

November, 2013

Honorable XXX
123 Buffalo Street
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Legislator XXX:

As a dedicated member at the Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens, I am concerned about county funding and specific capital improvement projects at the Botanical Gardens. It is my understanding that the 2014 Erie County budget recommends operational funding and \$2 million to fund restoration work for two historically significant greenhouses (greenhouses 2 and 3).

Being a member of the Botanical Gardens I have seen these greenhouses first hand. When visiting the Gardens, it is clear these greenhouses vastly contrast with the other restored greenhouses. They are in poor condition and you can see the foundation is literally separating from the outside of the building. This restoration project is extremely important for the future of the Botanical Gardens. I know I share a high level of pride and respect for this unique historic landmark and what it has to offer to our community and to me.

It is not only a place where tourists visit and school children learn, it is a place to find peace. It is a place for friendship, memories, a place to relieve stress from our daily lives, a place to cope with a medical condition or the loss of a loved one. The Botanical Gardens reaches deeper. It can rejuvenate the mind, body and spirit and I do not want to see this diminished or its unparalleled beauty compromised.

I am writing to request that you and your colleagues vote to support operational funding for the Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens as recommended in the proposed 2014 budget and support the recommended \$2 million in capital funding to help restore greenhouses 2 and 3.

Thank you for your time, consideration and for your support.

Sincerely,

John Q. Volunteer
Volunteer
Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens Society

cc: The Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens