

**Appendix M**

**Letters of Support (various)**



## State of New Jersey

### DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Division of Coastal and Land Use Planning  
Mail Code 401-07C

P.O. Box 420, 401 East State Street  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420

Telephone: (609) 984-6888

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<http://www.nj.gov/dep/lum/lup.htm>

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO  
*Lt. Governor*

BOB MARTIN  
*Commissioner*

David O'Neill  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
1133 15th Street NW, Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I am writing to express my support for the application submitted by the municipality of Ocean City, NJ for their proposed marsh restoration project. Their proposed project entails the use of sediment traps and the beneficial reuse of dredge materials to restore and enhance wetlands in and around Ocean City. This activity would greatly improve the resilience of the natural and built infrastructure of the area.

The NJ Division of Coastal and Land Use Planning, NJDEP recognizes the increasing vulnerability of the tidal marsh system due to coastal hazards. This project utilizes vulnerability and risk awareness about the shirking protection of the marsh and proposes a restoration project to make Ocean City and the estuarine environment surrounding Ocean City more resilient. We are fully supportive of this proposal which moves local risk awareness into project implementation to better Ocean City's community resilience.

Additionally, the City of Ocean City has experience in this type of activity and is already working on the permitting for beneficial reuse of dredged materials. The existing relationship with the NJ DOT Office of Maritime Resources, along with the existing project scope and plans, would be greatly enhanced by this funding award. These established relationships and grant experiences will prove to be very valuable in project implementation and success.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Semple, Manager  
Division of Coastal and Land Use Planning

FRANK A. LOBIONDO  
2ND DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

CHAIRMAN,  
AVIATION

COAST GUARD AND MARITIME  
TRANSPORTATION

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3002**

January 31, 2014

ARMED SERVICES  
TACTICAL AIR AND LAND FORCES  
READINESS

HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT  
COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE  
TECHNICAL AND TACTICAL INTELLIGENCE  
TERRORISM, HUMINT, ANALYSIS AND  
COUNTERINTELLIGENCE (THACI)

Mr. David O'Neill  
Vice President, Conservation Programs  
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation  
Attn: Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grants Program  
1133 15th Street NW #1100  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I am pleased to write this letter of support on behalf of the City of Ocean City's application for funding under the Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resilience Competency Grants Program.

It is my understanding that this grant will be used to restore and enhance wetlands in and around Ocean City. Their proposed use of sediment traps and the beneficial reuse of dredge materials would greatly improve the resilience of the natural and built infrastructure of the area.

The City of Ocean City has experience and is already working on the permitting for beneficial reuse of dredged materials. This existing relationship with New Jersey Department of Transportation Office of Maritime Resources and existing project scope and plans would be greatly enhanced by this funding award. These established relations and grant experiences will prove to be very valuable in project implementation and success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Frank A. LoBiondo".

Frank A. LoBiondo  
Member of Congress

FAL:cm:ml

**MAYS LANDING OFFICE:**  
5914 MAIN STREET, SUITE 103  
MAYS LANDING, NJ 08330-1746  
PHONE: (609) 625-5008  
PHONE: (800) 471-4450  
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**WASHINGTON OFFICE:**  
2427 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3002  
PHONE: (202) 225-6572  
FAX: (202) 225-3318  
[www.lobiondo.house.gov](http://www.lobiondo.house.gov)



January 31, 2014

Engineering Division  
City of Ocean City  
155 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Ocean City, NJ 08226

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the New Jersey Association of Floodplain Managers, I am pleased to support the grant application submitted by the City of Ocean City to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to help Ocean City reduce vulnerability to the growing risks from coastal storms, sea level rise, flooding, erosion and associated threats.

NJAFM is dedicated to reducing loss of life and property damage resulting from floods and promoting sound floodplain management at all levels of government. NJAFM recognizes the value of natural resource restoration as an important flood mitigation technique. Healthy wetland systems can be quite effective in protecting people and property from storm surge and wave impacts, and reducing associated damages and recovery costs. Therefore, NJAFM remains supportive of wetland restoration activities.

Notwithstanding these mitigation benefits, open water fill using dredge material to establish and/or restore wetlands needs to be carefully planned and designed, with proper controls to ensure that adverse environmental impacts are avoided or minimized. Sampling and testing of the proposed fill material must demonstrate that disposal for the purpose of wetlands restoration is appropriate. To that end, we defer to the Army Corps of Engineers and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection to ensure that the proposed project is undertaken in strict accordance with all required regulatory requirements.

We look forward to collaborating with you on this effort, and look forward to sharing information and knowledge to ensure that Ocean City and that region become more resilient.

Sincerely,

Craig A. Wenger, CEM  
NJAFM Chair



Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve  
Coastal Education Center  
130 Great Bay Blvd • Tuckerton, NJ 08087  
Phone: 609-812-0649 Fax: 609-294-8597  
[www.jcner.org](http://www.jcner.org)

January 30, 2014

David O'Neill  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
1133 15th Street NW, Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I am writing to express my support for the application submitted by the municipality of Ocean City, NJ for their proposed marsh restoration project. Their proposed work to use sediment traps and the beneficial reuse of dredge materials to restore and enhance wetlands in and around Ocean City would greatly improve the resilience of the natural and built infrastructure of the area.

The Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve's Coastal Training Program educates local community leaders about the on the increasing vulnerability of the tidal marsh system due to sea level rise and land subsidence. This project utilizes vulnerability and risk awareness about the shirking protection of the marsh and proposes a restoration project to make Ocean City and the estuarine environment surrounding Ocean City more resilient. We are fully supportive of this proposal which moves local risk awareness into project implementation to better Ocean City's community resilience.

Additionally, the City of Ocean City has experience and is already working on the permitting for beneficial reuse of dredged materials. This existing relationship with NJ DOT Office of Maritime Resources and existing project scope and plans would be greatly enhanced by this funding award. These established relations and grant experiences will prove to be very valuable in project implementation and success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Lisa M. Auermuller'.

Lisa Auermuller  
Watershed Coordinator



SCHEULE

PLANNING SOLUTIONS, LLC

*Master Plans*

*Zoning Codes*

*Redevelopment*

January 27, 2014

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation  
1133 Fifteenth Street, NW  
Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: City of Ocean City -  
Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grant Program

To Whom It May Concern:

Ocean City's Grant application addresses multiple issues of local and regional importance. The benefits to be derived from this project will restore a significant wetland area that will improve the natural environment. These improvements will enhance the functionality of wetlands in and around Garret's Island.

Natural wetland processes including habitat for threatened and endangered species will be improved as a result of this project. It is also well known that healthy wetland systems function to protect local communities from storm surges and flooding.

Dredging of back bay areas including the Intracoastal Waterway behind Ocean City are desperately needed. Dredge materials play a key role in the success of this project and will be used to raise the elevation of the tidal marsh.

From a community planner's perspective I strongly endorse this project. Project implementation will resolve critical environmental issues identified by federal and state environmental agencies. Enhancement and restoration of wetlands in the Great Egg Harbor Bay will benefit the environment and nearby communities in ways not envisioned at this time. Approval of this project should be a priority.

Sincerely,

Randall Scheule, PP, AICP