THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY

23-A NORTH MAIN STREET · CRANBURY, NEW JERSEY 08512

JAMES TAYLOR Mayor

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Members of the Township Committee

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Township Administrator/Director of Finance
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Clerk/Registrar
JERRY THORNE, CPWM
Public Works Manager

February 6, 2019

Governor Philip Murphy State of New Jersey, 1996-2018 Office of Governor PO Box 001 Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Murphy,

Please help to ensure that the New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act moves forward quickly.

As you know, the NJ Library Construction Bond Act was approved by a majority of voters in New Jersey on November 7, 2017. It was also passed overwhelmingly in Cranbury.

In Cranbury, this 14-month delay has had a significant negative impact on our plans for a free-standing public library with community space. We have a shovel-ready project, funded by \$2.5 million in private and public funds, but our donations have tapered off after the Bond Act was passed, as our community anticipated a quick application and release of matching grant funds to finish the project. Rising construction and material costs move the goal further away with each month of delay.

Cranbury has been working together as a community to raise funds for a new public library since 2009 via a private foundation that was formed by Cranbury residents to help build Cranbury's first ever freestanding public library (Cranbury is the last township in New Jersey where the public library is shared with a K-8 school library space).

The Cranbury Township Committee donated the land for the new library in a space identified on the township master plan since 2010. The new library can operate entirely on the minimum New Jersey library appropriation. We expect the new library building to serve as a community anchor and invigorate our downtown business area.

By raising \$2.5 million in private and public funds, our community has demonstrated the need for a new public library. Please help us cross the finish line and ensure the New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act moves forward quickly.

Regards,

Cranbury Township Committee

James Taylor

Mayor

Michael Ferrante

Township Committee

Glenn Johnson

Township Committee

Daniel Mulligan

Township Committee

Matt Scott

Township Committee

Cc: Senator Linda Greenstein Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo

Assemblyman Daniel Benson