



February 28, 2026

To: Becky Bucar
Director of Public Works
Town of Truckee

Dear Ms. Bucar,

On behalf of the Friends of the Truckee Library, thank you for the Town of Truckee's early and steadfast commitment to the new Truckee Regional Library. The Town's leadership during Phase 1 of the architectural and engineering process has been instrumental in moving the library from concept to a credible, community-backed project with real momentum.

We are writing to formally request that the Town contribute \$447,158 as part of a renewed three-party agreement for Phase 2 of architectural and engineering services.

Before outlining Phase 2, we want to directly address a key question: why this continued and meaningful financial participation from the Town is essential, and why philanthropic fundraising alone cannot substitute for core public investment at this stage.

Major grants, state and federal funding opportunities, and large foundation awards are extraordinarily competitive. In Truckee, this challenge is amplified by our area's Average Median Income data. Because regional AMI reflects pockets of significant wealth, it often obscures the very real economic disparity and access challenges within our community. As a result, Truckee projects can be at a disadvantage in scoring processes that rely heavily on income metrics.

For that reason, we must leverage every possible strength in our applications. One of the most influential factors in competitive grant review is demonstrated, meaningful commitment from local government partners. When the Town and Nevada County are financially invested alongside the Friends, it signals shared ownership, reduces perceived risk, and positions the library as a true public-private partnership. That unified commitment materially strengthens our competitiveness for major grants, earmarks, and philanthropic investments.

Equally important, completing Phase 2 now ensures that future grant dollars can be directed to construction, meaning bricks and mortar, rather than pre-construction design costs. Strategic public investment at this stage unlocks outside funding and protects both Measure G bond proceeds and private donations for the physical building itself.

In March 2023, the Town of Truckee, Nevada County, and the Friends entered into a three-party agreement, each contributing \$500,000 toward Phase 1. That collaboration funded traffic analysis, CEQA review, land use entitlements, surveying, architectural and engineering design, and project management. Sharing responsibility equally while advancing the project in defined phases proved both fiscally prudent and strategically effective.

The Phase 2 architectural and engineering contract totals \$1,534,182, resulting in an equal one-third share of \$511,394 per partner. However, due to cost savings realized in the Joint Powers Authority account related to the bond measure and election expenses, a fund balance is available to offset a portion of this amount. After applying those savings, the requested contribution from each partner is \$447,158. This amount matches the request being made to Nevada County and maintains the equal three-party funding structure that has guided the project to date.

Because of that visible partnership, the project advanced through schematic design, built donor confidence, and laid the groundwork for the successful passage of Measure G, which received 72.44% voter approval. The Town's early participation sent a clear message that the project was viable, responsibly managed, and worthy of broad community support.

The project is now ready to move into Phase 2, carrying design through construction documents and positioning the project for a targeted 2027 groundbreaking. Advancing without delay maintains momentum, protects against continued inflation of construction costs, and preserves the credibility established to date.

Current construction estimates are approximately \$30 million, with site development and soft costs estimated at \$8 to \$12 million, inclusive of appropriate contingencies at this stage. As Phase 2 progresses, the design team will conduct focused value engineering to refine costs while preserving the programmatic vision voters endorsed.

The funding plan remains balanced and achievable: approximately \$16 to \$19 million in net proceeds from Measure G, \$10 million in private philanthropic contributions, and \$10 to \$12 million in grants and foundation support. In 2024, the Friends completed an independent feasibility study confirming the capacity to raise up to \$12 million in private philanthropy contingent upon passage of Measure G and securing a \$1 million lead donor, both of which have now been achieved. To date, the Friends of the Truckee Library have raised approximately \$8.5 million in private donations and grants toward the overall fundraising goal. The capital campaign is underway and progressing in alignment with project milestones.

As the partner responsible for raising funds beyond Measure G, the Friends are fully committed to meeting our philanthropic and grant obligations. However, this continued financial participation from the Town is a critical catalyst for unlocking those funds. The requested \$447,158 represents a small percentage of the total project cost, yet it has an outsized impact on our ability to secure the remaining capital and move efficiently toward construction.

Beyond funding strategy, the new library will serve as one of Truckee's most important civic spaces: a free and accessible place that welcomes residents of all ages, incomes, and backgrounds. It supports early literacy, workforce development, lifelong learning, and community gathering, strengthening connection and inclusion in our community.

Renewing the three-party agreement for Phase 2 affirms that the Town of Truckee, Nevada County, and the Friends remain aligned in delivering a project that voters overwhelmingly supported and that will serve generations to come. We respectfully request the Town's continued leadership through a \$447,158 contribution as part of this renewed partnership.

Thank you for your partnership and consideration. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this request further at your convenience.

With appreciation,
April Cole
Executive Director
Friends of the Truckee Library