

Where will the \$ for the new library come from?

The new library project is still in the early stages of planning. Current estimates for Greenfield's new library project range between \$12-15 million. Funding will come from many sources:

- The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) has awarded construction grants to over 200 cities and towns in Massachusetts for construction and renovation of libraries since 1990. Greenfield is eligible for up to 50% of the building costs.
- The GPL Board of Trustees has hired Financial Development Agency (FDA) of Amherst to help organize fundraising efforts. FDA, which has raised money for many library projects, will run a capital campaign, pursue grant opportunities, New Market Tax Credits, and Historic Preservation Tax Credits.
- The town of Greenfield has allocated approximately \$6,825,000 for the new library in its fiscal year 2019 budget.

What happens to old library building?

The Leavitt-Hovey House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and will continue to grace Main Street for years to come. Options for re-use of the building include conversion of the building to a museum, helping Greenfield fulfill one of the requirements for a Downtown Cultural District.

Benefits of Greenfield's New Library Building

- New energy-efficient building
- Fully handicapped accessible downtown location with plenty of parking
- Spacious quiet areas for reading, research, writing
- Adequate computers and printers
- Comfortable varied seating
- Small enclosed meeting rooms or quiet areas
- Dedicated rooms for public programs, meetings, and community venues
- Designated separate area for teens
- Spacious, playful, educational environment for children
- A larger, stable collection of materials--books, magazines, movies, music

FAQs

Will our taxes go up?

Taxes will probably increase by a small amount. An accurate cost estimate will be determined when the building design is complete. Library officials are committed to keeping the impact of a new library to an absolute minimum.

With all the new construction in town, why build a new library now?

If we act now, the MBLC will pay up to fifty percent of eligible construction costs. If not, Greenfield will have to wait at least ten years for the next library construction grant round. A portion of the annual state taxes paid by Massachusetts residents funds library construction grants. **Money will go to a MA town anyway, why not Greenfield?**

Interviews

Lynne enjoys her volunteer work with the dedicated and friendly staff at the GPL. She sees the need for a new, larger library which will provide more quiet and study spaces for individuals and small groups, expanded computer accessibility, and a larger book collection. Accessible entrances and dedicated parking will also increase the library's ability to better serve the community.

Zoe, a GPL librarian, looks forward to a new, expanded library that will offer improved services for everyone in our community. Now, the GPL lacks space and programming for teens and children. A designated story and craft area for children will provide much needed space for innovative programming in a child-friendly setting. Teens, who are currently under-served in the library, would have a dedicated place to gather for programs and use materials of interest to them. These improvements would allow the library to provide services for all ages. [will include picture]