## Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 15, 2024

Michael L. Connor Assistant Secretary of the Army 108 Army Pentagon Washington, DC 20310 Shalanda Young Director Office of Management and Budget 725 17<sup>th</sup> St, NW Washington, DC 20503

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor and Director Young:

We are writing in support of the rehabilitation of the Chicago shoreline at Morgan Shoal, a critical project that will address eroding shoreline and protect nearby areas from flooding. To ensure the project moves forward, we request the inclusion of \$71.5 million in the Army Corps' Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Work Plan for the Chicago Shoreline Morgan Shoal Project.

This project runs along the Lake Michigan shoreline from approximately 45<sup>th</sup> Street to 51<sup>st</sup> Street in Chicago, Illinois. Once completed, this project will help protect nearby Lake Shore Drive from flooding and erosion. It is the most recent phase of the Chicago Shoreline Protection Project, a comprehensive effort to replace original shoreline structures built in the early 1900s. The City of Chicago and its partners have worked closely with the community, the Chicago Department of Transportation, the Chicago Park District, and the Army Corps of Engineers to ensure the project provides the greatest level of shoreline protection while preserving and celebrating the unique character of area.

This existing stretch of shoreline is in significant need of repair. Portions of the lakefront trail are crumbling into the water, and high lake levels have caused damage to revetment stones and washed out areas of the lakeshore. Temporary measures have been implemented to protect the shoreline, including the use of riprap and sand bags, but a long-term solution is necessary.

Given the deterioration of this portion of the Chicago shoreline and urgent need for repairs, we urge you to include \$71.5 million in the Army Corps' FY 2024 Work Plan for the Morgan Shoal Chicago Shoreline Project.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Durbin United States Senator

Tammy Virekwatt

Tammy Duckworth United States Senator

Raja Krishnamoorthi Member of Congress

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Bradley Scott Schneider Member of Congress

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Jesús G. "Chuy" García Member of Congress