

## Kudos for coastal work

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To the Editor:

We would like to thank all members of the Board of Selectmen for their efforts to help alleviate the coastal flooding problem in the Sand Hills neighborhood by initiating the process to replace and update the Jericho Road drainage system.

Additional thanks go out to neighbors who signed the petition to rally around this project, those who granted necessary easements to allow it to happen and Department of Public Works/Engineering staff for taking on the arduous task of getting the project permitted by state and federal agencies, overseeing its progress and managing more than a few weather-driven setbacks throughout the duration of the work.

While the final touches on this project have not yet been completed, the operational aspect of this drainpipe was put to the ultimate test last week, thanks to an unwelcome series of high successive tides pounding the coast. The results were nothing less than impressive. One particular high tide left 2 1/2 to three feet of water in its wake, submerging vulnerable spots in the Sand Hills area.

Residents here know well that based on past experience, we typically sit in standing water for more than a few days before flood tides recede. In the wake of this enduring and unusual coastal event that coupled multiple high tides with elevated storm surges, the outcome for us was different. Thanks to this enhanced drainage system, the water from the devastating tide was gone in under eight hours. This area will always be subjected to coastal flooding, but knowing that relief from damaging tides and the standing water that follows will occur in a fraction of the time we have experienced in the past is more than comforting.

Thanks as well to DPW Highway Department for its efforts to fight a seemingly losing battle by attempting to clear roads and reinforce seawalls in between the six or seven high tides we experienced last week. Their efforts were appreciated and not without notice. Thanks to everyone who was involved in making the Jericho Road drainage project become a reality.

Bill and Mary Montanari  
Jericho Road