



National Parks Second Century Commission
1250 Connecticut Ave, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
202.261.6508

February 2, 2009

Dear Colleague:

On behalf of the National Parks Second Century Commission, I would like to invite you and your members to share with us your vision for the future of the national parks.

The National Parks Second Century Commission is a first-in-a-generation effort to examine the national parks today, and chart a vision for their second century of service to the nation. The Commission consists of nearly 30 national leaders and experts with a broad range of experience, including scientists, historians, conservationists, academics, business leaders, policy experts, and retired National Park Service executives.

The Commission has been convened by the non-profit, non-partisan National Parks Conservation Association, the leading voice of the American people in protecting and enhancing our National Park System

During 2008 and 2009, the National Parks Second Century Commission has scheduled five meetings to gather information from subject-matter experts and park managers, culminating in a report with recommendations to Congress and the Obama Administration in fall 2009.

The Commission has recently announced three public “town meetings,” open forums where the general public is invited to provide input on issues affecting the national parks. Those public meetings will be held:

- February 20, 2009, in Washington, D.C., from 9 AM – 12 PM at National Geographic, 1145 17th Street NW
- February 24, 2009, in San Francisco, Calif., from 5 PM - 8 PM, at the Fort Mason Center, entrance at the intersection of Marina Blvd. and Buchanan St.
- March 4, 2009, in Chicago, Ill., from 2–5:30 PM at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington Street

We are inviting you and your organization’s members to participate in these meetings, or to offer input through the Commission’s website at: www.visionfortheparks.org. Prior to the meeting we will be posting some key questions that we’ll be asking people to offer their thoughts on. Please check the website for these questions.

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We hope you will publicize these meetings widely through your publications and your website.

On behalf of all the members of the Commission, thank you for your support and contribution to the future of America's national parks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Loran Fraser", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Loran Fraser
Staff Director