

(Sample Homeowner Letter to Army Corps, Add Letterhead if Possible)

Date

Lieutenant General Thomas P. Bostick
Commanding General And Chief of Engineers
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Headquarters
441 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20314-1000

Title

Organization

Address

Regarding: City of New Buffalo Pumping Station and Water Supply

Dear Lieutenant General Thomas Bostick,

I/we am/are writing to request your immediate attention to help resolve a crisis waiting to happen in our community, City of New Buffalo, Michigan. The Army Corps constructed a breakwater structure in the 1960's that included a plan for on-going restorative sand nourishment to replace the impact from littoral currents. The sand nourishment stopped in 1995 and since that time there has been significant erosion to the properties south of the harbor that is jeopardizing the communities low lift water intake pumping station. This started well before the recent higher water levels and major storms. Recently, a home adjacent to the pumping station was abandoned due to the risk that it will fall into the lake. The pumping station and other homes are waiting to happen.

In 2009, the Army Corps conducted a study of the area and confirmed this specific problem and determined that a nourishment program was needed to protect the pumping station on the lake front and other property. It was proposed by the Corps to place 120,000 cubic yards of sand south of the harbor with periodic supplements thereafter. It was determined to be the least expensive and best solution at the time. Nothing has been done since this study was completed. It is important to know that individuals in the community helped fund this study due to the serious concern. This is now a crisis since sand continues to be diverted around the harbor exposing the pumping station to wave energy and destruction. It was damaged several months ago at the same time the house adjacent to the property was damaged on October 31, 2014.

As a community, we do not want this to become another Katrina like in New Orleans. Proactive action is critical and **I/we** think this is the time to act. **I/we** also think it is the responsibility of the Army Corp to budget the money and make this repair and future protection nourishment happen with our legislative leaders who clearly support the need and urgency. **I/we** know there have been meetings with the Army Corps, DEQ/DNR, local, state and federal leaders and other government officials who have discussed this issue and concur with the need and solution.

For this reason, **I/we** request your immediate attention to this matter and implement with funding this solution.

Sincerely,

Address and contact information.

CC:

Lt. Col. Michael L. Sellers
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District
McNamara Federal Building
477 Michigan Avenue
Detroit, MI 48226-2575

CC:

Mr. Tom O'Bryan
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Area Engineer
307 S. Harbor Dr.
Grand Haven, MI 49417

CC:

Mr. Dave Wright
Chief of Operations
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District
McNamara Federal Building
477 Michigan Avenue
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CC:

Mr. Robert Anderson
City Manage, City Of New Buffalo
224 W. Buffalo St.
New Buffalo, MI 49117