

Town of Mount Pleasant



Harry M. Hallman, Jr.
Mayor

January 29, 2009

The Honorable Henry E. Brown
United States Congress
1124 Longworth House Building
Washington, DC 20515-0001

Dear Congressman Brown,

I am writing today in support of a request for funds sent to your office by Patriots Point Development Authority. Patriots Point makes a substantial and much needed economic impact on Mount Pleasant, Charleston County and the State of South Carolina. Presently this important National Heritage site generates an annual economic impact of \$27.8 million dollars and provides 311 jobs and \$11.1 million dollars in wage earnings for our community.

The Patriots Point Development Authority was created and opened with the arrival of the USS *Yorktown* in 1975. The Authority is an enterprise agency and does not receive any appropriated funds from the state or federal government. Since its inception, the museum has operated effectively and responsively. However, it cannot generate sufficient funds for its most pressing projects of \$64.6 million dollars of tourism expansion and maintenance and construction projects without your help.

Patriots Point, Mount Pleasant and the State of South Carolina need your help in protecting this vital site and the economic impact to our community and our state. These *shovel-ready* projects will immediately put 796 people to work earning \$34 million in wages. This would allow the build-out of Patriots Point's master plan that will create 2,122 jobs earning \$90 million dollars in wages and a total economic impact of \$254 million dollars for our community and our state.

I understand that Brigadier General Hugh Tant, the Executive Director of Patriots Point, has a meeting with you next Wednesday in Washington. Please know that simply put – Mount Pleasant and the State of South Carolina needs these projects. Mount Pleasant is fortunate to be home to Patriots Point and the Congressional Medal of Honor Museum. I appreciate your consideration of this important job creation project and all that you do for the First Congressional District, South Carolina and our nation.

With every good wish and kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


Harry M. Hallman Jr.
Mayor

TOWN OF MOUNT PLEASANT