

**SCOTT A. RUSSELL**  
SUPERVISOR



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**OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR**  
TOWN OF SOUTHOLD

August 10, 2018

Colonel Thomas D. Asbery  
USACE New York District  
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building  
26 Federal Plaza, 21<sup>st</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10278

Dear Colonel Asbery,

This letter is in reference to the USACE Study of Goldsmith's Inlet. The Town of Southold requests your assistance for studying the problems at Goldsmiths Inlet, Southold, New York. This letter is to request the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a study under Section 107 of the River and Harbor Act, as amended, to determine the feasibility of developing a small navigation improvement at Goldsmiths Inlet.

Goldsmith's Inlet at the interface between the pond and the Long Island Sound is subject to regular closure and the accumulation of sand as a result of wave action and littoral drift. Projects are undertaken every year that remove the sand from the inlet, however, no solution has been identified that has any sustained, long-term effectiveness. This is especially true considering the unpredictable weather patterns each year. After a project is complete, the results can last anywhere from several weeks to only a few days. Further, over time, a substantial amount of material has accumulated in the pond to the extent that areas have little to no depth. This further impedes tidal flow between the pond and the Sound. Currently, the channel is not navigable.

The study should include the following:

- Environmental impacts of the lack of adequate tidal flow between the pond and the sound;
- Environmental impacts of dramatic change in depth of the pond;

- Causes of the substantial beach erosion on the Suffolk County Park directly to the east and to identify solutions that will restore the profile;
- Identify solutions that will maintain tidal flow between the pond and the Sound that would result in long-term, sustained benefits; and
- Develop a plan that would make the channel and the pond open to boating.

It is understood that, if the study indicates a project with a federal interest is likely, the Town of Southold would be required to enter into a contract to pay half the cost of the feasibility study after the first \$100,000. Further, if it is found feasible to develop a navigation project at Goldsmiths Inlet, the Town of Southold would agree to provide the local cooperation and cost sharing prescribed by the Secretary of the Army.

We would like to discuss the availability of information, required schedule, and level of effort required in order for USACE to study the problems at Goldsmiths Inlet. Please contact my office at (631)765-1889 to arrange a further discussion of this request.

Sincerely,



Scott A. Russell  
Supervisor