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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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

May 22, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-307, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Volusia County Shore Protection Project Feasibility Study in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The funding would be used for storm damage devastated infrastructure across the coast of Florida's northeastern coastline from Hurricane Ian (DR-4673-FL) and Hurricane Nicole (EM-3587-FL). Both hurricanes delivered storm surge, beach erosion, and flooding resulting in widespread destruction of hazard mitigating infrastructure and protective measures. The beaches, dunes, and coastal armoring across Volusia County were compromised by Hurricane Ian and left the coast vulnerable and unprotected for Hurricane Nicole's landfall. These back-to-back storms have made clear that additional Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works (USACE) shore protection and stormwater protection projects are needed to safeguard life and property in Volusia County.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this is an individually authorized project under the Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program. Originally authorized in FY 2001, the program feasibility study was required to expedited pending funding in the FY 2024 WRDA.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 110 of the River and Harbor Act of 1962, Public Law 87-874.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cory Mills".

Cory Mills  
Member of Congress