

Knoxville's Bicentennial Playground

March 19, 2020

Mayor Indya Kincannon
400 Main Street
Room 691
Knoxville, TN 37902

RE: Fort Kid; Request to Delay Demolition

Dear Mayor Kincannon:

I am writing to you as Chairperson of the Fort Kid Committee.

As you know, we planned to celebrate Fort Kid's 29th birthday on April 4, 2020. The City currently plans to close Fort Kid permanently on April 6th, and begin demolition shortly thereafter.

We are asking that the closure and the demolition be delayed. As a result of the COVID-19 Virus crisis, we cannot hold the birthday party or any other event to wish Fort Kid farewell. Additionally, as you know, many if not most businesses, sports events and other activities for recreation are shut down as a result of the virus. Parents and children have few ways to engage in recreation. You stated at a news conference on Monday March 16, 2020 that you encourage people to go outside and that Knoxville's parks were a great way to practice social distancing. Obviously, Fort Kid is a great place for parents to take their children to blow off some steam while most other avenues are closed.

Please grant Fort Kid a reprieve so it can serve this valuable function for the citizens and children of the City of Knoxville. Please let me know as soon as possible if this reprieve can be granted. Otherwise, we will need to make arrangements to lower the flag and dig up the time capsule.

Sincerely,

Beth Waters

Beth Waters
Chairperson, Fort Kid Committee

cc John B. Waters III
Alexander Waters
Andrew Roberto
Gwen McKenzie
Charles Swanson
Indya Kincannon (home address)

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