

September 27, 2005

Dear Ms. Mainella:

I am writing to urge the National Park Service to conduct a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that is broad in scope and incorporates the impacts of the several pending proposals for major changes and new development on the Georgetown Waterfront, including the proposed Georgetown Boathouse, redevelopment at 34th and K Streets, and the proposal to remove the Whitehurst Freeway. All of these proposals if implemented will have a significant impact on the human environment of a compact, yet highly visible, section of the Potomac River waterfront and National Park. A piecemeal approach to consideration of the environmental impacts of these various projects will not adequately meet the spirit, intent, or letter of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

We want to express our appreciation to both Joe Lawler and Kevin Brandt for their leadership in addressing the many environmental issues facing our National Parks in the Capital region. We recognize that it is indeed challenging to find a balance between the needs of the local community, the public interest, the National Park, and environmental considerations. We hope that you will work in partnership with Mr. Lawler and Mr. Brandt as well as the community to undertake a thorough examination of the alternatives, cumulative environmental impacts, and public concerns regarding all of these proposals on the Georgetown Waterfront.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns regarding this important issue.

Sincerely,

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