

Administration

Saco City Hall
300 Main Street
Saco, Maine 04072-1538
Phone: (207) 282-4191



Kevin L. Sutherland
City Administrator

KSutherland@sacomaine.org
facebook.com/sacomaine
[Twitter.com/sacomaine](https://twitter.com/sacomaine)
[Instagram.com/saco.maine](https://instagram.com/saco.maine)

April 2, 2019

Colonel William Conde
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742

Re: Saco River and Camp Ellis Beach, Saco, Maine, Section 111: Shore Damage Mitigation Project

Dear Colonel Conde:

This is a follow-up to my September 14, 2018 letter to you regarding the above-referenced Shore Damage Mitigation Project. As noted in that letter, the City has been working cooperatively with the Federal Government for many decades to mitigate further erosion and property loss in the Camp Ellis Beach area of Saco, and the City very much appreciates the efforts that you and your staff have undertaken over the past several years to investigate and analyze the various options to address the situation.

As you may be aware, the City and the Saco Bay Erosion Working Group have spent significant additional effort reviewing the draft Final Decision Document (May 2018) and the draft Final Executive Summary (September 2018) for this project and have conducted several workshops and public meetings since last fall. The major concern that the City addressed in its September 14, 2018 letter related to the selection and discussion of an alternative (Option 6) in the Decision Document, as well as text in the Executive Summary of that Decision Document, that appeared to require the City to be responsible (upon completion of construction) for both inspection and maintenance (“O&M”) of the engineered components of the project and replacement of those components in the event of component failure (irrespective of the diligence of the City vis-à-vis its O&M efforts).

The City now understands that the Corps' decision to recommend Option 6 will be tempered in a fashion such that the O&M and component repair or replacement aspects of the Decision Document will be items that will be recommended that the City undertake, rather than required to be undertaken. In particular, relative to the second of the four points outlined on page 15 of the Executive Summary, that text should be revised to make it permissive, rather than mandatory, along the lines of the following:

(2) The City should consider undertaking ~~will be responsible for~~ future inspections, maintenance and repair of the stone spur jetty including the reinforcement of adjacent sections of the main north jetty.

With that type of modification to the Decision Document and recommendation, and its commitments (per the September 14, 2018 letter) regarding the other three points outlined on page 15 of Executive Summary of the Decision Document, the City is now prepared to support the Federally Implementable Project as the Non-Federal Sponsor.

We have previously forwarded the Non-Federal Sponsor's Self Certification of Financial Capability for Decision Documents and look forward to finalizing a Project Partnership Agreement to allow this project to move forward.

Sincerely,



Kevin L. Sutherland

City Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Mayor Marston Lovell, City of Saco
Senator Susan Collins, United States Senate
Senator Angus King, United States Senate
Representative Chellie Pingree, United States House of Representatives