



Mid-Hudson Library System

103 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601 | tel 845.471.6060 | fax 845.454.5940 | <http://midhudson.org>

September 29, 2014

Lisette Hitsman
Supervisor, Town of Union Vale
249 Duncan Road
LaGrangeville, NY 12540

Dear Supervisor Hitsman:

Thank you for the increase in 2014 funding for public library services for the residents of the Town of Union Vale. Your neighboring libraries in Beekman, Dover Plains, LaGrange and Millbrook appreciate the Town’s support for the outstanding library services they provide to your residents.

In a letter to you from the Mid-Hudson Library System, dated July 28, 2011, we reported a review of the services provided by the public libraries in Beekman, Millbrook, LaGrange and Dover Plains to Town of Union Vale residents and stated the amount of \$72,811 as the appropriate funding provided by the Town of Union Vale for public library services.

For 2015, we are respectfully requesting funding at a minimum of \$50,000. If a minimum of \$50,000 is not allocated, the *Mid-Hudson Library System Direct Access Plan* allows additional restrictions on the use of public libraries by Town of Union Vale residents. These restrictions include, at a minimum, discontinuing the loaning of non-print materials, which includes DVDs and CDs, to Town residents.

The Town of Union Vale funding of public library services remains substantially below the minimum level of local funding expected for the services received by area residents as indicated in the chart below.

| Local Funds for Public Library Services | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Total Local Funds ¹ | 2010 Census Population Served | Local Funds per Capita |
| Beekman | \$349,883 | 14,621 | \$23.93 |
| Dover | \$225,000 | 8,699 | \$25.86 |
| LaGrange | \$586,240 | 15,730 | \$37.26 |
| Millbrook | \$100,000 | 4,741 | \$21.09 |
| TOTAL | \$1,261,123 | 43,791 | \$28.79 |
| Union Vale | \$ 30,000 ² | 4,877 | \$6.15 |
| Union Vale | \$50,000 ³ | 4,877 | \$10.25 |
| Union Vale | \$72,811 ⁴ | 4,877 | \$14.93 |
| Union Vale | \$ 140,408 ⁵ | 4,877 | \$28.79 |

¹ Annual Report For Public and Association Libraries - 2013

² 2014 Agreement Between MHLS & Town of Union Vale

³ 2015 Requested

⁴ 2011 Stated Amount Requested

⁵ Funding Amount Required to Match Average Funding per MHLS Direct Access Plan

Based on the Town's less than median or average funding for public library services, the following restrictions for Town residents are currently and will remain in place until funding reaches equivalent funds per capita:

1. Member libraries may give preference to the residents of their taxing district for attendance at library programs.
2. Member libraries may give preference to the residents of their taxing district for the use of computers and Internet resources.
3. Member libraries may restrict the loan of special, experimental or pilot collections (e.g., computer games, playaways, ipads) or services purchased with local funds to the residents of their taxing district, (such as museum passes, eBook readers, equipment, and electronic content), in compliance with Mid-Hudson Resource Sharing Standards.

For 2015, it is our hope that additional restrictions on Town residents using public library services are not required. However, in fairness to the communities in your area which fund public library services on an average of \$28.79 per capita, an increase in Town of Union Vale funding to a minimum of \$50,000 is required or additional library use restrictions for Town residents will be imposed as authorized in the *Mid-Hudson Library System Direct Access Plan*.

Thank you again for your willingness to consider this request and for your support in providing public library services to the residents of your Town.

Sincerely,

Tom Sloan

Executive Director, Mid-Hudson Library System