

Detroit Public Media prepares to break ground on new \$40M headquarters



A rendering of the planned new home of Detroit Public Media and its flagship station Detroit PBS on Piquette Avenue in Detroit. (Hamilton Anderson Associates/Detroit PBS)

By Sherri Welch June 5, 2026

Detroit Public Media is making plans to break ground on its new headquarters in the city's Milwaukee Junction neighborhood as soon as next month.

The plan is moving forward with 70% of its \$40 million campaign goal met and financing lined up to complete the project as the nonprofit continues to fundraise for it.

“This is the next step in building out the position of service and partnership with Detroit to serve as a backbone and as a partner in education and journalism in Detroit,” President and CEO Rich Homberg told Crain’s.

The new campus will enable Detroit Public Media to bring Detroit PBS, classical-jazz station 90.9 WRCJ, the Michigan Learning Channel, the PBS Books program and 85 employees under the same roof.

Currently, the radio station and Detroit PBS journalism staff are embedded in the Detroit School of Arts, and additional employees are operating from leased space in Wixom, Homberg said.

Detroit Public Media has \$28 million of the \$40 million cost for the new headquarters in hand and secured financing to move forward, Homberg said. The project's price tag has increased from an earlier projection of \$30 million due to rising construction costs.

Lead gifts in the campaign include a [\\$7.5 million challenge grant from the Fred and Barbara Erb Family Foundation](#), with Detroit Public Media recently raising the full match to secure it.

Other supporters include the Cynthia and Edsel B. Ford II Family; Gregory Haynes and Richard Sonenklar; Estate of Brad Simmons; William Smith Family; Nancy J. Henderson Trust; Estate of Christine Leonard; Sandy Koltonow, and Mary Schlaff.

Detroit Public Media also put the \$11 million from the [sale of its longtime home in Wixom](#) toward the cost of its new headquarters.



Detroit Public Media purchased 222, 224 and 234 Piquette Ave. (shown) in Detroit for \$9.25 million with plans to turn the properties into its new headquarters with parking space. (CoStar Group Inc.)

The initial phase of work will include demolition of a smaller building at 224 Piquette Ave. and the build-out of staff offices and conference rooms inside the larger building next door, Homberg said. That will allow staff to move in while work to create a 120-spot parking lot and build a 7,500-square-foot expansion is underway.

When completed, the 50,000-square-foot headquarters building will include 300-seat theater studio, educational spaces, a performance radio studio that will convert to an outdoor studio and green space for community engagement gatherings outside. It will be wired for video throughout.

Detroit Public Media expects the new campus to open next year.

Detroit-based Hamilton Anderson Associates is the architect on the project and Sachse Construction the general contractor.