



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

#### Form Submission Details

**Sponsoring legislator's full name:**

Rep. Carol Glanville

**1. Cosponsoring legislators' names (if applicable):**

Not Applicable

**2. Intended legislatively directed spending item recipient:**

Grand Rapids Public Museum

**3. Physical address of legislatively directed spending item recipient and the intended location of the project or activity:**

272 Pearl St. NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504

**4. The recipient's employer identification number:**

EIN # 20-5071420

**5. Requested amount of the legislatively directed spending item:**

2,000,000.00

**6. What is the purpose and how does the legislatively directed spending item provide a public benefit that is an appropriate use of taxpayer money?**

Founded in 1854, the Grand Rapids Public Museum is the oldest museum in the State of Michigan. It is governed by a non-profit board and provides education and access to the history, science and culture of the region for the public. The funding requested will meet community demand for increased engagement with artifacts and specimens as well as additional public gathering spaces for the over 300,000 visitors annually.

**7. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received or been awarded any of the following types of funding in the past 5 years? If so, how much? Check all that apply.**

State 13,500,000

**8. Estimated time frame for completion of the legislatively directed spending item project:**

7-1-26 - 12-31-27

**9. Has the nonprofit corporation continuously operated in this state for the preceding 36 months?**

Yes

**10. Has the nonprofit corporation had a physical office in this state for not less than the preceding 12 consecutive months?**

Yes

**11. Does the nonprofit corporation have a board of directors?**

Yes

**12. List all of the officers and active members on the board of directors:**

Marlin Feyen- Chair

Katie DeBoer

Linsey Gleason

Eric Fischer

Lyman Parks, Jr.

Dale A. Robertson

Megan Rydecki

Cameron Young

**13. "I certify that my immediate family members, legislative staff members, and I have no direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the requested legislatively directed spending item."**

**"I certify that the intended recipient of this legislatively directed spending item is not a for-profit entity."**

**"I certify that the information in this form is true to the best of my knowledge."**

*Rep. Carol Glanville*

# EXPANDING CURIOSITY.

GRAND  
RAPIDS  
PUBLIC  
MUSEUM

The Grand Rapids Public Museum (GRPM) is requesting consideration of a **\$2 million grant** to complete the final phase of its expansion project – a project driven by significant public demand, increased educational use, and the need for accessible, community-centered space.

As Michigan's oldest and second-largest museum, GRPM has served as a statewide educational anchor since 1854. Its mission of *Knowledge for All* has made it one of the most utilized cultural institutions in the state, particularly for K-12 learning. Over the past decade, annual attendance has surged from **68,000** to **more than 250,000**, including **40,000 students** participating in group visits from across West Michigan and beyond.

To meet this growing demand, particularly among teachers and students, the Museum launched a multi-phase redesign focused on creating accessible learning environments, outdoor educational spaces, and a modern, welcoming entry that reflects the Museum's public mission.



The project was initially estimated at \$35 million. However, inflation and construction market pressures have pushed total costs higher. GRPM has already secured \$40 million in combined public and private commitments, allowing it to complete the riverfront phase without the need for contingency funds and to begin construction on a new elevator bay and improved public access to collections.

272 Pearl St NW,  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
(616) 929-1700  
[grpm.org](http://grpm.org)

# EXPANDING CURIOSITY.

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PUBLIC  
MUSEUM

The final phase includes:

**A new west entry and expanded school gathering area and the north lawn park.**

This will significantly increase student capacity – enabling the Museum to serve upwards of **60,000 students annually** and better accommodate growing demand for curriculum-aligned programming. Envisioned as a publicly accessible cultural and educational space, the park will honor tribal history, showcase field biology and pollinator habitats, and feature historical installations including the Apollo training module and time capsule. It is designed to function as an open, inclusive community asset that extends learning opportunities outside the Museum walls.



To responsibly manage costs, GRPM is actively value-engineering the remaining components and expects to lower the overall project budget to **\$45 million** while preserving key design elements such as accessibility, visitor flow, and safe, engaging gathering spaces.

A \$2 million State of Michigan grant will allow GRPM to finalize construction contracts, stabilize costs, and complete this long-planned redesign. Combined with pending philanthropic commitments, this support will ensure the Museum continues to deliver high-quality educational, cultural, and scientific experiences in a modernized environment worthy of a publicly owned institution.

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