

**From:** [Naacp Vancouver](#)  
**To:** [Kamp, Jacqueline](#)  
**Subject:** Comment re Jefferson Davis Memorial off I-5 in Ridgefield - Historic Register Removal  
**Date:** Saturday, September 02, 2017 5:58:19 PM

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Dear Commissioners,

I hope you are doing well, as a volunteer myself I understand the time commitment and sacrifice you are making, thank you! We are spoiled in Clark County with all the historical sights surrounding us. I was informed that the I-5 Jefferson Davis Memorial will be on the agenda of your next meeting. I will be attending and offering my public comment.

As a person of African descent that flag is a painful reminder that there were people who fought to keep slavery intact. As a mother and grandmother that has to drive pass this shameful flag with my children and grandchildren it sends a message to them, that they are not welcomed in Clark County.

Best Wishes

*Bridgette Fahnbulleh*

*President NAACP BRANCH 1139*

*360 356-4828*

**"We Shall Overcome"**

To: [historicpreservation@clark.wa.gov](mailto:historicpreservation@clark.wa.gov)

To: Jacqui Kamp

Cc: Robert Ted Hinds (Chair), Sarah Fox (Vice-Chair), Sean Denniston, Alex Gall, Rob Heaney, Roch Manley, Mark Pelletier

RE: De-Listing Jefferson Davis Park on Clark County Historic Registry

From: Southwest Washington Emergency Response Network Against Hate

Date: 08/31/2017

Dear Committee Members,

We are a committed group of people who have organized in Southwest Washington to mobilize responses to acts of hate. We are writing to express our strong support of de-listing the Jefferson Davis Park on the Clark County Historic Registry.

According to the Historic Sites website: "This highway's coast-to-coast designation is an important early project accomplished by an American women's organization" but reputable scholars and historic websites do not include this as an important accomplishment in Washington during that time. This particular item does not have an adequate educational nor historically significant reason to be included in the register nor for the owners of the land to receive the tax incentives that come from this listing.

It is important to consider when the marble slab was erected in order to contextualize the creation of the memorial. It was erected on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1938 – 73 years after the Civil War ended and during a decade of rising backlash towards immigrants and minorities. This memorial, rather than celebrating the victory of the highway, was a means of institutionalizing and reifying a racist ideology that had officially lost almost three quarters of a century before.

As homeowners, renters, and tax-paying residents in Clark County, we do not support the message that including this "memorial" on the historic sites sends. We strongly encourage you to take it off the list and begin the process of healing that our country still needs over 150 years after the conclusion of the Civil War.

We want Clark County to represent inclusion and support for all of our neighbors, and this monument sends a very different and repugnant message.

Sincerely,



Tina Burdsall

On behalf of: Southwest Washington Emergency Response Network Against Hate