


CHATHAM AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY REFERENDUM SHAPING OUR FUTURE



YOUR LIBRARY BY THE NUMBERS IN 2024



193,940
Items Borrowed




552
Programs



3,550
Room Bookings

Books, music, games, movies available

81,318




Patrons Welcomed

76,362



Reference Questions Answered

13,057



WHAT IS THE LIBRARY REQUESTING ?

The Chatham Area Public Library is asking voters to decide on a plan to address building repairs, as well as maintain services, and support long-term financial stability.

ELECTION DAY APRIL 1

**EARLY VOTING BEGINS
FEBRUARY 20**

Public Town Hall Meetings
Wednesday, February 26th at 6:00 p.m.
& Saturday, March 1st at 10:00 a.m.
At the Chatham Area Public Library
600 East Spruce Street



How would the library referendum affect my property taxes?



For the median home value home in our Library District (\$285,000), the estimated increase in annual taxes is

\$38.39
(\$3.20/month)



IF THE REFERENDUM FAILS?

The costly, critical infrastructure repairs must still be addressed, which may require a reduction of hours, services, and materials in order to pay for them.

WHY NOW?

No Tax Increase in 20+ Years

- The operational tax rate unchanged since 2003.

Aging Building

- Built in 1995, doubled in size in 2009 with no funding increase; systems are past life expectancy.

Over \$2M Needed for Repairs

- Professional assessments identified critical infrastructure issues over the next decade, including major repairs to the North and East sides of the building.

Reserves Fall Short

- While the Library has some reserves to address regular maintenance, it cannot cover costly immediate repairs and ongoing maintenance combined.



OUR PRIORITIES

1. Critical Infrastructure Repairs & Ongoing Maintenance
2. Long-Term Financial Stability
3. Expanded Materials, Services, & Technology



Want to learn more?

www.chathamlib.org/referendum



CHATHAM
AREA PUBLIC
LIBRARY