

Coxsackie NY Forward Revitalization Goals

Arts & Culture



Develop local arts & cultural activities

Open Space



Leverage open space and the Hudson River to provide an abundance of recreation opportunities for residents and visitors of all ages

Youth



Ensure the future of Coxsackie by integrating the needs of youth

Mobility



Improve accessibility and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists on public roads and sidewalks

Housing



Provide greater housing options and affordability to grow the full-time community

Food & Commerce



Support local food & beverage and commerce to reactivate the historic downtown buildings



Expand the Heermance Memorial Library and Make it Accessible



Project Location:
1 Ely Street

Project Type:
Public Improvement; New Development; Redevelopment of an Existing Building

Project Sponsor:
Heermance Memorial Library Board of Trustees
Property Ownership:
Heermance Memorial Library Board of Trustees

Funding Estimate:
\$1,699,000
Total NYF Funds Requested
\$1,700,000
Total Project Cost
99%
% of Total Project Cost

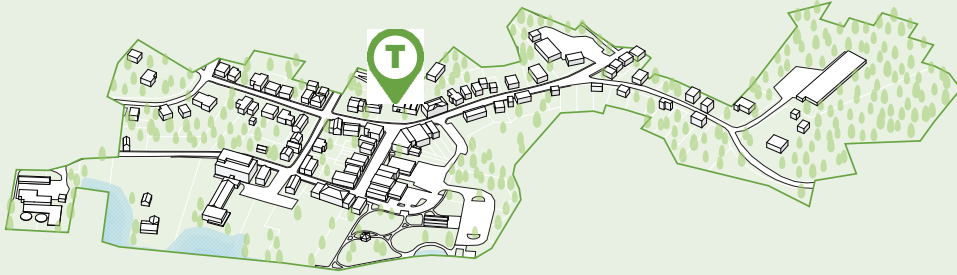
Project Overview:

The project for which we seek NY Forward funding would provide an ADA Compliant community room and meeting space, additional library space, small study space for quiet areas, ADA compliant doors, entrance, paved parking lot and restroom facilities. The mission of the Heermance Memorial Library is to inspire life-long learning and to support and enhance the cultural and recreational needs of our community. The 3,800 square foot, one-story library addition would provide a much-needed ADA compliant community room that would be available to the entire community. We would like to make our entire library ADA compliant with meeting rooms, entrance, bathrooms and paved parking to ensure that everyone can utilize our community's public library.



NY Forward

Expand the Heermance Memorial Library and Make it Accessible



Location: 1 Ely Street

What are the Existing Site Conditions?

The Heermance Memorial Library was originally constructed in the early to mid-1800s and is a two-story wood frame building with a partial basement, crawl-space and attic space. Originally the residence of Eleanor Heermance, it was bequeathed to be a free circulating library for Coxsackie in 1908. There is a slab on grade, single-story, concrete block addition with a wood-framed roof that appears to have been constructed in the 1950s. This space was remodeled in 2014 with movable shelves and furniture. The Library occupies both floors, with the collection on the main floor level and an office, small programming room, and storage in the upper level. The Library shares a party wall with the adjacent building / property to the north. This neighboring building is in serious disrepair.

How Does the Project Consider/Incorporate Resiliency?

While we are not located in the flood zone, we currently have a successfully placed bioswale in the side garden, along the library's side walkway to mitigate storm water from flowing down the front lawn hill. The library's driveway and parking lot would also benefit from strategic placement of more bioswales integrated in the plan to proactively mitigate flooding from storm water.

What are the Anticipated Revitalization Benefits?

The Heermance Memorial Library is a dynamic, lively, and important hub of information in our local community. We strive to always improve quality of life in the neighborhood, and the new ADA Compliant addition would create a healthier, more comfortable and productive environment for all community members to utilize.

Located in the historic Reed Street district in the Village of Coxsackie, the Library sits at the front of the hill and represents a space of information, learning, and access for all. Our Library provides access to information and technology. We focus on a wide range of populations with particular needs at our Library, including children, seniors, veterans, and immigrants. From our connection with the community, the Library has a trusted role to serve as a community space. We provide assistance through the Healthcare Consortium to find affordable healthcare insurance. We provide information on local food pantry access and offer food programming when funding is available, as well as help those with employment and housing needs to navigate social services. We help new businesses print and copy flyers. People of all backgrounds, all phases of life use our library. We offer early literacy programming for young patrons and artistic enrichment for community members through classes. We serve an aging population through outreach to Bethany Village, and also provide caregiver support and Alzheimer support groups. Public libraries are dynamic, socially responsive institutions, a nexus of diversity, and a lifeline for the most vulnerable among us. We aim to implement improvements to our building and grounds to ensure that this access to such a wonderful public institution remains as available, accessible, and approachable for all members of our community for years to come.



Left: Preliminary Ground Floor Plan of the Library Renovation (Photo: Heermance Memorial Library Board of Trustees)

Project Category:



New Development;
Redevelopment of an
Existing Building; Public
Improvement

Project Size:



Extra-Large

NYF Funds Requested:



\$1,699,000