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MARK DENNEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
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February 22, 2011

Ms. Tammy Madigan
"Save the Hogan's Fountain Pavilion in Cherokee Park"

Dear Ms. Madigan:

I am writing in support of all efforts to save the Hogan's Fountain Pavilion and to commend the supporters who are working to raise funds to repair the pavilion and put it to good use.

It is my opinion that the Pavilion is a fine example of modernist architecture and worthy of protection. Not only has the Pavilion become an icon in Cherokee Park but it has proven to be a focal point for gatherings since it was constructed. The loss of this structure would be a sad loss for Louisville.

From the information that I have seen, and from a strictly practical standpoint, the cost for repairs to the Pavilion does not appear to be in excess of the cost associated with proposed new structures to take its place. Given that the Pavilion has generated income consistently from fees for use by the public; and that future income could potentially be used to maintain the Pavilion; it seems unwise to lose this structure for something that may not capture the imagination nor remain a destination for people who use Cherokee Park. The Pavilion has a proven record of use and the outcry at its possible loss reinforces that this structure is favored by many people.

In terms of determining significance of historic structures the Pavilion is a bit young. However, structures from this period of construction are on the cusp of generally accepted historic significance. As time moves forward the general public will realize the importance of the Pavilion as an example of its particular period and learn to appreciate the design and construction. For many, this appreciation has already dawned, but the Pavilion is at a critical period when not everyone can appreciate the qualities and integrity it represents and therefore it is at risk as we are seeing now. Now is exactly the time when the Pavilion should be carefully considered because any investment in its future will be quickly repaid by greater appreciation for what will have been saved as an important aspect of Cherokee Park.

I look forward to the success in saving the Pavilion. Even more, I look forward to seeing the repairs made and putting the Pavilion back in good condition. I am confident that this will become an ever increasingly important icon for Cherokee Park.

Sincerely,

Mark Dennen
Executive Director and
State Historic Preservation Officer