



NY State Department of
Environmental Conservation
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Niagara Relicensing
Environmental Coalition
Tuscarora Nation
Tonawanda Seneca Nation
Seneca Nation of Indians
New York Power Authority

15 March 2016

Mr. Brian Dold
Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy
Parkside Lodge
84 Parkside Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14214

Dear Mr. Dold,

This letter is to inform you that the Greenway Ecological Standing Committee (GESC) has considered your funding request for the proposed project, "South Park Lake Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Project". The consensus reached by GESC is to not award funding for the proposed project at this time.

The basis of the GESC's decision is that the completion of the feasibility study by the US Army Corps of Engineers is not the best use of the Greenway Ecological Fund because it does not offer a high probability of project success. Given the many variables that are unknown at this point (i.e. contamination levels of lake sediments, sources of impairment, final cost) the GESC does not feel that the project is implementable at this point in time.

The GESC would be interested in reviewing a future proposal to restore the ecological functioning of South Park Lake as we regard it as a key resource to the Niagara Greenway. Once a clearer path to lake restoration is identified, I encourage you to meet with the GESC again to outline a revised funding request.

On behalf of the GESC I want to express my gratitude to you for taking the time to submit the proposal and to meet with our committee. I believe that there is an important role for the Buffalo Olmsted Parks Commission in the ecological restoration of the Niagara Greenway and would like encourage future collaboration with the GESC.

Sincerely,

Timothy DePriest,
Chair, Greenway Ecological Standing Committee

Cc: GESC