



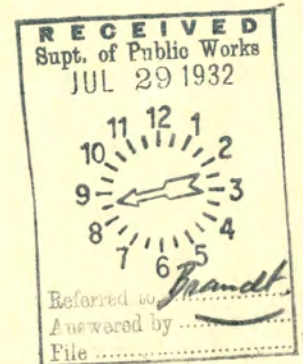
STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
GOVERNOR

July 28, 1932

Hon. Frederick Stewart Greene
Superintendent of Public Works,
State Office Building, Albany, N.Y.

Dear Colonel Greene:



By a recent act of the Congress, approved by the President, there is available to this State an emergency relief advance of \$6,059,000 for expenditure upon highway projects. The Federal Act permits the expenditure of these moneys on parkways. A condition imposed by the Act is that the money shall be expended prior to July 1, 1933. This allows us less than eleven and a half months in which to award contracts and secure the completion of the work, as well as payment therefor.

Then I am informed by Mr. Hopkins, Chairman of the Temporary Emergency Relief Administration, that a vast amount of unemployment exists ~~in New York City and~~ in the entire Metropolitan area. It has been suggested, and I am thoroughly in accord with the proposal, that ~~upwards of~~ *not more* \$2,000,000 of this sum be expended on the Northern, Grand Central and Eastern Parkways. These three projects readily lend themselves to the purposes for which this advance of Federal funds is being made. First, they are situated in areas where thousands of men are unemployed; second, sections of these parkways are graded and ready to have pavements laid; third, plans and specifications are ready so that contracts may be immediately advertised and let, and the work completed within the allotted time, and fourth, the completion of these parkway projects will afford to hundreds of thousands of people outlets from the Greater City to Long Island on the east and through the Eastern Parkway on the north.

Hon. Frederick Stewart Greene:

May I not urge that you facilitate with all possible speed the advertising and awarding of these contracts, and that you impose conditions therein which will insure the employment of the greatest number of men on these projects?

The expenditure on these projects of this portion of the advance by the Federal Government will not retard highway development in the other counties of the State, for the reason that the time limitation - - six months of which are in the winter period when little or no construction work can be done - - for expenditure, (July 1, 1933) does not make it possible to secure rights of way, advertise and let contracts, and complete projects in scarcely more than eleven months. The remainder of the advance - something more than \$4,000,000 - will be all, I am satisfied, that can actually be expended in other sections of the State in addition to the sums made available by the Legislature of 1932.

Very sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Franklin D. Roosevelt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "F".

GOVERNOR.