

BRIAN J. MAST
21ST DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE

2182 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3026

171 SW FLAGLER AVENUE
STUART, FLORIDA 34994
(772) 403-0900

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0918

May 3, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman, House Committee on
Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member, House Committee on
Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$15 million in community project funding, under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Operations and Maintenance Account for the Port of Palm Beach for fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers subject to the local cooperation of the Florida Inland Navigation District as provide for in law and the River and Harbors Act of 1927. The funding would be used to implement design improvements to this waterway to decrease dredging frequency and costs.

Without federal funding, the Port faces recurrent closures disrupting vital commercial traffic between authorized United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) maintenance dredging projects. Draft limitations force ships to operate below capacity, disrupting schedules and inflating costs, inflicting severe economic strain on the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, our region and beyond.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for maintenance dredging within the Intracoastal Waterway was authorized by the 1927 Rivers and Harbors Act (PL 70-560).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Brian J. Mast
Member of Congress