

Congressman David Rouzer 2333 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

## Dear Representative Rouzer:

Please accept this letter of support for the Town of Oak Island for participation in the Town of Oak Island Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Feasibility Study, in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), to cooperatively investigate opportunities to reduce beach erosion as a result of hurricane and storm damage in an effort to protect utilities, roadways, and public and private infrastructure in the Town of Oak Island, Brunswick County.

The Town has been actively partnering with USACE in a number of projects dedicated to mitigate and protect against beach erosion and storms, including the following: the Wilmington Harbor Inner Ocean Bar Project, a dredging project of the Cape Fear River which ensures continued navigation to the port of Wilmington and places beach compatible sand on adjacent beaches in an alternating schedule; and numerous Lockwood Folly Inlet projects, some of which merely dredge to maintain a channel for navigation and some which place beach compatible sand on the adjacent two beaches in an alternating schedule. The Town looks forward to building on this strong partnership with the USACE to further enhance the Town's Beach Management Plan -- a plan to nourish and maintain the beaches for residents, for the thousands of visitors the Town welcomes each year, and to maintain infrastructure, including roads and utilities.

The Town government understands that this partnership comes with a cost share, and the Town is grateful for this opportunity to solidify its beach maintenance plans going forward.

We would sincerely appreciate the federal government's consideration of the Town's funding request, and we are happy to provide any additional information needed.

Sincerely.

Mayor S. Elizabeth White mayorwhite@oakislandnc.gov