

Construction Grant Applications (FY2014-2015)

MHLS Incentives Committee Recommendations

Background

MHLS member libraries have reported a **need for over \$55,000,000** for construction, expansion and renovation through the 2013 Construction Needs Update Action Memo. Applicants for the '14-'15 round of construction funds have requested over **\$1.2 million**, close to two and a half (2.5) times more than we have been allotted to award.

Total Available Funds for 2014-2015: MHLS has been allotted **\$525,545** through the State Aid for Public Library Construction Program. This year the System decided to exercise its right to use a portion of the allotted funds. While under the Commissioner's Regulations the System is allowed to use up to 40% of the funds allotted to our region, the System has used just over 8% of the available funds for the project to "*complete asbestos abatement of the Auditorium basement and replace the Auditorium's condenser and furnace with energy efficient models.*" After the **System award of \$44,074** there is **\$481,471 available to award to member library applicants.**

Award Recommendation Process

The Incentives Committee of the MHLS Board is tasked with recommended award amounts to the full MHLS Board. In the first quarter of this year the Committee reviewed the results of a System wide survey to evaluate member perception of the System's administration of this grant program. After a review of the feedback the committee:

- 1) **Agreed to recommend to the MHLS Board the following funding priorities** (*which were approved at the May 2014 meeting of the MHLS Board*):
 - i) An increase in services, through an increase in usable public space or increased staff efficiencies (e.g., new buildings, additions to current buildings, renovation of existing areas for new uses); and/or
 - ii) An increase in access (e.g., handicapped accessibility); and/or
 - iii) 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).
- 2) **Agreed to using the following criteria in ranking applications:**
 - i) Projects meeting one or more funding priorities;
 - ii) Impact of the project on the community and region based on the impact statement submitted with the application. The Committee directly reviewed an applicants' "Impact of Project" statement from the online application.

As a result of this process, the Committee submits the following award recommendations for libraries in the next funding cycle:

Member Library Project Descriptions & Recommended Award Amounts

Library	Project Description	Amount Requested	Recommended Award Amount
Howland Public Library, Beacon	"The Library Access Project will create an ADA-compliant, energy-saving airlock entry; men's, women's, and staff rest rooms; and a small storage room."	\$108,750	\$54,375
Beekman Library	"Installation of push button door openers on two sets of double doors at the library's main entrance."	\$2,950	\$2,500*
Brewster Public Library	"Install Roxul insulation with a R49 value in the attic above the main reading room and to restore slate roof above the main reading room."	\$3,018	\$2,500*
Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library, Cold Spring	"Revitalization of unused space will allow for new public space in Children Rm; replacement window, door and lighting will improve energy efficiencies"	\$36,683	\$18,342
Mountain Top Library, Haines Falls/Tannersville	"Completion of Learning Center including paint, trim, furnishings and handicapped lift plus library furnishings, book drop and emergency generator."	\$78,771	\$39,386
Highland Public Library	"This project would allow for purchase of an unimproved property..."	\$65,500	\$22,925
Hudson Area Association Library	"... Furniture Project will support the purchase, delivery, and assembly of loose furniture items for the new library space"	\$149,422	\$52,298
Hurley Library	"The library will provide adaptive reuse & expansion of the newly acquired building. The library will be ADA compliant, energy efficient and spacious."	\$208,000	\$104,000
Kinderhook Memorial Library	"The project will upgrade the outdated electrical service and provide a fire alarm system for the current building and anticipated expanded facility."	\$49,000	\$12,250

Marlboro Free Library	“The Library is seeking funds for a project that will improve accessibility to the entrance area while reducing energy costs throughout the facility.”	\$44,354	\$15,524
Plattekill Public Library	“Purchase of distressed property in main business district for a new, larger, ADA compliant public library facility.”	\$92,500	\$32,375
Poughkeepsie Public Library District	“General contracting work for the Boardman Road Branch Library project...”	\$234,178	\$81,962
Putnam Valley Free Library	“Replacement of the vehicular bridge over Oscawana Brook used to access Library and stream bank stabilization to preserve Library's foundation”	\$110,421	\$38,647
Stone Ridge Public Library	“Restoring and creating storm sashes for 11 historic windows in the nineteenth-century clapboard addition of the Library's 1798 stone building”	\$17,549	\$4,387
		\$1,201,096	\$481,471

**Please note the state grant program has a minimum allowable award amount of \$2,500*

