



Preservation Committee Report -- March 20, 2025

New York State Education Department Aid for Library Construction Program:

Morgan Opera House Cooling Project – We received approval on October 1, 2024 for our grant request to NYSED for the Morgan Opera House Cooling Project. The total project cost is estimated to be \$59,200, and our 10% match will be \$5,920. A check for \$47,952 has been received from the State; note that 10% of the State approved funding (\$5,328) is withheld until project completion and closeout later this year. In February 2025, Taitem Engineering finalized the system specifications and drawings and requested bids from three installation contractors plus an electrical contractor. We awarded the installation contract to SureTemp Co., Inc of Binghamton on March 5. Dave attended a Community Preservation Panel Meeting on March 5 and obtained a Village building permit on March 13. SureTemp poured the concrete support pad for two new cooling condensers under the MOH rear stair on March 17.

The completion of the installation will be delayed, we hope no later than mid-summer, due to current unavailability of the new condensers, which require a newly-mandated refrigerant gas. The contractor will keep us informed about this supply-chain issue.

Main Street Wall Reconstruction project – We have submitted a new application for \$113,900 to NYSED for renovation of the front half-timber building facade that faces Main Street in 2026. The project scope will focus on (1) repair and patching of the stucco plaster, (2) renovation of all wood, with replacement of any wood that is found to be rotted, and (3) caulking, priming, and painting. The anticipated contractor is Pinnacle Construction.

Sarah at FLLS and Steve Moolin have been working with NYSED to clarify the scope of our proposed work. We have a tentative indication that the NYSED will submit our application to the next level of approval following a meeting with Sarah and NYSED staff on March 17. Steve and Dave will submit the requested updates and clarifications in our application by March 19. We should be notified about the funding decision in late 2025.

Regional Economic Development Council Grant Application: Windows Renovation

A \$10 million award through the *Downtown Revitalization Initiative* (DRI) to the three Villages of Aurora, Union Springs, and Cayuga was announced February 5, 2024. We submitted our proposal for the *AFL Windows Restoration and Renovation Project* for a projected cost of \$420,000. For this, \$375,000 has been requested through the DRI, and the AFL may need to provide \$45,000 in matching funds. At the final meeting on October 28, the LPC voted to include our AFL Windows project in the list of projects that will be forwarded for final approval by NYS Department of State in April 2025. About \$14 million in projects were forwarded to the State for consideration, but only 9.1 million will be allocated by the State for final approval.

