



ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON LIBRARIES AND EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: Library Construction Aid

PURPOSE: To examine library construction aid and the long-term capital needs of libraries

Albany, New York

October 25, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Hearing Room C

Legislative Office Building

The State Aid for Public Library Construction Program provides aid to assist New York State's 23 public library systems and over 750 public libraries sustain and upgrade their infrastructure. Funding for this program is allocated annually through the enacted state budget and is administered by the New York State Library in partnership with the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York through a statutory formula. Libraries may use this aid to acquire new buildings or land, construct a new building, renovate or rehabilitate their existing buildings, improve their broadband infrastructure, and any other project costs approved by the Commissioner of Education.

The Committee seeks testimony on library construction aid and the long-term capital needs of libraries and library systems. In particular, the Committee is interested in hearing ways to update, improve, and streamline the process for the application for and allocation of library construction aid. Additionally, the Committee is interested in hearing updates on how state funding for construction of public library buildings in economically distressed communities has impacted those libraries and communities.

Persons wishing to present pertinent testimony to the Committee at the above hearing should complete and return the enclosed reply form as soon as possible. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned so that persons may be notified in the event of emergency postponement or cancellation.

Oral testimony will be limited to 5 minutes' duration. In preparing the order of witnesses, the Committee will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular times in view of special circumstances. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or communicated to Committee staff as early as possible.

Ten copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committee would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

Attendees and participants at any legislative public hearing should be aware that these proceedings are video recorded. Their likenesses may be included in any video coverage shown on television or the internet.

In order to further publicize these hearings, please inform interested parties and organizations of the Committee's interest in hearing testimony from all sources.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Assembly, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.

**Honorable Carrie Woerner
Chair
Committee on Libraries and Education Technology**

PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM

Persons wishing to present testimony at the public hearing on Library Construction Aid are requested to complete this reply form as soon as possible and mail, email or fax it to:

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Room 513 - Capitol
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Email: deckerb@nyassembly.gov
Phone: (518) 455-4881
Fax: (518) 455-7250

I plan to attend the following public hearing on Library Construction Aid to be conducted by the Assembly Standing Committee on Libraries and Education Technology on October 25, 2023.

I plan to make a public statement at the hearing. My statement will be limited to 5 minutes, and I will answer any questions which may arise. I will provide 10 copies of my prepared statement.

I will address my remarks to the following subjects:

I do not plan to attend the above hearing.

I would like to be added to the Committee's mailing list for notices and reports.

I would like to be removed from the Committee's mailing list.

I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. **Please specify the type of assistance required:** _____

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

FAX TELEPHONE: _____