

# Library Advocacy Day 2024

Thank you for joining us! Your voice matters.

February 7, 2024



# Support New York Libraries

## Fund – Protect – Empower


Thank you for joining us for Advocacy Day 2024!

On February 7, the most powerful thing in Albany will be your voice. Your presence and the stories that you tell about your library help your legislators understand the very real need for funding for libraries and why they are important to you and your community.

This packet contains information from the New York Library Association and the Mid-Hudson Library System to help you navigate your Advocacy Day Experience. **Contents include:**

- Schedule of appointments
- Map of the Concourse
- Budget Priorities
- Legislative Priorities
- History of Library Aid Chart

**Have a question? Look for your Mid-Hudson Library System Representatives.**

		
<b>Rebekkah Smith Aldrich</b> Executive Director	<b>Laura Crisci</b> Library Sustainability Coordinator	<b>Kerstin Cruger</b> Outreach & EDI Specialist

## 2024 LIBRARY ADVOCACY DAY – MHLS APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE

SYSTEM REP	TIME	LEGISLATOR	DIST	ROOM #	LIBRARIES REPRESENTED
RSA	10:00	Assemblymember Matthew J. Slater (R)	94 <sup>th</sup>	LOB 433	Brewster, Kent, Mahopac, Patterson, Putnam Valley, Carmel ( <i>Shared meeting with WLS</i> )
RSA	10:30	Assemblymember Dana Levenberg (D)	95 <sup>th</sup>	LOB 325	Garrison, Cold Spring ( <i>Shared meeting with WLS</i> )
LC	10:30	Assemblymember Jonathan G. Jacobson (D)	104 <sup>th</sup>	LOB 650	Highland, Beacon, Marlboro, Plattekill, Poughkeepsie* (City Branches), Milton ( <i>Shared meeting with RCLS</i> )
KC	11:00	Assemblymember Chris Tague	102nd	LOB 937	Cairo, Catskill, Palenville, Athens, Greenville, Cossackie, Hunter, Pine Hill, Mountain Top (Tannersville), Phoenicia
LC	11:30	Senator Peter Harckham (D)	40 <sup>th</sup>	LOB 315	Brewster, Kent, Mahopac, Patterson, Carmel ( <i>Shared meeting with RCLS, WLS</i> )
KC	11:40	Assemblymember Anil Beephan Jr. (R)	105 <sup>th</sup>	LOB 528	Amenia, Beekman, Fishkill, Dover, East Fishkill, Wappingers, LaGrange, Pawling
<b>Noon – Rally @The Well</b>					
KC	1:00	Senator Robert Rollison (R)	39 <sup>th</sup>	LOB 613	Beekman, Fishkill, Garrison, East Fishkill, Wappingers, Beacon, Cold Spring, LaGrange, Pawling, Poughkeepsie (All Branches), Putnam Valley ( <i>Shared meeting with RCLS</i> )
LC	1:00	Senator Peter Oberacker (R)	51 <sup>st</sup>	LOB 506	Olive, Stone Ridge ( <i>Shared meeting with RCLS, Four County, MWLS</i> )
RSA	1:15	Senator Michelle Hinchey (D)	41 <sup>st</sup>	LOB 902	Amenia, Cairo, Catskill, Palenville, Chatham, Canaan, Claverack, Clinton, Athens, Dover, New Paltz, Germantown, Greenville, Cossackie, Highland, Hudson, Hunter, Hurley, Hyde Park, Kinderhook, Kingston, Livingston, Marlboro, Millbrook, Pine Hill, Rhinecliff, Mountain Top (Tannersville), New Lebanon, North Chatham, NorthEast-Millerton, Philmont, Phoenicia, Pine Plains, Plattekill, Pleasant Valley, Red Hook, Roeliff Jansen (Ancram, Copake, Hillsdale), Rosendale, Milton, Saugerties, Staatsburg, Stanford, Rhinebeck, Tivoli, Town of Esopus, Town of Ulster, Valatie, West Hurley, Windham, Woodstock
RSA	2:00	Assemblymember Didi Barrett (D)	106 <sup>th</sup>	LOB 724	Chatham*, Canaan, Claverack, Clinton, Germantown, Hudson, Hyde Park, Livingston, Millbrook, New Lebanon, North Chatham, NorthEast-Millerton, Philmont, Pine Plains, Pleasant Valley, Poughkeepsie* (Town Branch), Roeliff Jansen (Ancram, Copake, Hillsdale), Staatsburg, Stanford
KC	2:30	Assemblymember Sarahana Shrestha	103rd	LOB 820	Hurley, Kingston, New Paltz, Olive, Red Hook, Rhinebeck, Rhinecliff, Rosendale, Saugerties, Stone Ridge, Tivoli Free, Town of Esopus, Town of Ulster, West Hurley, Woodstock
LC	2:30	Assemblymember Scott H. Bendett (R)	107 <sup>th</sup>	LOB 324	Chatham*, Kinderhook, Valatie

**System Rep Key:** RSA - Rebekkah Smith Aldrich | LC - Laura Crisci | KC - Kerstin Cruger

LOB = Legislative Office Building | \*The service area of these libraries spans more than one Assembly district.

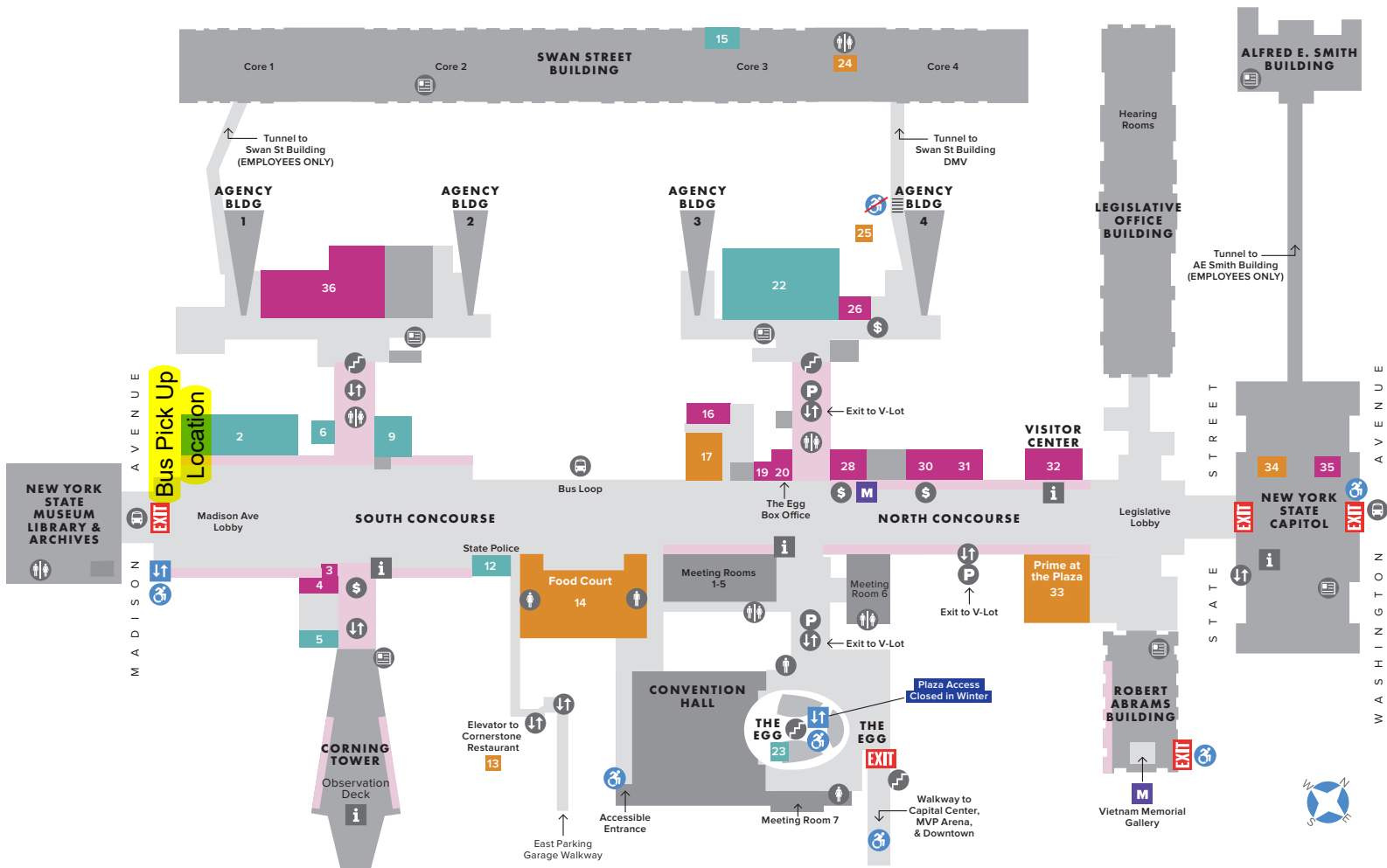
The bus leaves at 3:30pm sharp, across the street from the Madison Ave. entrance to the Concourse.

Schedule as of 2/2/24

# WELCOME TO THE EMPIRE STATE PLAZA

empirestateplaza.ny.gov @ f b

## CONCOURSE LEVEL



### Map Key

- i** Information
- \$** ATM
- ↗** Exit to Plaza
- ↑↓** Elevator
- ↑↓** Elevator to Plaza Level **♿** Accessible
- P** Parking (use elevators)
- 🚌** CDTA Bus Stop
- 📰** Newsstand Convenience Store
- M** Memorials  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial  
Vietnam Memorial Gallery
- 🎨** Empire State Plaza Art Collection

### Food

- 13** Cornerstone at the Plaza  
Plaza Level
- 14** Food Court
- 17** Logan's Deli and Market
- 24** Swan Street Cafeteria  
WV Pizza
- 33** Prime at the Plaza Café
- 34** Dunkin Donuts

### Services

- 3** Just Jewelry Repair
- 4** Post Office
- 16** American Red Cross
- 19** Patsy's Barber Shop
- 20** The Egg Box Office
- 26** Emblem Health Family Dental
- 28** KeyBank
- 30** Broadview
- 31** DMV
- 32** Visitor Center & Gift Shop
- 35** Post Office
- 36** Retro Fitness

### State Offices

- 2** Media Services Room #146
- 5** Conference Room #125
- 6** Parking Management Room #144
- 9** Plaza Operations Room #130
- 12** NY State Police Room #115-1
- 15** Department of Motor Vehicles
- 22** Convention & Cultural Events, Curatorial Services Room #120
- 23** Convention Center Office

---

# 2024 BUDGET PRIORITIES

---

## **\$147.1 million for Library Operating Aid**

- **More than \$200 million in lost state funding has cost our communities more than \$875 million in lost local library services.**
- New York State Education Law calls for \$104.6M in State Library Aid for FY 2024-2025.
- Funding libraries is a smart investment in our communities improving the lives of residents of all ages, abilities, and economic status. Library services address digital inclusion, student success, workforce development, equitable access to information and building connections between neighbors.

## **\$69.4 million for State Aid for Library Construction**

- Public libraries require immediate, significant state investment to accommodate **advances in technological infrastructure, investments in energy efficiency, and increased access to differently abled patrons.**
- The New York State Education Department's Division of Library Development (DLD) has identified **\$1.75 billion in capital needs statewide**
- The State Aid for Library Construction program provides an immediate and efficient return on investment while boosting local economies. Since 2007, state investment has leveraged more than \$500 million in local funding – a **5:1 return**
- Funding for the State Aid for Library Construction Program remained **stagnant for a decade** prior to recent investment; the accumulated capital needs forced the sale of library buildings and has eroded operating funds for maintenance.

---

# 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

---

## **Protection of Patron Access to Library Materials and Services | S6350-B (May) / A6873-B (O'Donnell) | S7677 (May) / A7843A (Kelles)**

*Additional Proposals Pending*

Libraries across our state face rapidly expanding efforts to censor materials and programming they deem objectionable based on subjective personal sensibilities and partisan ideologies. We require legislation that empowers library professionals to exercise their expertise and ensure public access to materials, services, and programs that represent their interests.

## **Elimination of Library Construction Cap | S7093 (Chu)**

Libraries serving economically distressed communities may be eligible for Library Construction Aid awards beyond 75%. However, the law currently only allows public library systems to award 50% of their total allocation to such projects.

This proposal would eliminate the 50% cap to ensure that libraries serving economically distressed communities and libraries in rural regions will be able to make use of the library construction aid intended to benefit these communities.

## **Association Library Retirement Opt-In Option | S4245 (Palumbo) / A4885 (Thiele)**

This bill would allow association libraries that meet certain criteria the ability to join the New York State Retirement System upon approval of their board.

# HISTORY OF LIBRARY AID - FORMULA VS. ACTUAL FY2009 - FY2024

