

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**January 10**

Drop-in Q&A, 1:00 to 5:00 PM  
Winter Reading Registration

**January 11**

Drop-in Q&A, 4:30 to 7:00 PM

**February 4**

First Day for Early Voting at  
County Clerk's Office  
Drop-in Q&A, 6:00 to 9:00 PM

**February 6**

Drop-in Q&A, 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM  
Volunteer Fair, 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

**February 14**

Drop-in Q&A, 1:00 to 5:00 PM

**February 16**

Last Day to Register to Vote

**February 29**

First Day for Early Voting at Village  
of Plainfield (also serving Plainfield  
Township) and Wheatland Township

**March 5**

Drop-in Q&A, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
Star Wars Day

**March 11**

Last Day for Early Voting at Village  
of Plainfield (also serving Plainfield  
Township)

**March 12**

Last Day for Early Voting at  
Wheatland Township

**March 14**

Last Day for Early Voting at County  
Clerk's Office

**March 15**

Election Day



**New Plainfield Library  
on the March 15 Ballot**

***Building Bond  
and Operating Rate  
Referenda Go to Voters***

More than a year of planning culminated in action by the Plainfield Public Library District Board of Trustees to place two questions on the March 15, 2016 ballot.

The proposed plan includes building and operating a 72,000 square foot new library on the current downtown site. The first ballot question authorizes a \$39 million building bond that would build the new library, including property acquisition, equipment, library materials and furnishings. The second

question would increase the limiting rate by 19% to operate the new library.

The unanimous vote to forward the proposed plan to voters followed 11 public meetings, eight months of open feedback surveys, and the Board's regular and special meetings.

The plan addresses 25 years of growth in the Plainfield community with a larger building and 21<sup>st</sup> century library services.



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When construction on the current 27,000 square foot Library began in 1990, the official Library District population was 14,123, with five schools in Plainfield School District 202. Today, the Library serves 75,337, with 30 schools in the District. Over 60,000 more people are being served by the same size building. In 1990, the Library offered two word processing computers and typewriters for public use. Collections

included cassette tapes and VHS. Modern email did not exist. Today, more than 30 public computers are used for more than 24,000 hours of public computing sessions annually. Formats collected include DVD, Blu-Ray, MP3, downloadable books and audiobooks,

streaming music and video, ereaders, Rokus, etc. The Library has more than 209,000 items in its collection today, possible only because of digital formats.

Librarians are often asked, "Why do we need libraries when we have the internet?" The internet cannot provide the personalized help and hands-on instruction of the 21<sup>st</sup> century library. In 1990, librarians answered 2,236 reference questions. In 2015, it was more than 56,000, more than 25 times the number asked in 1990. Today's questions are more complex because the easy answers are readily available. Answers now include help with devices and teaching new technology skills.

Classes and programs are a huge part of 21<sup>st</sup> century public library service. In 1993, the first year the Library kept program attendance statistics, 2,214 attended programs that were only for children. In 2015, programs spanning all ages were attended by more than 50,000 people. That's 22 times more people attending programs in 2015. Instruction, especially in technology and software, is a core service for 21<sup>st</sup> century libraries.



## Schools in Plainfield

1990  5 schools

2016  30 schools

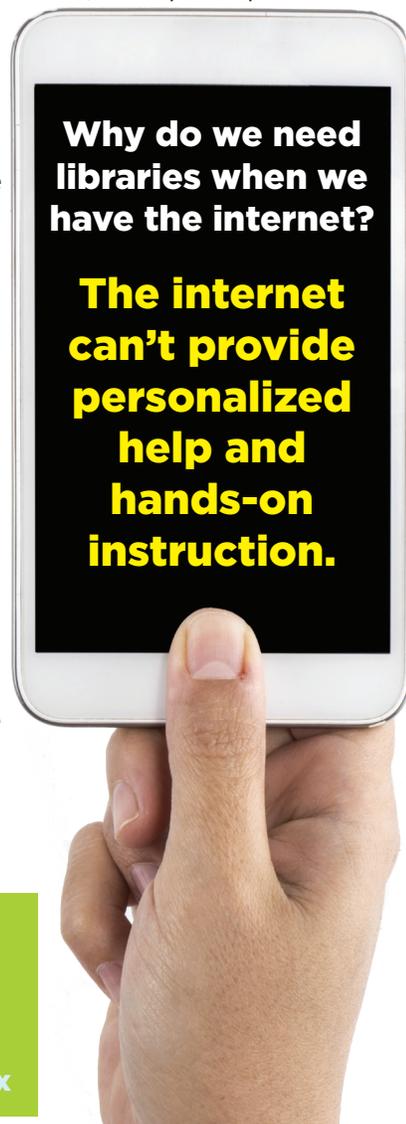
The Library's revenue has not increased to keep pace with five times more people in the Library District, doing 22 and 25 times the business in core library services. In 1990, the Library District's median home value of \$100,000 paid \$103 in property taxes to the Library, \$30.17 per capita. Today's median home value of \$300,000 paid \$192.89 in property taxes, \$44.93 per capita. Adjusted for inflation, 1990 per capita revenue would be \$51.99 in today's dollars.

In 2015, the average Plainfield Public Library resident checked out more than eight items, attended a library program, used a public computer for an average session of 43 minutes and asked a librarian a reference question. That is \$256.87 in value for materials and services received for the \$44.93 per capita investment in the Library.

Under the proposed plan, the building, its contents and the purchase of additional property will be funded by \$39 million in building bonds with a 20-year maturity.

**Why do we need libraries when we have the internet?**

**The internet can't provide personalized help and hands-on instruction.**

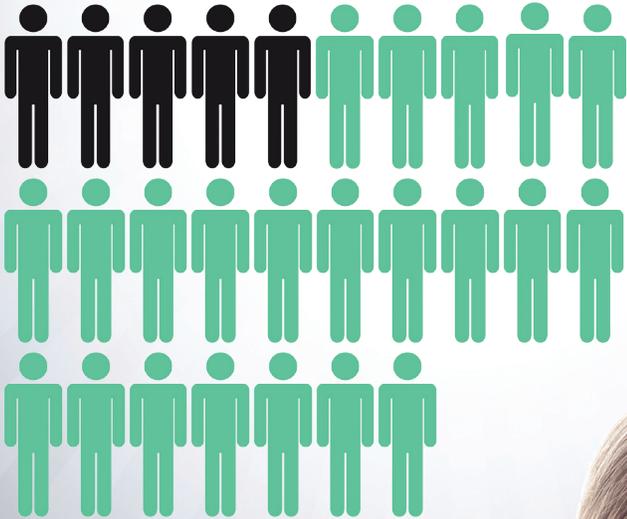


## Did you know...

an FAQ is available on the Library's web site? Find the answers to the most common questions - or submit one of your own here: <http://plainfieldpubliclibrary.org/about/building-expansion-faq.aspx>

## Population Growth in Plainfield

 = 1990 population in Plainfield **14,123 residents**
 = additional 2016 population in Plainfield **75,337 residents**



## Program Attendance

  
**1993**  
**2,214**  
 attended programs

**2015**  
**50,716**  
 attended programs



the Library's \$3.1 million budget will have to be cut from services and programs in order to keep the existing building functional in the long term. Those cuts would further reduce access to early literacy development support, hands-on learning for 21<sup>st</sup> century job skills, and further limit the Library's ability to expand collections and formats. Any major renovations done on the current building, such as those needed to maintain operations, must now comply with current building codes, rather than those from 1990.

The operations will be funded by an increase to the Library's limiting tax rate of 0.0390, or just under four cents per \$100 of home value, to a total rate of 0.2442. The estimated total cost to the average home in Plainfield is \$14.91 per month, just under \$180 per year for a \$300,000 home. The cost increase is approximately \$12 per month for the bond and \$3 per month for the operations.

The building bond portion of the increase will be paid off in 20 years and automatically be removed from taxpayer's bills. The limiting tax rate increase is ongoing to the operation of the Library, subject to the tax cap. The bond repayment tax rate generally decreases over time as new property is annexed to the district or existing property is developed, spreading the fixed payment amount over a larger tax base. The bond rate on the existing Library was 0.1657 in its first year and dropped to 0.0094 by the final (20<sup>th</sup>) year.

If the proposed plan fails at the ballot box, more than \$600,000 of



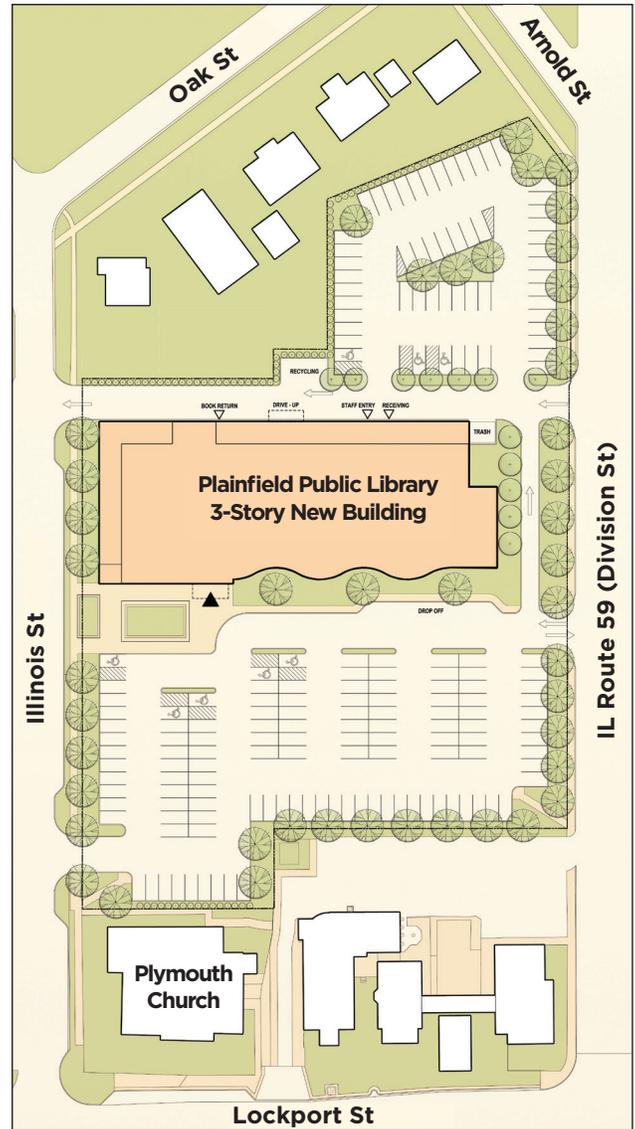
# Site Plan and Floor Plans

## Features of Proposed Building:

Flexible, efficient floor plans incorporate green design to minimize staffing and utility costs while maximizing natural light and environmentally friendly features.

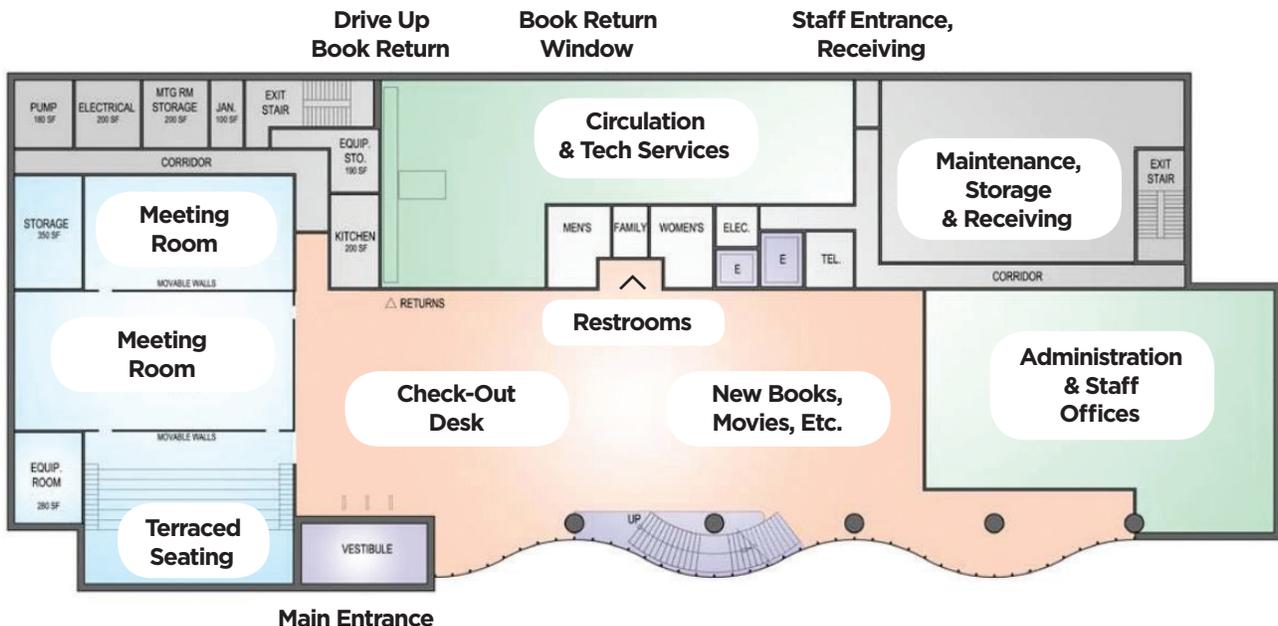
## Site

- 170+ parking spaces
- Green/garden area
- Improved visibility from downtown
- Accessible from both Illinois Street and Route 59
- Public parking readily accessible for Library and downtown

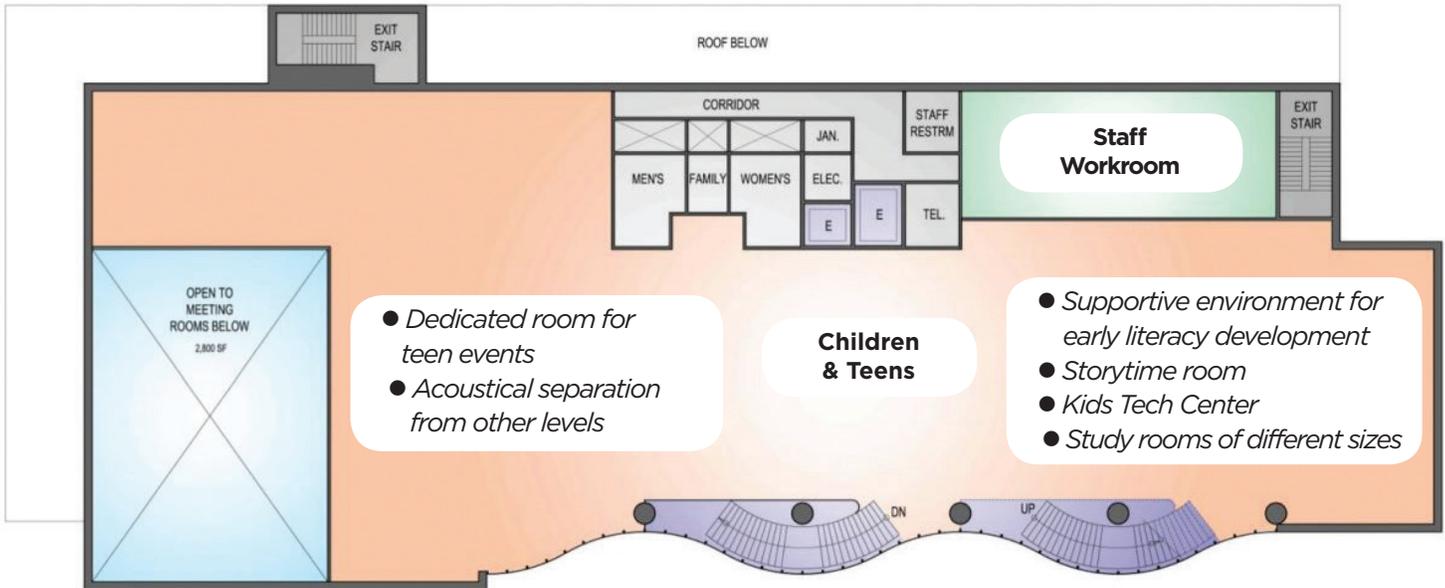


## First Floor

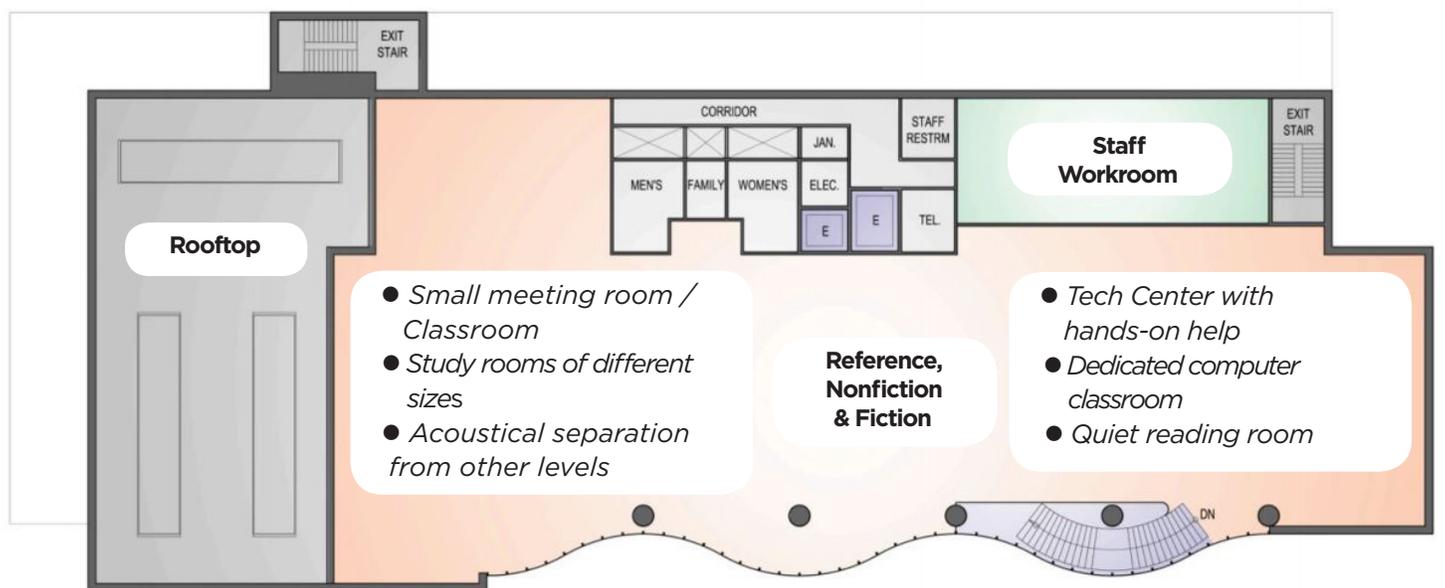
- Popular materials (new books, DVDs, etc) located nearest main entrance
- Convenient, comfortable seating
- Three meeting rooms combine to create event space for 290
- Drive up book drop
- Drive up service window
- Vending area for refreshments
- Fully compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act



# Second Floor



# Third Floor



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Library Services

## *Moving Beyond Books to Supporting Today's Information Technology*

A 21<sup>st</sup> century library is a “third place” – the place other than home and work where community members spend time, learn and connect.

- **The Library is a place for instruction** – for seniors learning to email and Skype, job seekers building resumes, kids becoming skilled in coding, adults discovering the latest apps
- **The Library is a place for collaboration** – for students doing group assignments, business people joining in service projects, for crafters creating sleeping mats for the homeless
- **The Library is a place for community** – for the teen's annual play, family storytimes, historical reenactments, book discussions, special events such as Star Wars Day



For many, no matter what else a public library offers, if you play the word association game, the first response to “library” will be “books.” But a book is simply one of many delivery systems for knowledge, information and works of the imagination.

**The definition of a public library is:** An organization established and funded by the community to provide access to knowledge, information and works of the imagination and make access equally available to all members of the community.

Not a word about books!  
While books will remain an important

method of information delivery, the modern library offers many resources and services to meet the education, information, personal development and recreation needs of the community.

## **Information and Entertainment**

When the current Library opened in 1991, you might have accessed a single work in two formats: hardcover and paperback. Now, 25 years later, your library has the same title, like *The Help*, in multiple formats: hardcover, paperback, ebook, audiobook, eAudiobook, DVD, Blu-Ray and streaming video.

*Format changes are primarily driven by technology changes, from the physical to the virtual. These same changes are also driving a shift in focus from merely retrieving information to actually creating it.*

## **So Much More Than Books**

Today's libraries provide opportunities to create or co-create content for an individual's own use, for use by the community or for inclusion in the collection – it is somewhere you make stuff. This encompasses everything from a local business filming a promotional video, to a teen using a 3-D printer to make a bracelet to a local writer uploading a novel for others to check out.

## **More Than Just Elbow Room**

For the Plainfield Library, our decisions are dictated by the physical. While shifting to virtual formats helps to keep up with demand for resources, it does not assist with the issue of not being able to offer instruction and collaboration space, a digital media lab, quiet study spaces and community meeting rooms. In addition, the increased demand for technology requires everything from updated wiring and additional electrical outlets, to hands-on helpers to connect people with resources and technology.

This expansion project would rebalance the Library's resources with services needed in a 21<sup>st</sup> century public library. The proposed library building is designed to be flexible, allowing for an efficient, cost effective space that will meet the community's needs today, while keeping an eye to the future.

# Ballot Questions

Two questions as they will appear on the ballot, as required by Illinois statute:

<p>Shall the limiting rate under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law for the Plainfield Public Library District, Will and Kendall Counties, Illinois, be increased by an additional amount equal to 0.0390% above the limiting rate for library purposes of said Library District for levy year 2014 and be equal to 0.2442% of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property therein for levy year 2016?</p>	YES
	NO

(1) The approximate amount of taxes extendable at the most recently extended limiting rate is \$3,647,727, and the approximate amount of taxes extendable if the proposition is approved is \$4,339,712.

(2) For the 2016 levy year the approximate amount of the additional tax extendable against property containing a single family residence and having a fair market value at the time of the referendum of \$100,000 is estimated to be \$13.00.

(3) If the proposition is approved, the aggregate extension for 2016 will be determined by the limiting rate set forth in the proposition, rather than the otherwise applicable limiting rate calculated under the provisions of the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (commonly known as the Property Tax Cap Law).

<p>Shall the bonds of the Plainfield Public Library District, Will and Kendall Counties, Illinois, in the amount of \$39,000,000 be issued for the purpose of constructing a new Plainfield Public Library Building on the north side of the existing library site, acquiring property for such Library Building, demolishing the existing Library Building, constructing site improvements including parking and furnishing necessary equipment and acquiring library materials and electronic data storage and retrieval facilities in connection therewith?</p>	YES
	NO



## Did you know...

You can calculate what the proposed increase would mean for your taxes by using the cost estimate calculator?

<http://plainfieldpubliclibrary.org/about/fmv-calculator.aspx>



# Plainfield

**PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT**

[www.plainfieldpubliclibrary.org](http://www.plainfieldpubliclibrary.org)

**15025 South Illinois Street  
Plainfield, IL 60544**



**Follow the Library on Facebook.  
Become a Fan!**

[www.facebook.com/PlainfieldLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/PlainfieldLibrary)

## Board of Trustees

Carl F. Gilmore, President  
Crystal Andel, Vice President  
Vicki M. Knight, Secretary  
Patricia L. Miller, Treasurer  
Sharon Kinley  
Jason M. Puetz  
Lisa Schmidt

## Library Hours

Monday through Thursday  
9:00 AM to 9:00 PM

Friday and Saturday  
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Sunday (September - May)  
1:00 to 5:00 PM

## Contact Us

Information 815.436.6639  
Adult Reference 815.327.2515  
Youth Services 815.439.2877  
Business Office 815.439.2872  
Library Director 815.439.2874



**Plainfield**  
PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

NonProfit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Fox Valley, IL  
Permit No. 131

# Tax Impact

If the referendum passes, how much money from your tax bill will go toward the Library?

**\$250,000  
home**

If the referendum passes...  
**\$12.27 more  
each month**



If the referendum passes...  
**\$305.93/year**

**Currently paying:  
\$158.69/year  
(\$147.24 increase)**

**\$300,000  
home**

If the referendum passes...  
**\$14.91 more  
each month**



If the referendum passes...  
**\$371.86/year**

**Currently paying:  
\$192.89/year  
(\$178.98 increase)**

**\$350,000  
home**

If the referendum passes...  
**\$17.56 more  
each month**



If the referendum passes...  
**\$437.80/year**

**Currently paying:  
\$227.09/year  
(\$210.71 increase)**

**Visit the Library's cost estimate calculator here:  
<http://plainfieldpubliclibrary.org/about/fmv-calculator.aspx>**