

## **RESOLUTION NO. R02-14 CMS**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY FOR TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT FUNDING TO RESTORE THE GASHOLDER BUILDING, AN HISTORIC TRANSPORTATION-RELATED STRUCTURE AND ESTABLISH A MULTI-MODAL PARK-AND-RIDE FOR PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY TO THE NORTH COAST INLAND BIKE TRAIL, AND AN UNDERGROUND RAILROAD CENTER**

**WHEREAS, Oberlin's 1889 Gasholder Building, one of the few remaining such structures in the nation, the only one in existence west of the Appalachian Mountains and a fine example of Nineteenth Century industrial architecture and craftsmanship, has been recently named to the National Register of Historic Places; and**

**WHEREAS, the Gasholder Building has, over the course of its long life, fallen into a state of disrepair and is in urgent need of attention in order to preserve it; and**

**WHEREAS, Oberlin has a rich and proud history having played an active role in the Underground Railroad, the Abolitionist cause and the American Civil War, thereby helping to lead many persons along the road to freedom; and**

**WHEREAS, the Gasholder Building could be restored and developed into an educational center devoted to preserving for future generations, the heritage of the Underground Railroad and Oberlin's role; and**

**WHEREAS, there are presently few locations whereby people who need to drive to access Oberlin's bike Path can park their vehicles; and**

**WHEREAS, the property in the vicinity of the Gasholder Building and the Bike Path, currently a construction yard, could be developed into a useful and attractive multi-modal Park-and-Ride park and Educational Center; and**

**WHEREAS, such a project would benefit not just Oberlin, but would have County, State and National significance; and**

**WHEREAS, the family of Arthur H. "Kenny" Clark has generously offered to donate the Gasholder Building and a portion of the surrounding property to the City should an application for project funding ultimately be successful.**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Oberlin, County of Lorain, State of Ohio, a majority of all members elected thereto concurring:**

SECTION 1. That the City Manager be and hereby is authorized and directed to submit an application to the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, for Transportation Enhancement grant funding for this proposed project.

SECTION 2. That the City Manager be and hereby is authorized and directed to solicit letters and resolutions endorsing this proposed project from various organizations in Oberlin and elsewhere, to serve as evidence of broad-based support for the City's applications.

SECTION 3. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning or relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 4. That this Resolution shall take effect at the earliest date allowed by law.

PASSED: 1<sup>st</sup> Reading - July 1, 2002 (E)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading -  
3<sup>rd</sup> Reading -

ATTEST:

  
CLERK OF COUNCIL

  
CHAIR OF COUNCIL

POSTED: July 2, 2002

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 2, 2002

ATTACHMENT A  
TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM APPLICATION

INSTRUCTIONS. Complete the form and submit six copies of the completed application to NOACA.

City of Oberlin

Sponsoring Agency

85 South Main Street

Mailing Address

Oberlin, Ohio 44074

City

State

Zip

Robert DiSpirito, City Manager

(440) 775-7206

Contact Person

Title

Phone No.

Underground Railroad Center

Project Name

291 South Main Street (Route 58) - see National Historic Registration

Project Location (Include County-Route-Section Number or Nearest Intersection, if applicable) Listing

Check the Transportation Enhancement Activity or Activities for which application is being submitted.

- 1. Pedestrian & Bicycle Facilities
- 2. Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety & Education Activities
- 3. Acquisition of Scenic or Historic Easements & Sites
- 4. Scenic or Historic Highway Programs, Including Tourist and Welcome Centers
- 5. Landscaping and Scenic Beautification
- 6. Historic Preservation
- 7. Rehabilitation and Operation of Historic Transportation Buildings, Structures or Facilities
- 8. Preservation of Abandoned Railway Corridors
- 9. Control & Removal of Outdoor Advertising
- 10. Archaeological Planning and Research
- 11. Mitigation of Highway Runoff and Provisions of Wildlife Connectivity
- 12. Establishment of Transportation Museums

Complete the following cost information:

Transportation Enhancement Funds Requested      \$ 917,600.00 = 80 % of Total

Local Funds Committed to Project                      \$ 229,400.00 = 20 % of Total

TOTAL \$1,147,000.00 = 100%

Include all of the following as part of the application:

1. Complete and detailed description of the proposed project and its relation to the intermodal transportation system. Include location maps, elevations, and photographs, as necessary, to fully illustrate the project.
2. Complete and detailed breakdown of the proposed construction/implementation costs certified by a professional engineer or architect and sources of funding. The estimate must include a 10 percent contingency, inspection costs, and be forecast two years into the future. The costs will be capped.
3. Complete and detailed description of the project's characteristics and benefits.
4. The anticipated date (month and year) when the project will be ready for construction. Include the present status of property ownership and plan preparation, if applicable.
5. A certified copy of a resolution from the applicant's governing body authorizing the submission of the application for Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds and agreeing to share in the project cost.
6. Any additional comments that may be helpful to the review team.
7. Bicycle and Pedestrian projects only (N/A)

Facility Category (mark all that apply) -

- Paved Shoulders/Rural (Portion of roadway contiguous with the portion of roadway used for motorized vehicles; should provide a travel space of at least four feet).
- Signed Shared Roadway (Shared roadway designated by signing as a preferred route for bicycle use).
- Bicycle Lanes/Urban (Section of the outside travel lane of an existing roadway surface marked for the exclusive use of bicyclists).
- Shared Use Path (Facility physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier, includes rail-to-trail conversions).
- Pedestrian (New or rehabilitated paved facility specifically designed for the use of the walking public; excludes sidewalks).
- Land Acquisition (for Rail-Trail Conversion Only)

Length (include unit of measurement) \_\_\_\_\_

Facility crosses through (circle all that apply):

Residential    Farmland    Rural     Industrial     Commercial  
 Forest    Suburban    Parkland     Urban  
Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Terrain is (circle):  Level    Rolling    Steep    Combination

Destinations *easily accessible from*, not simply located near, proposed facility (circle all that apply):

Residences

Employers

Restaurants

Libraries

Schools

Stores

Parks

Doctors' Offices

Banks

Post Office

Other (specify) (see below)

Will the facility cross any existing bridges? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  No

Is there a need to construct new bridges? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  No

Are there any tunnels or underpasses the facility will pass through? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  No

Is right-of-way needed? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  No

Preferred surface treatment for bicycle facility:

asphalt \_\_\_\_\_ limestone \_\_\_\_\_ concrete

Preferred surface treatment for pedestrian facility:

asphalt \_\_\_\_\_ limestone \_\_\_\_\_ concrete

\*Other: Downtown Historic District, City Parks & Recreation Facilities, Oberlin College, Oberlin Community Services, and Bike Path

MARCY KAPTUR  
MEMBER  
9TH DISTRICT, OHIO

COMMITTEES,  
APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES  
AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,  
FOIA AND RELATED AGENCIES  
VA, HUD, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES  
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3509**

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
2366 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3509  
(202) 225-4146  
FAX: (202) 225-7711

DISTRICT OFFICE  
THE OHIO BUILDING  
420 MADISON AVE., STE 1250  
TOLEDO, OH 43604  
(419) 259-7500  
FAX: (419) 255-8623

July 25, 2002

Mr. Robert DiSpirito  
City Manager  
City of Oberlin  
85 S Main St  
Oberlin, OH 44074

Dear Mr. DiSpirito:

I am writing in support of the proposal submitted by the City of Oberlin to the Northeast Ohio Area-wide Coordinating Agency to rehabilitate and preserve the 1889 Gasholder Building. Thank you for the opportunity to assist in this endeavor.

I understand the 113-year old structure has recently been named to the National Register of Historic Places. Further, I understand this proposal would transform the dilapidated edifice into an Oberlin welcome center, serving as a portal where tourist and historical information could be housed. Educational opportunities would be featured in the building's interior that benefit the general community and school aged children. Also included in the proposal is the development of the surrounding landscape into a "Park-and-Ride" to provide public access to the public bike path. The chance to save this building as a testament to our region's rich history should be seized. It is an opportunity to provide future generations with a tangible glimpse of their past.

I commend your efforts in working to preserve Oberlin's legacy of the Underground Railroad. I strongly support this proposal and urge its favorable review. Please contact me should you require additional assistance regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

MARCY KAPTUR  
U.S. Representative

one letter of  
support