



VIA US MAIL

June 27, 2024

Lt. Col. Robert Nahabedian
US Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District
69A Hagood Ave
Charleston, SC 29403

RE: letter of intent for studying feasibility of a Coastal Storm Risk Management Project

Dear Lt. Col. Nahabedian:

The City of Isle of Palms is requesting the assistance of the US Army Corps of Engineers in studying the feasibility of a Coastal Storm Risk Management project in accordance with the April 22, 1988 Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Army to study the entire Coast of South Carolina in the interests of beach erosion control, hurricane protection and related purposes. Additionally, the City potentially desires to have the Corps examine comprehensive flood risk for the isolated and compound effects of flooding as identified in Section 8106(a) of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2022. The City is currently experiencing beach erosion on the southern end of the island between Breach Inlet and 10th Avenue that is threatening the public beach, private property, habitable structures and infrastructure.

The southern end of the Isle of Palms has lost 250,000 cubic yards of sand in the last two years. This erosion has caused the City, with funding assistance from the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, to initiate short-term emergency work to protect against damage. This work has included scraping sand, trucking in sand, and installing sandbags. To date, this short-term work has been able to stave off large-scale damage, apart from the loss of two swimming pools and several hundred feet of public beach. However, it is not expected that this will be a sustainable solution in the long-term and the City believes that Coastal Storm Risk Management project may be able to provide the protection and sustainability the community desires.

The City of Isle of Palms is ready and able to partner with the Corps as the non-federal sponsor and understands that the feasibility study cannot be initiated until it has been funded through the annual appropriations process. If selected for funding, the City understands that it would need to sign a cost sharing agreement with the Corps, and would be responsible for 50% of the total cost of the study, and understands the associated cost sharing requirements and obligations per the Corps' model Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement. Further, the City is aware that this letter serves as an expression of interest and not a contractual obligation.

If you need additional information, please contact our Deputy City Administrator, Douglas Kerr, at 843-886-6428, dkerr@iop.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Desirée Fragoso". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a trailing flourish.

Desirée Fragoso
City Administrator

CC: City of Isle of Palms Mayor and Councilmembers
Jeff Livasy, US Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District
Nancy Parrish, US Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District