

September 4, 2007

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Senate Majority Leader

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Minority Leader

The Honorable Richard Durban  
Senate Majority Whip

The Honorable Trent Lott  
Senate Minority Whip

Dear Distinguished Senators:

As the Senate returns to session, I am taking this opportunity to again express the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association's (ASBPA) strong support for passage of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2007 (H.R. 1495). Please do not further delay this vital legislation that Senators Boxer and Inhofe superbly crafted. The bridge tragedy in Minnesota is further evidence that we must not neglect and delay the maintenance of our nation's critical infrastructure. Our nation needs this bill and it is imperative that the Senate pass the Conference Report as soon as possible.

Founded in 1926, ASBPA represents the scientific, technical and political interests along the coast in an effort to shape national research and policy concerning shore and beach management. H.R. 1495 contains many policy improvements that will help preserve, protect, and strengthen the coastal environment, infrastructure and economy. While WRDA 2007 addresses many of the short-term and long-term water infrastructure policy issues that concern ASBPA, there is still room for improvement. Nevertheless, we urge the Senate to move forward with this long overdue bill, as it is a positive step in the right direction. Efforts by President Bush and some members of the Senate to kill the bill must be rebuffed in the interest of communities all across the nation. **Please put WRDA 2007 on the floor as soon as the Senate returns to session.**

Thank you for your leadership and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully,



Mayor Harry Simmons  
President

CC: Senator Barbara Boxer, Senator James Inhofe