



Mohawk Valley Villages
Diefendorf Hall Cultural Heritage Center
Friends of Fort Plain 47 Main Street PO Box 145
Fort Plain, NY 13339

Board of Directors: Immaculata Lieber, President, Ellen Zamon, Secretary, Norman Bollen
Robert Hancock, Eileen Chambers, Village and Town Historian, Susan E. Thayer, Advisor

The Honorable Matthew L. Ossenfort
Montgomery County Executive
County Annex Building
PO Box 1500 - 20 Park Street
Fonda, NY 12068-1500

June 10, 2022

Dear Mr. Ossenfort:

We are addressing to you a proposal from The Friends of Fort Plain Incorporated to solicit ARPA funds for an important cultural heritage site in our village. The proposal is divided into two parts:

Part A:

Canal Store installation, \$35,000. ADA accessible entry at west wall, \$12,000. Interior stairs egress, \$8,000. Selected lighting fixtures, \$15,000. **Budget total: \$70,000.** Items based on earlier estimates. To be completed with separate contracts using Village of Fort Plain Procurement Policy guidelines.

Part B:

Regional Economic Development Grant administration fee:

Environmental Protection Fund grant award for **Historic Diefendorf Hall Rehabilitation Project:**

We are requesting assistance in the administration of this grant. **Estimate: \$20,000.** Grant award \$484,947.00. Grant funds \$345,120.00 required matching funds of \$139,827.00. All documentation on file at Montgomery County Economic Development Office. Contact: Executive Director Matt Ossenfort. Andrew Santillo.

The project aims to install the façade of an original Erie Canal Lock Grocery in Historic Diefendorf Hall, which will serve as a Cultural Heritage Center for the Village of Fort Plain. The installation of the canal store will attract heritage tourism and serve as a backdrop for community gatherings, presentations, workshops, and student programming. The attached proposal includes:

- A description of our organization
- Project description

- Implementation plan
- How the project addresses the county's goal of heritage tourism
- Community involvement
- Project sustainability and long-term maintenance plan
- The project's consistency with other local, county, and regional plans
- Key staff involved with the project

I thank you for the opportunity to work with your office to enhance Montgomery County's heritage tourism.

Sincerely,

Immaculata Lieber

Immaculata Lieber

President, Board of Directors Friends of Fort Plain