



Albany
Public
Library

www.albanypubliclibrary.org

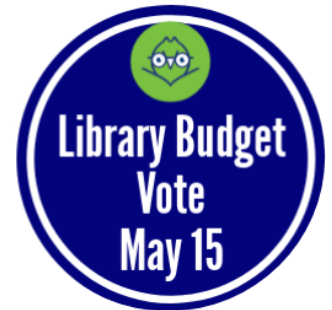
LIBRARY VOTE MAY 15

BUDGET INFORMATION SESSIONS

- < May 1 | Tuesday | 6 pm | Washington Ave. Branch >
< May 7 | Monday | 6 pm | Pine Hills Branch >

2019 LIBRARY BUDGET FACTS

- The proposed 2019 total library tax levy is \$8,805,116 and was approved by the elected Board of Trustees in March.
 - The **operating tax levy of \$7,153,022 is what will be on the ballot on May 15.**
 - The rest of the total tax levy is for the Branch Improvement Plan, which was approved by voters in February 2007.
- The 2019 tax levy is an **increase of 2.0 percent** over the current year.
- An Albany resident with a \$150,000 home will **pay about an extra \$4.89 next year** for the library.
- The proposed budget allows the library to **meet patron demand for more hours, programming, and meeting room availability, and continue service to the North Albany neighborhood** while the board continues discussions with staff and the public about how to best serve this community.
- There is **no trustee election this year**, since no board seats are open.
- Polls are open Tuesday, May 15, from 7 am until 9 pm



LIBRARY SERVICES SUPPORTED BY THE TAX LEVY

- Free access to a **large and diverse collection of books and DVDs, audiobooks and music CDs, eBooks and eMagazines**, as well as **databases, museum passes, and even fishing poles**
 - 13,100 books and other items are borrowed every week
- Free public **computers, laptops, and WiFi access** at all locations, plus a **mobile app** for devices and **WiFi hotspots** for in-home use
 - Every week, WiFi is used 1,700 times, and public computers 2,900 times
- Free **educational and entertainment programs for all ages and interests**, including: story times, computer classes, financial workshops, music performances, book reviews, movies, tax assistance, arts and maker activities, science and technology programs, and health and wellness classes
 - More than 15,200 people visit our branches, and we host more than 250 programs and meetings, each week
- Free access to **professional librarians who provide personal assistance** with information and research needs, as well as book suggestions, how to download library items to devices, and much more
- Free use of **community meeting rooms and study spaces** for local organizations and individuals
- Free **24/7 online access** to the collections and databases of all 29 libraries in the Upper Hudson Library System, which covers Albany and Rensselaer counties

Updated 3/28/18

LIBRARY VOTE FAQ

What is the Albany Public Library vote on?

The actual ballot language will be listed in the voting machine as follows:

Shall the sum of \$7,153,022 be raised by annual levy of a tax upon the taxable real property within the City School District of Albany for the purpose of funding the operating budget of the Albany Public Library?

Yes_____ No_____

When is the vote?

The vote will be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 from 7 am to 9 pm in conjunction with the City School District of Albany budget vote.

Why is my polling place in a different location than the general election polling place?

Polling places for the school and library budget votes are different than the polling locations used for citywide elections. The polling places are determined by the school district and will be posted in April on the district website at www.albanyschools.org.

Who is eligible to vote?

Anyone registered to vote in the city of Albany general election is eligible to vote in the library election.

Will people be allowed to vote by absentee ballot?

Yes, people can vote by absentee ballot. Information is available through a link on the school district website.

How many votes are needed for the passage of the library tax levy proposal?

A majority of those cast in the election.

How much is the proposed library tax levy increase?

The library is proposing an increase in its tax levy of 2.0 percent. If approved, this would result in an increase in the library tax of about \$4.89 for a home with an assessed value of \$150,000. The estimated homestead tax rate for 2019 will be \$1.66 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Does STAR apply to the library tax?

No, STAR does not apply to the library tax.

How will the library tax dollars be used?

The tax levy will be used to support current services and to meet patron demand for more hours, programming, and meeting room availability, and continue service to the North Albany neighborhood while the board continues discussions with staff and the public about how to best serve this community.

What other sources of income does the library have?

The 2019 budget includes supplemental income from state and federal grants, fines and other fees, and contributions from foundations and individuals. The majority of support for the library comes from the tax levy.

Why can't you just charge a fee to anyone who uses the library?

It is against the NYS Education Law, which requires that public library service must be "forever free."

What will happen if the voters do not approve the tax levy increase?

If the tax levy increase fails, the library would operate with the same funding level as this year.

	2018 Budget <u>Approved</u>	2019 Budget <u>Proposed</u>
SUPPORT AND REVENUE		
<u>Tax Levy - Library Operations</u>	<u>6,981,873</u>	<u>7,153,022</u>
Tax Levy - Branch Improvement Plan	1,650,594	1,652,094
<u>TOTAL TAX LEVY</u>	<u>8,632,466</u>	<u>8,805,116</u>
OTHER REVENUE		
NYS Grants	214,000	238,600
Federal Grants	38,000	32,000
Other Grants /Construction Grant	0	0
Fines and Fees	140,000	136,250
Interest Income	20,000	40,000
Foundation Contribution	25,000	0
Rent Income	0	10,000
Miscellaneous	5,000	10,000
Subtotal Other Revenue	442,000	466,850
Total Fund Balance Used	288,990	350,531
<u>TOTAL Other Revenue</u>	<u>730,990</u>	<u>817,381</u>
<u>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</u>	<u>9,363,456</u>	<u>9,622,497</u>
EXPENDITURES		
PAYROLL AND RELATED COSTS		
Salaries	3,945,995	4,080,659
NYS Retirement System	486,067	478,480
Payroll Processing & Unemployment Insurance	318,494	299,806
Health Insurance	956,306	982,704
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>5,706,862</u>	<u>5,841,649</u>
OCCUPANCY COSTS		
North Albany Services	20,000	38,400
Utilities & Telephone	180,000	180,000
Maintenance/Repairs/Supplies	310,000	420,854
Security	20,000	0
Miscellaneous/ Grant Expense (Construction)	17,500	0
Other Building Costs	0	40,000
Furniture/Building Improvements.	50,000	25,000
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>597,500</u>	<u>704,254</u>
MATERIALS and SERVICES		
Books, Periodicals, Magazines	610,000	570,630
On-line Services	45,000	94,370
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>655,000</u>	<u>665,000</u>
ADMINISTRATIVE and MISC.		
Office & Library Supplies	60,000	70,000
Postage	5,000	6,000
Publicity, Printing	35,000	25,000
Training/Travel/Community Activities	25,500	33,500
Professional Services	185,000	150,000
Programming Activities	68,000	95,000
Insurance	65,000	70,000
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>443,500</u>	<u>449,500</u>
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY		
Information Technology Services	195,000	195,000
Information Technology Software	15,000	15,000
Information Technology Hardware	100,000	100,000
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>310,000</u>	<u>310,000</u>
<u>TOTAL EXPENDITURES - LIBRARY OPERATIONS</u>	<u>7,712,862</u>	<u>7,970,403</u>
DEBT SERVICE		
Total Debt Service Payment on Branch Improvement Plan	1,650,594	1,652,094
<u>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>9,363,456</u>	<u>9,622,497</u>

Tax Impact of Proposed 2019 Library Budget with 2.0% Increase

Home Property Assessed Value	2019 Projected Tax Rate (Homestead) \$1.66111 per \$1,000 Assessed Value	Total \$ Increase Over 2018
\$100,000	\$166.11	\$3.26
\$125,000	\$207.64	\$4.07
\$150,000	\$249.17	\$4.89
\$175,000	\$290.69	\$5.70
\$200,000	\$332.22	\$6.51
\$225,000	\$373.75	\$7.33
\$250,000	\$415.28	\$8.14
\$275,000	\$456.81	\$8.96
\$300,000	\$498.33	\$9.77
\$325,000	\$539.86	\$10.58
\$350,000	\$581.39	\$11.40
\$375,000	\$622.92	\$12.22
\$400,000	\$664.44	\$13.02
\$425,000	\$705.97	\$13.84
\$450,000	\$747.50	\$14.66
\$475,000	\$789.03	\$15.47
\$500,000	\$830.56	\$16.29

