



VOTE ON FEBRUARY 6TH

“LIBRARIES FOR THE FUTURE” – BRANCH PLAN

On February 6th, voters will be asked whether to borrow \$29.1 million to build, renovate or relocate five neighborhood branch libraries to correct deficiencies in the current system and to respond to growing demand.

THE NEED

BENEFITS

FEATURES

- Visits are up 67% since 2000
- Small, outdated facilities
- Most buildings need costly repairs
- New Scotland branch will close in June 2007
- Delaware branch on monthly lease – future uncertain
- Library users complain of overcrowding, wait-times for computers
- No space to expand collections
- Not fully accessible to disabled

- Safe, productive place for teens after school
- Makes neighborhoods more attractive to home buyers
- Expands library services to under-served areas
- Boosts school performance
- Increases community interaction
- Addresses “Digital Divide”
- Modern, environmentally friendly buildings
- APL will own buildings

- Dedicated space for teenagers
- Larger children’s collections and programming space
- Large community meeting rooms that can be used after hours
- Small meeting rooms for tutoring and study groups
- Public computers for each user population
- Larger adult collections in all formats
- Full accessibility for the handicapped
- Adequate green space

THE DETAILS

(Note: the first figure provided is the total square footage (SF) of the building. The figure in parenthesis is the amount of space devoted to library programming. The difference consists of basement or mechanical space where no programming will occur)

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| Arbor Hill/West Hill: | new building at Henry Johnson Blvd. and First St.; 13,000 SF (11,860); \$5.7 million |
| Delaware Ave. Corridor: | renovation of 331 Delaware Ave; 11,855 SF (9,565); \$4.7 million |
| Howe – South End: | renovation of current branch with new addition; 12,855 SF (11,605); \$5.2 million |
| New Scotland Corridor: | new building next to firehouse on New Scotland Ave; 9,450 SF (8,370); \$4 million |
| Pine Hills: | renovation and expansion to 2 nd floor of current branch; 28,780 SF (19,105); \$4.8 million |

Construction Subtotal: \$24.5 million **Grand Total (all fees and costs):** \$29.1 million

Tax Impact: less than 47¢ per \$1,000 of assessed value. Owner of a \$100,000 home would pay less than \$47 per year.

Polls are open from noon to 9pm. Call 475-6010 for information on [polling places](#).
Visit www.albanypubliclibrary.org to see details on all plans.