

New Library FAQs

Why do we need a bigger library?

Because the current library was built over 25 years ago to serve 14,800 residents, and the population is expected to be over 25,000 in the 2020 census. We consider ourselves fortunate to be in an area that is vibrant and growing. New, larger libraries have been trending and local communities similar to ours have built new, modern libraries over the last ten years: Pittsford, Irondequoit, Henrietta, Chili, and Mendon. Library expansions have been seen at Wood Library in Canandaigua, Fairport, Livonia, Caledonia, and Greece.

What's wrong with the current building?

Our architects tell us it is impossible to add second floor because the foundation could not support it. Additionally, expanding on the current site would create insufficient parking. A larger library would require around 100 parking spaces and there are only around 50 spaces right now.

Why don't you build a branch in Farmington?

The cost of constructing a separate building, along with doubling operational and material costs is much more expensive than operating just one building.

How busy is the library that we need a bigger one?

Of the 42 libraries in the Pioneer Library System, the Victor Farmington Library ranks either first or second in circulations and door counts. In 2019, over 191,000 items were borrowed and nearly 121,000 people physically visited the library. A typical weekday saw 400 – 500 people come through the doors. Additionally, the small meeting rooms and tables seated over 4,000 individuals for non-library functions. The library is a very active, vibrant destination that is used for more than just for borrowing books.

Who uses a library anymore since we have the internet and ebooks?

Libraries are now much more than just book repositories. They are the cultural and social centers of their communities. Local organizations and individuals use libraries for meetings, tutors teach their students, children and teens come to actively learn, and adults are offered a wide variety of educational, in-person instruction. The library has free wi-fi and has public computers that people use for job searches and finding employment, among other uses.

New Library FAQs, continued

Where would a new library go?

The library board of directors has researched over over twelve locations in the Village of Victor since 2017, working closely with an architectural firm (for space recommendations), a real estate expert, a fundraising consultant, and the Village of Victor government. The Victor Farmington Library is proposing the construction of a new library at 160 School Street, in the Village of Victor.

What will happen to the tenants at 160 School Street?

It's important to everyone that these businesses stay in Victor. The Victor Local Development Corporation will provide relocation assistance.

Why am I just hearing about a new library now?

Exploration of a new library began in 2017. A study of the library's space needs was completed in 2018 and in 2019, 740 individuals responded to a community-wide survey asking people if the community needed a bigger library. 82% said yes. It takes a long time to research and gather the appropriate information before it can be presented to the public.

How much will a new library cost?

We can't have a cost before we have a location. Generally speaking, just as roads, schools, and other infrastructure are paid for and enjoyed by all residents, the library will continue to be funded in the same manner. A robust and thriving library is a direct reflection on the community it serves. Minimizing the impact on taxpayers is the first priority of the board of directors.

How much do I pay in taxes for the current library?

If you're a resident of the Victor Central School District, you are paying \$25 a year for a \$100,000 home in 2021.

How big is this new library going to be?

An extensive space study completed by a professional recommends a new library should be more than twice the current size to adequately serve the public.

Will there be meetings and open houses regarding the new library?

Yes, there will be multiple opportunities to attend informational sessions, and of course the director is always available at the library.