



February 16, 2020

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

Dear Judy,

This is the last in our annual series of letters regarding issues which are of utmost importance to the residents of Stone Harbor. We have thus far spoken about priorities concerning beach preservation and nourishment as well as bay dredging and maintenance. These topics, along with water conservation, are vital to the four legs of the “island sustainability stool” as we have come to call it; but today’s letter focuses on an issue that seems to be affecting our island more and more: flood management. While significant strides are being made in this area as discussed and formulated at the monthly Ad Hoc Flood Mitigation Committee meetings, much work is still to be done. Our organization is ready to help in these endeavors to ensure Stone Harbor’s sustainability for the future. Areas of importance for the upcoming year are as follows:

1. Finalize design criteria and complete SHPOA Project of the Year Rain Garden at the Water Tower parking lot. SHPOA is contributing \$7,000.00 intended to reduce runoff flooding on 95th Street and, as a demonstration project, to educate residents about the importance of native plantings and using rock gardens to reduce storm runoff.
2. Submit the design of the first storm water pump station for peer-review prior to finalization and the bidding process.
3. Continue permitting and replacement of the lowest bulkheads in the Borough to reduce flooding.
4. Ensure that flap gates and duck bills are installed on all storm drain outlets and are operating correctly.



5. Provide for Flood Management in the 10-year financial plan.
6. Complete the Flood Management Plan this year. Submit the draft to public and peer review finalization.
7. Share with the Borough of Avalon the importance of bulkhead strategies to ensure the protection from tidal flooding for the entire island.
8. Work towards increasing Green Infrastructure by establishing guidelines for public and private endeavors, along with ordinances where deemed necessary. Examples would be: rain gardens, elimination of grass strips between sidewalks and curbs, increasing permeability requirements on new construction.

As evidenced by our productive monthly Flood Mitigation Committee meetings, we hope you and the Borough Council see SHPOA's willingness to help tackle the issues facing our island. Our members are deeply concerned about the sustainability of Stone Harbor and the consequences of not looking far into the future when it comes to flooding, water usage and land subsidence. Your actions thus far are much appreciated and together we know we can begin to make a difference.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Robert L. Charamella'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Bob Charamella
President, Stone Harbor Property Owners Association