TO: Portland City Council  
FROM: Marta Bones  
SUBJECT: Winter BumP Budget  
DATE: February 16, 2011  

On behalf of Pittock Mansion Society board and staff, thank you for your support. Since 1968, the collaborative relationship between the City and the Society has effectively brought the strengths of both to bear for the benefit of the Mansion and thousands of local and national visitors.

As you know, the Society assumed responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the Mansion in 2007. Since then, we’ve laid a strong foundation for basic operations and adopted a strategic plan that will guide our work for the next few years.

As part of that process, we refined our mission statement to expand our focus from the Pittock family to include Portland history – our mission is to inspire understanding and stewardship of Portland history through Pittock Mansion, its collections, and programs.

Our strategic goals will help ensure the Mansion remains a vital part of the community. They include offering in-depth experiences (like our Behind-the-Scenes tours and spring break kids camp); updating our program for third- and fourth-grade students so it meets current curriculum standards; making the visitor experience more interactive; and working with the City to address structural preservation needs, which is important and particularly close to my heart because the Mansion will turn 100 in 2014.

The budget request included in the Winter BumP will fund repairs to the terraces surrounding the Mansion. The ground level terrace causes me great concern because its stone railing is broken and badly eroded in sections, making it dangerous to thousands of park-goers.

I’m really pleased that this funding will ensure visitors’ safety and also appreciate what it will mean for the City and the Society. As I think about the Mansion turning 100, what it means to the people of Portland and what it
represents, I think of Henry and Georgiana’s contributions to the City, and I know we’re starting an excellent stewardship program to rehabilitate the Mansion, which couldn’t be achieved without the City and the Society working well together.

Thank you for listening to my comments, not only today, but throughout the process leading up to today’s vote. Particularly you, Commissioner Fish, along with Zari Santner and the Parks staff, for being open to our concerns and exploring the best ways to address them. Mayor Adams, Commissioner Saltzman, Commissioner Fritz and Commissioner Leonard, I’m grateful for your support. Thank you all so much.

Kind regards,

Marta E. Bones
Executive Director