

The Association of the Oldest Inhabitants of The District of Columbia

Established Dec. 7 1865



President -
William Brown

Vice-president -
Sidney Hais

Secretary -
Sherwood Smith

Treasurer -
Dr. Stephen Hopkins

Historian -
Nelson Rimensnyder

Fire Dept. Liaison -
John Breen

Board of Directors -
Dr. Phil Ogilvie, Past
President
Harold Gray, Past
President
A. L. Wheeler, Past
President

Jan A. K. Evans
John Gill, Sr.
Guy Gwynne
Lucille Molinelli
Seymour Selig
Juliette Smith

Address:
AOI c/o HSW
1307 New Hampshire
Avenue, N.W.
Wash., DC 20036
202-785-2068 x. 107

August 29, 2001

The Coalition to Repair and Restore Klingle Road
3166 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 200010

Dear Coalition Members:

The Board of Directors of the Association of the Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia would like to take this opportunity to provide its support for the re-opening of Klingle Road.

The AOI has been a staunch supporter of the re-opening of Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the White House. The AOI has supported past efforts which seek to restore the L'Enfant and McMillan plans for the City of Washington -these include the re-opening of G Street in front of the Martin Luther King Memorial Library and areas near the new MCI center which had suffered from years of neglect since being closed to vehicular traffic. We continue to monitor the streets affected by the new DC Convention Center just as we will press to re-open 10' Street should the current convention center be raised.

No one likes the increased traffic we are seeing through our neighborhoods-, however, the more opportunities which commuters and DC residents alike have to distribute traffic more evenly -- if not randomly - across and through the city helps to ensure that no one (or few) streets bear that burden alone. The membership of the AOI is also deeply concerned about the environment, preservation of green space and the maintenance and improvement of the view- and sound-scapes of our city. Klingle Road was an important access point across the Rock Creek Park long before the recent call for environmental awareness and the movement to restore it exclusively as parkland. We believe, however, that both can mutually exist and look forward to the re-opening of the road with such improvements that will ensure the safety of the Rock Creek watershed, support indigenous wildlife and provide a pleasant park setting for residents and neighbors to walk.

If the AOI can be of any assistance in the furtherance of this effort to include providing public testimony, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Sincerely,

William N. Brown,
President

The Association of the Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia --the District's oldest civic organization -was established on December 7,1865, to preserve memories and matters of historic interest. By virtue of our long presence and participation in the city's prosperity and improvement, we continue to work and strive for the city's stability, security and advancement -to aid in everyway the prosperity and well-being of the District while preserving the heritage of its past.