



## California State Library Announces an Additional \$59 Million in Equity-Based Improvement Grants for Local Libraries

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**[Sacramento, Calif.]** – Following a first round of Building Forward grant awards in September, the State Library is awarding \$59 million in additional library facility improvement grants. This brings to \$314 million the total amount of funding awarded to help public libraries address some of their most pressing facilities projects and better meet the needs of their communities.

The 12 projects in this phase of funding will receive between \$106,174 and \$9 million. The awards will allow libraries to update, renovate, expand, and relocate facilities to provide increased access to buildings and improved library spaces for Californians.

This is the second phase of the \$489 million Building Forward equity-based library facilities improvement grant program. When combined with local matching funds, the state's investment in Round One will help address approximately ten percent of the estimated \$5 billion that California libraries need to meet their maintenance, modernization, expansion, and replacement needs.

"Local libraries are cornerstones of their communities and critical parts of California's education system," said Greg Lucas, California State Librarian. "Through both local funding and state grants like those being announced today, we're building libraries that will better serve the needs of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Californians."

A series of funding rounds were created to ensure that localities with less capacity have the time they need to establish priorities and prepare applications. These awards conclude the first round of funding for the \$489 million available for equity-based library facilities improvement grants.

All told, 246 libraries in 182 cities across 34 counties received funding. A new round will commence in 2023.

For a full list of projects funded in Round One, please go to <https://www.library.ca.gov/services/to-libraries/building-forward/>.

# End of Press Release #1

**About the State Library:** Established in 1850, the California State Library is the central reference and research library for state government and the Legislature. The library collection includes more than 4 million titles, 6,000 maps, and 250,000 photographs, and includes an extensive collection of documents from and about the state's rich history. Around the state, the State Library also serves California's local libraries, providing more than \$500 million state and federal funds to support public libraries and delivering statewide library programs and services. [State Library website](#)

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