

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

VIVIAN VILORIA-FISHER
DEPUTY PRESIDING OFFICER
LEGISLATOR, FIFTH DISTRICT



COUNTY LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE CHAIR
PARKS AND RECREATION

COMMITTEE MEMBER
WAYS AND MEANS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HIGHER
EDUCATION AND ENERGY

October 30, 2009

Dear Members of the Community-based Marine Debris Removal Project Grants Review Committee:

I am writing in support of Coastal Steward's application for a *FY2010 Community-based Marine Debris Removal Project Grant*. If awarded this grant, Coastal Steward would remove approximately 1,800 abandoned lobster pots and over 60 miles of line from the bottom of the Long Island Sound.

With 20 years of experience in environmental restoration, the Coastal Steward has proven its effectiveness in improving the quality of the Sound. During previous operations, I have strongly supported the Coastal Steward's mission of improving our region's beaches and waterways. I have worked closely with its Executive Director David Johnson on beach cleanups and shellfish restoration projects and have watched his commitment to our treasured coastal resources be transcended into action.

It has been my pleasure to work with Coastal Steward in the past and will be in the future as I lend my hand to new endeavors sponsored by this organization. It is my hope that you will find Coastal Steward's mission and experience worthy of your support and this grant.

Sincerely,

Vivian Viloría-Fisher
Deputy Presiding Officer
Suffolk County Legislator, Fifth District

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