

PETER A. DEFAZIO  
4TH DISTRICT, OREGON  
TRANSPORTATION AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
CHAIRMAN



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

June 1, 2021

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

- 2134 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3704  
(202) 225-6416
- 405 EAST 8TH AVENUE, #2030  
EUGENE, OR 97401  
(541) 465-6732  
1-800-944-9603
- 125 CENTRAL AVENUE, #350  
COOS BAY, OR 97420  
(541) 269-2609
- 612 SE JACKSON STREET, #9  
ROSEBURG, OR 97470  
(541) 440-3523
- defazio.house.gov

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chair  
House Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am respectfully requesting funding to support major maintenance construction on the Oregon International Port of Coos Bay North Jetty at the US Army Corps of Engineers' Coos Bay, Oregon Operations and Maintenance Project in the amount of \$32,720,000 within the Committee's Community Project Funding effort.

The Coos Bay North Jetty is losing approximately 20 feet every year and has receded more than 750 feet since it's construction. Not only does this cause dangerous conditions within proximity of the bar, it undermines the jetty's primary function, which is to protect the channel, and ensure efficiency in the dredging cycle. The deterioration of the North Jetty at the Port of Coos Bay also puts hundreds of millions of dollars of current and future non-federal investments at risk.

The deterioration of the Coos Bay North Jetty creates a very dangerous situation for commercial ships, commercial and sport fisherman, and recreational boaters. Lack of funding for this project not only puts mariners in harm's way, it impedes the U.S. Coast Guard's ability to carry out search and rescue missions. Unfortunately, this is not hypothetical – during the winter of 2016/17 three commercial fishing vessels were lost at the channel entrance, and people died. More recently, the local pilots have indicated that it is getting more difficult to navigate larger ships between the jetties because of increased cross currents caused by the loss of jetty length.

In Coos Bay, a fully functioning jetty will ensure the Port is able to maximize investments that have been made in their rail line, which provides a vital link for industries in the region, allowing them to move goods to domestic and international markets in a cost effective and environmentally sound manner. The industries that rely on the Coos Bay rail line employ nearly 1,000 people in rural Oregon with family wage jobs. A fully functioning jetty will also pave the way for future economic development – the Port of Coos Bay is currently working with the State of Oregon and the private sector towards widening and deepening their navigation channel, a project that will allow the port to attract a whole new class of shippers and allow Coos Bay to capitalize on opportunities currently unavailable to the region.

In sum, the requested \$32,720,000 for Coos Bay North Jetty major maintenance will save lives, and bolster investment and economic opportunity throughout the region.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter A. DeFazio". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Peter A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress  
4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Oregon