



**Pioneer
Library
System**

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leading libraries forward

February 8, 2022

Senator Pamela Helming
425 Exchange Street
Geneva, NY 14456

Dear Senator Helming,

Since taking office, you have been an incredible champion for libraries across our region. We appreciate this tireless support more than you know. As the adoption of the Executive Budget approaches, I humbly ask that you once again advocate for securing adequate operating aid and construction aid for libraries. With these funds, you have my word that we will use them to continue our mission of developing library services in your district.

In partnership with the New York Library Association and libraries across the state, the following funding requests have been prepared in anticipation of this budget cycle.

NYS Library Operating Aid: \$123.1M

Increased aid is needed to support the foundational framework of New York State libraries, improving the lives of residents of all ages, abilities, and economic statuses.

Adequate funding is needed to support school, public, and academic libraries and library systems.

NYS Library Construction Aid: \$45M

Increased investment is needed to maintain and develop the physical infrastructure of New York State's libraries to ensure a safe, accessible, and sustainable environment for the future.

The New York State Library estimates the deferred maintenance need at over \$1.5B.

Over half of New York's libraries are over 60 years old.

Investments allow libraries to invest in energy efficiency and support the local construction industry.

Please do not hesitate to contact our office for any information you need.

Thank you for your ongoing support of libraries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Kirsop". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "R" and "K".

Ronald Kirsop
Executive Director
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