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May 2, 2025

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman House Appropriations Committee H-307 The Capitol Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources' *Holly Beach Farm Resiliency* project in the Fiscal Year 2026 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, located at 580 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21401.

If awarded, this funding would be used to conduct Environmental Assessment, Conservation Planning, and Public Access Development of nearly 5 miles along the Holly Beach Farm waterfront. This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because these flood mitigation measures will ensure public safety during floods, storms, and other natural disasters. This project was included in the FY 2025 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill as well.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 203 of the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. 5133), as amended by Section 1234, National Public Infrastructure Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation, of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA) of 2018. I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Congresswoman Sarah Elfreth Maryland's Third Congressional District