



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT**  
**1650 ARCH STREET**  
**PHILADELPHIA PA 19103-2004**

16 February 2024

Mayor Patrick T. Rosenello  
City of North Wildwood  
901 Atlantic Avenue  
North Wildwood, New Jersey 08260-5778

Dear Mayor Rosenello:

It was a pleasure speaking with you at our February 1, 2024, meeting with New Jersey Department of Protection (NJDEP) Commissioner Shawn LaTourette. Brigadier General John Lloyd asked me to respond to your letter dated December 20, 2023. In that letter, you requested the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) assistance in providing more fidelity on a timeline for obtaining the necessary easements in support of the Hereford Inlet to Cape May Inlet Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRМ) project.

First, please allow me to reiterate that my team is fully engaged with the NJDEP and working to construct this project as soon as possible. As you are aware, the technical design and real estate easements are on mutual critical paths. To that end, the schedule for design provided to you in October 2023 is in alignment with the schedule to obtain easements. NJDEP has indicated the current schedule is to provide all the real estate to the Corps for certification in March 2025.

I would also like to respond to your February 7, 2024, letter to the Commissioner and me. One clarification on your letter and notes is that NJDEP's commitment is to make its best efforts to provide the necessary documentation to the Corps for real estate acquisition by March 2025. Otherwise, I agree that your summation fairly represents the discussion we had at the meeting.

The schedule for this project is informed by our experience with projects involving real estate acquisition for similarly sized projects between NJDEP and the Corps. There is risk and uncertainty inherent to real estate acquisition and the schedule may change as the project moves through the acquisition process which involves multiple property owners and judicial action, where necessary. The joint Corps and NJDEP team will continue to work together to mitigate any unforeseen changes. We will continue to communicate progress and updates for North Wildwood and the other three communities through our partner NJDEP.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Jeffrey M. Beeman*

Jeffrey M. Beeman, P.E.  
Lieutenant Colonel, Corps of Engineers  
District Commander