COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## Congress of the United States U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, **BC** 20515-0904

May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman Committee on Appropriations H-305, 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 rehabilitation of dune walkovers in Atlantic Beach, FL in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Atlantic Beach, located at 800 Seminole Road Atlantic Beach, Florida 32233. The funding would be used for the construction and rehabilitation of the city's dune walkovers.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it would create defined stable access points to important natural resources, increase environmental stewardship and support natural dune recovery. Dunes serve as essential natural barriers, absorbing storm surges, reducing coastal erosion, buffering the communities against flood risks, and preserving wildlife's natural habitats. This project will restore the city's walkovers and elevate them to meet the new dune heights, safeguard the recently enhanced dune system.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

John H. Rutherford

Member of Congress