

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 27, 2013

TO: Mayor Mike Dever; Commissioners Amyx, Farmer, Riordan, and Schumm; Dave Corliss, City Manager; Casey Toomay, Budget Director

FROM: Brad Allen, Executive Director, Lawrence Public Library

RE: 2014 Budget Request

2014 marks an historic moment for the City of Lawrence and Lawrence Public Library. We will reopen an expanded and renovated facility at 707 Vermont, the first major expansion and renovation of our City's library in over 40 years. We live in a city that values its library as a crucial civic institution. Our community passed a bond issue supporting this important improvement to Lawrence Public Library despite an uncertain economic climate. Library staff intend to provide the best possible facilities and services we can upon the opening of our new facility.

We believe it is crucial to our mission to be as well prepared as possible for our reopening; it is a pivotal moment for our organization and for our community. We humbly acknowledge the 3.1% increase recommended by City Manager Dave Corliss. After much consideration of the funds necessary to be adequately staffed next year for the reopening of an expanded library with expanded services, we ask that the City Commission consider supplementing Mr. Corliss's recommendation by \$50,000 and fund the library at \$3,393,260. This request is lower than our initial request of \$3,416,888, and the entire dollar amount will go directly to salary and benefit costs for staff.

We believe an outstanding public library contributes to an outstanding community. Thank you for your consideration of this request.