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[Slide Tom Rooney tr.png] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L4XbaWr8Cyc>

On the subject of earmarks, during Representative Rooney's town hall meeting in 2017, which due to the length I am paraphrasing, he said,\* "that he approved of earmarks because Washington bureaucrats in the Army Corp of Engineers were out of touch with the situation in the local areas, and would not do anything to help." The real world example he gave was of Manasota Key's beach needing renourishment.

[Slide Sand flea]

[https://78.media.tumblr.com/tumblr\\_m68k2z8i7T1qzt6f5o1\\_1280.jpg](https://78.media.tumblr.com/tumblr_m68k2z8i7T1qzt6f5o1_1280.jpg)

You have seen creatures that live on the beaches, like this Sand Flea,

[Slide Bulldozer on Beach bulldozer-on-beach.png]

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_IGrjT\\_n4iw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_IGrjT_n4iw)

that will get crushed if run over by the vehicles used for the renourishment process. Another such creature is this Fiddler Crab:

[Slide Fiddler crab fc.jpeg]

[http://archive.naplesnews.com/Services/image.ashx?  
domain=www.naplesnews.com&file=110919ns-gk-  
crab020\\_5020938\\_ver1.0\\_640\\_480.jpg&resize=](http://archive.naplesnews.com/Services/image.ashx?domain=www.naplesnews.com&file=110919ns-gk-crab020_5020938_ver1.0_640_480.jpg&resize=)

Representative Rooney appropriates funds for the Army Corp of Engineers. They crush such creatures as a result of being unconcerned with the local Fauna and because they are restoring the beaches.

[Slide Bulldozer on Beach bulldozer-on-beach.png]

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_IGrjT\\_n4iw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_IGrjT_n4iw)

You will notice that there are no rocks in this picture, just sand being used to restore this beach.

As you may have seen when looking at the side of a house with a dirt yard or a gutter after rainfall and noticed that the sand has washed away leaving the rocks showing.

[Slide Waterfall] [https://2.bp.blogspot.com/-  
nhsmdVMu\\_4k/TwbK81RuvZI/AAAAAAAAAVs/CD3PeZ9E-  
uk/s1600/Beautiful+Waterfall+Wallpapers+HD+3.jpg](https://2.bp.blogspot.com/-nhsmdVMu_4k/TwbK81RuvZI/AAAAAAAAAVs/CD3PeZ9E-uk/s1600/Beautiful+Waterfall+Wallpapers+HD+3.jpg)

You can see that the same is true of this waterfall. The rocks are the only thing keeping the hill from whence the water falls from collapsing. Thus you can conclude that Florida retains its sand because of its rocks. Therefore,

Representative Rooney is funding the restoration of our beaches into a non-natural, man made creation doomed to ruin due to the flawed design. This does not make him a bad person, it does recommend to us that a more informed and locally regulated process would yield better results.

[Slide Raptor perches]

You have seen where birds perch, they choose high places. The pictured raptor perches look to be 15 feet high, which makes hunting difficult due to the lack of range they can see from such a short perch. As you can see from many images of Mosaic's "reclaimed" land, even more disconcerting to them will be the lack of prey to go after.

[Slide wild-FL-rabbit.jpg]

<http://huntersphotography.zenfolio.com/img/s3/v45/p118233147-5.jpg>

You may have seen a rabbit in your backyard like this one. As you may have experienced yourselves, being prey animals, rabbits are quite stressed when you approach them. A wild rabbit can easily die from such stress. As you may have already ascertained, the noise, traffic, and habitat destruction will send many to an untimely demise.

[box-trap.jpg] [https://3.bp.blogspot.com/--](https://3.bp.blogspot.com/--f8I7c7oQPg/TdgtFmudscI/AAAAAAAAAfw/5oy7yIk2Zrk/s1600/photo%255B5%255D.jpg)

[f8I7c7oQPg/TdgtFmudscI/AAAAAAAAAfw/5oy7yIk2Zrk/s1600/photo%255B5%255D.jpg](https://3.bp.blogspot.com/--f8I7c7oQPg/TdgtFmudscI/AAAAAAAAAfw/5oy7yIk2Zrk/s1600/photo%255B5%255D.jpg)

The above trap, as you well know, is both affordable and practical for even this small child to utilize for the capture and safe transportation of such creatures as rabbits. Surely Mosaic with their vast resources can be expected to do so much more than this young child.

[Paper Recycling steps]

<http://www.time4english.com/aamain/images/2004/wac7.gif>

You're probably familiar with the typical recycling steps used for wood. The steps for recycling electronics are a little different and the chain is only in its infancy\*.

[Slide Electronics recycling]

<https://d1ulmmr4d4i8j4.cloudfront.net/static/images/org/recycling/circular-economy.png>

Mosaic's mining efforts unearth several toxic elements that they leave to be removed by a later generation, or to be spilled due to lack of proactive measures to prevent leakage and a lack of a toxic waste containment strategy.

[Slide Elements that are in cell phones]

<https://d1ulmmr4d4i8j4.cloudfront.net/static/images/org/recycling/elements.png>

David Niklas

Inside our electronics you know there are materials that are toxic such as arsenic, mercury, and lead that are not easily reclaimed. The BBC reported on a story called "Apple, Samsung and Sony face child labour claims"\* about how mining of these elements is done by children. Perhaps Mosaic could refine and sell several such elements from their waste.

[Slide patent.jpg]

[https://thenextweb.com/wp-](https://thenextweb.com/wp-content/blogs.dir/1/files/2013/11/shutterstock_104939711.jpg)

[content/blogs.dir/1/files/2013/11/shutterstock\\_104939711.jpg](https://thenextweb.com/wp-content/blogs.dir/1/files/2013/11/shutterstock_104939711.jpg)

Mosaic, like all companies, can patent their trade secrets thus protecting their intellectual property. There is no need for this closed system which holds back innovation and fosters bad practices. One can, therefore, only guess how the mining process itself could be improved.

[Slide dream]

<https://athicketofmusings.files.wordpress.com/2014/11/mlk-i-have-a-dream.jpg>

I realize that what I have proposed for solutions is theoretical in spots. But can you support a system dedicated to our ruin when there are unrealized alternatives that still allow mining, just at a later date with another method and perhaps another company?

[Busy man in office building bmiob.jpg]

[http://il3.picdn.net/shutterstock/videos/7370050/thumb/1.jpg?](http://il3.picdn.net/shutterstock/videos/7370050/thumb/1.jpg?i10c=img.resize(height:160))

[i10c=img.resize\(height:160\)](http://il3.picdn.net/shutterstock/videos/7370050/thumb/1.jpg?i10c=img.resize(height:160))

I do not claim that Mosaic consists of only evil people. Like Representative Rooney, these people, tucked away in their offices are not necessarily evil, rather they suffer from not being in solidarity with the local people and the local environment. They can learn to be more responsible with the powers at their disposal.

Thank you.

\* Here is the full quote (The video recording is on youtube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L4XbaWr8Cyc>):

We, we [congress] stopped doing earmarks when I, in my second term because there were a lot, a lot of bad apples. By a lot I mean 5 to 10 people that were doing things wrong. They were, they were giving earmarks to private companies and then those companies would be hosting fund raisers for them and then giving them a kickback in that regard. And so we stopped, we stopped doing, we stopped doing earmarks because we said "We as your elected official cannot control ourselves."

David Niklas



So, the first 2 years of Manasota Key was loosing sand on their beach and needed the Army Corp to come in to renourish the beach so the buildings wouldn't fall into The Gulf. I could tell the Army Corp you need to do this and it needs to start tomorrow. Some of you may have been at our [uh] town hall at Manasota Key when we were talking about beach renourishment and the Army Corp was there and said that, "We're going to start a 3 year study." This is a place where buildings are falling into the gulf. I don't think a 3 year study is going to make a those people happy. So, why can't I as your elected official...

You all pay tax dollars to the federal government. You send me, I'm sure most of you voted for me. You send me. Hold on. You send me to Washington to represent you and part of that representation is to say, "Hey, you know, my condo is falling into the ocean," or, ah, "River road is too narrow," or whatever I, we, we need this fixed. And so I say "Ok, you guys pay your federal tax dollars, you send me up to Washington, now it is my job to bring those federal tax dollars back to you." That's how it is supposed to work. The founding fathers said that.

[He was rudely interrupted.]

Yes they do. And, and tha.

[He was rudely interrupted again.]

Wha'd you say? Ok, guys let me finish the question.

The founding fathers put specifically in The Constitution that the congress shall, uh, appropriate funds and, and, and, uh, collect uh, taxes. So literally the only only 2 things they say in the comities that congress should be doing is taxing, a collecting taxes and, and spending them back out uh, and then they specifically innumerate article 1 section 8 what those things are supposed to be. Like raising supporting tha navies and tha post office and, and uh, armies and stuff like that. So, my point is this, is that if we, if we, keep going down that road that it looks good for us tu, tu self deprecate, or to not allow us to represent you, why? Because I can say to you when I'm running for reelection, "I don't take earmarks, aren't I great?" And your like, "Yeh, because that's gonna help with spending right?" Well guess what, the piece of the pie that talks about, ah, annual spending is very minuscule and it still gets spent by the executive branch whether it is Obama, or Bush, or Trump, or Clinton, whoever, they still spend that money, we have not shrunk the pie. We are not spending less. The people that are deciding whether or not Manasoto Key gets renourished or River road gets widened is some career Washington bureaucrat that is not accountable to you. I could only ask them to do this for you and they can tell me to go jump in The Gulf.

So, this the kind of example of how we, for the sake of getting reelected make ourselves look bad to say that, "Hey, we're not that bad we're not even allowed to do earmarks anymore," but the people that really get hurt by doing this stuff is you.

\* <https://ifixit.org/recycling>

\* "Apple, Samsung and Sony face child labour claims":  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-35311456>

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