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August 1, 2018

Sue Masica
Regional Director
National Park Service
12795 West Alameda Parkway
Denver, CO 80228

Dear Director Masica,

I write regarding the elevator situation at the Carlsbad Caverns National Park (Park). I am thankful that the work on the primary elevators is finally complete. However, it is absolutely critical that the National Park Service (Service) immediately begin the process to fix the secondary elevators to provide long-term stability and to avoid the elevator outage issues that have plagued the Park over the last five years.

As you know, the Park is extremely important to the local community as tourism is vital to the city's economic well-being. We know from data provided by the Service that when both sets of elevators are down, visitation to the Park drops drastically. This directly impacts the local economy and results in less revenue for the Service.

For these reasons, I would urge the Service to begin work on the secondary elevators immediately. I have a number of questions regarding this process that I request that you respond to in a timely manner:

- 1) Does the Service have a long-term plan to fix the secondary elevator system?
- 2) Has the Service begun engineering studies of the secondary elevator system? If not, why?
If so, what is the anticipated cost?
- 3) When does the Service plan to put out a contract to fix these elevators?
- 4) Does the Service have a plan in place to expedite the contracting process?
- 5) Does the Service have an estimate on how long the work will take to fix the secondary elevators?

Again, I would like to stress the importance of this project for the local community. While I understand that it is the National Park Service's responsibility to fix this problem, my office stands ready to help in any way we can to return the Park to normal operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Pearce", with a horizontal line underneath the signature.

Steve Pearce
Member of Congress

cc. Jon Jarvis, Director, National Park Service
Dale Janway, Mayor, City of Carlsbad