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

May 19, 2021

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The Honorable Shalanda Young
Acting Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Acting Director Young:

As you work to finalize the President's Fiscal Year 2022 budget, I write to respectfully request that you include a feasibility study for ecosystem restoration and hurricane and storm damage risk reduction for Spring Creek South and Howard Beach, Queens.

In 2012, Superstorm Sandy severely impacted the New York City area, along with the entire Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic regions. This historic storm killed more than 280 people and caused more than \$70 billion in damage, making it one of the costliest natural disasters in American history. Today, the Howard Beach community, which I am privileged to represent, consistently faces flooding during both minor and major storms.

That is why I fought to get a provision included in the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 that requires the Secretary of the Army to expedite the completion of a feasibility study for a "project for ecosystem restoration and hurricane and storm damage risk reduction, Spring Creek South (Howard Beach), Queens, New York." The study will recommend a comprehensive, integrated solution to provide the community with a resilient and environmentally sustainable shoreline, providing long-needed storm risk management benefits and restoring critical habitat. This is an especially efficient use of funds given the availability of relevant information from prior studies.

The residents and businesses of Howard Beach need assistance, and this feasibility study represents an opportunity to deliver on our promise to build back better for the American people.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,


HAKEEM JEFFRIES
Member of Congress