





**Jim Filby Williams**  
*Department of Property, Parks, and Libraries Director*  
Room 402  
411 West First Street  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

 218-730-5319  
 jfwilliams@duluthmn.gov

Chief, Operations Office  
US Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District  
477 Michigan Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48226-2550

March 26, 2021

Dear Ms. Jarema,

Thank you for your letter of March 23, 2021 and your thorough and thoughtful responses to our concerns. Since you wrote, Corps staff have devised one important enhancement to the cleanup plan described in your letter and our partners at the Park Community Club have devised another.

The City is prepared to approve the Corps cleanup plan if the Corps incorporates both enhancements:

1. As suggested by Corps staff, the Corps will conduct mechanical cleanup of can debris outside of the 2020 placement area within a swath of beach from the debris line to the surf zone, extending north to south from the 2020 placement area to the 3600 block of Minnesota Avenue.
2. As suggested by the Community Club, the Corps will participate, with the Community Club, in a roughly one-year post-cleanup monitoring period from the 2020 project area to the 3600 block of Minnesota Avenue to include:
  - A. Weekly Corps staff foot patrols during times of the year when the shoreline is not substantially frozen (potentially ceasing prior to one year if the Corps and volunteers are finding very little debris);
  - B. Conduct of one such patrol per month with the Community Club's High Water and Erosion Committee Chair, Hamilton Smith, during business hours;
  - C. Corps submission of any debris observations to the Community Club for inclusion in their database and weekly summaries, and
  - D. Corps receipt, analysis, and periodic reporting on those monitoring summaries.

In addition to these two enhancements, I have promised our Community Club partners that I would clearly convey two expectations that the City has of the Corps:

1. In the unanticipated event that, following completion of cleanup activities, additional can debris from the 2020 project should emerge, the City of Duluth will expect the Corps to promptly conduct additional survey and cleanup activities as necessary to remedy the problem.
2. In the unanticipated event that credible evidence should emerge that can debris was placed in the 2019 beach nourishment project, the City of Duluth will expect the Corps to survey the 2019 project area and conduct necessary cleanup.

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The City of Duluth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

If we have reached agreement on the Corps cleanup plan, the City is also prepared to move forward with the proposed 2021 beach nourishment project.

Our next task will be to publicly announce final plans to complete the 2020 project cleanup and conduct a new 2021 nourishment project. We envision announcing those plans simultaneously in two steps. First, the City and the Corps have an in-person press announcement in the works for Tuesday to formally announce the plans. We envision that the Corps will prepare a press release concisely describing the plans in non-technical terms.

Second, sometime during the week of April 12, we envision a virtual public meeting – hosted by the City of Duluth, in partnership with the Park Point Community Club – at which the Corps would present the plans for cleanup of the 2020 project and conduct of the 2021 project and take questions on both. We did a similar meeting together a year ago in preparation for the 2020 project where Melissa Bosman was the main speaker and appropriate MPCA and Corps scientists were on hand to address technical questions.

Thank you again for the Corps' firm commitment to resolve problems from the 2020 project and the impressive manner in which Corps professionals have conducted themselves. The City of Duluth is grateful for both.

Sincerely Yours,



Jim Filby Williams  
Director, Property, Parks, and Libraries Department  
218-340-0791

CC: Melissa Bosman  
Emily Larson  
Noah Schuchman  
Rebecca St. George  
Hamilton Smith  
Dawn Buck  
Paul Treuer