

Project Narrative

The City of Niagara Falls proposes to landscape, install lighting and renovate a comfort station located on the upper Niagara River at the terminus of the Niagara Riverview hiking/biking trail. In 1994, the City was granted a permit to “use and occupy” a parcel of land bordering a City – owned parcel located at 6611 Buffalo Avenue commonly known as the former “Century Club” property. The permit allowed the City to erect a comfort station as part of the trail project. However, due to insufficient funding the project was never completed. Light standards were installed but no electrical service was ever added, presenting a potential safety issue in the evening hours. The building itself has been empty since its erection. Since water/sewer lines were never connected to the building, no restroom accommodations were ever added to the building. Over time the building fell victim to vandalism and was welded shut. It now stands in a state of disrepair – broken windows and graffiti are all that is offered to residents and visitors wishing to enjoy the waterfront. The “Century Club” property, on the eastern side of the site is the last remaining undeveloped property on the upper Niagara River. That area is often used by fishermen, boaters, hikers, bicyclists and by residents just wishing to sit and enjoy the view of the River. Visible from the north Grand Island Bridge, in its present state, the area projects a negative image to travelers and offers no incentive to exit the Thruway into the LaSalle portion of Niagara Falls. It is the City’s intent to complete these renovations before the beginning of the summer in order to offer residents and visitors a pleasant area in which to enjoy the waterfront.

The City of Niagara Falls respectfully seeks funding for this valuable project as a means to further the goals of the Niagara River Greenway Commission. The anticipated amount needed to complete the project is \$76,475. Approximately \$20,000 will be provided by the City of Niagara Falls through in-kind services.

Niagara River Greenway Vision Statement:

The Niagara River Greenway is a world-class corridor of places, parks and landscapes that celebrates and interprets our unique natural, cultural, recreational, scenic and heritage resources and provides access to and connections between these important resources while giving rise to economic opportunities for the region.

The renovation of the riverview bike path comfort station and its surroundings will promote the usage of the City's riverview trail and offer a cleaner, safer, more environmentally sound and aesthetically-pleasing environment for residents and visitors who utilize the area for hiking, biking, fishing and other passive recreation. Since this area is visible to travelers on the North Grand Island Bridge, the renovation will project a better image of the City and provide an incentive for visitors to exit the Thruway and patronize the businesses in the LaSalle section of the City.

Niagara River Greenway Commission Goals, Principles and Criteria

Excellence

The landscaping improvements will ensure that the natural beauty of the waterfront is restored and preserved. The building renovations and the installation of proper lighting will help to guarantee that the aesthetic and recreational benefits of the riverview trail are also preserved.

Improve Access/Accessibility/Public Well-Being

In accordance with Greenway principles, the riverview trail was *designed to provide and increase physical and visual access to and from the waterfront and related resources for a full range of users (youth, seniors, persons with disabilities)*. These improvements will promote usage of the trail and surrounding area thereby encouraging visual access to the Niagara River. The addition of proper lighting, renovation of the comfort station and improvement of the landscape will remove the intimidation currently associated with the area and provide a safe, healthy and attractive space in which to enjoy the beauty of the River. The addition of handicap accessible facilities will ensure that all visitors are equally accommodated.

Make Connections/Connectivity

This project will *increase connectivity and access* by installing proper lighting, restroom accommodations and improved landscaping at the eastern end of the existing riverview bike and pedestrian trail. Overall, these improvements will provide a stimulus for residents and visitors to enjoy the Upper Niagara River and contribute to the vision of re-connecting the city to the waterfront through the use of a trail system as outline in the City's "*Greenway Vision and Project Proposals*" and "*Achieving Niagara Falls' Future*".

Protect and Restore Environmental Systems/Authenticity/Restoration/Olmstead's Legacy/Ecological Integrity

The removal of dead foliage and the addition of new landscaping will enhance the natural landscape, restore the environmental system and improve the wildlife habitat. Revitalization of the landscaping will promote Olmstead's desire to preserve areas of natural beauty within urban settings, thereby *restoring the ecological resources* of the area and ensuring that the *health, vitality and integrity of natural resources and wildlife habitats* are preserved.

Promote Long-Term Sustainability

Seneca Niagara Casino revenues have been instrumental in alleviating some of the City's economic burden and allowing for sufficient funding for the maintenance of the City facilities.

Sufficient funding will be provided to properly maintain the comfort station as well as the surrounding area.

Community Based

As noted above the riverview trail is one component of the City's *Niagara River Greenway Vision and Project Proposals* and *Achieving Niagara Falls' Future: An assessment of Niagara Falls' waterfront planning*. The trail is also cited in the City's *Strategic Master Plan*. Renovations to the comfort station and the surrounding area have been promoted by Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, the Niagara Falls City Council, LaSalle PRIDE, the Niagara Falls Block Club Council, the Niagara Falls Tourism Advisory Board and the Niagara Beautification Commission.

Consistency with Principles: As evidenced above, this project is in accordance with the Niagara River Greenway principles of *Excellence, Sustainability, Accessibility, Ecological Integrity, Public Well-Being, Connectivity, Restoration, Authenticity and Community Based*.

Priority Status: The completion of this project will offer *improved access to waterfront resources ...for recreational, scenic and aesthetic uses*" through the installation of proper lighting, restroom facilities, trail connections and the improvement of the landscape. *Restoration of the Niagara River ecosystem* will be realized through the removal and replanting of vegetation thereby creating *an attractive, healthy and appealing corridor*.

Focus Area: The location of the comfort station falls within the core area of the Greenway boundaries. Improvements to the site will demonstrate visible results of the Greenway mission and contribute to the overall success of the Plan.

Implementable, Economic Viability and Local Sponsor: City administration has pledged to complete the necessary tasks to make the site amenable by the beginning of the summer season. The City Council has shown commitment to the project as evidenced through the accompanying letter of support. By presenting a more attractive vision to travelers crossing the north Grand Island Bridge, tourists will be encouraged to exit the NYS Thruway into the LaSalle portion of the City and patronize local establishments. As the local sponsor, upon completion of the project, the City will consistently budget the necessary funding to maintain the integrity of the site.

Consideration of Other Planning Efforts: This project is part of two priorities cited in the "Upper River Recommended Project" in the City of Niagara Falls' *Niagara River Greenway Vision and Project Proposals - #20 Bike and pedestrian trail system* and *#23 Preserve Century Club trailhead*. In conjunction with this project, the City Council has appropriated \$50,000 from the capital budget for planning the revitalization of the former "Century Club" property. The City has also submitted a New York State Environmental Protection grant application for the installation of a canoe launch at this site to serve as the western end of a newly established blueway trail.

Clear Benefits: The improvements planned for the site will improve the aesthetic beauty of the surrounding area leading to better environmental conditions, a better view of the area to travelers crossing the north Grand Island Bridge, increased waterfront access, improved facilities for residents and visitors and increased incentive for patrons of the hiking/biking trail.

Budget

The general budget for the project by category is:

Planning	\$ <u>10,000.00*</u>
Construction	\$ <u>56,475.00</u>
Acquisition	\$ _____
Administration	\$ <u>10,000.00*</u>
Operation and Maintenance/Year	\$ _____
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$ <u>76,475.00</u>

Not shown on the budget are the amounts that will be required for the annual maintenance of the area by the City. These figures are dependent upon union contracts and the ever-changing costs of goods and services. The City will routinely fund the regular maintenance of the comfort station and surrounding area.

* In kind costs

Budget Detail

**Riverview Trail Comfort Station
Rehabilitation Scope and Preliminary Estimate**

EXTERIOR SURFACE TREATMENTS	\$ 4,500.00
a. Surface Preparation: Cleaning/Blasting	
b. Painting	
c. Soffit and Siding Repair	
d. Window Replacement	
 INTERIOR SURFACE TREATMENTS	 \$ 3,500.00
a. Floor Covering	
b. General Painting	
 PLUMBING/FIXTURES	 \$ 17,250.00
a. Sinks (4 total)	
b. Urinals (2 total)	
c. Toilets (4 total - 2 HCA)	
d. Fountain (1)	
e. Utility Sink (1)	
f. Partitions (as nec.)	
g. Accessories - mirrors, dispensers, etc.	
 INTERIOR VENTILATION	 \$ 1,000.00
 WATER SERVICE	 \$ 3,500.00
a. Piping (w/surface restoration)	
b. Meter/RPZ Assembly	
 SEWER SERVICE	 \$ 6,000.00
a. Sewer lateral installation (w/surface restoration)	
 ELECTRICAL SERVICE	 \$ 17,000.00
a. General Wiring/Fixtures	
b. Meter/Panel Assembly	
c. Lighting	
i <i>Interior</i>	
ii <i>Exterior – building</i>	
iii <i>Exterior – pathway</i>	
 MISCELLANEOUS/OPTIONAL (AS LISTED)	
a. Concrete Walks/Pads.....	\$ 1,500.00
b. Landscaping	\$ 10,000.00
c. Phone Service	\$ 2,250.00
 SUBTOTAL	 \$ 66,500.00
 Design, Inspection, Administration (In-kind services)	 \$ 20,000.00
 CONTINGENCIES (15% OF SUBTOTAL)	 \$ 9,975.00
 TOTAL PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE	 \$ 76,475.00

Community Support

The restoration of the comfort station and the surrounding area has been endorsed by Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter, the Niagara Falls City Council, the Niagara Falls Tourism Advisory Board, LaSalle PRIDE, Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper, the Niagara Beautification Commission, and the Niagara Falls Block Club Council. **(See letters of support.)**

Environmental Setting/SEQR Compliance

The area to be addressed offers no lighting, very little landscaping and no sewer, water or electrical facilities. The project will involve minimal disturbance to the environmental setting. However, the City of Niagara Falls Department of Planning and Environmental Services will work with all other public agencies to secure all necessary permits and approvals (i.e. NYSDEC).

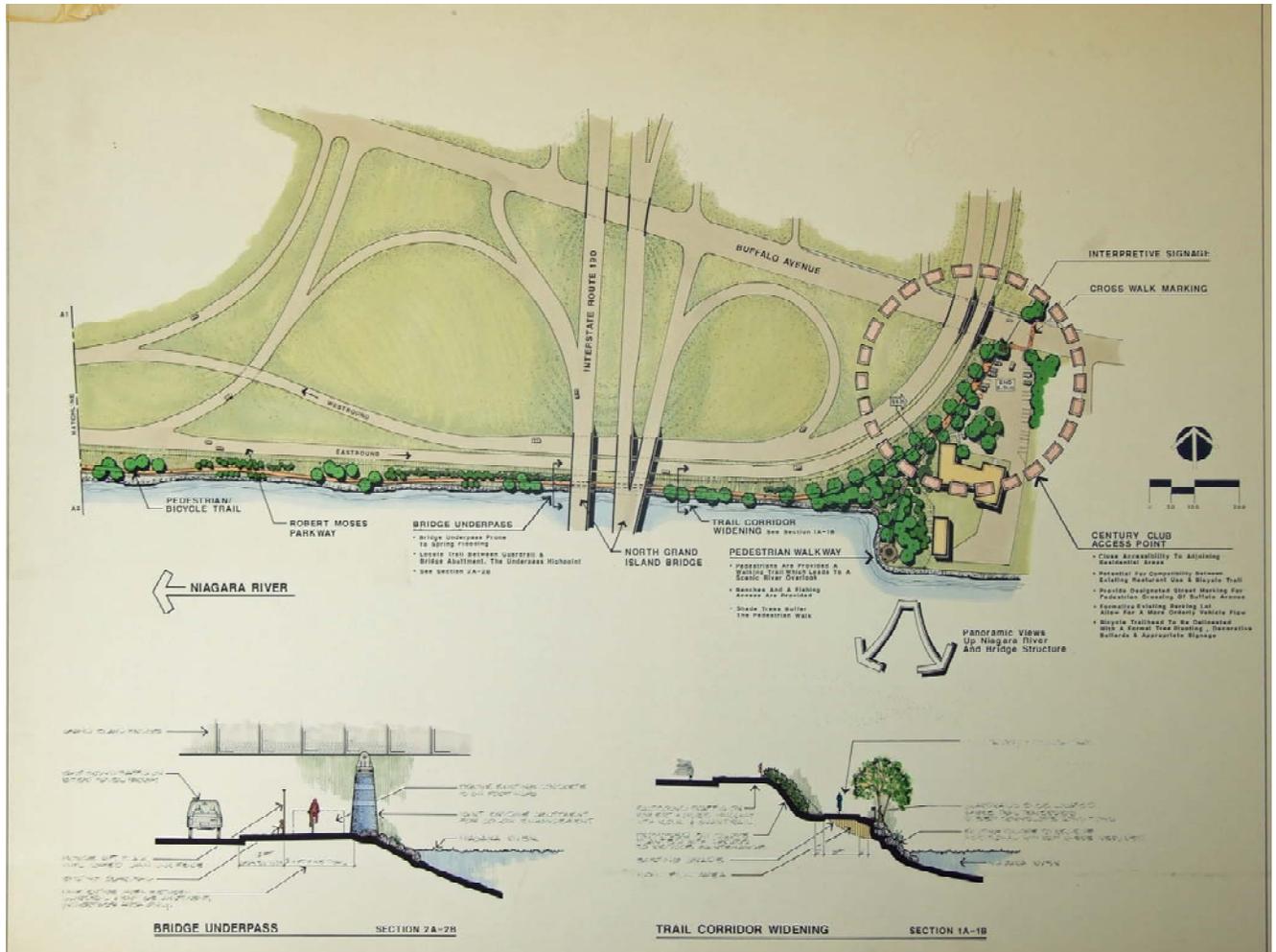
APPENDICES

Pictures:

1. Riverview Trail Design
2. Patron Enjoying Scenery from Riverview Trail
3. View of Comfort Station from Riverview Trail
4. Broken Window – North Side of Comfort Station
5. Front of Comfort Station
6. Riverview Trail Leading from Comfort Station
7. Interior of Comfort Station

Documents:

1. Excerpt from “Use and Occupancy Permit”
2. Excerpt from “*Greenway Vision and Project Proposals*”
3. Letters of Support
4. Council Resolution



Riverview Trail



Patron Enjoying Scenery from Riverview Trail



Comfort Station from Riverview Trail



Broken Window – North Side of Comfort Station



Front of Comfort Station



Riverview Trail Leading From Comfort Station



Interior of Comfort Station

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
REVOCABLE PERMIT

THIS PERMIT, made this 16th day of April, 1993, between the People of the State of New York, acting by and through the Regional Director of the Niagara Park Region in the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, pursuant to a delegation of authority made by the Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (hereinafter referred to as "PARKS") with office at the Empire State Plaza, Agency Building #1, Albany, New York 12238, and the City of Niagara Falls whose address is 745 Main Street, Niagara Falls, New York 14302 (hereinafter referred to as the "PERMITTEE").

WITNESSETH:

In consideration of the mutual covenants, terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

1. PARKS does hereby grant unto the said PERMITTEE, a revocable permit to use and occupy a certain parcel of land located in the City of Niagara Falls, County of Niagara, State of New York, shown as parcel # A on the attached map designated as Appendix C; hereinafter attached and hereby made a part of this permit. Said parcel contains 0.711 acres ±.

2. This permit is granted to the PERMITTEE for the following specific use. To provide a fully landscaped area with parking and asphalt paths, headwall at the shore, docks, promenade, picnic facilities, public restrooms, benches, guard rail and other ancillary items as required to fulfill the design entitled "Niagara Riverview Park and Trail" as prepared for the City of Niagara Falls by The Saratoga Associates, Landscape Architects, Architects and Planners of Saratoga Springs, Buffalo, New York. The PERMITTEE shall not use or allow others to use said parcel for any other purposes than those specifically stated above and more particularly the parcel may not be used for commercial purposes, generating revenue or private, restrictive activities which preclude the general public from entering onto or enjoying the uses of said parcel.

3. This permit shall run for a term of twenty years (20), beginning on April 1st, 1991, and ending on MARCH 31, 2011. After that term, this permit may be renewed for a term of five (5) years provided notice be given in writing to PARKS at least thirty (30) days before this permit would expire. Said notice of renewal shall be sent to the following address: Western District Director, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Prospect Park, Niagara Reservation, Niagara Falls, New York 14303.

4. The total fee to be paid by the PERMITTEE to PARKS in consideration for the permission granted herein shall be the sum of one dollar (payment waived) (\$1.00 PW).

5. Electricity, heating fuel, water, telephone service and other utilities are not furnished as a part of this permit. The PERMITTEE shall pay all charges against the premises for the use or privilege of using such

utilities, including the installation of meters when required. In the event that the PERMITTEE fails to make payment in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph, PARKS may make such payment and submit a billing statement for the amount thereof to the PERMITTEE at the aforementioned address.

6. The PERMITTEE shall comply with all Federal, State and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations, and in the event said PERMITTEE shall fail to so comply, PARKS shall have the right to enter the premises and take whatever steps may be necessary to achieve compliance. Any cost or expense incurred by PARKS thereby shall be billed to the PERMITTEE at the aforementioned address.

7. PARKS shall have the right to enter the premises at all reasonable hours for the purpose of making an inspection.

8. The PERMITTEE shall be responsible for the day-to-day operation, maintenance, security and all necessary repairs to structures and appertences on the premises, including but not limited to all fixtures, fencing, signs, and utilities. The PERMITTEE shall also be responsible for replacing and repairing all broken lights and light fixtures on the premises, but shall make no other structural alteration, repair or improvement without the prior written consent of PARKS.

All capital expenditures must be approved by PARKS. Detailed plans and specifications are to be prepared by a New York State licensed architect or professional engineer in accordance with the Education Law of the State of New York. A schedule for the construction work shall be submitted for PARKS' approval prior to commencement of any work on the parcel. Title to all approved construction and capital improvements shall vest in the State of New York upon completion.

9. The PERMITTEE covenants not to assign, mortgage nor pledge this permit, nor let or underlet the whole or any part of the said premises, nor occupy or allow said premises to be occupied for any business or for any immoral or illegal purpose.

10. The waiver or breach of any of the covenants under this permit by either party shall not be deemed a waiver of any subsequent breach thereof.

11. In the event the premises or any part thereof shall be damaged or destroyed or made unusable by any cause whatsoever, PERMITTEE shall be responsible to repair or restore the premises to satisfaction of PARKS.

12. It is expressly understood and agreed that in case the demised premises shall be deserted, or if default be made in the payment of the permit fee or any part thereof, or if the PERMITTEE shall sell, assign, sublet or mortgage this permit, or if default be made in the performance of any of the covenants and agreements in this permit contained on the part of the PERMITTEE to be kept and performed, or if the PERMITTEE, after notice by PARKS, shall fail to comply with any Federal, State or local law, ordinance rule or regulation applicable to said premises, or if the PERMITTEE shall file a petition in bankruptcy or be adjudicated a bankrupt or make an assignment for the benefit of creditors, or take advantage of any insolvency

act, PARKS may, at any time thereafter, terminate this permit and the term thereof, on giving to the PERMITTEE or the legal representatives of the PERMITTEE and any person occupying the premises, five (5) days notice in writing of intention so to do, and upon the giving of such notice, this permit and the term thereof shall terminate, expire and come to an end on the date fixed in such notice as if said date were the date originally fixed in this permit for the termination or expiration thereof. Such notice addressed to the demised premises may be given by mail to the PERMITTEE, or the legal representatives of the PERMITTEE or any person occupying the premises.

13. In addition to any other remedies which PARKS may have, PARKS may apply for and obtain an injunction to enforce PARKS' rights.

14. PARKS shall not be liable for any damage to personal property or injury by elements or rain or storm water, which may be sustained by the PERMITTEE or other person or for any damage or injury resulting from the carelessness, negligence or improper conduct on the part of any person.

15. The PERMITTEE agrees to save harmless and indemnify the People of the State of New York, the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, their officers and employees from and against any and all claims, suits, actions, cost and expense involving injury to person or property arising out of the use and occupancy of the premises, ~~to the extent that the United States Government has statutorily waived its immunity under the Federal Tort Claims Act, etc., and not to exceed the appropriations by Congress.~~ *MP*

16. It is further understood and agreed that if at any time during the term of this permit, PARKS shall need the premises for any use necessary or convenient to the performance of its public purposes, PARKS may terminate this permit on giving to the PERMITTEE, or the legal representatives of the PERMITTEE, or any person occupying the premises, ninety (90) days notice in writing of intention so to do, and upon the giving of such notice, this permit and the term thereof shall terminate, expire and come to an end on the date fixed in such notice, as if said date were the date originally fixed in this permit for the termination or expiration thereof. Said notice shall be sent by certified mail to the following address: City of Niagara Falls, 745 Main Street, Niagara Falls, New York 14302.

17. It is further understood and agreed this permit may be cancelled and terminated by the PERMITTEE; provided that ninety (90) days prior to the effective date of such cancellation and termination, written notice of the intention to terminate ~~shall be addressed to PARKS~~ at the aforementioned address. *shall be addressed to, Received by Parks MP*

18. The permit shall not take effect unless approved by the Associate Land and Claims Adjuster within the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, the Department of Law, ~~and the Department of Audit and Control.~~ *MP MP*

19. Lastly, PARKS does covenant that the PERMITTEE, on paying the said permit fee and performing the covenants, terms and conditions aforesaid, shall and may peaceably and quietly have, hold and enjoy the said demised premises for the term aforesaid.

20. AND IT IS MUTUALLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED that the covenants and agreements contained in the within permit shall be binding upon the parties hereto and upon their respective successors and legal representatives.

21. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

The PERMITTEE hereby agrees to the following special conditions:

a. The PERMITTEE shall comply with all Federal and State laws and rules and regulations pertaining to the use of fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, or other similar substances. The PERMITTEE shall advise PARKS in writing prior to the use of hazardous materials at said parcel and, further shall make adequate provision for the proper use of hazardous materials in accordance with the standards and procedures established by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. It is understood that the purpose of this section is to require compliance with standards and procedures for handling hazardous substances, as well as to protect all the facilities and health and welfare of employees, patrons, abutting neighbors and the general public. There shall be no disposal or storage of hazardous materials on the property.

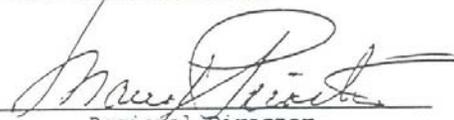
b. All equipment or other personal property placed on the premises by the PERMITTEE shall remain its property and may be removed by the PERMITTEE at anytime. PARKS shall not be responsible for the care, maintenance, or safekeeping of any of the equipment or personal property placed or installed on the premises by the PERMITTEE, its contractors or other duly authorized representatives.

c. PERMITTEE shall not display signs or erect signs on the premises without the prior written consent of PARKS. PERMITTEE agrees that PARKS shall be identified on all signs, publications, pamphlets and the like relating to the operation of this premises. All such identification shall be provided to PARKS for review and approval prior to the posting publishing or distribution of said materials. PARKS shall review and approval all materials submitted within ten (10) working days from the date of receipt. *JP/21*

22. The parties hereto agree to be bound by the terms, covenants and conditions contained in Appendix A and Appendix B attached hereto and made a part hereof, as if the same were set forth herein at length.

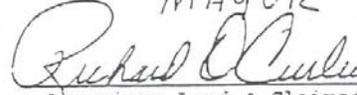
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused these presents to be signed the day and year above written.

The People of the State of New York acting by and through the Regional Director of the Niagara Park Region in the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation pursuant to a delegation of authority made by the Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.


Regional Director


PERMITTEE
MAYOR

Approved


Associate Land & Claims Adjuster
Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

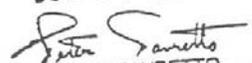
~~APPROVAL~~
~~Department of Law~~

APPROVED AS TO FORM
NEW YORK STATE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

APPROVAL
Department of Law

JUN 04 1993

by


PETER FAVRETTO
ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY

Date

APPROVAL
Department of Audit & Control

by

TNT Entered & Approved 6-14-93

Date

Excerpt from "Use and Occupancy Permit"

Upper River Recommended Projects

SHORT TERM

The upper Niagara River as it runs along the Niagara Falls waterfront is a broad and breathtaking expanse of water, its power veiled by an illusion of placidness. But the waterfront is sterile and cut off from city neighborhoods by industrial land and the Robert Moses Parkway.

The broad strategy for the upper river is to provide continuous access to the waterfront through completion of the pedestrian and bike trail; to improve the environment through plantings and naturalization; to mitigate the impact of the Parkway; and to expand the connections between the city and trails, recreational opportunities, interpretive sites, and the water itself.

These plantings would also improve habitat for waterfowl and other wildlife.

Modification of the shoreline to provide current breaks and other "natural" features would improve fish habitat and increase sport fishing opportunities.

Implementation of this element in the shorter term might involve participation by community groups or local youth organizations in volunteer planting projects.

20. Bike and pedestrian trail system C.1

Implementation of the bike and pedestrian trail plan in the upper river area will involve construction of the trail from the Niagara Reservation to the east city line and beyond. A major trailhead is located at the Century Club site at the Grand Island Bridge and is addressed below. The entire trail would also connect the Reservation with the proposed RiverView Park, the Intake Promenade, the 53rd Street Docks, Griffon Park, other city neighborhood parks, elements of the Niagara River Heritage Discovery Centers, and beyond to Erie Canal and Erie County pedestrian facilities.

21. Naturalize Niagara River shoreline C.2

The Upper River shoreline, as it exists today, is an artificial by-product of highway construction, without visual interest or natural function.

Naturalization of the Upper River shoreline would improve the character of views and the quality of the waterfront environment through the introduction of native trees and plants.

Such plantings may be used to screen from view adjacent industrial facilities, but could also serve to highlight views of the Buffalo Avenue factories, as well as to frame views of the river.

These plantings would also improve habitat for waterfowl and other wildlife.

Modification of the shoreline to provide current breaks and other "natural" features would improve fish habitat and increase sport-fishing opportunities.

Implementation of this element in the shorter term might involve participation by community groups or local youth organizations in volunteer planting projects.

This naturalization and/or restoration of ecological function should be extended to any and all major river tributaries and wetlands within the Greenway or LWRP boundaries or nearby such as Black Creek and the Williams Road/Colvin Boulevard wetlands.

LONG TERM

22. Reconfigure R. Moses Parkway to "boulevard" C.3

At a minimum, the Robert Moses Parkway should be reconfigured as a slow speed boulevard-style "riverside drive" from the Grand Island Bridge to Daly Boulevard in order to mitigate the negative impact of the highway on the waterfront environment, to facilitate pedestrian access to the bike and pedestrian trail and to the river's edge, and to encourage redevelopment of new, more water-dependent and water-enhanced land uses and urban built form along the waterfront. Reconfiguration must consider a reduction in speed limit, and the introduction of at-grade intersections, with an option for the provision of on-road and/or roadside parking.

23. Preserve Century Club trailhead C.4

The site of the former "Century Club" is a crucial location for the successful development and use of the waterfront pedestrian and bike trail and must be developed in a way that requires the preservation of public waterfront access. The site is highly visible to northbound motorists on Interstate I-190 approaching the foot of the Grand Island Bridge. It should serve as gateway, announcement, and enticement to users of the trail.

This requirement is not necessarily in conflict with other proposals for "intensification" of the site, but any companion development should provide significant access to the trail and to the waterfront, public amenities and accommodation for cyclists, boaters, anglers, pedestrians, and other users, and especially continuity for the trail itself, its operation and maintenance.

24. Expand Griffon Park – establish direct access to shore

Park expansion and development will include new interpretive elements, such as kiosks and signage to interpret historic events involving the explorer LaSalle and his ship, *The Griffon* and an amphitheater. The most important improvement should be to the existing launch and moorings.

Expansion should also make purposeful use of the areas between river road and the expressway and, to the extent possible, parts of the 102nd landfill, particularly areas that enable shoreline access. Other improvements should include upgrades to the picnic area, outdoors furniture, plantings, paving the parking areas and considerably more organic material, trees and other plantings. Similar to the former Century Club site, this site may be considered for intensification, but with the same reservations.

25. Restore Jayne Park and other Waterfront "linkable" parks

Restore Jayne Park and reconnect it to the Little Niagara River. Considered improvements to the 20.9 acre park include the addition of a picnic shelter, comfort station, benches, pedestrian walks along the water, installation of significant new landscaping, upgrading of playground equipment and little league accommodations,

**City of Niagara Falls
Riverview Trail Comfort Station**

**Niagara River Greenway Commission
March 14, 2008**

COMMITTEE ON RULES

CHAIRWOMAN

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2469 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-3221
(202) 225-3615



LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
28TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

DISTRICT OFFICES:

3120 FEDERAL BUILDING
100 STATE STREET
ROCHESTER, NY 14614
(585) 232-4850

465 MAIN STREET, SUITE 105
BUFFALO, NY 14203
(716) 853-5813

1910 PINE AVENUE
NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14301
(716) 282-1274

Website: <http://www.louise.house.gov>

March 7, 2008

The Honorable Paul Dyster
Mayor
City of Niagara Falls
City Hall
745 Main Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14302

Mayor Dyster:

I am pleased to write in support of the funding request submitted by the City of Niagara Falls, New York to the Niagara River Greenway Commission.

Due to its present condition, the comfort station and the surrounding area serve as a disincentive for residents and visitors to utilize the area for recreational activities. The funding, which would be used for the renovation of the comfort station located next to the Century Club property at 66th Street and Buffalo Avenue, is much needed, due to the building's current severe state of disrepair. Also essential is the use of the funding to repair the building, install water and sewer lines, electrical service, landscaping and restroom accommodations.

For the reasons stated above, I join you in asking for the Niagara River Greenway Commission's full and fair consideration of this specific funding request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Louise Slaughter".

Louise Slaughter
Member of Congress

LMS:pl



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City of Niagara Falls, New York

P.O. Box 69, Niagara Falls, NY 14302-0069

Office of the City Council

SAMUEL FRUSCIONE
CHAIRMAN
NIAGARA FALLS CITY COUNCIL
Samuel.Fruscione@niagarafallsny.gov

March 4, 2008

Mr. Robert Kresse
Chairperson
Niagara River Greenway Commission
2136 W. Oakfield Road
Grand Island, New York 14072

RE: CENTURY CLUB PARK

On behalf of the Niagara Falls City Council, we would like to take this opportunity to support the Century Club property as a comfort station in the City of Niagara Falls, New York.

The renovation of this area will be an added attraction as well as a needed comfort station to assist the tourists coming to our area.

We completely support the application for funding approval for this project.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

NIAGARA FALLS CITY COUNCIL

Samuel F. Fruscione
Chairman
Niagara Falls City Council

*City Hall – PO Box 69 – 745 Main Street – Niagara Falls, NY 14302
286-4301 phone – 286-4406 fax
www.niagarafallsusa.org*



Niagara Falls Tourism Advisory Board
City of Niagara Falls – City Hall
PO Box 69
Niagara Falls, New York 14302
Tourism.Board@niagarafallsny.gov

March 4, 2008

Mr. Robert Kresse
Chairperson
Niagara River Greenway Commission
2136 W. Oakfield Road
Grand Island, New York 14072

RE: CENTURY CLUB PARK

On behalf of the Niagara Falls Tourism Advisory Board, we would like to take this opportunity to support the Century Club property as a comfort station in the City of Niagara Falls, New York.

Niagara Falls is a destination for millions of tourists every year and this park will be an added attraction as well as a needed comfort station to assist the tourists coming to our area.

We completely support the application for funding approval for this project.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jerry Genova
Chairperson
Niagara Falls Tourism Advisory Board

(716) 286-4301 phone - www.niagarafallsusa.org

La Salle PRIDE ...

*in our history,
our waterfronts,
our community,
and our people!*

**67 So. 87th St.
Niagara Falls
New York 14304**

**716- 283-7394
mackennap@adelphia.net**

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March 3, 2008

Niagara River Greenway Commission
Robert Kresse, chair
2136 West Oakfield
Grand island, NY 14072

Dear Mr. Kresse,

The City of Niagara Falls has wisely chosen to designate the Century Club site at the foot of the North Grand island bridge as a city park. In the early Greenway design phase, this location was noted as one of many natural gateways along the envisioned lake to lake corridor.

LaSalle PRIDE is pleased to endorse and support Niagara Falls' plan to begin restorative projects at the Century Club site. There has long been a comfort station located there. Surely the original intent was to accommodate bicyclists, runners and those who enjoy the stroll west along the Upper River to the Falls. The facilities have long been inoperational. We salute the logic of our city to resurrect the comfort station, as one of the initial projects in creating a small welcoming park for visitors and local residents. This park is also a natural segue to the model project between city and state which created the trail along the Upper River.

We thank you, Mr. Kresse, and the Greenway Commissioners for the attention we anticipate you will give to Century Club proposal.

Sincerely,



Patricia Mackenna
chair, LaSalle PRIDE



March 3, 2008

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Robert Kresse, Chairman
Niagara River Greenway Commission
Beaver Island State Park
2136 West Oakfield Road
Grand Island, New York 14072

Dear Mr. Kresse,

Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper would like to express our support for the City of Niagara Falls in their plan to restore public access facilities at the former Century Club property on Buffalo Avenue. Fronting on the Niagara River, this site provides a key recreational river access site for the people of Niagara Falls and is also forms the trailhead to the Riverview hiking and biking trail along the upper Niagara. However, the site is currently in a state of disrepair.

The City is seeking to upgrade this important site by providing a renovated comfort station, including installation of water and sewer lines, repair of the building, installation of restroom facilities, graffiti removal and external painting. Outdoor lighting and new landscaping will complete the project.

Riverkeeper believes that this work will provide a long-term benefit for Niagara Falls residents, providing a safe and attractive riverfront park and trailhead for recreational use. On behalf of the City, we request the approval of the Commission in funding the renovation of the former Century Club site.

Thank you for your consideration of this important public waterfront access project.

Sincerely,

Julie Barrett O'Neill
Executive Director
Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper

Printed on recycled paper.





***Niagara Beautification Commission
P. O. Box 1945
Niagara Falls, New York 14302-1945
(716) 285-5030
Niagara.beautification@verizon.net
March 11, 2008***

Niagara River Greenway Commission
Robert Kresse, Chair
2136 West Oakfield
Grand Island, New York 14072

Dear Mr. Kresse:

On behalf of the Niagara Beautification Commission (NBC), I strongly support the grant proposal by the City of Niagara Falls for the renovation of the comfort station next to the Century Club property in the LaSalle section of the City of Niagara Falls.

This location is one of only a few sites owned by the City along the waterfront. Currently residents and trailblazers seek its quietude and natural splendor as they walk, bike, fish or jog along the trailhead as it winds its way along the beautiful Niagara River to downtown Niagara Falls. Making the existing comfort station operable makes perfect sense for the area and is consistent with Greenway goals and objectives.

The NBC recommends appropriate natural landscaping, using perennial shrubs and other plant material surrounding the building to beautify the area and protect the building from being defaced. The NBC would be happy to supply a landscape design or recommend plants for the site. NBC understands the City plans to include exterior and interior repairs to the building, lighting inside and out, connecting water and sewer lines, and landscaping.

With a functioning comfort station and other improvements in the area, this greenspace will see a dramatic increase in the quality of life of the residents of LaSalle, international and national ecotourists from around the world, and from the Niagara region.

Sincerely yours,

Marjorie E. Gillies, Chair
The Niagara Beautification Commission
P.O. Box 1945
Niagara Falls, NY 14302-1945



NIAGARA FALLS BLOCK CLUB COUNCIL

Roger Spurback, President
2234 Forest Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14301
716-285 5426

February 28, 2008

Sherry L. Shepherd-Corulli
City of Niagara Falls
P.O.Box 69
Niagara Falls, New York 14302

Greenway Commission Application
Comfort Station Renovation
Century Club Property

Dear Ms. Shepherd-Corulli:

The Niagara Falls Block Club Council is an organization comprised of over thirty-four individual neighborhood watch- block club groups. Formed in the 1990's, our main objective is to combat neighborhood blight and promote crime prevention in our community. While these may be our primary interests, we also support overall community revitalization projects.

We are watching with interest the development of the former Century Club property adjacent to the upper Niagara River in the LaSalle section of the City of Niagara Falls. I understand the City is applying for Greenway Commission funding to renovate and repair the interior and the exterior of the existing comfort station presently located at this site. We consider this a beginning and a step in the right direction. Updating an existing, necessary structure at this waterfront location will enable the remainder of the development to go forward later with one accomplishment completed.

Therefore, the Niagara Falls Block Club Council supports this effort and offers encouragement to the future development of this area.

Very truly yours,

Roger Spurback, President

3



City of Niagara Falls, New York

P.O. Box 69, Niagara Falls, NY 14302-0069

March 3, 2008

09 MAR -6 AM 10:05
NIAGARA FALLS
CITY CLERK

The City Council
Niagara Falls, New York

RE: 2008 Capital Plan

Council Members:

Attached is the proposed capital list for 2008, which will receive funding from three sources: Casino Interest, General Obligations Bonds and Pay as you Go.

Will the Council so approve?

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL A. DYSTER
Mayor

MAR 10 2008

Anderson Y Fournier Y Robins Y Walker Y Fruscione Y

CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS, NY
CAPITAL PLAN & SMALL EQUIPMENT/SUPPLY NEEDS
FUNDING FROM CASINO INTEREST, BONDS, PAY AS YOU GO
FOR THE YEAR 2008

Department	Description	Capital Paid From Casino Interest	Capital Paid From Bonds	Capital Paid From Pay as you Go
Engineering	77th Street		\$ 1,200,000.00	
Engineering	Gasoline Tanks at New Rd		\$ 750,000.00	\$ 650,000.00
Engineering	Mills & Overlay			\$ 650,000.00
Planning/Econ Dev	Century Club			\$ 50,000.00
Planning/Econ Dev	Sheraton Four Points-\$500,000 from URA			
Planning	Plotter & Computer-removed 2008 Budget	\$ 4,000.00		
MIS	Computers-City Wide			\$ 150,000.00
MIS	0250,000 removed from 2008 Budget	\$ 2,000.00		
Inspections	Demolitions			\$ 200,000.00
Police	12 Marked Cars			\$ 360,000.00
Police	8 Unmarked Cars			\$ 160,000.00
Police	Prisoner Transport Vehicle			\$ 65,000.00
Police	Plate Header			\$ 30,000.00
Police	Tasers - 40			\$ 45,000.00
Police	Fire Arms Training Simulator			\$ 75,000.00
Police	Radio Tester			\$ 35,000.00
Police	Krimasite Imager			\$ 18,000.00
Police	12.3 mega pixel camera			\$ 3,000.00
Police	Large format photo printer			\$ 3,000.00
Police	HD camcorder			\$ 2,500.00
Fire	1 Aerial Ladder Truck		\$ 650,000.00	
Fire	1 Pumper		\$ 325,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
Fire	1 Investigator Service Vehicle	\$ 58,200.00		
Fire ****	0250,000 removed from 2008 Budget	\$		
Parks/DPW	0250,000 removed from 2008 Budget	\$ 93,500.00		
Ice Pavilion	Improvements		\$ 300,000.00	
Forestry	Forestry Lift Truck			\$ 142,000.00
Forestry	Pick-up Truck/Plow/Tow			\$ 30,000.00

CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS, NY
CAPITAL PLAN & SMALL EQUIPMENT/SUPPLY NEEDS
FUNDING FROM CASINO INTEREST, BONDS, PAY AS YOU GO
FOR THE YEAR 2008

3/3/2008

Department	Description	Capital Paid From Casino Interest	Capital Paid From Bonds	Capital Paid From Pay as you Go
Hyde Park	Bobcat			\$ 49,000.00
Hyde Park	Equipment Lift w/Accessories			\$ 10,000.00
Hyde Park	Jacobsen 600 Series Turfcat Mower			\$ 16,441.00
Hyde Park	Resurfacing Tennis Courts		\$ 150,000.00	
Small Parks	Jacobsen HR 5111 Mower w/Trailer			\$ 44,255.00
Small Parks	Jacobsen 600 Series Turfcat Mower			\$ 16,441.00
Small Parks	New Park for North End Block Club			\$ 100,000.00
Plaza/Mall	Bobcat			\$ 49,000.00
Golf Course	Golf Ball Picker			\$ 12,500.00
Golf Course	Above ground Diesel Tank			\$ 25,000.00
Golf Course	Sprinkler system, ID system, Chelsea			\$ 84,866.00
Trades	2 - 3/4 Ton Van			\$ 36,000.00
Trades	Truck Pickup 4x4 Crew Cab			\$ 25,000.00
Trades	Truck Pickup Dump			\$ 30,000.00
Central Garage	1 Ton Truck w/Crane/Compressor			\$ 65,000.00
Central Garage	Heavy Truck Communicating System			\$ 8,000.00
Clean Neighborhood	Crew Cab Pickup w/Tow Package			\$ 30,000.00
Traffic Engineering	Ride on Paint Machine			\$ 65,000.00
Snow Removal	2 Multi Use Tandems		\$ 190,000.00	
Snow Removal	Attachments for Tandems		\$ 260,000.00	
Snow Removal	Pay loader		\$ 145,000.00	
Snow Removal	2 - 1 Ton 4x4 Pickup Truck w/Plow			\$ 66,000.00
Snow Removal	2 - Single Axle Truck w/Plow			\$ 240,000.00
Snow Removal	Tractor w/Clam Bucket & Leaf Pusher			\$ 50,000.00
Snow Removal	Crew Cab Single Axle Dump Truck w/Plow			\$ 110,000.00

CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS, NY
CAPITAL PLAN & SMALL EQUIPMENT/SUPPLY NEEDS
FUNDING FROM CASINO INTEREST, BONDS, PAY AS YOU GO
FOR THE YEAR 2008

3/3/2008

Department	Description	Capital Paid From Casino Interest	Capital Paid From Bonds	Capital Paid From Pay as You Go
Street Construction	5 Ton Pickup Street Can Truck			\$ 60,000.00
Street Construction	Street Sweeper			\$ 105,000.00
Street Construction	1 Ton Truck w/Utility Box			\$ 35,000.00
Street Construction	SUV Vehicle			\$ 24,000.00
Various	Green Vehicle Initiative			\$ 100,000.00
TOTAL		\$ 157,700.00	\$ 3,970,000.00	\$ 3,520,003.00

****Note: Fire Small Equipment paid from Casino Interest was already approved at the 2/11/08 Council Meeting.

Council Resolution