

Slide 1 – Title

Your Library. Your Future.

2026 Budget Proposal

Presented by: Nichole Krisanda, Treasurer, Library Board of Trustees

Public Hearing: October 16, 2025

Investing in the heart of our community – responsibly and sustainably.

Welcome everyone. Tonight we're sharing how the 2026 budget keeps our library strong, plans responsibly for the future, and continues to serve as a cornerstone for our community.

Building for Tomorrow- Sustaining Today

- Keep the library open, welcoming, and responsive to community needs
- Plan for the future without debt or borrowing
- Maintain a stable, predictable tax rate

Every dollar helps us protect essential services and invest in what's next

Slide 2 – Our 2026 Priorities

Building for Tomorrow – Sustaining Today

Sustain Core Services: Programs, collections, technology, and staffing.

Plan Responsibly for the Future: No debt or bonding; build savings for upcoming capital projects.

Maintain Stability: Modest, predictable tax rate – same levy change as 2025.

Total 2026 Proposed Budget: \$2,878,395

(Up from \$2,595,600 in 2025 – a responsible increase focused on essential services and facility upkeep.)

This budget sustains everything residents already value – programs, access, and staff – while planning carefully for future needs like building repairs and capital improvements. It's a steady, sustainable approach.

Stretching Every Dollar



Town of Schodack: Continued collaboration on fair funding (ongoing negotiations)



Friends of the Library: Fundraising through 'Night at the Library', book sales, and annual appeal.



State Grants: NYS Construction Grant expected for roof replacement (library pays 34%, grant covers 66%)

Your support is multiplied by state and community partnerships- every "yes" vote brings more resources home

Slide 3 – Stretching Every Dollar

Partnering with Community, State, and Local Governments

Town of Schodack: Contract funding still under negotiation (proposed \$517,090).

Friends of the Library: Fundraising through Night at the Library, book sales, and annual appeal.

State Support: NYS Construction Grant expected for roof replacement

Library share: \$238,460 (34%)

Grant covers: \$348,480 (66%)

We maximize every dollar through collaboration and grant funding – multiplying the impact of your local support.

Small Investment, Big Community Impact

- Proposed Levy: \$2,080,250 (same modest increase as 2025)
- Estimated Tax Rate: \$0.70* per \$1,000 assessed value
- Example: Home assessed at \$375,000* ~ \$263.84*/year or \$21.99*/month

• Corrected #'s

For less than the cost of a single new book each month, you keep our library's doors open, technology current, and programs thriving

Slide 4 – Tax Impact

Small Investment. Big Community Return.

2025: Levy: \$1,995,455; Tax Rate: \$1

2026: Levy: \$2,080,250; Tax Rate: \$1.04* corrected # \$0.70

Example Estimate Impact on Average Homeowner (\$250K for 2025 & \$375K for 2026 assessed value)- based on updated assessments

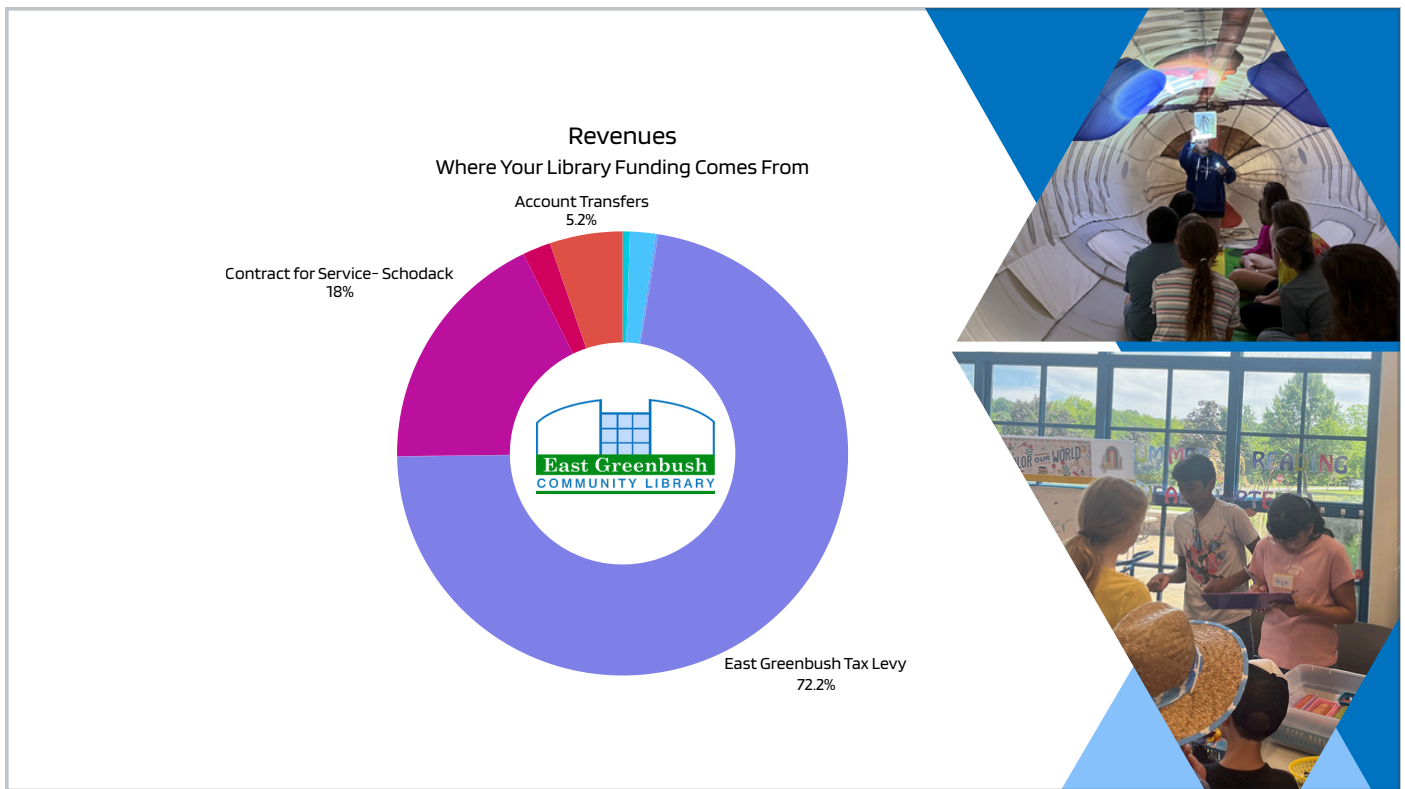
2025: \$248.88/year or \$20.74/month

2026: \$263.84/year or \$21.99/month

change= +\$14.96 per year

For less than the cost of one new book each month, you sustain every library service — from early literacy to job search support.

This modest increase (approx. \$1.25) a month keeps everything running: open hours, collections, programs, technology, and staff. The return for that small cost is enormous.



Slide 5 – Where Your Library Funds Come From

2026 Income Estimates — \$2,878,395

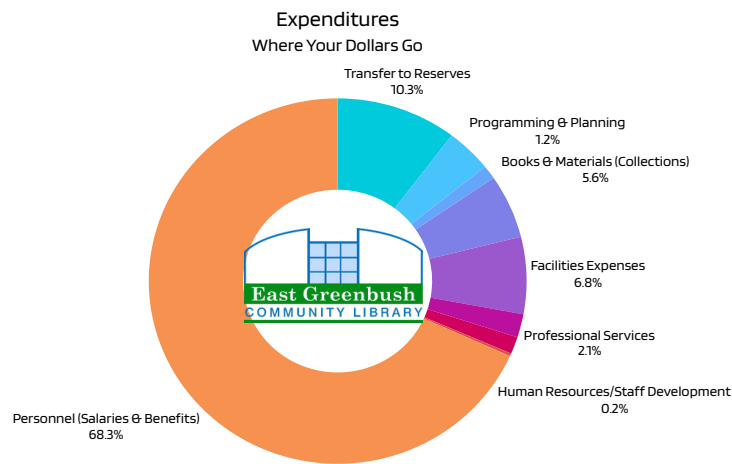
East Greenbush Tax Levy: 72.2%; \$2,080,250

Schodack Contract: 18%; \$517,090

Account transfers: 5.2%; \$150,555 (this included restricted gifts/grant funds received in previous years and transfers from fund balance savings to balance budget)

Other (new grants, charges, interest, gifts, county & state aid): 4.5%; \$130,500

Nearly three-quarters of our funding is local. The rest comes from partnerships and creative use of grants and other income sources.



Most funds directly supports the people and programs that make the library work

No borrowing, no debt- just steady, responsible stewardship



Slide 6 – Where Your Dollars Go

2026 Expenditures – \$2,878,395

Salaries & Benefits 68.3% (\$1,965,630)

Facilities 6.8% (\$196,200)

Books & Materials 5.6% (\$162,390)

Programming & Planning 1.2% (\$34,700)

Transfer to Reserves (capital project savings) 10.3% (\$296,965)

Other (Operations, technology, professional services/HR): 7.8% (\$222,510)

Nearly 70% supports people and programs – the heart of our mission.

Major increase in facilities and reserve fund savings for upcoming capital projects this year.

Expected increase in personnel (increasing benefits, compensation study multi-year plan)

Balanced with some savings in technology, professional services, and operations).

“Your tax dollars work hard – responsibly managed, transparently spent.”

This is a people-centered budget. Most funding goes to staff who serve the public and to maintaining programs, collections, and spaces that the community depends on.



Capital Projects Plan

Investing in Our Library's Future- Without New Taxes

- Roof Replacement (majority funded by state grant)
- Flooring, furniture, signage, and parking lot upgrades
- Community Way road repairs



We're taking care of our building so we can focus on what matters most- people



Slide 7 – Capital Projects Plan

Investing in Our Library's Future – Without New Taxes

We're taking care of the building so we can focus on what matters most – our people and programs

2026 Projects:

Roof Replacement – \$586,940 project (grant covers \$348,480)

Flooring Replacement – \$35,000


Furniture, Signage & Displays – \$17,500

Parking Lot Repairs – \$29,000

Community Way Repairs – \$10,000

All funded through state grants and library savings – no additional cost to taxpayers.

We're being proactive about maintenance and capital projects. By using reserves and state grants, we're protecting our building's condition and taxpayer dollars at the same time.



**East Greenbush
COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

Thank You for Supporting Your Library

When you vote YES, you're voting for learning,
creativity, connection, and opportunity for
everyone

Your library is more than books- it's connection, learning, and community

YOU BELONG HERE

Slide 8 – Closing

Thank You for Supporting Your Library

When you vote YES, you're voting for:

Access to information and technology

Lifelong learning for all ages

A safe, welcoming community space for everyone

Your library is more than books – it's connection, learning, and belonging.
YOU BELONG HERE.

A “yes” vote means continued strength, access, and opportunity for everyone in our town.
The library belongs to all of us, and every vote of support helps it thrive.

We welcome your questions and comments.

Please remember all EG registered voters are eligible and invited to vote on the budget
and for

three vacant Trustee positions.

Monday, November 17

9 am - 8pm

EGCL

Must be an EG resident registered to vote 30 days before the election.

Thank you all for coming. This will conclude our Public Hearing for the 2026 Budget.