



Preservation Committee Report -- May 15, 2025

New York State Education Department Aid for Library Construction Program:

Morgan Opera House Cooling Project – 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. The total project cost is estimated to be \$59,200, and our 10% match is \$5,920. The State will withhold \$5,328 until project completion and closeout later this year.

On March 17, SureTemp started work by pouring the concrete support pad for two new cooling condensers under the MOH rear stair (photo attached). The cooling system installation was completed April 23, and Taitem conducted the final inspection on May 7. We will soon be receiving the final invoices from SureTemp and Taitem. We anticipate that the project will be completed at less than the estimated cost. Steve Moolin and Dave are working to close out the project with NYSED before June 30.

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. 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 cost of \$420,000. For this, \$375,000 has been requested through the DRI, and the AFL *may* need to provide \$45,000 in match. State notification of the DRI awards is expected soon.

