Board of Harbor Commissioners



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April 1, 2024

Lt. Col. Timothy W. Shebesta Army Corps of Engineers 450 Golden Gate Ave 4th Floor San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Lt. Col. Shebesta:

This letter is to request the assistance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under Section 111 of the River and Harbor Act of 1968, as amended, in mitigation to shore damage attributable to Navigation works in Pillar Pont Harbor on the San Mateo County coastline.

Pillar Point Harbor is located at the northern end of Half Moon Bay, approximately 25 miles south of San Francisco. The easternmost portion of Pillar Point Harbor (including the East Breakwater) and the shoreline from the breakwater south to Miramontes Point are within the boundary of the City of Half Moon Bay (the city's downtown district is five miles to the southeast of the harbor). The closest communities to the harbor are Moss Beach (two miles to the northwest), El Granada (across Highway 1 to the east), and Princeton by the Sea (which borders the northwestern portion of the harbor). Pillar Point Harbor is a "Harbor of Safe Refuge" under California Harbor and Navigational Code Section 70.5 and as designated by the U.S. Coast Guard.

The San Mateo County Harbor District is requesting the study to address the shoreline erosion damage caused by the installation of the outer breakwater to the Surfers Beach area just south of Pillar Point Harbor, in the City of Half Moon Bay, the beach off Princeton by the Sea in unincorporated San Mateo County, and the beaches located off the West Trail Area on the western edge of the harbor below the U.S. Air Force property on Pillar Point, again in unincorporated San Mateo County. All three areas/beaches have had accelerated and significant erosion caused by the breakwater and are negatively affecting both government and privately owned parcels, the Coastal Trail, and iconic California Hwy 1.

We understand that as a local sponsor under the Section 111 program, we are responsible for 50 percent of feasibility study costs exceeding \$100,000 in Federal expenditures and for the same percent of project design and construction costs that were established for the Outer Break Waters if a feasible plan is identified. We acknowledge that the cost share contribution can be in the form of "in-kind" services that

Lt. Col. Kevin P. Arnett Army Corps of Engineers CAP Section 111

contribute a direct component to the study, cash, or a combination. Our cost share obligation would include provision of all lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations, and dredged material disposal areas required for the project. We intend to pursue budgetary actions so that funds are available to meet our cost sharing requirements. We would assume responsibility for operation and maintenance of the project upon completion.

The San Mateo County Harbor District has designated John Moren, Director of Operations, as the point of contact for this project. He may be contacted at jmoren@smharbor.com, phone: 650-228-8683.

Sincerely,

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James B. Pruett, JD, CAPT (USCG (ret.)) General Manager