



South Carolina Department of
Parks, Recreation & Tourism

Henry McMaster
Governor

Duane N. Parrish
Director

September 16, 2020

Commercial Services Program
National Park Service
1849 C Street NW
Mail Stop 2410
Washington DC 20240.

Concession Contracts Revised Rule Comments
(RIN) 1024-AE57

On behalf of the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism and our state's tourism industry, I would like to express our support for the proposed rule changes.

As you know, Fort Sumter serves as an anchor historical attraction for South Carolina and, specifically, the greater Charleston area. Certainly, given its renown for history and culture, Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park, along with Fort Sumter Tours, have played a key role in the recognition Charleston has earned year after year as America's Top Destination. For many years, Fort Sumter tours has been the authorized National Park Service concessioner, working in partnership with NPS and providing transport services so that visitors and residents alike can experience the history of Fort Sumter and the natural beauty of the Charleston harbor.

This ongoing and successful public-private partnership will be greatly enhanced by the proposed rule changes, which will allow both NPS and its authorized concessioners the ability to deliver quality visitor services that are in line with ever-evolving consumer demands. Moreover, we believe that this rule change will encourage greater innovation among both concessioners and the National Park Service – all to the benefit of our residents, visitors, and tourism industry.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed modifications to concessioner operations to improve visitor services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Duane Parrish". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Duane Parrish