

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

January 24, 2020

Linda Cruz-Carnall
Regional Director, Philadelphia Regional Office
US Economic Development Agency
Robert N.C. Nix Federal Building
900 Market Street, Room 602
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Re: 2019 EDA Economic Adjustment Assistance Disaster Recovery Program Grant
Application - Cape Cod Commission

Dear Ms. Cruz-Carnall:

We write in strong support of the Cape Cod Commission's application for funding through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) Economic Adjustment Assistance Disaster Recovery Program. If awarded, this funding would support the Commission's Cape Cod Resiliency Initiative project, which would allow the fifteen towns of Cape Cod to assess flood risk and determine effective approaches to increase resilience region-wide. These efforts are vital to helping the Cape Cod region adequately address risks affecting its local economy.

Barnstable County, Cape Cod, is a designated Economic Development District. The region faces critical risks from flooding, storm surge, erosion, and extreme weather impacts. In March 2018, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued a Disaster Declaration following two nor'easter storms that caused flooding, infrastructure damage, power losses, and severe erosion along the coast. To date, more than \$9.78 million in Public Assistance Grants Dollars has been obligated by FEMA as a result of these storms.

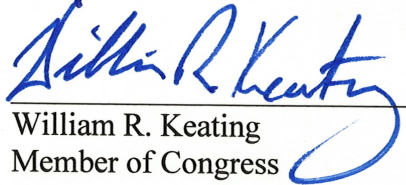
Investing in regional planning efforts to address these risks is crucial to the economy of Cape Cod. Engaging a broad range of stakeholders through this initiative would strengthen recovery and resilience endeavors, and assist with long-term recovery from natural disasters and economic shocks like the nor'easters of March 2018. Developing and improving digital map layers and decision support tools would facilitate targeted implementation projects and improve planning efforts for the entire Cape.

These projects, initiatives, and planning efforts will promote the health, safety, and economic development of Cape Cod. We respectfully ask that you give this request your fair and full consideration.

Sincerely,

 
Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator

Edward J. Markey
United States Senator


William R. Keating
Member of Congress