

FY2013 Budgets

Posted: 12/4/2012

State:

As the State's budget process begins, a Public Hearing was held on November 29, 2012, by the Assembly Standing Committee on Libraries and Education Technology. Members of Assembly present included: Bob Reilly (109th), Chair; Phillip A. Palmesano (136th), Samuel D. Roberts (119th), Thomas J. Abinanti (92nd), Ellen Jaffee (95th).

Representatives from the Westchester Library System included President Dave Donelson and Executive Director Terry Kirchner. Also present from the State Education Department were Bernie Margolis, NYS Librarian and Assistant Commissioner for Libraries, New York State Library, and Jeffrey Cannell, Deputy Commissioner for Cultural Education.

The hearing sought to examine the impact of the 2012-13 State Budget on public libraries and library systems across New York State, detailing how State funding is being used and how libraries and library systems are using collaboration and technology to better leverage their resources.

Mr. Donelson's testimony noted that library systems are a good investment for the State and highlighted the WLS programs that take advantage of collaboration and technology including the Learning Ambassadors, GED Connect!, and Senior Benefits Information Centers (SBIC). To read Mr. Donelson's complete testimony and that of others who attended, please see the link below to the Division of Library Development's website:

<http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/testimony12/>

County:

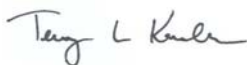
The 2013 Proposed County Budget has been released by County Executive Rob Astorino. Below is a summary of the general approval process for the County Budget:

- County Executive's proposed budget is submitted to the Board of Legislators for review and approval
- Board of Legislators' Committee of Budget and Appropriations (B&A) is the lead Committee for review of the Executive's submission
- B&A Committee meets daily to review each department's request
- To insure public input, the Board of Legislators schedules Budget Hearings. The final hearing is scheduled on Wednesday, December 5th, at 7 PM at the Michaelian Office Building, Legislative Chambers, 8th Floor, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains.
- Board of Legislators must adopt the budget for the coming year no later than December 27th
- County Executive has veto power over increases made by the Board; a two-thirds vote of all members of the Board is required to override the County Executive's veto.

A copy of the entire County Budget is available via the County's website at:

<http://www3.westchestergov.com/county-budgets>

Watch for future updates on both the State and County budgets on the WLS blog [<http://blog.westchesterlibraries.org/>] and on Facebook [<https://www.facebook.com/westchesterlibrarysystem>].



Terry L. Kirchner
Executive Director