

The Honorable Sarah McBride
Member of Congress
State of Delaware, At Large

Deputy Whip for Policy



House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

House Foreign Affairs Committee

Subcommittee on Europe
Subcommittee on Oversight
& Intelligence

House Space, Science, and
Technology Committee

Subcommittee on Research and
Technology

May 19, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Delaware Coast Protection, Sand Bypass Plant, Indian River Inlet, DE Project in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers located at 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19203.

This funding will support the rehabilitation of the Indian River Inlet Sand Bypass Facility, which pumps sand north across the inlet to protect beaches and critical infrastructure like the Coastal Highway and Charles W. Cullen Bridge. The project will complete the conversion to electric power and replace key pump systems, improving long-term reliability. Beach nourishment reduces erosion, protects public safety, and supports Delaware's \$14.2 billion coastal economy. Restoring this system will strengthen storm resilience, safeguard evacuation routes, and preserve habitat in Delaware Seashore State Park.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it protects public infrastructure by reinforcing beaches and dunes along Delaware's vulnerable coastline. Upgrades to electric power and key pump systems will improve the Sand Bypass Facility's reliability and efficiency. By reducing erosion and flood risks, it safeguards critical routes like the Coastal Highway and Cullen Bridge while helping avoid costly future repairs. With Delaware's coastal zone generating \$14 billion annually and supporting over 74,000 jobs, this investment strengthens both economic and infrastructure resilience.

The project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purpose authorized by Section 203 of the Flood Control Act of 1968 (P.L. 90-483) and Section 869 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (P.L. 99-662).

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. McBride'.

Sarah McBride
Member of Congress