



Department of Public Works | 860.584.6125

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 14, 2020

TO: City Building Committee
FROM: David Oakes, Public Works Facilities & Energy Manager

RE: Main Library – Historic Section Wall Plaster Remediation & Repairs

Fracturing and delamination of plaster walls within the 1st floor historic section of the Main Library is currently occurring at 5 High Street. Based on the investigation, the cracking is most likely from previous demolition activities associated with the renovation and expansion of the Main Library.

A masonry contractor was consulted previously and an estimate for repairs was supplied, which noted it did not include any costs for hazardous materials handling/disposal. Based on the age of the building, it was suspected that lead paint was most likely present, as a previous lead paint removal and repair was conducted on the exterior of the building. Sampling and analysis by Eagle Environmental confirmed the presence of lead based paint within the plaster matrix. Accurate Insulation provided a quote to abatement lead-based paint impacted plaster in the areas of concern.

City staff contacted State of CT Historic Preservation Officers to discuss the current state of the delaminating plaster and coordinate on a phased approach to abate, repair and paint the areas of concern to match the historic aesthetic of the interior areas. Staff met with the Preservation Officers on 2/7/20 at the site, to discuss the plan and the potential to receive State grant funding to proceed with the work scope.

DPW staff is working with Dr. Dawn Leger of the ECD to submit a grant application for the repair of the delaminated plaster currently. Funds for this work are being requested in the FY20-21 Building Committee budget.