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Project Update

09 November 2026

Dodgeville Public Library Renovation and Expansion

The City of Dodgeville is pleased to share regular updates on the ongoing renovation and expansion of the Dodgeville Public Library. The project, which represents a significant investment in the community's educational and cultural future, is nearing completion.

Project Background

In 2014 a space needs study conducted by the Dodgeville Public Library Board of Trustees found the library "critically overcrowded" and recommended a 20,000+ square feet library. In February 2020, the City of Dodgeville passed a referendum for a $7 million library, but the COVID pandemic paused these plans. In 2024, the City of Dodgeville was awarded a $4.25 million grant from the State of Wisconsin to help fund the new library. Plans were developed for a library that will serve the people of Dodgeville and the surrounding area for the next generation. Thoughtful consideration went into improving efficiencies, creating a resilient space for emergencies, and developing a welcoming space that reflects the historic downtown - all while making choices to keep costs as low as possible.

Budget Outlook

The total project budget is $8.95 million, supported by a $4.25 million Flexible Facilities Project Grant, a $1 million contribution from the Dodgeville Public Library Foundation, and $3.7 million from the City of Dodgeville. To date, construction is 96% complete. The City has been reimbursed $4,225,000 in grant funds. A retainage of $25,000 in grant funds will be held by the State of Wisconsin until project completion.

The project remains under budget by approximately $190,000.

Construction Progress

The Library moved in late October and began operations on November 3, 2026. Remaining construction elements include installation of wall graphics, door control hardware, and landscaping completion.

Key Milestones

Move-in started: October 19, 2026

Construction substantial completion: October 28, 2026

Soft opening: November 3, 2026

Grand Opening: December 6, 2026