



ECLEGG MAY 21 '13 10:50 AM

COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

May 17, 2013

Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Darwin Martin House Interior Restoration – City of Buffalo

Dear Honorable Members:

Enclosed please find a proposed resolution and accompanying memorandum authorizing the County Executive to enter into a contract not to exceed \$500,000 with Martin House Restoration Corporation and other involved agencies concerning the Darwin Martin House Interior Restoration Project. Funding for this project was approved by your Honorable Body in the 2013 Capital Budget and 2013 Consolidated Bond Resolution and funds were made available by the 2013 bond sale.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Deputy Commissioner Thomas J. Dearing at the Department of Environment and Planning. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/cw
Enclosure

Cc: Maria R. Whyte, Commissioner
Thomas J. Dearing

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Erie County Department of Environment and Planning
Re: Darwin Martin House Interior Restoration – City of Buffalo
Date: May 9, 2013

SUMMARY

It is recommended that the Erie County Legislature approve the attached resolution authorizing the County Executive to enter into a contract not to exceed \$500,000 with the Martin House Restoration Corporation and other involved agencies. Funds will be used for interior improvements to the Darwin Martin House in the City of Buffalo. Funding for this project was approved by your Honorable Body in the 2013 Capital Budget and 2013 Consolidated Bond Resolution and funds were made available by the 2013 bond sale.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The attached resolution authorizes the County Executive to enter into a contract not to exceed \$500,000 in funds as previously approved by the County Legislature in the 2013 Consolidated Bond Resolution (Comm. 3E-7) on February 7, 2013. These funds will be secured from 2013 bond proceeds. No other additional county funds will be used.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Funding is needed by the Martin House Restoration Corporation for interior improvements of the Darwin Martin House in the City of Buffalo. Without this funding, delays would occur in completing full building restoration and evidence of local support would be reduced when seeking private donations.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Martin House Restoration Corporation is seeking funds to complete Phase 5, interior restoration of the Darwin Martin House. The first component is complete and updates have been made to the security, fire suppression and monitoring systems, and integrated the HVAC system into the existing geo-thermal system. Funding is requested for Phase 5B which addresses interior finishes. One of the signature and primary unifying elements of the Martin House is the use of quarter sawn American oak millwork, an integral part and defining characteristic of the building. Wright designed custom millwork that was “all-embracing,” integrated with extensive built-in cabinetry that also matched the enormous amount of free-standing furniture he designed for the home. For the Martin House, Wright created over 90 different trim profiles, some consisting of as many as 9 layers of wood trim built up to create a single profile. In all, there is more than 8.5 miles of running wood trim in the main structure. A range of conditions exists from seriously decayed areas, requiring total replacement, to extremely good conditions requiring only waxing and many levels in between.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

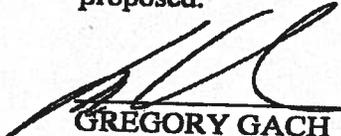
The Martin House Restoration Corporation will not receive this funding. Interior improvements will be delayed until funds are raised from other sources.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The County will enter into an agreement with the Martin House Restoration Corporation.

COMPTROLLERS OFFICE APPROVAL

The proposed legislation has been reviewed by the Office of the Comptroller and is related to an authorized Capital Project A.13014 for which there are sufficient account balances for the action proposed.


GREGORY GACH
Deputy Comptroller

4/18/13
Date

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13 APR 18 AM 11:35

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING**

RE: Darwin Martin House Interior Restoration – City of Buffalo

WHEREAS, the County of Erie recognizes the importance of restoring the interior spaces of the Darwin Martin House as it is an important public recreational facility and tourist destination in the County; and

WHEREAS, Erie County desires to assist in the completion of said restoration and has included \$500,000 for this purpose in the 2013 adopted Erie County Capital Budget; and

WHEREAS, on February 7, 2013 the Erie County Legislature approved a bond resolution authorizing the issuance of \$500,000 bonds to pay part of the cost of the above-mentioned recreational improvements to the Darwin Martin House (Resolution No. 30, Comm. 3E-7); and

WHEREAS, in order to provide the bond proceeds, the County is required to enter into a contract with the Martin House Restoration Corporation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is authorized to enter into a contract not to exceed \$500,000 with the Martin House Restoration Corporation for the purpose of funding interior improvements to the Darwin Martin House; and be it further

RESOLVED, that following the execution of a contract with the Martin House Restoration Corporation and the appropriate approvals by the Departments of Law and Environment and Planning, the County Executive is authorized to release bonded proceeds as requested for the Darwin Martin House project as per the approved 2013 Consolidated Bond Resolution and 2013 Capital Budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature be directed to send certified copies of this Resolution to the County Executive; the Budget Director; the Comptroller; the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Planning; the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works; the County Attorney; and the Executive Director of Martin House Restoration Corporation.