

May , 2017

The Honorable Bill Nelson
716 Senate Hart Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

As a resident of Charlotte County, I am concerned about the current shoreline erosion occurring on Manasota Key. Over the past few years, Manasota Key has become critically eroded, especially in the aftermath of recent tropical storms. Charlotte County has declared several emergencies since 2014 due to the impact of the erosion on homes and infrastructure. This past summer after Tropical Storm Colin, two homes and a condominium building on Manasota Key were destabilized by the erosion and deemed unsafe to enter. In addition, there was considerable damage to docks and walkways.

It is critical that the Corps of Engineers begin to restudy the Charlotte County shoreline and ultimately protect critical infrastructure, our homes and businesses from storm damage. I understand that it is a lengthy process, but we cannot continue to wait indefinitely. As we approach the 2017 hurricane season, I am concerned about my home and our critical transportation infrastructure.

Please support sufficient funding for the Army Corps of Engineers and the inclusion of the Charlotte County, Florida General Reevaluation Report in the Fiscal Year 2017 Work Plan.

Sincerely,