



## 2020 VISION

### **Beaches Are Getting Smaller, and That's Exactly What's Supposed to Happen**

*(Full Article by Daniel Nee)*

This past summer gave us beautiful wide sandy beaches up and down the coast but some beaches appear to be diminishing in size. NOT TO WORRY say the Corps of Engineers. The size of the beach berm – the area between the end of the dune and the ocean – was built to be sacrificial, and the sand that appears to have been washed away hasn't gone far, and is still providing protection. You just can't see it!

During the fall and winter, the waves will start eroding the wide berm from the summer profile and will deposit that sand into an offshore bar. As that offshore bar builds, those waves will break on the bar dispersing the energy out there rather than the berm. In other words, much of the wave energy that would have pummeled local beaches, dunes and boardwalks during storms is absorbed offshore before it ever reaches land. (Dr. Harry Friebel, coastal expert with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.)

### **Beach Replenishment Update**

The FY19 Sandy Hook to Barnegat Inlet renourishment project, scheduled to begin this fall, includes portions of Sea Bright, Monmouth Beach and Long Branch. A contract has been awarded to Weeks Marine Inc. Also this fall, Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company is scheduled to complete periodic nourishment of the Cape May Inlet to Lower Township (Cape May City) Coastal Storm Risk Management project.

### **Partnership supports Living Shorelines Act (H.R. 3115)**

Congressman Pallone introduced this first- of-its-kind legislation in the House in June. The bill directs the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to award grants to state or local governments, Indian tribes, or nonprofit organizations to implement climate-resilient living shoreline projects; and encourage innovation in the use of natural materials to protect coastal communities, habitats, and natural system functions. Living shorelines provide a natural alternative or complement to 'hard' shoreline stabilization methods like stone sills or bulkheads, and provide numerous benefits including nutrient pollution remediation, essential fish habitat provision, and buffering of shorelines from waves and storms. Currently, there are more than 50 living shoreline projects underway or recently completed in New Jersey.

The Partnership sent a letter of support to the House Natural Resources Committee Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife and presented a statement in support of the bill at the Congressman's press conference in Keyport at a living shorelines site.

### **Partnership Stands Against Oil and Gas Drilling Along the Atlantic Coast**

Despite strong opposition from New Jersey's Congressional and State leaders and united support from environmental groups, the federal Administration continues its efforts to allow oil and gas drilling a few miles off the New Jersey coast. The potential for an oil spill at any point along the coast would be a devastating economic disaster to our and neighboring states, wiping out tourism, commercial fisheries, and the marine industry and destroy the ocean's marine life and ecosystems. The Partnership participated in a press conference in August in Long Branch to state our objection to the proposed plan.

### **Summer Celebration 2020 Headed Your Way!**

Never too soon to plan the traditional start of summer at the Jersey Shore. Mark your calendars for June 8, 2020, Fort Hancock, Sandy Hook, 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. Sponsorships and Ticket information at [www.jerseyshorepartnership.com](http://www.jerseyshorepartnership.com) and on our Facebook page.

It is our pleasure to announce that Frank and Valerie Montecalvo, Bayshore/Montecalvo Family of Companies, will be the Dinner Chairs. At the 2020 Summer Celebration, the Partnership Foundation will honor AtlantiCare, OceanFirst Bank, and SUEZ NA, representing the four shore counties of Monmouth, Ocean, Atlantic, and Cape May. We are off to a strong start!



*2019 Summer Celebration guests enjoying the amazing gourmet food selections.*

### **Wind Energy Comes to New Jersey**

Last June, The Board of Public Utilities (BPU) selected Ørsted, a Danish energy company, to build giant wind turbines 15 miles off the coast of Atlantic City that will generate 1,100 megawatts of offshore wind to power 500,000 homes. The approval is a major step toward fulfilling Gov. Phil Murphy's promise to install 3,500 megawatts of offshore wind by 2030. Watch its progress!

In addition to developing offshore wind, Ørsted will undertake other initiatives to advance renewable energy in the Garden State. The company has said it will invest \$15 million in a Pro-NJ Trust to offer support to small, women-owned and minority-owned businesses entering the burgeoning wind industry.

#### **DEP Focuses on Climate Change and Resiliency**

We are very pleased that the DEP has elevated its focus on climate change and resiliency initiatives and has named Dave Rosenblatt, formerly Assistant Commissioner of Engineering and Construction, to be Assistant Commissioner of Climate and Flood Resilience and the state's first Chief Resilience Officer. In addition to the Division of Coastal Engineering and the Division Dam Safety and Flood Engineering, Dave manages the Bureau of Flood Resilience Engineering and the Bureau of Climate Resilience Planning. This is a major commitment to move forward in resiliency planning for our coastline and back bays in a complex sea level rise and global warming environment. The Partnership lends its full support.

*Board members and guest networking at September 9 quarterly board meeting at Charlie's, Bay Head, where Dave Rosenblatt was guest speaker.*



#### **Funding for Shore Protection**

**A key initiative of the Partnership is passage of Senate bill S1614 and Assembly bill 826 to increase Shore Protection Funding from its current level of \$25 million (approved in 1998) to \$50 million. The need for additional funding only increases over time – it does not go away. Costs have accelerated over 20 years. Going forward, it will not be possible to meet our shared contract obligations with the Army Corps of Engineers and support state-funded municipal projects to protect our beaches and coastal**

environment. Your voice is important to your Legislators. Please reach out to them to support passage of our bills.

### **Partnership Welcomes 13 New Board Members**

Since our annual meeting in December, 2018, the Partnership has elected eight new board members and appointed five replacements for retiring members to provide the continuity of representation from the four shore counties and a cross-section of interest in coastal protection. The Partnership conducted an orientation session for new members hosted by Mayor Joe Mancini at the Long Beach Township Municipal Building in Brant Beach. **Our newest Jersey Shore Partnership Board members are:**

Sylvia Cioffi	Asbury Park Chamber of Commerce
Justin Chrepta	New Jersey American Water
Vicki Clark	Cape May Chamber of Commerce
Laura Conover	New Jersey Resources
Christopher Curcia	Investors Bank
Matt Doherty	Casino Reinvestment Development Authority
Lauren Goldfarb	Newport Capital Group
Dana Lancellotti	Ocean County Tourism & Business Development
Kelli O'Brien	Hackensack Meridian Health
John Peterson	Atlantic County Regional Planning & Development
Hon. Stephen Reid	Point Pleasant Beach

### **2020 VISION**

**Membership** in the Jersey Shore Partnership is your ticket (very well-priced) to ensure our mission as your advocate for beach protection and preservation today, tomorrow, and in the future. Here's how to become a member:

Go to [www.jerseyshorepartnership.com](http://www.jerseyshorepartnership.com). Membership page. Select the membership level best suited to your situation. Pay through PayPal, send a check (address below) or, if a not-for-profit, send a Purchase Order. We all love the Jersey Shore – we need to support it and the Jersey Shore Partnership – the organization that advocates for shore protection funding on your behalf.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

*Monmouth University Ocean Symposium, October 22, 2019*

*NJ Coastal Coalition Meeting, Egg Harbor Township, November 7, 2019*

*Dune Planting, Island Beach State Park, November 23, 2019*

*New Jersey Tourism Conference, Hard Rock Casino, Atlantic City, December 4 & 5*

*Partnership Annual Board Meeting and Reception, Atlantic City, December 10, 2019*

Thank you from our Board of Directors.

Margot Walsh

Executive Director

Jersey Shore Partnership

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