



CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Tarpon Springs Public Library

138 East Lemon Street
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689
(727) 943-4922
tarponlibrary.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
THROUGH: MARK LECOURIS, CITY MANAGER
FROM: CARI RUPKALVIS, LIBRARY DIRECTOR *CR*
DIANE WOOD, CULTURAL & CIVIC SERVICES DIRECTOR *DW*
SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION GRANT FUNDING
DATE: 3/8/2023

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board send a letter of support for Public Library Construction Grant funding to Florida Senator Ed Hooper and Florida Representative Adam Anderson.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Tarpon Springs submitted a rollover application for Public Library Construction Grant funding for the Tarpon Springs Public Library following Commission approval by Resolution 2022-27, which was unanimously passed at the BOC meeting on July 26, 2022. The Florida Department of State Division of Library and Information Services developed a ranked list of construction projects for review during the 2023 legislative session. On this list, Tarpon Library's construction project was ranked 9 out of 19 Public Library Construction Grant Applications for the State's Fiscal Year 2023-24. These applications are subject to funding recommendations by the Florida Legislature and approval by the Governor.

March 14, 2023

Representative Adam Anderson
1301 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Dear Representative Anderson:

The City of Tarpon Springs Board of Commissioners urges you to support Public Library Construction Grant funding for Fiscal Year 2023-24. The City of Tarpon Springs has applied for a Public Library Construction Grant of \$500,000 for remodeling and expansion of the Tarpon Springs Public Library. The City will provide matching funds of \$500,000 for this project.

This grant funding for the City of Tarpon Springs would greatly benefit our residents by promoting lifelong learning, literacy, connection, and collaboration. The Tarpon Library construction project features numerous enhancements including interactive makerspaces, new study rooms, additional meeting space, and special reading areas.

Please help make a difference in our community by supporting this Public Library Construction Grant funding. The State's FY23-24 ranked list of Public Library Construction Grant projects is attached.

Sincerely,

Mayor Costa Vatikiotis

March 14, 2023

Senator Ed Hooper
408 Senate Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Senator Hooper:

The City of Tarpon Springs Board of Commissioners urges you to support Public Library Construction Grant funding for Fiscal Year 2023-24. The City of Tarpon Springs has applied for a Public Library Construction Grant of \$500,000 for remodeling and expansion of the Tarpon Springs Public Library. The City will provide matching funds of \$500,000 for this project.

This grant funding for the City of Tarpon Springs would greatly benefit our residents by promoting lifelong learning, literacy, connection, and collaboration. The Tarpon Library construction project features numerous enhancements including interactive makerspaces, new study rooms, additional meeting space, and special reading areas.

Please help make a difference in our community by supporting this Public Library Construction Grant funding. The State's FY23-24 ranked list of Public Library Construction Grant projects is attached.

Sincerely,

Mayor Costa Vatikiotis

Florida Department of State
Division of Library and Information Services
Fiscal Year 2023-24 Public Library Construction Grant Applications

The following ranked list of construction projects is intended for review during the 2023 legislative session. Applications are subject to funding recommendations by the legislature and approval by the governor.

Rank	Applicant <i>Project Name</i>	FY 2023-24 Eligibility	Project Total
1	Flagler County <i>Bunnell Library and Administrative Headquarters</i>	\$500,000	\$11,000,000
2	City of Oakland Park <i>Oakland Park Library</i>	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
3	Miami-Dade County <i>Chuck Pezoldt Branch Library</i>	\$500,000	\$3,500,000
4	Leon County <i>Leon County Main Library</i>	\$400,000	\$800,000
5	Putnam County*† <i>Melrose Branch Library Expansion</i>	\$500,000	\$600,000
6	City of Lighthouse Point <i>Lighthouse Point Library</i>	\$500,000	\$1,100,000
7	City of Saint Petersburg <i>Main Library Renovation</i>	\$500,000	\$5,621,360
8	Saint Johns County <i>Hastings Community Center and Library</i>	\$500,000	\$9,973,500
9	City of Tarpon Springs <i>Tarpon Springs Public Library</i>	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
10	City of Safety Harbor <i>Safety Harbor Public Library Second Story</i>	\$500,000	\$2,600,000
11	Madison County*† <i>Greenville Public Library</i>	\$500,000	\$500,000
12	City of Pinellas Park <i>Barbara S. Ponce Public Library</i>	\$500,000	\$2,300,000
13	Suwannee County*† <i>Branford Public Library</i>	\$500,000	\$565,000
14	Miami-Dade County <i>South Dade Regional Library Renovation Program</i>	\$500,000	\$1,500,000
15	Miami-Dade County <i>Miami Lakes Public Library Expansion Grant</i>	\$500,000	\$1,200,000
16	Miami-Dade County <i>Coconut Grove Branch Library</i>	\$300,000	\$600,000
17	Miami-Dade County <i>Westchester Regional Library</i>	\$500,000	\$2,500,000
18	Miami-Dade County <i>Key Biscayne Library Expansion Project</i>	\$500,000	\$8,360,000
19	Miami-Dade County <i>Lemon City Library Construction Grant</i>	\$300,000	\$600,000
	TOTAL	\$9,000,000	\$55,319,860

* Applicants marked with an asterisk are located in a rural area of opportunity.

† Putnam County, Madison County and Suwannee County received a waiver of the program's matching requirement as allowed under Sections 257.191 and 288.06561, *Florida Statutes*.