

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

March 8, 2017

Douglas Lamont  
Senior Official Performing the Duties of the  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)  
U.S. Department of the Army  
108 Army Pentagon, Room 3E446  
Washington, DC 22202

Lieutenant General Semonite  
Chief of Engineers  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
441 G Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20226

Dear Mr. Lamont and Lieutenant General Semonite:

We write to inform you of our strong interest and support for Section 1122 of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act and to request that you include the San Francisco Bay in the beneficial use pilot program provided for in the Act. We are also requesting that you select leadership from the California State Coastal Conservancy, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission and the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board for the Regional Beneficial Use Team in our area.

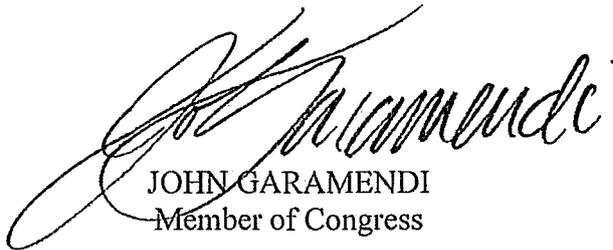
Sec. 1122 established a 10-location pilot program to maximize the amount of material dredged by the Corps of Engineers (Corps) to be transported to nearby sites that need sediment. The material would be used to reduce potential storm damage, protect public safety, protect/restore/create wetlands, enhance shorelines, or for other purposes that fulfill public objectives. We believe that the Bay Area meets the goals and objectives of the beneficial use pilot program at the highest levels.

There is no place better suited to demonstrate the multiple benefits of beneficial use than the San Francisco Bay. The Corps currently has a significant operation and maintenance dredging program at the Ports of Oakland, Richmond, and Redwood City within the San Francisco Bay and the need for the dredged material is tremendous in the region. Our area offers a mix of opportunities to beneficially use dredged material, and a host of partners from state and local government, and private sector interests that are ready to work closely with the Corps. Besides the will, we have the means to cost-share with the important passage of a nine-county parcel tax this last summer to fund shoreline restoration projects.

We are looking forward to learning about your Implementation Guidance for Sec. 1122 and stand ready to assist in any way we can. We also want to work with you to ensure that your Operations and Maintenance budget is fully funded in order to allow for the beneficial use of sediment.

We thank you for your consideration of our requests and we are pleased to partner with you on what we believe will be a very successful program.

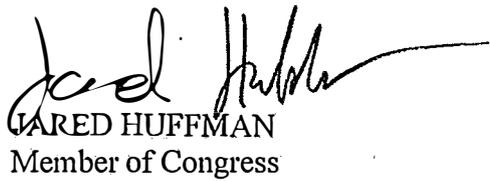
Sincerely,



JOHN GARAMENDI  
Member of Congress



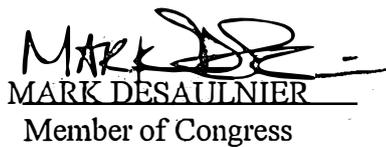
DIANNE FEINSTEIN  
United States Senator



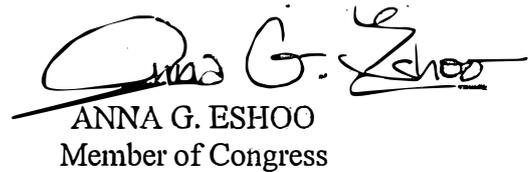
JARED HUFFMAN  
Member of Congress



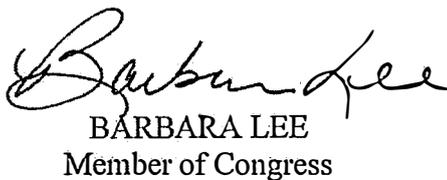
JACKIE SPEIER  
Member of Congress



MARK DESAULNIER  
Member of Congress



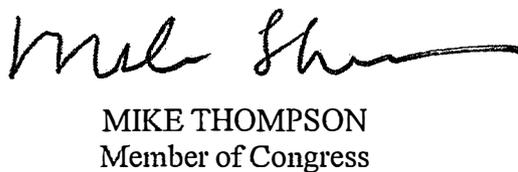
ANNA G. ESHOO  
Member of Congress



BARBARA LEE  
Member of Congress



RO KHANNA  
Member of Congress



MIKE THOMPSON  
Member of Congress



ERIC SWALWELL  
Member of Congress



ZOE LOFGREN  
Member of Congress



NANCY PELOSI  
12TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA  
DEMOCRATIC LEADER

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0508**

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March 9, 2017

Douglas Lamont  
Senior Official Performing the Duties of the  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)  
U.S. Department of the Army  
108 Army Pentagon, Room 3E446  
Washington, DC 22202

Lieutenant General Semonite  
Chief of Engineers  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
441 G Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20226

Dear Mr. Lamont and Lieutenant General Semonite:

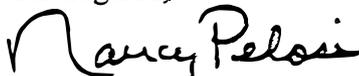
Thank you for your commitment to advance the quality of our nation's water infrastructure. I write today to join my California colleagues who recently wrote in support of including the San Francisco Bay Area as one of the beneficial reuse pilot programs established by the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act.

As you know, the WIIN Act established ten pilot projects to maximize the amount of material dredged by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to be transported to nearby sites in need of sediment. The material would be used to reduce potential storm damage, promote public safety, protect wetlands, enhance shorelines, and for other purposes that further public interests.

Without doubt, there is no place better suited to realize the various benefits of dredged sediment than the San Francisco Bay. The Corps has a history of proven partnerships with the San Francisco Bay and currently operates a significant operation and maintenance dredging program – all within the San Francisco Bay – at the Ports of Oakland, Richmond, and Redwood City. The San Francisco Bay has also demonstrated a strong ability to cost-share with the June 2016 passage of a nine-county parcel tax – raising \$500 million dollars over the course of 20 years – to fund shoreline restoration projects. The need for the dredged material in the region is vital and the desire to work with the Corps on this endeavor is far-reaching. We must continue to build on our progress toward environmental conservation and the health of California's Bay Area.

Thank you for your consideration of my request. I look forward to working with you on the implementation of this new program.

best regards,



NANCY PELOSI

Member of Congress



February 9, 2017

Mr. Douglas W. Lamont, P.E.  
Senior Official Performing the Duties of the  
Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)  
U.S. Department of the Army  
108 Army Pentagon, Room 3E446  
Washington, DC 22202

Lieutenant General Todd T. Semonite  
Chief of Engineers  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
441 G Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20226

VIA EMAIL

Dear Mr. Lamont and Lieutenant General Semonite:

We are writing to let you know of our organizations' deep interest and support for Section 1122 of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act. Our five organizations, the California State Coastal Conservancy, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the Bay Planning Coalition, Save The Bay, and The Bay Institute (Coalition), joined together last year to work closely with our Senators and Representatives to help develop and support the final language of Sec. 1122 and we were thrilled to see the bill's passage. Now we are asking that you include the San Francisco Bay in the pilot program required by the Act.

As you know, Sec. 1122 established a 10-location pilot program to maximize the amount of material dredged by the Corps of Engineers (Corps) to be transported to nearby sites that need sediment to reduce potential storm damage, protect public safety, protect/restore/create wetlands, enhance shorelines, or for other purposes that fulfill, "civic improvement objectives." The Secretary of the Army is to establish the program by mid-March 2017 and establish regional teams of federal, state, and local agencies to identify, assist, and implement the program.

Our diverse team is eminently well-suited, to assist the Corps in this endeavor given that our group includes a major partner of the Corps, two state agencies that promote environmental conservation and economic development in and around the Bay, a coalition that supports the Bay's navigation and economic activities, and environmental organizations focused on improving the health of the Bay. Given the range of current Operation and Maintenance dredging of the navigation channels within the San Francisco Bay for the Ports of Oakland, Richmond, and Redwood City, we believe the San Francisco Bay would be a tremendous pilot location to demonstrate the multiple benefits of using dredged sediment. From protecting and restoring ecosystem habitats to reducing storm damage, and from supporting risk management adaptation strategies to reducing the costs of dredging and dredged materials, we believe the Bay covers the range of beneficial use project purposes at no less a level than any other region. Our state, local, and private sector partners stand ready



 Bay Planning Coalition



to work closely with the Corps to demonstrate contributions to both the environment and the economy that will stem from a vibrant and progressive beneficial use program under Sec. 1122.

Given the diversity of benefits, Bay Area's ability to cost-share given the passage in June of 2016 of a nine-county parcel tax to fund shoreline restoration projects, the incredibly large amount of public and private investment and infrastructure assets at risk, and the Corps' active Operations and Maintenance dredging, we believe the San Francisco Bay is a premier location for a pilot project under Sec. 1122. We ask for your consideration in naming the San Francisco Bay as one of the 10 pilot projects. We also request that the State Coastal Conservancy, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board be named to the Regional Beneficial Use Team.

We certainly hope that Implementation Guidance for Sec. 1122 is now being developed by the Corps to meet the law's 90-day requirement to establish the pilot program. We stand ready to assist in any way we can to help support your guidance development, if that is useful.

Finally, we recognize the budget constraints under which USACE operates, and we shall continue to urge the Bay Area Congressional delegation to work with you to ensure that the Senate and House Appropriations Committees do not reduce the Corps' Operations and Maintenance budgets in ways that would compromise the Corps' ability to perform required dredging in the Bay.

We thank you for your consideration of our requests and very much look forward to working with you on this exciting effort.

Sincerely,



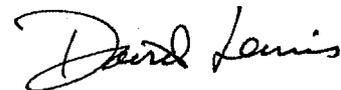
Larry Goldzband  
Executive Director  
Bay Conservation and Development  
Commission



John A. Coleman  
Chief Executive Officer  
Bay Planning Coalition



Sam Schuchat  
Executive Officer  
California State Coastal Conservancy



David Lewis  
Executive Director  
Save The Bay



Marc Holmes  
Program Director  
The Bay Institute

January 27, 2017

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kamala Harris  
United States Senate  
112 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Denham  
United States House of Representatives  
1730 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Garamendi  
United States House of Representatives  
2438 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

VIA FAX

Dear Senators and Representatives:

The *Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act* (WIIN, or WRDA 2016) enacted last month includes Section 1122, which creates a pilot program to increase the beneficial use of dredged material. We were happy to have provided significant assistance to both Senate and House staff as they worked on the legislation and we are very grateful for the bill's passage. Now, we are asking that you strongly support including the San Francisco Bay in that pilot program.

Section 1122 establishes a 10-location pilot program to maximize the amount of material dredged by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) that is transported to nearby sites that need sediment to reduce potential storm damage, protect/restore/ create wetlands and marshes, enhance shorelines, or for other purposes that fulfill "civic improvement objectives." The Secretary of the Army is to establish the program by mid-March 2017 and establish a regional team of federal, state, and local agencies that will identify, assist, and implement the program.

We believe that the three dredging projects conducted by the Corps annually within San Francisco Bay – the Operations and Maintenance dredging of navigation channels for the ports of Oakland, Richmond, and Redwood City – constitute an unrivaled program to demonstrate the Corps' ability to work with state and local authorities and representatives of the private sector to improve shorelines that are vital to our economy, while ensuring the protection of our aquatic ecosystem. In addition, as the Bay Area voters overwhelmingly approved a nine-county parcel tax in June 2016 to help fund the types of projects listed in Section 1122, the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority is poised to expand the funds required as a local match.



 Bay Planning Coalition



Just as important, inclusion of the Bay in the new program is entirely consistent with the recently-released *Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals Science Update* and the almost two decades-old Long Term Management Strategy (LTMS) through which federal and state agencies work together to ensure that dredging occurs in both a timely and environmentally appropriate manner.

Therefore, to further our shared goal of the Bay being named one of the ten pilot locations, we respectfully suggest that we work with you and your staffs on the following projects:

1. Create a Bay Area-wide Congressional delegation letter to the Secretary of the Army, the Assistant Secretary for Civil Works, and senior Corps officials (A) in support of the Bay's inclusion and (B) to urge the Administration to prioritize developing the "guidance" required for the Corps to implement the program;
2. Use upcoming Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works confirmation hearings for the Assistant Secretary of the Army to advocate on behalf of the Bay's inclusion;
3. Use any upcoming oversight hearings of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to advocate on behalf of the Bay's inclusion.

Finally, as we have urged the Bay Area delegation in the past, we expect that we can work with you to ensure that the Senate and House Appropriations Committees do not reduce the Corps' Operations and Maintenance budgets in ways that would compromise its ability to perform required maintenance in the Bay

We shall follow up this letter with telephone calls to the appropriate members of your staffs so that we can work together in this effort. Please do not hesitate to contact any of us if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to working with you on behalf of San Francisco Bay.

Sincerely,



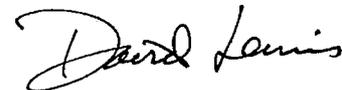
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