

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
House Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' "Metropolitan Washington, District of Columbia, Coastal Storm Risk Management Project" in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, located at 2 Hopkins Plaza Baltimore, MD 21201.

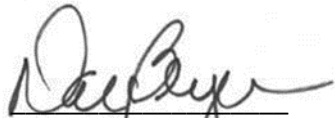
The funding would be used for the "Metropolitan Washington, District of Columbia, Coastal Storm Risk Management Project," which is a coastal storm risk management project, authorized for Pre-Construction Engineering and Design (PED) in the Water Resources and Development Act of 2024 (PL 118-272). This authorization followed the completion of a 2022 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers report entitled "Metropolitan Washington District of Columbia Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study," which found a need for coastal storm risk management infrastructure. As designated by the report, this project will consist of planning, engineering, and design, which will support future construction of a floodwall at the Arlington Water Pollution Control Plant. This funding is for Pre-Construction Engineering and Design (PED), consistent with the project's WRDA authorization.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it would begin to mitigate the significant risks associated with flooding from coastal storms in Arlington, Virginia. The 2022 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers report entitled "Metropolitan Washington District of Columbia Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study," found a significant need for coastal storm risk management infrastructure at this location - the Arlington Water Pollution Control Plant is vulnerable to flooding, and a major coastal flooding event would significantly impact their ability to protect public health and the environment. Due to damage that would be sustained to critical infrastructure at the facility, the report found that it could take several months to recover from an event. The report deemed the project worthy as it meets key criteria in effectiveness in alleviating the problem, project viability, cost minimization, and consistency with existing Federal laws, authorities, and public policies. Congress promptly recognized the project's need and merit and authorized this project for PED in its 2024 Water Resources Development Act. This project also has significant local support from Arlington County and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Public Law 118-272, the Water Resources Development Act of 2024, within Title IV, Sec. 1401 Project Authorizations, Subsection (2) Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald S. Beyer Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress