

NICK LALOTA
New York's First District
122 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3201
(202) 225-3826
515 ROUTE 111, SUITE 3B
HAUPPAUGE, NY 11788
(631) 289-1097

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3201

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May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307
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:

I am requesting funding for the Town of Brookhaven Miller Place-Sound Beach Drainage Project in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Town of Brookhaven, located at 1 Independence Hill, Farmingville, New York 11738.

The funding would be used for installing two diffusion wells in the new southwest quadrant recharge basin, essential to settling sediment and enhancing leaching capacity. Furthermore, funding would go towards the construction of a new recharge basin, north of Rocky Point Road, and replacing an outdated 24-inch drainage pipe with a more efficient 30-inch pipe. This seemingly small upgrade will significantly reduce flooding, making it a cost-effective solution in the long run. Lastly, this project would help fund the replacement of deteriorating retaining walls and headwalls that have been weakening over the years and restore pavement, reconstruct revetment, replace 3 damaged leaching basins, replace damaged asphalt tip-up gutter, and replace washed-away soil.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because in 2021, Hurricane Ida caused major flooding and severe damage to approximately 9,975 square feet of asphalt in the Town of Brookhaven, exposing leaching basins and undermining the drainage system, particularly in the Woodhull Landing community of the Miller Place-Sound Beach area. Damaged roadways have been stabilized but significant work remains to fully repair these roads. There is an equally important need to modernize the drainage infrastructure to improve flood resilience and mitigate further storm damage in the future. Funding this project protects taxpayer investment by preventing further roadway damage and costly repairs from future storms. It safeguards water quality and shoreline stability, both vital to New York's coastal ecosystems and economy. Locally, it enhances public safety, preserves property values, and protects natural habitats in the Miller Place-Sound Beach area. This proactive approach reduces long-term costs while strengthening community resilience.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq.

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

Sincerely,



Nick LaLota
Member of Congress