

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION – LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

Executive Summary: 2007 Proposed Budget - Milwaukee Public Library (MPL)

1. In the 2007 Proposed Budget, MPL has 398 positions, a decrease of 4 positions, - 1.0%, from 402 positions in the 2006 Budget. *(Pages 3, 4 and 5)*
2. In the 2007 Proposed Budget, total Operating Expenditures are \$2,185,939, a decrease of \$48,125, -2.2%, from the 2006 Budget of \$2,234,064. *(Page 5)*
3. Funding for Equipment Purchases in the 2007 Proposed Budget is \$1,876,746, a decrease of \$455,495, -19.5%, from the 2006 Budget of \$2,332,241. *(Pages 5, 6 and 7)*
4. In the 2007 Proposed Budget, Reciprocal Borrowing is funded at \$500,000, the same amount funded in the 2006 Budget. *(Pages 7 and 8)*
5. In the 2007 Proposed Budget, MPL is scheduled to receive \$1,486,949 in grant funding, an increase of \$24,146, 1.7%, from the 2006 Budget of \$1,462,803. *(Pages 8 and 9)*
6. In the 2007 Proposed Budget, the Comptroller's Office projects MPL will generate \$1,895,500 in revenues, an increase of \$51,500, 2.8%, from the 2006 Budget of \$1,844,000. *(Page 9)*
7. The 2007 Proposed Budget provides MPL with \$830,000 for capital improvement projects, a decrease of \$230,000, -21.7%, from the \$1,060,000 provided in the 2006 Budget. *(Page 10)*

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION – LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

2007 Proposed Budget Summary: Milwaukee Public Library

Expense Category	2005 Actual	2006 Budget	% CHNG	2007 Proposed	(%) CHNG
Operating Budget	\$22,364,568	\$23,952,284	-7.8%	\$22,810,154	16.1%
Capital	\$2,113,256	\$1,060,000	-49.8%	\$830,000	-21.7%
Positions	409	402	-1.7%	398	-1.0%
O&M*	325.84	330.00	1.3%	325.96	1.2%
Non-O&M	29.72	26.72	10.1%	24.47	-8.4%

The Library consists of the Central Library, twelve neighborhood libraries, and Mobile and Outreach Services. The Central Library serves as the resource library for the Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS). The Milwaukee Public Library provides a full array of library services to Milwaukee residents. The Central Library also houses the state funded Wisconsin Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Departmental Mission Statement:

"The Milwaukee Public Library provides materials, services and facilities for all citizens of Milwaukee and others in order to meet present and future informational needs and raise the level of civilization in Milwaukee."

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1. The number of authorized positions decreased from 449 in 2002 to 402 in 2006, a decrease of 10.5% in authorized positions.
2. In the 2002 Budget, through the cooperative efforts between the Mayor and the Library Foundation, the city agreed to attempt to provide the Library with stable funding for 2003, 2004 and 2005. In return, the Library Foundation would provide an annual contribution for library materials.
3. In the 2002 Budget, the Bookmobile received CDBG 2001 reprogramming funds to upgrade and provide computer technology.
4. MPL has traditionally maintained a staff of 4 professional librarians (or more if needed), in a Neighborhood Library, 1 manager and 3 other librarians. In the 2002 Budget, MPL began restructuring and eliminating Librarian II positions from the neighborhood libraries and replacing them with para-professionals, LSA – Reference positions.
5. In the 2003 Budget, restructuring included exchanging some Librarian IIs and Librarian IIIs between Central Library and Neighborhood Libraries to more accurately reflect the library operational needs and service demands in those units. Restructuring also continued by eliminating 8 vacant Librarian II positions and replacing them with Library Reference Assistant positions in the Neighborhood Libraries. The intent of this change was to decrease cost in salaries and wages and continue to provide library patrons with the reference, collection material, programs and reader advisory services requested.
6. In the 2003 Budget, the Center Street Library became the new Community Outreach and Technology Center, fully funded by CDBG. The library was enhanced with additional computer

equipment, resources and computer training. The staffing was changed to focus on computer services, literacy, employment assistance and general computer resources.

7. The new Washington Park Library opened in 2003, replacing the Finney Library. The new two-story structure offers traditional library programs, services and collection for adults, young adults and children, state-of-the-art computer technology and utilizes geothermal heating ventilation and air conditioning, requiring little maintenance, and is cost effective and energy efficient. *(MPL was the first to install this type of equipment in southeastern Wisconsin.)*
8. In 2003, MPL reduced hours to due to vacancies. Weekly hours at 6 libraries were reduced between 8 to 29 hours a week from October 6 through the end of the year. This included Central, Atkinson, Capital, Forest Home, Martin Luther King Jr., Tippecanoe and Villard Ave. libraries. By April 1, 2004, hours were restored to 2002 service levels at all libraries.
9. In the 2005 Budget, MPL received a one-time reduction to library material purchases of \$674,213.
10. In the 2005 Budget, MPL entered into a new three-year member agreement, from 2005 through 2007, for reciprocal borrowing with other communities and MCFLS. Each community would negotiate with each member for a reciprocal borrowing amount. MPL budgeted \$500,000 for reciprocal borrowing costs.
11. In the 2006 Budget, library hours at Central Library were reduced by 3 hours, one evening per week, open from 63 to 60 hours per week.
12. The Bookmobile, part of the Mobile Library and outreach Services, did not receive CDBG funding in the 2006 Budget. The service was eliminated.

2007 LIBRARY PROPOSED BUDGET

PERSONNEL

In the 2007 Proposed Budget, MPL has 398 positions, a decrease of 4 positions, -1.0%, from 402 positions in the 2006 Budget. There will be 325.96 O&M positions, a decrease of 4.04, -1.2% from the 330 in the 2006 Budget, and for non-O&M positions, there will be 24.47, a decrease of 2.25, -8.4%, from the 26.72 in the 2006 Budget.

Current Vacancies (As of October 23, 2006)

There are 30 vacant positions within the Library, 7.5% of 402 authorized positions in the 2006 Budget. They include:

Title	Administration	Central	Neighborhood	Total
Circ. Aide		4	7	11
Office Asst. II			2	2
Graphic Designer II	1			1
Manager of Central		1		1
Library Branch Mgr.			2	2
Mktg & Pub. Rel. Dir.	1			1
Librarian IV		1		1
Librarian III		3		3
Librarian II		1		1
Lib. Tech. II	2			2
Lib. Cir. Asst. I		1		1
Lib. Ref. Asst.		1		1
Lib. Svcs Asst.			2	2
City Worker II-City Lab.	1			1
Total	5	12	13	30

The 2007 Proposed Budget continues to add, transfer or eliminate Library personnel. The changes include four vacant positions. They are:

Title	FTE	Rationale
Administration		
Graphic Designer II, SG535	-1	Reclassification
Program Assistant II, SG530	1	Reclassified from Graphic Designer II.
Librarian V, SG009		Title changed to Marketing & Public Relations Mgr.
Central		
Librarian II, SG545	-1	Central, eliminated vacant position
Library Circ. Asst I, SG406	-1	Central, eliminated vacant position
Library Circ. Asst I, SG406, 0.5FTE	-1	Central, grant funding reduced, Interlibrary Loan.
Library Circ. Asst I, SG406, 0.25FTE	1	Central, grant funding reduced, Interlibrary Loan
Library Ref. Asst. SG504	1	Transferred from Neighborhood
Neighborhood		
Library Circ. Aide, SG906, 0.56FTE	-1	Neighborhood, eliminated vacant position
Office Asst. II, SG410	-1	Neighborhood, grant funding reduced, Regional Library
Library Ref. Asst. SG504	-1	Transferred to Central Library
Total	-4	

Library Usage

MPL is the largest public library in the state. Two major indicators of library usage are patron count and circulation count. The following are statistics related to the services and programs offered to patrons when the library is open.

Patron Count

Library	2003	2004	2005	2006 YTD*
Atkinson	131,725	141,235	113,397	81,727
Bay View	158,725	168,917	170,378	135,830
Capital	181,672	199,424	185,810	132,826
Center St.	127,742	149,762	124,383	90,112
Central	592,565	634,996	589,037	414,875
East	221,038	226,706	214,383	164,890
Forest Home	170,070	177,254	162,312	114,623
ML King Jr.	133,715	138,960	130,237	94,208
Mill Road	194,485	196,849	175,741	129,232
Tippecanoe	160,825	155,025	132,098	108,624
Villard Ave.	98,032	104,586	93,885	71,153
Wash.Park	200,259	229,584	229,127	163,587
Zablocki	233,547	232,117	224,974	174,820
MLOS	9,196	15,785	14,362	2,471
Drive-thru	14,146	34,354	30,714	20,493
Total	2,627,103	2,805,550	2,590,588	1,899,568

* Thru September, 2006

Circulation Count

Library	2003	2004	2005	2006 YTD*
Atkinson	70,408	77,820	67,824	58,783
Bay View	231,286	241,715	236,592	186,997
Capital	291,997	275,654	245,404	176,950
Center St.	75,780	67,737	63,470	49,185
Central	749,302	757,246	684,746	456,423
East	268,649	276,454	257,361	203,958
Forest Home	152,888	170,554	151,635	107,504
ML King Jr.	67,839	74,426	67,997	51,907
Mill Road	193,228	194,764	179,044	132,845
Tippecanoe	232,613	227,137	204,216	145,908
Villard Ave.	98,440	95,297	82,620	61,138
Wash.Park	121,826	140,471	134,070	104,376
Zablocki	378,527	358,659	342,438	254,400
MLOS	56,302	65,195	68,434	36,366
Self Renewals**		147,474	159,039	0
Total	2,989,085	3,170,783	2,944,880	2,026,740

* Thru September, 2006

** Began in 2004.

The patron and circulation counts have been impacted by:

- Beginning in January 2005, 9 hours per week were reduced at 5 libraries; and 2 hours per week at 4 libraries. In 2004 and 2003, hours were reduced due to vacancies.

- The 2005 reduction to the materials budget of \$674,213 resulted in fewer books and other materials being available to meet patron demand.
- Central has seen a decline due to the Marquette Interchange construction, and renovation of the Wells Street entrance, and in 2006, the replacement of the Wisconsin Avenue bridge.
- Repairs, improvements, exterior renovations and upgrades to Neighborhood Libraries such as in HVAC replacement, painting, carpeting, window replacement will close a meeting room for a few days or one month.

LINE ITEMS

1. In the 2007 Proposed Budget, total Operating Expenditures are \$2,185,939, a decrease of \$48,125, -2.2%, from the 2006 Budget of \$2,234,064.
2. Funding for Equipment Purchases in the 2007 Proposed Budget is \$1,876,746, a decrease of \$455,495, -19.5%, from the 2006 Budget of \$2,332,241. The major item is:

Library Materials, \$1,686,822, a decrease of \$355,630, -17.4%, from the 2006 Budget of \$2,042,452. The materials funds are used to purchase books, newspapers and journal subscriptions, serials, audio visuals, reference works, fiction and non-fiction titles and electronic databases. The materials meet the needs of adults, young adults and children. Some items are purchased in multiple formats to address various literacy requirements, including books in print, audio-cassette, cds, large print, or Spanish.

MPL spent \$2,025,019 in 2003, and \$2,012,228 in 2004 on library materials. In the 2005 Budget, \$1,330,000 was provided for library materials. The department took a one-time cut of \$674,213, -33.6%, from the 2004 Budget of \$2,004,213, and was assured that the library materials budget would be restored to its previous level of \$2.1 million. The library materials budget has steadily decreased since 2001 as shown in the following chart:

Budget	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Library Materials	\$2,246,000	\$2,112,385	\$2,038,674	\$2,004,213	\$1,330,000	\$2,042,452

In MPL's 2007 Requested Budget, its request for library materials was \$1,850,000, a decrease of \$192,452, from the \$2,042,062 in the 2006 Budget. The 2007 Proposed Budget decreases the requested amount by an additional \$163,178, for a total of \$355,630 less than the 2006 Budget. The tentative breakdown for purchases includes:

Item	Requested		Proposed	
	Amount	%	Amount	%
Books	\$962,000	52%	\$877,147	52%
Databases*	\$370,000	20%	\$354,232	21%
Magazines and Newspapers	\$333,000	18%	\$303,628	18%
DVD/Video	\$92,500	5%	\$75,907	4.5%
Music CDs	\$46,250	2.5%	\$37,953	2.25%
Audio-books	\$46,250	2.5%	\$37,953	2.25%
Total	\$1,850,000		\$1,686,822	

Materials are purchase in all subject areas and formats to meet the many needs of Milwaukee residents with an emphasis on newly published and released materials, as in books, DVD's, CD's and audio-books. Other collection purchases support MPL's mission to provide programs and

activities in literacy, education, jobs, business development, and health. This also includes materials for preschool children, day-care centers, senior homes and residential centers.

Children's, young adult materials, and world languages with an emphasis on Spanish are also an important part of collection development. Subject purchases include arts, humanities, literature, culture, as well as sports, cooking, exercising and gardening.

In addition, costs of some library material have increased. While the average cost of hardcovers has remained fairly stable, periodicals have increased between 5 – 7% annually.

MPL has a purchasing/replacement policy for encyclopedias, and other reference material. As a Resource Library, MPL is required to keep current reference material, which is not checked out, available for patron use, and reference material is costly. In 2006, \$849,449, 46% of the materials budget, was allocated on reference material. This included books, subscription to journals and newspapers, databases and special collections. Material is not automatically replaced when titles are lost, worn, mutilated or removed from the collection. A replacement is considered in terms of the number of copies in the collection, current value, a gap in the collection, availability of this or a later edition, and circulation.

The Library Trustee Board has established a guideline of 12% of the Library's operating budget as the minimum for the materials budget. (The formula includes the MPL allocation plus fringe benefits and subtracting reciprocal borrowing.) The recommended 12% of the operating budget is \$2,677,218 vs. the proposed 7.4% at \$1,686,822.

Due to the large decrease in the 2005 library materials budget, it was anticipated that the Library Foundation would provide contributions to subsidize the amount. The Library Foundation has never consented to replace operating funding for library materials, and continues its efforts in fundraising of private contributions for improved collections, expanded programs, enhanced services and assistance in buildings renovations.

The Library Foundation has made contributions to the Library. For 2002 through 2006, this has included:

Grants to MPL	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006 YTD*
Books and materials	\$461,684	\$328,991	\$272,329	\$325,811	\$101,571
Programs	\$127,823	\$266,905	\$87,999	\$97,852	\$49,839
Total Grants	\$589,507	\$595,896	\$360,328	\$423,663	\$151,410

** Through September, 2006*

Library material for the Community Outreach and Technology Center, Center Street Library, is funded through CDBG.

Computer Equipment, \$134,000, is a decrease of \$75,000, -35.9%, from the 2006 Budget of \$209,000. In 2007, the equipment replacement funding is \$9,000 for monitors and equipment; \$5,000 for Computer peripherals; \$11,000 for printing equipment; and \$109,000 for computers. All of the equipment is on a replacement cycle.

RECIPROCAL BORROWING

In the 2007 Proposed Budget, \$500,000 is the proposed reciprocal borrowing costs, the same amount provided in the 2006 Budget.

1. **Background** – MPL is a member library of the Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS). MCFLS by statute, is an agency of Milwaukee County, established in 1973. It is state-funded, a county-wide library cooperative that provides shared services. Shared services include an automated circulation system, reference service and reciprocal borrowing.
2. **Members** - All municipalities within Milwaukee County participate in the System through a member agreement. They include:

<i>Brown Deer</i>	<i>Greendale</i>	<i>Milwaukee</i>	<i>St. Francis</i>	<i>Wauwatosa</i>
<i>Cudahy</i>	<i>Greenfield</i>	<i>North Shore*</i>	<i>Shorewood</i>	<i>West Allis</i>
<i>Franklin</i>	<i>Hales Corners</i>	<i>Oak Creek</i>	<i>South Milwaukee</i>	<i>Whitefish Bay</i>

* *North Shore is the public library for the communities of Bayside, Fox Point, Glendale and River Hills.*

One municipality has no local library and participates through a separate contractual agreement. That community is *West Milwaukee*.

3. **Reciprocal Borrowing Cost** – In MCFLS, a reciprocal borrowing transaction occurs when a resident from one municipality checks out or requests materials from another Milwaukee County library. Reciprocal borrowing costs are incurred when materials borrowed between municipalities are not in balance.
4. **New Member Agreement** – The new member agreement is due to expire December 31, 2007. It is a three-year agreement between MCFLS and the 15 members to cover computer services, supplies, and postage, and omits references of the payment of reciprocal borrowing charges among member communities. It became effective January 1, 2005.

In the new agreement, MCFLS does not make reference to payments for reciprocal borrowing costs. The members negotiate reciprocal borrowing agreements among themselves. The state statutes, which govern MCFLS, does not require any payments for reciprocal borrowing. But due to the concerns expressed by members and citizens, MCFLS revised its policy, and subsidizes the members for reciprocal borrowing costs. The MPL and MCFLS allocation for 2007 includes:

<i>Member</i>	<i>MPL Pays</i>	<i>MCFLS Pays</i>	<i>Total</i>
Brown Deer	\$73,689	\$80,985	\$154,674
Cudahy	\$39,549	92,856	132,405
Franklin	15,620	54,319	69,939
Greendale	10,997	4,147	15,144
Greenfield	71,687	0	71,687
Hales Corners	7,677	52,936	60,613
North Shore	6,968	0	6,968
Oak Creek**	0	0	0
St. Francis	18,836	15,941	34,777
Shorewood	24,235	4,214	28,449
South Milwaukee**	0	0	0
Wauwatosa	125,843	85,139	210,982
West Allis	104,899	136,598	241,497
Whitefish Bay	0	0	0
Total	\$500,000	\$527,135	\$1,027,135

** *Oak Creek, South Milwaukee or Whitefish Bay will neither accept nor pay reciprocal borrowing reimbursement.*

The 2007 Proposed Budget includes \$500,000 for reciprocal borrowing costs for the next year, and payment will be made to the individual libraries by December 2007.

GRANTS

MPL is scheduled to receive \$1,486,949 in 2007 in grant funding, an increase of \$24,146, 1.7%, from the 2006 Budget of \$1,462,803. The grants are:

Grants	'06-'07	'07-'08	% Change
Wisconsin Regional	\$777,000	\$911,588	17.2%
Comm.Tech-CDBG*	610,803	\$498,461	-18.4%
Interlibrary Loan	75,000	76,900	2.5%
TOTAL	\$1,462,803	\$1,486,949	1.7%

* Fiscal year is from January through December.

1. **Wisconsin Regional Library For The Blind and Physically Handicapped Grant, \$911,588** – This grant funds library materials appropriate for use by the visually and physically handicapped in the city and state. For 2007, MPL has applied for \$911,800, an increase of \$134,588, 17.2% from the 2007 funding of \$777,000. The grant period, from the State of Wisconsin, is from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 and funds 15 positions, one less position than the previous grant period. The funding is for personnel and supplies, and the estimated breakdown includes:

Salaries & Wages	\$581,212
Fringe Benefits	220,861
Other	109,515
Total	\$911,588

2. **Community Outreach & Technology Center, \$498,461** - In 2003, the Center Street Library, funded through CDBG entitlement funding, became the Community Outreach & Technology Center by increasing its support for computers and technology information resources for the public. The enhancements focused on resume services, computer tutoring, employment searches and general computer resource assistance.

Since 2003, Center Street library received funding through CDBG. The funding from 2003 through 2005 included:

Center Street CDBG Funding		
	Entitlement	Reprogramming
2003	\$543,224	
2004	492,431	
2005	492,431	\$110,000
2006	610,803	
2007*	\$498,461	

* Proposed

The 2007 Proposed funding of \$498,461 is a decrease of \$112,342, -18.4%, from the \$610,803 in the 2006 Budget. The funding is for 10 positions, materials and supplies.

The department indicates that if the fringe benefits are not covered by city operating funds, the decrease in funding will reduce services at Center Street Library in 2007. The reductions may include: materials, staff, and public access to computers. The economic development role of the library will be negatively impacted. Fewer materials and computers to assist patrons who are

seeking employment or starting a business will be available to the immediate community, which has a high percentage of poverty and unemployment.

3. **The Interlibrary Loan Services Grant, \$76,900.** This grant is a joint project in cooperation with the State Division for Library Services – Reference and Loan Library and MCFLS which provides library materials not available at most libraries.

In 2006 the department received \$75,000 in grant funding. In the 2007 Proposed Budget, the department anticipates receiving \$76,900, an increase of \$1,900, 1.2%, from the 2006 Budget of \$75,000. The grant period is from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. The proposed grant funds 2 positions, 1.5 FTEs, and the estimated breakdown includes:

Salaries & wages	\$46,727
Fringe Benefits	19,625
Other	10,548
Total	\$76,900

REVENUES

In the 2007 Proposed Budget, the Comptroller's Office projects MPL will generate \$1,895,500 in revenues, an increase of \$51,500, 2.8%, from the 2006 Budget of \$1,844,000. The following chart shows the 2007 expected revenues sources:

Category	2005 Actual	2006 Est.	2007 Proposed	'06-'07 % Chg.
MPL Services	\$502,801	\$ 485,000	\$ 498,800	2.7%
MCFLS	\$1,304,626	\$1,359,000	\$1,396,700	1.7%
Total	\$1,807,427	\$1,844,000	\$1,895,500	2.8%

1. **MCFLS, \$1,396,700**, an increase of \$37,700, 2.8%, from the 2006 estimate of \$1,359,000. The revenue is from 5 separate contracts for 2007. This \$1,396,700 is made up of the following:

MCFLS Contracts

Contracts	Est. Amount	Time Period
Member	\$ 14,742	1/1/05 - 12/31/07
Resource-Reference	\$ 725,000	1/1/05 - 12/31/07
Cataloging	\$ 483,639	1/1/05 - 12/31/07
Lease Agreement	\$ 115,000	1/1/06 - 12/31/07
Delivery Service*	\$ 58,319	Extended annually
TOTAL	\$1,396,700	

*Rate and term negotiated.

2. **MPL Services, \$498,800**, an increase of \$13,800, 2.8% from the 2006 estimate of \$485,000; this includes overdue charges, photocopy services, postage, and photocopy coin machines. Major sources of revenue are from over-due book charges and lost material.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

2007 Capital Improvement Projects

The 2007 Proposed Budget provides the Library with \$830,000 for capital improvement projects, a decrease of \$230,000, -21.7%, from the \$1,060,000 provided in the 2006 Budget. The projects include:

Item	2005 Actual	2006 Budget	2007 Proposed	06'-07' % Change
Central Improvements	\$720,189	\$750,000	\$387,000	-48.4%
Central Mechanical Systems	\$39,387	\$0	\$103,000	100.0%
Central Remodeling	\$113,086	\$0	\$0	-100.0%
Restoration of Mosaic Floor	\$30,418	\$0	\$0	-100.0%
Neighborhood Improvements	\$1,084,913	\$310,000	\$340,000	9.7%
Neighborhood –Technical Study	\$57,179	\$0	\$	0.0%
Neighborhood –New Library	\$21,699	\$0	\$	0.0%
Other Improvements	\$46,385	\$0	\$	0.0%
Total	\$ 2,113,256	\$ 1,060,000	\$ 830,000	-21.7%

Central Library - \$490,000

Improvements Fund, \$387,000 – This is an ongoing scheduled program of repairs/replacements to the interior of the library. In 2007, \$280,000 is for interior repairs, painting and carpeting areas that have constant traffic wear and \$107,000 funds the maintenance and repair of exterior surfaces, such as the Chicago brick, windows, lighting, roof and painted surfaces. Funds are also for a consultant to develop specifications for a replacement roof.

Mechanical Systems Improvements, \$103,000 – The mechanical improvements programs include elevators, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, building controls and security systems. The 2007 funding will continue the replacement of electrical transformers and building system controls. There are nine transformers that handle all of the electrical power in the building. By the end of 2006, three are scheduled to be replaced. In 2005, a transformer failure caused loss of electricity to a portion of the library. A temporary unit had to be shipped in from out of state. The remaining units have to be replaced. Replacements will improve the energy efficiency of the related heating and cooling systems.

Neighborhood Libraries - \$340,000

Library Improvement Fund, \$340,000 – This is an on-going program of mechanical repairs and replacements and exterior repair and improvements for the roof, windows, painted trim, masonry, signage, parking lots and lighting at neighborhood library buildings. The 2007 funding of \$300,000 is for exterior repairs and replacement of windows at Atkinson Library. The glazing used in the windows at the Library is Lexan. The type of plexiglass is energy inefficient and has become cracked and cloudy. Replacement with modern glazing materials will improve natural daylighting and the appearance of the library. New glazing will help reduce heating and cooling loads. In addition, the exterior paint has failed resulting in rotting wood trim. Future plans will address aging exterior signs, major parking improvements and masonry repairs.

An additional \$40,000 funds the mechanical improvements for HVAC, building controls and security systems at various neighborhood libraries.