

## Memorandum

To: MPL Board of Trustees

From: Tim Gadzinski, Marketing Associate

Re: Review A Community Thrives grant through USA Today for remote book vending machines for ease of access to library material

Date: March 24, 2017

Manitowoc Public Library is looking to purchase a pair of vending machine-style book dispensers to place at frequently-visited, every day stops, such as supermarkets or exercise facilities. That way, our materials become even more easily accessible with an added factor of convenience. In brief, it would bring the library closer to our community, allowing us to get more books into more people's hands and helping us to promote literacy throughout the community. Our hope is to increase literacy across all age levels via these vending machines, which would benefit our community in so many ways. It's a great idea! Our grant proposal was submitted in the "Education" category, to which three grants will be awarded—one for \$100,000 and two for \$50,000. Our video was approved for participation and is available for viewing at <http://act.usatoday.com/submit-an-idea/#/gallery/59336228/>. The National Voting Period will begin on April 12<sup>th</sup> and concludes on May 12<sup>th</sup>. We intend to broadly share our submission through social and traditional media. The Top 10 submission in each category will be reviewed by a panel of judges and that panel will award the grants to the top 3 submissions. If we are selected, we would be notified by mail on or before May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your consideration.