

The 2026 Library Levy proposes a \$480 million investment to continue supplementary funding for Seattle libraries over seven years (2027-2033).

If approved by Seattle voters on the August 4, 2026 ballot, the levy would replace the expiring 2019 Library Levy, which currently accounts for one-third of the Library's total budget in the areas of hours and access, collections, building maintenance, and technology and online services.

## What will this proposal cost Seattle taxpayers?

According to Seattle's City Budget Office, the average annual tax rate for homeowners would be \$0.23 per \$1,000 of assessed home value; and the average annual cost for owners of median assessed residential value is expected to average \$193 per year of the levy.

## What would the 2026 Library Levy fund?

### Hours & Access: \$229.1 million

- Open hours at all Library locations
- More all-ages programs, including multilingual early literacy programs
- Increased security and emergency preparedness resources
- More Community Resource Specialists

### Building Maintenance: \$134.1 million

- More support for deferred, routine, and major maintenance, including for heating and cooling systems, elevators, escalators, and ADA access
- Seismic retrofit and renovation of the Columbia and West Seattle branches
- Major renovation of public space at the Central Library
- More janitorial and custodial support

### Collections: \$69.4 million

- More physical and digital books and materials, including Peak Picks
- Continued fine-free borrowing

### Technology & Online Services: \$38.2 million

- Continued support for public and staff computers, printing and copying services, and internet access, including Wi-Fi hotspots
- More support for IT infrastructure, systems,

### Administration: \$9 million