



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT
701 SAN MARCO BOULEVARD
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32207-8175

Programs and Project Management Division
Water Resources Branch

The Honorable Joseph Mullins
Chair, Flagler County Board of County Commissioners
1769 E. Moody Blvd.
Bunnell, Florida 32110

Dear Chairman Mullins:

I send this letter to reiterate the statements of my team that the Flagler County, Florida Coastal Storm Risk Management Project may be placed in a deferred status if the County is unable to acquire real estate needed to implement the project, as required by the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA), which was executed on July 23, 2019.

On October 24, 2018, the Jacksonville District (District) provided an advance copy of the lands request letter and maps of all required real estate interests. This documentation was provided prior to PPA execution to minimize the risk of delays to constructing the project. On July 24, 2019, the day after execution of the PPA, the District provided the official lands request letter. As of the date of this letter, the County has not submitted the completed lands certification package to the District. I understand there are three property owners refusing to sign the required easement despite discussions with the County for over one year.

To help the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) assess the likelihood that this project will be ready to move to construction in the near future, I request a written update be provided to me, on or before February 11, 2022, explaining the status of completed work to acquire real estate and the tasks that still must be completed along with the associated timeline to accomplish those tasks. If the County is unable to demonstrate that the needed real estate will be acquired within a reasonable amount of time, whether voluntarily or by eminent domain, the Corps may need to consider whether the project should be placed in a deferred status. While in a deferred status, the project would not be eligible to receive additional Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (BBA 2018) funds, with the possibility that such funds will be used for other projects with an immediate need for additional funds for construction.

The District appreciates its strong partnership with Flagler County, and we continue to support construction of this important project. However, if the County is unable to provide real estate needed to allow for construction to proceed at this time, the project may be placed in a deferred status.

If you have any questions, please contact the Project Manager, Jason Harrah, at jason.s.harrah@usace.army.mil or 904-232-1381.

Sincerely,

James L. Booth
Colonel, U.S. Army
District Commander