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Commentary/Op-Ed - November 2014

De Blasio's time to lead on libraries

In this op-ed in the *New York Daily News*, the Center's David Giles argues that the de Blasio administration should commit to a 10-year capital plan to address the library systems' \$1.1 billion in pressing capital needs and re-invigorate the city's long-neglected branches.

by David Giles

In this op-ed in the *New York Daily News*, the Center's David Giles argues that the de Blasio administration should commit to a 10-year capital plan to address the library systems' \$1.1 billion in pressing capital needs and re-invigorate the city's long-neglected branches. Not only would investing in libraries further the administration's goals of developing quality neighborhoods and economic opportunities for all New Yorkers, but a capital plan would also enable libraries to create a long-term vision for serving the city's residents, to access additional funds from philanthropic organizations, and to strengthen their role as vital community institutions throughout New York. [Click here](#) to read the full op-ed.

Giles is the co-author of [Re-Envisioning New York's Branch Libraries](#), a Center for an Urban Future report published in September which documents the extensive infrastructure needs of the city's branch libraries and provides first-of-its-kind blueprint for repairing, modernizing and expanding branches throughout the five boroughs.



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