

September 6, 2019

To: The Community Preservation Committee

From: Amy Usowski, Conservation Administrator

Update on Red River Revetment Extension Project

The Community Preservation Committee and Town meeting graciously awarded \$100,000 to extend the revetment at the landward end of the jetty at Red River Beach landward approximately 55' to curb erosion that will compromise the integrity of the paved turn-around at the east end of the public parking lot as well as prevent further siltation of the mouth of the Red River.

The Town has obtained a permit with the Harwich Conservation Commission, and approval of the Harwich Waterways Committee to date for this project. The permitting is currently held up at the state level by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, who are questioning what exactly this landform is at the east end that we are proposing to add revetment to. I will be happy to discuss this more during my update to you on 9/12. Currently the project is not denied by the state, but is in limbo. The Town is trying to prove that this project will be a net environmental benefit, as the recent practice of adding sediment to the banking to protect the parking area is causing an increase rate of sedimentation to the river, prohibiting proper flushing. See photos below taken 9/4/2019, which show how much the mouth of the river has silted in.

I request that funding for this project be extended, in hopes of approval by the state.



