

PROJECT BRIEFING FORM

TOWN OF OLD LYME, CT

SOUND VIEW & MISCELLANEOUS TOWN AREA B, OLSBA, OCBCA, MBA, SEWER PROJECTS

Project Name

Town of Old Lyme's Sound View & Miscellaneous Town Area B, Old Lyme Shores Beach, Old Colony Beach and Miami Beach Associations Sewer Projects

Requesting Municipalities

Town of Old Lyme (Sound View and Miscellaneous Area B)
52 Lyme Street
Old Lyme, CT 06371



Miami Beach Association
P.O. Box 91
Old Lyme CT 06371



Old Lyme Shores Beach Association
18 St. Andrews
Glastonbury, CT 06033



Old Colony Beach Association
P.O. Box 10
Old Colony Beach
Old Lyme, CT 06371

Contact Names, Title, Email, Phone

Mr. Timothy Griswold, First Selectman
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860-434-1605

Mr. Frank Noe
Old Lyme Associations Cost Sharing Agreement Members Designated Representative
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P.O. Box 10
Old Colony Beach
Old Lyme, CT 06371
860-670-0425

Project Description

The Town's Sound View area and Miscellaneous Area B, Old Lyme Shores Beach Association ("OLSBA"), Old Colony Beach Association ("OCBA") and Miami Beach Association ("MBA") (jointly "the beach associations"), are located within the Town of Old Lyme ("Old Lyme"). The Projects are located south of Route 156 and bounded to the south by Long Island Sound (See Figure 8-1). The beach associations, with the exception of Sound View and Miscellaneous Area B which are Town controlled, were established through Special Acts enacted by the legislature during the 1930s and 1940s as special taxing districts. These special acts granted the respective boards of

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governors the power to, amongst other responsibilities, take action if there is endangerment of public health associated with wastewater. The Town of Old Lyme, in collaboration with the three private beach associations, is undertaking a regional coastal wastewater project to sewer Sound View, Miami Beach, Old Colony Beach, Old Lyme Shores, and other adjacent Town parcels to address failing on-site individual wastewater systems that discharge to the nitrogen-impaired Long Island Sound; these systems are failing due to unsuitable site conditions, limited lot size, and flooding (which is increasing with Sea Level Rise), and are immediately proximate to the Sound. The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Consent Order (AOWRMU 15002 dated June 2015) for the Town and Unified Consent Order COWRMU 18001 dated February 2018 for the three beach associations underscores the significant need for the project.

The projects are supported by a Coastal Wastewater Management Plan and Environmental Impact Evaluation/Record of Decision (ROD) that assessed alternatives to address the pollution concerns and recommended the regional alternative approved by CT DEEP in 2019. The regional project is collaborative with the Towns of East Lyme and Waterford and the City of New London via Intermunicipal Agreements to convey the sewage and to treat the flows at the New London Piacente Wastewater Pollution Control Facility. The Town has also entered into a collective cost-sharing agreement with the three private beach associations (Old Colony, Old Lyme Shores, and Miami Beach) to facilitate construction and collective use of the wastewater system infrastructure.

Project Goals, Objectives, and Benefitted Area

The overall goals of the project are to eliminate a significant source of nitrogen and other pollutants to the Long Island Sound. The Sound, an Estuary of National Significance, has been impaired by nutrients and is the subject of EPA's 2015 *Long Island Sound Nitrogen Reduction Strategy* which focuses on clean water in harbors, bays, coves, and other embayments to the Sound through efforts to remove nutrient pollution from urban stormwater and turf fertilizer, and from coastal on-site wastewater treatment systems such as septic systems. The Town's regional project advances the goals of the EPA Strategy.

Storm drainage improvements within the three beach associations will make the shorefront communities more resilient to existing flooding events and projected CIRCA sea level rise and climate change. Through implementation of these improvements flooding impacts will be reduced under extreme precipitation events and flooding will be evacuated more rapidly during severe events coincident with elevated tides.

Interconnection of a potable water supply to the Old Lyme area from Route 156 in East Lyme presents another potential benefit to the communities as a product of this project, which could include installation of water mains at the same time as the sewers. The Town of Old Lyme has a long history of inadequate water supply during high demand periods and concerns about water quality. Old Lyme is currently served by 43 separate public water systems, and it is a goal of the State and the Town to consolidate the public water infrastructure which will be controlled by Connecticut Water Company as a means to provide reliable safe drinking water to the community.

Economic Benefits

Long Island Sound contributes \$9.5 billion annually to the Connecticut economy – this project would protect the water quality of the Sound, thus protecting the State's benefit. We have found that hypoxia (oxygen depletion due to nitrification) in Long Island Sound has negatively influenced shellfish and aquatic life for many years, and projects like this, have tremendous benefit to nitrogen reduction. In addition, it is estimated that this entire

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Project will create more than 2,000¹ jobs in construction, engineering, and other related fields. Lastly, an independent real estate study demonstrated that home prices in sewerred shoreline areas escalate by as much as 25% over unsewered homes, increasing the grand list and bolstering the local economy.

Project Costs

By Resolutions dated September 20, 2019 through November 2019, the Town and the three beach associations authorized appropriation of \$43,520,000 to plan, design, and construct their seven (7) projects and to enter into a funding agreement with the State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for Clean Water Fund assistance. Applications were made May 1, 2020 and have been on hold pending State capitalization of the Fund. In November 2021 the Town and three beach associations filed requests for to continue listing the project on the FY22-23 Priority List. The delay in Clean Water funding, combined with Covid-related supply chain impacts, is leading to increased project costs and the total cost could escalate to as much as \$55,620,000 inclusive of resilient wastewater, roadway and stormwater improvements. To date, the Town and the three Beach Association partners have expended nearly \$4,100,000 to plan, design and permit these seven (7) projects which are "shovel ready" for construction.

Funding Request

Our funding request is to secure the difference between the original overall estimated costs of approximately \$43.5M and the new estimated cost of \$55.6M (approximately \$12,100,000) for these 7 "shovel-ready" projects

Project Schedule

Project Phase	Anticipated Start/Completion
Design (Preliminary and Final)	Completed
Permitting	Completed
Bidding Phase (6 of the 7 Projects have been bid to date)	June 2022/August 2022
Construction	September 2022/June 2024

¹ NACWA estimates that each \$1B in clean water infrastructure supports the creation of more than 47,000 jobs.

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