



Department of the
Superintendent

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March 9, 2023

The Honorable Jason Crow
United States House of Representatives
1323 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

RE: FY24 CDS Request – [Aurora Public Library's Central Library Remodel Project]

Dear Congressman Crow,

I am writing in support of the City of Aurora's FY24 Congressionally Directed Spending request for the Aurora Public Library's Central Library Remodel Project.

All Aurora Public Libraries, but especially the Central Library, are very important community centers for our youth. Our students utilize these beneficial spaces after school, over the weekends and during their multiple breaks throughout the school year. The requested remodel will create a better functioning children's area as well as a space for teens, which currently does not exist in Aurora. The space will be reconfigured to dedicate a section for teens as a community hub. This will serve as a free and safe space for youth to gather in the afternoon and evening, acting as a secondary intervention for youth violence prevention in our community.

In addition, the project will include a state-of-the-art maker space for youth STEAM programing that will be offered to the public at no cost. We see a remodeled public library serving youth with such intentionality and with such useful features as an amazing partner in forming our future leaders.

The Aurora Central Library typically receives more than one million visits each year, many of them children and young adults from our schools. However, the library has not had a major remodeling since opening more than 40 years ago. We eagerly support the proposed remodeling plan to emphasize spaces that serve Aurora's youth.

I strongly urge Congress to include this Congressionally Directed Spending request as part of the federal appropriations process for FY24.

Sincerely,

Mark Seglem
Interim Superintendent
Aurora Public Schools



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Aurora, Colorado 80012
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March 22, 2023

The Honorable Jason Crow
United States House of Representatives
1323 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

RE: FY24 Community Project Funding Request – Aurora Public Library's Central Library Remodel Project

Dear Representative Crow,

I am writing in support of the City of Aurora's FY24 Congressionally Directed Spending request for the Aurora Public Library's Central Library Remodel Project. Aurora Public Library's Central Library typically has more than 1 million visitors annually, many of them children and young adults. The library has not had a major remodeling since opening in 1982. Remodeling the 55,000 sq. ft. library will create a better functioning children's area as well as a space for teens, which currently does not exist. The space will be reconfigured to dedicate a section for teens as a community hub for the young people of Aurora who need a free and safe space to gather into the evening, acting as a secondary intervention for youth violence prevention in the community. In addition to children's and teens' areas, the remodeled space will also include a state-of-the-art maker space for youth STEAM programming, offered to the public at no cost.

I strongly urge Congress to include this Community Project Funding request as part of the federal appropriations process for FY24.

Sincerely,

Mike Coffman
Mayor, City of Aurora