



8 April 2010

Honorable Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Mail Code S
300 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20456

Dear Administrator Bolden,

We would like to add our voices to those of many Americans who support the campaign to bring a retired space shuttle to New York City for permanent public display. We understand that the decision of where to assign the shuttles is a weighty one, but we hope our thoughts on this important issue relieves rather than adds to that weight by supporting a proposal that will benefit not just one city or region but our whole nation.

There are many advantages New York offers for shuttle display, which we are certain others have presented to you: the huge base population and massive numbers of tourists, giving New York by far the largest potential audience to see and learn about the shuttle; the matchless education potential of reaching millions of schoolchildren; the aircraft carrier *Intrepid's* historic ties to the space program; and many other reasons. We agree that taken together, these factors combine to make New York the ideal location for a shuttle and one that would advance the important goal of reaching as many people as possible with the important story of the space shuttle's pioneering mission and the wonderful scientific advances it has achieved for all mankind.

Beyond this, however, *Intrepid* holds a special place in the hearts of Marines. This is due both to the history of the vessel herself – she fought in support of Marines in some of the deadliest battles in the Pacific in World War II, and her aircraft flew many missions of support for Marines in Vietnam – and to the wonderful work the *Intrepid* organization continues today, including efforts to support wounded Marines and all members of the Armed Forces, and their families. The *Intrepid* family of Foundations has provided more than \$400 million in such support to date, and stands as a true champion in defense of those who have served.

Intrepid therefore is not just a place to visit, but an institution that galvanizes the support of all Americans to give back to those who have sacrificed for our nation, and their families. This story of courage and sacrifices is shared by all who have ventured into

space, especially on the many space shuttle missions. Intrepid can therefore best get this message across to all who would visit a space shuttle in New York, to teach not just the facts but the meaning behind man's continued reaching for the stars, and our willingness to risk much in that pursuit.

We hope and your leadership team at NASA will keep these factors in mind as you weigh this important decision. If we can provide any further information or help in any way please do not hesitate to contact us.

Semper Fi!

Sincerely,

WALTER ANDERSON
Chairman and CEO
Parade Publications

GERRY BYRNE
Senior Vice President, Entertainment Group
The Nielsen Company

LTGEN RON CHRISTMAS, USMC (RET.)
President and CEO
Marine Corps Heritage Foundation

MAJGEN DONALD R. GARDNER, (RET.)
Former President
Marine Corps University
Former President
Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum

DON IMUS
President
Imus Ranch Foods

JAMES KALLSTROM
Senior Advisor to the Governor
Office of NY State Counter-Terrorism

TOM KANE
Owner
Adare Manor

GREG KELLY
Co-Host
Good Day New York

RAYMOND KELLY
Commissioner
New York City Police Department

GEN PETER PACE, USMC (RET.)
Former Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff

FREDERICK W. SMITH
Chairman, President and CEO
FedEx Corporation

RICHARD TORYKIAN
Torykian Capital Advisors