







August 16, 2013

U.S. Senator Charles Schumer 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand 478 Russell Senate Building Washington, DC 20510

Representative Timothy Bishop 306 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Schumer, Senator Gillibrand, and Representative Bishop:

First, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued cooperation as we pursue the shared goal of assisting our mutual constituents in the aftermath of Super Storm Sandy. This storm has challenged New Yorkers, but the resiliency of our neighbors proves once again why we are the greatest state in the Union.

The purpose of this letter is to address the urgent need for immediate action to replenish the dunes on Fire Island just south of the Village of Mastic Beach. Sandy wiped away the dunes and has left this populated area of Long Island as now the most vulnerable community at risk if another storm comes close to our shore. It would not take another storm at Sandy's caliber to destroy homes and lives throughout this entire Village if we do not act immediately to replenish the barrier beach at Smith Point.

At an August 16, 2013 meeting in Suffolk County, the Army Corps of Engineers indicated that the earliest possible timeframe for this emergency project to start is this upcoming winter. Also, this wasn't even yet a confirmed start date. Furthermore, it was indicated that even if the project is started this winter it may not be completed at that time. This is totally unacceptable to our constituents.

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Please do everything in your power to expedite the timeline for completion of this project. Hurricane season is already upon us and any help that you could provide to get this done sooner would greatly mitigate the risk of a devastating scenario for Mastic Beach if this is not completed in time. We also would like to request that the dunes are built at least 13-15 feet high as this is also a key component to ensuring that the people of Mastic Beach and the surrounding community are protected.

Thank you again for your assistance on this urgent matter. We are hopeful and optimistic that you will do everything in your power to get this done. If you have any questions at all, please contact us so that we may assist with this most pressing request.

Very Truly Yours,

Lee M. Zeldin

New York State Senator

Edward P. Romaine

Supervisor, Town of Brookhaven

Kate Browning

Suffolk County Legislator

Assemblyman Edward Hennessey

New York State Assemblyman

Dan Panico

Councilman, Town of Brookhaven

William E. Biondi

Mayor, Mastic Beach