



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  
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May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Habitat Restoration, Research and Community Science Initiative in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is Hudson River Park Trust, located at Hudson River Park at 353 West Street, Pier 40, New York NY 10014. The funding would be used for a project that is a large-scale restoration, research and community science initiative designed to diversify and enrich Hudson River Park's 400-acre state-designated Estuarine Sanctuary through the deployment of submerged habitat features seeded with millions of oysters and engaging communities in coastal resiliency through education and hands-on science.

A crucial part of the project will include design to iterate on successful enhancement techniques and scientific monitoring to determine which enhancement techniques provide the greatest ecological uplift and conditions for successful reef generation. These project elements are crucial for offering new design solutions and informing future restoration projects at other locations including across the region. This research and community involvement is critical to identifying nature-based methods for making hardened shorelines and New Yorkers more resilient in the face of climate change.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because Hudson River Park's 400-acre Estuarine Sanctuary is a thriving urban estuary ecosystem that is tidally influenced, resulting in a mixture of salt and fresh water that creates a dynamic, nutrient-rich environment with high biodiversity. This project will take place in Manhattan Community Board 4, and within a disadvantaged area as designated by New York State's Climate Justice Working Group.

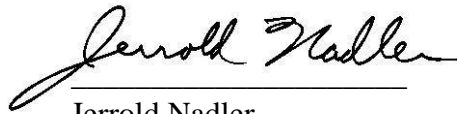
Hudson River Park shares its expertise to the community through free science programming, events, a field trips, and partners with SUNY & CUNY professors and students to undertake in Park research on the Sanctuary. Aside from providing critical habitat for fish like seahorses, eels and striped bass, the Sanctuary also serves as a vital migration corridor for birds and other wildlife. Sanctuary waters are a small but essential component of the lower Hudson River

Estuary. The Habitat Enhancement, Research & Community Science Project will help restore and enhance one of the most significant estuarine habitats in the United States, recognized under the National Estuary Program and designated by NYS Department of State as a Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, nor does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerrold Nadler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress

REPLY TO:

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