

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

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, the Capitol
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 Sykes Creek Phase 2 Environmental Dredging/Muck Removal Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Brevard County, located at 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building A, Viera, FL, 32940.

The funding for this project will be used to help remove accumulations of decaying muck from the Sykes Creek area of the Indian River Lagoon, building upon successful environmental dredging of 76,500 cubic yards during Phase 1. The entire project area has over 500,000 cubic yards of decaying muck, and Phase 2 targets a project area of approximately 90 acres of submerged land adjacent to the Ulumay Wildlife Sanctuary. This will improve overall water quality, increase dissolved oxygen levels, mitigate harmful algal blooms, prevent fish kills, and reduce the accumulation of toxic hydrogen sulfide. The project will protect adjacent sediments that provide critical habitat for marine life and promote ecosystem services to mitigate excess nitrogen pollution.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will improve the livelihoods of those who live near the lagoon, prevent harmful algal blooms that damage the environment within a National Estuary, and make the community more resilient within the local economy and for fishermen.

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.

Respectfully,



Mike Haridopolos
Member of Congress