

BRIAN J. MAST
18TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

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

June 4, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the St. Lucie Inlet, FL project in fiscal year 2022.

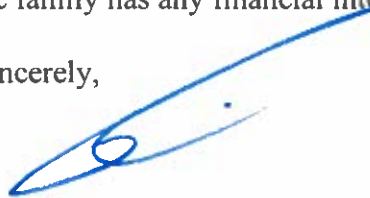
The entity to receive funding for this project is the Army Corps of Engineers – Jacksonville District, located at 701 San Marco Boulevard, Jacksonville, FL 32207.

The funding would be used for to provide necessary rehab to the St. Lucie Inlet South Jetty. The St. Lucie Inlet serves a vital role in Martin County's economy, ecosystems, and lifestyle of its residents. Commercial, sport, and recreational fishing define life in this community and each relies on safe and dependable use of the inlet. St. Lucie Inlet is one of the widest in Florida, nearly a half mile, making this shallow draft inlet vulnerable to elevated sea states.

The St. Lucie Inlet supports a vital commercial fishing industry that contributes heavily to 1.8 million lbs. of catch on Florida's east coast. Locally, the Inlet supports 402 marine related businesses generating revenues exceeding \$465 million/year. The Inlet also serves an important environmental function, flushing water discharged from Lake Okeechobee via the St. Lucie Canal into the Atlantic Ocean and allowing the migration of economically important fish species from protected spawning grounds to the open ocean.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Brian Mast
Member of Congress