

**Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3-D**

P.O. Box 40486
Palisades Station
Washington, D.C. 20016

March 30, 2012

Mr. Peter May
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

Dear Mr. May:

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3D reaffirms its support for protecting the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park from private development—this time in reference to the non-motorized boathouse feasibility study that the National Park Service is conducting. The boundaries of our organization extend from Georgetown to the Maryland line and include the Potomac River.

Our Advisory Neighborhood Commission has gone on record with regard to ensuring the public trust of this Federal parkland. We urge the National Park Service to preserve the wooded area—the tidal floodplain just upstream of the Washington Canoe Club—land that belongs to everyone. We favor open accessibility to the property and its stewardship by the National Park Service.

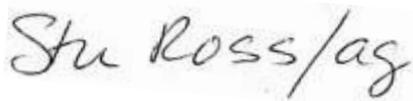
We recommend that the Park Service expand the boathouse study zone downriver to the built environment of Thompson's Boat Center and other locations, looking to long-term growth as the Potomac River, the C&O Canal, the towpath, and the Capital Crescent Trail attract increasing numbers of people seeking recreational activities.

Along with enjoying the C&O National Historical Park for its opportunities for running, hiking, birding, bicycling, and boating—with Fletcher's Boat House a neighborhood amenity—our community participates in removing invasive species, conducting bird censuses, and monitoring runoff and floods. We care about this park.

The green space of the C&O National Historical Park is precious to our community. We value its character and quality, recognizing the restorative effect of nature—peace and quiet and woods and water. The historic achievement of Justice Douglas decades ago in preventing the conversion of the land in the nation's capital to a highway is a legacy that we seek to ensure.

We support the conservation mission of the National Park Service.

Sincerely,



Stu Ross, Chair