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**CCOM PETITION DEMANDING SAND FOR MONTAUK'S DOWNTOWN BEACH
COLLECTS MORE THAN 1,100 SIGNATURES**

April 22, 2021, Montauk, NY – The petition started by Concerned Citizens of Montauk demanding the Army Corps of Engineers replenish Montauk’s downtown beach in 2021 as promised has received more than 1,100 signatures in the past 3 weeks. Laura Tooman President of CCOM said “the overwhelming support of our members and supporters to our petition on Change.org is further evidence of the need for the ACOE to address the reality of climate change and protect our downtown and its beaches with the sand that was promised as part of the Fire Island to Montauk Point project”. The recent FIMP construction proposal from the ACOE would delay the promised pumping of 450,000 cubic yards of ocean dredged sand on 6,000 feet of Montauk’s downtown beach, which was slated for late 2021, to 2023. “FIMP is an integral intermediate step in addressing the coastal resiliency of our vulnerable community and is part of a much larger, longer term comprehensive plan to protect the Montauk downtown area. CCOM has been deeply involved in the scientific understanding of Montauk’s coastline and in fostering the community’s development of long-term solutions such as sand replenishment and adaptive infrastructure planning to ensure the protection of Montauk and its beaches for generations to come” said Laura Tooman, “we look forward to seeing sand on the beaches this year”.