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CRAIG R. QUIGLEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR . RICHARD E. DWYER, SECRETARY

February 22, 2022

The Honorable Bobby Scott
2328 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Scott:

The Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance (HRMFFA) writes in support of a legislative policy request that would allow the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to include federal properties for an upcoming Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM) study of the Peninsula and greater Hampton Roads area. We understand that this policy request may be considered as part of the development of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2022.

As you know, the Alliance was established in 2006 to collectively focus regional efforts on preserving and growing Federal capabilities within Hampton Roads. The mission of HRMFFA is to attract, retain and grow military and Federal facilities across the region for the common good and welfare of the residents of Hampton Roads. Through regional advocacy and influence, the Alliance acts to attract, retain and grow organizations, capabilities and investments owned, operated or funded by the Federal government.

We request your support for legislative language to allow the USACE to include Federal property in their feasibility studies. A similar CSRM study was conducted after Hurricane Sandy and focused on coastal resilience in Norfolk. Unfortunately, the study did not include Navy property, so its findings did not clearly and credibly indicate how the proposed changes would impact the entire area.

By allowing the USACE to include Federal properties for an upcoming CSRM study of the Peninsula and greater Hampton Roads area, it would solve the restriction problem in incorporating these installations and facilities into the Civil Works planning and construction processes. The intent of this language is narrowly focused on the CSRM study on the Peninsula. It is intended only to ensure that these USACE studies are comprehensive and holistic. The language is not intended to indicate that the USACE has responsibility for carrying out civil works projects on Federal installations. We believe this is common sense language that will ultimately produce a better report for action by a range of actors in the region.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. We ask for your support in requesting this provision's inclusion in the future WRDA legislation.

Sincerely,

Craig R. Quigley
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
Executive Director

