



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Obama Budget a Disappointment to National Coastal Advocacy Group

Following is a statement issued by Mayor Harry Simmons, President of the American Shore & Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA).

"The Budget Recommendation issued by the President is a great disappointment to ASBPA and the entire water resources community. It provides less than \$44 million for studies and projects to reduce coastal storm damage compared to an annual need that is 10 times that number and less than half of what Congress traditionally appropriates annually for these kinds of projects. With such inadequate funding to protect our nations shores, many communities will be left vulnerable.

"It is important for the public to recognize that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has some of the highest vetting standards for its projects of any federal agency. While the ASBPA wholly supports the President's goal of eliminating wasteful government spending, each of these projects is subjected to a thorough benefit-cost analysis and provides needed coastal protection for vulnerable communities. To deny legitimate projects adequate funding contradicts the President's goal of investing in our nation's future.

"Given the high standards of scrutiny for the Army Corps' projects and the dire need for greater coastal investment, we urge the leadership of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees to assure us that the final FY2012 budget includes adequate investment for our nation's water resources."

ABOUT ASBPA: Founded in 1926, the ASBPA promotes the integration of science, policies and actions that maintain, protect and enhance the coasts of America. For more information on ASBPA, go to www.asbpa.org, Facebook or www.twitter.com/asbpa.

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