KANSAS CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
LIBRARY LEVY QUESTION
ACCESS FOR ALL

KCLIBRARY.ORG/ELECTION

ABOUT THE LIBRARY QUESTION

More than ever, the Kansas City Public Library is central to the lives of the individuals, families, and communities it serves. From early childhood literacy to outreach for the elderly and disabled. From access to computers and the internet to civic and community engagement. On November 6, we are asking voters to authorize an 8-cent increase in the property tax based operating levy – the first such request in 22 years – to maintain and modernize facilities and sustain and enhance essential services.

THE NEED

The current level of funding, set in 1996, is no longer sufficient to sustain operations at the Library system's 10 locations and the current level of on-site and online services they provide. Demand in the community is great, as reflected by the **more than 4 million visitors** to the Library in 2017-18. Levy funds supporting its operations and services have grown by less than 1 percent annually over the past decade, failing to keep pace with residents' rising needs.
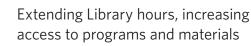
WITH LEVY APPROVAL, THE LIBRARY CAN:

- **RESPOND TO GROWING COMMUNITY NEEDS**
- **ENHANCE LIBRARY SERVICES, PROGRAMS, AND SAFETY**
- **RENOVATE AND REPLACE AGING FACILITIES**
- **SUSTAIN AND EXPAND LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

YES
to the Library Question means:

- Expanding Library services for children, students, seniors, families, and others
- Extending Library hours, increasing access to programs and materials
- Modernizing computers and other digital resources and expanding training
- Renovating or replacing aging Library branches

NO
to the Library Question means:

- Acquiring fewer new materials and resources including books, movies, music, magazines, databases, and other research tools
- Cutting back Library hours, reducing access to computers, materials, services, and programs
- Scaling back technology updates and likely falling short in meeting our community's growing digital needs
- Making only basic repairs and postponing renovations; facilities will deteriorate

ENHANCING CHILDREN'S & YOUTH LITERACY

Children's programs, including story times and Friday Night Family Fun events, drew **73,084** participants.

The Library's Books to Go program delivered **101,600** materials to approximately **4,700** children at preschools and childcare centers.

Participation in youth summer reading, designed to maintain reading retention between school years, totaled **3,483** children and teens, a 55 percent rise from the previous year.

HELPING SENIORS STAY INDEPENDENT

Seniors and others who are homebound received **13,985** books and other Library materials.

More than **31,000** seniors were Library card-holders.

Library outreach services were provided to **16** senior living communities.

ADVANCING COMPUTER ACCESS & LITERACY

Computer and wireless internet sessions at Library locations totaled **800,026**.

Public computer use totaled **335,871** hours.

Individuals seeking to improve their computer skills participated in **31,632** classes, learning circles, one-to-one sessions, and online training sessions.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION FOR ALL

4,033,872 In-person and digital visitors to the Library

69,800 Inquiries and information requests fielded by librarians

1,948,409 Items checked out by community members

198,877 Attendees of the Library's acclaimed adult and children programs

BALLOT LANGUAGE

NOV. 6

LIBRARY QUESTION

For the purpose of renovating and replacing aging Library facilities, enhancing spaces, safety and programming for children, seniors and families, expanding services, access to computers and collections to serve public demand, and for the general operation of public libraries, shall the Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public Library District be authorized to levy an additional eight cent ($.08) tax over the present property tax for the free public library?

HOW WOULD THIS LEVY INCREASE AFFECT MY PROPERTY TAXES?

HOME MARKET VALUE	ADDED YEARLY COST	ADDED MONTHLY COST
$75,000	$11.40	$0.95
$100,000	$15.20	$1.27
$150,000	$22.80	$1.90
$200,000	$30.40	$2.53

Taxes based on lower, assessed value

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