

# WHY PROPOSITION L?

The Board of Trustees for the Library has identified the need for sustainable, ongoing levy funding to replace one-time donation support from 2014. This will help avoid significant reductions in services and allow the library to better meet its mission of lifelong learning, cultural literacy, and bringing the community together.

If the levy is approved by voters, the Board of Trustees for the Library anticipates implementing improvements to programs, services, collections, staffing, and facilities.

## THE BALLOT MEASURE:

*Shall there be a tax increase of \$0.18 over the present tax rate ceiling of \$0.22 per one hundred dollars assessed valuation for the Ferguson Municipal Public Library District?*

### YES, Proposition L passes

The library anticipates enacting **Plan A**, which provides Ferguson residents with improvements to programs, services, collections, staffing, and facilities.

### NO, Proposition L fails

The library anticipates enacting **Plan B**, which starting in July 2020 significantly affects the library's ability to serve the community's needs.

## WHAT IS PLAN A AND PLAN B?

# VOTER REGISTRATION

Residents can register to vote by either:

- **Printing and mailing** a voter registration application from <https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/register>.
- **Picking up and mailing** a voter registration application from the County Clerk's office, Dept. of Motor Vehicles, or the Ferguson Municipal Public Library.
- **Requesting an application** be mailed to you by phone at 1 (800) Now Vote (669-8683) or online at <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/request>.
- **Registering in person** at St. Louis County Board of Elections: 725 Northwest Plaza Dr., St. Ann, MO 63074.

The last day to register to vote for the April 3rd General Municipal Election Day is **Wednesday, March 7, 2018.**

## FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE

Visit **Missouri's Voter Outreach Center** online at <https://voteroutreach.sos.mo.gov/PRD/VoterOutreach/VOSearch.aspx> and provide your residential address to locate your polling place.

Missouri law requires **photo identification** for voters. For more information on acceptable forms of identification, visit <https://www.sos.mo.gov/showit2vote>.



**Ferguson Municipal Public Library**  
35 N Florissant Rd., Ferguson, MO 63135  
(314) 521-4820 | [www.ferguson.lib.mo.us](http://www.ferguson.lib.mo.us)



## PROP L INFORMATION

VOTE



APRIL 3  
2018



@fergusonlibrary

# PLAN A - PROP L PASSES

## MORE LIBRARY PROGRAMS

The library would continue and expand program offerings like computer classes for beginners; engaging after school programs for children and teens; or juvenile educational opportunities like programming from the Science Center and the library's Lego League Team which continue STEM curriculum beyond the classroom.

## MORE RESPONSE TO PATRON NEEDS

The library would offer more large print titles for patrons with visual impairments, multiple copies of popular titles for adults, and more materials for children and teens.

## IMPROVED COLLECTIONS

The library would maintain and grow a selection of classic, beloved movies and music to serve film and music-lovers of all ages.

## MORE E-MATERIALS

The library would serve patrons who have difficulty accessing the library in-person, have vision impairments, or want to use the library from home.

## MORE ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The library would support local businesses, students, and other groups with research and statistical databases.

## MORE ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

The library would continue updating patron technology offerings and offer fast internet speeds for children, adults, and seniors.

# PLAN B - PROP L FAILS

STARTING IN JULY 2020...

## CUT PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS AND SENIORS

The library will be unable to offer programs like guest speakers or computer classes for adults and seniors.

## CUT SERVICES FOR HOMEBOUND AND AILING PATRONS

The library will be unable to provide library services for patrons confined to their homes due to age or illness.

## REDUCED ABILITY FOR STAFF TO SERVE PATRONS

The library's staff will be unable to provide in-depth, personal patron services and patron wait times for assistance will increase for all services.

## REDUCED OPERATING HOURS

The library will be forced to reduce operating hours affecting all patrons' access to library services and reducing potential foot-traffic to local area businesses.

## OUT-OF-DATE TECHNOLOGY AND SLOW INTERNET

The library will be unable to update patron computers as technology continues to evolve or afford faster Internet and WiFi capabilities.

## CUT FURTHER MAINTENANCE TO THE LIBRARY BUILDING

The library will be unable to perform necessary maintenance and other improvements to the library building itself.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## What happened to the 2014 donations?

In 2014, the library received \$450,000 in donation monies from local residents and other generous donors across the country. The library's Board of Trustees made sure every penny was accounted for and used in ways that would most efficiently improve the library's ability to serve the community.

## The library can't rely on more donations?

The 2014 donations were a rare, unusual occurrence that cannot be duplicated. As an unstable funding source, donations are used to add new services or to work on special projects generally outside of the library's abilities. Public libraries run on stable levy funding to serve their communities effectively. Core patron services will come and go if the library were to rely on donations to operate.

## When was the last time the library asked for a new tax rate?

The last library levy was set by voters in 1995, over 20 years ago.

## If Proposition L fails, will the Ferguson Library close?

No, the library will not close, but it will be forced to seek out ways to reduce operating costs like cuts to staffing or patron materials. All patrons will be negatively impacted. The effect on the community of Ferguson as a whole will be significant.

## For more questions and information:

Call the library at 314-521-4820 or visit the library's website at [ferguson.lib.mo.us/levy-fact-sheet-apr-3/](http://ferguson.lib.mo.us/levy-fact-sheet-apr-3/)