

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

September 30, 2022

The City Council
Niagara Falls, New York

RE: Buffalo Avenue Heritage District, Microgrant Program Extension

Council Members:

In 2010, the City and USA Niagara Development Corporation established a Buffalo Avenue Heritage District Microgrant Program. The Heritage District is the only residential area within the USA Niagara Boundaries. The program provided matching assistance for owner-occupied residences of up to \$10,000 per property. The funds were used for exterior building improvements, code violation correction, and site improvements.

The Microgrant Program was originally set up for five (5) years and was extended for an additional five (5) years in 2015. All grant funds were disbursed prior to the Program's expiration in 2020; however, \$18,000.00 that was disbursed under the Program was recently returned to the City due to the sale of grant funded property.

As there is continued interest in the Program and due to the recouped funding, the Administration and USAN are proposing that the program be extended for another five (5) years, retroactive to October 26, 2020. Extension of the program will allow for the preservation and rehabilitation of more of the heritage structures within this special district.

Will the Council vote to approve an extension of the microgrant program as set forth herein, and authorize the Mayor to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the same?

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Restaino
Mayor

Bax_____ Myles_____ Tompkins_____ Zajac_____ Spanbauer_____