

# Greenburgh Public Library

## What the Reduced 2010 Library Budget Means to You

### FAQ about the 2010 Greenburgh Library Budget

#### What are the service impacts of the Library's 2010 Budget?

Reduced Hours of Operation as of January 1, 2010:

Mon	10:00 AM – 5:30 PM
Tues	10:00 AM – 9:00 PM
Wed	10:00 AM – 9:00 PM
Thurs	10:00 AM – 5:30 PM
Fri	10:00 AM – 5:30 PM
Saturday	10:00 AM – 5:30 PM
Sundays	CLOSED

#### Why have the Library's hours been reduced?

- Reduced hours are required for savings on utilities and staff.
- The new budget does not provide for sufficient personnel to staff the current 58.5-hour, 7-day, 3-night service schedule. In order to operate within the parameters of the reduced budget, the library will have fewer hours allocated for part time staff.
- The reduction in hours allocated to staff means that the library will be operating with its smallest staff in over 16 years.

#### How were the new hours of operation chosen?

- Many variations of a reduced schedule were examined. Each day was assessed for service provided and number of staff required to maintain each schedule.
- Every day of the week is busy. Sunday has the lowest circulation.
- Every day and time is important to our residents, weekdays as much as weekends.
- Nights are less busy, but important to people who cannot come at other times. Thursday evenings are the slowest of the weeknights.
- In addition to reducing hours, savings on utilities will be realized. Closing from Saturday at 5:30PM to Monday at 10AM and reducing temperature during non-operating hours will save electrical usage.
- The chosen schedule maintains consistent summer and winter, evening and weekend hours.
- We do not believe this schedule is ideal or, hopefully, permanent.
- We know many people will be disappointed and expect more, and we agree. We will work with all groups towards solutions for better levels of funding and service.

### Library Budget at a Glance

#### History of Library Budgets

Adopted Budget 2005 = \$3,582,245  
Adopted Budget 2006 = \$3,690,969  
Adopted Budget 2007 = \$3,286,132  
Adopted Budget 2008 = \$3,440,046  
Adopted Budget 2009 = \$3,272,000  
Adopted Budget 2010 = \$3,138,840

#### History of Library Material Budget

2005 = \$381,760  
2006 = \$411,000  
2007 = \$136,000  
2008 = \$351,000  
2009 = \$152,130  
2010 = \$82,152

#### History of Full Time Library Staffing

2005 = 28  
2006 = 26  
2007 = 25  
2008 = 24  
2009 = 23\*  
2010 = 22

*\*In anticipation of the reduced 2010 operating budget, a full-time employee who retired has not been replaced.*

#### What costs had to be increased?

*Medical and pension benefits, MTA tax, electricity, copier rental, security*

#### Service impacts at a glance

- Short staffing at all public service desks: longer waits, shelving backlogs as full time librarians performing more library functions such as shelving which was previously accomplished by part time workers.
- Greatly reduced purchasing of new books, CDs, DVDs, magazines and reference materials
- Reduced programming & outreach
- Use of collection agency
- Reduced hours of operation

**How will the budget reductions affect the purchase of new library books, DVDs, CDs, and other library materials?**

- This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year in which drastic cuts to our purchasing ability for new materials has been affected. The reductions are substantial, but we will do our best, as always, to ensure that patron needs and interests are satisfied.
- People can expect fewer new selections in all formats and longer waits for items on reserve.
- A wide variety of purchases will continue to be made. Funds will be managed to proportionately meet as many needs as possible.

**All residents are entitled to be advocates**

- Funding problems are town wide and will take time to solve.
- All residents have a voice. The public library is a community information resource, and citizens are welcome to contribute their ideas about how the town might save money, operate more efficiently and go green.
- The Library will do its part to vigorously explore new ways to operate.
- Advocacy can take place any time, but especially before elections and while the annual budget is being made. Citizens can ask elected officials and candidates about their priorities and tell them their preferences.

***Fiscal Responsibility***

- *The annual budget process begins with the Library Board proposing to the town its budget needs.*
- *The library budget is approved via majority vote of the Greenburgh Town Council*
- *Once approved, the Library Board is responsible for allocating operating funds within that budget in a cost effective, efficient manner.*
- *The Library Board of Trustees are willing to supplement the 2010 Budget with \$86,000 from the unreserved fund balance, maintaining \$100,000 in that account. The Board feels that use of 100% of this fund balance is financially irresponsible.*

For more information please click here:

<http://www.greenburghlibrary.org/pdf/FAQS2.pdf>

Thank you!  
We are proud to serve our patrons of the Greenburgh Public Library.