

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 5, 2011

The Honorable Jonathan Jarvis
Director
National Parks Service
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Director Jarvis:

We write today to express our strong interest in the Fort Monroe site, located in Hampton, Virginia. As you are aware, the Fort Monroe site is included as part of the Army's Base Closure and Realignment (BRAC) process and is scheduled for closure in September 2011.

In September 20th correspondence from your Northeast Regional Director Dennis Reidenbach, he notes a 2008 reconnaissance study "concluded that resources associated with Fort Monroe are nationally significant and likely to be found suitable for potential designation as a unit of the national park system." Following the completion of the site's "reuse plan," the letter goes on to state "the current NPS team concludes that criteria for the establishment of units of the national park system could likely be met at Fort Monroe."

Given this assessment, taking into account the interests of the Fort Monroe Authority as expressed during their recent board meeting, and building upon the very productive September 22nd meeting we had with you and representatives of the U.S. Army, we ask for your assistance in drafting legislative language to authorize Fort Monroe as a unit of the national park system. We ask that you structure any proposed bill based on the comments provided in the September 20th letter from Regional Director Reidenbach.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please feel free to contact us or our staffs on this timely matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Webb
United States Senator



Mark Warner
United States Senator