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Dudley Library in Buffalo Awarded State Construction Grant

Legislators Kennedy and Kearns Announce \$119,108 Award

New York State Senator Timothy M. Kennedy and New York State Assemblyman Michael P. Kearns announced today that the J. P. Dudley Branch Library will be receiving a \$119,108 Public Library Construction Grant. Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown and South District Councilmember Christopher P. Scanlon were also on hand for the announcement and were joined by representatives from the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library.

"This is terrific news for the Dudley Branch and this entire community," said Library Director Mary Jean Jakubowski. "We will be replacing a leaky 31-year old roof and an outdated HVAC system, installing new energy-efficient windows and reconstructing the masonry at this popular neighborhood library."

The total project is estimated to cost nearly \$360,000, with funds coming from New York State, the City of Buffalo which owns the building, and the Library System.

Senator Kennedy said, "I am so proud to support Dudley's building upgrades. Now fifty years in this building, Dudley Library truly provides our community with easy access to information through its materials, services and programs. The building improvements provide library patrons a brighter, more comfortable library space while conserving energy which provides savings over the long run. My state colleagues and I approved funding for projects like this statewide, and a total of 8 projects within the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System will receive grants totaling \$641,863."

Assemblyman Kearns stated, "The local grants are part of \$14 million in 2013 state capital funds for public library construction because many of New York's public libraries are in urgent need of renovation and upgrading. A recent survey showed that more than 48% of the over 1,000 public library buildings in communities across New York are over 60 years old. Another 30% are more than three decades old."

"One of the best things about our great city is that there are public libraries with the free resources to help people find jobs, conduct research, and discover new things through reading," said Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown.

"We wish to thank all of our elected officials for supporting funding to libraries in Erie County. Last year, there were more than 3.6 million visits to our 37 - libraries and you can be assured library patrons of all ages appreciate these building enhancements and improvements," concluded Director Jakubowski.

New York State Public Library Construction Grants awarded to Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries include:

Amherst Public Library – Main Library at Audubon - \$36,575 - HVAC units for energy efficiency and financial savings.

Angola Public Library - \$118,572 - an expansion with ADA restrooms.

Clarence Public Library - \$19,740 - parking lot expansion for easier access.

Bflo & Erie County Public Library -Dudley Branch - \$119,108 - roof, HVAC & window replacement for energy efficiency.

Hamburg Public Library - \$290,084 - an addition to meet accessibility needs.

Lancaster Public Library - \$34,611 - acquire land for a parking lot for easier access.

Newstead Public Library - \$3,731 - automatic swing doors to increase accessibility.

West Seneca Public Library - \$19,442 - exterior masonry for energy efficiency.

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