



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION
Saving a National Treasure

March 22, 2011

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The Honorable Molly Ward, Mayor
City of Hampton
22 Lincoln Street
Hampton, VA 23669

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BAY CARE CHAPTER

Dear Mayor Ward:

On behalf of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF), I wish to extend our sincere appreciation for your leadership and commitment to preserving the nationally significant historic Fort Monroe and the Old Point Comfort peninsula. Furthermore, I wish to extend CBF's full support for establishment of a Fort Monroe National Park/Monument. We concur with the principles of the Citizens for a Fort Monroe National Park (CFMNP), the Chesapeake Conservancy, and other local, regional, and national organizations regarding a proposed boundary that provides for protecting the national resources of the Old Point Comfort peninsula and surrounding waters.

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In 2009, CBF staff toured Fort Monroe with Mr. William Armbruster and Ms. Kathleen Kilpatrick to evaluate natural resource restoration potential within the Old Point Comfort peninsula and surrounding waters. At that time, CBF identified numerous opportunities for the protection and restoration of riparian and aquatic resources essential to restoration of the water quality of Mill Creek and the Chesapeake Bay. CBF provided recommendations to Mr. Armbruster and Ms. Kilpatrick in a letter dated June 16, 2009. We maintain that the Old Point Comfort peninsula and Mill Creek provide tremendous potential for riparian buffer restoration and demonstration, living shoreline creation and demonstration, stormwater innovations, and oyster restoration. These restoration practices would serve to assist the City of Hampton and the Commonwealth of Virginia in reducing polluted runoff to meet local and Chesapeake Bay water quality standards.

We again applaud your efforts to secure protection of Fort Monroe. CBF supports principles advanced by CFMNP and the Chesapeake Conservancy regarding the proposed boundary to ensure we take full advantage of this tremendous opportunity. If you have any questions regarding CBF's position on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Ann Jennings at 804/780-1392 or Christy Everett at 757/622-1964.

Sincerely,

Ann F. Jennings
Virginia Executive Director

Christy Everett
Hampton Roads Director

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cc: William A. Armbruster, Fort Monroe FADA
Joanne Berkley, CFMNP
Charles A. Stek, Chesapeake Conservancy
Joy M. Oakes, National Parks Conservation Association
Doug Siglin, CBF
Roy Hoagland, CBF