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COLFAX PUBLIC LIBRARY RECEIVES NATIONAL GRANT FOR SMALL AND RURAL LIBRARIES
\$10,000 Grant Will Help the Library Work with Residents with Disabilities on wheelchair access

COLFAX — Colfax Public Library has been selected as one of 310 libraries to participate in round two of Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an American Library Association (ALA) initiative that provides community engagement and accessibility resources to small and rural libraries to help them better serve people with disabilities.

The competitive award comes with a \$10,000 grant that will help the library add an automated door and improved ramp to the side entrance of the Colfax Municipal Building.

“We appreciate the ALA’s help making our historic building more accessible,” said Library Director Lisa Bragg-Hurlburt. “This grant will allow our library to get to know our residents with disabilities better. It will help us improve our services to ensure this population feels welcome and comfortable in our space.”

As part of the grant, Colfax staff will take an online course in how to lead conversations, a skill vital to library work today. Staff will then host a conversation with residents about wheelchair access and use the grant funds to make the ramp and side door of the building more wheelchair and walker friendly.

If you are interested in getting involved or taking part in the conversation, please contact Lisa Bragg-Hurlburt at hurlburt@colfaxpubliclibrary.org or visit www.colfaxpubliclibrary.org for more information.

Since 2014, ALA’s Libraries Transforming Communities initiative has re-imagined the role libraries play in supporting communities. Libraries of all types have utilized free dialogue and deliberation training and resources to lead community and campus forums; take part in anti-violence activities; provide a space for residents to come together and discuss challenging topics; and have productive conversations with civic leaders, library trustees and staff.

“Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities is an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL).”

