

PRELIMINARY APPLICATION INFORMATION/OVERVIEW

A. ABSTRACT

Summarize your construction project in 250 words or less. Include the following:

- the date of construction for the original building and subsequent additions
- the size of the structure to be replaced or renovated/expanded
- the proposed project's gross square feet
- current and projected population figures, and
- major features/characteristics of the proposed project

The Wheeler Memorial Library is a Carnegie-style building of 7,956 square feet, constructed in 1914. The two-story structure consists of a main floor that is several feet above ground level, a basement, and an attic with a mezzanine area. The attic is unfinished and unsafe for public use; the mezzanine is only accessible through the attic. (The attic and mezzanine were not counted in the building program or ARIS.) No part of the library is ADA-compliant. The building has not been significantly renovated since its original construction. The renovation would increase the square footage to 20,062 square feet, and would make the entire building accessible.

The current estimated population of Orange is 7,756; the estimate for 2035 is 8,750, with the number of residents aged 65-85+ increasing by 78.5%. With such a dramatic increase predicted for senior residents, accessibility becomes an ever more pressing need for the library. The key features of the renovation include a ground-floor entrance and circulation area and an elevator to facilitate access to other areas of the library. Other notable features include:

- A community meeting room that will be accessible to the community after hours
- A conference room and two quiet study rooms
- A young adult room
- A second floor devoted solely to the children's room
- A staff room with a staff bathroom
- Three public restrooms, two of which will be on the ground floor

B. PROJECT SITE ADDRESS

49 East Main Street, Orange, MA, 01364

C. TOWN MEETING / CITY COUNCIL VOTE

An MPLCP funded project must be an Approved Public Library Project. Approval requires one of the following:

1. a majority vote of the town at Town Meeting; or
2. a majority vote of the city council, with the approval of the mayor in the case of a city; or
3. a vote of the town council in the case of a municipality with a town council form of government

To meet this requirement two votes are required:

- to give permission to apply, accept and expend State grant funds, and
- to approve the project's schematic design.

If votes have taken place, check the box below and attach copies of certified votes in Appendix B. If votes have not taken place, check the box below and indicate the date they are expected. Votes must be secured and a certified copy must be forwarded to the MBLC by **June 17, 2017**.

The vote to approve applying for, accepting and expending State Grant funds for Library Construction has been:

Received on

Not received but will seek approval on April 1, 2017

The vote to approve the project's schematic design has been:

Received on

Not received but will seek approval on April 1, 2017

You do not need to secure voter approval for local funding of the construction project at this time. That vote is required within six months following the library's receipt of a MPLCP provisional grant award.