

VAL HOYLE
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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
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COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 9, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As you begin crafting the Fiscal Year 2025 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, I respectfully request funding for the Siuslaw River Slope Stabilization Project in Florence, Oregon, in the amount of \$800,000 within the Committee's Community Project Funding effort.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Florence, located at 250 Hwy 101, Florence, OR 97439.

The City of Florence is requesting \$800,000 to construct a secant pile wall to stabilize a landslide on the banks of the Siuslaw River and make repairs to a public facilities stormwater utility. The landslide is threatening to damage federal, City, and private property – including U.S. Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River. Total project cost is \$1,075,000.

After a period of heavy rain in January 2022, a steep section of the bank of the Siuslaw River adjacent to Coast Guard Road began to fail, resulting in cracking of the Coast Guard Station parking lot, disconnection of a City stormwater main, and deformation of a wooden deck on private property. The landslide is progressing at a rate of several inches per month. However, it could catastrophically fail at any time.

Construction of a secant pile wall will stabilize the riverbank, prevent further erosion, and stop additional damage that could result in catastrophic loss of the public street (Coast Guard Road), loss of access to Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River, and loss of access to two housing developments consisting of 36 homes – including on-base housing for the Coast Guard and privately owned homes in the Sea Watch Estates subdivision. Coast Guard Road is the sole ingress and egress to both the Coast Guard Station and this residential subdivision.

Once the landslide began, the City took immediate action to repair a disconnected storm sewer. Since then, the City has invested in monitoring, engineering, and design efforts to determine a mitigating solution and estimate construction costs, including contracting with a team of engineers to develop a solution.

The City has community support for this project, including from immediate neighbors, Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River, the Sea Watch Estates HOA, Lane County, the State of Oregon, and Port of Siuslaw community partners. The project cost is beyond City resources, which is why they are seeking federal funding.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Val T. Hoyle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "V".

Val T. Hoyle
Member of Congress