RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 23-26

PATRON: Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director
DATE: April 27, 2023

AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING FUNDS FOR LEESYLVANIA STATE PARK LIVING SHORELINE PHASE II PROJECT

WHEREAS, Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) defines living shorelines as “nature-based shoreline management practices that address erosion through the strategic placement of plants, stone, sand fill, and other structural and organic materials, intended to mimic a natural shoreline in looks and benefits”;

WHEREAS, living shorelines have also been identified in the 2021 Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan as an effective mechanism to mitigate flooding impacts and serve as a long-term adaptation tool to rising sea level along the coastal zone of Virginia;

WHEREAS, in 2016, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) partnered with Prince William County, VIMS, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Dominion Energy, and Leesylvania State Park to protect and stabilize a section of the park’s shoreline along the Potomac River against ongoing erosion and habitat degradation using living shoreline practices;

WHEREAS, the project was able to stabilize 800 linear feet of shoreline as well as enhance riparian buffer habitat and restore tidal-inlet marsh and beach habitat;

WHEREAS, NVRC proposes to continue these partnerships for the design and construction of a living shoreline along a second section of the park’s riverbank to further restore riparian vegetation, improve water quality for the Potomac River, and create habitat for aquatic and terrestrial species;

WHEREAS, in the fiscal year 2024 appropriations cycle, the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations is accepting requests from Senators on their funding priorities, including water and wastewater infrastructure improvement projects;

WHEREAS, NVRC has submitted a request of $922,525 for Congressionally Direct Spending funds to the offices of Senator Warner and Senator Kaine to support design and construction costs for the Leesylvania State Park Living Shoreline Phase II project;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northern Virginia Regional Commission authorizes the Executive Director to accept funds up to $922,525 from the Congressionally Directed Spending program for the living shoreline project, should the request be approved.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission on April 27, 2023.

ROBERT W. LAZARO, JR., CERTIFYING OFFICER