



New Rochelle Public Library Director's Letter to the Community

January 2026

Dear New Rochelle Community,

Happy New Year. I hope you enjoyed the holidays and are as excited for 2026 as I am.

As we begin a new year, I am feeling energized and optimistic about what's ahead for the New Rochelle Public Library. 2026 is shaping up to be an exciting year—one focused on growth, thoughtful planning, and new ways to better serve our community. With so much on the horizon, I am pleased to share an important initiative that will help guide how our library continues to evolve. This year we have so much planned.

Exciting Improvements Coming to Your New Rochelle Public Library

We are always looking for ways to make your library experience even better. This year, we're excited to begin Phase I of our Library Master Plan in partnership with ThirdWay, Inc., a firm that helps libraries thoughtfully improve how their spaces and services support the people who use them every day.

This work is about understanding what's working well, where we can do better, and how we can make the library even more welcoming, comfortable, and easy to use for everyone.

Understanding How You Use the Library

We want to see the library through your eyes. ThirdWay will spend time observing how patrons move through and use our library spaces and collections. This User Experience (UX) study helps us better understand your needs and uncover ways to make our spaces more welcoming, accessible, and easy to use for everyone.

Testing New Ways to Showcase Books and Materials

We'll be experimenting with new display areas and signage to make it easier for you to find, discover, and enjoy library materials. By testing what works best, we can improve the way books and other resources are presented so more people can enjoy them.

Making the Most of Our Space

Both the Main Library and the Huguenot Children's Library will be reviewed to see how space is currently used. ThirdWay will provide recommendations for small changes that can improve comfort, circulation, and accessibility, as well as ideas for future renovations.

Training Our Staff to Serve You Better

Library staff will receive hands-on training in space planning and display techniques, giving them new tools to thoughtfully organize collections and create inviting spaces for our community.

What This Means for You

All of this work is about improving your experience at the library. By combining research, testing, and staff training, we're ensuring our libraries are easy to navigate, engaging, and designed to meet the needs of all our patrons—whether you're here to read, study, explore, or connect.

We're excited to share these improvements with you as they happen and welcome your feedback along the way. Keep an eye out for updates as we work to transform our library into an even better space for learning, discovery, and community!

Thank you for being part of our library community—we're excited to keep growing together.

Warmly,

Eugenia Schatoff

Eugenia Schatoff
Executive Director