

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Village of Bald Head Island Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Village of Bald Head Island, located at 106 Light House Wynd, Bald Head Island, NC 28461. The funding would be used to conduct a beach nourishment and erosion control project that would remove sand from an approved borrow site and place it on eroded portions of Bald Head Island's South Beach. The project would place approximately 1Mcy of dredged sand on the south beach shoreline in two equal segments to fill the west end at the Terminal Groin structure through the soft-tube groinfield and the other at the east end of south beach to mitigate ongoing erosion.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because South Beach and other Bald Head Island beaches are key driver of the Island's economy, with seasonal population estimates of 7,000-8,000 people during the peak of the summer vacation season compared to the less than 250 full-time island residents. As with other coastal communities, shore erosion is a perennial issue for Bald Head Island. Beyond expected erosion (and accretion) that is part of the natural geomorphology of any shoreline, Bald Head beaches have been drastically affected in recent years by cargo ships in the Cape Fear River shipping channel that have brought on more frequent, larger wake action.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

