

Attachment to August 27, 2021 PC Members Update

SHI Erosion Control (MSTU), per the recently issued 2021 TRIM Notice

0.2131 last year plus additional

0.5324 additional this year

0.7455 Total, **A more than triple increase** (3.4X or 340%) year over year.

Source: As reflected within the recently issued 2021 TRIM Notices, and in keeping with slides below (pgs. 7 & 8) from the SLC July Budget Workshop Presentation, approved and adopted at the BOCC formal meeting July 27, 2021.

The early August payment to the Corps was made from the \$4.5M 8 yr. loan secured by the county. It was based on the Corps last and most recent (July 2021) cost estimate of \$17.02M+/- not the \$18.5M reflected in the second slide on pg. 7 below.

Remaining from state grant 20SL3 and the loan are:

1. 100% of the estimated post-construction monitoring costs for the first year.
2. A reserve for “contingencies” of approx. \$1.05M between state grant and the loan.

100% of any new tax revenue derived this year from the SHI Erosion Control MSTU will add to #2 above and to the extent none of it is diminished for or by some unexpected contingency, the county assures its intent is:

1. A pre-payment on the loan (penalty free as provided within the loan document)
2. A re-assessment of the SHI MSTU millage rate required to pay the then known true construction costs, remaining loan balance plus interest and the balance of the required 10 years of post-construction monitoring cost.

As outlined in the “*Presidents Council - Justifications for Funding Request for So SLC Federal Beach Project (8/9/2021)*” we continue to maintain:

1. Rolling back the proposed SHI MSTU millage rate to last years rate to be fair and responsible. As proposed this year it unnecessarily and excessively funds (“front-loads” or “pads”) the funding timeline.
2. The proposed 8 yr. payment period should be extended to the reasonable life expectancy of the project at least 10-12 or more years, not 8 as proposed nor the 16/17 years projected within, and on which, the federal program is based.

The July 11th letter below (pg. 4) provides, amongst other things, a county wide funding alternative that did not garner either county staff support or a majority of the BOCC (Board of County Commissioners).

Presidents Council - Justifications for Funding Request for So SLC Federal Beach Project (8/9/2021 pg. 1 of 2)

We are writing on behalf of the more than 5,000 Hutchinson Island residents represented by the Presidents Council. We are asking that the staff recommendation of the proposed millage rate for the South Hutchinson Island MSTU be changed to reflect the same rate that was charged last year. We have been unable to find any justification for the rate recommended during the budget workshops, while the justifications for our request are contained below.

Currently, we have been able to identify four beach nourishment projects on the Treasure Coast, one each in Martin and Indian River counties and two here in St Lucie. In both Martin and Indian River, the county paid all of the upfront costs (mapping, engineering, etc.) and the lion's share of the local share for the actual ACOE project cost. Here, in the existing Ft Pierce South Beach project, the county consistently pays 100% of the both the upfront costs and the local share of the actual ACOE project. Although the Fort Pierce South Beach project is within the City of Fort Pierce, the county does not charge either the city or the South Beach residents anything. Clearly, there is no precedent for the staff recommendation to charge the entirety of the local share, including the local share for the county owned park properties, to our South Hutchinson Island residents.

We are mindful of the fact that during the planning for this project we agreed that, as residents living conveniently close to the county's beaches, we would be willing to contribute something more than the rest of the county residents. However, we can assure you that we would never have moved forward with this project nor supported the creation of the MSTU had we known that the county would not pay a reasonable portion of the local share. In addition, as presently proposed funding of the local share fails to recognize what is public and truly private as outlined previously, nor the economic driver and importance of the beaches to the county as a whole. To the best of our knowledge, there has not yet even been a thorough discussion or consideration concerning either.

We are also very disappointed with staff unilaterally modifying the terms of the federal definition of the project. ACOE specified a total of three nourishments over a 50-year term. That would translate to an initial start, a second nourishment at approximately year 18 and a final one approximately 17 years later. The federal plan would allow for each of the MSTU obligations to be amortized over at least 16 years while allowing taxpayers to avoid paying for any project until its successful completion. We understand the importance of building in a reasonable "fudge" factor when planning significant projects. As this effort is based on the ACOE's estimate of three required nourishments, planning for the possibility of a fourth, although a huge "fudge" factor of 33%, is the only reasonable alternative. Staff is proposing a 67% "fudge" factor, unheard of in any discussion of fiscal responsibility but, as staff is proposing that the MSTU members also underwrite 100% of the "fudge", much of it in advance of the individual nourishments including those that probably will never occur, they have totally offloaded this responsibility to us.

Presidents Council - Justifications for Funding Request for So SLC Federal Beach Project (8/9/2021 pg. 2 of 2)

Further compounding the undue expenses being proposed, even though the ACOE proposed three costed projects with at least 16 years to amortize each local share, and a prudent four costed projects plan would allow 12 years to amortize each local share, and their inflated five costed project plan would still allow 10 years to amortize each local share, their current proposal would call for an eight-year amortization and an attempt to begin collecting monies well in advance of project completions, actually well in advance of project starts, likely collecting in advance for project that never would start. Shouldn't we rethink that concept?

In conclusion, in light of the fact that we have already advanced the local share required by the ACOE for the initial start, rather than asking the commissioners to approve an MSTU millage rate that is so problematic for us, and has not been clearly explained, let alone justified, we ask that your recommendation be to hold said rate recommendation to the same as last year while asking staff to allow us to work with them to come up with a plan that works well for everyone.

Presidents Council Board of Directors

PRIOR RELATED CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS IN THIS DOCUMENT



President's Council of Hutchinson Island

11007 S. Ocean Dr. #6220

Jensen Beach, FL 34957

e-mail: pcofhi@gmail.com

Website: <https://pcofhi.com/>

July 11th, 2021

St. Lucie County Board of Commissioners
2300 Virginia Avenue
Fort Pierce, FL 34982

Charles Grande
President

Harvey Alligood
Vice-President

Lou Stoddard
Secretary

Don W. Stacks
Treasurer

Marsha Benedict
Director

Susan McIntyre
Director

Len Amato
Director

Re: SLC SoHI Beach Project – Funding

Dear Commissioners,

We understand the budget process involves difficult decisions. We appreciate efforts to responsibly utilize new revenues from continued strong appreciating real estate values and a number of "once-in-a lifetime" sources of federal funds on prioritized deferred and backlogged projects. We assert the beach to be one of those.

Further, we support the county's efforts and direction to seek and require a fairer more equitable "partnership" with the cities of Port St. Lucie and Ft. Pierce concerning a wide range of important issues. Similarly, almost ironically, we too feel similar to you and are only seeking a fairer more equitable "partnership" with the county that does not ask just the few within the SoHI MSTU that already provide approx. 4.95% of county-wide tax revenue to preserve the beach for everyone throughout the county. We ask the same considerations, perspective and standards be applied to funding for the beach.

Undeniably, the beachfront is an important economic driver and recreational resource that benefits the county as a whole. Surely the coastal beachfront as one of the most important if not the most important resource after sunshine deserves, merits county-wide funding like the Clover Park stadium, other beaches, projects and resources. Despite looking, we fail to see a level of funding that begins to even approach recognition of it. We are very disappointed, more than disappointed that the to-date consensus and direction appear to only "kick the can further down the road" with regard to countywide funding of the SoHI Beach Project.

In the days and weeks ahead before the "TRIM" Notices, we ask renewed and further consideration be given to county-wide funding sources. If some funding support cannot be found now, then when? This is the year, the time! If nothing else or absent anything else, please reduce the proposed 0.25 county-wide reduction in millage to more fairly, properly share the "pain". 0.20 would be twice last year's reduction. The 0.05 would more than cover the upcoming years allocation of the beach project. Thank you.

Respectfully,
President's Council of Hutchinson Island

cc: Mr. Howard Tipton, County Administrator, Mr. Mark Satterlee,
Mr. Alphonso Jefferson, Ms. Jennifer Hill

Please note (8/25/2022): The concept or alternative above about the 0.05 applies whether it

is the 0.25 reduction reflected for “cities”, or the 0.1266 reduction for “unincorporated” areas reflected in the first slide on pg. 7 below.

Addendum/Supplemental of July 7, 2021 To PC Letter June 21, 2021 to Mr. Tipton & the BOCC

Funding the “Local Share” - Federal So SLC HI Beach Project:

The project at around 3.4 miles or 17,952 linear feet of beachfront:

Approx. **12.93%** is owned by the county as beachfront parks.

(Updated) Another approx. **1.06 miles or 31.40%** of beachfront is considered “public” and has public accessibility according to the six ¼ mile criteria used by the ~~state &~~ USACE. (1.5 miles adjusted for the aforementioned beachfront) **Total: 44.33%.** *An even more accurate calculation of the percentage can be obtained from either the USACE and/or Mr. Revord.*

(New) Another approx. 1.5 miles or **44.33%** of beachfront is considered “public” and has public accessibility according to the six 1/2-mile criteria used by the ~~state & USACE~~. (six 1/4 add'l miles than the USACE above) **Total: 88.66%**

(New) Important with respect to both the federal and state, is it is the “public” share as determined by each of them and the basis for THEIR funds, not the county’s. Though fortunately and gratefully secured by county efforts it is not county-wide funding or fulfill what is reasonably their “public” share.

100%, ALL of the project beachfront can be accessed, walked, lounged and picnicked on and otherwise enjoyed by anyone, everyone.

The state protects (fortunately) the dunes and regulates them for ALL of the public and prohibits anyone, everyone from using them.

Sand will only be pumped east and seaward of any dune. All of it for the benefit of the public at large. As a practical matter ALL of that beach is "public" as the only restricted use, due to “private” ownership, is west and landward of the dune.

4.95+% (**\$10.2M+**) of last year’s 2020/2021 county budget was derived from residents just within the SoHI Beach MSTU, an already impactful and significant source. *Source: Worksheet Analysis of Roll-Back Millage Rate for Fiscal Yr. 2020/2021 (pg. 45 within final annual BOCC authorized 2020/2021 Budget)*

Island owners already as county-wide taxpayers will pay a generous fair-share (some

would maintain-outsized portion) due to a combination of the density and concentration of higher value properties reflective of their proximity to the beachfront.

(*New*) Nor does that include the significant source of “bed tax” revenue from within the area generated by the Marriott, Shuckers/Island Beach Resort, Vistanas, Turtle Reef not to mention the new and welcomed Seaside/Ouanalao and the numerous restaurants.

Economic Benefits-Countywide:

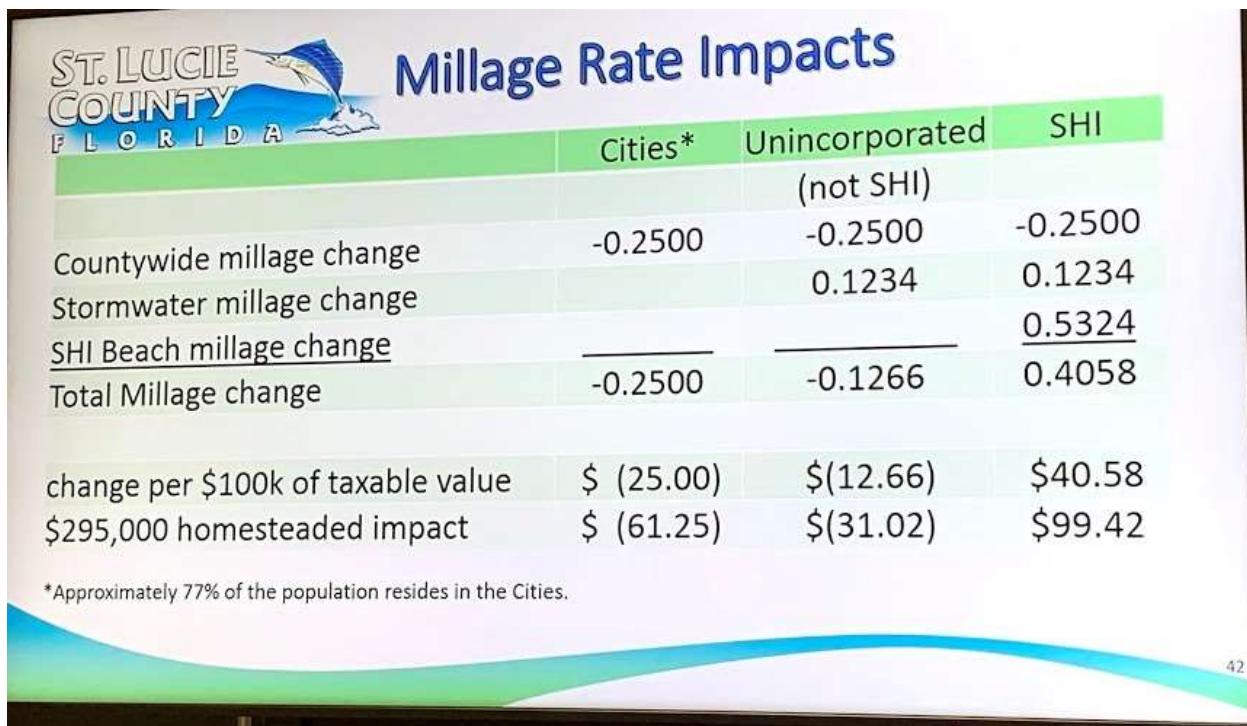
The coastal beaches provide extensive economic and recreational benefits to the county as a whole and ALL of its residents. As a coastal county, the lure, visions of the beach attract developers and ultimately residents throughout the county. It helps support and contribute to the value of everyone’s property, wherever it is located throughout the county.

This is demonstrated and supported by virtually any and every public or private publication about the county, highlights and prominently features its beaches such as:

- Any ad for residential real estate. We are all familiar with “**closely and/or conveniently located to beautiful beaches**” used by most every, if not every, residential developer no matter where it is in the county.
- SLC’s Annual Report
- Any business attraction proposal, tourism or “best place to retire” publication
- Any economic benefit related study such as the **"Visit St Lucie County" that covers Fiscal Year 2017 (Oct 2016-Sept 2017)**. Following the study’s facts and math according to an email from the Empress Condominium dated March 19th 2021 to Mr. Tipton:
 1. \$801,665,800 annual economic impact generated by the study’s
 2. 1,195,560 visitors
 3. 22% of the visitors gave our beaches as the reason for visiting SLC (\$176,366,476 by 263,023 visitors annually (**\$1.76b+ over ten yrs.**))
 4. Every 150 visitors create 1 job in SLC (approx. 1,754 jobs attributed to the beach)
 5. A visitor on avg. spends 6.3 nights in SLC and spend an avg. of \$258 a day in SLC which supports even larger numbers.

Bottom-line: The beach is an extremely important county-wide resource and economic driver. The project benefits ALL county taxpayers and as a cornerstone of any local “resiliency” initiative, it merits and justifies a county-wide sourced funding solution from the Erosion District or other source just **as is already done for other beaches, the county Clover Park stadium and . . .** We urge Commissioners to seek recommendations from staff beyond that indicated in Mr. Tipton’s e-mails of April 2021 - "As to the budget process, please be assured that your request for additional county funding will be

considered as we develop the budget for the coming year. The County will be a good neighbor through this process and its contribution will cover, at a minimum, the public beachfront." and fund ALL of the "local share" from only county-wide funding sources.



Source: SLC July Budget Workshop Presentation

South County Beach Restoration

- Estimated cost \$18.5 Million (USACE) or \$19 Million (County which includes increased monitoring costs)
 - \$6 Million Local Funding (\$4.5 Million upfront, \$1.5 Million in Post Construction Monitoring Costs)
 - \$13 Million in State/Federal Funding, which includes 100% funding for public property.
- Estimated loan needed: \$4,500,000
- Annual Monitoring Cost of \$440,000 in year 1-3
- Funding Scenarios
 - 6 or 8 year debt payoff
 - Annual Debt payments are adjusted so that the total debt and monitoring costs are smoothed out over the course of the loan to account for large monitoring costs in year 1-3.

Source: SLC July Budget Workshop Presentation

The screenshot shows a Google Photos slide titled "Preliminary SHI Beach MSTU Scenarios". The slide features a table comparing financial figures for an 8-year loan versus a 6-year loan. The table includes columns for "Annual Loan & Monitoring", "Millage Rate Needed", "Current Millage Rate", "Millage Increase", "Estimated Taxes (\$275,000 homesteaded)", "Taxes with previous millage rate", and "Increase". A note at the bottom states: "Note: The above is meant to portray the expected worst-case estimates using current cost estimates and assuming that all local funding is generated through the SHI Beach MSTU."

	8 year Loan	6 year Loan
Annual Loan & Monitoring	\$ 802,575	\$ 1,035,067
Millage Rate Needed	0.7455	0.9614
Current Millage Rate	0.2131	0.2131
Millage Increase	0.5324	0.7483
Estimated Taxes (\$275,000 homesteaded)	\$ 168	\$ 216
Taxes with previous millage rate	\$ 48	\$ 48
Increase	\$ 120	\$ 168

Source: SLC July Budget Workshop Presentation, Note the "all" in the slide just above.

The screenshot shows a Google Photos slide titled "Beaches". It features the St. Lucie County Florida logo on the left and the word "Beaches" in large blue letters on the right. A single bullet point is listed: "• Recommended budget includes funding the County's share of the project out of the SHI Beach Erosion MSTU with a repayment plan of eight years."

Source: SLC July Budget Workshop Presentation

Please note, the following has been distributed and or posted previously and provided only for ease of reference.



President's Council of Hutchinson Island

11007 S. Ocean Dr. #6220

Jensen Beach, FL 34957

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June 21, 2021

Mr. Howard Tipton, County Administrator
2300 Virginia Avenue
Fort Pierce, FL 34982

Re: So. SLC Beach Project – Funding

Dear Mr. Tipton,

We are writing on behalf of our 5,000 plus South Hutchinson Island residents in St. Lucie County. As you know, we have been following the plans and progress for the project very closely.

In April, residents and Association Boards voiced their request for county wide funding of the local share in letters to you and the Commissioners. We appreciated your efforts in responding to them.

As the budget process continues in earnest for the upcoming year, we urge a significant financial commitment from county-wide funding sources to provide the annual funding of the “local share” to fulfill the So. SLC Federal Beach Preservation Program. Concerning the funding of the local share, we ask staff propose and the Commissioners consider, in their upcoming budget deliberations, funding all of the “local share” from the Erosion District and/or other county-wide sources.

Though it is important to beachfront owners, it is much more than just the protection of their beachfront property, as that beachfront provides a very significant and broad positive economic impact and recreational benefits for the county as a whole. Also, the beach area taxpayers already contribute far more than that each year as part of their county-wide taxes. This project, with approximately 2/3 of the cost covered by state and federal funds, also contributes significantly to a much larger and overarching Resiliency Plan that merits the County’s financial commitment.

We remain committed to the Initial Start’s completion and full participation within the federal 50-year program. We welcome any opportunity to bring more clarity to the funding of the “local share”. Thank you for all of your efforts.

Yours truly,

President's Council of Hutchinson Island

cc: SLC Board of County Commissioners, Mr. Mark Satterlee,
Mr. Alphonso Jefferson, Ms. Jennifer Hill

Note from Presidents Council

AaPresidents' Council



COUNCIL PRESIDENTS <pcofhi@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 16,
8:53 AM

to Cathy, Charles, me, Lou, Don, Susan, Marsha, Len

Commissioner Townsend,

Pls see attached note of appreciation from Presidents Council.

Lou Stoddard
Presidents Council Board Secretary
Attachments area

Note from Presidents Council

From: **COUNCIL PRESIDENTS <pcofhi@gmail.com>**

Date: Wed, Jun 16, 2021 at 8:53 AM

Subject: Note from Presidents Council

To: Cathy Townsend King <townsendc@stlucieco.org>

Cc: Grande, Charles <chasgrande@bellsouth.net>, Harvey Alligood <jhalligood@gmail.com>, Lou Stoddard <loustoddard@mac.com>, Stacks, Don <dstacks@aol.com>, Susan McIntyre <jnmcintyre@comcast.net>, Marsha Benedict <marsha.benedict@comcast.net>, Len Amato <lamato89@comcast.net>

Commissioner Townsend,

Pls see attached note of appreciation from Presidents Council.

Lou Stoddard
Presidents Council Board Secretary



President's Council of Hutchinson Island

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**Commissioner Cathy Townsend
St Lucie County Commissioner
2300 Virginia Ave
Fort Pierce, FL 34982**

Charles Grande
President

Harvey Alligood
Vice-President

Lou Stoddard
Secretary

Don W. Stacks
Treasurer

Marsha Benedict
Director

Susan McIntyre
Director

Len Amato
Director

Dear Commissioner Townsend,

Presidents Council wishes to extend our thanks to you for your openness, honesty, and ongoing support. Your willingness to attend the May member meeting and speak on a wide range of topics and listen to our specific concerns was appreciated by all. The follow up meeting with Charles Grande, Harvey Alligood, and Len Amato further demonstrated your interest in engaging with us and providing support. Thank you for your time and efforts on our behalf.

Your support for county wide sourced funding for the "local share" of the Federal Beach Renourishment Project is a welcome sign and greatly appreciated.

As we discussed, we welcome and need your support to reunite SHI with NHI into District 5 through the redistricting process. With the number of common issues/concerns, including island safety and beach preservation, and, your understanding and interest in them, both Islands will benefit from this change and therefore, the County overall.

We look forward to working with you and supporting your efforts.

Presidents Council Board of Directors



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May 27, 2021

Colonel Andrew Kelly, Commander and District Engineer and
Mr. Jerry T. Murphy, P.E., P.M.P. Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project
Management
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District.
701 San Marco Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32207

RE: St. Lucie County, Coastal Storm Risk Management Project; the Initial Start, Federal
Beach Project (A.K.A. South St. Lucie County Beach).

Dear Colonel Kelly and Mr. Murphy,

We are writing on behalf of our 5,000 plus South Hutchinson Island residents in St. Lucie County. As you know, we have been following the plans and progress for the project closely and since we last wrote April 2 (copy enclosed) ALL but one of the necessary construction easements have been obtained despite an extensive concerted effort by many locally with help from particularly Congressman Mast to persuade the last holdout to join his neighbors.

Our purpose in writing is to ask the USACE to conclude that the already obtained Construction Easements meet the Corps requirements for the project described above to proceed. Please keep the project on track and prevent unnecessary increased costs, disappointment and concern to the community.

More than ever, we are convinced that approval now will best support the continuing efforts and likelihood to obtain the last remaining Construction Easement. And, any delay reduces the best chance for 100% participation.

Again, we greatly appreciate all of the Corps efforts on this project and news of the recently revised significantly lower cost estimate. The Corps “greenlight” is now awaited to avoid the loss of more than 20 years of effort and millions of dollars already expended.

Sincerely,

Harvey Alligood, VP and Chair of the Beach and Dune Committee
414/202-4278 jhallligood@gmail.com

cc: US Senator Marco Rubio, US Senator Rick Scott, US Congressman Brian Mast, SLC Board of County Commissioners, Mr. Howard Tipton-SLC, Mr. Joshua Revord-SLC, Mr. Trisston Brown-USACE, Ms. Tiphanie Mattis-USACE



President's Council of Hutchinson Island

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April 2, 2021

Colonel Andrew Kelly, Commander and District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District.
701 San Marco Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32207

RE: USACE St. Lucie County Beach Erosion Project

Dear Colonel Kelly,

We are writing on behalf of our 5,000 plus South Hutchinson Island residents in St. Lucie County. Our purpose in writing is to request the USACE conclude that the already obtained Construction Easements meet the Corps requirements for the project described above to proceed.

We have closely been following the plans and progress for the project and have been supporting the County to obtain the construction easements for just shy of 99% of the beachfront (3.4 miles =17,952 ft. less only 190 ft. without CE's is 17,762/17,952 or 98.94%). We know this should be more than sufficient. We understand an independent local coastal engineer has concluded effectively the same. We ask the Corps to also conclude the same without delay, keeping the project on track and preventing unnecessary disappointment and concern to the community.

Further, we are convinced that approval now best supports the continued efforts and likelihood to obtain Construction Easements for the remaining beachfront (the last two easements). We fear any delay jeopardizes the opportunities still available to obtain them and reduces the best chance for 100% participation.

We greatly appreciate all of the Corps efforts on this project and news of the recently revised significantly lower cost estimate. The Corps "greenlight" is now awaited to avoid the loss of more than 20 years of effort and millions of dollars already expended.

Sincerely,

Harvey Alligood, 414/202-4278 jhallligood@gmail.com
VP and Chair of the Beach and Dune Committee

cc: US Senator Marco Rubio, US Senator Rick Scott, US Congressman Brian Mast, SLC Board of County Commissioners, Mr. Howard Tipton-SLC, Mr. Joshua Revord-SLC, Mr. Trisston Brown-USACE, Ms. Tiphanie Mattis-USACE



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PC to Townsend 6.16.2021 final

**Commissioner Cathy Townsend
St Lucie County Commissioner
2300 Virginia Ave
Fort Pierce, FL 34982**

**Charles Grande
President**

**Harvey Alligood
Vice-President**

**Lou Stoddard
Secretary**

**Don W. Stacks
Treasurer**

**Marsha Benedict
Director**

**Susan McIntyre
Director**

**Len Amato
Director**

Dear Commissioner Townsend,

Presidents Council wishes to extend our thanks to you for your openness, honesty, and ongoing support. Your willingness to attend the May member meeting and speak on a wide range of topics and listen to our specific concerns was appreciated by all. The follow up meeting with Charles Grande, Harvey Alligood, and Len Amato further demonstrated your interest in engaging with us and providing support. Thank you for your time and efforts on our behalf.

Your support for county wide sourced funding for the "local share" of the Federal Beach Renourishment Project is a welcome sign and greatly appreciated.

As we discussed, we welcome and need your support to reunite SHI with NHI into District 5 through the redistricting process. With the number of common issues/concerns, including island safety and beach preservation, and, your understanding and interest in them, both Islands will benefit from this change and therefore, the County overall.

We look forward to working with you and supporting your efforts.

Presidents Council Board of Directors



President's Council of Hutchinson Island

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September 7, 2020

St. Lucie County BOCC
2300 Virginia Avenue
Fort Pierce, FL 34982

SUBJECT: So. SLC Federal Beach Program

Dear Commissioners,

As this years' budget comes to a close, we implore you to bring the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) to a conclusion as soon as possible. Equally important and before the deadline for signing Construction Easements, we urgently request more clarity concerning the annual funding of the "local share" to fulfill the So. SLC Federal Beach Preservation Program. The annual multi-year required funding of the construction costs for the initial winter 2021/22 nourishment project is particularly critical.

We are concerned the present lack of clarity complicates and makes much more difficult the acquisition of the required Construction Easements in the months ahead. Presently, there is no ability to answer property owners concerns about funding mechanisms and the allocation of construction costs. The information provided by staff to date is the "worse case" scenario indicating 1.2529 as the tentative, estimated annual millage rate, with a 6-year payback period (this was outlined in the following, as updated Aug. 17th.

<https://www.stlucieco.gov/departments-services/a-z/mosquito-control-coastal-management-services/erosion-district/2020-south-hutchinson-island-renourishment-project/south-county-renourishment-project-funding-plan>).

How can we help bring both the PPA to a conclusion and provide more clarity before the deadline for the required Construction Easements? We have a number of ideas, all of which add clarity as well as provide long-term funding flexibility. We look forward to discussing them with you.

We welcome any opportunity to bring more clarity to the funding plan and continue to work for the successful completion of the "Initial Start" with the USACE. Thank you for all of your efforts.

Yours truly,

President's Council of Hutchinson Island Board of Directors

cc: Mr. Howard Tipton, County Administrator

Mr. Alphonso Jefferson, Deputy County Administrator



President's Council of Hutchinson Island

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August 11, 2020

Mr. Howard Tipton, County Administrator
2300 Virginia Avenue
Fort Pierce, FL 34982

Re: So. SLC Beach Project – PPA and Funding

Dear Mr. Tipton,

For an August meeting of the Commissioners, we urge the staff to prepare an authorization to execute the PPA with the USACE, so that the beginning date for the federal funds under the program is established. Thus, possibly before the next named storm the area beaches might be “covered” under the federal program, or at least strengthen the case for coverage.

Concerning the funding of the local share, we ask the Commissioners, in their upcoming budget deliberations, to appropriate at least \$2.5MM from the Erosion District and/or other county-wide sources, as its contribution to the “local” funding for the “Initial Start”, administered by the USACE. This is an amount previously mentioned only months ago by some staff. At only about 1/3 of the total estimated required “local share”, this is far less than the 100% initially advocated for. It is important to beachfront owners, but it is much more than just the protection of their beachfront property given the project’s significant and broad positive economic impact and recreational benefits to the **county as a whole**. Also, those taxpayers already contribute far more than that each year as part of their county-wide taxes. This project, with approximately 2/3 of the cost covered by state and federal funds, contributes significantly to a much larger and overarching Resiliency Plan and merits the County financial commitment.

For over 20 years this program has been sought after, lobbied for and is now pending. We remain committed to the successful completion of the Initial Start and full participation within the federal 50-year program.

Yours truly,

President's Council of Hutchinson Island

cc: SLC Board of County Commissioners

Mr. Alphonso Jefferson, Mr. Glenn Henderson, Mr. Joshua Revord



Charles Grande
President

Tom Gilson
Vice-President

Lou Stoddard
Secretary

Don W. Stacks
Treasurer

Laura Jones
Director

Harvey Alligood
Director

Len Amato
Director

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October 21, 2019

Commissioner Frannie Hutchinson, St. Lucie County Commissioner-District 4 and Chair of the SLC Erosion District

Commissioner Chris Dzadovsky, St. Lucie County Commissioner-District 1

2300 Virginia Ave.
Fort Pierce, FL 34982

RE: SLC-Coastal Erosion Funding

Dear Commissioners Hutchinson and Dzadovsky,

We are writing on behalf of our 5,000 plus South Hutchinson Island residents in St. Lucie County to respectfully request your support and efforts concerning the above.

We appreciate the number of our questions concerning the above that have been answered this past couple of weeks. With two potentially significant factors yet to be confirmed concerning the prospective So. SLC 3.5-Mile Beach Project (its cost and the number of additional strategically located public access easements with their corresponding additional federal funding), we understand the importance of retaining the flexibility of keeping as many funding options on the table as possible. Accordingly, in addition to the efforts presently underway, **we recommend**, that if not already started, preparations also be made to keep on the table an MSTU for:

1. ALL of Hutchinson Island,
2. HI South Beach (understanding it is the same area as the SAD previously used for the 2013 project),
3. HI-North This is particularly important and fair, to potentially further offset costs of the Ft. Pierce Inlet and Beach projects and help strengthen the Erosion District's funds generally, especially if the much needed \$500,000 from Ft. Pierce that has been mentioned should not be forthcoming.

Aside from the current Erosion Control District, we would appreciate having all special tax areas treated as MSTUs. Concerning the HI 2 SAD, we as yet are not aware of any instance where a prospective MSTU is not a more fair, reasonable, flexible and sustaining funding option. Accordingly, **we suggest** HI 2 SAD merits no additional time, effort or expense to keep it on the table and it be abandoned.

We remain committed to a successful completion of the So. SLC 3.5-Mile Beach Project and "Initial Start" with the USACE. Also, to a dependable, adequate and sustaining source of funding for the Erosion District generally.

We hope for a successful path forward and welcome the opportunity to talk about the pros and cons of not just the above but other alternative funding sources as well. Sources, such as possibly the growth in revenues from the Tourist or “Bed” tax not already contractually committed being allocated to the extent possible to the Erosion District. Thank you again for your support, and good luck with your upcoming efforts in Washington D.C.

Sincerely,

Presidents Council Board of Directors Hutchinson Island, Florida

cc: SLC Board of County Commissioners
Mr. Jeff Bremer, Deputy County Administer
Mr. Glenn Henderson, Director Mosquito Control and Coastal Management Services