

From: Governor's Press Office [Governor'sPressOffice@eog.myflorida.com]
Sent: 10/27/2017 9:21:18 PM
Subject: WHAT THEY ARE SAYING: Florida Leaders Applaud Acceleration of Repairs to Herbert Hoover Dike



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 27, 2017

CONTACT: GOVERNOR'S PRESS OFFICE
(850) 717-9282
media@eog.myflorida.com

WHAT THEY ARE SAYING

Florida Leaders Applaud Acceleration of Repairs to Herbert Hoover Dike

NAPLES, Fla. – Today, Florida leaders applauded Governor Scott and President Donald Trump for the Administration's announcement to accelerate completion of the Herbert Hoover Dike at Lake Okeechobee. See more [HERE](#). This April, Governor Rick Scott spoke with President Donald Trump regarding the importance of fixing the federally operated Herbert Hoover Dike and received his commitment to fixing the dike. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Governor Scott also worked with the Florida Legislature this past summer to secure \$50 million in state funding to kick start critical repairs of the Herbert Hoover Dike.

Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart said, "I am grateful to Governor Scott and President Trump for this announcement regarding the Herbert Hoover Dike. This announcement exemplifies their continued commitment to the Everglades, Lake Okeechobee, and the surrounding communities. As founder and co-chairman of the Everglades Caucus, I am proud of the work we have accomplished in Congress to authorize and fund vital restoration projects. Getting these projects done in a timely fashion will preserve Florida's ecosystem and natural treasure."

Congressman Francis Rooney said, "I am thankful for President Trump's commitment to expediting dike repairs and look forward to continuing to work with the Administration, Governor Scott, and local stakeholders to bring this project to completion. The dike is a safety and flood control issue that effects thousands of Florida residents. Funding dike repairs, along with completing already approved CERP projects, has been my top priority. In the House, we were successful in achieving the highest level of federal funding ever for dike repairs in the FY 2018 appropriations bill. Bringing all concerned parties together in a united effort has been critical to our success and will be necessary as we move forward with securing appropriations that will finally fix our water quality issues."

Congressman Tom Rooney said, "Since coming to Congress in 2008, I have fought to increase funding for the desperately-needed repairs to the Herbert Hoover Dike. I am glad this Administration has been willing to work with our state and understands the need to expedite these repairs. I am

grateful for Governor Scott's advocacy and for his help in making sure we have President Trump as an ally when it comes to repairing Florida's waterways. I look forward to working with the Administration as they determine what funding will be provided to help the Army Corps actually expedite these repairs. This is a big win for the communities surrounding Lake Okeechobee and a critical part of Everglades restoration as a whole."

City of Clewiston Mayor Mali Soto Gardner said, "A heartfelt thank you to Governor Scott for being our champion in leading the state's efforts to expedite repairs to the Herbert Hoover Dike and securing this commitment from the Trump Administration. Lake Okeechobee and Florida's beautiful environment are some of our best resources and I applaud the Governor's efforts in preserving our natural habitats."

City of South Bay Mayor Joe Kyles said, "I'd like to thank Governor Scott for securing this important partnership with the Trump Administration to accelerate repairs to the Herbert Hoover Dike and advocating for the communities surrounding Lake Okeechobee. These communities have been patiently waiting for these repairs to be made for years, and this assistance from the federal government is game-changing."

City of Belle Glades Mayor Steve Wilson said, "The City Belle Glades really appreciate and applaud the efforts Governor Rick Scott's willingness to seek funding to expedite repairs on the Herbert Hoover Dike. As we all know, the repairs on the Herbert Hoover Dike should be a concern of all citizens."

Former Hendry County Commissioner Janet B. Taylor said, "I'm proud to support Governor Scott's commitment to expediting repairs needed to the Herbert Hoover Dike. The Governor's partnership with the federal government is an incredible resource for Florida families, especially on this important project. I look forward to continuing to work with him to invest in the protection of the Glades communities and all of south Florida."

###