

LOCAL FIXES ON OBAMA'S LIST

Gosselin, Kenneth R . Hartford Courant ; Hartford, Conn. [Hartford, Conn]03 Feb 2015: A.8.

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ABSTRACT

The annex is part of an eight-story building that houses bankruptcy court, citizenship and immigration services, the U.S. District Court for the state of Connecticut, and the offices of the federal marshals and probation.

FULL TEXT

President Barack Obama's 2016 budget proposal, under construction and repair, has a nugget for Hartford: \$9.9 million for renovations to the federal building and courthouse on Main Street.

The renovations would target the annex of the Abraham A. Ribicoff Federal Building and Courthouse, added in 1992, and part of the massive court and federal office building just south of the Hartford Public Library.

The work would include replacing paneled granite walls, portions of the atrium and the roof – necessary to prevent further deterioration caused by leaks and water damage, according to the federal General Services Administration.

The Hartford project is part of nearly \$300 million sought by the GSA to renovate and better use federal buildings.

Those efforts include less use of leased space, consolidation of work spaces and energy efficiency.

With Congress' support, "Americans will benefit from energy and cost-efficient public buildings ... and historic properties that are properly maintained for generations to come," said Dan Tangherlini, the GSA's administrator.

The proposal did not come with a timetable.

The annex is part of an eight-story building that houses bankruptcy court, citizenship and immigration services, the U.S. District Court for the state of Connecticut, and the offices of the federal marshals and probation.

Construction of the building was completed in 1963, and it was renamed for Ribicoff in 1980. Ribicoff was Connecticut's governor, a longtime member of the U.S. Congress and secretary of health, education and welfare in the administration of President John F. Kennedy.

As a lawyer, Ribicoff practiced in the building's courthouses, and he had an office there as a U.S. senator.

Credit: KENNETH R. GOSSSELIN, kgosselin@courant.com

Illustration

PHOTO, B&W: KENNETH R. GOSSSELIN | KGOSSELIN@COURANT.COM; Caption: PARTS OF THE Ribicoff Federal Building and Courthouse need repairs.

DETAILS

Subject: Courthouses; Litigation; Public buildings

Location: Connecticut

Company / organization: Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120

Publication title:	Hartford Courant; Hartford, Conn.
First page:	A.8
Publication year:	2015
Publication date:	Feb 3, 2015
Section:	MAIN (A)
Publisher:	Tribune Publishing Company LLC
Place of publication:	Hartford, Conn.
Country of publication:	United States, Hartford, Conn.
Publication subject:	General Interest Periodicals--United States
ISSN:	10474153
Source type:	Newspapers
Language of publication:	English
Document type:	News
ProQuest document ID:	1651162084
Document URL:	https://search.proquest.com/docview/1651162084?accountid=10341
Copyright:	(Copyright The Hartford Courant 2015)
Last updated:	2015-02-04
Database:	Hartford Courant

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