

## Senator Gallivan Announces State Aid for Lake Shore Library Parking Lot

JIM RANNEY September 23, 2024

**ISSUE: LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION GRANTS** 



## Funding Provided Through Library Construction Program

Senator Patrick M. Gallivan (R-C, Elma) announces Hamburg Public Library has been allocated \$43,750 through the State Aid for Library Construction Program. The funding will be used to rehabilitate the parking lot at the Lake Shore Library and is part of the \$34 million in capital funds for public library construction and broadband infrastructure projects provided in the FY2022-2023 State Budget.

"Libraries are important community assets that provide a variety of services to residents of all ages, from books and research material to free internet access and career advancement," Senator Gallivan said. "The state has an obligation to help ensure these facilities are operating efficiently and can better serve their communities."

A recent survey showed a documented need for public library construction and renovation. More than half of the over 1,000 public library buildings in communities across New York are over 60 years old. Another one third are more than three decades old. Many of New York's local public libraries are unable to accommodate users with disabilities, are energy inefficient and cannot provide adequate Internet access.

Project activities and expenditures eligible for funding from the State Aid for Library Construction Program include financing construction of new library buildings, construction of additions to existing buildings, and the renovation and/or rehabilitation of existing space. Projects may include roof replacement, purchase and installation of alternative energy resources, new HVAC systems, windows, doors, lighting systems, electrical upgrades, and construction of new or replacement of old walkways and parking lots. Broadband infrastructure projects are also eligible. Renovations designed to provide accessibility for patrons with disabilities are a high priority.

In the FY2024-2025 State Budget, the Legislature provided \$44 million for projects that will be announced in 2025.