



## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chair  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Milwaukee Public Library Modernization project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Milwaukee Public Library located at 814 West Wisconsin Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53233.

The Milwaukee Public Library is a public entity that serves residents of the Milwaukee region and the State of Wisconsin. The Central Library maintains the largest public library collection of materials and media in Wisconsin, as well as historically significant Special Collections, Archives, and Rare Books. Central is the hub for a network of 12 neighborhood libraries throughout the City of Milwaukee, serving nearly more than one million visitors annually. These libraries serve tens of thousands of residents annually through workforce development services, digital literacy programs, job search assistance, and small business resources. These services are particularly vital for individuals and families who lack reliable access to broadband, technology, or professional development resources. Libraries can provide free access to digital tools, training programs, and trusted public spaces where residents can connect with educational and workforce opportunities.

The funding would be used for the construction of a new Milwaukee Public Library branch at the Midtown Center, replacing the aging Capitol Branch Library, and to make renovations to the Historic Central Library.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because these upgraded spaces will allow the new modern facilities to better support workforce training programs, entrepreneurship workshops, community meetings, and partnerships with nonprofit and public agencies that help connect residents with employment and economic opportunity. This investment also represents a significant opportunity to reinvigorate areas that have experienced substantial disinvestment over the past decade while providing increased capacity and enhanced amenities.

The project has a federal nexus because funding requested is consistent with the goals of one or more of the following eligible uses of the Community Development Fund (CDF): 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4), and 42

U.S.C. 5305(a)(5).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gwen Moore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G".

Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress