



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
701 San Marco Boulevard
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32207-8175

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Programs and Project Management Division
Water Resources Branch

07 DEC 2017

The Honorable Gus M. Bilirakis
United States House of Representatives
2112 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0912

Dear Representative Bilirakis:

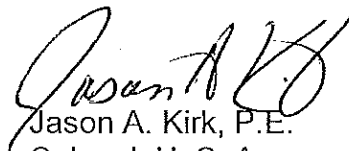
This is in response to your letter dated November 8, 2017, cosigned by five other members of the Florida Congressional delegation, expressing support for funding the authorized Anclote River dredging project.

Unfortunately, the fiscal year 2018 President's Budget does not contain funding for the Anclote River Project, thus, the Corps can take no action at this time. We continue to document a need for maintenance dredging of the Project.

My project delivery team has been in contact with Mr. Bob Robertson with the City of Tarpon Springs, as well as the United States Coast Guard and concur with your depiction of channel conditions. The City has offered to contribute up to \$300K to support Operation and Maintenance activities needed prior to dredging, such as permitting and environmental documentation. Our higher headquarters, South Atlantic Division in Atlanta, has approval authority for this Contributed Funds Agreement which will assist in preparations for maintenance dredging.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this letter, please feel free to contact me or Mr. Matthew Gapinski, Congressional Liaison at (904) 232-2243 or matthew.gapinski@usace.army.mil. An identical letter is being provided to each of the other signers of your letter.

Sincerely,


Jason A. Kirk, P.E.
Colonel, U. S. Army
District Commander