



The Juvenile Assessment Center

We connect families with services to promote safe, healthy and happy kids.

April 7, 2022

The Honorable Jason Crow
United States House of Representatives
1229 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: FY23 Community Funding Project Request – Library

Dear Representative Crow,

I am writing in support of the City of Aurora's FY23 Congressionally Directed Spending request for the *Aurora Public Library* that will activate the lobby and currently empty second floor of the Martin Luther King Library through capital improvements. The project will create a safe place for vulnerable youth and provide a Maker Space and computer lab with 3-D printers, virtual reality technology, a video production lab and camera/microphone/lighting equipment. The Maker Space would focus on high-quality STEM programming and educational opportunities such as learning to code, to use 3-D printers, learning about graphic design, video production and other specialty software all of which are valuable skills that would create otherwise unobtainable career opportunities for disadvantaged youth in Aurora.

Violent crime has been on the rise throughout Aurora, including in the northwest region along Colfax where the MLK Library is located. In the community surrounding the MLK library, the median household income is \$42,800 with 23% of the population living below the poverty line. Of the 20,000 households, 43% have children under the age of 18, 30% of the population over age 25 do not have a high school diploma, and 61% of the population do not have access to the Internet. This project will provide access to computers and the Internet for these populations as well as access to educational resources. The project will also provide an opportunity for youth to connect with positive adult figures that can be a resource for them and youth programming that supports positive risk factors that can prevent them and the community from witnessing or partaking in delinquent or violent behavior.

Our Community Assessment Program provides **free** clinical, bio-psycho-social assessments to school aged youth and families in our community. Upon completion of the assessment process, Clinicians meet with the family and coordinate next steps for connection to resources, services and basic needs that are relevant, attainable, culturally appropriate and financially accessible. We routinely refer young people to pro-social activities in their communities and this program request is exactly the type of resource we are constantly searching for. Our Community Assessment Program has a location within Martin Luther King, Jr Library and being able to refer a young person to an amazing resource like this within the same location, would be amazing and convenient for those we serve.

I strongly urge that Congress includes this Congressionally Directed Spending request for the *Aurora Public Library MLK Branch*.

Sincerely,

Sarah Troy, M.A.
Executive Director
18th Judicial District Juvenile Assessment Center
STroy@arapahoegov.com

aiding young people & families in arapahoe, douglas, elbert & lincoln counties since 2000

FAMILY RESOURCE PAVILION

9700 E. EASTER LN. | CENTENNIAL, CO 80112

PHONE: 720-874-3381 (LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM)

PHONE: 720-213-1320 (COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM)



April 18, 2022

The Honorable Jason Crow
United States House of Representatives
1229 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: FY23 CDS Request – Library

Dear Congressman Crow,

I am writing in support of the City of Aurora's FY23 Congressionally Directed Spending request for the *Aurora Public Library* that will activate the lobby and currently empty second floor of the Martin Luther King Library through capital improvements. The project will create a safe place for vulnerable youth and provide a Maker Space and computer lab with 3-D printers, virtual reality technology, a video production lab and camera/microphone/lighting equipment. The Maker Space would focus on high-quality STEM programming and educational opportunities such as learning to code, to use 3-D printers, learning about graphic design, video production and other specialty software all of which are valuable skills that would create otherwise unobtainable career opportunities for disadvantaged youth in Aurora.

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I strongly urge that Congress includes this Congressionally Directed Spending request for the *Aurora Public Library MLK Branch*.

Sincerely,

Reid Hettich

Reid Hettich, Lead Pastor

1445 Dayton Street, Aurora, CO 80010
www.MosaicofAurora.Com



Mayor

15151 E. Alameda Parkway, 5th Floor
Aurora, Colorado 80012

office 303.739.7015

fax 303.739.7594

email mcoffman@auroragov.orgWorth Discovering • AuroraGov.org

April 19, 2022

The Honorable Jason Crow
United States House of Representatives
1229 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: FY23 Community Funding Project Request– Library

Dear Representative Crow,

I am writing in strong support of the City of Aurora's FY23 Congressionally Directed Spending request for the *Aurora Martin Luther King Library* improvements. The request will activate the lobby and currently empty second floor of the MLK Library branch through capital improvements. The project will create a safe place for vulnerable youth by providing a Maker Space and computer lab with 3-D printers, virtual reality technology, and a video production lab including camera, microphone, and lighting equipment. The Maker Space would focus on high-quality STEM programming and educational opportunities for Aurora youth to learn to code, use 3-D printers, learn graphic design, video production and learn other specialty software. All of these are valuable skills that would create otherwise unobtainable career opportunities for disadvantaged youth in Aurora.

These improvements to the library and increased programming will benefit a neighborhood in need of additional support and opportunities. Violent crime has been on the rise throughout Aurora, including in the northwest region along Colfax, where the MLK Library is located. In the community surrounding the MLK library, the median household income is \$42,800 with 23% of the population living below the poverty line. Of the 20,000 households, 43% have children under the age of 18, 30% of the population over age 25 do not have a high school diploma, and 61% of the population do not have access to the Internet. This project will provide access to computers and the Internet for these populations as well as access to educational resources. The Maker Space will also create a safe place for youth by connecting them with positive adult figures who can be a resource for them and with programming that supports positive activities that can prevent them from witnessing or partaking in violent behavior.

Thank you for your consideration of this project that will create an engaging and safe place for our community. I strongly urge that Congress includes this Congressionally Directed Spending request for the *Aurora Public Library MLK Branch*.

Sincerely,

Mike Coffman
Mayor



April 24th, 2022

The Honorable Jason Crow
United States House of Representatives
1229 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

RE: FY23 CDS Request – Library

Dear Representative Crow,

I am writing in strong support of the City of Aurora's FY23 Congressionally Directed Spending request for the *Aurora Martin Luther King Library* improvements. The request will activate the lobby and currently empty second floor of the MLK Library branch through capital improvements. The project will create a safe place for vulnerable youth by providing a Maker Space and computer lab with 3-D printers, virtual reality technology, and a video production lab including camera, microphone, and lighting equipment. The Maker Space would focus on high-quality STEM programming and educational opportunities for Aurora youth to learn to code, use 3-D printers, learn graphic design, video production and learn other specialty software. All of these are valuable skills that would create otherwise unobtainable career opportunities for disadvantaged youth in Aurora.

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Thank you for your consideration of this project that will create an engaging and safe place for our community. I strongly urge that Congress includes this Congressionally Directed Spending request for the *Aurora Public Library MLK Branch*.

Sincerely,

Bliss Coleman
Executive Director
Aurora Cultural Arts District
www.auroraculture.org



ASIAN PACIFIC
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Advancing the well-being
of Asian American Pacific
Islander communities of
Colorado by providing
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www.apdc.org

APDC OFFICE
1537 Alton Street
Aurora, CO 80010
(303) 923-2920 Tel.
(303) 923-2951 Fax

April 24, 2022

The Honorable Jason Crow
United States House of Representatives
1229 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

RE: FY23 CDS Request – Library

Dear Representative Crow,

I am writing in strong support of the City of Aurora's FY23 Congressionally Directed Spending request for the *Aurora Martin Luther King Library* improvements. The request will activate the lobby and currently empty second floor of the MLK Library branch through capital improvements. The project will create a safe place for vulnerable youth by providing a Maker Space and computer lab with 3-D printers, virtual reality technology, and a video production lab including camera, microphone, and lighting equipment. The Maker Space would focus on high-quality STEM programming and educational opportunities for Aurora youth to learn to code, use 3-D printers, learn graphic design, video production and learn other specialty software. All of these are valuable skills that would create otherwise unobtainable career opportunities for disadvantaged youth in Aurora.

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Thank you for your consideration of this project that will create an engaging and safe place for our community. I strongly urge that Congress includes this Congressionally Directed Spending request for the *Aurora Public Library MLK Branch*.

Sincerely,

Heidi Burgess

*Adult Education Assessment Coordinator
Volunteer Tutor Coordinator*



ASIAN PACIFIC
DEVELOPMENT CENTER
303.923.2920
www.apdc.org

1537 Alton Street
Aurora, CO 80010
Desk: 303.923.2940

HeidiBurgess@apdc.org

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April 24, 2022
The Honorable Jason Crow
United States House of Representatives
1229 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

RE: FY23 CDS Request – Library

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Thank you for your consideration of this project that will create an engaging and safe place for our community. I strongly urge that Congress includes this Congressionally Directed Spending request for the *Aurora Public Library MLK Branch*.

Sincerely,



Sharletta C Evans

Executive Director and Founder
Colorado Crime Survivors Network, Inc
Office: 720.309.7623
www.cocrimesurvivorsnetwork.org



April 25, 2022

The Honorable Jason Crow
United States House of Representatives
1229 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

RE: FY23 CDS Request – Library

Dear Representative Crow,

I am writing in strong support of the City of Aurora's FY23 Congressionally Directed Spending request for the *Aurora Martin Luther King Library* improvements. The request will activate the lobby and currently empty second floor of the MLK Library branch through capital improvements. The project will create a safe place for vulnerable youth by providing a Maker Space and computer lab with 3-D printers, virtual reality technology, and a video production lab including camera, microphone, and lighting equipment. The Maker Space would focus on high-quality STEM programming and educational opportunities for Aurora youth to learn to code, use 3-D printers, learn graphic design, video production and learn other specialty software. All of these are valuable skills that would create otherwise unobtainable career opportunities for disadvantaged youth in Aurora.

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Thank you for your consideration of this project that will create an engaging and safe place for our community. I strongly urge that Congress includes this Congressionally Directed Spending request for the *Aurora Public Library MLK Branch*.

Sincerely,

Mitzi Schindler
Senior Director of Communications
Aurora Chamber of Commerce
14305 E. Alameda Ave, #300
Aurora CO 80012
303-344-1500
www.aurorachamber.org