

LETTERS TO  
THE EDITOR**The Bottom Line**

I have read with great interest the story concerning a new proposal by a number of adjoining Quogue Village oceanfront property owners to band together to foot most of the cost to replenish the easternmost 1.1 miles of our oceanfront beaches ["Group Calls For Vote On Beach," August 23].

On the surface, it certainly seems a reasonable stab at resolving an obvious erosion problem, if not permanently, at least over the intermediate term. When this issue arose during one of my earlier terms as mayor, we bandied about several possible ways to fairly spread the cost of such a project within our village.

One idea, for example: Levy 50 percent of the cost, based on linear ocean frontage, on the oceanfront homeowners (obviously, with the most at risk), with another 25 percent to be borne by other Dune Road property owners, and the final 25 percent spread out among all other residents of the village—on the theory that everyone's home value is enhanced by a healthy beachfront.

The end result at that time: The beaches widened significantly shortly thereafter, and the perceived need "disappeared"—until Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

Bottom line: The erosion problem will never be solved by Mother Nature in a time of global warming, thereby making the proposal by the 51 property owners not only worth considering on its own merit but also as a substantial benefit to all of us in the village, thanks to the indisputable east-to-west drift of that sand over time.

**George Motz**  
Quogue

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