

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 24, 2010

Jonathan B. Jarvis
Director
National Park Service
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 3112
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Director Jarvis:

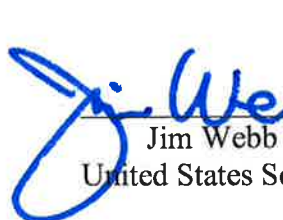
As you know, the U.S. Army is scheduled to transfer ownership of Fort Monroe to the Commonwealth of Virginia in September 2011. The Virginia Congressional Delegation has been working closely with the Army, the Fort Monroe Federal Area Development Authority (FMFADA), the City of Hampton, and regional National Park Service (NPS) officials to ensure the smooth transition of ownership. To provide technical insight and assist in the planning process of the new Fort Monroe, we respectfully request you work with the FMFADA in developing a possible role for the NPS at Fort Monroe.

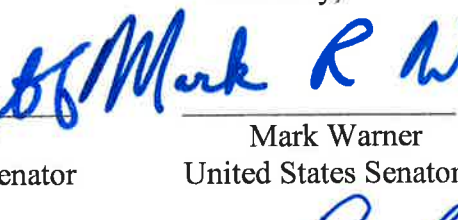
On May 30, 2008, the NPS completed a reconnaissance study for Fort Monroe. The report analyzed Fort resources to determine if a congressionally-authorized special resource study was warranted. At that time, the report was unable to reach a conclusion regarding feasibility or the need for NPS management.

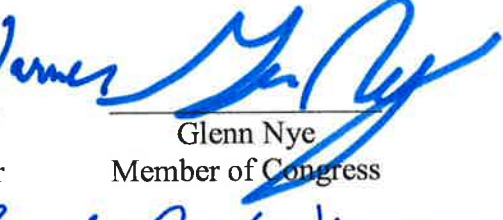
Since that time, the FMFADA has developed and submitted to the Department of Defense a reuse plan for the Fort. The overall strategy is to preserve historic assets, keep the site open to the public, seek economic sustainability, and provide a role for the NPS. To achieve successful implementation of this strategy we request the NPS undertake a more specific resource and capability assessment and provide technical assistance to the FMFADA to define a logical NPS park role. We have notified the FMFADA and understand that they are welcoming of your open participation in discussions regarding possible NPS roles in management and operation of the property.

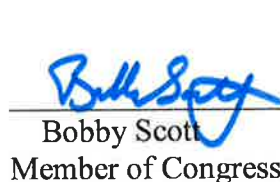
Thank you for your continued assistance with development of the new Fort Monroe. Your continued support is critical to this process and to protect Fort Monroe as a National Historic Landmark. We hope you will consider this with appropriate speed and urgency in light of the time sensitive nature of the closure of Ft. Monroe.


Sincerely,


Jim Webb
United States Senator


Mark Warner
United States Senator


Glenn Nye
Member of Congress


Bobby Scott
Member of Congress


Robert Wittman
Member of Congress