



ASSEMBLYMAN SEAN RYAN

New York's 149th Assembly District



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 16, 2020

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RYAN ANNOUNCES OVER \$3.1 MILLION IN FUNDING FOR WESTERN NEW YORK LIBRARIES

*Nearly \$1 Million of Funding Will Go To
Crane Branch Library In Elmwood Village*

BUFFALO – Friday, October 16th, Chairman of the New York State Assembly Libraries and Education Technology Committee Assemblyman Sean Ryan joined representatives from the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library to announce \$3,120,670 in State Aid for Library Construction in Western New York, including \$958,712 of which will be used for Phase 2 interior renovations replacing interior finishes, mechanical units, the original 1955 single pane windows as well as the addition of a service entrance vestibule at the Crane Branch of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library. This aid follows an investment of over \$1 million dollars from the 2019 Construction Aid funding for the Crane Branch that will provide ADA compliant restrooms and a new elevator. Phase 1 construction is estimated to begin by late 2020 or early 2021,

with Phase 2 construction to follow.

In 2019 Ryan led a bipartisan effort to restore library aid funding to the state budget after initial proposals called for a \$20 million dollar reduction. His efforts ensured libraries in Western New York and across New York State will continue to serve as cultural hubs that provide vital services to our communities. The 2020 funding represents the state's continued commitment to updating infrastructure in our public libraries. This funding will be used to repair aging facilities, upgrade computer and broadband technologies, provide meeting spaces to accommodate community needs and to renovate for accessibility to library users with disabilities.

With COVID-19 impacting our country, it's more important now than ever before that our libraries have the capacity to serve people working and learning from home. These funds will help ensure library patrons in communities across the state will have better access to facilities and services provided by our library systems. Buffalo and Erie County Public Libraries in Alden, Amherst, Boston, Buffalo, Eden, and North Collins will receive funds from the latest round of NYS Aid for Library Construction funding.

“This is vital funding that will allow the Crane Branch to continue to serve the Elmwood Village and our community as a whole for decades to come,” said Assembly Committee on Libraries and Education Technology Chairman Sean Ryan. “Libraries have continued to grow and evolve with the development of new technologies. As a result of that growth, we've seen libraries across the state trying to fit expanded technology and programming into spaces that were not designed for the needs of today's patrons. This funding shows our commitment to ensuring libraries can make critical upgrades that will allow them to better serve their community during the COVID-19 crisis and beyond. The aid will help to grow existing programs, increase accessibility and enhance the technological services libraries offer to our communities. Libraries provide an environment for lifelong learning and I'm proud to have worked with my partners in government on both sides of the aisle to make sure this vital funding was included in the state budget.”

“We are grateful to our local Assemblyman Sean Ryan, members of the *New*

York State Assembly Committee on Libraries and Education Technology and to our entire New York State delegation for supporting the efforts of our libraries especially during these challenging times. Our local communities will benefit from these building improvements at the Crane Branch, Alden Ewell Free Library, Main Library at Audubon in Amherst, the Boston Free Library, Eden Library and the Town of North Collins Public Library,” stated Library Director Mary Jean Jakubowski.

A full listing of funds allocated to Western New York Libraries is included below.

Library	Building	County	System Rec.
Genesee Library	Genesee Library	Allegany	\$66,750.00
Twentieth Century Club Library	Almond 20th Century Club Library	Allegany	\$90,341.00
Whitesville Public Library	Whitesville Public Library	Allegany	\$5,062.00
Salamanca Public Library	Salamanca Public Library	Cattaraugus	\$70,275.00
Ellicottville Memorial Library	Ellicottville Memorial Library	Cattaraugus	\$38,650.00
Memorial Library Of Little Valley	Memorial Library of Little Valley	Cattaraugus	\$9,375.00
Darwin R. Barker Library Association	Darwin R. Barker Library Association	Chautauqua	\$10,600.00
Fluvanna Free Library	Fluvanna Free Library	Chautauqua	\$9,000.00

Mary E. Seymour Memorial Free Lib	Mary E Seymour Memorial Free Library	Chautauqua	\$62,697.00
James Prendergast Free Library	James Prendergast Library	Chautauqua	\$5,999.00
Kennedy Free Library	Kennedy Free Library	Chautauqua	\$42,542.00
Dunkirk Public Library	Dunkirk Public Library	Chautauqua	\$18,170.00
Minerva Free Library	Minerva Free Library	Chautauqua	\$11,625.00
Hazeltine Public Library	Hazeltine Public Library	Chautauqua	\$15,900.00
Ripley Public Library	Ripley Public Library	Chautauqua	\$199,725.00
Patterson Library	Patterson Library	Chautauqua	\$323,318.00
Town Of North Collins Public Library	North Collins Public Library	Erie	\$11,137.00
Buffalo & Erie Co Public Library	Crane Branch Library	Erie	\$958,712.00
Ewell Free Library	Ewell Free Library	Erie	\$24,677.00
Boston Free Library	Boston Free Library	Erie	\$4,618.00
Amherst Public Library	Main Library at Audubon	Erie	\$614,040.00
Eden Library	Eden Library	Erie	\$21,893.00
Royalton Hartland Community Library	Royalton Hartland Community Library	Niagara	\$29,228.00

Lockport Public Library	Lockport Public Library	Niagara	\$114,525.00
Youngstown Free Library	Youngstown Village Center	Niagara	\$11,175.00
North Tonawanda Public Library	North Tonawanda Public Library	Niagara	\$15,588.00
Lewiston Public Library	Lewiston Public Library	Niagara	\$79,946.00
Wilson Community Library	Wilson Community Library	Niagara	\$155,251.00
Sanborn-Pekin Free Library	Sanborn-Pekin Free Library	Niagara	\$4,991.00
Barker Public Library	Barker Public Library	Niagara	\$94,860.00

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Assemblyman Sean Ryan represents New York's 149th Assembly District, which includes portions of the Cities of Buffalo and Lackawanna, the Town of Hamburg, and the Villages of Hamburg and Blasdell. For more information, please contact Assemblyman Ryan's Buffalo office at 716-885-9630.