

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Memo To: The Honorable David C. Rouzer

From: Wrightsville Beach Chamber of Commerce Board

Date: April, 19, 2021

Re: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, Coastal Storm Damage Reduction projects for New Hanover County, including Wrightsville Beach, NC

To Whom It May Concern:

This memo is written to give our support for the CSDR projects for New Hanover County beaches including Wrightsville Beach which is home to numerous small business that help keep NC moving forward.

Our collective businesses of Wrightsville Beach continue our position supporting the value and importance of the Corp of Engineers (US Federal Government), the state, and our local governments as partners in beach reconstruction projects now, for the past fifty years, and hopefully the next fifty years.

The Current program has served the people of Wrightsville Beach, New Hanover County, the state of North Carolina, tourists, and other visitors well. Wrightsville Beach is a vacation and residential destination. The island is an outstanding poster child for the success of the combined efforts of beach reconstruction and updated building codes. We are proof of the value of the partnership and what it can do to prevent loss of life and property to the severe weather events. The CSDR program was enacted in the 60's has saved billions of dollars for WB over the past 50 year span.

Without beach reconstruction and the improved building codes, including elevation of many of the older residence, we would not have recovered from resent storms like Florence and Dorian nearly as rapidly. Wrightsville Beach is proof that our national seashore infrastructure can be maintained and protected in a cost effective way with the correct effort by the governmental partners: WB, New Hanover County, the State of North Carolina, and the Federal Government through the Corp. of Engineers.

Having made clear the current and historical benefit of the partnership, it was a blow to our community to find that our beach had been defunded in the OMB budget release January 2021.

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We wish to support and thank you in the Corp. and our legislative team for all its efforts to continue such seaside infrastructure projects and hope you are successful in their reauthorization.

We will be reaching out to our businesses and the community members asking them to be ready to let our congressional committees know how important these projects funded through the Corp. of Engineers are.

The Wrightsville Beach Chamber of Commerce stand ready to assist in information gathering, advocacy, or other tasks that may be necessary to correct and reinstate these Corp. of Engineer projects for our area.

Respectfully Submitted By Susan K Bulluck, WBCC Chairman

CC:

Wrightsville Beach Mayor Darryl Mills,
Susan K. Bulluck, Chairman and Bulluck & Co., AmRuss Ventures
Larry Morgan the GM (L&M Restaurants)
John Andrews, owner (Southbeach Grill)
Nicolas Montoya, General Manager (Blockade Runner Resort)
William Sisson, DC (Alternative Health Care Clinic)
Suzanne Neblett, (Rate Mortgage)
Daniel Redick, owner (Redix of WB & Wilmington)
Devlin Horton, (Hedrick, Gardner, Kincheloe & Garofalo LLP)
Mr. Eric Gasch, U.S. Army Engineer District, Wilmington, CESAW-ECP-PE, 69
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