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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

**STEVE ISRAEL**  
Third District, New York

January 28, 2015

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

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Lieutenant General Thomas P. Bostick  
Commanding General and Chief of Engineers  
Army Corps Headquarters  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314-1000

Dear Lt. General Bostick:

Thank you for the work the Army Corps of Engineers has done to address the flooding and erosion impacting Asharoken and Eaton's Neck in the Town of Huntington in my congressional district. I am writing to urge you to respond expeditiously to the attached letter sent to you on December 16, 2015 by Huntington Supervisor Frank Petrone. The letter is focused on community concerns pertaining to the location and quantity of public access points for the Asharoken Storm Damage Reduction Plan.

I respect the many investments the Army Corps has made to protect Asharoken Avenue over the years and ensure safe passage for residents. I do agree that we need a long-term solution to ensure the coastline is protected. The Asharoken Storm Damage Reduction Plan seeks to protect and preserve the Village of Asharoken and the surrounding communities. I recognize that the Army Corps of Engineers is in the process of compiling public comments on this project and that this process does take time for careful review. However, I want to ensure the Corps is providing timely responses to the residents.

I respectfully request that you address the concerns Supervisor Petrone raised in his letter as soon as possible. I appreciate your attention to this matter and the focus the Corps has placed on fortifying the many coastal communities that I represent. Thank you for your consideration as the winter months bring storms and the Corps commitment is critical to my constituents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Steve Israel", written over a horizontal line.

Steve Israel  
Member of Congress



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**FRANK P. PETRONE**  
*Supervisor*

December 16, 2015

Lieutenant General Thomas P. Bostick  
Commanding General and Chief of Engineers  
Army Corps Headquarters  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314-1000

Dear Lt. General Bostick:

I want to thank you for the work the Army Corps of Engineers has done to address the flooding and erosion issues in the Village of Asharoken and the surrounding area. Upon reviewing the Asharoken Storm Damage Reduction Plan released on November 25, 2015, I would like to share my thoughts with regard to "public access points" that are required every half mile.

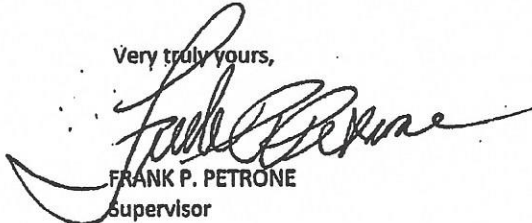
I certainly understand the need to spend public dollars on public spaces. This applies at the Town level as well. It is a harder notion for me to accept that this implies a need for the mandatory establishment of access points that would have to be located on private property. This would mean disrupting the homes and lives of local residents to a far greater extent than would result from creating public access on discreet parts of the beach under public ownership.

In addition, the beach at Asharoken is a very low-use beach and the project anticipates it will remain so. Aside from the disruption caused by the debate over intermediate access, the potential benefit from such access is so minor that the expenditure of additional money and effort on this aspect of the plan may, at best, be categorized as unwarranted.

I recognize that there must be public access to the beach, which can be accomplished by access at the end-points. I respectfully request that you reconsider the current plan's access requirements and develop one that balances, what I believe are, legitimate concerns of the residents with the overriding public purpose of stabilizing Asharoken Avenue, the only land link to our population living on Eaton's Neck, and the imperative to promote better public access to the nation's waterways.

I trust the Army Corps, the Village and the Town can work together to achieve these goals. Thanking you for your consideration, I am

Very truly yours,

  
FRANK P. PETRONE  
Supervisor

cc: Hon. Steve Israel





SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

WILLIAM R. SPENCER, M.D.  
LEGISLATOR 18TH DISTRICT

CHAIR  
HEALTH COMMITTEE

VICE-CHAIR  
WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

MEMBER  
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Lieutenant General Thomas P. Bostick  
Commanding General and Chief of Engineers  
Army Corps Headquarters  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314-1000

January 19, 2016

Dear Lt. General Bostick,

As the Suffolk County Legislator for the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative District encompassing the Village of Asharoken and Eaton's Neck, I am thankful for the leadership of the Army Corps of Engineers. Your attention and work toward mitigating the beach erosion eating away Asharoken Beach, threatening Asharoken Avenue as well as addressing the issues compromising the seawall on Asharoken Avenue, have been vitally important to the well-being of the community.

While the progress of this project has hinged on the issue of public access, I want to emphasize the public benefit/need this project will provide for the more than 2,000 residents of Eaton's Neck. Being the only road that serves as access to the Eaton's Neck Peninsula, it is critical for the safety and functioning of the residents that the Asharoken Storm Reduction Project proceed and the road, which is dependent on the beach, be fortified.

I remain hopeful that a sensible compromise will be reached that imposes the least amount of disruption to the local residents, while still providing the required access. I want to reiterate my encouragement to all parties involved to continue to work with each other to see to it that this project moves forward.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If I can be of any further assistance, feel free to reach out to me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Dr. William R. Spencer  
Suffolk County Legislator  
18<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

cc:

Senator Charles E. Schumer  
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand  
Congressman Steve Israel  
Dr. Gregory Letica, Mayor of the Village of Asharoken