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August 30, 2018

Colonel Andrew D. Kelly
Commander, Jacksonville District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32223-0019

Dear Colonel Kelly:

With respect to the recently passed Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123), Pinellas County is willing and able to participate as the Sponsor for the Pinellas County, Florida Study in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), to cooperatively investigate reauthorizations for a 50-year period for the Pinellas County Shore Protection Project, Florida.

Pinellas County understands that a study cannot be initiated unless it is selected as a viable study with associated allocation of Federal funds provided through Public Law 115-123. If selected, we intend to sign a study agreement, and concur with the draft provided by USACE, to initiate the study with USACE. It is our understanding that the agreement will target completion of the feasibility study within 3 years at a total cost of no more than \$3 million. After signing the agreement, a Project Management Plan, including the beaches to be studied, will be developed and agreed upon by Pinellas County and USACE. The study will be conducted and managed by USACE. The cost-sharing for the study, with funds from Public Law 115-123, will be 100% Federal.

Pinellas County is aware that this letter constitutes an expression of intent to initiate a study partnership to address the specified water resources problems and is not a contractual obligation. We understand that work on the study cannot commence until it is included in the Administration's request, funds are allocated by the Office of Management and Budget, and an agreement is signed. It is understood that we or USACE may opt to discontinue the study at any time after the agreement is signed but will commit to work together as partners from the scoping phase, and subsequent decision points throughout the feasibility study, on providing the necessary support to risk-informed decision making. If it is determined that additional time or funding is necessary to support decisions to be made in order to complete the study, our agency will work with USACE to determine the appropriate course of action.

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We also understand that if the results of the feasibility study culminate in a project that is found to be technically feasible, economically justified, and environmentally acceptable, that the Report of the Chief of Engineers could potentially make the project available for Preconstruction Engineering and Design and eventual Construction under Public Law 115-123, subject to the availability of funds. We are prepared to work with USACE as these situations develop and are prepared to engage in negotiations on future agreements and potential Operations and Maintenance obligations as this project moves forward.

If you require additional information, please contact Mark Woodard, County Administrator, Pinellas County, Florida at 727-464-3093 or mwoodard@pinellascounty.org.

Sincerely,



Mark S. Woodard
Pinellas County Administrator

Attached:

Letter to Local Sponsor
Draft Federal Cost Sharing Agreement (FCSA)
Executed Self-Certification of Financial Capability