

# Bloomfield voters to decide on public library projects in \$29 million referendum

Gosselin, Kenneth R . Hartford Courant (Online) , Hartford: Tribune Publishing Company, LLC. Oct 26, 2021.

[ProQuest document link](#)

## FULL TEXT

Voters in Bloomfield on Tuesday will decide if the town should spend \$29.3 million to modernize its public library system, including tearing down and completely reconstructing one of its buildings.

The referendum includes \$22.9 million to raze and reconstruct the Prosser Library on Tunxis Avenue. The plans call for the old structure to be replaced by a larger, 27,800-square foot building on two floors, with a 110-foot bridge over Wash Brook.

In addition, the town also wants to spend \$5.9 million to expand the McMahon Wintonbury Library on Blue Hills Avenue. The addition would add 8,900 square feet on a single floor.

If approved by the voters, construction is expected to begin in late 2022. The project at Prosser would take about 16 months and the one at McMahon Wintonbury, about 10 months.

The designs of the new construction seek to lessen future flood damage, make both buildings ADA compliant and energy efficient as well as add parking, library officials said.

The construction also will incorporate suggestions from a survey completed by 1,700 local residents earlier this year. The survey sought feedback on what features residents thought should be in a modern library space.

Some of the ideas — a café; meeting and group work rooms; group and individual study areas and a dedicated teen space — are expected to be part of the construction projects.

Elizabeth Lane, the town's library director, said the plans backed by the library building committee and the town council will address local concerns about where the public library system was headed in the future.

"It would increase the size of our library system and our ability to improve and deliver the services that people want from their library," Lane said.

According to the town, the library projects would increase property taxes on a house assessed at \$125,000 by \$23.33 a year for three years. For a house assessed at \$250,000, property taxes would rise by \$46.33 a year for three years.

More information can be found on the projects at [bplct.org](http://bplct.org).

*Kenneth R. Gosselin can be reached at [kgosselin@courant.com](mailto:kgosselin@courant.com).*

## DETAILS

**Subject:** Public libraries; Property taxes; Flood damage

**Business indexing term:** Subject: Property taxes

**Publication title:** Hartford Courant (Online); Hartford

**Publication year:** 2021

<b>Publication date:</b>	Oct 26, 2021
<b>Section:</b>	Community - Bloomfield
<b>Publisher:</b>	Tribune Publishing Company, LLC
<b>Place of publication:</b>	Hartford
<b>Country of publication:</b>	United States, Hartford
<b>Publications subject:</b>	General Interest Periodicals--United States
<b>Source type:</b>	Blog, Podcast, or Website
<b>Language of publication:</b>	English
<b>Document type:</b>	News
<b>ProQuest document ID:</b>	2586192831
<b>Document URL:</b>	<a href="https://www.proquest.com/blogs-podcasts-websites/bloomfield-voters-decide-on-public-library/docview/2586192831/se-2?accountid=41903">https://www.proquest.com/blogs-podcasts-websites/bloomfield-voters-decide-on-public-library/docview/2586192831/se-2?accountid=41903</a>
<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Tribune Publishing Company, LLC Oct 26, 2021
<b>Last updated:</b>	2021-10-27
<b>Database:</b>	Hartford Courant

---

Database copyright © 2021 ProQuest LLC. All rights reserved.

[Terms and Conditions](#) [Contact ProQuest](#)