

Discussion Summary — Correspondence with Representative Gray’s Office Regarding Homeowner Advocacy and HOA Governance (August–September 2025)

This summary reflects correspondence regarding flood mitigation, homeowner advocacy, and government engagement related to Mallard Lakes Community Association. It is provided for historical context and should not be interpreted as an official statement, commitment, or policy position of the State of Delaware or any participating official.

Between August and September 2025, Simone Reba exchanged correspondence with representatives from the office of Ronald Gray regarding potential flood-mitigation efforts at Mallard Lakes, including the proposed variable flow floodgate concept and possible state or local funding pathways. Following an earlier discussion with Representative Gray’s office, Simone provided contact information for Mallard Lakes Board leadership involved in exploring the floodgate concept and shared information suggesting that DNREC funding programs, including existing RC&D allocations associated with Mallard Lakes, might potentially assist with future project costs if permitting and engineering requirements could be satisfied.

Subsequent correspondence from Representative Gray’s office acknowledged Simone’s research efforts and indicated that the office had also communicated with members of the HOA leadership regarding the project. Legislative staff explained that while the office remained supportive of identifying viable solutions and funding opportunities, future project management decisions and formal funding requests would ultimately need to proceed through the governing HOA Board and the relevant agencies overseeing any approved work.

In response, Simone clarified that she had always communicated with elected officials and agencies solely as an individual homeowner and not as a representative of the HOA Board. She emphasized her understanding that Delaware property owners retain the right to communicate with public officials regarding matters affecting their property, safety, and community well-being, including the ability to share independently gathered research regarding flood risk and potential mitigation programs. Representative Gray’s office subsequently confirmed that individual property owners remained welcome to contact the office and share concerns, while reiterating that formal project coordination, funding requests, and implementation decisions would continue to be handled through the HOA Board and the appropriate governmental agencies.