



December 24, 2012

The Honorable Scott Hines
Mayor, City of Rancho Mirage
69-825 Highway 111
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

Subject: Chart House Restaurant Environmental Assessment (EA 120004)

Dear Mayor Hines,

We recently received your letter of December 3, 2012 prepared by the city of Rancho Mirage's Community Development Department. The letter included the opinions of your expert consultants regarding the future of the historic Chart House Restaurant (Kendrick Bangs Kellogg, 1978).

Notably, your letter states that the city's consultants concluded "that demolition [of the Chart House Restaurant] will have a less than significant impact on the historic resource if reconstruction of the building replicates or recreates the significant architectural elements of the current structure, using federal standards." We concur with that expert assessment. We also support the city's conclusion that, "If any portions of the existing building, such as the less damaged northern wing or fieldstone components, can be saved, the building should be restored to its original appearance around these elements."

As we stated in our letter of September 6, 2012, the historic Chart House Restaurant is a much-loved local landmark. However, the current owner of the Chart House Restaurant has a well-documented record of poor stewardship regarding historic properties. Accordingly, we trust that the city of Rancho Mirage will not delay in leveraging all of the legal and administrative tools at its disposal to motivate the owner to proceed with the immediate reconstruction of this important historic resource.

If you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance, the foundation can be contacted at (760) 837-7117 or info@pspreservationfoundation.org.

Sincerely,

Ron Marshall
President