

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Telephone: (716) 286-4310

April 4, 2022

The City Council
Niagara Falls, New York

**RE: *Aquarium of Niagara – Niagara Gorge Discovery Center Project
(Grant Administration)***

Council Members:

The Aquarium of Niagara submitted an application to the Niagara River Greenway Commission relative to its Niagara Gorge Discovery Center Project (“PROJECT”). This Project is designed to connect residents and visitors to the region’s rich ecological assets and promote the critical mission of environmental conversation and offer more family-centric activities in the City.

At its March 15, 2022 meeting, the Niagara River Greenway Commission Host Community Standing Committee determined that the Project was consistent with the Greenway Plan and approved funding for it in the amount of \$300,000.00, which would come from the City’s Greenway Commission Fund Account.

As the City Council indicated its support of the Aquarium’s Project, the City and the Aquarium wish to agree on the terms and conditions relative to the grant funding to be provided by City from said Greenway Commission fund. It is therefore proposed that the City Council grant approval for this Administration to enter into a grant funding agreement relative to the Project. The City will release \$150,000.00 of the Grant Funds to Aquarium upon execution of the Agreement, with the remaining \$150,000.00 of the Grant Funds released to the Aquarium upon presentment of written certification of completion of the Project. Again these funds are available from the City’s Greenway Commission Fund.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement provided the same is in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Restaino
Mayor

Funding Approval:

Daniel Morello, City Controller
City Council Meeting, April 6, 2022

Bax _____ Myles _____ Tompkins _____ Zajac _____ Spanbauer _____