

## Interoffice Memorandum

**To:** Hon. Joanne Cunningham, Chairwoman, County Legislature

From: Bruce A. Hidley, County Clerk

**Subject:** Request for permission to accept grant funding in the amount of

\$138,834 from the New York State Local Government Records

Management Improvement Fund

Date: September 9, 2025

The County Clerk and the Albany County Hall of Records, in partnership with the Town of Bethlehem, are seeking authorization to accept grant funding in the amount of \$138,834 from the New York State Archives. The New York State Archives recently approved a joint proposal from Albany County and the Town of Bethlehem for a records digitization project under the terms of the 2025-2026 Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund grant.

We have received a number of these discretionary grants since 1989 for various digitization projects, including the Albany County Clerk's Office's Pistol Permits and Appropriation Maps, the digitizing and indexing of the Town of Colonie's Vital Records, Contracts, and Payroll Records, the digitization and indexing of the Town of Guilderland's Vital Records, Town Board Meeting Minutes, and Payroll Records, and the Village of Menands' Vital Records, Village Board Meeting Minutes, and Payroll Records.

The Albany County Hall of Records, in partnership with the County's IT Department, and the Town of Bethlehem, will be utilizing this grant money to assist with the digitization and indexing of the City of Albany Marriage Records, along with the Vital Records, and Town Board Meeting Minutes for the Town of Bethlehem. The newly digitized records will be stored on Albany County's Laserfiche Rio Electronic Content Management System. This will result in greater security and ease of access for and to these essential records as Albany County continues to fulfill its commitment to Shared Services.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and please feel free to contact me if I can provide any further information.

cc: Dennis Feeney, Majority Leader, Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel Frank Mauriello, Minority Leader, James Curran, Minority Counsel