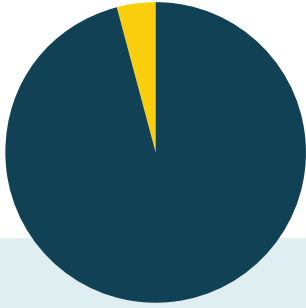


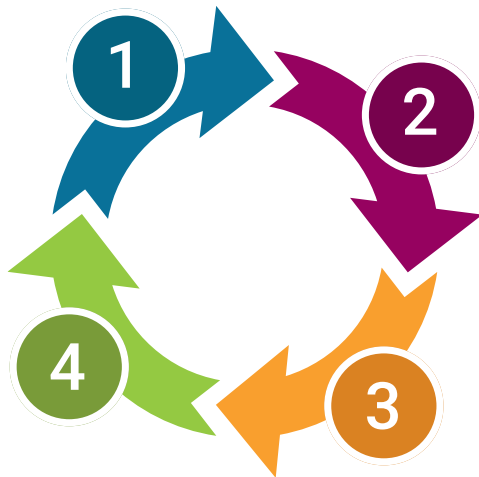


FVRLibraries  
FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARIES



## 96% of FVRLibraries' funding comes from the levy.

Levy funding supports open hours, staff, books and digital resources, public computers and Wi-Fi, as well as programs that serve over 550,000 people across 4,200 square miles.



*In 2026, expenses are projected to exceed revenue by over \$7.6 million—and reserves will no longer be enough to cover the gap.*

## LEVY 2025: Your Library. Your Vote. AUGUST 5

### THE LIBRARY LEVY EXPLAINED

#### What's on the Ballot in August

A library levy lid lift will appear on the ballot August 5, 2025. If approved, it would restore FVRLibraries' levy rate to **\$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value**.

For a home assessed at \$400,000 (the 2024 district average), the **total annual cost** would be \$200, or about \$16.67 per month. This reflects the full amount a homeowner would pay in 2026.

### THE LIBRARY LEVY LID LIFT CYCLE

Last approved in 2010, this levy returns as part of the regular funding cycle.

#### 1 Stable Base

**96% of FVRLibraries' funding comes from property taxes.**

The levy is the foundation of FVRL's operating budget—supporting books, programs, staff, technology, and more.

#### 2 Rising Needs

**By law, property tax revenue can only increase by 1% per year. FVRLibraries' costs are rising by 4–5% annually, and demand increases as communities grow.** Without voter approval, the funding gap continues to widen each year.

#### 3 Community Review

**The levy rate drops over time as assessed values rise, because Washington law caps total property tax revenue growth at just 1% per year.** On August 5, voters will decide whether to restore the levy rate—ensuring funding keeps pace with library usage, community growth, and the increasing demand for services.

#### 4 Renewed Support

**If approved, the restored rate resets.** This would allow the district to sustain and expand services. 2026 marks the start of a new funding cycle, with future annual increases limited to 1% of the restored baseline.

# WHAT HAPPENS IF THE LEVY PASSES OR FAILS?

The outcome of the August 2025 vote will determine future actions.  
 If the levy passes, FVRLibraries will maintain services and continue improvements.  
 If it fails, reductions will start in 2026 to match available funding.



FAST FACTS, CROSS-COMPARISON	PASSES: Expanded Services	FAILS: Reduced Services
LIBRARY HOURS	Add 91 open hours/week across the district (+13%)	207 fewer open hours/week (-30%)
STAFFING	Additional staffing to match expanded hours— equal to 18 full-time positions (+8%)	Staffing cuts equal to 68 full-time positions (-30%)
BOOKS & MATERIALS	\$450,000 increase for books, games, and digital materials in 2026	Over \$300,000 less for library materials in 2026, meaning fewer new books and longer wait times
PROGRAMS & OUTREACH	13% more programs and outreach activities, building on 5,203 programs in 2024	30% fewer programs and outreach activities (1-in-3 programs lost, or 1,500 programs annually)
TECHNOLOGY & SPACES	Upgrade computers, in-library technology, and public spaces	Reduced funding for technology and equipment updates
BOOKMOBILE	New Clark County bookmobile for growing areas	No new bookmobile
LIBRARY FACILITIES	New Washougal Community Library in 2027 New community library to open in 2030 <i>(location to be determined based on master facilities planning process)</i>	Vancouver Mall Library closes in 2028 No new libraries
		25% further cuts by 2029
		\$500,000/year set aside for ballot costs

## What Would the Levy Cost?

The proposed levy rate is **\$0.50 per \$1,000** of assessed property value.

Here's the calculation using the 2024 district's average assessed home value (\$400K):

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\$400,000 \times \\
 &\$0.50/\$1,000 \\
 &= \$200/\text{year} \\
 &\approx \$16.67/\text{month}
 \end{aligned}$$

This reflects the restored levy rate—not an extra charge or a new tax.

## What Do You Get with \$16.67?

For the price of one paperback book or a streaming service, public libraries provide community access to books, educational programs, technology, and more.

Plus half a million of your neighbors!

PAPERBACK OR DIGITAL BOOK ~ \$14–\$18	STREAMING SUBSCRIPTION ~ \$16–\$20	COMMUNITY CLASS ~ \$15–\$25	1/2 HOUR TUTORING ~ \$18–\$28	One library card gives you access to all this and more. ~ \$16.67/month per household

Libraries deliver lasting value—boosting wellbeing, creating trusted spaces for families, supporting local businesses, and **returning \$5–\$6 for every dollar invested**.

Arns et al. University of South Carolina, META 2 Study (2023)

Estimate your cost & learn more: [fvrl.org/levy](https://fvrl.org/levy)

