River Forest Public Library

Your journey starts here.

Strategic Plan 2023 - 2025

VISION: Your place for learning, connection, and inspiration.

MISSION: We bring the community, information, and ideas together to enrich lives by connecting people with high-quality resources, learning opportunities for all ages, exceptional events, and knowledgeable staff in a welcoming atmosphere.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

COMMUNITY

We will ...

- Change outdated perceptions of the library by effectively telling our story,
- Reach new audiences by working with community partners and stakeholders,
- Deepen community relationships by providing exceptional customer service,
- Adapt to shifting and evolving community needs and demographics,
- Strive to make the library the heart of the community,

So that all community members value and feel connected to the library.

SPACES

We will ...

- Update physical and virtual spaces to be cohesive, functional, flexible, warm, and welcoming,
- Be a place where community members can gather in small and large groups,
- Expand opportunities for engagement through virtual spaces,

So the library is positioned as the community hub for connection and inspiration.

EVENTS, SERVICES, AND COLLECTIONS

We will ...

- Support the freedom to read and explore,
- Incorporate and celebrate diversity,
- Learn, respond, and adapt to emerging needs in our community,
- Make it easy to use the library by reducing barriers to access,
- Stimulate imagination, creativity, and a broad worldview by hosting fun and engaging events,
- Connect people to resources to thrive in a digital world,

So that community members feel supported as learners and the library strengthens the community.

STAFF

We will ...

- Foster an inclusive, safe space for staff members to learn and contribute,
- Support a culture of wellness and continuous improvement,
- Provide the tools and structures staff members need to find their work meaningful,

So that staff members thrive in a supportive team environment.

RESOURCES

We will ...

- Ensure stable funding,
- Expand ways community members and partners can give back to the library,
- Make data-informed decisions to achieve strategic plan goals,

So that we can continue to build and maintain the vitality of the library for future generations.