



August 10, 2011

Tammy Madigan  
2048 Douglass Boulevard  
Louisville, Kentucky 40205

Re: Hogan's Fountain TeePee Pavilion

Dear Ms. Madigan

The Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association is pleased to support the Save the Hogan's Fountain TeePee Pavilion campaign and applauds the significant efforts that you and your team of volunteers have put forth to save this uniquely designed and revered structure.

As residents of a neighborhood that borders both Cherokee and Seneca parks, we are fortunate to live within walking distance of an Olmsted designed park system and feel emotionally connected to them. We value the numerous benefits provided by the parks and believe that gathering places such as the TeePee and Big Rock Pavilions greatly support Olmsted's fundamental philosophy that parks should "...bring people of all classes together to interact and gain a sense of community". Fred Fact, Olmsted Parks Conservancy web site, 2011.

Our prime fundraiser, the Highlands-Douglass Big Rock Jazz and Blues Fest, held every October at the Big Rock Pavilion, gives testament to the philosophy of Olmsted. We believe this location, with its beautiful setting and various amenities, is essential to the success of our event. We understand firsthand the impact gathering places can have on park events and the major role they play in adding to the vitality and well-being of the community.

HDNA believes that preserving the look and feel of the past is an important mission that is essential to maintaining the historic significance and character of the area. Regardless of period or style, we believe that architecture gives meaning to the community and when threatened, alternative solutions and public opinion must be considered before change occurs that would alter what is familiar and necessary to the community.

As supporters of the Olmsted Parks Conservancy, we acknowledge their invaluable contributions to the community and are grateful for their tireless efforts to promote and protect the Olmsted legacy. While we understand that the TeePee Pavilion is not a part of the original 1890s Olmsted design, we believe that its presence has had a noteworthy effect on the community and that it is exceptional in its own right. Its aesthetic appeal and functionality have made it a prime gathering place for generations, showcasing the Olmsted vision for the area. It has become an iconic Louisville destination and an important part of our history.

We urge the Metro Parks Department to reconsider its 2009 Master Plan for the Cherokee Park area which recommends the demolition and replacement of the TeePee Pavilion and call upon members of Metro Council to recognize the overwhelming public outcry to restore and preserve this important architectural masterpiece. Furthermore, we support the landmark nomination of the TeePee Pavilion and encourage the Metro Landmarks Commission to vote in favor of an Individual Landmark designation.

Sincerely,



Andrew J. Douds  
President, Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association

cc:

The Honorable Mayor Greg Fischer  
Mike Heitz, Metro Parks Director  
Jim King, Metro Council President  
Tom Owen, Councilman  
Richard Jett, Metro Landmarks Commission