

Borough of Seaside Park BOROUGH HALL

OUGH HALL 732-793-3700

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Email: mayorpeterson@seasideparknj.org

August 21, 2024

Charles Appleby, Chair Seaside Park's Citizens Advisor Committee On Bayfront Issues VIA EMAIL ONLY

Dear Chuck,

I am in receipt of your August 20, 2024 five (5) page letter as to bayfront issues. A copy of the letter is being forwarded to all the members of the Seaside Park Borough Counsel for information purposes only.

Also, I am providing a copy of the within brief response email and your five page letter, to Pam Hilla of RVE, so that she might provide us with any updates, as to data and otherwise.

By way of preliminary response, you should be aware, that Council President Wilk and I, along with Eric, Josh and Karen, already had a lengthy meeting with the Ocean County Engineer, the Ocean County Assistant Engineer, and their staff, on August 13, 2024. At that time, Pam Hilla was also present, and we made numerous suggestions as to status of the prior living shoreline project, and Ocean County's input as to the two options presented for the more recent proposal dealing with enhancement, and bulkhead construction, along the bayfront.

Ocean County officials placed Seaside Park issues on an agenda for their upcoming meeting scheduled with DOT officials. Our goal is to present a united front, from Ocean County, and from the Borough of Seaside Park, as to the urgency of this situation, the need for all relevant DOT data, and our well supported request that DOT act favorably upon our various requests. Naturally, we will keep you posted as to the status or our ongoing dialogue with the DOT, as we move forward.

As to your other recommendation with regard to other areas of the bayfront, I certainly stand by my comments made at the time we all participated in the joint round table discussion with the advisory committee, the town council and the public; i.e. the Borough of Seaside Park stands ready, willing and able to explore any and all viable options as to the implementation of bayfront flooding mitigation projects. In acting upon the aforementioned commitment from the governing body and the town, as I believe you have been made aware, nine (9) barrier island communities are all moving forward with

a joint services agreement, as a consortium, not only to share data, past studies and project information, but also, to receive the maximum available level of Federal and State funding as to flooding initiatives.

Thank you for your correspondence and the ongoing help and assistance rendered by the Bayfront Advisory Committee.

Sincerely

Mayor John A. Peterson, Jr.

JAP/cr

cc w/encls.

Sherry Villano
Frank Gibbons
Marty Wilk
Mitch Koppelman
Rob Mulloy
Joseph Schafer
Pam Hilla, RVE
Karen Kroon, Administrator
Gina Condos (for informational purpose only)
Ray Amabile (for informational purpose only)
Joseph Connor (for informational purpose only)
Jerry Rotonda (for informational purpose only)
Jenna Jankowski, Clerk