

Report to Congress for Future Water Resources Development (WRRDA 7001) Submission Package

Proposal Name: East Providence Bold Point Marine Debris and Abandoned Barge Removal

Submission Date: 08/27/2019

Proposal ID Number: 859455a5-31dd-4efc-aed1-504101ef4146

Purpose of Proposal: The East Providence shoreline was once an active industrial harbor with a dry dock, petroleum off loading storage and a variety of water based industrial uses. Today, the City's waterfront has been rezoned to allow for high density residential and a variety of retail uses such as hotels, restaurants and bars. The intent of the City is to develop the shoreline while encouraging public access to the shoreline while preserving the view corridors of the upper Narragansett Bay. The deteriorating wood pilings and decaying barges are not only a safety hazard for the recreational and commercial users of the upper Narragansett Bay but also deteriorate from the aesthetics of the waterways, which is a deterrent to the redevelopment of the City's waterfront. The City of East Providence along with the Waterfront Commission, RI Waterfront Restoration and Clean Bays propose a plan to clean the East Providence Harbor currently littered with marine debris, deteriorating wood pilings, and decaying barges. The Upper Bay has become increasingly hazardous to navigate as derelict piers decay, affecting marine safety beyond the shallows of Green Jacket Shoals. The City of East Providence is requesting \$2,000,000 for the permitting, project management, environmental engineering services, debris cleanup and barge removal of an area that is located directly west of the Bold Point shoreline, in the north extent of the area known as the "Green Jacket Shoal". The purpose of this project is to remove navigational hazards that consist of decaying pilings and abandoned barges. Work has already proceeded with removal to the mudline of two of the abandoned barges. The highest priority of pilings and abandoned barges will be given to the large barge that is currently deteriorating that is causing large beams to dislodge that become hazards to navigation.

1. Administrative Details

Proposal Name: East Providence Bold Point Marine Debris and Abandoned Barge Removal

by Agency: City of East Providence

Locations: RI

POC Name:

POC Phone:

POC Email:

Date Submitted: 08/27/2019

Confirmation Number: 859455a5-31dd-4efc-aed1-504101ef4146

Supporting Documents

File Name	Date Uploaded
East-Providence-statement-of-support.pdf	08/27/2019
Community-Boating-letter-of-support.pdf	08/27/2019
Marine-debris-barge-removal-project-area-map.pdf	08/27/2019
Chamber-of-commerce-letter-of-support.pdf	08/27/2019
Debris-marine-removal-purpose-statement.pdf	08/27/2019

2. Provide the name of the primary sponsor and all non-Federal interests that have contributed or are expected to contribute toward the non-Federal share of the proposed feasibility study or modification.

Sponsor	Letter of Support
City of East Providence(Primary)	<p>The City of East Providence is partnering with the Waterfront Commission, Clean Bays and RI Waterfront Restoration to restore the East Providence Harbor that is currently littered with marine debris, deteriorating wood pilings and decaying abandoned barges. The Upper Bay has become increasingly hazardous to navigate as derelict piers decay, affecting marine safety beyond the shallows of Green Jacket Shoals. The City of East Providence is requesting \$2,000,000 from the Section 7001 of WRRDA 2014 for the permitting, project management, environmental engineering services, debris cleanup and barge removal of an area that is located directly west of the Bold Point shoreline, south of the I-195 Washington Bridge. The East Providence shoreline was once an active industrial harbor with a dry dock, petroleum off loading storage and a variety of water based industrial uses. Today, the City's waterfront has been rezoned to allow for high density residential and a variety of retail uses such as hotels, restaurants and entertainment venues. The intent of the City is to develop the shoreline while encouraging public access and preserving the view corridors of the upper Narragansett Bay. The deteriorating wood pilings and decaying barges are not only a safety hazard for the recreational and commercial users of the upper Narragansett Bay but also deteriorate from the aesthetics of the waterways, which is a deterrent to the redevelopment of the City's waterfront. We understand that the Army Corps of Engineers will initially conduct an investigation to determine whether this proposal meets the requirements of federal participation and that a non-federal cost share of 20% will be required prior to a commitment from the Army Corps of Engineers. The City along with the Waterfront Commission, RI Waterfront Restoration and Clean Bays will be actively seek funding to secure the required non-federal cost share and we will keep your office informed of our progress.</p>

3. State if this proposal is for new feasibility study authority, a modification to an existing feasibility study authority, a modification to an existing USACE project authority, or a modification to an existing USACE Environmental Infrastructure Program authority. If it is a proposal for a modification to an existing study, project or program authority, provide the authorized water resources development feasibility study or project name.

[x] New Feasibility Study Authority

4. Clearly articulate the specific project purpose(s) of the proposed study or modification. Demonstrate that the proposal is related to USACE mission and authorities and specifically address why additional or new authorization is needed.

The East Providence shoreline was once an active industrial harbor with a dry dock, petroleum off loading storage and a variety of water based industrial uses. Today, the City's waterfront has been rezoned to allow for high density residential and a variety of retail uses such as hotels, restaurants and bars. The intent of the City is to develop the shoreline while encouraging public access to the shoreline while preserving the view corridors of the upper Narragansett Bay. The deteriorating wood pilings and decaying barges are not only a safety hazard for the recreational and commercial users of the upper Narragansett Bay but also deteriorate from the aesthetics of the waterways, which is a deterrent to the redevelopment of the City's waterfront. The City of East Providence along with the Waterfront Commission, RI Waterfront Restoration and Clean Bays propose a plan to clean the East Providence Harbor currently littered with marine debris, deteriorating wood pilings, and decaying barges. The Upper Bay has become increasingly hazardous to navigation as derelict piers decay, affecting marine safety beyond the shallows of Green Jacket Shoals. The City of East Providence is requesting \$2,000,000 for the permitting, project management, environmental engineering services, debris cleanup and barge removal of an area that is located directly west of the Bold Point shoreline, in the north extent of the area known as the "Green Jacket Shoal". The purpose of this project is to remove navigational hazards that consist of decaying pilings and abandoned barges. Work has already proceeded with removal to the mudline of two of the abandoned barges. The highest priority of pilings and abandoned barges will be given to the large barge that is currently deteriorating that is causing large boulders to dislodge that become hazards to navigation.

5. To the extent practicable, provide an estimate of the total cost, and the Federal and non-Federal share of those costs, of the proposed study and, separately, an estimate of the cost of construction or modification.

	Federal	Non-Federal	Total
Study	\$160,000	\$40,000	\$200,000
Construction	\$1,440,000	\$360,000	\$1,800,000

Explanation (if necessary)

We understand that the Army Corps of Engineers will initially conduct an investigation to determine whether this proposal meets the requirements of federal participation and that a non-federal cost share of 20% will be required prior to a commitment from the Army Corps of Engineers. The City along with the Water front Commission, RI Waterfront Restoration and Clean Bays will be actively seek funding to secure the required non-federal cost share and we will keep your office informed of our progress.

6. To the extent practicable, describe the anticipated monetary and nonmonetary benefits of the proposal including benefits to the protection of human life and property; improvement to transportation; the national economy; the environment; or the national security interests of the United States.

The vicinity of the debris and barge removal is one of the most active areas of the Narragansett Bay with a variety of commercial and recreational uses that includes four boat ramps, three marinas, one sailboat training school, two rowing clubs, one ferry service, two local touring ferries, 17 concert events at Bold Point Park scheduled for the 2019 season and a single 4th of July event at Bold Point Park. In addition, the upper Narragansett Bay is a very popular recreational fishing area for stripers and other large sport fish that attracts approximately 200 boats during the fishing season. The nearby Port of Providence is the 62nd largest Port in the U.S. of the 492 Ports recognized by the USCG. The Exxon_Mobil facility is the largest on the East Coast transferring 100-110 million gallons of fuel per month, servicing the entire Northeast. The Morton Salt facility provides all of the road salt for the entire Northeast. Used autos are shipped worldwide from ProvPort along with a large scrap facility that ships to China. The following are estimates of the annual waterway usage of the immediate area: Pawtucket boat ramps (80-100 boats); EPYC & Al's Waterfront Marina (50 boats); Waterfront Ferry Tours (2 boats); Waterfront Events Concert boaters (125 plus boats per event); Bold Point boat ramp (80-100 boats); Gano Street boat ramp (40-60 boats); Collier Point Park boat ramp (40-60 boats); Fox Point Marina (50 boats plus transients); Community Boating Center (20 boats); Providence_Newport Ferry terminal (4 trips/day); two Rowing Clubs (20 skulls) and industrial ports including Wilkes Barre Pier adjacent to Bold Point (50 plus ships per year).

7. Does local support exist? If 'Yes', describe the local support for the proposal.

Yes

Local Support Description

The City of East Providence is partnering with the Waterfront Commission, RI Waterfront Restoration and Cleanbays.org to create a plan to clean the East Providence Harbor currently littered with marine debris, deteriorating wood pilings, and decaying abandoned barges. With the support of the Army Corps of Engineers, we can give the harbor back to the community and the boating public in the condition it so truly deserves. This project also has the support of the East Providence Chambers of Commerce and the Community Boating Center of Providence, see enclosed letters of support.

8. Does the primary sponsor named in (2.) above have the financial ability to provide for the required cost share?

No

Primary Sponsor Letter of Support

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East_Providence_statement_of_support.pdf



City of East Providence

Mayor's Office

145 TAUNTON AVENUE
EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02914-4505
TEL. (401) 435-7521 FAX (401) 438-1719 TDD (401) 431-163
WWW.EASTPROVIDENCERI.NET

ROBERTO L. DASILVA
MAYOR

August 26, 2019

Mr. John Kennelly
Planning Division
Army Corps of Engineers – New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

Re: East Providence letter of support for Section 7001 of WRRDA 2014
Bold Point debris and abandoned barge removal

Dear Mr. Kennelly:

The City of East Providence is partnering with the Waterfront Commission, Clean Bays and RI Waterfront Restoration to restore the East Providence Harbor that is currently littered with marine debris, deteriorating wood pilings and decaying abandoned barges. The Upper Bay has become increasingly hazardous to navigate as derelict piers decay, affecting marine safety beyond the shallows of Green Jacket Shoals. The City of East Providence is requesting \$2,000,000 from the Section 7001 of WRRDA 2014 for the permitting, project management, environmental engineering services, debris cleanup and barge removal of an area that is located directly west of the Bold Point shoreline, south of the I-195 Washington Bridge.

The East Providence shoreline was once an active industrial harbor with a dry dock, petroleum off loading/storage and a variety of water based industrial uses. Today, the City's waterfront has been rezoned to allow for high density residential and a variety of retail uses such as hotels, restaurants and entertainment venues. The intent of the City is to develop the shoreline while encouraging public access and preserving the view corridors of the upper Narragansett Bay. The deteriorating wood pilings and decaying barges are not only a safety hazard for the recreational and commercial users of the upper Narragansett Bay but also deteriorate from the aesthetics of the waterways, which is a deterrent to the redevelopment of the City's waterfront.

We understand that the Army Corps of Engineers will initially conduct an investigation to determine whether this proposal meets the requirements of federal participation and that a non-federal cost share of 20% will be required prior to a commitment from the Army Corps of Engineers. The City along with the



City of East Providence Mayor's Office

145 TAUNTON AVENUE
EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02914-4505
TEL. (401) 435-7521 FAX (401) 438-1719 TDD (401) 431-163
WWW.EASTPROVIDENCERI.NET

ROBERTO L. DASILVA
MAYOR

Waterfront Commission, RI Waterfront Restoration and Clean Bays will be actively seek funding to secure the required non-federal cost share and we will keep your office informed of our progress.

If you require any additional information, please contact me or Diane M. Feather, AICP, Acting Planning Director at (401) 435-7531 or dfeather@cityofeastprov.com

Sincerely,

Roberto L. DaSilva, Mayor

Cc: Diane M. Feather, AICP, Acting Planning Director
Patrick Hanner, Principal Planner
William J. Fazioli, Chairman East Providence Waterfront Commission
Pamela M. Sherrill, AICP, Executive Director East Providence Waterfront Commission
Kent Dresser, Clean Bays
RI Waterfront Restoration

Additional Proposal Information

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Community_Boating_letter_of_support.pdf



COMMUNITY BOATING CENTER
INDIA POINT PARK, PROVIDENCE

8/26/19

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742

Re: Letter of Support for the 2020 Report to Congress
Green Jacket Shoal Debris Removal

The Community Boating Center has been in operation since 1994 with a core mission to provide instruction and access to recreational sailing and boating with an emphasis on children with programming to build self-esteem, broaden horizons and advance environmental awareness.

We strongly support the City of East Providence's grant application to the Army Corps of Engineers for the removal of marine debris primarily consisting of deteriorated wood pilings and decaying barges in upper Narragansett Bay in the area known as "Green Jacket Shoal", immediately west of Bold Point.

In addition to Community Boating, the immediate area of the deteriorated pilings and decaying barges has four boat ramps, three marinas, two rowing clubs and the Providence/Newport ferry service that has four ferries departing Providence seven days a week, including holidays. The deteriorating wood pilings and decaying barges are a safety hazard for recreational boaters and greatly impact the aesthetics of the waterways. Removal of the debris and barges would also assist small boats in navigating a high traffic area known for strong tidal currents and shallow areas along the shoreline.

Considering upper Narragansett Bay offers a tremendous opportunity for persons of all ages to enjoy boating, fishing and the scenic views, the Community Boating Center strongly supports the City's grant application to the Army Corps of Engineers to remove the deteriorated wood pilings and decaying barges.

Feel free to contact me at 401.454.SAIL (7245) or johnof@communityboating.com with any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Cheers,

John O'Flaherty
Executive Director
Community Boating Center

Map Document

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Marine_debris_barge_removal_project_area_map.pdf

East Providence Bold Point Marine Debris and Barge Removal Vicinity of Debris and Barge Removal Project Area



RIE911, RIGIS, URI Environmental Data Center

0 0.125 0.25 0.5
Miles



Additional Proposal Information

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Chamber_of_commerce_letter_of_support.pdf



East Providence Area Chamber of Commerce

1011 Waterman Avenue • East Providence, Rhode Island 02914

phone: 401.438.1212 • www.eastprovidenceareachamber.com

e-mail: office@eastprovidenceareachamber.com

August 22, 2019

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742

Re: Letter of Support for the 2020 Report to Congress
Green Jacket Shoal Debris Removal

The East Providence Area Chamber of Commerce strongly supports the City of East Providence's grant application to the Army Corps of Engineers for the removal of marine debris primarily consisting of deteriorating wood pilings and decaying barges at the northern section of the upper Narragansett Bay in the area known as "Green Jacket Shoal," west of Bold Point.

The East Providence shoreline was once an active industrial harbor with a dry dock, petroleum off loading/storage and a variety of water-based industrial uses. Today, the City's waterfront has been rezoned to allow for high-density residential and a variety of retail uses such as hotels, restaurants and bars. The intent of the City is to develop the shoreline while encouraging public access to the shoreline and preserving the view corridors and public access to the upper Narragansett Bay. The deteriorating wood pilings and decaying barges are not only a safety hazard for the recreational and commercial users of this area, they also detract from the aesthetics of the waterways, which is a deterrent to the redevelopment of the City's waterfront.

Removal of the wood pilings and decaying barges will benefit all users of upper Narragansett Bay that includes recreational fishing, boating and the nearby marinas, and most important encourage the redevelopment of our waterfront. The East Providence Area Chamber of Commerce wholeheartedly supports the City's grant application to the Army Corps of Engineers.

Sincerely,

Laura A. McNamara, executive director

Additional Proposal Information

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Debris_marine_removal_purpose_statement.pdf



2019 Proposal

The City of East Providence with the Waterfront Commission, RI Waterfront Restoration and Clean Bays propose a plan to clean the East Providence Harbor currently littered with marine debris, deteriorating wood pilings, and decaying barges. The Upper Bay has become increasingly hazardous to navigate as derelict piers decay, affecting marine safety beyond the shallows of Green Jacket Shoals.

We are asking the Army Corps of Engineers to help fund a desperately needed cleanup in the East Providence Harbor. To fund the project, we're requesting \$2,000,000 to cover the cost of:

- Permitting
- Project Management
- Environmental Engineering Services
- Debris Cleanup
- Barge Removal

Priority is on removal of the derelict barge and associated vessels at the northern extent of Green Jacket Shoals, west of Bold Point. Work has already proceeded with removal to mudline of two of the smaller vessels. The highest priority should be the large barge that continues to break up causing large beams to float away and become hazards to navigation. Last summer a beam broke loose and several boats leaving the Billy Currington concert at Bold Point hit it. As we continue to develop and utilize the waterfront and waterways in that area, the removal of this debris becomes more of a priority for the safety of those using it, including those unfamiliar with the area.

The City of East Providence with the Waterfront Commission, RI Waterfront Restoration and Clean Bays share an interest in cleaning the East Providence Harbor as an important asset within Narragansett Bay. With the support of the Army Corps of Engineers, we can give the harbor back to the community and the boating public in the condition it so truly deserves. Due to the proximity of the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier, the Army Corps can expect to find less floating debris which could compromise the operation of the Hurricane Barrier. Debris also affects safety of public recreation and commercial use of the harbor. Marine debris is unsightly especially when viewed from Bold Point Park, India Point Park, and the Linear Park across the Washington Bridge. This area is very visible from I-95 and I-195. See enclosed pictures.

Removal of marine debris will benefit all marine users of upper Narragansett Bay. The upper Providence River has four boat ramps, three marinas, one sail training school, two rowing clubs, one ferry service,

two local touring ferries, 17 concert events at Bold Point Park, one 4th of July event, and a very popular fishing area. The following documents estimated annual port and waterway usage in the area:

- Pawtucket Boat ramps (2) 80-100 boats
- East Providence
 - EPYC & Al's Waterfront Marina 50 boats
 - Waterfront Ferry Tours 2 boats
 - Waterfront Events Concert boaters Up to 125 boats per event
 - Bold Point ramp 80-100 boats
- Providence
 - Gano Street Boat ramp 40-60 boats
 - Collier Point Park ramp 40-60 boats
 - Fox Point Marina 50 boats plus transients
 - Community Boating Center 20 boats
 - Providence/Newport Ferry
 - Two Rowing Clubs 20 skulls
- Fishing Season (Stripers) boaters Up to 200 boats
- Industrial Port for fuels, autos and chemicals
50 plus ships per year (including Wilkes Barre Pier adjacent to Bold Point)

The Port of Providence, East Providence is the 62nd largest Port in the US of the 492 Ports recognized by the USCG. The Exxon/Mobil facility is the largest on the East Coast transferring 100-110 million gallons of fuel per month, servicing the entire Northeast. The Morton Salt facility provides all road salt for the Northeast. Used autos are shipped worldwide from ProvPort along with a large scrap facility that ships to China.

Organizations supporting this proposal include the East Providence Waterfront Commission, the Community Boating Center at Providence's India Point Park, and RI Waterfront Events.

All questions relating to this proposal can be directed to:

Bruce Dufresne, City of
East Providence
Harbormaster
145 Taunton Ave.
East Providence RI
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Diane Feather, City of
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dfeather@cityofeastprov.com

Pamela Sherrill, East
Providence Waterfront
Commission Executive
Director
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Kent Dresser
Clean Bays
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(401) 849-1257
Kent@cleanbays.org

Sincerely,

Mayor Roberto DaSilva
City of East Providence



