

**Congress of the United States**  
**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0904**

May 23, 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

Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

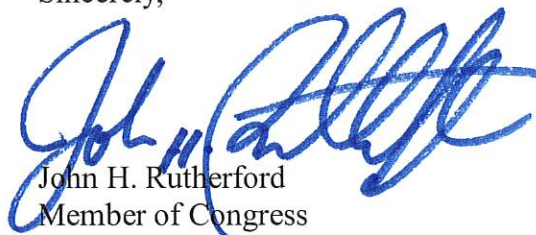
I am requesting funding for the St. Johns County Florida Coastal Storm Risk Management Project – Ponte Vedra Beach in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The funding would be used to initiate and complete pre-construction, engineering, and design of a 5.1-mile coastal project in Northeast Florida. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will build resilience and help protect homes, businesses, critical infrastructure, and a vital evacuation route from coastal flooding and erosion. A healthy beach will help protect the community during hurricanes and other storm events. In addition, this project will also ensure continued public beach access, which is a major economic driver for the area.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 1401 of the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (Public Law 118-272).

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