



IF PROPOSITION L PASSES

[HTTP://WWW.FERGUSON.LIB.MO.US/LEVY-FACT-SHEET-APR-3/](http://www.ferguson.lib.mo.us/levy-fact-sheet-apr-3/)

VOTE



**APRIL 3
2018**

WHAT HAPPENS IF PROPOSITION L PASSES?

If Proposition L is approved by voters, the Board of Trustees for the library anticipates implementing the following improvements to programs, services, collections, staffing, and facilities:

- Additional enhancements to programming
- Investing in our library staff
- Increase in materials budgets
- Improvements to technology
- Improvements to physical space

PLAN A - PROPOSITION L PASSES

ADDITIONAL ENHANCEMENTS TO PROGRAMMING

- Further develop outreach and homebound services to bring the library and services to patrons who cannot access the library for a variety of reasons like mobility and transportation limitations.
- Offer more intensive computer and coding classes to help patrons gain the skills they need for their careers and education.
- Increase early literacy efforts and provide more programming, particularly during the after school hours, to encourage children and teens in the library.

INVESTING IN OUR LIBRARY STAFF

- Hire a full-time adult services librarian to provide reference services for all patrons and adult programming.
- Hire additional part-time staff to provide more efficient and effective customer service to patrons of all ages and interests.
- Evaluate salary and benefits for library employees to attract excellent staff that can provide quality service to Ferguson citizens.

IMPROVEMENTS TO TECHNOLOGY

- Begin a 4-year technology replacement cycle. This replacement cycle ensures that library patrons can have access to fast, functional, and well cared for public computers.
- Upgrade offerings preventing Ferguson citizens from falling on the wrong side of the digital divide.
- Allows the library to offer other technologies as they emerge.

INCREASE IN MATERIALS BUDGETS

- More selection of Large Print books and popular adult titles.
- Updated and relevant children's materials.
- More selection of e-materials for those using the library at a distance.
- More selection of music and movies.
- More research and statistical database options to support students, researchers, and local business owners.

IMPROVEMENTS TO PHYSICAL SPACE

- Replace shelving with a more accessible and attractive option making access easier for children and patrons with mobility issues and easier to see and find.
- Improve the quality of lighting making materials easier to see and find.
- Improve the efficiency of heating and cooling systems and replace windows with more energy efficient models to keep energy costs down.



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



@fergusonlibrary



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WHAT HAPPENS IF PROPOSITION L FAILS?

The one-time donations in 2014 have allowed the Ferguson Municipal Public Library District to expand services, while also completing long overdue improvements to the building itself. These one-time donations are projected to last for another two years. The library board anticipates to budget at current funding and donation levels for as long as possible.

If Proposition L is not approved by voters on April 3rd, the library anticipates making changes to services starting in July 2020.

PLAN B - PROPOSITION L FAILS

CUT AND REDUCED PROGRAMMING

- Programming for adults and seniors will end.
- Programs with civic institutions like the St. Louis Zoo or the Science Center will be cut due to costs.
- Patrons will be charged a material fee for programs featuring crafts or consumables.
- Homebound services to Ferguson residents will end.

REDUCED ABILITY TO SERVE PATRONS

- The patron requests staff can meet will be quickly-filled and shallow, as the library's reduced staff will not have the option to give one-on-one help to patrons with greater need.
- Patrons will experience longer and slower lines at the circulation desk.
- The library collection will age and go out of date.
- Long-term collection improvement projects will become difficult to conceive and complete.

CUT STAFFING AND LIMIT ABILITY TO HIRE PROFESSIONALS

- Continue not offering healthcare coverage to employees, making it harder to hire and retain high quality full-time staff.
- As staff members are cut, the library loses the expertise and dedication of its staff and their immediate, tangible benefit to patrons.
- End staff development, ongoing training, and attendance at professional conferences.

OUT-OF-DATE TECHNOLOGY AND SLOW INTERNET ACCESS

- Patrons will have less access to reliable, up-to-date public computers. All computers will slowly degrade in speed and functionality.
- New computer purchases will cease and broken computers will not be replaced.
- Library staff will be unable to bring new technologies in the library.
- Internet and WiFi speeds will slow.

REDUCED OPERATING HOURS

- Either Saturday hours or weeknights would be reduced or eliminated.
- These new reduced operating hours would affect local Ferguson businesses who would not receive potential foot-traffic from library patrons before or after their library visit.

CUT FUTURE BUILDING MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS

- The library building will degrade over time.
- The library will increasingly become more expensive to heat and cool.
- Broken features will be replaced by cheaper alternatives or not replaced at all.



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