

The next chapter doesn't start until you turn the page.



Turning the page

OUR LEADERSHIP

The Johnson County Public Library is committed to evolving with our community’s needs, guided by a dedication to innovation, inspiration and impact. We continually adapt our facilities to provide outstanding services that foster lifelong learning for all ages, from children to retirees. Libraries serve as vital spaces where residents engage in unique learning experiences, including coding camps, STEAM activities, all-day festivals and cultural events.

Our Clark Pleasant and Trafalgar branches provide modern, flexible spaces meeting current needs. After reviewing White River and Franklin branches, we see they need complete renovations and expansions to serve residents effectively for 40-50 years. These upgrades will support economic growth, improve quality of life and strengthen the community for future generations.



Lisa Lintner
LIBRARY DIRECTOR



Kathleen Ratcliff
PRESIDENT,
JCPL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Libraries are so much more than just books! They’re welcoming spaces that spark curiosity and learning, promote understanding and provide resources that are vital to a community’s well-being. Because of this, library building designs should be created to accommodate these additional services and provide a unique and welcoming environment for individuals seeking support and assistance.

The White River Branch particularly needs facility improvements to address inadequate study spaces, overcrowded meeting spaces for community events and overall facility improvements to increase efficiency. Once we’re able to address these concerns, we can then focus on improving the facilities at the Franklin Branch.

JCPL Board of Trustees

MEMBER	APPOINTED BY
Kirk Bixler, <i>Vice President</i>	Board of Trustees, Franklin Community Schools
Becky Courtney-Knight, <i>Asst. Treasurer</i>	Johnson County Council
Dr. Timothy Edsell	Johnson County Council
Kenneth Marshall	Johnson County Commissioners
Kathleen Ratcliff, <i>President</i>	Johnson County Commissioners
Jake Sappenfield	Presidents of the school boards of Johnson County (excl. Franklin)
Lee Ann Uecker, <i>Secretary</i>	Board of Trustees, Franklin Community Schools

ABOUT JCPL

History

- **1911** Local women's clubs raised \$1,850 and opened Franklin's first public library
- **1966** Bookmobile service introduced to expand services outside Franklin
- **1977** Franklin-Johnson County Public Library established to meet demand
- **1987** Franklin (19,400 sq ft) and White River (23,500 sq ft) branches open
- **2007** Trafalgar Branch (22,000 sq ft) opens
- **2008** JCPL Services Center, our administrative building, is added
- **2022** Clark Pleasant Branch (17,200 sq ft) relocates to new building
- **2023** JCPL on Wheels bookmobile launched to reach underserved areas



FACILITIES PLANNING

2018 Completed Building Analysis Plan

2020–2023

- Major mechanical and lighting deficiencies at the Trafalgar Branch addressed
- Relocated and opened a new Clark Pleasant Branch in Whiteland: larger, more accessible and better equipped to serve the community
- Added a Play and Learn space at the Trafalgar Branch, to support early literacy and kindergarten readiness
- Continued evaluating long-term facility needs at White River and Franklin branches

2024 Feasibility study determined renovating White River Branch is the fiscally responsible option

Late 2024 Preconstruction planning with HBM Architects to refine project scope and cost estimates

2025 Project was paused while JCPL assessed the impact of new state legislation

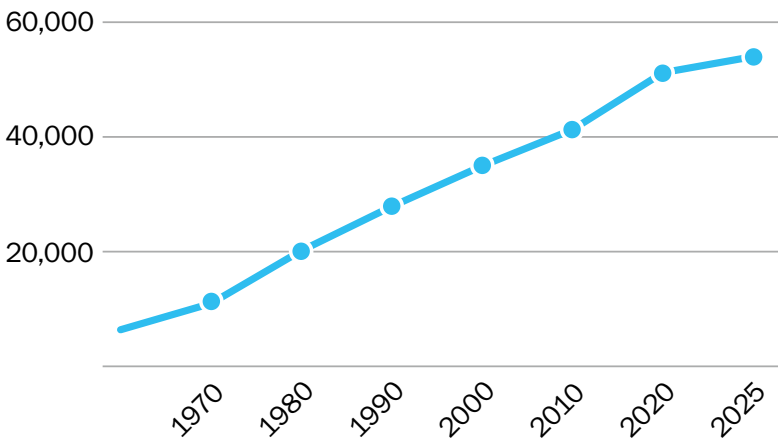
MEETING THE NEEDS OF A GROWING COMMUNITY

Why Now?

The White River Branch has served the community for nearly four decades. In that time the Township’s population has doubled, from 28,232 residents in 1990 to an estimated 57,600 in 2025. Center Grove Schools will grow from about 9,700 students to an estimated 14,000 by 2050. Now is the time to prepare for the continuing growth.

In 2023, a detailed facility assessment revealed aging infrastructure, accessibility issues and limited space, which hinder the Library’s ability to meet current and future community needs. The proposed plan aims to increase usable space by about 37%, safeguarding our 40-year investment and ensuring the building can adequately serve the community for many years.

White River Township Population



Source: STATS Indiana



Dr. Erin Stalbaum

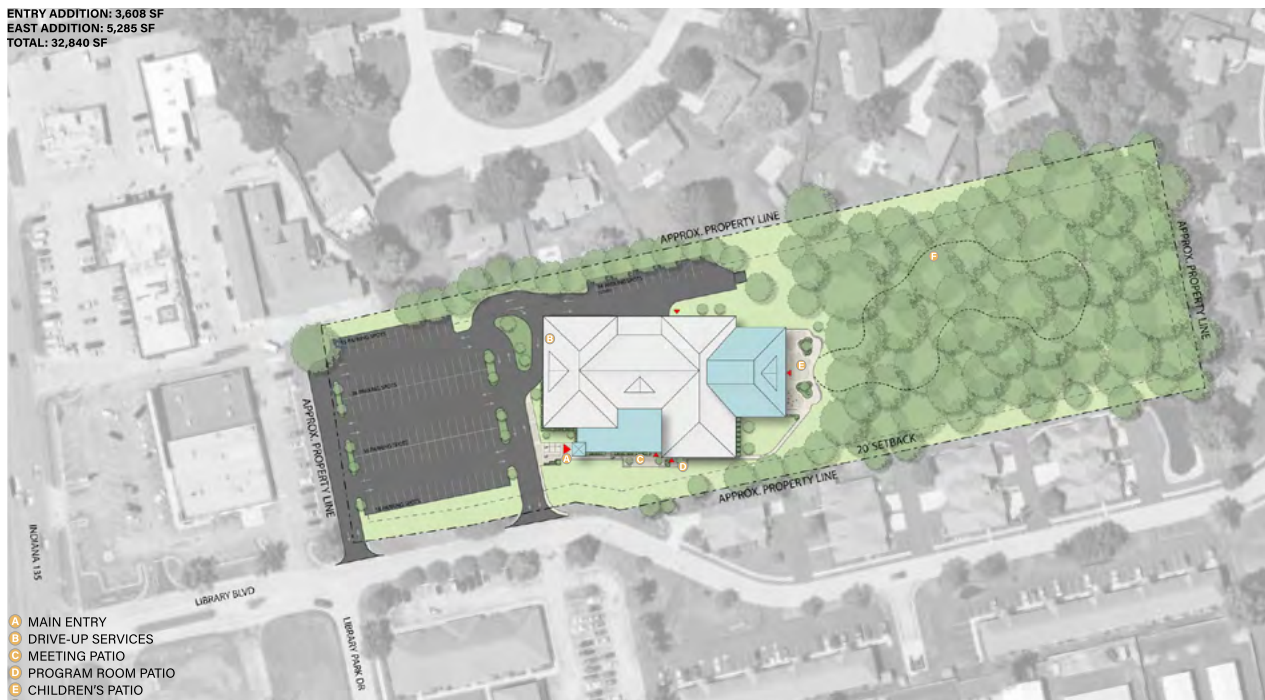
SUPERINTENDENT,
CENTER GROVE COMMUNITY
SCHOOL CORPORATION

“Meaningful moments occur daily in our public libraries. JCPL is a tremendous partner in early literacy development and Kindergarten readiness.

JCPL’s contributions to the youth of our community help build a strong foundation for CGCSC students to learn and succeed at high levels.”

White River Branch Improvements

CURRENT BUILDING AND PROPERTY LINES OF WHITE RIVER BRANCH



The floor plan illustrates the layout of the library building, divided into several functional zones:

- NEW DRIVE-UP BOOKDROP:** Located at the top left, featuring a dedicated area for book returns.
- NEW CHILDREN'S WING:** A new addition on the right side, highlighted with a yellow border, containing children's books, reading areas, and a children's patio.
- EXPAND THE BUILDING FROM 23,000 TO 31,893 SQ FT:** A new addition at the bottom right, highlighted with a yellow border, including a meeting room, gallery, and cafe.
- NEW FRONT ENTRANCE:** A new entrance at the bottom left, highlighted with a yellow border, leading into the main building.
- Existing Zones:**
 - ADULT:** Includes study areas, quiet reading, and a service point.
 - TEEN:** A dedicated area for teenagers with bookshelves and study tables.
 - NON-PRINT:** A section for non-print materials.
 - CHILDREN:** A large section for children's books and reading areas.
 - STAFF:** A central area for library staff.
 - RESTROOMS:** A central area for restrooms.
 - MEETING ROOM:** A room for meetings and study.
 - GALLERY CAFE:** A new addition at the bottom left.

■ ■ ■ ORIGINAL FLOORPLAN

ABOUT THE PROJECT

White River Branch Improvements

BUILDING

23,000 sq ft ▶ 31,893 sq ft



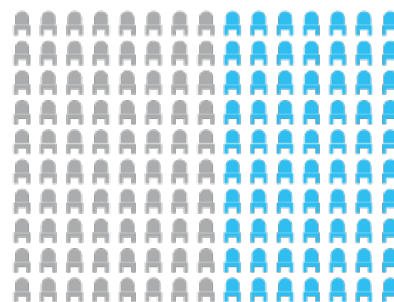
CHILDREN'S AREA

4,950 sq ft ▶ 10,180 sq ft



MEETING ROOM

80 seats ▶ 150 seats



TEEN AREA

680 sq ft ▶ 1,100 sq ft



STUDY/GROUP ROOMS

1 room, 4 seats ▶ 8 rooms, 28 seats



JCPL considered the option of purchasing land and relocating. It was deemed too costly at an estimated \$31,250,000 for a 30,000 sq ft new building.

RENOVATION & EXPANSION

Improvements Needed for the Next 40 Years

The renovation and expansion will preserve a 40-year investment and create a library designed to serve the White River Township community for the next 40 years.

CRITICAL NEEDS | Protecting the Building and Addressing Aging Infrastructure



Replace aging plumbing, electrical and HVAC



Improve energy efficiency



Repair water intrusion damage



Replace worn fixtures and interior surfaces



Improve accessibility, safety and functionality



Enhance parking and traffic flow

ESSENTIAL NEEDS | Expanding Capacity to Serve a Growing Community



Increase building size by 37%



Enlarge the children's department



Add dedicated early learning spaces



Increase program areas, meeting & study rooms



Improve entrances, traffic flow, and the drive-up book drop



Enhance the branch's visibility

ENHANCED IMPROVEMENTS | Creating a Modern Library for Future Generations



Quiet, adult reading area

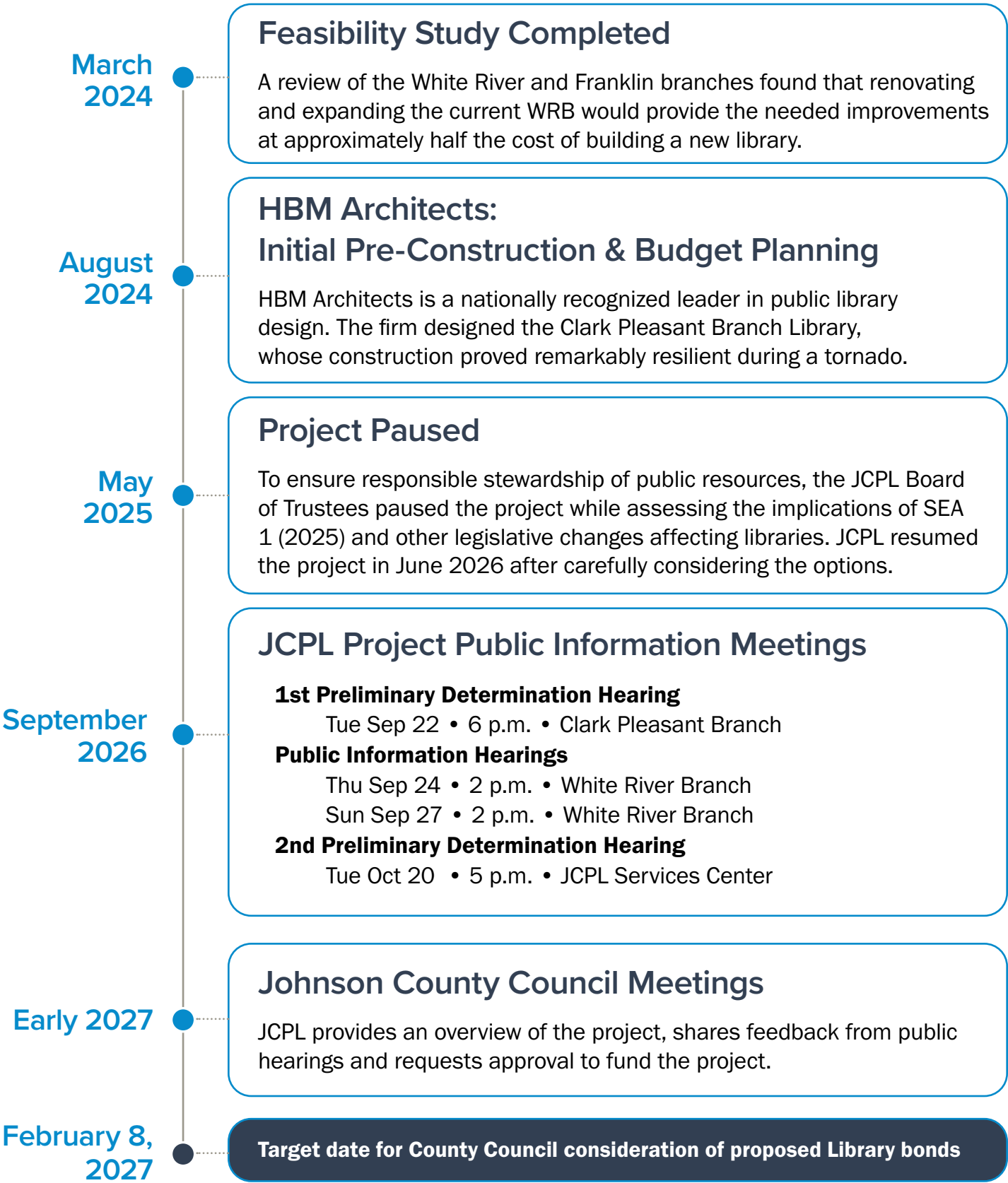


Flexible spaces for learning, collaboration & community gatherings



A space to encourage exploration and engagement

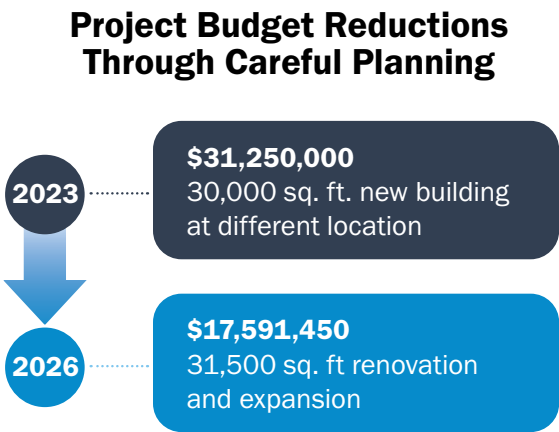
PROJECT TIMELINE



PROJECT BUDGET AND FUNDING

Balancing Community Needs with Responsible Spending

White River Branch Renovation & Expansion Project Costs (assumes a fall 2027 start)	
Renovation, expansion and other related costs	\$17,591,450
Minus JCPL's savings toward the project	-\$5,996,450
Total financing required (General Obligation Library Bond)	\$11,595,000



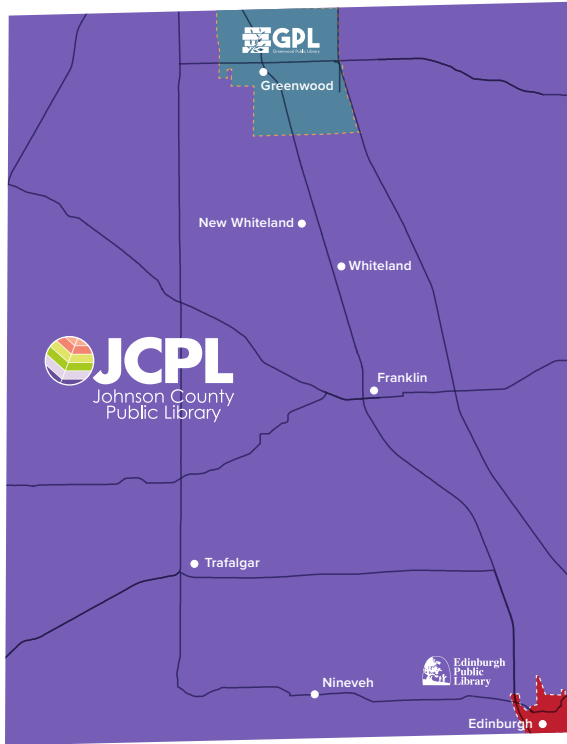
Through careful stewardship of taxpayer funds, JCPL has \$6 million in savings to commit to the project, reducing the library bond need to \$11,595,000.

HOW CAN THE LIBRARY FUND THIS PROJECT WITHOUT INCREASING TAXES?

If approved by the Johnson County Council in early 2027, the Library would replace its current bond (a type of loan) with a new one as the existing debt for the Clark Pleasant Branch is paid off. This allows the project to move forward within the Library’s current budgeting.

WHO WE SERVE

There are three library districts in Johnson County.
JCPL serves more than 127,000 residents:



JCPL LOCATIONS

CPB | Clark Pleasant Branch

350 Clearwater Blvd
Whiteland, IN 46184

FRB | Franklin Branch

401 State St
Franklin, IN 46131

LSC | JCPL Services Center (admin)

49 E Monroe St
Franklin, IN 46131

TRB | Trafalgar Branch

424 S Tower St
Trafalgar, IN 46181

WRB | White River Branch

1664 Library Blvd
Greenwood, IN 46142

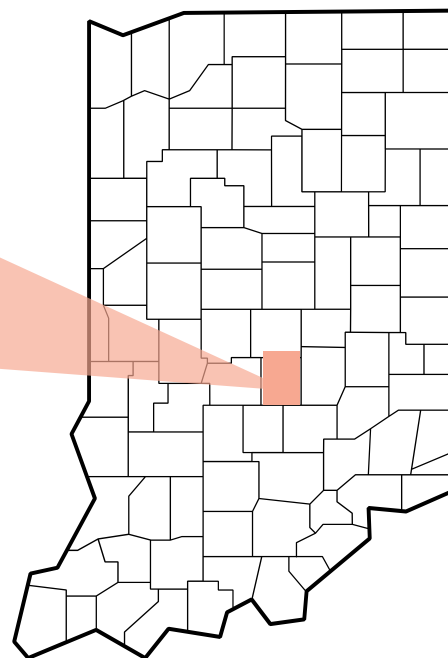


OUR STRENGTHS

Of the 236 library districts in Indiana, JCPL ranks:

- **#10** by population
- **#3** program attendance
- **#7** in public computer users
- **#9** in children's material circulation
- **#10** in circulation of all materials

Source: Indiana State Library statistics, 2024



The Johnson County Public Library is a top-performing library system in Indiana. In 2025, we lent more than 1.3 million items and served 387,765 visitors. JCPL continually adapts to meet residents' learning needs and support the community. Our staff members are committed, passionate and innovative. Residents use JCPL's facilities to study, socialize, access educational resources, gather in community rooms and grow their small businesses.

Johnson County ranks among the top five counties in Indiana in expected growth over the next 30 years. As the population grows, JCPL will adapt to emerging trends and develop our facilities to meet community needs.

JCPL leadership is dedicated to providing the best resources for the community and carefully evaluating each decision to maximize cost-effectiveness. Our plans for exceptional facilities are designed with a focus on moderation and value.



Talent is the number one driver of economic growth today. Johnson County is well-positioned to attract new jobs because we offer companies a robust, welcoming and educated community.

To stay competitive and secure the most sought-after jobs in advanced industries, we must continue to attract and retain top talent.

Key to Johnson County's success are great libraries, like JCPL's White River Branch, which serves the county's fastest-growing area.

People at all stages of life—early career professionals, families and empty nesters—rely on this library for education, quality time, connections, entertainment and more.

Reinvesting in our libraries is essential to support our growing population and meet the evolving expectations of how libraries contribute to quality of life.

I am proud to call Johnson County home and share our story with potential employers. You can help write our next chapter by supporting the expansion of JCPL's White River Branch.



Christian M. Maslowski

PRESIDENT + CEO
ASPIRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
+ CHAMBER ALLIANCE



PRIVATE PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERSHIP

The Johnson County Public Library Foundation, an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, will launch a capital campaign to secure private philanthropic support for enhancements beyond the core building improvements. Foundation support will expand opportunities for innovation and reduce reliance on public funding for nonessential amenities.



Chele Heid

PRESIDENT,
JCPL FOUNDATION

Here in Johnson County, our public libraries offer so much more than books. They are fun, safe and welcoming community centers where people come for recreation, for work and for meaningful connection. As recent visiting author, Rick Steves, said, “Libraries are the great equalizer,” as everyone has access to information. Since a successful democracy requires an informed public, the library is one of the very cornerstones of our democracy. What better way to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our democracy than to commit to making improvements to the White River Branch. Foundation support will expand opportunities for innovation and build upon the public investment to maximize the project’s long-term impact for the community.



Public libraries are a bulwark of learning, having helped all generations navigate our ever-changing world. As Johnson County has continued to grow, so has the library evolved to meet the needs of our community. What used to be just stacks of books now hosts community events, early childhood education, robotics labs and so much more.

Having been an English as a Second Language tutor with the library for over 7 years, the services offered by JCPL are life-changing and positively impact the community.



Caleb Drake

SECRETARY,
JCPL FOUNDATION

LEARN MORE, OFFER FEEDBACK

Turning the page

You are invited to attend one of these public meetings:

Tue • Sep 22 • 6 p.m.

Clark Pleasant Branch

Special Board Meeting & 1st Preliminary Determination Hearing

Thu • Sep 24 • 2 p.m.

White River Branch

Public Information Meeting

Sun • Sep 27 • 2 p.m.

White River Branch

Public Information Meeting

Tue • Oct 20 • 5 p.m.

Library Services Center

(49 E Monroe St, Franklin)

JCPL Board Meeting & 2nd Preliminary Determination Hearing



**Learn more about the project and provide feedback at
PageAfterPage.org/wrb-plans**



Johanna Pollert

COMMITTEE CHAIR,
FRIENDS BOOK SALE

Libraries often provide designated areas for studying, research and educational programs. A well-designed building can create a conducive learning environment that encourages curiosity, exploration and intellectual growth. The White River Township area is still growing and the Library needs to have improved space for teens, a larger area for children and families and a quiet space for adults to read and learn. Renovations to the current building will provide increased accessibility for persons with disabilities and improved safety and security measures.



I believe in supporting things that make our community a better place to live, learn, lead, grow and raise our families. The Johnson County Public Library is near the top of my list for my family in things that make Johnson County such an incredible place to call home.



Tandy L. Shuck

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
LEADERSHIP JOHNSON COUNTY



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