



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patty Ritchie

## Ritchie Announces \$50,000 to Help Ogdensburg Public Library Continue Building Improvements

BRIAN DWYER January 14, 2020

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State Senator Patty Ritchie is announcing she has secured \$50,000 in state funding to help the Ogdensburg Public Library continue to renovate its historic home—this time, by adding new LED lighting and replacing flooring that had become somewhat dangerous for guests.

The new lighting not only improved the library's atmosphere, but also helped it become more energy efficient, in turn reducing utility costs. The library's previous flooring that had

become old, worn and a tripping hazard, especially for older patrons.

“Like so many libraries across our region, the Ogdensburg Public Library is a center of the community that offers endless opportunities for learning,” Senator Ritchie said.

“These important projects will enhance the library not only for today, but also for future generations. I am pleased to support the library and all it offers for our community, and look forward to seeing the impact of these changes.”

“Libraries in rural regions like ours have had their tough times,” said Ogdensburg Public Library Director Penny Kerfien. “It is hard to accomplish all of the projects and programs you want, without help. Senator Ritchie’s continued support over the years has allowed us to preserve this building from the outside in and we are truly grateful.”

Back in 2015, Senator Ritchie also secured \$50,000 for the library to update its exterior. The funding was used to rebuild the library’s front steps and replace its stucco walls.

*(In the above photo, Senator Ritchie (right) is seen visiting the Ogdensburg Public Library and getting a first-hand look at the new upgrades with Ogdensburg Public Library Children’s Librarian Dorian Lenney-Wallace (left) and Ogdensburg Public Library Executive Director Penny Kerfien (center).)*