



Library Construction Aid Budget Request : \$45M

LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION AID PROGRAM:

Funds that are allocated annually in the State Budget for the use of public libraries and systems for construction, renovation, rehabilitation, or acquisition of new space. Other eligible or unique projects include broadband installation, emergency generators and security systems.

WHERE WE WERE:

- In 2021, an allocation of \$34 million was made to the Library Construction Aid Program.
- Last year’s investment came in the wake of a \$20 million reduction in 2020.

WHERE WE ARE:

- New York State’s public library buildings are rapidly aging.
Over half of our state’s libraries are over 60 years old.
- The most recent available data provided by the New York State Education Department documents an existing \$1.5B in capital needs statewide.

WHERE WE SHOULD BE:

- Increased investment would allow public libraries to maintain and develop their physical infrastructure to ensure they are safe, accessible, and sustainable for everyone.
- Expanded budgets mean expanded spaces and possibilities that promote literacy, creativity, civic engagement and thriving communities.

IN YOUR DISTRICT:
