

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-

***RELATIVE TO SUPPORT FOR THE TATLER HISTORIC
PRESERVATION FOUNDATION'S APPLICATION TO THE
NIAGARA RIVER GREENWAY COMMISSION FOR FUNDING FOR
RESTORATION OF THE HISTORIC PORTER MANSION***

BY:

Council Chairman John Spanbauer
Council Member Traci Bax
Council Member Donta Myles
Council Member Kenny Tompkins
Council Member David Zajac

WHEREAS, Peter A. Porter (1853-1925), was a lawyer, author, historian, civic leader, and politician who is one of the most important figures in the history of Niagara Falls; and

WHEREAS, during the 1800's, the Porter Family owned all the land along Buffalo Avenue, including Goat Island; in 1876, on property now located at 6 Fourth Street, Peter Porter constructed a grand home as a wedding gift for his wife – the Porter Mansion; and

WHEREAS, this property, which at one time extended to the upper Niagara River, borders property now owned by the New York State Parks. The house itself is an elaborate Italianate design with 14 rooms, with parquetry floors of oak trimmed with mahogany and walnut and six marble fireplaces. Of historical significance, the home boasts of a porte-cochere on a side entrance that was built to the perfect height for loading and unloading horse carriages. One of the most notable features of the house is the circular porch that faces the river; and

WHEREAS, the Tatler Inc. purchased the mansion in 1956; the Tatler Historic Preservation Foundation ("THPF"), a 501 (c)(3)(b) non-profit organization, was formed with the purpose of maintaining and restoring the Peter A. Porter Mansion at 6 Fourth Street in Niagara Falls, NY; and

Bax **Myles** **Tompkins** **Zajac** **Spanbauer**

WHEREAS, main focus of the THPF remains to study, preserve and protect the historically significant architecture of the original Porter Mansion, to serve as a link and connection between the Niagara River Area's rich past and unlimited future; and

WHEREAS, to further this effort, the THPF is requesting consideration for funding by the Niagara River Greenway Commission, via the Niagara Host Community, for restoration efforts to the historic Porter Mansion which will feature chimney restoration and dormer repair, removal of aluminum siding and restoration of original siding; and

WHEREAS, the Greenway Commission has added the THPF proposal to their agenda on March 8, 2022, but a resolution of support from the host community (the City of Niagara Falls) is necessary prior to consideration by the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is in support of this very important endeavor to save and restore this significant building that played an important role in the history of Niagara Falls.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Niagara Falls City Council hereby indicates its support for the Tatler Historic Preservation Foundation's application to the Niagara River Greenway for funding of its proposed restoration project for the Porter Mansion, located at 6 Fourth Street, Niagara Falls, NY.