



November 13, 2015

Supervisor Larry Cantwell
Town of East Hampton
159 Pantigo Road
East Hampton, New York 11937
via email: LCantwell@ehamptonny.gov

Re: Halt and Redesign the Downtown Montauk Stabilization Project

Dear Mr. Cantwell,

I am writing you on behalf of the Surfrider Foundation's International Headquarters, our 50,000 members, and our 84 chapters throughout the United States. The Surfrider Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization that is dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of ocean, waves and beaches through a powerful activists network.

Along with our Eastern Long Island Chapter, we are calling for a halt of the beach armoring project that is underway in downtown Montauk. We are convinced there are lower impact alternatives that can continue the Corp's involvement and temporarily protect downtown Montauk, while also addressing the community's concerns about impacts to the beach.

We have been in communication with Ed Kertis, the former Commander for the Pacific Ocean Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who currently sits on our Board of Directors and Colonel Dave Caldwell, the New York District Commander. They have both made it clear that the local sponsors, you, have the power to call for a pause in the project and recommend alternatives. We strongly urge you to do so.

I want to ensure you that we want to work with you, the local sponsors, the Corps, leading scientists, and the community to ensure that a project moves forward that achieves the short term goal of providing coastal protection while minimizing the impact to the beach. We also want to channel the public's energy towards smart long-term solutions to the coastal erosion challenges that Montauk is facing.

We believe such a project will allow you to achieve your goals while also addressing the communities concerns regarding the impact to the beach.

In conclusion, we call on you to halt the current high impact project and convene the relevant local, state and federal agencies to consider alternative project designs that will provide temporary protection to the coastal development while minimizing impacts to the beautiful public beach in downtown Montauk.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad E. Nelsen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. Chad E. Nelsen
Chief Executive Officer
Surfrider Foundation