

inspired by the past...

PLANNING FOR OUR **FUTURE**

GENEVA PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

facts, figures, and frequently asked questions



Learn more at
community forums:

March 14, 10 a.m.

March 14, 7 p.m.

March 18, 10 a.m.

»» Referendum: April 4, 2017

learn more at: www.gpldnewbuilding.org

Dear Fellow Library District Residents,

We know the current library facility is not meeting the needs of all of our District residents. We have spent the last two years studying our needs, talking to you about what you want in a library, and listening to your comments, questions, and concerns. We unanimously came to the decision that building a new facility on land already owned by the District is the best long-term solution for meeting your needs today and tomorrow.

On April 4, 2017, you will be asked to answer the question of whether or not the Library District should issue bonds in the amount of \$21.8 million for the purpose of building and equipping a new facility. For the owner of a home with a \$300,000 market value the tax increase will equal approximately **\$8.25 a month (\$99 per year) for the life of the bonds** (not to exceed 20 years). Because a new facility would be so much more efficient to operate, we would be able to provide you with increased services and resources using our current operating rate, and we will not be asking for a separate tax increase for operations.

We have the opportunity to create a new facility where community members at all ages and stages of life can come together to enjoy and learn to use resources of all types from books to apps to equipment. Expanded space will offer opportunities to:

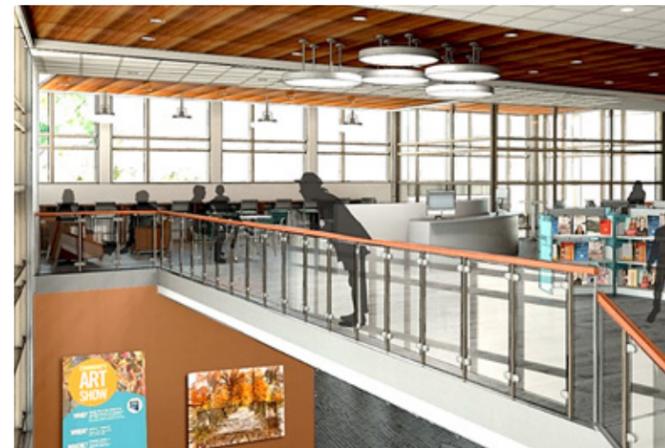
- Experiment with technology and learn new skills like robotics, book publishing, culinary science, and more with expanded library programming and equipment such as 3-D printers, laser cutters, multimedia equipment, and more
- Study and collaborate in meeting rooms and semi-private workspaces; meet with business colleagues, tutors, and fellow students in a space designed and equipped to meet today's needs
- Open new horizons for children by teaching them early literacy and critical thinking skills with expanded collections, equipment, and indoor and outdoor play spaces
- Park your car on-site or enjoy drive-up convenience in a fully accessible building
- Enjoy expanded space for browsing collections, reading quietly, meeting your neighbor, talking to other parents, playing with your children, doing your homework, and so much more!

We are proud to serve the Geneva Public Library District and to live in a community that values lifelong learning. Please contact us anytime at board@gpld.org.

Sincerely,

Bob, Pat, Mark, Zac, Paul, Dana, Ellen

The Geneva Public Library District Board of Trustees



»» WHY NOW?

The age and condition of our current building forces us to make tough decisions. Building systems are past their life expectancy and are failing. Needed renovations cannot wait any longer. Compliance with new codes and ADA regulations will necessitate major structural changes. Costs for staying in the current building continue to escalate every day.

Why do we need a new library?

The current building is not meeting the contemporary needs of the community due to lack of space, flexibility, or modern conveniences (parking, drive-up, eating and social spaces, teen area, variety of meeting rooms, etc.).

What's wrong with our current building?

Our building is undersized for our District population and needs significant and costly renovations to bring it up to current building code. Our Library has high operational costs due to age and layout of the building. Mechanicals (heating, air conditioning, elevator) are well beyond their anticipated lifespan and beginning to fail. The building is not ADA compliant, making visits difficult for people in wheelchairs, on crutches, or accompanied by children in strollers.

Why can't we renovate/expand at our current space?

After multiple additions, the site achieved maximum build-out capacity in 1998, and the Library is landlocked. Parking, lack of space, and difficulty to reconfigure interior space due to many load-bearing interior walls are major problems that cannot be solved by renovating the current facility. Further investment into the infrastructure of the current building is not seen as a wise use of tax dollars.

What will happen to the current building?

The Library and the City of Geneva have both signed resolutions of good faith intent stating that we will potentially work together on the sale of the building since both governmental units are in need of space. This is a non-binding agreement.

Will you keep the park at the new site?

The Park District currently leases the land from the Library and manages the playground. Outdoor space is important to our community, and we will continue working with the Park District to provide service to our residents. New building plans call for dedicated outdoor space for library programs and play space.



Site plan, park, and parking configuration



Greater Convenience:

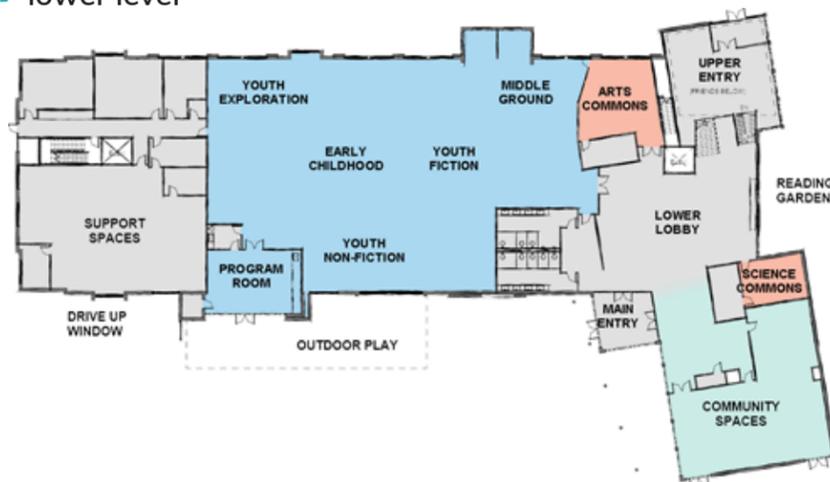
- » Enjoy on-site parking
- » Drive-up window for pickups and returns
- » Access for all, including those with mobility and other challenges
- » Building entrances for drivers and neighborhood walkers
- » Visit the library and park at once!



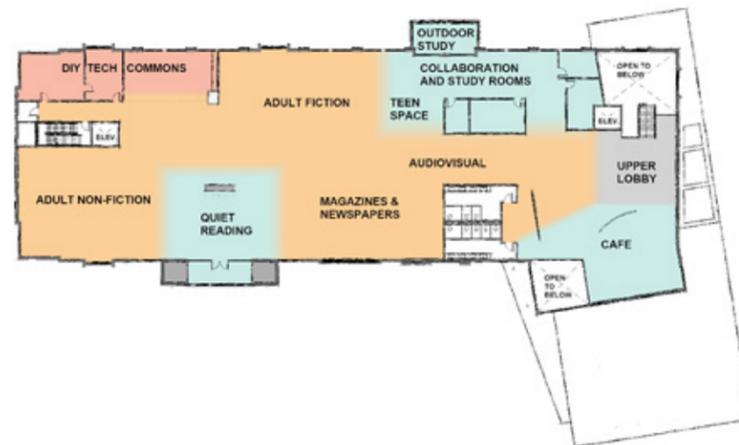
More opportunities:

- » Use technology and equipment (3-D printing, multi-media production, cameras, tablets, etc.) to experiment and learn new skills
- » Enjoy expanded collections and indoor and outdoor reading areas
- » Imaginative play spaces for children to learn by doing
- » Collaborative learning spaces for studying, working, doing homework, and so much more!

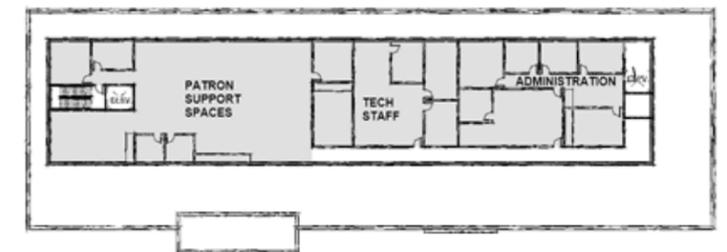
» lower level



» main level



» partial upper level



»» planning timeline

- »» Dec. 2014–Feb. 2015: Community Conversations
- »» Feb.–Apr. 2015: Community Survey
- »» Apr. 2015: Public Hearing on Land Purchase
- »» July 2015: Focus Groups
- »» Aug. 2015: Benchmarking Study
- »» Oct. 2015: Needs Assessment
- »» Oct. 2015: Building Assessment
- »» Nov. 2015: Analysis of repair, renovate, build new options
- »» Mar. 2016: Purchased property at 210 S. Sixth St.
- »» June 2016 to date: Schematic design for new facility
- »» July–Dec. 2016: Financial planning for new facility
- »» Nov. 2016: Community Forums
- »» Dec. 2016: Public Hearing
- »» Jan. 2017 to date: Referendum Education Campaign
- »» Mar. 2017: More Community Forums
- »» Apr. 2017: Referendum

»» what you have to say

I love the current library, but with a town of our size and resources, I think it could offer even more. I have visited my parents' library in Columbia, Mo., and it is just a hive of constant activity. They have tons of meeting space, a huge children's section with plenty of areas for free play, and reading space. So - [offer] more open space for reading, more meeting space, more children's programming, more book clubs, and speakers. —Response to Library Survey

More space. I love the Geneva Library, but the lack of space is getting uncomfortable. I have to walk sideways to get through the stacks, especially in the non-fiction area. —Response to Library Survey

»» how do we compare?

Library	Square ft per capita
Wilmette Public Library	2.42
Deerfield Public Library	2.41
Warrenville Public Library	2.13
Ela Area Public Library District	2.09
Elmhurst Public Library	2.04
Batavia Public Library District	2.03
Elk Grove Village Public Library	2.03
Glen Ellyn Public Library	1.89
NEW Geneva Public Library District	1.86
Poplar Creek Public Library District	1.52
Bloomington Public Library	1.59
Woodridge Public Library	1.55
Addison Public Library	1.48
Des Plaines Public Library	1.41
Lake Villa Public Library	1.40
Barrington Public Library District	1.36
Algonquin Area Public Library District	1.25
Vernon Area Public Library District	1.22
St. Charles Public Library District (seeking expansion)	0.98
Crystal Lake Public Library (seeking expansion)	0.98
CURRENT Geneva Public Library District	0.90
West Chicago Public Library District	0.90

How much do I pay for the Library now?

The Library is funded primarily by property taxes, not sales tax, and accounts for one of the smallest portions of the tax bill--approximately 3% of the average property tax bill in Geneva. All programs and services are available at no extra cost.

Will a new building require more staff?

A new building will be designed to utilize staff and technology more efficiently than is possible in the current building. The new facility would operate using existing staffing levels, and on a square footage basis operational costs will be lower.

How much will a new library cost?

Total project cost, including construction, engineering, technology, furnishings, bond issue, etc., is estimated at \$22,100,000. The tax impact for the owner of a \$300,000 market value home is approximately \$8.25 per month (\$99 per year).

How will you pay for a new library?

If approved, the building will be paid for using a combination of bonds (\$21,800,000) and operating reserves (\$300,000). On April 4, 2017 voters will be asked whether or not the Library District should issue bonds.

»» what will it cost me?

Home Value	Additional Building Cost	
	Annually	Monthly
\$100,000	\$28.70	\$2.39
\$200,000	\$63.70	\$5.31
\$300,000*	\$98.70	\$8.23
\$400,000	\$133.70	\$11.14
\$500,000	\$168.70	\$14.06

*Average home value in Geneva = \$309,000

If approved, the bonds will be paid off over 20 years from when they are issued, and once they are paid off the District will again be debt-free. The District is **NOT** asking for an increase to its limiting rate which would raise taxes in perpetuity. The District has continually lived within its means to provide library services to community members at all ages and stages of life without charging additional fees for service.

»» referendum

On April, 4, 2017 voters will be asked the following question:

Shall the bonds of the Geneva Public Library District, Kane County, Illinois, in the amount of \$21,800,000 be issued for the purpose of erecting a building to be used as a library on District owned property, improving said property, including parking, and furnishing necessary equipment for said library building?	YES	
	NO	

»» what will it cost me?

WHY?

Geneva Public Library District needs more space and is landlocked in its current location. We're severely undersized for our population. The current building is aging and in need of significant renovation. Costs for staying in our current facility continue to escalate every day.

WHAT?

A new 57,000 square foot facility with parking and drive-up window, early literacy play space, more meeting rooms, digital creation spaces, quiet reading areas, increased collection space, and outdoor space is being proposed. All areas of the Library will be ADA compliant and accessible to all members of our community.

WHERE?

On property already owned by the Library District at 210 S. Sixth St. Access to major roadways, on-site parking, and drive-up facilities will make visiting the Library much easier.

WHEN?

Voters will be asked to vote on the issue on April 4, 2017. Following a successful referendum, construction would likely begin spring 2018 with an opening date of fall 2019.

HOW?

By issuing building bonds to be paid off over 20 years. The tax impact for the owner of a \$300,000 market value home is approximately \$8.25 per month (\$99 per year). Operating costs for a new, larger facility will remain steady with current rates due to greater efficiencies.



»» Learn more at community forums:
(held in lower level meeting room)

March 14, 10 a.m.

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»» Referendum: April 4, 2017

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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