



September 18, 2019

Secretary Ryan Zinke
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Zinke:

As representatives of the tour and motorcoach industry, we are concerned about two recent announcements from the National Park Service impacting commercial tour operators: 1) Commercial Use Authorization (CUA) requirements and fees scheduled to go into effect October 1, 2019; and 2) the proposed reservation system at Arches National Park that is expected to serve as a pilot for a broader system reservation system.

The attached Issues Paper addresses our concerns and offers viable solutions that we stand ready to discuss with you and other DOI and NPS officials. We believe the NPS goals can be achieved through measures that will benefit both the parks and the tour and travel industry as we work together to enhance the visitor experience and create jobs.

Additionally, we understand the importance of educating national park visitors – both individuals and tour groups – on their role in helping to preserve America’s treasures. Toward that end, we have drafted the attached Visitor Etiquette Guidelines that we will distribute to our members and their travelers. We present it here to ensure we have addressed issues important to the National Park Service.

Both documents are intended to spark conversation and collaboration among the National Park Service, the Department of the Interior and the tour and motorcoach industry.

We request a meeting with you and other DOI and NPS officials to discuss the proposed solutions and visitor guidelines. We look forward to working with you and your team in the near future.

Sincerely,

Pete Pantuso, President & CEO
American Bus Association

Lisa Simon, Executive Director
International Inbound Travel Association

Bronwyn Wilson, President
International Motorcoach Group

Pam Inman, President
National Tour Association

Doug Switzer, President & CEO
Ontario Motor Coach Association

Carylann Assante, Executive Director
Student & Youth Travel Association

Stacy Tetschner, President & CEO
United Motorcoach Association

Terry Dale, President & CEO
United States Tour Operator Association