

Ltr 06-04

Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3F
North Cleveland Park ■ Forest Hills ■ Tenleytown

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February 13, 2006

The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton
United States House of Representative
2136 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Federal Funding for Restoration of Peirce Mill

Dear Congresswoman Norton:

At a duly noticed public meeting on February 13th 2006, ANC 3F voted 6-0-0 with a quorum present to support the request of the Friends of Peirce Mill for \$250,000 in federal funding toward completing the restoration of historic Peirce Mill located within Rock Creek Park. The mill is within the boundary of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3F.

Since 1997, the Friends of Peirce Mill have worked diligently to raise the \$1 million needed to restore the mill, a major attraction in Rock Creek Park. Completion is scheduled for fall 2007. To date, the Friends have been able to raise a little more than half of the necessary funds, almost all from private sources. Even though Peirce Mill is federal property located in a National Park, less than 8% of the funding has come from the National Park Service. The Friends are seeking \$250,000 in additional federal funding to supplement their exemplary citizen effort. They are prepared to match federal funding dollar for dollar with the aid of foundations that have supported the project through the years.

Peirce Mill has been closed to visitors for much of the time since the mill's main shaft rotted and failed in 1993. In 2003, the mill was closed completely so that damaged machinery could be removed and the floors repaired. With sufficient funding, the gears could be turning again by the fall of 2007. When restored, Peirce Mill will be the only operational mill within the District of Columbia. We thank you for your help with this important project for District residents and visitors to our Nation's Capital.

Sincerely,

/s/ Cathy Wiss
Chair, ANC 3F