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Press Release

## Bloomfield Public Library's Two Library Building Project: Referendum Vote on Election Day 2021

On November 2, 2021, the residents of the Town of Bloomfield will have the opportunity to vote on the following question: "SHALL THE TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD APPROPRIATE \$29,255,000 FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TOWN LIBRARIES AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION?" The estimated tax impact on residents is as follows: if your house is assessed at \$125,000, your taxes would increase \$23.33 a year for three years - that's \$1.96 per month for three years. If your house is assessed at \$250,000, your taxes would increase \$46.33 a year for three years - that's \$3.86 a month for three years.

The Library Building Committee (LBC) has been working on this project since July 2020. Since that date, the LBC has met more than 30 times. From Jan. 22- March 5, 2021 a survey was shared with the public that was completed by more than 1,700 people. When asked to select features of modern library space that may appeal to them, respondents' leading choices included a café, meeting rooms and group work rooms, group and individual study spaces, and dedicated teen space. All of this information gathering and community discussion led to the Town Council approving and sending to referendum a **two library building project** that anticipates the incorporation of the aforementioned features from the survey, with a renovation and space increase to McMahan Wintonbury Library and a teardown, rebuild and space increase to Prosser Library. Anticipated improvements to the libraries include engineering and construction to mitigate flood damage in the future and making the libraries ADA compliant and energy efficient.

"The LBC believes that the proposed project would address the concerns raised by the public about BPL's future. It would increase the size of our library system and our ability to improve and deliver services that people want from their library," said BPL Director Elizabeth Lane.

Learn more about Bloomfield's library building project, social justice mission statement, recently updated strategic plan, register to vote, and more at [bplct.org](http://bplct.org). The public is invited to attend Library Board and Library Building Committee meetings. All meetings are open to the public.

**Mission Statement:** Bloomfield Public Library aims to provide all members of our diverse community with access to comprehensive services, expansive print and electronic resources, technology, and expert assistance from a caring and responsive staff. By breaking down barriers to access and opening doors to opportunity, building community, and encouraging lifelong learning, BPL works to improve the quality of life for all of our residents and strives to be the heart of our town.

**Library Values and Literacies of Focus:** Bloomfield Public Library values the right of every citizen to have equal opportunity to achieve personal success. We are committed to leading with empathy and improving the quality of life in our community, with a focus on access and education in the following areas:

- Technology access and training
- Social justice and cultural competency
- Lifelong learning (from birth to seniors): reading, writing, early and basic literacy, finance, and health

**About the Library:** Bloomfield Public Library features three locations:

- Prosser Library, located at 1 Tunxis Avenue, across the street from Town Hall, at the intersection of five avenues.
- McMahon Wintonbury Library, located at 1015 Blue Hills Avenue in the highly trafficked eastern side of town, including the densely populated Blue Hills neighborhood.
- BPL Online at [bplct.org](http://bplct.org) features 24/7 access to information and resources and includes our suite of online resources and social media content.

## Two Library Buildings: Referendum Vote on November 2, 2021



*Design Under Consideration*

### McMahon Wintonbury Library

1015 Blue Hills Ave, Bloomfield, CT 06002



*Design Under Consideration*

### Prosser Library

1 Tunxis Ave, Bloomfield, CT 06002

### Anticipated Features of the New Libraries

- More Space
- More Technology
- Children's Space
- Teen Area
- More Parking
- Energy Efficient / Solar Panels
- More Study Spaces
- ADA Compliant
- Community Meeting Areas
- Cafés

For more information about this project, visit: [bplct.org](http://bplct.org)

