



# City of North Port

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## Office of the City Manager

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December 18, 2019

The Honorable John Holic  
Mayor  
City of Venice  
Venice, FL 34285

Dear Mayor Holic:

On November 13, 2018, the City Commission for the City of North Port unanimously passed Resolution No. 2018-R-30 which strongly encourages the United States Congress to create a reliable, predictable stream of resources to address deferred maintenance needs in America's National Park System. The City of North Port requests that you adopt and transmit a similar resolution of encouragement to your organization's congressional representatives.

America's National Park System is a living testament to our citizens' valor, our nation's hardships, our victories, and our traditions as Americans, and has been called "America's Best Idea." The National Park System preserves the diversity, culture, and heritage of all Americans, and serves as a living classroom for future generations.

In 2016, the National Park Service celebrated its centennial and currently manages more than 400 nationally significant sites and an invaluable collection of more than 75,000 natural and cultural assets that span 84 million acres across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several U.S. territories and insular areas. The National Park Service's mission is "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

In 2017, the National Park System had more than 331 million visits and its estimates indicated that park visitors spent more than \$18.2 billion at the site and in the state and local communities adjacent to national parks.

The National Park Service estimated in 2017 a deferred maintenance backlog of nearly \$11.6 billion, which includes repairs to aging historical structures, trails, sewers, drainage, thousands of miles of roads, bridges, tunnels, and other vital infrastructure. It is the responsibility of Congress to maintain America's national parks to ensure our natural places and our history is preserved and documented for future generations, and for the adjacent communities that rely on the direct and indirect economic benefits generated by visits to national park sites.

Sincerely,

Peter D. Lear, CPA, CGMA  
City Manager

PDL/srt