

DORIS O. MATSUI
5TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON RULES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0505

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
222 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0505
(202) 225-7163

DISTRICT OFFICE:
ROBERT T. MATSUI U.S. COURTHOUSE
501 I STREET, SUITE 12-600
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 498-5600

<http://matsui.house.gov>

June 8, 2010

Dr. G. Wayne Clough
Secretary
Smithsonian Institution
Office of the Secretary
P.O. Box 37012, MRC-016
Washington, DC 20012-7012

Dear Wayne:

I am writing to express my support for District of Columbia's efforts to provide free public Internet services to visitors of the National Mall.

It has come to my attention that the District of Columbia is undertaking a project, through its DC Free Wifi Program, to provide free Internet services to all who visit and convene on the National Mall. Each year, the National Mall is visited by millions of tourists. The National Mall is, in many respects, a symbol of our nation, and a national symbol of openness in government. Open, public Internet access on the National Mall would further that openness, and make the National Mall more accessible and attractive for our citizens and visitors.

Public Internet access on the National Mall would also support the Smithsonian's efforts to provide easily accessible, portable information for Smithsonian visitors. I am encouraged by the Smithsonian's efforts to provide open, public Internet access on the National Mall, in partnership with the District of Columbia's Office of the Chief Technology Officer. This is a very exciting, positive development, and I support the Smithsonian's efforts to expedite this project.

As a Member of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, I have been an ardent supporter of expanding Internet access throughout the nation. As we know, the Internet is key to finding information these days, and bringing Internet access to the National Mall will greatly modernize the technology capability on our nation's "front yard." If you have any questions, please contact my office at 202-225-7163. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



DORIS O. MATSUI
Member of Congress