the remaining work will be subject to cost-sharing.

This letter is not a commitment for the funding of any portion of the Project. The commitment can only be made when the proposed PPA with the Corps for the Project is executed by the Office of the New York State Comptroller. The City/Town/Village maintains that they are interested in being Local Sponsors. However, the City/Town/Village's participation will depend upon successful execution of local agreements with each municipality.

The Department commends the Corps for their continued efforts on the Rockaway Reformulation Study, and look forward to our continued coordination as we work to finalize the Feasibility Study Report on the schedule presented during our August 2, 2018 executive meeting, including participation in three to four public meetings during the 45-day public comment period.

Sincerely,



Alan Fuchs, P.E.
Director

cc: Anthony Ciorra, Corps
Dan Falt, Corps
Sue McCormick, NYSDEC
Matt Chlebus, NYSDEC
Steve Zahn, NYSDEC
Curtis Cravens, NYC
Sam Hersh, NYC
Joe Davenport, Town of Hempstead
Benjamin Weinstock, Village of Cedarhurst



August 24, 2018

Colonel Tom Asbery
Commander and District Engineer
United States Army Corps of Engineers
New York District
26 Federal Plaza
New York, New York 10278

Dear Col. Asbery:

The City of New York strongly supports efforts to make communities in the Rockaways and Jamaica Bay more resilient to the impacts of coastal storms and nuisance flooding, and we thank the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for their efforts to advance protections for the beachfront and bayside of the Rockaway peninsula.

Please allow this letter to serve as formal support of the initiation of public comment on the Hurricane Sandy General Reevaluation Report, dated August 2018, and the continued refinement of the recommendations contained therein. This letter also confirms New York City's interest in serving as the Local Sponsor to the Non-Federal Sponsor, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), on the East Rockaway to Rockaway Inlet and Jamaica Bay Storm Damage Reduction Project (Project).

The City strongly supports the USACE's recommendations for the Atlantic Beach and reaffirms our belief that beachfront projects should not be delayed as analysis on the bayside continues.

The City also supports continued analysis of bayside interventions, which were first conceptualized in 2018, and therefore need additional community input and technical review before design is finalized and construction can start. While we firmly believe that communities on Jamaica Bay are among the most at-risk to sea level rise and coastal storms, we also believe these solutions need to be appropriate for the communities in which they are sited.

Therefore, while we support the advancement of the Project, we have concerns with bayside components that will need to be addressed moving forward. These concerns include:

- Robust community input will be needed on new bayside measures to ensure any community concerns are addressed
- NYCDEP will need to be consulted as assumptions pertaining to Stormwater Pumping are refined, in particular with regards to operations & maintenance, N+1 redundancy of pumps, automated trash racks, and pump station siting
- Road Closure Gates and proposed road raisings will need to be coordinated with NYCDOT
- Wetland impacts must be minimized to the greatest extent possible
- Additional information and coordination will be needed with regard to infrastructure siting and required property interests

Although we are excited to see this important milestone being met, we also urge the USACE not to neglect important project components, namely the Jamaica Bay barrier and Coney Island tie-off, which have been moved to the New York New Jersey Harbor and Tributaries study. These federal investments are crucial to a comprehensive solution for the long-term resilience of low-lying communities in South Brooklyn and Southeast Queens.

We thank USACE for their continued interest in providing protection to neighborhoods in Rockaway and look forward to working with the USACE on to find appropriate solutions for the ongoing resilience of these neighborhoods.

Should you have any questions or concerns on these matters, please contact the undersigned at,



Jainey Bavishi
Director, New York City Mayor's Office of Recovery and Resiliency



Mitchell J. Silver, FAICP, Hon. ASLA
Commissioner, New York City Department of Parks and Recreation



Vincent Sapienza
Commissioner, New York City Department of Environmental Protection

LAURA A. GILLEN
SUPERVISOR



CEDR'd

OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR
TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

ONE WASHINGTON STREET • HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK 11550-4923
516-812-3296 • LGILLEN@TOHMAIL.ORG • @HEMPSTEADTOWN

July 13, 2018

Mr. Alan Fuchs, P.E., Director
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Bureau of Flood Protection and Dam Safety
625 Broadway, 4th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-3504

Re: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Proposed Project
High Frequency Flooding Risk Reduction Features
For Jamaica Bay


Dear Mr. Fuchs:

The Town of Hempstead has participated in several conference calls during which the conceptual scope of the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) proposed project entitled "High Frequency Flooding Risk Reduction Features for Jamaica Bay" was presented. While much of the details remain to be developed for this project, the Town is supportive of the project concepts and supports the release of a draft report for public and agency review.

Project scope elements that are directly related to the Town would include the construction of a seawall/bulkhead adjacent and parallel to Waterfront Blvd (Inwood), spanning the Town owned Inwood Highway Maintenance Yard property, all on the north shoreline of Motts Basin. The Town understands that to the extent that funds appropriated by Congress for the Disaster Relief Appropriation Act of 2013, Public Law 113-2, enacted January 29, 2013 (DRAA 13) are available, the ACOE will construct the Project at 100 percent Federal expense.

This letter is not a Town commitment to become the local project sponsor or for the funding of any portion of the Project. The commitment to be the local project sponsor can only be made when a Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) with the non-Federal project sponsor (NYSDEC) is negotiated and ultimately executed. However, the Town maintains that it has interest in being the local non-Federal Sponsor for the Town-related project elements.

Sincerely,


Laura A. Gillen
Supervisor

LAG:cr

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JUL 23 2018

FLOOD PROTECTION
AND DAM SAFETY



Village of Cedarhurst

NASSAU COUNTY, NEW YORK

MAYOR
BENJAMIN WEINSTOCK

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RONALD LANZILOTTA, SR.
ARI BROWN
MYRNA ZISMAN
ISRAEL WASSER

200 CEDARHURST AVENUE
CEDARHURST, NY 11516
516-295-5770
FAX 516-295-1077

www.cedarhurst.gov
E-MAIL: village@cedarhurst.gov

July 3, 2018

Alan Fuchs, P.E.
Director
Bureau of Flood Protection and Dam Safety
625 Broadway, 4th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-3504

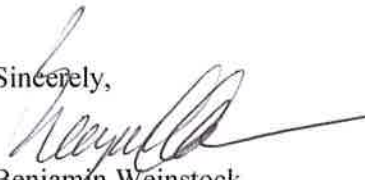
Re: Rockaway Reformulation

This is to confirm that the Village of Cedarhurst ("Village") formally supports the recommendations contained in the Hurricane Sandy General Reevaluation Report dated August 2018. This will also confirm the Village's interest in participating in the Lawrence/Cedarhurst portion of the East Rockaway to Rockaway Inlet and Jamaica Bay Storm Damage Reduction Project (Project) as the Local Sponsor of the Non-Federal Sponsor with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for the construction of the Project.

The Village of Cedarhurst understands that to the extent that the Disaster Relief Appropriation Act of 2013, Public Law 113-2 enacted January 29, 2013 (DRAA 13) funds appropriated by Congress are available, the United States Army Corps of Engineer (Corps) will construct the Project at 100 percent Federal expense. If there are insufficient DRAA 13 funds to complete construction of the Project, the proposed Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) will need to be amended and the remaining work will be subject to cost-sharing.

This letter is not a commitment for the funding of any portion of the Project. That commitment can only be made when the proposed PPA with the DEC for the Project is executed and the Village enters into a formal written agreement with DEC. The Village maintains that it is interested in being the Non-Federal Sponsor. However, the Village's participation will depend upon successful execution of said formal agreements.

The Village would like to see the completion of the Project's implementation as quickly as possible. To that end the Village supports the release of the draft Report for public and agency review.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Weinstock
Mayor

cc: Salvatore Evola
Board of Trustees
Frank Parise
Wayne Yarnell

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