

# THRIVE! East Baton Rouge

Tax Renewal November 15, 2025



#### THRIVE! EAST BATON ROUGE

#### A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

#### **Dedicated Library Funding**

#### Tax Renewal at 11.1 Mills

- Under the Thrive Plan, the proposition featuring the Library is a Renewal at 11.1 Mills. This is NOT a new tax
- The Library retains a DEDICATED annual millage of 8.3 mills; this annual revenue is sufficient to continue all hours of operation at all locations for the next 10 years
- The annual revenue maintains a variety of Library programs, services, collections, and resources
- The Library retains \$60 Million in Fund Balance, which preserves the Capital Improvements Plan to update and improve library facilities

#### **Use of Funds**

- This renewal is **Revenue Neutral** for taxpayers
- 2.8 mills of the annual millage will be re-allocated to the City-Parish General Fund for "Parish General Purposes," with a net \$16.24 Million to be applied annually to parish-wide Infrastructure needs for the Stormwater Master Plan and Street Maintenance Projects
- The Library will make a one-time re-allocation of \$52.4 Million from its Fund Balance, which will be used to pay down the Parish-Wide General Fund Debt

The election will be held Saturday, November 15, 2025!

#### HOUSEHOLDS WILL PAY THE <u>SAME</u> MILLAGE

**NOT** A NEW TAX!









## THRIVE! EAST BATON ROUGE A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

# Through "Generations United," the Library is partnering with the following:

#### **Mosquito Abatement and Rodent Control (MARC)**

- MARC will renew & collect 1.0 mills
- MARC will re-allocate **0.5 mills** from that renewal to the City-Parish General Fund
- A net funding impact of \$2.9 Million annually will go to City-Parish for Infrastructure → Stormwater Master Plan and Street Maintenance Projects
- MARC will make a one-time re-allocation of \$6 Million from its Fund Balance to the General Fund to stabilize the City-Parish budget



#### **Council on Aging (COA)**

- COA will renew and collect 2.25 mills
- COA will re-allocate **0.25 mills** from that renewal to the City-Parish General Fund
- A net funding impact of \$1.45 Million annually will go to the City-Parish for Infrastructure → Stormwater Master Plan and Street Maintenance Projects
- No other COA funds are re-allocated



• TINY LETTERS

LEGAL JARGON

• MOVING PARTS AND PARTNERS

COMPLICATED WORDING

PROPOSITION: MILLAGE EXTENSION AND REDEDICATION

Shall the Parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), be authorized to rededicate \$52,400,000 to be used for Parish-wide general purposes, heretofore and hereafter received from the levy of an ad valorem tax (the "Tax") previously approved for public library purposes at an election held on October 24, 2015, and shall the Parish be further authorized to extend and rededicate the levy of said Tax at the rate of II.I mills on all property subject to taxation in the Parish for an additional IO years, beginning with the year 2026, to and including the year 2035 (\$67,432,500 is reasonably estimated to be collected from levying the Tax for an entire year), so that (a) proceeds heretofore and hereafter received from 8.30 mills of the Tax shall be administered by the East Baton Rouge Parish Library Board of Control and used to maintain and operate the public library system of the Parish, including acquiring land and constructing new library facilities, and (b) proceeds heretofore and hereafter received from 2.80 mills of the Tax shall be used for Parish-wide general purposes (after paying reasonable and necessary expenses of collecting and administering the Tax)?



# WE NEED THE CITY-PARISH TO BE STABLE AND OPERATIONAL, SO WE CAN CONTINUE TO OPERATE!

It is most effective if all three action items pass, but not necessary!

THRIVE! creates financial stability for the entire City-Parish.



All three action items are separate on the November 15th ballot.

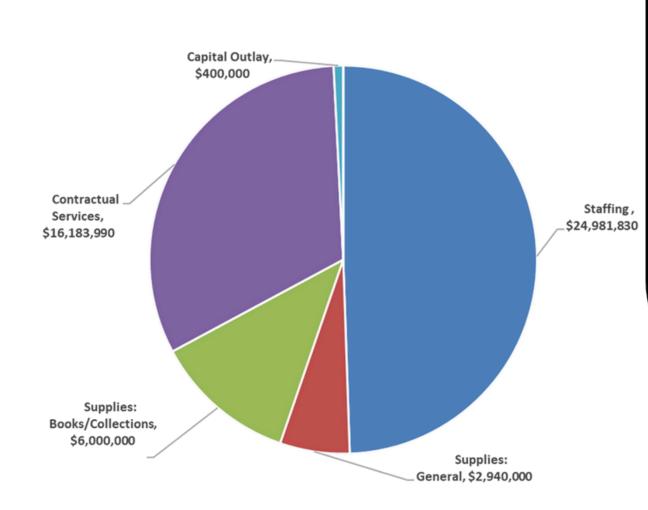
The support of all three action items puts
City-Parish on a path to success.

#### WHAT HAPPENS IF IT FAILS?

- The Library's CURRENT 10-Year Dedicated Property Tax **EXPIRES** in **December 2025.**
- This comprises almost 100% of the Library's Funding.
- SO ... If the Tax Proposal **FAILS** in November 2025, the Library receives **ZERO** new revenue in January 2026.
- The Library would have to begin to use funds from its savings in Fund Balance in order to operate.
- The Library would then have to go back out to the voters with a new millage proposition sometime in 2026. There are several possible dates for such an election.
- The Metro Council must approve a NEW Tax Election to take place in 2026.
- The revenues from a successful 2026 election would not be received until January 2027.
- The Library's Fund Balance could sustain operations for at least one year. The longer the Library "lives off its savings," the greater the impact on the Capital Improvements Plan and all future plans.

## LIBRARY DETAILS ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

2026 Library Proposed Budget Request						
Staffing	\$24,981,830	49%				
Supplies: General	\$2,940,000	6%				
Supplies: Books/Collections	\$6,000,000	12%				
Contractual Services	\$16,183,990	32%				
Capital Outlay	\$400,000	1%				
Transfer to Misc. Capital Improvements	\$0	0%				
Total 2026 Appropriations	\$50,505,820	100%				



The Library must make data-driven decisions on how to operate on a reduced revenue stream without cuts to hours of operations.

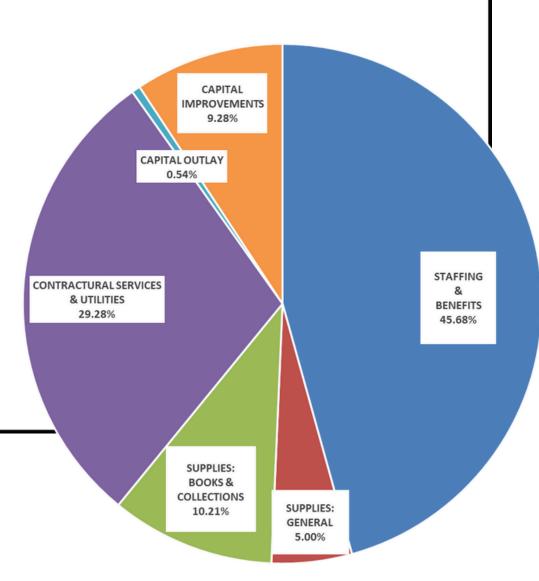
SO... What will be cut to maintain Library operations at 8.3 mills?

Frozen Vacant Positions; positions may be reinstated as future budgets allow

Slowed down pace of the Capital Improvements Plan

Reduced Budget Lines beginning in 2026 for:

- Public Programming
- Book Budget: order fewer copies of less popular titles
- Book Budget: cut overlapping Database Subscriptions
- General Supplies
- Advertising/Outreach Attendance at Expos & Fairs
- Travel/Training for Staff



### LIBRARY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN



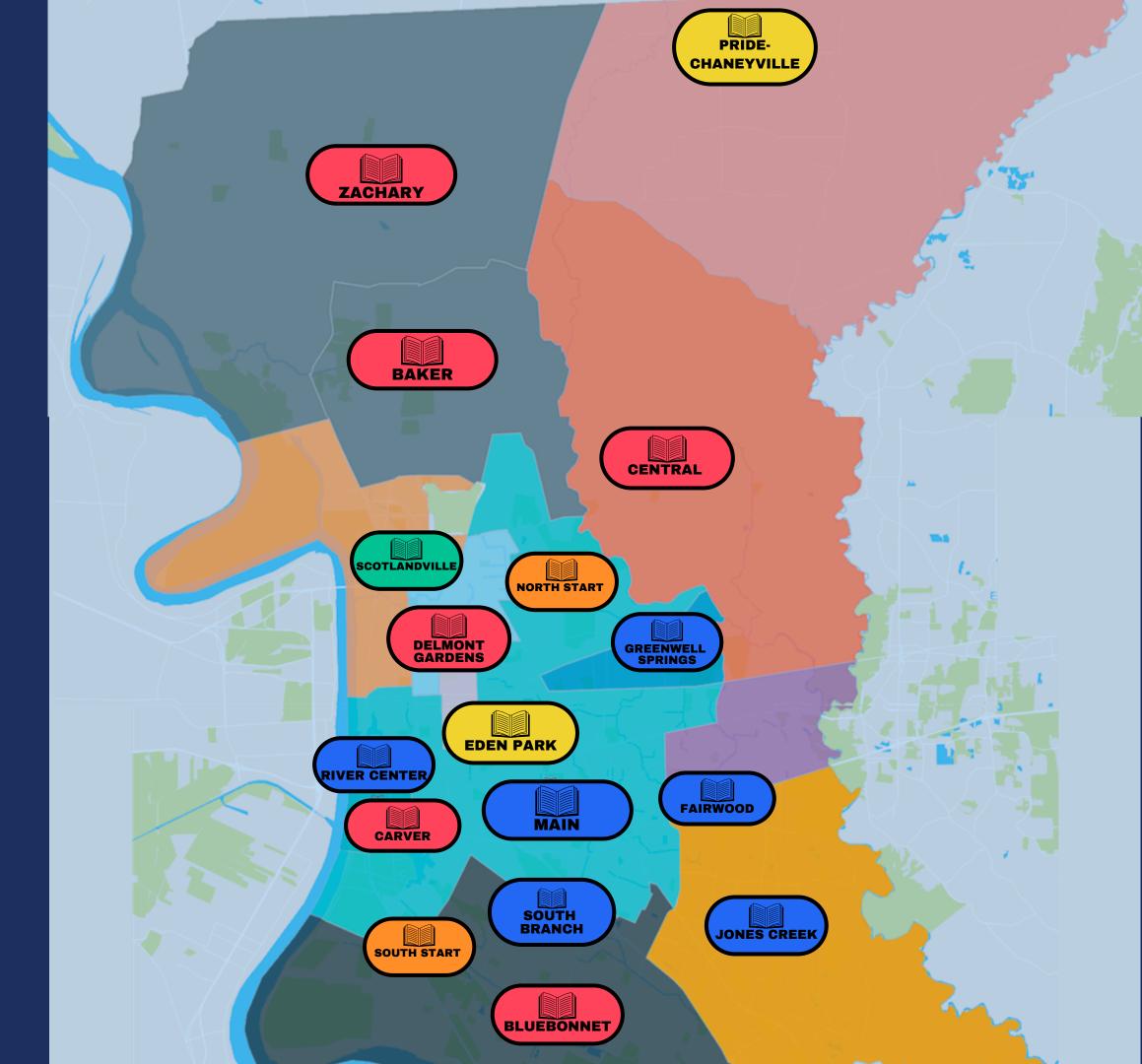


NEXT IN LINE FOR
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
AND RENOVATIONS

FUTURE PROJECTS
(WE MUST SAVE FOR THESE)

NEW "START" LOCATIONS

NEW 'START' LOCATIONS ARE 8,000 SF BRANCHES IN AT-RISK AREAS WITH LIBRARY SERVICE GAPS THAT OFFER STRATEGICALLY TARGETED ACCESS FOR RESOURCES AND TECHNOLOGY.



## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP) DETAILS

**Based on April 2025 Facilities Masterplan** 

EAST BATRON ROUGE PARISH LIBRARY SYSTEM  Branch Library Facility Assessments - Estimated Project Costs							ALL CIP PROJECTS ARE "PAY-AS-YOU-GO"				
BRANCH		FURNITURE UPGRADES		ECHNOLOGY UPGRADES	СО	NSTRUCTION COST	T	OTAL COST 2025 DOLLARS	ANTICIPATED START		ESTIMATED COST AT CONSTRUCTION START
Baker Branch*	\$	880,000.00	\$	369,000.00	\$	7,680,885.00	\$	9,070,536.00	2026	\$	9,524,063.00
Bluebonnet Regional*	\$	380,000.00	\$	369,000.00	_	7,624,221.00	\$	8,441,327.00	2026	\$	8,863,393.00
Central Branch	\$	710,000.00	\$	352,800.00		6,269,063.00	\$	7,467,597.00	2027	\$	8,214,357.00
Zachary Branch	\$	969,000.00	\$	429,000.00	\$	8,766,658.00	\$	10,417,154.00	2028	\$	11,979,727.00
Re-Cycled Reads Outreach Center	\$	150,000.00	\$	30,000.00		2,960,396.00	\$	3,328,124.00	2028	\$	3,827,343.00
START Library North Point Development	\$	328,000.00	\$	152,000.00	\$	4,434,049.00	\$	5,095,392.00	2029	\$	6,006,470.00
START Library South	\$	328,000.00	\$	152,000.00	\$	4,434,049.00	\$	5,095,392.00	2030	\$	6,256,740.00
Delmont Gardens Land Purchase							\$	600,000.00		\$	600,000.00
Delmont Gardens New Facility	\$	836,000.00	\$	310,000.00	\$	13,166,320.00	\$	14,312,320.00	2030	\$	17,890,400.00
Delmont Gardens Business Incubator	\$	280,000.00	\$	215,000.00	\$	5,448,751.00	\$	6,129,763.00	2031	\$	7,968,692.00
Main Library	\$	980,000.00	\$	489,000.00	\$	11,632,354.00	\$	13,495,219.00	2031	\$	17,543,785.00
Carver Branch	\$	405,300.00	\$	317,000.00	\$	3,411,689.00	\$	4,084,178.00	2033	\$	5,513,640.00
FINAL	SCOP	E OF WORK TO	BE	DETERMINED	BASI	ED ON AVAILALBE FL	JNDING	G FOR THE FOLLOW	VING PROJECTS		
Pride - Chaneyville Branch	\$	500,800.00	\$	195,000.00	_	2,002,686.00	\$	2,630,794.00	2033	\$	3,683,112.00
Eden Park Branch	\$	608,200.00	\$	292,400.00	_	2,088,703.00	\$	2,735,672.00	2034	\$	3,966,724.00
Fairwood Branch	\$	380,400.00	\$	339,000.00	_	4,350,888.00	\$	5,062,478.00	2034	\$	6,328,098.00
		NO M	IAIO	R IMPROVEMEN	TAN	TICIPATED FOR THE FO	LLOWI	NG PROJECTS			
Greenwell Springs Road Regional		1101					2201111	10711072010			
ones Creek Regional								,			
River Center Branch											
South Branch											
Scotlandville Branch											

#### WHAT HOUSEHOLDS WILL PAY @ 11.1 MILLS

Renewal Millage Rate of 11.1 mills	Annual Property Tax @ 11.1 mills	Equivalent To	Or
Home Valued at \$100,000	\$27.75	53 cents per week	Less than the cost of one hard back book per year
Home Valued at \$125,000	\$55.50	\$ 1.07 per week	Approximately two hard back books per year
Home Valued at \$150,000	\$83.25	\$ 1.60 per week	Three books and a couple of cheeseburgers per year
Home Valued at \$165,900	\$100.90	\$ 1.94 per week	Four bestselling novels per year or one regular cup of coffee per week
Home Valued at \$175,000	\$111.00	\$ 2.13 per week	Four books and a music CD from the bargain bin per year
Home Valued at \$200,000	\$138.75	2.67 per week	Five books and a pizza over the entire year or 15 movie tickets per year
Home Valued at \$225,000	\$166.50	\$ 3.20 per week	Less than 3 Cups of Mocha Frappuccino Venti per month!
Home Valued at \$250,000	\$194.25	\$ 3.74 per week	Less than 3 Cups of Mocha Frappuccino Venti per month!
Home Valued at \$275,000	\$222.00	\$ 4.27 per week	A bit more than 3 Cups of Mocha Frappuccino Venti per month!
Home Valued at \$300,000	\$249.75	\$ 4.80 per week	Less than one cup of great coffee per week!
Home Valued at	\$277.50	\$ 5.34 per week	Less than one cup of great coffee per week!
\$325,000 Home Valued at \$350,000	\$305.25	\$ 5.87 per week	Less than one cup of great coffee per week!
330,000			

FYI: In 2024, the value of items checked out exceeded \$26 Million, PLUS over \$18.6 Million for eBook downloads ...

#### WANT MORE DETAILS?

For more information, visit the Library Millage Page: <a href="https://ebrpl.co/millage">https://ebrpl.co/millage</a> or click through below:

- •Link to the FAQs <u>Library Millage Proposal East Baton Rouge Parish Library</u>
- •Link to Strategic Plan UPDATED 2025 Future Goals East Baton Rouge Parish Library
- •Link to 2025 Facilities Master Plan Capital Improvements East Baton Rouge Parish Library
- •Link to 8.3 Budget Projection Library Millage Proposal East Baton Rouge Parish Library
- •Link to Chart showing how much taxpayers would pay <u>Library Millage Proposal East Baton Rouge Parish Library</u>
- •Link to Capital Improvements Plan overview <u>Capital Improvements East Baton Rouge Parish Library</u>
- •Link to Statistics, Outputs and KPIs <u>Library Millage Proposal East Baton Rouge Parish Library</u>
- •Link to "Value Proposition" page <u>Library Millage Proposal East Baton Rouge Parish Library</u>
- •Link to the "Library and Local Concerns" page <u>Library Millage Proposal East Baton Rouge Parish Library</u>
- •Link to POPL and EBRLibrary PAC pages
- •Link to Generations United PAC page (forthcoming)
- Link to WinEBR page (forthcoming)
- •Link to Stormwater Master Plan
- Link to <u>OpenData BR and the 311 Dashboard</u>

Scan for the Library Millage Page







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