



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 8, 2017

Mr. Douglas Lamont
Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Dear Mr. Lamont:

As you know, Congress has recently passed the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Omnibus package which included an increase to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) funding level for the fourth consecutive year. In light of this, I must reemphasize the importance of prioritizing Presque Isle sand replenishment in your FY17 work plan and expediting the approval of the proposed Local Cooperation Agreement Amendment (LCA) before the busy summer tourist season.

Attached is a letter from U.S. Senators Robert Casey and Pat Toomey as well as U.S. Representatives Mike Kelly and Glenn Thompson urging Presque Isle Sand replenishment and approval of the LCA over two months ago. Now that Congress has passed an Omnibus to fund the government through September FY17 instead of a Continuing Resolution, it is my understanding that the USACE will not be beholden to its FY16 Work Plan, allowing the USACE the flexibility to fund sand replenishment this year.

A second unusually mild winter in a row has caused greater erosion than at any time in recent memory on Presque Isle's beaches, threatening beach closures and public safety concerns at Presque Isle State Park which is enjoyed by approximately 4 million visitors a year. With less than a month before the unofficial start of the summer tourist season on Memorial Day, it is with growing urgency that I ask you to please prioritize Presque Isle beach nourishment and approve the LCA as quickly as possible.

Thank you,



Mike Kelly
Member of Congress