



## NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

June 13, 2014

Commissioner Rose Harvey  
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation  
Albany, NY 12238

Dear Commissioner Harvey:

We were very dismayed to learn that the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation is moving forward with plans to construct a new Parks Police station right on the edge of the scenic Niagara River Gorge. For years we have joined local advocates in promoting ways to increase visitor access to the gorge, including removing key sections of the Robert Moses Parkway between Main Street and Findlay Drive, and this proposed construction project runs directly counter to these widely-supported efforts.

We urge that State Parks immediate cease and desist all activity in connection with developing the police station in order to further consider alternative locations.

Finding vacant parcels or sites that can be redeveloped in the City of Niagara Falls should yield many viable options for siting the new police station. Such as course of action would be welcomed not only by us, but also by an array of city government officials, tourism promotion leaders, environmental advocates, and visitors to Niagara Falls State Park who are nearly unanimous in their criticism of the current proposed location.

As evidence that the decision to build the new police station at the site currently under development will hinder tourist activity, we recently heard from an adjacent helicopter-based tourist attraction that their aircraft will be ascending and descending right over the new building, presumably causing inconveniences for both parties.

Clearly this matter requires urgent attention and we look forward to your reply. We remain at your service to assist in any way we can. Thank you for your anticipated help in preserving and enhancing access to the beautiful Niagara River Gorge.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of John D. Ceretto in black ink.

John D. Ceretto  
Assemblyman, 145<sup>th</sup> District

Handwritten signature of George D. Maziarz in black ink.

George D. Maziarz  
Senator, 62<sup>nd</sup> District