

Governor Phil Murphy

# Governor Murphy Announces Second Round of Funding for Library Construction Bond Act

01/6/2022

**LONG BRANCH** – Governor Phil Murphy today announced the second round of funding for the Library Construction Bond Act (LCBA), which allocates \$37 million to 36 library projects from 13 counties across New Jersey. The Library Bond Act was approved by voters in 2017 and authorizes \$125 million in state bonds for technology updates, building improvements, and other library projects across the state. The first round of funding, which allocated \$87.5 million, was announced in January 2020. The list of projects for the second round of funding has been submitted to the Legislature and will be signed by Governor Murphy once it reaches his desk.

“Libraries are the foundation of our communities and investing in them is just as critical as investing in our schools, in our cities and towns, and in our families,” **said Governor Murphy**. “The library offers critical resources and is where the concept of lifetime learning comes to fruition, where the spirit of community is celebrated, and where families come together. I am pleased to announce this second round of funding so we can continue to see progress in the modernization of New Jersey’s libraries.”

“Libraries have served as a lifeline for so many during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to the Library Construction Bond Act, the Long Branch Public Library will have the funding it to help close the digital divide by expanding the space it needs for computers and career counseling initiatives,” **said U.S.**

**Congressman Frank Pallone**. “At the federal level, I’ve fought to ensure that libraries have access to critical funding to help students and teachers stay connected to the classroom. The Emergency Connectivity Fund that I included in the American Rescue Plan has delivered over \$96 million to our state’s schools and libraries, giving students the tools they need to complete their homework, research, and at-home projects. Every dollar we invest in our libraries is an investment in the future of young people in our state. I want to thank Governor Murphy for his leadership and his effort to ensure that libraries have the resources they need to stay open and accessible for years to come.”

“Back in 2017 when New Jerseyans passed the Library Construction Bond, no one knew a pandemic was on the horizon, and during the pandemic, we’ve seen just how valuable our public libraries are to communities all over the state,” **said Jennifer Nelson, New Jersey State Librarian**. “The new and refurbished buildings that are being supported through the Bond Act will benefit New Jerseyans for years to come with safe, healthy spaces and up-to-date technology that are available to all. When we improve our libraries, we improve our communities and the lives of residents.”

“New Jersey’s public libraries are constantly evolving to serve a wider range of community needs. From jobs and workforce development to digital literacy and community building, they assure that all New Jerseyans have access to key tools of the 21st century,” **said Dr. Merodie Hancock, President of Thomas Edison State University**. “The state’s investment in public libraries will ensure that more people who lack access to basic technology and information have a place to go. Our libraries have stepped up during the pandemic and shown that equitable access to technology and information is critical to rebuilding our state.”

The following projects will receive a portion of the second round of funding:

Library Name	Municipality	County	Amount
Atlantic County Library System	Galloway Township	Atlantic	\$920,661.00
Atlantic County Library System	Mays Landing	Atlantic	\$694,212.00
Atlantic County Library System	Egg Harbor Township	Atlantic	\$549,013.50
Atlantic City Free Public Library	Atlantic City	Atlantic	\$284,000.00
Maywood Public Library	Maywood	Bergen	\$700,088.00
Maurice M Pine Public Library	Fair Lawn	Bergen	\$500,000.00
Emerson Public Library	Emerson	Bergen	\$155,400.00
Dixon Homestead Library	Dumont	Bergen	\$98,725.00
North Arlington Public Library	North Arlington	Bergen	\$64,320.00
South Orange Public Library	South Orange	Essex	\$6,529,148.00
Newark Public Library	Newark	Essex	\$1,764,447.00
Nutley Free Public Library	Nutley	Essex	\$284,115.05
Belleville Public Library	Belleville	Essex	\$150,000.00

Library Name	Municipality	County	Amount
Union City Public Library	Union City	Hudson	\$3,236,586.50
Weehawken Free Public Library	Weehawken	Hudson	\$714,015.00
Frenchtown Public Library	Frenchtown	Hunterdon	\$70,000.00
Trenton Free Public Library	Trenton	Mercer	\$302,250.00
Edison Township Free Public Library	Edison Township	Middlesex	\$1,500,000.00
Highland Park Public Library	Highland Park	Middlesex	\$472,464.00
South River Public Library	South River	Middlesex	\$172,500.00
Long Branch Free Public Library	Long Branch	Monmouth	\$3,100,000.00
Tinton Falls Public Library	Tinton Falls	Monmouth	\$217,500.00
Free Public Library of the Borough of Madison	Madison	Morris	\$913,974.00
Chester Library	Chester Boro and Township	Morris	\$61,681.00
Ocean County Library	Manahawkin	Ocean	\$4,824,000.00
Free Public Library of the Borough of Woodland Park	Woodland Park	Passaic	\$2,883,577.00
Clifton Memorial Library	Clifton	Passaic	\$189,150.00
SCLSNJ Bound Brook Memorial Library	Somerset County	Somerset	\$256,040.16
Bernards Township Library	Bernards Township	Somerset	\$95,042.50
Hillside Public Library	Hillside	Union	\$3,996,437.50
Plainfield Public Library	Plainfield	Union	\$566,153.50
Elizabeth Public Library	Elizabeth	Union	\$234,813.00
Clark Public Library	Clark	Union	\$228,750.00
Summit Free Public Library	Summit	Union	\$183,573.00
Elizabeth Public Library	Elizabeth	Union	\$165,750.00
Elizabeth Public Library	Elizabeth	Union	\$96,250.00
		Total	\$37,174,636.71

## Governor Phil Murphy

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