

FY2012-2013 State Aid for Public Library Construction Program

Board Actions:

1) **Proposed Board Priorities for Funding:**

- Project must be **part of a long-range plan or a prioritized facility plan** which is reported to MHLS through the Construction Needs Action Memo issued annually in March and
- **Provide for:**
 - **An increase in services**, through an increase in usable public space or increased staff efficiencies;
 - **An increase in access** (e.g. handicapped accessibility) and/or
 - **Energy conservation in the context of a professional's recommendations or with an historic preservation element.** For the purposes of the board's ranking a "professional's recommendation" will, at least, include the results of an Energy Audit by the NYS Energy Research & Development Authority (NYSERDA)

1) **The MHLS Board must define what an "economically disadvantaged community"** will qualify as in our region to comply with the amended legislation that allows for state aid to be provided up to 75% for buildings/public libraries located in such a community. Application requests greater than 50% need to demonstrate how the project will address the service needs of one or more economically disadvantaged communities.

Due diligence after the meeting of the Incentive Committee revealed our initial percentages were too high to help many libraries. New percentages will be proposed at the meeting. Please see the Executive Directors report for more information.

Proposed Definition:

(1) a political subdivision within which _____ percent or more of the population is living in poverty as shown on the latest federal census.

(2) a public school district within which the percentage of student enrollment that is eligible for free and reduced lunch under the national school lunch program is _____ percent or more for at least one month during the twelve months prior to the date of filing of the grant application.

(3) a political subdivision as described in #1 within which _____ percent or more of the population is living in poverty **and** a public school district as described in #2 within which the percentage of student enrollment that is eligible for free and reduced lunch under the national school lunch program is _____ percent or more.

