

Project Prioritization Cover Sheet

Transportation Improvement Program



CONTACT	Contact Information		
	Agency/Organization	Southeast Lighthouse Foundation	
	Contact Person	Lisa D Nolan	Title Executive Director
	Mailing Address PO Box 949, 122 Mohegan Trail		
	City	Block Island (New Shoreham)	Zip Code 02807
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PROJECT PRIORITIZATION	Project Prioritization <i>please use an additional sheet if necessary</i>			
	Priority	Listed in TIP 2013-2016		Project Name
		Yes	No	
	1	X		Southeast Lighthouse Museum Rehabilitation

CERTIFICATION	Applicant Certification	
	The information provided on this application is in accordance with local regulations and ordinances.	
	Lisa D Nolan	Executive Director
	Applicant <i>Lisa D Nolan</i>	Title 01/05/2016
Signature	Date	

Submittal Checklist

- 3 collated copies of complete TIP submittal package
 - Project Prioritization Cover Sheet
 - New Project Application Form for each new project
 - 2-page narrative on evaluation criteria
 - 8.5" x 11" PDF map of project location
- Email a copy of complete TIP submittal package to Kimberly.Crabill@doa.ri.gov or provide on a CD
- Submit complete TIP submittal package to:
 - Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program
 - ATTN: Kimberly Crabill
 - One Capitol Hill
 - Providence, RI 02908

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY 3:00PM ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 2016

Southeast Lighthouse Museum Rehabilitation Narrative – 2017-25 TIP

The Southeast Lighthouse Museum Rehabilitation has been listed as New Shoreham's first priority on successive Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) lists and as such is not a new project. The New Shoreham Town Council voted at its January 4, 2016 meeting to again submit this project as its first priority, to be added to the 2017-25 TIP project list as part of the Transportation Alternative Projects (TAP) program. In order to provide additional information to the Statewide Planning Council and Transportation Advisory Committee, the Southeast Lighthouse Foundation is also submitting a Project Prioritization Cover Sheet with an expanded Narrative. Please find some background information, as we understand it, and discussion below:

The restoration of Block Island's National Historic Landmark Southeast Lighthouse museum has been proceeding slowly for more than a decade. Major exterior work was undertaken in 2002 through 2004, made possible in large part by two Transportation Enhancement Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21) grants awarded through the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT), totaling \$715,000. A third TEA 21 grant in the amount of \$600,000 had been awarded to the lighthouse that would have completed the project at the time, inside and out. That funding was temporarily lost after Hurricane Katrina (2005), regained later, and then held as an earmark at RIDOT for almost ten years while the Southeast Light museum restoration project waited in the priority position on successive New Shoreham Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) lists (including the FY 2013 -2016 TIP). While the project moved through the RIDOT planning process, a new scope of work was designed and funded by RIDOT to address the rapid (and now critical) deterioration of the lighthouse tower cast iron elements, including lighthouse lantern level and watch level decking, doors and railings.

In September of this year with cast iron repair design plans at 90% and within days of final approval, the \$600,000 long earmarked for the Southeast Light project was withdrawn and returned to the RIDOT pool of funding to be used in the new Transportation Improvement Plan FY 2017 - 2025.

Further, in August, having expected that this funding would remain in place and that the 90% design would be approved any day, the Southeast Lighthouse Foundation applied for two grants for gap funding to complete cast iron restoration; from the National Park Service through its Maritime Heritage Grant Program and a Rhode Island State Preservation Grant (SPG) through the RI Historic Preservation and Heritage Commission. Although a decision regarding the National Park Service grant is still pending, the Southeast Lighthouse has been awarded the Rhode Island SPG grant in the amount of \$150,000. Public announcement of this SPG award is to be made on January 11, 2016.

With an anticipated total project cost of \$750,000, this award closes the funding gap to complete cast iron repair work and makes the Southeast Lighthouse museum restoration a "shovel ready" project if the withdrawn \$600,000 funding is re-secured.

Therefore, we respectfully request that the Southeast Lighthouse Museum Rehabilitation project be selected for \$600,000 in funding to complete much needed cast iron repair for the following reasons:

- **Mobility:** This project is at the 90% design level at RI Department of Transportation (RIDOT) and is ready to proceed to work. RIDOT has already funded all design costs and expended considerable staff time to get the project to this stage.

- **Cost Effectiveness:** In combination with the \$150,000 SPG grant gap funding, work *will* proceed to completion if funding (\$600,000) is re-secured through this process. Due to ongoing deterioration, the RIDOT funded 90% restoration plans will need to be redesigned if work is further delayed and rust-jacking damage continues to undermine cast iron components. Repair of the lighthouse tower cannot wait until the later stages of the 2017-25 TIP. As is the case with many of Rhode Island's road and bridge projects awaiting work, SE Light cast iron tower elements have become severely deteriorated, creating hazardous conditions. In October of 2015, a six-inch section of the cast iron decking edge fell off—dropping from a height of 62 feet and landing next to a visitor entering the lighthouse tower. Although temporary measures are being undertaken to address this danger, water penetration and freezing/thawing is accelerating this damage at an alarming rate.
- **Environmental Impact:** The stability and maintenance of the Southeast Lighthouse museum and its open space site is important to New Shoreham, the State of Rhode Island and the nation. RIDOT, RIHPHC, the National Park Service, New Shoreham residents and many other agencies and individuals have devoted significant resources to move the Southeast Light to safety (2.3 million in 1993) and to get the lighthouse museum restoration project underway (\$715,000 through the RIDOT TEA 21 program, a total of 1.2 million expended from all funding sources to date).
- **Economic Development:** The Southeast Light is an important symbol of Rhode Island's maritime heritage and our nation's seagoing past, remaining a fully functional aid-to-navigation today. A 19th century first order Fresnel lens still operates in the tower, guiding ships through our marine transportation system. Whether to view the 1873 National Historic Landmark gothic revival structure, take an escorted tower tour to better understand the place of the Southeast Lighthouse in our maritime history or to visit and relax on the expansive grounds--tens of thousands of visitors visit the Southeast Lighthouse each year. In its current condition, public access to the building is restricted to the base of the lighthouse tower with limited guided tours to the top. Completion of this work will repair and restore deteriorating cast iron tower elements, protect the exterior envelope by preventing water penetration and improve access for the public. Construction jobs will be generated during restoration work and thousands of visitors will enjoy the improvements made possible by this project for years to come.

In conclusion, Block Island's Southeast Lighthouse is a treasured, nationally recognized icon of Rhode Island and is an important asset in its marine transportation system. Considerable resources have already been expended over the last 25 years to get the lighthouse museum rehabilitation to this critical juncture. Please move to get this project back on track and completed by recommending \$600,000 in funding now as part of the FY 2017-25 Transportation Improvement Program.



Certificate of Special Recognition

Be it known that I,

Gina M. Raimondo

*Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence
Plantations, extend my personal best wishes to*

B.I. Southeast Lighthouse

*In recognition of receiving a State Historic
Preservation Grant.*

Congratulations and best wishes for continued success.



*Given under my hand and the great
seal of the State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations,
this 11th day of January, 2016*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gina Raimondo', written over a horizontal line.

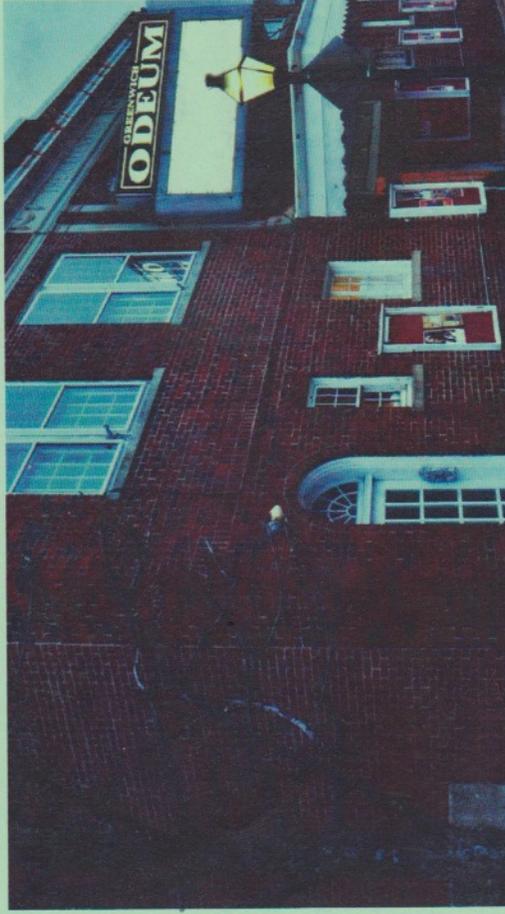
Governor

Program

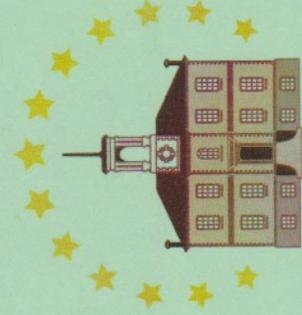
- ◆ Welcome to the Greenwich Odeum—
Kevin Muoio
- ◆ Performance by Torrin Ryan (All Ireland uilleann piper) and Kevin Doyle (National Heritage Fellow Irish Step Dancer),
introduced by Randall Rosenbaum
- ◆ An overview of the State Preservation Grant Program — *Ted Sanderson*
- ◆ An overview of the State Cultural Facilities Grant Program — *Randall Rosenbaum*
- ◆ Remarks by Mayor Charles Lombardi of North Providence
- ◆ Presentation of State Cultural Facilities Grants
- ◆ Presentation of State Historic Preservation Grants
- ◆ Final words and acknowledgments

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

Announcing the Awarding of The First Round of State Preservation Grants and State Cultural Facilities Grants



Monday, January 11, 2016 at 10:00am
Greenwich Odeum
East Greenwich, RI



RI Historical Preservation
& Heritage Commission



STATE PRESERVATION GRANTS

<u>Site</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Grant</u>
Herreshoff Yacht Manufacturing Building	Bristol	\$150,000
Central Falls City Hall	Central Falls	\$150,000
Farmhouse at Franklin Farm	Cumberland	\$150,000
The Greenwich Odeum	East Greenwich	\$28,896
Pomham Rocks Light	East Providence	\$150,000
Clemence-Irons House	Johnston	\$29,780
Block Island Southeast Lighthouse	New Shoreham	\$150,000
Chinese Tea House at Marble House	Newport	\$150,000
Newport Congregational Church	Newport	\$150,000
Vernon House	Newport	\$22,484
Old Town House	North Kingstown	\$43,175
Smith's Castle	North Kingstown	\$56,100
James Hilton Bleachery/Stone House	North Providence	\$65,525
Old Slater Mill	Pawtucket	\$50,000
Portsmouth Historical Society	Portsmouth	\$30,000
Providence Athenaeum	Providence	\$16,843
Providence Public Library	Providence	\$150,000
Southside Cultural Center	Providence	\$150,000
Smithfield Exchange Bank	Smithfield	\$19,866
Smithfield Town Hall	Smithfield	\$18,755
South County Art Association	South Kingstown	\$29,634
Armory Hall	Warren	\$25,373
Babcock-Smith House	Westerly	\$11,734
Westerly Armory	Westerly	\$24,750
Museum of Work and Culture	Woonsocket	\$20,000
		\$1,842,915

STATE CULTURAL FACILITIES GRANTS

<u>Site</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Grant</u>
Barrington Public Library	Barrington	\$10,000
Blackstone River Theatre	Cumberland	\$97,000
The Greenwich Odeum	East Greenwich	\$250,000
East Providence Historical Society	East Providence	\$28,000
Educational Center	East Providence	\$250,000
R.I. Philharmonic Orchestra & Music School	Jamestown	\$58,000
Jamestown Arts Center	Providence	\$23,500
Dirt Palace	Providence	\$3,000
Educational Center for the Arts & Sciences	Providence	\$50,000
Everett	Providence	\$56,000
Governor Henry Lippitt House Museum	Providence	\$50,000
HeadsUp, Inc. for Mathewson St.	Providence	\$50,000
Museum of Art, Rhode Island School	Providence	\$250,000
New Urban Arts	Providence	\$250,000
ONE Neighborhood Builders for Paragon Performance Space	Providence	\$250,000
Providence Performing Arts Center	Providence	\$50,000
Southside Cultural Center	Providence	\$300,000
The Music Mansion	Providence	\$50,000
The Players	Providence	\$100,000
The Steel Yard	Providence	\$92,650
The Wilbury Theatre Group	Providence	\$25,000
The Contemporary Theater Company	South Kingstown	\$250,000
Granite Theatre	Westerly	\$33,269
		\$2,376,419