



TOWN OF PRESTON
TOWN OFFICES
389 ROUTE 2
PRESTON, CONNECTICUT 06365-8830

November 3, 2009

Ms. Mary Donohue
Office of the Commission on Culture and Tourism
One Constitution Plaza
Hartford, CT 06103

Re: Endangered Building Fund for *Architectural and Engineering Feasibility Study for the Former Administration Building Located on the former Norwich State Hospital*; AND Survey and Planning grant - *Preparation of Plan of Conservation and Development for the Former Norwich State Hospital Property*.

Dear Mary:

The Town of Preston formally requests modifications to the two contract agreements for above reference grants to extend the time periods for your office to receive the draft plans and final plans due to a misinterpretation of the scope of work and contract agreement and the need to complete the preparation of Conceptual Management Plan for the redevelopment of the former Norwich State Hospital Property. This complex and multi-faceted redevelopment project involves many components including over \$25 million dollars worth of environmental clean up work, preparing planning documents for the property, and the possible redevelopment of the historic Administration Building.

As you are aware, the Town acquired the property in March 2009 and immediately established a Redevelopment Agency to lead the site's development efforts. The first priority established by the Preston Redevelopment Agency (PRA) after their inception in the early summer was to prepare, given the enormity of the project, the Conceptual and Management Plan (CMP). The preparation and compilation of this conceptual document was quite extensive and was completed in mid October. Since the priority has been completed, the Agency can focus their efforts on the next priorities for the project that include addressing the possibility of rehabilitating the former Administration Building and preparing a master plan for the site (in addition to the clean up of the site and continuing to apply for grants).

If this is not possible to grant an extension to the time period to provide the final reports, due on June 8, 2010, it is requested that an extension time period be given for the receipt of the draft report. According to the contract, the draft reports are to be submitted to your

agency by January 2, 2010; although a feasible timeframe to allow for the completion of some work, the extension would allow a better quality product and the completion of all work.

The Preston Redevelopment Agency is working hard to protect and rehabilitate the former "Administration Building", and to design a Plan of Conservation and Development for the property that will enhance and protect the remaining historic and archaeological resources. We hope that the Commission on Culture and Tourism will assist the Agency in their work by granting these extensions.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 860-887-5581 ext. 109.

Very truly yours,



Kathy B. Warzecha

Town Planner

Cc: Jim Bell, Preston Redevelopment Agency
Robert Congdon, First Selectman