



Office of the County Executive

Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello
County Executive

May 10, 2024

OFFICIAL FILE COPY	
No.	<u>240184</u>
Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County	
Committee Assignment	
REC & ED	-L
WAYS & MEANS	

To The Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
Rochester, New York 14614

Subject: Amend the 2024 Operating Budget to Appropriate Library Fund Balance to Provide an Increase in Funding for the Monroe County Library System MiFi Loan Program

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body amend the 2024 Operating Budget to provide an increase in funding in the amount of \$140,000 for the Monroe County Library System MiFi and authorize an interfund transfer.

The Central Library began offering MiFi devices for loan in 2018 as an effort to bridge the digital divide. As part of the COVID pandemic response, the Federal E-rate program expanded to include an Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) for 100% of the cost of MiFi subscriptions that the Monroe County Library System participated in 2021, 2022 and 2023. During that period, 300 MiFi devices were available through the Central Library for a three-week period for Library patrons County-wide and distributed to all Monroe County zip codes using shipping fleet. Loans averaged 270 check outs per month with roughly 40 "holds" (pending loan requests) during the ECF period. The ECF program ends June 30, 2023. Last June, the Rochester City Council transferred underruns from the City Council & Clerk budget to the Rochester Public Library to continue service through June 30, 2024.

Appropriation of \$140,000 Library fund balance will allow the Monroe County Library System to continue offering MiFi device loans for a period of one year, through June 30, 2025. The use of the subject funds was approved by the Monroe County Library System Board of Trustees at their April 15, 2024 meeting.

The specific legislative action required is to amend the 2024 Operating Budget by appropriating available library fund balance to provide an increase in funding in the amount of \$140,000 into the Monroe County Library System, library fund 9006, funds center 8904010000, MCLS Programs for the Monroe County Library System MiFi.

This is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.5(c)(31) (“purchase or sale of furnishings, equipment or supplies, including surplus government property, other than the following: land, radioactive material, pesticides, herbicides, or other hazardous materials”) and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

This budget amendment will require \$140,000 of additional net County support for which the appropriation of fund balance is requested.

I recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Sincerely,


Adam J. Bello
Monroe County Executive

AJB:db