

Mayor Marston D. Lovell
Councilor Marshall Archer
Councilor Roger Gay
Councilor William P. Doyle



Councilor Lynn H. Copeland
Councilor Alan R. Minthorn
Councilor Micah Smart
Councilor Nathan D. Johnston

Whereas, During the nineteenth century, the primary purpose of the Saco River was the transportation of goods and services to the manufacturing industry and residents of coastal northern York and southern Cumberland Counties. The State of Maine accepted the benefit bestowed by Congress that the distance from the Lower Falls to the mouth of the Saco River would become a Federal channel and harbor. Congress and the President gave this responsibility to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with its duties as described by law.

Whereas, During the late Nineteenth Century and early Twentieth Century, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers advised Congress to broaden the navigational aids to the Saco River by employing jetties. Erosion caused by this construction was recognized nearly immediately and efforts were made during the early and mid-twentieth century to mitigate this erosion. This has not been successful for the North jetty.


Whereas, During the latter half of the twentieth century, Congress recognized the likelihood of erosion caused by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers navigational aids. A law was passed to require that the Corps correct these problems. At this point the Corps refused to acknowledge that the Saco River navigational aids were the problem.

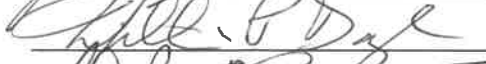
Whereas, During the latter half of the twentieth century, the public gained greater interest in the recreational uses of the Saco River and Saco Bay. Beach front amusements including a pier in Old Orchard built in the first half of the century saw increased activity. Despite the fact that only 70 miles of Maine's 3,500 miles of coast is beach, the state has become known as Vacationland. Erosion has become harmful to this resource as has the sand accretion at the northern end of Saco Bay at Scarborough.


Whereas, In 2006 an independent study on Saco Bay erosion commissioned by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers concluded that erosion north of the jetty was caused by the jetty. Despite evidence of damage from erosion north of Camp Ellis and damage from sand accretion at and south of Pine Point, the Corps restricted the impact of damage to 2,500 feet north of the jetty.


Be it Resolved that the City of Saco joins with its neighboring communities to ask that the state of Maine, through its Governor, seek sufficient Federal legislation to require the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to remedy the problems of sand erosion and sand accretion along Saco Bay at no cost to any municipality or the State of Maine.


PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACO THIS DAY OCTOBER 21, 2019.




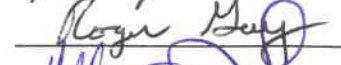















ATTEST:


Michele Hughes, City Clerk