



**Letter to Residents
Proposed Building Project for March 19, 2024 Referendum**

Dear Neighbors,

The library board is proposing the construction of a new library building to increase programs, add more resources, and provide new services.

This decision came after years of receiving numerous comments from residents about the lack of space to provide adequate service and the library studying ways to renovate the current building. We are placing a question on the March 19, 2024 ballot requesting voter approval to move forward with this ambitious project.

The new building will be designed to provide a meeting room that can hold larger programs, space to provide more programs throughout the day, more meeting and study rooms of different sizes for activities, events, study groups, work from home space, and community group use; increased room for the maker space; more space for our collection of books, movies, music, and Library of Things; and more convenience services for daily tasks such as passport processing, DMV, and village services. The proposed site is located close to the current building, across from Magee Middle School between Hart Road, Railroad Ave, and Cedar Lake Road.

Library services benefit communities by:

- Providing many programs that educate our kids and occupy children in healthy activities.
- Offering a variety of free resources and services available to everyone.
- Assisting businesses and organizations with their goals.

The proposed project, estimated to cost \$36.4 million is expected to add \$.95 in taxes per day for a home with a median home value of \$228,200. This is less than the cost of Netflix and Amazon Prime.

The average Round Lake Area Public Library user saved \$2,291 last year by checking out materials, attending programs, and using our digital resources. One trustee tracked only the resources she reviewed in 2023 on her blog. She reviewed \$1,088.27 in materials, including one movie title that is available through the library which was not available on any streaming platform.

The referendum to approve the proposed building project will be on the ballot at the March 19, 2024 election.

Please attend one of our Information Sessions or read our list of frequently asked questions for more information. Details are available at <https://rlalibrary.org/index.php/about/budget-planning>.

Sincerely, The Round Lake Area Library Board of Trustees