April 7, 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 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
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.

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.

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
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 2051

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.

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,

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

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,

Heidi Burgess  
Adult Education Assessment Coordinator  
Volunteer Tutor Coordinator

1537 Alton Street  
Aurora, CO 80010  
Desk: 303.923.2940  
HeidiBurgess@apdc.org
The mission of the Asian Pacific Development Center is to advance the well-being of the Asian American Pacific Islander communities of Colorado by providing culturally appropriate and integrated medical, behavioral, and related services.
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.

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,

Sharletta C Evans
Executive Director and Founder
Colorado Crime Survivors Network, Inc
Office: 720.309.7623
www.cocrimessurvivorsnetwork.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.

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,

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