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18TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3218

July 17, 2018

Bryce Wisemiller
Project Manager
Programs and Project Management Division, Civil Works Programs Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New York District 26 Federal Plaza, Room 2127
New York, NY 10279

Nancy Brighton
Watershed Section Chief
Planning Division, Environmental Analysis Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New York District 26 Federal Plaza, New York, Room 2151
New York, NY 10279

Dear Mr. Wisemiller and Ms. Brighton,

I am writing to request that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers allow increased public engagement in the New York New Jersey Harbor and Tributaries Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study ("NYNJ HAT") by extending the public comment period from 30 days to 90 days. This would provide time for additional public meetings throughout the project area and allow for the release of meaningful information to the community. The public deserves a fair chance to have their voices heard on the issues directly impacting them.

The current, 30-day window does not provide enough time for the public to comment meaningfully on the project. The Feasibility Study area encompasses approximately 2,150 square miles, including various counties in New York and New Jersey, and its impacts may be felt by communities as far as Connecticut. Extending the comment period to 90 days beginning after the last public meeting would allow for increased awareness, transparency, and participation. I strongly urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to hold additional informational meetings on the proposal. Every community member impacted by this project should have the opportunity to be a part of the conversation.

Thank you for your consideration of this extension and its significant impact on ensuring meaningful public engagement for the NYNJ HAT project. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress