

RECEIVED

JAN 09 2023 (02)

WAYS & MEANS

December 27, 2022

The Honorable Bruce W. Bannister  
Chairman  
House Ways and Means Committee  
525 Blatt Building  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Chairman Bannister:

The City of North Myrtle Beach would like to thank you for your committee's continued commitment for ocean outfall replacement funding. Our city would not have been able to complete five outfall replacement projects without your appropriation of state funding. The cost to replace the existing Department of Transportation (SCDOT) outfalls continues to escalate and it is imperative for our state's tourism industry to maintain the highest level of water quality on our beaches.

The City of North Myrtle Beach stormwater outfall program began in 2002 with its initial pilot project installation. Twenty years later, the city has expended over \$60 million using local stormwater funds and state appropriations to complete each project. We are now executing our 6<sup>th</sup> outfall project installation on 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue North with total project costs exceeding \$35 million. We are now planning our 7<sup>th</sup> project on 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and the estimates for this project are \$40 million.

Relocating stormwater drains from the beach face to deeper water has proven to be the most cost-effective solution to coastal water quality and inland flooding issues. Stormwater outfall installations do not increase total stormwater volume reaching ocean waters but are combined and routed to a point offshore, replacing the existing SCDOT roadway drainage system on the beach.

Stormwater discharge into deeper water has been proven to reduce near shore bacteria levels and, therefore, reduce the potential for swimmer contact and illness. A water quality monitoring program has been implemented to verify these water quality improvements resulting from each outfall installation. The buried outfalls also reduce inland flooding, reduce damage to the beach renourishment projects, and improve safety on our public beaches.

The North Myrtle Beach outfall master plan (attached) has projected at least six additional locations will be required to complete removal of state drainage pipes from the beach within our city. Program completion is estimated to cost between \$200-\$250 million.

We are ready to proceed with design and permitting for two additional outfall locations, based on priorities identified in the master plan. However, we will require significant funding assistance to continue this important program. Thank you for your continued support.

Please reach out to my office if you have any questions or need additional details concerning our program.

Sincerely,

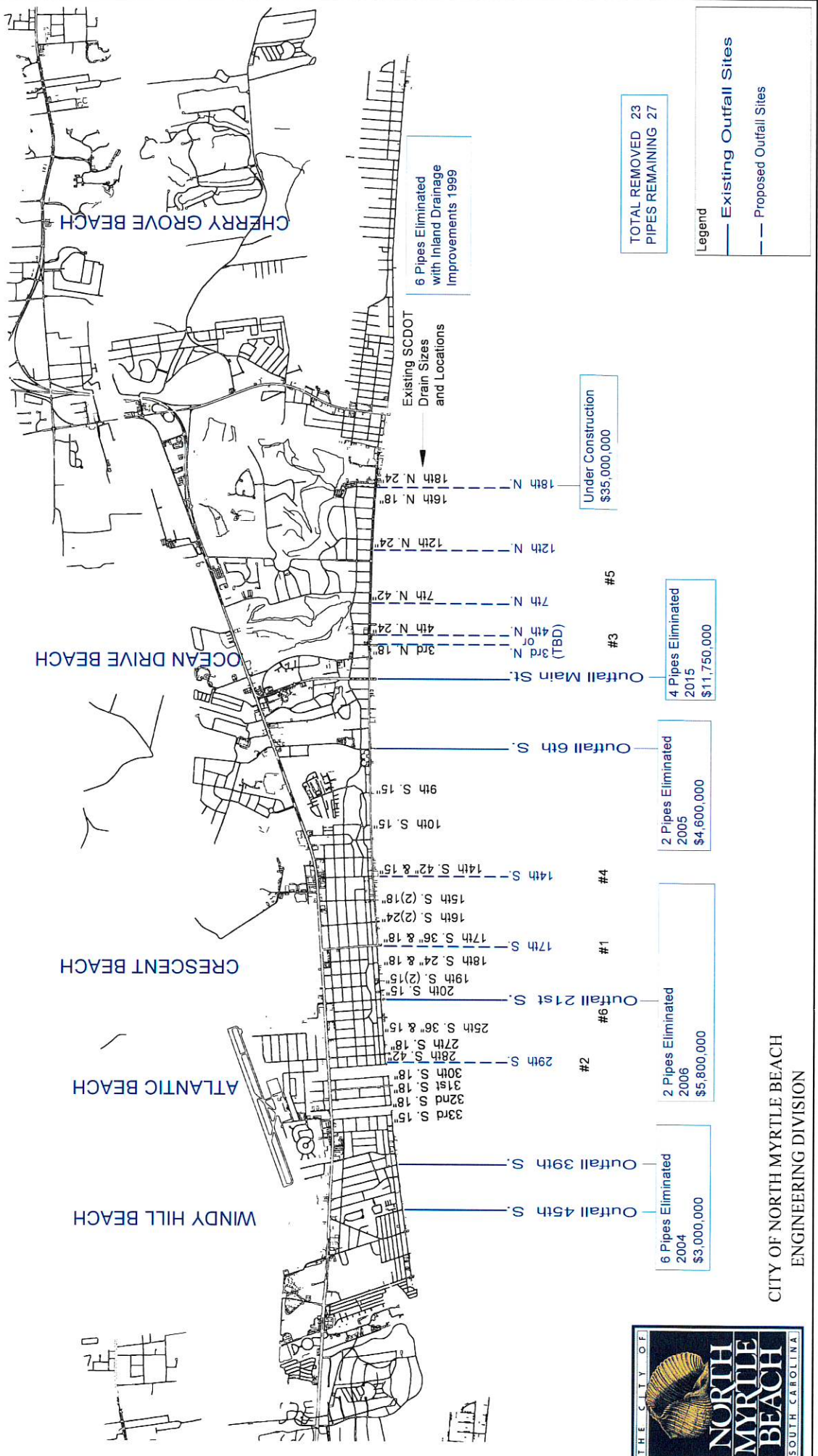
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marilyn Hatley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Marilyn Hatley  
Mayor, City of North Myrtle Beach

cc: Representative William Bailey

# CITY OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH

## LOCATION AND SIZE OF DRAINAGE PIPE ON THE BEACH



CITY OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH  
ENGINEERING DIVISION