

Hansen, Patty

From: Sofia Martinez <sofia@techandcivicliflife.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 10:14 AM
To: Hansen, Patty
Subject: Re: Following Up on Congressional Funding Requests

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

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Hi Patty,

Just giving a gentle nudge here. This Friday, March 31, is the deadline for offices to submit their appropriations requests, so we're hoping to get all outreach in before then.

If you have any questions or need any help on this, please feel free to reach out. Thank you so much for your continued help on this campaign - we can't do it without you!

Best,

Sofia

Sofia Martinez

Logistics Associate

Center for Tech and Civic Life

Website: www.techandcivicliflife.org

On Mon, Mar 27, 2023 at 4:03 PM Sofia Martinez <sofia@techandcivicliflife.org> wrote:

Hi Patty,

I hope your week is off to a great start! I wanted to thank you again for your willingness to submit funding requests last week to Senator Mark Kelly and Senator Kyrsten Sinema. We were able to submit over 100 requests during the open period, and have heard great feedback from offices over the last week or so. Members of Congress are weighing a lot of different priorities in this year's budget, so we want to make sure that our request continues to stay at the tops of their lists.

Would you be willing to spend 5 minutes this week quickly following up with your congressional office to make sure that they've reviewed your request? We'd love for you to make a call into their DC office, or send them a short note via email if you're not able to get in touch. We have attached a sample phone script and email below to make it easier for you.

Here's the contact information for congressional offices mentioned in the first paragraph:

- Senator Mark Kelly
 - Office Phone Number: (202) 224-2235
 - Staff Email(s): jennifer_cox@kelly.senate.gov; joe_russell@kelly.senate.gov
- Senator Kyrsten Sinema
 - Office Phone Number: (202) 224-4521
 - Staff Email(s): michael_brownlie@sinema.senate.gov; daniel_winkler@sinema.senate.gov

If you have any questions or need any help on this, please feel free to reach out. Thank you so much for your continued help on this campaign - we can't do it without you!

Best,
Sofia

Sofia Martinez

Logistics Associate

Center for Tech and Civic Life

Website: www.techandciviclife.org

Hansen, Patty

From: Hansen, Patty
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 2:56 PM
To: Stuart@techandcivicliflife.org
Subject: FW: President Biden proposes \$5 billion for election offices

I would like to offer my assistance with contacting my representatives to urge them to support including this important funding in the budget. I do want to let you know that I have a new Congressman for our county and he would not be supportive of this issue. Our previous Representative Tom O'Halleran was supportive and would listen, but Representative Eli Crane is a member of the Freedom Caucus and an election denier. I don't believe I would be able to move him on this issue. I would be happy to talk with other Representatives from Arizona such as Representative Greg Stanton or Representative Ruben Gallego . I would also be happy to visit with Senators Mark Kelley and Krysten Sinema.

If you think I could be of assistance, please let me know. Thank you for working to secure of democracy.

Have a good weekend.

Patty Hansen

Coconino County Recorder
110 E Cherry Ave
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(928) 679-7889



From: Andrea, Center for Tech and Civic Life <andrea@techandcivicliflife.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 11:19 AM
To: Hansen, Patty <phansen@coconino.az.gov>
Subject: President Biden proposes \$5 billion for election offices

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Biden Continues to Fight for
Federal Investments in Elections

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ELECTRICITY




The latest best practices for election officials.

Biden Continues to Fight For Federal Investments in Local Election Departments With New Budget


Since 2021, through the [Election Infrastructure Initiative](#), we have been helping to ensure that election offices across the country have the personnel, equipment, and facilities to run accessible and secure elections that the public can trust. We know that election officials work around the clock to make sure that every eligible vote (and only eligible votes) count in our elections, and we need adequate and reliable federal funding to keep it that way.

That's why we're so glad to see the President affirm his commitment to fully funding elections today in his FY2024 budget release. The budget [proposes \\$5 billion over 10 years for state and local election departments](#) with \$1.625 billion in the first year. This is the second year in a row Biden has [proposed a substantial investment](#) in election infrastructure. Unfortunately, Congress cut funding from [\\$400 million to \\$75 million](#) in last year's budget.



**Election offices
can't secure
elections with
outdated tech.**

THANK YOU to the Biden Administration for supporting fully-funded elections offices over the next decade.

 **ELECTION
INFRASTRUCTURE
INITIATIVE**

“While the last Congress invested in strengthening our nation’s infrastructure, unfortunately, local election departments were left out,” said **Tiana Epps-Johnson, executive director for the Center for Tech and Civic Life**. “I’m grateful to the White House for recognizing the need for a long-term, sustained investment of federal funding for local election departments so they have the resources to afford the basics, from secure storage for ballots to secure workspace for staff to funds to meet surging costs for paper ballots and postage.”

“President Biden knows that \$75 million from Congress last year was salt in the wound for local election staff who worked through one challenge after another since the 2020 election without enough federal funding,” said **Sam Oliker-Friedland, executive director of the Institute for Responsive Government**.

“There is bipartisan support from state and local election officials for federal funding. It’s time for action.”

We need your help:

The \$5B in Federal Grants for election infrastructure that the Biden Administration recommends over the next decade (with \$1.625B in the first year) will be transformational for election security and accessibility for generations to come - and we need to make that message known across the country.

Our members of Congress need to hear loud and clear from community partners that funding local elections offices is a high priority for the upcoming fiscal year. **And we have just a few days until the March 13 deadline** to do so. Are you willing to send a request to your member of Congress? Email Stuart@techandcivicliflife.org and we'll help you get started.

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Hansen, Patty

From: Center for Tech and Civic Life <andrea@techandciviclife.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 2, 2022 7:15 AM
To: Hansen, Patty
Subject: 14 Ways Election Offices Can Partner with Libraries

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14 Ways Election Offices Can
Partner with Libraries

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Explore Our New Guide for Debriefing Elections

When you think about elections, you probably think about the days and weeks leading up to Election Day and the process of getting all the logistics set up. It can be easy to overlook what comes after Election Day: reflecting with your workers on what went well and what could be improved. Our newest tool, [Guide for debriefing elections](#), will help your team gain insights to help make your next election even better.

[Explore the guide](#)

14 Ways Election Offices Can Partner with Libraries

Who doesn't love libraries? As community hubs and centers of learning, they are natural partners for election offices. Not only are libraries free and nonpartisan, but they are also one of society's most trusted sources of information. Today we're highlighting 14 ways that election officials can work with libraries to expand voter registration, education, and engagement efforts. We've broken these down into four categories:

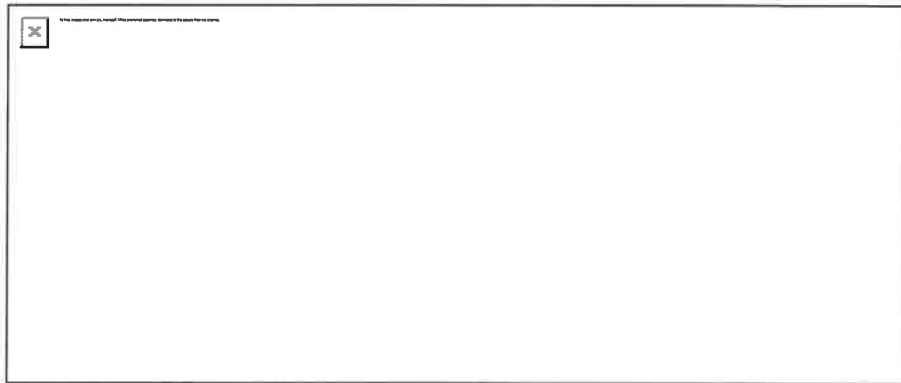
- Voter Registration
- In-Person Voting
- Mail/Absentee Voting
- Voter Engagement

Voter Registration

1. Providing Registration Forms. In many states, libraries already offer voter registration services, typically registering voters when they sign up for a library card. But there are a number of other ways that new voters can register at libraries. The Charleston County, South Carolina Board of Elections and Voter Registration partnered with Charleston County Public Library (CCPL) to offer voter registration forms at every library throughout the county. "Libraries are safe, convenient, and accessible community hubs, so this partnership was a natural fit," says CCPL Executive Director Angela Craig. People can drop their completed forms in secure boxes at several of the library branches.

2. Hosting Registration Drives. Libraries get lots of foot traffic, so hosting a

registration drive is a great way to register many new voters at once. Election officials in jurisdictions like [Harrison County, Texas](#) and [Shawnee County, Kansas](#) have set up tables in their libraries' lobbies for this purpose. Organizing these events on civic holidays, such as National Voter Registration Day, can help cultivate a sense of community. [Rapid City, South Dakota](#) Librarian Carrie Bird planned a registration drive for the holiday in 2021. She explains, "We want to make sure that everybody is taking part in our community, and this seemed like a good way to do that."



Brenda Donaldson and Lou Gaw volunteer at a registration drive at Marshall Public Library in Harrison County, Texas. Photo courtesy of the Marshall News Messenger.

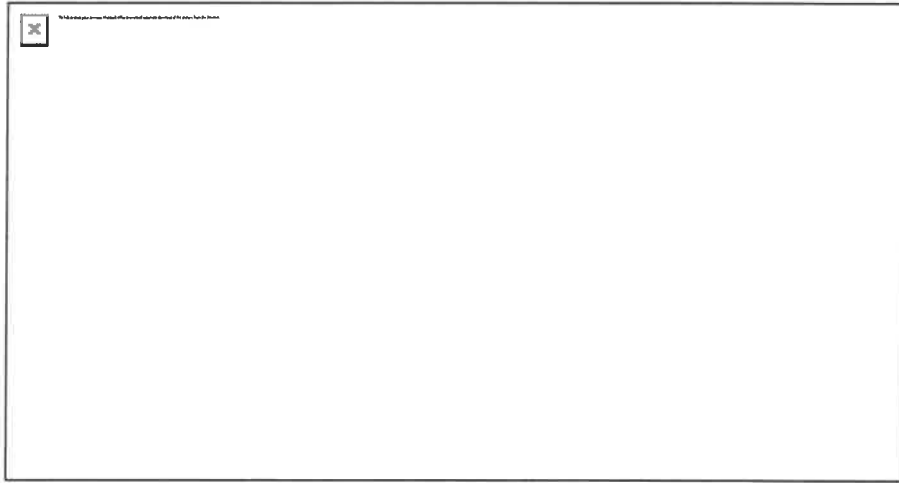
3. Setting Up a Registration Kiosk. The [Toledo Lucas County, Ohio](#) Public Library has come up with an innovative solution for voters to check their registration status and make sure they're prepared to vote. In 2020, they set up a registration "quick-stop" kiosk inside the library. The kiosk is particularly useful for people who have recently moved or changed their name and need to update their registration. It's also beneficial for those experiencing homelessness, who can use a friend's or a shelter's address to register.

In-Person Voting

4. Serving as Voting Sites. Across the country, nearly 500 libraries are used as polling locations for early voting and on Election Day. Since they're a familiar place, voting at a library can help voters feel welcome and at ease. Paul Kagebein, Adult Services Programmer at the Garland County, Arkansas Library—who has established a partnership with the Garland County Election Commission—says, “Hundreds of people come into the library in a given day just to access other resources. It’s a perfect opportunity for a significant number of people to have an easier opportunity to vote.”

Of course, serving as a polling place also has benefits for the library. At Brooklyn Public Library in New York, librarians pass out library card applications to voters as they wait in line. They also offer coffee and snacks. “It’s a great opportunity to get new users in the door, welcome the community, and keep them coming back,” says Chief Librarian Nick Higgins.

5. Reaching Voters Through BookMobiles. The Thompson Nicola Regional Library in British Columbia has a mobile library, or “BookMobile,” that’s used to serve rural communities without access to libraries. In 2018, they used their BookMobile to serve as a mobile polling place. The program served two purposes: it made it more accessible for rural communities to vote, and promoted the library’s services. Jurisdictions in the U.S. have since implemented similar programs. In Columbia, Missouri, the library’s BookMobile transformed into a VoteMobile for a weekend. And in Austin, Texas, children received free books from the BookMobile, while adults could register to vote and complete the census.



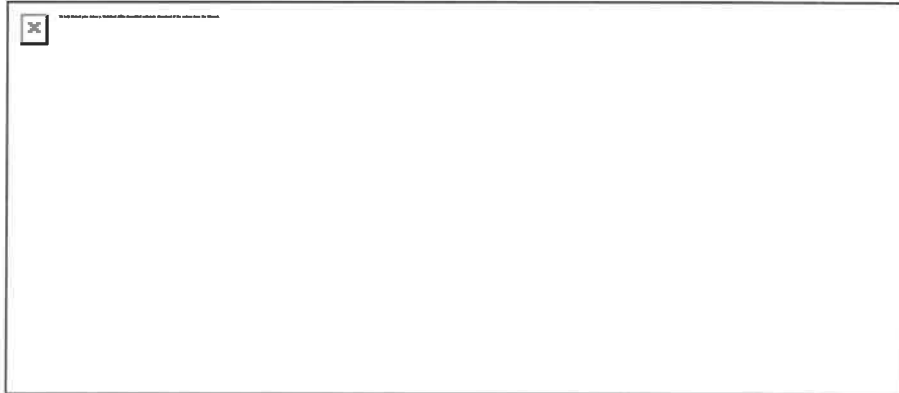
There are now over 1,000 BookMobiles throughout the country, so check with your local library to see if they currently offer this service and how you might be able to form a partnership. Or if your jurisdiction already has a mobile voting unit, you might consider parking it outside the library, like [Denver, Colorado](#) did with their cleverly named unit, Haul-N-Votes.

6. Recruiting Librarians as Poll Workers. Because of their commitment to serving the public, librarians are a natural recruitment pool. During the 2020 general election, more than 20 members of the Richland Library team volunteered as poll workers in [Richland County, South Carolina](#). Afterwards, the library published a blog post on its website detailing what the experience was like and encouraging members of the public to volunteer for future elections.

Mail/Absentee Voting

7. Serving as Ballot Drop Box Sites. Libraries are typically centrally located, making them a convenient ballot drop box location for many voters. Jurisdictions like [King County, Washington](#) have installed ballot drop boxes at their local libraries. And in 2020, the [Madison, Wisconsin](#) Clerk's office

partnered with the public library to convert book drop boxes into ballot drop boxes. It's a great way for jurisdictions to reduce costs by using existing infrastructure. Just be sure to label the drop box clearly so that voters don't accidentally put books in the wrong place.



John Sheller with King County Library System, Julie Wise, Director of King County Elections and King County Councilmember Dave Upthegrove celebrate the new ballot box at the Panther Lake Library.

Photo courtesy of King County Elections.

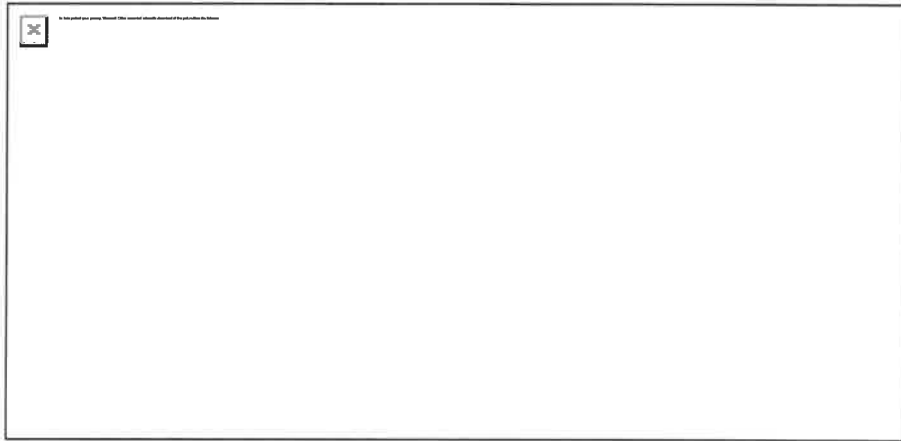
8. Processing Absentee Ballots. In 2020, election offices received record numbers of absentee ballots. In Chesapeake, Virginia, libraries were closed to the public due to the pandemic. Library staff stepped up to help election officials prepare absentee ballot packets, sort ballots, and answer phones. "We absolutely could not have done this without them," says General Registrar Mary Lynn Pinkerman. And in St. Louis, Missouri, where voters were required to have their absentee ballot notarized, the public library offered free notary services.

Voter Education

9. Hosting Voter Education Events. What better place to educate the public about voting than at the local library? Election officials in jurisdictions like Middlesex County, New Jersey have given lectures at public libraries about the

importance of voting. It's a great way to explain election processes, and answer questions and concerns at the top of voters' minds.

10. Distributing Voter Guides. If your election office has created voter guides, consider asking your local library to distribute them. Many public libraries also share voter guides on their websites. In Illinois, Skokie Public Library's Voter Information webpage is an excellent example that helps voters find answers to their most common questions.



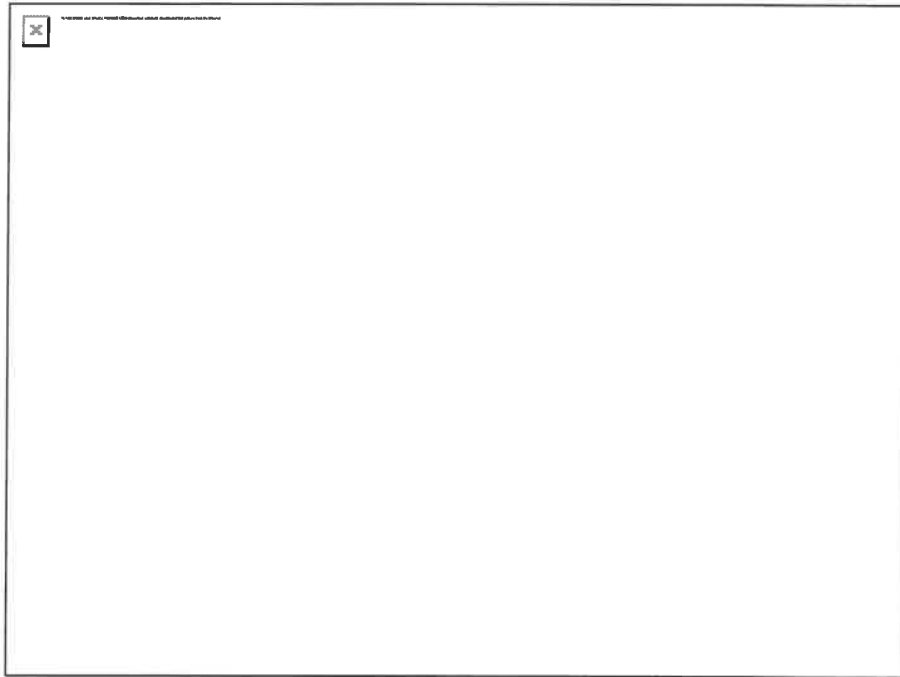
Skokie Public Library's Voter Information webpage

11. Hosting Candidate Forums. Libraries often host in-person and virtual candidate forums so that voters can learn about who is running for office. Election offices can publicize these nonpartisan events on their websites, like Edmonton, Canada does. Or, if possible, they can link to a video of the forum so voters can tune in at any time.

12. Offering Workshops for Prospective Candidates. Not only can libraries help election officials inform voters of their candidates, they can also help them become candidates. The Juneau, Alaska City Clerk's Office co-sponsored a workshop on how to run for local office with their public library.

13. Organizing Civics Events for Students. School libraries are another potential partner to help election officials engage future voters. Tamara Cox, a high school librarian in Piedmont, South Carolina, partnered with the county election commission to bring in voting machines for students to use in a state book award contest. Tamara says the program was a win-win, allowing the school "to celebrate reading, demystify the voting process, and register eligible voters."

14. Preserving Election History. Throughout the election season in 2020, two ballot boxes patented in 1884 were on display in the History Department of the Eagle Public Library in Colorado. Employees of the Eagle County Clerk's Office had discovered the boxes, along with the county's first Voter Abstract Ledger, while cleaning out their storeroom. Displaying the artifacts in the library gave members of the public a little history lesson, while gently reminding them to cast their own ballots in the General Election.



The Eagle County Historical Society and County Clerk Regina O'Brien, far right, pose with the historic ballot boxes on display at the Eagle Public Library.

Additional Resources

Sometimes the partnership between election offices and libraries is natural because a jurisdiction's election official is also a librarian. In Little River, Wisconsin, Amy River is both the Town Clerk and the Director of the Lena Public Library. In 2020, she was a panelist on a webinar about [how libraries can support voter turnout](#). You can watch it [here](#) to learn more.

If you'd like to send reading materials to your local library to encourage them to partner with your election office, the American Library Association's [Libraries and Voter Engagement guide](#) is a great resource to share.

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