

EXHIBIT H

2008 Letters of support

ROBERT A. BRADY
1ST DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

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www.brady.house.gov

April 7, 2009

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: RACP Funding for the Boyd Theatre Rehabilitation and Hotel Development Project

Dear Governor Rendell:

As Pennsylvania's First Congressional District Representative and a strong supporter of economic initiatives that create jobs in our region, I proudly support ARCWheeler's grant request for RACP funding of the Boyd Theatre rehabilitation and Kimpton Hotel development project.

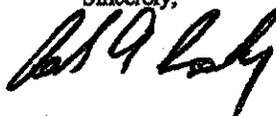
The economic crisis we are currently facing is the worst that we have seen since the Great Depression. Millions of jobs have been lost and thousands of Pennsylvanians have lost their homes. The tightened credit markets have made it nearly impossible to get financing for much needed development projects that will help stimulate the state economy. It is absolutely imperative that we act immediately to confront this crisis to ensure that it does not get steadily worse.

ARCWheeler's plans for the Boyd Theatre represent a new "shovel ready" project that will create hundreds of immediate construction jobs and generate millions of dollars in tax revenues for the region. Once completed, the rehabilitated Boyd Theatre and Kimpton Hotel will create hundreds more permanent jobs in the retail, hospitality, dining and entertainment industries. The project promises to spur further economic development and encourage other cultural, entertainment, dining and retail institutions to develop along the 1900 block of Chestnut Street in Philadelphia.

The Convention Center expansion will necessitate new development projects like the Boyd Theatre and Kimpton Hotel to absorb the influx of visitors. Hospitality experts and tourism officials have projected we will need 2,500 new hotel rooms to support the Spring 2011 rollout of the expanded Convention Center. As you are aware, many of the proposed hotel projects have been stalled due to the economic crisis. ARCWheeler's development will add another 250 hotel rooms, create jobs and alleviate pressure to accommodate these new visitors.

This project needs RACP funding from the Commonwealth to move forward. I urge you to support ARCWheeler's proposal and approve RACP financing for the Boyd Theatre rehabilitation and Kimpton Hotel development project.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Brady, M.C.
1st Congressional District, PA



**GREATER PHILADELPHIA
FILM OFFICE**

WWW.FILM.ORG

March 17, 2009

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PHONE: 215-686-2688
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www.film.org
mail@film.org

State Representative Dwight Evans
512-E Main Capitol Building
PO Box 202203
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Representative Evans,

I understand you are considering support from the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program for the rehabilitation and reopening of the Boyd Theatre.

As you know, the Film Office has had much success in persuading Hollywood studios to film movies in Philadelphia and has recently, with your assistance, enabled the construction of sound stages. After they finish filmmaking, movie directors are eager to have Hollywood style "red carpet" premieres here. Directors will be even more eager to film here if they know they can premiere their movies at the Boyd. Earlier in my leadership of the Film Office, there were premieres and screenings at the Boyd, known as the Sameric. The spotlight was on Philadelphia when Tom Hanks and Denzel Washington attended the 1993 world premiere of "Philadelphia" at the theater, and Hanks blurted out "Oh, wow, a real movie palace!" Other Philadelphia theaters do not have enough seating capacity and they lack the "wow" factor that the Boyd possesses with its Art Deco glamour. Movie premieres glow with the excitement of the klieg lights, red carpet and crowds on the sidewalk, the buzz of press interviews in the theater's grand lobby, and the stars appearing on stage. In addition to wonderful "press" for Philadelphia, movie premieres fill hotels and restaurants. Philadelphia's economy will be stronger with our own equivalent of Radio City Music Hall, Grauman's Chinese Theatre, and other glamorous theaters that host movie premieres in almost every other US city.

I know that Ray Murray has also long been enthusiastic about using the Boyd for film festivals. Both Ray and I have been delighted with the advocacy of Friends of the Boyd, Inc. for the survival and reopening of the Boyd. I have met with Hal Wheeler and am impressed with how interested he is in purchasing and reopening the Boyd. I would like to express my support for Commonwealth funding assistance so that the Boyd can be rehabilitated and reopened.

Sincerely,

Sharon Pinkenson,
Executive Director



**GREATER PHILADELPHIA
FILM OFFICE**

WWW.FILM.ORG

March 17, 2009

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Chairman Emeritus

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FAX: 215-680-3659
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mail@film.org

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg PA 17120

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I understand you are considering support from the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program for the rehabilitation and reopening of the Boyd Theatre.

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Sincerely,

Sharon Pinkenson
Executive Director

preservation

PENNSYLVANIA

257 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101 tel 717.234.2310 fax 717.234.2522 info@preservationpa.org www.preservationpa.org

March 24, 2009

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg PA 17120

Dear Governor Rendell:

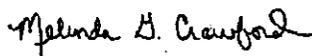
I am writing to ask for your help in preserving the historic Boyd Theatre in Philadelphia. I urge you to commit funds from the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program, funding that is vital to the successful rehabilitation of this landmark.

The Boyd Theatre, Philadelphia's sole surviving movie palace from Hollywood's Golden Era, has experienced a long struggle for survival. Its challenges are well documented and I am sure you are aware of the dire situation. Preservation Pennsylvania has been advocating for this important building for several years. In 2002, we placed the Boyd Theatre on *Pennsylvania At Risk*, a list of the most important and most endangered historic places in the state. In 2008, the National Trust for Historic Preservation included it on *America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places*.

The Boyd is significant not only for its importance as the last remaining theatre of its kind in Philadelphia but for the part it plays as one of the many important historic theatres that are currently endangered or have been lost already all over Pennsylvania and the country. Historic downtown theatres are an important part of our heritage and those that have been saved and are being used are valuable assets in our many urban centers. Saving the Boyd Theatre will not only be a preservation success for Philadelphia but for Pennsylvania as well.

Without your support, this project will not be possible. I urge you to act now to save this Philadelphia landmark.

Sincerely,



Melinda G. Crawford
Executive Director

March 25, 2009

Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Rendell:

The Center City Proprietors Association (CCPA), a non-profit, Philadelphia-based member supported organization dedicated to serving the needs of Philadelphia's small businesses, respectfully expresses its support for ARCWheeler's grant request for RACP funding of the Boyd Theatre rehabilitation and Kimpton Monaco Hotel development project.

As you are aware, the Boyd Theatre, once considered the crown jewel of art deco movie houses in the United States, has endured a steady decline over the past twenty years. Today the vacant theatre is a symbol of the block's decline as many of the cultural, retail, and small business opportunities tied to theatre traffic have left. **We want to change this!**

ARCWheeler's plans for the project represent a new approach to mixed use development for Pennsylvania that marries the region's economic interests with preservationist ideals. Development of the hotel, theater and restaurants will revitalize the neighborhood by creating exciting cultural, entertainment, dining and retail opportunities. ARCWheeler's plan will create an entirely unique entertainment venue in Philadelphia that complements both the proposed expansion of the Convention Center and current entertainment options along the Avenue of the Arts. The project's thoughtful design will create a synergy between the hotel and theatre which will fit seamlessly with its surroundings on Chestnut Street.

As you may know, ARCWheeler's plans have received unanimous support from the Philadelphia Planning Commission, Philadelphia Historical Commission, Philadelphia Zoning Board, and Center City Residents Association. In addition, the project has been hailed by local preservation groups including Friends of the Boyd and the Preservation Alliance, ARCWheeler's non-profit partner.

CCPA would like to include our voice in support of this project. We request that you take action and approve the much needed public RACP financing for the Boyd Theatre rehabilitation and hotel development project.

Sincerely,



Benjamin Frank
Executive Director

CC:
Harold Wheeler, ARCWheeler

1528 Walnut Street, Suite 910 • Philadelphia, PA 19102
215.545.7766, tel • 215.545.3634, fax • www.centercityproprietors.org

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PRESERVATION ALLIANCE

for greater philadelphia

March 23, 2009

State Representative Dwight Evans
512-E3 Main Capitol Building
Box 202203
Harrisburg PA 17120-2203

Dear Representative Evans,

I am writing to ask for your assistance in preserving the historic Boyd Theater in Philadelphia. I am sure you are aware of the efforts that have been underway for the past seven years to save the Boyd, the last of Philadelphia's great movie palaces. This is the historic preservation issue that has engendered the greatest public interest in recent years. Thousands of people have expressed support for its preservation, attended demonstrations and fundraising film-showings, written letters and attended public meetings.

Preservation of the Boyd Theater is now within reach. ARC Wheeler has presented an imaginative plan that combines the restored theater with a film-themed hotel. Funding for the restoration of the theater portion of the project is in place with the exception of a commitment of state Redevelopment Capital Assistance Program funds necessary to complete project financing. Mayor Nutter has pledged support from the City's allocation of these funds, as has the Governor, but these pledges are dependent on some funding from the House portion of the RCAP funds. We need your support to secure those funds.

Historic preservation in Philadelphia is a significant economic contributor to the Commonwealth. According to a report prepared for us by Econsult Corporation, **historic preservation in Philadelphia has resulted in \$240 Million of tax revenue to the state over the past ten years.** It would be appropriate for some of that to be reinvested in historic preservation in Philadelphia.

The restoration of the Boyd Theater can go forward this year if state funding is provided. Time is of the essence. I hope we can look forward to your support.

Sincerely,

John Andrew Gallery
Executive Director

1616 Walnut Street, Suite 1620, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

phone: 215.546.1146 fax: 215.546.1180 email: info@preservationalliance.com
www.preservationalliance.com



**PRESERVATION
ALLIANCE**

for greater philadelphia

March 4, 2009

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg PA 17120

Dear Governor Rendell,

I know that several people have contacted you regarding the preservation of the Boyd Theater and the need for support from the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program. Therefore, I will be brief.

I simply want to make three points. First, the Boyd Theater has been the preservation issue that has engendered the greatest public concern in the past five or six years. Thousands of people have expressed support for its preservation, attended demonstrations and fundraising film-showings, written letters etc. It is probably the most significant historic building in need of rehabilitation in Center City.

Second, historic preservation in Philadelphia is a significant economic contributor to the Commonwealth. According to a report prepared for us by Stephen Mullin at Econsult Corporation, **historic preservation in Philadelphia has resulted in \$240 Million of tax revenue to the state over the past ten years.** (I enclosed a confidential summary of Econsult's report to us, which we will release later this month.) It would be appropriate for some of that to be reinvested in historic preservation in Philadelphia.

Third, the project cannot go forward without state support. If you commit funds to the project you will be the one to get credit for saving this important treasure.

Time is of the essence. I hope we can look forward to your support to preserve the Boyd Theater.

Sincerely,

John Andrew Gallery
Executive Director

1616 Walnut Street, Suite 1620, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

phone: 215.546.1146 fax: 215.546.1180 email: info@preservationalliance.com
www.preservationalliance.com



AIA Philadelphia

A Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

20 March 2009

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg PA 17120

Re: Boyd Theatre, Philadelphia

Dear Governor Rendell,

The Historic Preservation Committee of AIA Philadelphia respectfully requests that you support Commonwealth funding for the restoration of Philadelphia's Boyd Theatre.

We have worked closely with the Friends of the Boyd, the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia, and previous and prospective owners of the building over the last seven years to provide pro-bono architectural and planning advice. We have researched the building's history and participated in public programs on the social significance of Philadelphia's movie palaces, of which the Boyd is the sole survivor.

This spectacular building has captured the public's imagination and sparked the loudest outcry of any preservation controversy in recent memory. Yet this project is about much more than a sentimental desire for an old building. The restoration effort as currently proposed is but one component of a much larger development featuring a unique hotel and meeting facility. The construction of this project will be a significant economic engine, further driving development of this area of Chestnut Street which has languished for too long. Substantial tax revenues will be generated through wages of those employed in its construction and operation as well from the expenditures of those staying at the hotel and attending its shows and performances.

The Boyd is a shovel-ready project deserving of Commonwealth funding. Generations of Pennsylvanians will be grateful. We hope that you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Robert Hotes, AIA
Committee Co-Chair

Shawn Evans, AIA
Committee Co-Chair

cc John Claypool, Executive Director AIA Philadelphia
Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia
Friends of the Boyd, Inc.

1218 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107
Chapter Tel. 215.569.3186
Chapter Fax 215.569.9226
www.aiphila.org

**NATIONAL
TRUST
FOR
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION***

Richard Moe
PRESIDENT

March 23, 2009

The Honorable Edward Rendell
Governor
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Ed:

I am writing to you to ask your assistance in preserving the historic Boyd Theater in Philadelphia at a moment when your assistance could make a critical difference in the preservation of this significant historic property.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation receives hundreds of nominations for our list of *America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places*. We selected the Boyd Theater to include on this list in 2008 because we felt that its preservation was of national importance. Not only is the Boyd Theater the last of the many great movie palaces that were once in Philadelphia, but its distinctive Art Deco design is rare among preserved movie palaces in the United States.

Since its inclusion on our list of *America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places*, positive things have happened. A developer, ARC Wheeler, has developed an imaginative plan for the development of a film-themed hotel in conjunction with the restoration of the theater. This plan involves use of the theater for small performances, conferences and other events that will not compete with other Philadelphia venues for Broadway shows or similar events. Restoration of the theater will include financing from historic tax credits and a buyer has already been identified for those credits. The National Trust's Community Investment Corporation is now working to put together a coalition of participants to provide New Market Tax Credits, including New Market Credits from our own National Trust allocation.

The financing and plans are in place that would allow the Boyd Theater restoration to be under construction this year. The one critical component that is needed to make this happen is a commitment of funds from Pennsylvania's Redevelopment Capital Assistance Program.

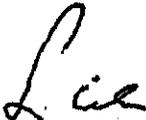
Historic preservation in Philadelphia has had a significant economic impact on the city, as I am sure you know from your time as Mayor of Philadelphia. But, as a recent report for the Preservation Alliance shows, those historic preservation activities also provide significant economic benefits to the state in terms of jobs and tax revenues. I am sure that the economic benefits of the Boyd Theater will, in the long run, far outweigh the state funding that is necessary to make this project feasible.

The Honorable Edward Rendell
March 23, 2009
Page Two

I respectfully urge you to provide the funding that will make the critical difference in the preservation of the Boyd Theater and allow us to announce nationally that it is no longer on our list of *America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places*. Your decision can make all the difference for Philadelphia and Pennsylvania. Thank you!

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,



Richard Moe

RM:jg

cc: Mayor Michael Nutter
John Gallery, Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia

Friends of the Boyd, Inc.

P.O. Box 30629
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Telephone (215) 567-2970
www.FriendsOfTheBoyd.org



March 18, 2009

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg PA 17120

Re: Boyd Theatre, Philadelphia

Dear Governor Rendell,

The Friends of the Boyd, Inc. ask that you provide support from the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program so that the Boyd Theatre can be restored to its original Art Deco glamour and reopened. As citizen activists, in 2002 we organized to prevent the demolition of Center City's sole surviving movie palace. Since then, thousands of our supporters have participated in sidewalk demonstrations, petitions, film fund raising events, and other activities to ensure that the Boyd survives.

Starting in the 1930s, supporters of our cause fondly recall traveling to the Boyd for the movies "Wizard of Oz" and "Gone with the Wind." Jeannette MacDonald, Charlton Heston, Grace Kelly, and many Hollywood stars attended movie premieres at the Boyd. You attended red carpet premieres at the Boyd (then known as the Sameric) including the 1993 movie "Philadelphia" with Tom Hanks and Denzel Washington.

We believe that the Commonwealth should fund the Boyd for the same reasons that almost every US city and state has helped fund the restoration of at least one movie palace. They do so to preserve history, create jobs and promote tourism. The Boyd would help revitalize Chestnut Street. Suburbanites and tourists would visit Philadelphia to experience events at the Boyd. If you glance at travel books, almost every city has an entry "1920s movie palace, saved from demolition, gorgeously restored to its original beauty and now hosts many functions." Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Howard B. Haas, Esq.

President, Friends of the Boyd, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Howard B. Haas, Esq., *Chair & President* - John Andrew Gallery, *Vice Chair & Vice President*
William J. D. Jordan, *Treasurer* - J. Matthew Wolfe, Esq., *Secretary*
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AIA Philadelphia

A Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

26 March 2009

State Representative Dwight Evans
512-E Main Capitol Building
PO Box 202203
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2203

Re: Boyd Theatre, Philadelphia

Dear Representative Evans:

The Historic Preservation Committee of AIA Philadelphia respectfully requests that you support Commonwealth funding for the restoration of Philadelphia's Boyd Theatre.

We have worked closely with the Friends of the Boyd, the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia, and previous and prospective owners of the building over the last seven years to provide pro-bono architectural and planning advice. We have researched the building's history and participated in public programs on the social significance of Philadelphia's movie palaces, of which the Boyd is the sole survivor.

This spectacular building has captured the public's imagination and sparked the loudest outcry of any preservation controversy in recent memory. Yet this project is about much more than a sentimental desire for an old building. The restoration effort as currently proposed is but one component of a much larger development featuring a unique hotel and meeting facility. The construction of this project will be a significant economic engine, further driving development of this area of Chestnut Street which has languished for too long. Substantial tax revenues will be generated through wages of those employed in its construction and operation as well from the expenditures of those staying at the hotel and attending its shows and performances.

The Boyd is a shovel-ready project deserving of Commonwealth funding. Generations of Pennsylvanians will be grateful. We hope that you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Robert Hotes, AIA
Committee Co-Chair

Shawn Evans, AIA
Committee Co-Chair

cc John Claypool, Executive Director AIA Philadelphia
Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia
Friends of the Boyd, Inc.

Friends of the Boyd, Inc.

P.O. Box 30629
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Telephone (215) 567-2970
www.FriendsOfTheBoyd.org



March 24, 2009

State Representative Dwight Evans
512-E Main Capitol Building
PO Box 202203
Harrisburg, PA 17120
Re: Boyd Theatre, Philadelphia

Dear Representative Evans:

The Friends of the Boyd, Inc. ask that you provide support from the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program so that the Boyd Theatre can be restored to its original Art Deco glamour and reopened. As citizen activists, in 2002 we organized to prevent the demolition of Center City's sole surviving movie palace. Since then, thousands of our supporters have participated in sidewalk demonstrations, petitions, film fund raising events, and other activities to ensure that the Boyd survives.

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Sincerely,

Howard B. Haas, Esq.
President, Friends of the Boyd, Inc.

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William J. D. Jordan, *Treasurer* – J. Matthew Wolfe, Esq., *Secretary*
Adrian Scott Fine – Laura Henrich – Charlene Nolten – Lisa Rosen



Philadelphia Building and Construction Trades Council — AFL-CIO

2781 SOUTHAMPTON ROAD, SUITE 100 • PHILADELPHIA, PA 19154 • (215) 677-8500 • FAX (215) 677-7918

PATRICK B. GILLESPIE
Business Manager

PATRICK J. EIDING
Secretary-Treasurer

SAMUEL STATEN, SR.
President

March 25, 2009

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA, 17120

Dear Governor Rendell:

On behalf of the Philadelphia Building and Construction Trades Council, we ask for your support in granting RACP funding for ARC Wheeler's Boyd Theatre Rehabilitation and Hotel development project.

As you are well aware, the credit crisis has impacted new mixed-use construction projects across the region. In Philadelphia alone, 1,100 construction jobs were lost from January 2008 to January 2009, according to the most recent U.S. Labor Department figures. If you include the Pennsylvania suburbs, the total jumps to a staggering 9,100 jobs lost. ARC Wheeler's plans for the Boyd Theatre represent a new "shovel ready" project that will create hundreds of construction jobs and generate millions of dollars in tax revenues for the region. ARC Wheeler has a long track record of working with Philadelphia's construction unions, resulting in expanded job growth, new development and economic vitality for the region.

The Convention Center expansion has created added pressure to develop more hotels and entertainment venues around the city. Philadelphia convention officials, hoteliers and hospitality experts have touted a need for up to 2500 new hotel rooms to support the spring 2011 rollout of the expanded Convention Center. Due to the credit crisis, many proposed projects have been stalled, resulting in a shortfall of approximately 2000 rooms and hundreds of lost job opportunities. ARC Wheeler's plans to create a 250-room hotel with restaurants and retail connected to the Boyd Theatre will increase the supply for new hotel rooms in Philadelphia and create a one-of-kind destination for our city.

ARC Wheeler's proposal for the Boyd Theatre will create much-needed jobs and development opportunities for the region and needs your support. The Philadelphia Building and Construction Trades Council proudly supports this project and respectfully requests your approval for ARC Wheeler's RACP grant request.

Sincerely,

PATRICK B. GILLESPIE
Business Manager

PBG/cn
opaia #32
afl-cio

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www.PhiladelphiaUSA.travel

March 26, 2009

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Ed:

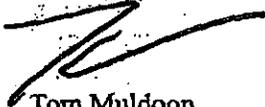
The Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau respectfully requests your support for ARC Wheeler's proposal for RACP financing of the Boyd Theatre Rehabilitation and Hotel development project.

The restoration of The Boyd Theatre and the development of an adjoining hotel will stimulate tourism by creating exciting cultural, entertainment, dining and retail opportunities for Philadelphia. The project will also help revitalize West Chestnut Street and create hundreds of construction, retail and service jobs and generate millions of dollars in tax revenues for the region. When the Boyd was in its prime, the theatre garnered national publicity and attracted thousands of tourists who traveled far and wide to experience one of the last standing movie palaces in the United States. Today, ARC Wheeler's proposal to rehabilitate the theatre and develop a boutique hotel will create a unique tourist attraction for the region that will complement the City's current cultural and hospitality offerings.

In addition, the Boyd Theatre project will complement the current Convention Center expansion by creating additional hospitality, entertainment and smaller corporate meeting spaces for businesses hosting their conventions in Philadelphia. The proposed expansion will create approximately 2,000 new hospitality-related jobs that will generate more than \$150 million and 280,000 additional room nights that will result in \$140 million annually. To accommodate travelers, it is projected the Convention Center will necessitate approximately 2,500 new hotel rooms in Philadelphia. The attraction of a world famous movie theatre and development of a new hotel just a few blocks away will help absorb the increased traffic and create an exciting destination for conference attendees and tourists alike.

The approval of State funding for The Boyd Theatre is necessary for this important project to move forward. On behalf of the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau, we support ARC Wheeler's proposal for RACP grant funding and respectfully request your consideration.

Sincerely,



Tom Muldoon
President



1700 Market Street
Suite 300
Philadelphia, PA 1910
Tel: 215-636-330
Fax: 215-636-332



RITTENHOUSE ROW

March 27, 2009

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor of Pennsylvania
200 South Broad Street, 11th Floor
Philadelphia PA 19102

Dear Governor Rendell:

I am writing to you on behalf of Rittenhouse Row. As you know, we represent more than 200 member businesses including the hotels, restaurants and retail in the area surrounding Rittenhouse Square.

Rittenhouse Row enthusiastically offers this letter of support for RACP funding for the Boyd Theater. The Boyd has been in its heyday and hopefully will be in the future an important part of the Philadelphia fabric and most importantly a potential source of business generation in the greater Rittenhouse Square community.

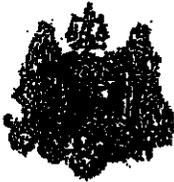
Since the Boyd has been closed, the west end of Chestnut Street has never enjoyed the growth that other parts of Center City have experienced. A vibrant theater and hotel project would be exactly what is needed to stimulate growth in that part of the City. The fact that this project is "shovel ready" in these difficult times makes the investment even more appropriate.

Rittenhouse Row strongly supports RACP funding for this very dynamic project.

Should you require further information from Rittenhouse Row, please feel free to contact our Executive Director Corie Moskowitz at 215.518.5526.

Very truly yours

Joanne Davidow
Rittenhouse Row



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
CITY COUNCIL

DARRELL L. CLARKE
ROOM 404 CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107
(215) 686-3442 or 3-443
FAX: (215) 380-4501

DEMOCRATIC - 5th DISTRICT
MAJORITY WHIP

COMMITTEES

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Public Property and Public Works
Fiscal Stability and Intergovernmental Cooperation

Vice Chair
Appropriations

Member
Housing, Neighborhood Development and the Homelife
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs
Commerce and Economic Development
Public Safety
Police

March 24, 2009

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Rendell:

As the City Council representative for the Fifth district of Philadelphia and an advocate for improving the quality of life in neighborhoods, I proudly support ARC Wheeler's great request for RACP funding of the Boyd Theatre rehabilitation and Kingston Monaco Hotel development project.

The Boyd Theatre is historically and economically important to the Fifth district and to the City of Philadelphia despite being unoccupied for the past twenty years. Today the vacant theatre is a symbol of the block's decline as many of the cultural, retail, and small business opportunities tied to theatre traffic have left. The restoration of The Boyd Theatre and the development of a Kingston hotel will help rejuvenate the 1900 block of Chestnut and encourage other cultural, entertainment, dining and retail institutions to develop the area.

ARC Wheeler's multi-purpose entertainment venue will complement other cultural offerings through the city and provide a location to host major events that other venues in the city cannot accommodate. This project will create hundreds of construction, retail and service jobs and will continue to attract visitors to our region. The rehabilitation of the Boyd Theatre and development of the Kingston Hotel is very important to helping generate economic development and tax revenue for my district.

Your support is vital to moving forward with this project. Therefore I respectfully request you to consider the much needed public RACP financing for ARC Wheeler's proposal for the Boyd Theatre.

Sincerely,

Darrell L. Clarke

Darrell L. Clarke
Majority Whip
City Councilman, Fifth District Philadelphia

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Manuel N. Stamatakis, Chairman
Founder and CEO
Capital Management Enterprises

Robert Asher
Co-Chairman
Asher's Chocolates

David G. Benton
Vice President and General Manager
The Rittenhouse Hotel and
Condominium Residences

Robert W. Bogle
President and CEO
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Rhonda R. Cohen, Esquire

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Aqua America, Inc.

Honorable Nelson A. Diaz
Of Counsel
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Honorable Michael A. Nutter
Mayor
City of Philadelphia

Marsha R. Perelman
President
Woodforde Energy, Inc.

Fred Shabel, Chairman Emeritus
Vice Chairman
Comcast Spectacor

Meryl Levitz
President and CEO
GPTMC

March 31, 2009

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Rendell:

The Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation is pleased to provide this letter of support for ARC Wheeler's grant request for RACP funding of the Boyd Theatre preservation/rehabilitation and Kimpton Monaco Hotel development project.

The Philadelphia tourism market is a tremendous driver of the regional economy, accounting for more than \$9 billion in spending, \$1.3 billion in federal, state and local taxes, and more than 88,000 regional jobs annually. In the past decade, the number of overnight leisure visitors has increased from 6.5 million to 10.6 million - 4 million more people have stayed overnight - representing an increase of almost 63 percent.

Today, urban growth and prosperity are closely tied to the perception of a city as a culturally rich place to live. Philadelphia's vast collection of museums, galleries, cultural groups, and performing arts venues are just one of the reasons visitors choose to come here. Plans to preserve the historic Boyd Theatre, as part of a boutique hotel complex, and create a multi-purpose entertainment venue that can accommodate movie premieres, film screenings and headline acts would enhance Philadelphia's reputation as a vibrant, cultural destination and feature new offerings for tourists and residents alike.

On behalf of the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation, I encourage support of this project which promises to preserve an important landmark and build excitement with expanded hospitality, entertainment, retail and dining options.

Sincerely,



Meryl Levitz
President and CEO

Cc: Roger Friedman, ARC Wheeler
GPTMC Executive Staff



THEATRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY of AMERICA

Society Office:
152 N York Road
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126
630-782-1800 www.historictheatres.org

President's Address:
147 High Street
Geneva, New York 14458
315-789-8158 [Ebansonian1@aol.com](mailto:Ebensonian1@aol.com)

March 26, 2009

State Representative Dwight Evans
512-E Main Capitol Building
PO Box 202203
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2203

Re: Boyd Theatre, Philadelphia

Dear Representative Evans:

On behalf of the Directors and Members of Theatre Historical Society of America, I write to ask for your support of the Boyd Theatre's request for rehabilitation funds from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Redevelopment Capital Assistance Program.

All across America, in cities both large and small, historic movie palaces have received state redevelopment aid for their restoration, and have successfully revitalized their communities. A faithfully restored theater building becomes the economic engine that spurs other ancillary businesses to spring up. Their customers bring fresh dollars and renewed energy into the previously declining business district.

As part of our yearly week-long theater tour, THS members visit numerous such historic theaters restored with government funding and see first hand the remarkable changes that occur when investment dollars revitalize a dormant theater. This summer THS will hold their theater tour in and around Philadelphia and the Boyd Theater is the one landmark that most of our attendees expressed an interest in seeing. It's décor and elegance are legendary and a clamoring public is eager to experience it again as a restored, functioning public space.

I have personally visited the Boyd Theater and seen for myself the magnificent architecture hidden behind those locked doors. It would be a crime to allow the interior to be gutted rather than restored to its original splendor.

In every large city across the United States, an historic movie theater has been restored and reopened to great success. It is shocking that Philadelphia, a city that once boasted so many masterpieces, has not done the same. The opportunity exists within the walls of the Boyd Theater.

Again, I reiterate our wholehearted support for the Boyd Theatre to receive rehabilitation funds from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Redevelopment Capital Assistance Program. Please feel free to call on me if I can offer additional assistance to this request or if THS can be of assistance in any way.

With best regards,

Karen Colizzi Noonan, President



THEATRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY of AMERICA

Society Office:
152 N York Road
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126
630-782-1800 www.historictheatres.org

President's Address:
147 High Street
Geneva, New York 14456
315-789-6158 Ebersolan1@aol.com

March 26, 2009

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg PA 17120

Re: Boyd Theatre, Philadelphia

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With best regards,

Karen Colizzi Noonan, President

Dear Ed:

I am adding my support for ARCWheeler's grant request for RACP funding of the Boyd Theatre rehabilitation and Kimpton Monaco Hotel development project.

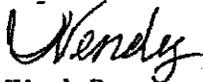
The Boyd Theatre was once a vital neighbor of Rittenhouse Square. The 2500 seat Art Deco movie house was home to many first-run movies and film premieres, attracting thousands of tourists, stars, cinema fans and businesses to the area. Just one block from Rittenhouse Square, in the 1900 block of Chestnut Street, the now-shuttered theatre serves as a sad reminder of the block's decline. ARCWheeler's plans to revitalize the theatre and expand the block will add bustling retail, restaurants and businesses to North Chestnut Street.

The project will entail a historic rehabilitation of the theatre, development of a Kimpton Hotel that allows for a variety of business and entertainment options, and the development of two restaurants. The construction and eventual completion of the Boyd Theatre project will breathe new life into the neighborhood by creating exciting cultural, *entertainment, dining and shopping opportunities*. The project will create hundreds of jobs in the construction, retail and service sectors, and generate millions of dollars in tax revenues for the region. ARCWheeler's plan will create an entirely unique entertainment venue in Philadelphia that complements both the proposed expansion of the Convention Center and current entertainment options along the Avenue of the Arts.

The benefits of ARCWheeler's plan are obvious. The proposal has already received unanimous support from the Philadelphia Planning Commission, Philadelphia Historical Commission, Philadelphia Zoning Board, and Center City Residents Association. Preservation groups such as the Friends of the Boyd and the Preservation Alliance, ARCWheeler's non-profit partner, have also expressed their support of the Boyd proposal.

I urge you to approve the much needed public RACP financing for the Boyd Theatre rehabilitation and hotel development project.

Sincerely,



Wendy Rosen,
President
Friends of Rittenhouse Square

**BABETTE JOSEPHS, DEMOCRATIC MEMBER
MAJORITY CHAIR,
STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**

300 MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
P.O. BOX 202182
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2182
PHONE: 717.787.8028
FAX: 717.787.8088
E-MAIL: RepJosephs@pshouse.net
WEB SITE: www.babette.org

1828 WALNUT STREET, SUITE 501
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19102
PHONE: 215.889.1518
FAX: 215.880.5919



**House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG**

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE 182ND DISTRICT

COMMITTEES

STATE GOVERNMENT
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CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM
COMMON SENSE FIREARMS SAFETY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
LIFE SCIENCES AND BIOTECHNOLOGY
SUBSTANCE ABUSE

April 3, 2009

Dwight Evans, Majority Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Representative Evans:

The Boyd Theater is Philadelphia's last remaining movie palace, a unique Art Deco theater that still retains its original historic character in spite of years of vacancy.

An imaginative plan has been developed by ARC Wheeler to restore the theater as an entertainment facility linked to a film-themed oriented hotel. The first phase of the project will be the restoration of the theater, an approximately \$37 million project.

Financing for the theater restoration is nearly complete with funding from historic preservation tax credits, New Market Tax Credits, a union pension fund loan and other sources. However the restoration of the theater is not feasible without some level of public funding. Mayor Nutter has agreed to the allocation of Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program funds to the project, as has Governor Rendell. Approximately \$2 million is needed from the House allocation of RACP funds.

We need your help if this exciting and innovative project is to succeed. Please include the Boyd Theater in your recommendations for RACP spending. I will be away from April 7th until April 20th. After that I would be most happy to speak to you about this important project at your convenience.

Yours,

Babette Josephs

cc: John Gallery, Executive Director of the Preservation Society
Howard Hass, President, Friends of the Boyd, Inc.
Hal Wheeler, ARC Wheeler
Vivian Seltzer, CCRA President

BJ:jb