Mission Statement:

ASBPA is dedicated to preserving, protecting and enhancing our coasts by merging science and public policy.
Vision:

*Advocating for healthy coastlines*
Communications,
Outreach & Education
Communications:

/AmericanBeaches

@ASBPA

American-Shore-and-Beach-Preservation-Association
Awards:

Nominations due in **April**

Nominations due in **July**
Coastal Universities Guide:

https://asbpa.org/get-involved/coastal-universities-guide/
Coastal Summit
Online: 
March 23-25, 2021

National Coastal Conference
New Orleans, LA
Sept. 28-Oct. 1, 2021
Government Affairs
Our areas of Focus:

1. Funding
2. Expediting Project Delivery
3. Regional Planning
4. Regional Sediment Management

2020 Vision for our Coast: Infrastructure, restoration and research funding

In an era of unprecedented coastal hazards stemming from a changing climate and developed coastline, the federal government is woefully underfunding coastal resilience. A clear vision for our coast includes funding new infrastructure, restoration of ecological systems, opportunities to move vulnerable infrastructure and applied research. ASBPA’s 2020 vision includes:

Congress should:

- Invest in coastal resilience to protect communities.
- Investing in resilience is more cost effective than paying for rebuilding. Resilience funding should be directed toward natural infrastructure (including beaches, dunes and wetlands) and rebuilding the most vulnerable infrastructure in less risky areas. This will also improve communities’ ecology, recreation opportunities and economy.
- Any major infrastructure legislation should explicitly allow funding to be used for coastal, nature-based infrastructure (such as beaches, dunes and wetlands).
- Provide adequate appropriations for key coastal programs.
- There are many important federal coastal programs. In particular, Congress should appropriate:
  - $75 million for USACE Shore Protection.
  - $23 million for NOAA Coastal and Marine Geology Program (CMGP).
  - $77 million for NOAA Coastal Management Grants.
  - $46 million for USGS Coastal and Marine Geology Program (CMGP).
  - $50 million for NOAA Title IX Coastal Resilience Grants.
  - $5.7 million for BOEM’s Marine Minerals Program (MMP).
- Provide long-term coastal funding from coastal and offshore development.
  - The need for coastal restoration and protection will continue to grow as sea levels rise and development in the coastal zone increases. Regular and dedicated funding for coastal protection should be tied to new development, in particular any industrial development.
  - Increase existing sources of dedicated
Funding to Help Coastal Communities

With tourism and travel nearly completely shut down, beach communities have taken a major economic hit from coronavirus. The coastal restoration industry is having to deal with operational changes and clients who no longer have the funds to restore their beach or coastal areas.

Congress is working on a series of economic stimulus bills to help communities specifically impacted by the economic challenges of the coronavirus pandemic.

Share what policies or programs would help your community and/or industry?

How much would stimulus funding to each of the following programs help your community or industry?

- Social distancing through summer: Here's what we know about beaches, travel, camps and more.
- Senate Water Bills Need More Funding Due to Pandemic: Witnesses
- Advocacy Toolkit – Coronavirus support for beach communities
- End after stay-at-home orders are lifted, coastal beach operation departments across the country face concurrent challenges:
• House passed WRDA unanimously; Senate bill is through committee
  • House & Senate are working on “pre-conference”

• Bill includes provisions on:
  • Natural infrastructure (making it easier to build dunes, living shorelines, etc)
  • Beneficial Use of Dredged Material & Regional Sediment Management (every USACE district would need a public sediment budget)
  • Project modification authorization for:
    • Carolina Beach Integrated Beach Renourishment
    • Wrightsville Beach
Appropriations:

• FY2021: Continuing Resolution through Dec. 11
  • House passed Approps bills are mostly level funding, with very slight increases to a few USACE coastal programs.
  • Senate has not passed (or introduced) a single Approps bill

• Supplemental Appropriations likely to address wildfires and hurricanes.

• Follow up COVID/Economic recovery legislation also likely.
Local Funding for Coastal Projects
Goals

Review the evolution of funding policies, introduce considerations, and outline tools.
Funding Responsibility

Who pays what?
Local Funding Considerations

How to prepare to think about funding

• What factors influence the success of a funding strategy?
Population
- off-season vs on-season
- registered voters

Use Patterns
- Shoreline use
  - seasonality
  - user groups
- Land use
  - commercial vs residential
  - type of development

Demographics
- overall income levels
- percentage of owner-occupied structures
- average age

Tax Rates and Structure
- Ad valorem tax rate
- value of shore area properties in relation to city/county values
- hotel or occupancy tax rates
- history of state/local investment in shoreline

Community Characteristics
Factors impacting the funding discussion
Regional Characteristics

- Reducing local costs through:
  - Sand or sediment search investigations
  - Shoreline surveys
  - Environmental permitting
  - Numerical modeling
  - Mobilization costs
Local, State, Federal Partnership

Federal
- USACE 65%

State
- State Grants

Private
- Grants, Donations, Volunteers, Organizational Cost Share
Local Funding Tools and Practices
Tools

- Special Taxing Districts
- Erosion Control Districts
- Geologic Hazard Abatement Districts
- Inlet Management Districts
- Inland Navigation Districts
- Sales, Excise, and Use Taxes
- Tourism/bed/occupancy Taxes
- User Fees
Who can use these tools?
**Emerging Funding Tools**

- **Green Bonds**: Green bonds are a subset of conventional bonds. Their unique characteristic is the specification for the proceeds to be invested in projects generating environmental benefits.

- **Parametric Insurance**: A parametric insurance policy compensates the buyer based on measurable physical characteristics of storm being met or exceeded.

- **Resilience Bonds**: Resilience Bonds could become a new catastrophe bond-like product which provides funding for project-based risk reduction solutions.

- **Environmental Impact Bonds**: Environmental Impact Bonds (EIBs) are a pay-for-success debt financing mechanism, designed to reward superior outcomes and provide a means to involve local asset owners in aspects of funding the transaction.

- **Catastrophe Bonds**: Catastrophe bonds, or ‘cat bonds’, are financial instruments designed to help states, cities or other owners of large assets manage the financial risks associated with potentially devastating natural disasters and have been used by private and public sectors sponsors around the globe.

How to maximize the funds you have
So what’s next?
Complementary Publications

**Federal Funding Opportunities for Flood Resilience: A Guide for Small Cities** – American Flood Coalition

- Offers an overview of Federal and State funding options in quick one-page summaries

**Coastal Restoration Toolkit** – Restore America’s Estuaries and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

- Website providing information on funding, permitting, flooding, coastal erosion, water quality, and more.
Questions

• If you are interested in joining our Government Affairs Committee with calls every 3rd Thursday of the month, please let me know!

Annie Mercer

annie.mercer@asbpa.org