



SHPOA

Stone Harbor Property Owners Association

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August 5, 2022

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Homi Kapadia
102nd Street

To: Stone Harbor Mayor and Borough Councilmembers
cc: Borough Administrator, Borough Engineer, Director of Public Works
re: 93rd Street Pump Station

During the recent Council Meeting of June, 21 it was announced that the estimated cost for 93rd street pump station had increased from \$11M to \$19M. There was considerable discussion as to whether, given this significant cost increase and other factors, a peer review should be conducted on the design in question. No consensus was reached but a primary argument against the peer review was the perceived lack of time in which to conduct it.

During the next Council Meeting on July, 5 no discussion of the pump station was included in the published Council work session or meeting agendas. However, during public comment SHPOA strongly recommended that the project should not proceed without a rigorous peer review. During the July, 19 Council work session, Mott MacDonald provided an overview of the cost increases and indicated that the revised benefit to cost ratio would no longer qualify this project for federal grants.

Subsequently at the August, 2 Council meeting a motion was passed to terminate the contract with Mott MacDonald for the design of the 93rd street pump station. (In 2017 a contract for the same project was terminated with Remington Vernick.) Prior to this motion's passage SHPOA recommended that the Borough adopt a different approach if this project were to be progressed for a third time. The specifics of this recommendation are provided below.

The key 1st step must be to establish a robust and rigorous process for the management of this complex yet essential project, which should include:

- establishing, with Council's endorsement, a detailed design basis precisely stating project goals and objectives consistent with the recently adopted flood mitigation plan;
- identifying core team, extended team members, and those accountable for project oversight;
- establishing clearly defined roles and responsibilities for all team members;
- communicating the defined work process, timeline, milestones and project cost target;
- including peer reviews at critical milestones and upon project completion in the process;
- ensuring that past learnings by Stone Harbor and others are incorporated into the plan;
- continuing to aggressively seek and apply for grants without unnecessary expansion of project scope.

SHPOA remains available to assist in any of the aspects above.

Respectfully,

Geoff Woolery

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SHPOA Trustee / Sustainability Committee Chairperson