

For Immediate Release:
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Jesse White Awards \$2.25 Million Construction Grant to Brown County Public Library District

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White has awarded a \$2,250,559 construction grant to the Brown County Public Library District in Mount Sterling.

The award will be used to construct a new \$4,993,111 library building, replacing the current library housed in an 84-year-old converted hardware store.

“Our public libraries are cornerstones of our communities and the best information resources available to the public,” said White. “I am pleased to award this grant through the Illinois State Library to help this community build a new library for its citizens.”

The grant, designated for the permanent capital improvement of public libraries, is funded through the Public Library Construction Act Grant Program that received an appropriation as part of the \$45 billion capital plan passed by the Illinois General Assembly and signed by the governor in 2019.

The amount awarded to each library is a percentage of the total cost of each project and is determined by a formula established in the legislation that created the program. Remaining project costs are local municipalities’ responsibilities.

Applications for the grant program are accepted annually and are due by April 15. Information about the Illinois State Library’s Public Library Construction Act Grant Program is available at https://www.ilsos.gov/departments/library/grants/publib_construction.html.

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