



November 27, 2018
Mayor Judy Davies-Dunhour
Borough of Stone Harbor
9508 Second Avenue
Stone Harbor, NJ 08247

Subject: Beach 12 Month Action Items – Letter #2

Dear Judy,

Congratulations on a most successful Island Holiday 2018 celebration. We at SHPOA were disappointed in the cancellation of the parade but appreciated your prescient decision to keep everyone dry and safe on Saturday evening. In fact, the deluge began almost exactly at 6:30PM, the starting time of the parade.

This is the second of three letters addressing Stone Harbor Property Owners Association's sustainability program for our island. The purpose of this correspondence is to outline the action items required this year regarding the bay and basins. As has been offered previously, the SHPOA Beach and Bay Committee is prepared to provide assistance as we move forward. Our bay and basins play an important function in island sustainability, as they receive and remove storm and tidal drainage, provide a habitat for our marshland's ecosystems, and give our residents a destination for boating and recreation. SHPOA's Trustees and members thank you for your proactive approach over the past year in contracting with the Coastal Research Center (CRC) to provide the Borough with a post dredging survey of sediment accumulation. The report issued by the CRC in April 2018 indicated that the basins did not have any material accumulation of sediment since the completion of the dredging in February of 2017. No monitoring of the channels was conducted.

You mentioned at the SHPOA meeting in September that the Borough plans to contract with the CRC to provide future surveys. SHPOA would recommend that the CRC be engaged to conduct a follow up survey in 2019 focusing on gauging the rate of sediment infilling in the bay channels. A working theory is that if the channels are dredged regularly, infill rates for the lagoons and basins would be reduced and the time intervals between basin dredging can be extended. The channels will continue to perform their vital functions. Data collected from the channel surveys can be used to develop the timing for a routine dredging program and to verify the working theory. A routine dredging program that removes approximately 30,000 cubic yards of dredged material every three to five years will keep dredged material quantities manageable and will allow for the use of regional disposal facilities, reducing the overall costs of bay dredging. To accomplish this routine dredging program, it is recommended the Borough increase the recently established Bay financial reserve to approximately \$500,000 to \$750,000 annually.



To summarize, the key actions recommended for the coming year are:

- Insure that Stockton University CRC monitoring is focused this year on sediment infill rates in the channels
- Begin the process of identifying regional sediment disposal sites
- Increase funding of the bay reserve to \$500,000 - \$750,000 per year

Judy, thank you for your service to our community and for your thoughtful consideration of the suggested strategies outlined above to ensure an effective, long term bay dredging program. SHPOA Beach and Bay Committee will review the Borough's actions regarding this issue at our June and September Members' meetings.

Best Regards,

Robert L. Charamella

Bob Charamella
President, Stone Harbor Property Owners Association

Cc: Jill Gougher