GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

2000 14TH ETREET, N.W. 6TH FLOOR WASHINGTON, D.C. 2000\$

OF THE DIRECTOR 021 939-8000

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Messrs. Robert Katzman & John A. Javens Woodley Park Towers 2737 Devonshire Place, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20008

Gentlemen:

City Administrator /Deputy Mayor for Operations, Mr. Robert L. Mallett, has asked me to respond to your letter of July 29, 1994 concerning the reconstruction of Klingle Road, N.W.

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In the late 1980's, when the repair of Klingle Road was no longer a viable option and total reconstruction was mandated, the District considered the closure of Klingle Road between Woodley Road (the entrance to the park) and Porter Street. At that time, the Department of Public Works (DPW) solicited input from the public and from the emergency services. Many motorists, local residents, the Advisory Neighborhood Commission. (ANC) and the police department responded opposing the closure. According to the police department, periodic closures of the roadway due to storm damage had greatly increased traffic congestion at Porter St. and Connecticut Ave. resulting in long delays for emergency vehicles. Since the roadway is presently closed, emergency services continue to experience delays in responding to assignments because of longer distances to travel and traffic congestion which is more frequent and severe due to increasing traffic volumes.

We are now contacting the fire and police departments to determine whether a continued closure of Klingle Road on a permanent basis can be considered. Although we are again considering the feasibility of closing Klingle Road, much of the cost will remain to repair the extensive damage that has occurred over the years even if the roadway is closed to through traffic. Constant flooding has uprooted trees, damaged and washed away retaining walls and headwalls and caused severe damage to the Klingle Valley stream bed, Rock Creek and the entire ecosystem. The existing trunk storm sewer line, constructed between 1914 and 1917, needs to be replaced and a new stone outfall

constructed at Rock Creek. The longer reconstruction is delayed the more damage is done.

As more information from the fire and police emergency services is received, further communication will be provided.

Sincerely,

Betty Hager Francis Director of Public Works

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