



JP Villavicencio <villavicencio@uwalumni.com>

Library Board-Request for Grant Letter of Support (Grants for Local Projects)

1 message

Cynthia Kelm-Nelson <ckelm@villageofcottagegrove.gov>
To: JP Villavicencio <villavicencio@uwalumni.com>

Thu, Oct 9, 2025 at 11:49 AM

Hello JP!

I hope this email finds you well and that you're enjoying what I consider the absolute best of Wisconsin weather!

This summer, the Village of Cottage Grove Board approved the construction of a new police station, anticipated to begin in 2026. As part of the design, a community room was intentionally planned to provide a safe, accessible, and neutral space for residents and law enforcement to come together. Through this, we aim to strengthen community partnerships and enhance both the quality of life and public safety for everyone who lives and visits here.

I am writing to request a letter of support for the *Grants for Local Projects program*; an additional funding mechanism focused on construction projects that serve a statewide public purpose. Our goal, with this funding, is to create a community meeting space that acts as a central hub for civic engagement and allows community members and civic organizations to address neighborhood concerns through collaboration, shared problem-solving, and programming.

Grant Details: <https://wi.accessgov.com/doa-wi/Forms/Page/facilities/nonstategrant-app/1>

Deadline for Letters of Recommendation: Friday, October 24, 2025

The Village has a public space gap in our facilities infrastructure. In the absence of safe and welcoming "third spaces," residents, visitors, and civic organizations have had to find creative alternatives. Thus, the new police station's community room will help fill that gap by offering open access to the broader community and serving as a focal point for connection and engagement. Likewise, our police chief and department are committed to building trust and relationships with the growing community we all serve. The mission and vision of this community room reflect that commitment: fostering collaboration, trust, and shared problem-solving for the long-term benefit of Cottage Grove.

Thank you for considering this request for a letter and for your continued support of efforts that bring our community together. Please reach out with any questions you may have.

Warmly and with community,
Cindi

Cynthia Kelm-Nelson (she/her)
Village President
Village of Cottage Grove, Wisconsin
221 E Cottage Grove Rd | Cottage Grove, WI 53527
<https://www.vi.cottagegrove.wi.gov>

