



PRESERVATION SOCIETY of CHARLESTON

—FOUNDED 1920—

Board of Directors 2011-2012

April 11, 2011

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The Honorable Joseph P. Riley, Jr.
City of Charleston
80 Broad Street
Charleston, South Carolina 29401

Dear Mayor Riley,

Thank you for inviting us to meet with you on Tuesday, April 5th. Thank you as well for all that you have done to preserve and protect the fabric and integrity of our lovely city. Under your visionary leadership, Charleston has set a national standard for the intelligent and balanced management of tourism in a living, thriving city. Against that background, we particularly appreciated the opportunity to share some of the concerns of our membership with you directly and to learn more about the City's plans to manage future cruise ship tourism here in Charleston.

Charleston is a port city, and the Preservation Society is proud of Charleston's long, maritime heritage. We are not opposed to cruise ships or to cruise ship tourism as part of a larger, comprehensive plan for Charleston. We support the prospect of additional economic activity for Charleston as a result of cruise ships. We are excited about all of the possibilities for re-use of portions of the Union Pier when the existing terminal is moved from its present location.

As it pertains to cruise ships, we are singularly concerned about the establishment and subsequent enforcement of reasonable safeguards that will protect the delicate balance between residents, local businesses, and tourism. We believe that establishing enforceable safeguards is a reasonable goal under the circumstances as the development of the cruise ship tourism is already fully underway. We believe that the City government has a reasonable opportunity right now to actively manage the future of cruise ship tourism in Charleston, and we are hopeful that you will again play a leadership role in managing the future of this new industry.

Thank you again for inviting us to speak with you directly, we remain hopeful and confident that as this issue continues to develop and mature we can find thoughtful and collaborative ways to work together with you and your administration to further protect the Charleston we all know and love.

Most sincerely,

J. Rutledge Young III Caroline M. Ragsdale Kristopher B. King Evan R. Thompson
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