

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 7, 2024

Village of Fall Creek Awarded State Grant of 4.25 million for New Library Building Project
Governor Evers Announces Flexible Facilities Program Grant Recipients

[FALL CREEK, WISCONSIN] – The Village of Fall Creek proudly announces that it has been awarded the highly competitive Flexible Facilities Program Grant of 4.25 million from the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA), Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources. This funding will support the Village's new public library building project. Announced today by Governor Tony Evers, this grant helps bring the library's vision of an expanded, modernized facility closer to reality.

"This grant marks a transformative moment for the Fall Creek community and our library," said Tim Raap, President of the Village of Fall Creek. "It enables us to create a facility that not only serves the needs of our residents but also directly responds to the work, education, and health monitoring challenges that have arisen in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are grateful to Governor Evers, the DOA, and everyone involved in this program for recognizing the importance of public libraries in fostering community resilience and growth."

The Flexible Facilities Grant is designed to fund projects that help communities adapt to post-pandemic needs, including enhancing access to work, education, and healthcare services. The new Fall Creek Public Library will offer expanded internet access, designated spaces for remote work, online learning, and telehealth services. The updated facility will also feature accessible meeting rooms and technological resources supporting these essential services, ensuring that Fall Creek area residents can stay connected and thrive.

John Kuehn, Library Board President, highlighted the importance of the grant: "The new library will be a cornerstone for the community—a place where learning, creativity, and connection thrive, especially in response to the ongoing needs post-pandemic. We're excited to see it come to life."

"The new library will address many of the limitations of the current building, including a lack of accessible and safe parking and inadequate space for programs and private work areas," said Jared McKee, Village Administrator. "With the grant funding, the Village of Fall Creek will move forward with plans to create a community-centric facility that includes expanded internet access, accessible facilities, increased resources, and designated spaces for remote work, education, and telehealth. "

A positive campaign readiness study presented to the Village Boards in August indicated the campaign had merit, was deemed justifiable, and received a positive reaction from the philanthropic community. A capital campaign will be announced this fall. With the support of the Flexible Facilities Program Grant, the library is now one step closer to breaking ground on its new home.

Charlene Conradi, Director of the Fall Creek Public Library also shared her enthusiasm for the project: "This new library will allow us to expand our services, host more educational programs and provide a space where people of all ages can come together to learn, connect, and grow."

A groundbreaking ceremony will be announced in the coming months, with construction expected to begin in Spring 2025. The library will continue to update the community as the project progresses.

For more information on how you can support the Fall Creek Public Library building project, please visit fallcreekpubliclibrary.org/buildingproject or contact Charlene Conradi at conradi@fallcreekpubliclibrary.org.

Media Contact:

Charlene Conradi

Library Director, Fall Creek Public Library

715-877-3334

conradi@fallcreekpubliclibrary.org

www.fallcreekpubliclibrary.org