

#### **Queens Public Library's Budget Priorities for Fiscal Year 2024**

April 14, 2023

To Our Customers:

Amid the many challenges of our times, Queens Public Library continues to work towards an equitable recovery for our borough and for our city. For 127 years, the Library has remained a force for truth and democracy and a source of personal discovery and growth, offering free access to knowledge, information, and opportunity to all.

The Library is helping young people recover from the educational and emotional losses of the pandemic, supporting asylum seekers and other immigrants as they adjust to their new home, guiding job seekers and small business owners to find success in today's economy, offering expanded digital collections and WiFi, and providing all New Yorkers free and safe spaces to connect to one another and the resources they need.

At a pivotal moment in our history, we know people across the borough and beyond are counting on Queens Public Library for help, and we are committed to doing all we can to support and strengthen our diverse communities. But we are facing proposed budget cuts of \$15 million in the Fiscal Year 2024 budget. Cuts of this magnitude would undoubtedly result in significantly reduced library services – fewer operating hours, programs, books, and more.

We are now in the process of setting our budget for Fiscal Year 2024, which begins July 1, 2023. We want the public to understand where our funding comes from, our proposal for spending this revenue, and how we will balance our budget. We welcome you to share your thoughts and opinions about our plan during a public hearing on Thursday, April 20, at 5:30 p.m. at Central Library, 89-11 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11432.

Your feedback is essential as we prepare for our future. If you are unable to attend the hearing, please send us your written comments about our budget through our website, from Thursday, April 20 to Monday, May 22, 2023. We hope you will lend your voice to this important process. Thank you.

Sincerely,

**Earl G. Simons**, Ed.D., Chair, Queens Public Library Board of Trustees **Dennis M. Walcott**, President and CEO, Queens Public Library

### Queens Public Library Revenue

### Fiscal Year 2024

(July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

| Source                 | Туре                         | Description  | FY 2023<br>(millions) | FY 2024<br>(millions) | Major Variances  |
|------------------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| NYC Operating          | Restricted & Unrestricted    | City funds for Operating and Grant<br>Expenses   | \$121.9               | \$114.7               | NYC proposed budget reductions to operating subsidy  |
| NYC Pension            | Unrestricted                 | City funds for Pension Expenses  | \$11.4                | \$11.7                |  |
| Fees                   | Unrestricted                 | Lost item fees, lost Library card fees, multifunctional device usage fees  | \$0.3                 | \$0.3                 |  |
| Federal Grants         | Restricted                   | Federal grants including<br>IMLS, Department of Labor, WIOA,<br>and HUD CDBG   | \$4.3                 | \$3.0                 | All grants are subject to<br>submission of an<br>application/proposal, most of<br>which are competitive. |
| NY State Grants        | Restricted &<br>Unrestricted | General and Special<br>Library and Literacy Aid. State Aid<br>for construction, Literacy and<br>Programs                           | \$12.6                | \$10.6                | All grants are subject to<br>submission of an<br>application/proposal, most of<br>which are competitive. |
| Fundraising            | Restricted & Unrestricted    | Foundation and corporate grants, private donations and fundraising events  | \$1.7                 | \$1.6                 |  |
| Investment Income      | Restricted &<br>Unrestricted | Investment earnings on investments<br>& investment fees  | \$1.0                 | \$0.7                 |  |
| Contributed Facilities | Restricted                   | Value of the utilities for City-owned<br>buildings, paid by the City directly,<br>and the annual lease value of those<br>buildings | \$30.8                | \$30.8                |  |
| Contributed Services   | Unrestricted                 | Value of volunteer services  | \$0.2                 | \$0.2                 |  |
|                        |                              | TOTAL  | \$184.2               | \$173.6               |  |

# **Queens Public Library Expense**

## Fiscal Year 2024

(July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

| Budget Item          | Description   | FY 2023<br>(millions) | FY 2024<br>(millions) | Major Variance   |
|----------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Library Services     | Includes all expenses required to<br>provide Library Services to the<br>public at all locations including all<br>books and materials, wages,<br>benefits and facility costs.                            | \$90.1                | \$86.8                | NYC proposed budget<br>reductions to operating subsidy |
| Library Materials    | Includes all expenses required to<br>provide Library Services to the<br>public at all locations including all<br>books and materials, wages,<br>benefits and facility costs.                            | \$5.7                 | \$4.2                 |  |
| Facilities           | Custodial, maintenance, repairs,<br>utilities, lease costs, equipment,<br>renovations and value of<br>contributed services  | \$44.3                | \$43.0                |  |
| Programs             | Programs for adults, young adults<br>and children, special events,<br>literacy, youth counselors, job and<br>information programs, after- school<br>programs, summer reading,<br>including staff costs. | \$5.2                 | \$4.6                 |  |
| Technology           | Software licenses, one-time<br>software development, computers,<br>network equipment, maintenance<br>con- tracts, RFID equipment,<br>technology staff   | \$5.1                 | \$4.6                 |  |
| Fundraising Expenses | Expenses for fundraising events and personnel.  | \$1.6                 | \$1.4                 |  |
| Management & General | Includes expenses for operations<br>and management of Queens<br>Library including Human<br>Resources, Accounting, Legal, &<br>Risk Management.  | \$32.2                | \$29.0                |  |
|                      | TOTAL   | \$184.2               | \$173.6               |  |

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