



## Library Construction Aid Budget Request : \$45M

- Funding for the Program was stagnant for nearly a decade until recent investment by the Legislature in 2018. However, in 2020 it was slashed by \$20M.
- In January 2021, the Governor proposed \$14M for the Program.
- Increased investment is needed to maintain and develop the physical infrastructure of New York State's libraries, in order to ensure a safe, accessible and sustainable environment for the future.
- The most recent available data provided by the New York State Education Department's Division of Library Development (DLD) articulates an existing \$1.5B in capital needs statewide.
- Over half of New York's libraries are over 60 years old.
- The Program provides an immediate and efficient return on investment while boosting local economies; since 2007, state investment has leveraged more than \$500M in local funding – a 5:1 return.

### Reminders

New York State's public libraries are rapidly aging.

Public libraries require capital investment to accommodate high-speed broadband infrastructure.

Public libraries desperately require energy-efficient infrastructure upgrades.

Public library capital needs have been comparatively underfunded.

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