



PRESERVATION VIRGINIA

17 March 2011

The Honorable William A. Armbruster
Executive Director
Fort Monroe Authority
Old Quarters #1, 151 Bernard Road
Fort Monroe, VA 23651

Dear Bill:


Thank you for your leadership to protect the remarkable history and beauty of Fort Monroe and the Old Point Comfort Peninsula for this and future generations. As you know, Preservation Virginia listed Fort Monroe on our 2007 Endangered Sites List and highlighted the opportunities for Fort Monroe at our 2010 Virginia Preservation Conference held in Hampton. We continue to share an interest in a sustainable solution for the preservation of this national treasure.

In anticipation of the task force meeting this Friday, I write to affirm the points of agreement that have been in discussion with other advocacy organizations concerning the future of Fort Monroe:

1. The boundary of the proposed National Park unit should encompass the entire 565-acre National Historic Landmark. The NPS and FMA should establish an innovative Partnership Park to share the responsibility to manage Fort Monroe and Old Point Comfort.
2. The Park Service should manage the open space constituting approximately 196 acres north of the Wherry Quarter that is designated for parks and recreation in the Fort Monroe Reuse Plan.
3. The NPS and FMA should share responsibility for management of the Wherry Quarter. New development in the Wherry Quarter should require NPS and FMA approval. Importantly, the NPS and FMA should maintain a substantial "green," park-like corridor through the Wherry Quarter to allow pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular movement and to retain the connections between the fortress area and the open space.
4. The NPS should own and control the following elements of the historic building stock at Fort Monroe:
 - a. The fortress, including the casements, moat, moat walk, and Water Battery as well as the immediate environs of the fortress;
 - b. Building 1, Building 50, Building 17, and the Parade Ground;
 - c. The Arsenal; and,
 - d. The Endicott period batteries Irwin and Parrott and the immediate environs of these batteries.

I hope our observations are helpful as your task force moves forward. We believe that through this kind of partnership and with the safeguards offered by the Programmatic Agreement and the Reuse Plan, the future of Fort Monroe and its sustainability can be ensured.

With best regards,


Elizabeth S. Kostelny
Executive Director

PRESERVATION VIRGINIA

204 West Franklin Street • Richmond, Virginia 23220-5012 • 804.648.1889 • (f) 804.775.0802 • www.preservationvirginia.org
Connecting people and resources to ensure the continued vitality of Virginia's historic places