



15 December 2021

Nicole Carlozo
Natural Resource Resiliency Planner
Chesapeake and Coastal Service
Department of Natural Resources
580 Taylor Ave., E2
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Nicole,

I'm writing to convey my sincere appreciation for the opportunity to submit Neeld Estate Citizens Association's (NECA) Chesapeake and Coastal Grant application for Outcome 3. I am confident that our Shoreline Committee, which NECA members voted to establish in November 2020, has prepared a proposal that is compliant and compelling! The various letters of support included in our application serve to highlight the fact that our community has a recognized problem that requires a solution and the requisite funding to execute.

The Shoreline Committee has worked closely with a recognized expert in living shorelines, Scott Hardaway, to understand the causes of and potential technical solutions to the ever-worsening community shoreline problem outlined in our application. Additionally, the committee met with MD DNR Chief of Shoreline Conservation (Bhaskar Submaranian) and University of Maryland Extension/Sea Grant Program Watershed Restoration Specialist (Jackie Takacs). Their recommendation to apply for both a Chesapeake Bay Trust (CBT) grant (we did on 2 December) and this DNR grant led NECA to request and Mr. Hardaway's firm, Coastal Design, P.C., to deliver a design phase proposal to NECA in May 2021. That proposal is the foundation of our application and hopefully engenders DNR confidence that NECA has done its due diligence and is ready to execute upon award.

We recognize that the success of our design project ultimately depends on NECA's ability to secure the 'right' funding, contractor and county/state partnerships to **implement the design solution** created with a FY23 grant award. We are energized to not only manage the design project effort in a proactive manner (i.e., be effective stewards of the taxpayers' money), but also lay the important groundwork to ensure NECA is ready/able to implement the design. Rest assured that Shoreline committee members are motivated and excited to do what it takes to solve our community's problem, educate the rest of our small community of 117 homes in the process and hopefully serve as example for other communities facing similar challenges.

Finally, NECA is a Maryland non-profit that is registered (Department ID# D00159863), in compliance and in good standing with the Maryland Secretary of State.

I appreciate you giving our application serious consideration and look forward to your decision!

Regards,

Eve Shoemaker
President
Neeld Estate Citizens Association