Town of Brookhaven
Long Island

Edward P. Romaine, Supervisor

September 15, 2023

Honorable Charles Schumer, Senator
US Senate
145 Pinelawn Road, #300N
Melville, NY 11747

Dear Senator Schumer:

We are writing to you to stress our concern and bring attention to the urgent need for beach renourishment along the shoreline that was constructed as part of the Fire Island to Montauk Inlet, FIMI, project. As you know, over the past few years since the FIMI dunes were constructed, we have sustained several storms and damage to our beachfront. Our beaches have become smaller and smaller, and we have lost hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of sand impacting the stability and resilience of our beach dunes and communities.

The beach dunes along Ocean Bay Park, Point O'Woods, Cherry Grove, The Fire Island Pines, Water Island and Davis Park communities have historically served as a crucial natural barrier against storms and coastal erosion. However, due to the increased frequency of severe weather events, these dunes have become increasingly vulnerable and at most locations no longer exist leaving the communities unstable and at high risk for coastal damage.

We have recently learned that several attempts to petition the United States Army Corps of Engineers, USACE, to include the Brookhaven beaches in their renourishment plan have been rejected. This news is both concerning and disappointing. It has become evident that the natural forces of erosion and coastal dynamics are affecting the stability and integrity of the shoreline created under the FIMI project. The beaches that were once vibrant and wide have started to diminish and the projective dunes are eroding and an alarming rate. These dunes play a vital role in safeguarding our shoreline, the surrounding infrastructure and the mainland of Long Island.

Since there is already a plan to bring the dredge back and to renourish the west end beaches, we implore you to fix the Brookhaven Beaches as well. As the local representatives for this area, we are committed to working with you and the rest of the stakeholders to gather the necessary support and resources for this endeavor. While we understand that securing funding and resources for such projects can be challenging, one would think that since the equipment and manpower will already be deployed to the region, it would just make sense to do everything at once. We believe that a carefully planned beach renourishment project will not only ensure the sustainability of the

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FIMI but also enhance the resilience of our coastline against future challenges, including storm surges and sea-level rise.

Failure to act immediately will be detrimental to all of the Brookhaven communities not included in the current scope of work. If you are available, we would greatly appreciate the opportunity to discuss this matter further so that we can do everything to protect and improve our coastal environment for the benefit of our communities and future generations.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue, and we look forward to working together to address these issues immediately.

Sincerely,

Edward P. Romaine
Supervisor

Daniel Panico
Deputy Supervisor/
Councilman, District 6

Neil Foley
Councilman, District 5

Town of Brookhaven
Long Island

Edward P. Romaine, Supervisor

September 15, 2023

Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand, Senator
US Senate
155 Pinelawn Road, Suite 250 North
Melville, NY 11747

Dear Senator Gillibrand:

We are writing to you to stress our concern and bring attention to the urgent need for beach renourishment along the shoreline that was constructed as part of the Fire Island to Montauk Inlet, FIMI, project. As you know, over the past few years since the FIMI dunes were constructed, we have sustained several storms and damage to our beachfront. Our beaches have become smaller and smaller, and we have lost hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of sand impacting the stability and resilience of our beach dunes and communities.

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Neil Foley
Councilman, District 5

Town of Brookhaven
Long Island

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September 15, 2023

Honorable Andrew Garbarino, Congressman
United States Congress
31 Oak Street, Suite 20
Patchogue, NY 11772

Dear Congressman Garbarino:

We are writing to you to stress our concern and bring attention to the urgent need for beach renourishment along the shoreline that was constructed as part of the Fire Island to Montauk Inlet, FIMI, project. As you know, over the past few years since the FIMI dunes were constructed, we have sustained several storms and damage to our beachfront. Our beaches have become smaller and smaller, and we have lost hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of sand impacting the stability and resilience of our beach dunes and communities.

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Long Island

Edward P. Romaine, Supervisor

September 15, 2023

Michael Connor, Assistant Secretary
New York Civil Works District
26 Federal Plaza, Room 2113
New York, NY 10278-0090

Dear Mr. Connor:

We are writing to you to stress our concern and bring attention to the urgent need for beach renourishment along the shoreline that was constructed as part of the Fire Island to Montauk Inlet, FIMI, project. As you know, over the past few years since the FIMI dunes were constructed, we have sustained several storms and damage to our beachfront. Our beaches have become smaller and smaller, and we have lost hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of sand impacting the stability and resilience of our beach dunes and communities.

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Councilman, District 6

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Town of Brookhaven
Long Island

Edward P. Romaine, Supervisor

September 15, 2023

Major General William Graham
Deputy Chief of Engineers
Deputy Commanding General for Civil Works and Emergency Operations
New York Civil Works District
26 Federal Plaza, Room 2113
New York, NY 10278-0090

Dear Major General William Graham:

We are writing to you to stress our concern and bring attention to the urgent need for beach renourishment along the shoreline that was constructed as part of the Fire Island to Montauk Inlet, FIMI, project. As you know, over the past few years since the FIMI dunes were constructed, we have sustained several storms and damage to our beachfront. Our beaches have become smaller and smaller, and we have lost hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of sand impacting the stability and resilience of our beach dunes and communities.

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