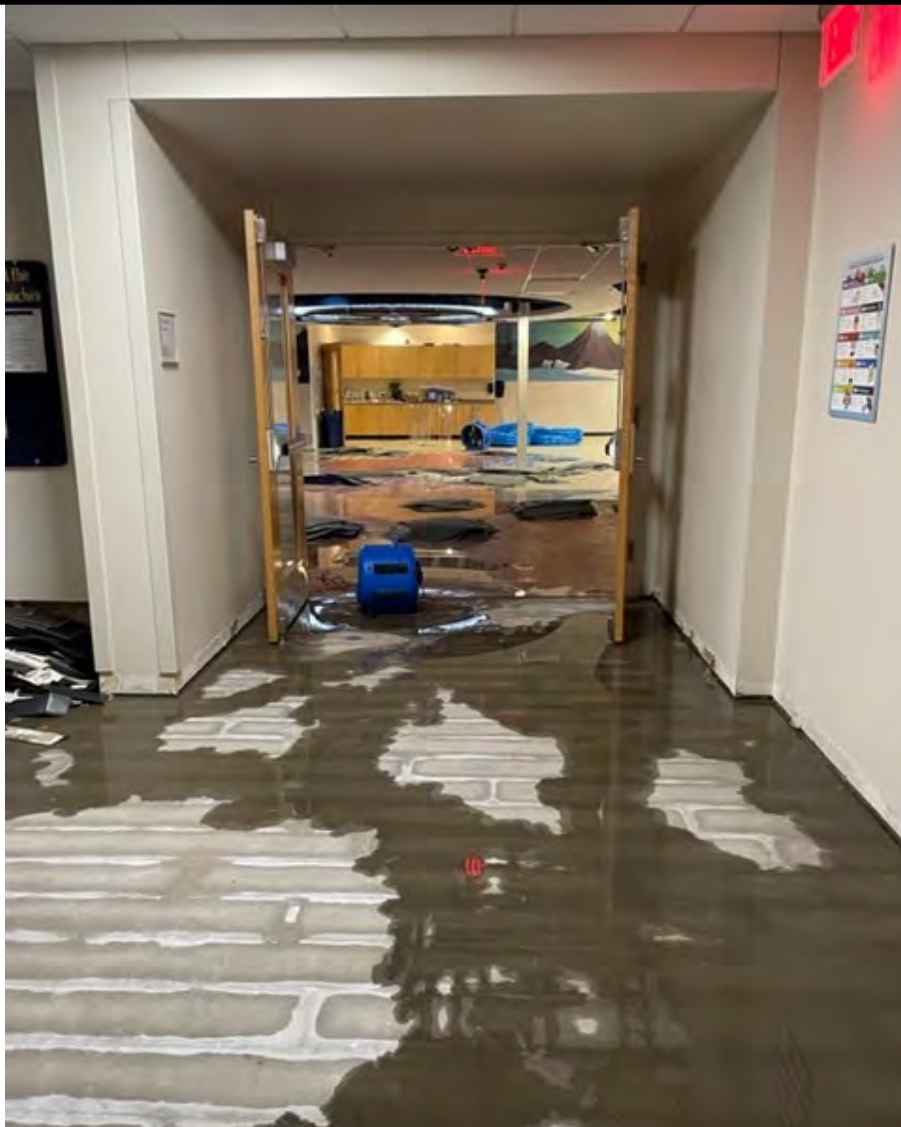


# Public Library Infrastructure



Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library

## Many of Ohio's Public Libraries are well over 100 years old

While we greatly appreciate Andrew Carnegie's infrastructure investments in the early 1900's, many of Ohio's public libraries are beginning to crumble and are not equipped to meet the demand for services that our 7.7 million library cardholders have come to expect.

Some systems have been able to pass bond levies to update their facilities, but the majority do not have the resources to repair their roofs, elevators, flooring, boilers, and HVACs. They do not have the funds to update their security systems and walls to accommodate today's technology and equipment that is required. In addition, a significant number of our buildings have accessibility issues which is extremely concerning as we provide services to seniors and others.

Many of our libraries struggle to balance the demand for 21st century services with the need to maintain their failing 20th century facilities.

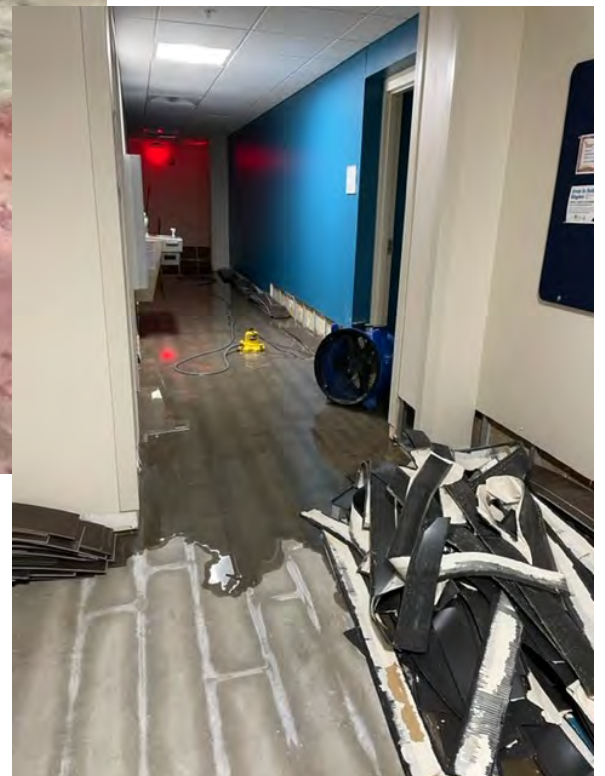
In the last few years, we had a library roof collapse, flooded facilities, broken elevators (that made several facilities non-accessible to seniors and others with mobility issues), and broken HVAC systems that forced the closure of several facilities to the public during extreme temperatures.



The Brumback Public Library in Van Wert, Ohio, dedicated in 1901, is the oldest county library in the United States.

## Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library

The entire lower level of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library had to close recently due to flooding. They still haven't been able to determine the cause of the flooding and had to relocate certain services and stop some services as a result.





## **New Carlisle Public Library**

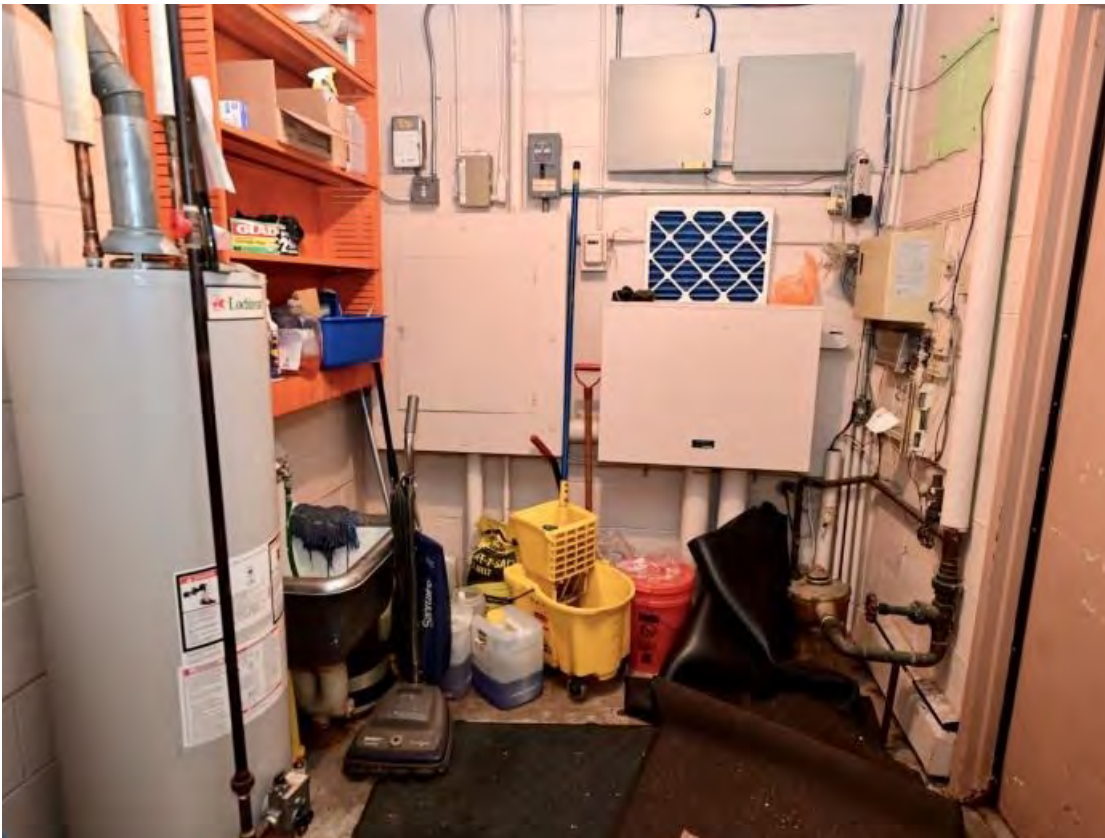
The library's skylight is beloved by the community and central to the children's department, but it will cost more than \$75,000 to replace the skylight and repair the roof.



## Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library

Like other libraries around the state, roofing issues have plagued the Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library. Ceiling damage at a 110-year-old library branch forced the library to close and relocate temporarily to a recreation center. Other branches have crumbling exteriors, leaky roofs and severely worn carpet.





## Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County

Like many other libraries, the Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County has several branches with dated restrooms that have accessibility issues and utility closets that have been retrofitted to hold major electrical systems.



# Most urgent facility improvement needs for public libraries

In a survey of Ohio's 251 public library systems, the directors named their most urgent needs...

Top on the list:

1. Roofing
2. HVAC
3. Electrical
4. Carpet
5. Restrooms

