



Latino Economic Development Corporation

February 19, 2002

Repair Klingle Road
c/o Jeanne Ingram
P.O. Box 4881, Cleveland Park Post Office
3434 Connecticut Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Ms. Ingram,

The Latino Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) joins an overwhelming number of supporters including Councilmembers, ANC commissioners, local businesses, and residents in supporting your bid to repair and reopen Klingle Road. The LEDC has been working since 1991 to strengthen businesses in Ward 1, and we are sure that reopening this vital artery across the park will only produce positive results for the community.

Opening Klingle Road will benefit hundreds of local businesses in Mt. Pleasant and Columbia Heights by reestablishing this important connection to local neighborhoods west of Rock Creek Park. Businesses rely on products, services, and customers from the west side. By isolating these businesses geographically, they are also being isolated economically and have a decreased ability to survive (especially in the current economic recession).

By contrast, removing Klingle Road to make a small park or a short, steep bicycle path will be very expensive and of little benefit to the community. The emphasis on projects that substantially and negatively impact the long-term viability of our commercial centers is detrimental to the community as a whole, and should be refocused to create more positive results.

We wholeheartedly support your efforts in promoting the health and prosperity of our neighborhoods. We wish you all the best in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jose Garcia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "G".

Jose Garcia
Acting Executive Director

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