



## **New Rochelle Public Library Director's Letter to the Community**

March 2026

### **Dear Friends and Neighbors,**

Every day, the New Rochelle Public Library is part of people's lives. A child finds a book she loves. A teenager works toward their future. A new neighbor gets their bearings. A senior finds connection and community.

These moments happen here—hundreds of times a day—and they depend on a building that serves the people who rely on it.

On Tuesday, May 19, 2026, voters will consider a \$55 million Capital Improvement Bond to modernize the Library. This investment would address aging infrastructure while improving the spaces where our community reads, learns, and comes together.

This building has served New Rochelle for decades. It has been cared for responsibly, but many systems are now outdated. Addressing these needs now helps avoid greater costs and disruption in the future.

At the same time, this project is about who we are as a community today. Families need more space in Children's. Teens deserve a place of their own. Adults need quiet places to work and welcoming spaces to connect. As New Rochelle continues to grow, the Library should grow with it.

### **If approved, the project would include:**

- Renovated Children's, Teen, and Adult spaces
- New study rooms, meeting areas, and flexible spaces
- Accessibility improvements throughout the building
- Updated furniture, fixtures, and equipment
- Professional design and construction services
- Upgrades to building systems (heating, cooling, electrical, plumbing)
- Roof replacement and exterior repairs

Bond funds are legally restricted and can only be used for these improvements—not for salaries or daily operations.

### **Estimated cost:**

For the average homeowner, approximately \$204 per year (about \$17 per month), with no tax impact before 2028.

The Library has already secured over \$1.18 million in State funding—an investment in New Rochelle from our partners at the state level.

### **Learn more:**

Visit [nrpl.org](https://nrpl.org) for full details, [FAQs](#), and upcoming [information sessions on April 16 and April 28](#).

The Library has long been a shared resource - open to everyone, shaped by this community, and used every day. This project is about taking care of that resource and ensuring it continues to serve New Rochelle for generations to come.

### **With appreciation,**

*Eugenia Schatoff*

Eugenia Schatoff, Executive Director, New Rochelle Public Library