



EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH
LIBRARY

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 **pay-as-you-go Capital Improvements Plan** to update and improve library facilities

Use of Funds

- Taxpayers will pay the **same millage** as was approved by the voters in 1995, 2005, 2015; this means the 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 SAME MILLAGE

***NOT** A NEW TAX!*

Approved! 1995

**11.1
Mills**

**October
1995**

Approved! 2005

**11.1
Mills**

**July
2005**

Approved! 2015

**11.1
Mills**

**October
2015**

**11.1
Mills**

**November 15
2025**

THRIVE! EAST BATON ROUGE

A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

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 City-Parish General Fund to **stabilize the City-Parish budget**



EBR Council on Aging (COA)

- EBR COA will renew and collect **2.25 mills**
- EBR 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 EBR COA funds are re-allocated

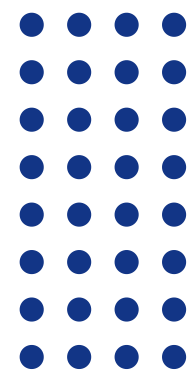
SO, WHAT'S SO CONFUSING?

- TINY LETTERS
- MOVING PARTS AND PARTNERS
- LEGAL JARGON
- 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 11.1 mills on all property subject to taxation in the Parish for an additional 10 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)?



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

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

It is **most effective** if all
three action items pass.



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.

Thrive

EAST BATON ROUGE



These trusted agencies stand together in partnership - fully supportive of a plan that works smarter with the resources we already have.

WHY IS THE LIBRARY IMPORTANT?

THE COMMUNITY'S USE OF THE LIBRARY

Key Performance Indicators Reported in 2024

Visitor Gate Count - 1,758,026

Meeting Room Attendance - 93,955

Computer Use: PC & AWE Logins - 309,120

Story Times In-House - 984

Library Programs In-House - 4,772

Bookmobile Visits - 2,382

Visits to Community Centers- 748

Visits to Senior Facilities - 563

Visits to Schools - 1,071

Circulation of Materials - 2,850,940

Reference & Information Questions - 894,588

Database Sessions - 3,702,581

Website Hits - 1,768,341

Wi-fi Logins - 908,213

Mobile Printing

85,919 print jobs in 2024

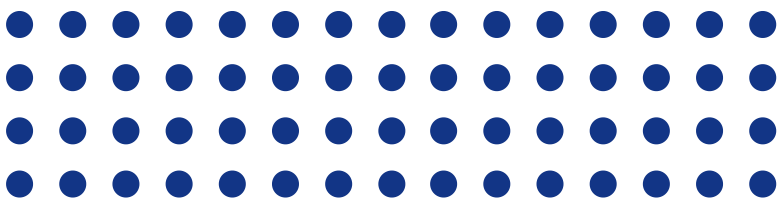
Already, over 60,000 prints jobs in 2025 ...

There are over 300,000 cardholders and over 118,000 have used their cards in the last 12 months. This does not include the people that use the library for wi-fi, meetings, or in-person assistance.

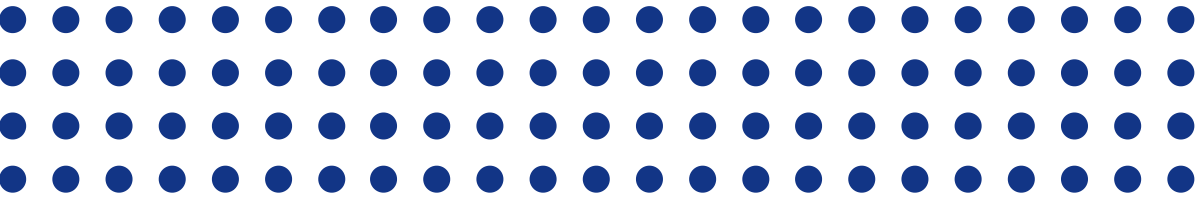
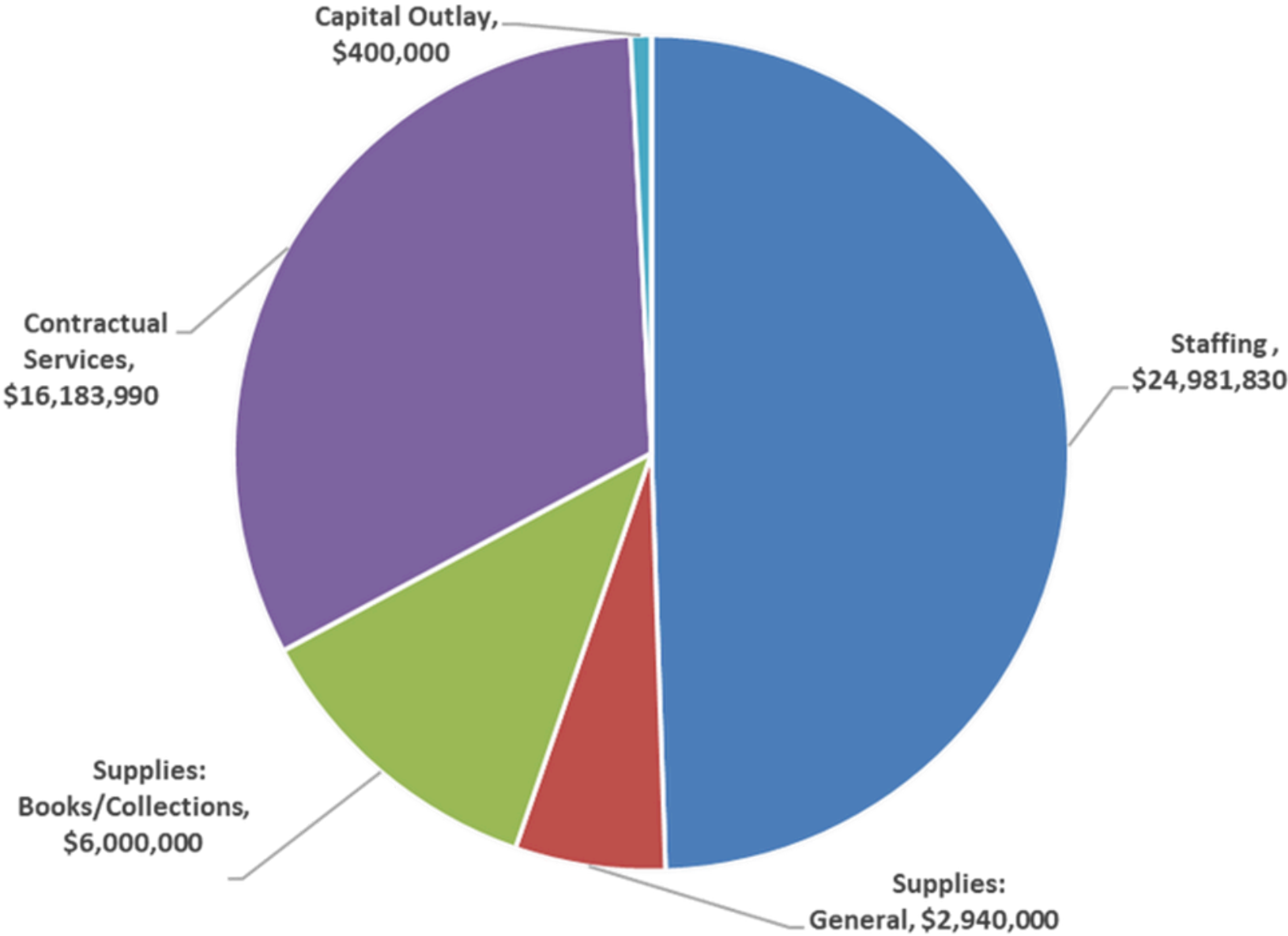
LIBRARY DETAILS

PROPOSED 2026 OPERATING BUDGET

THE LIBRARY MUST HAVE A BALANCED BUDGET.
USING 8.3 MILLS FOR ANNUAL REVENUE, HERE'S THE PROPOSED BUDGET
THAT MUST BE APPROVED BY THE METRO COUNCIL.



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%



LIBRARY DETAILS

ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET (10-YEAR PROJECTION)

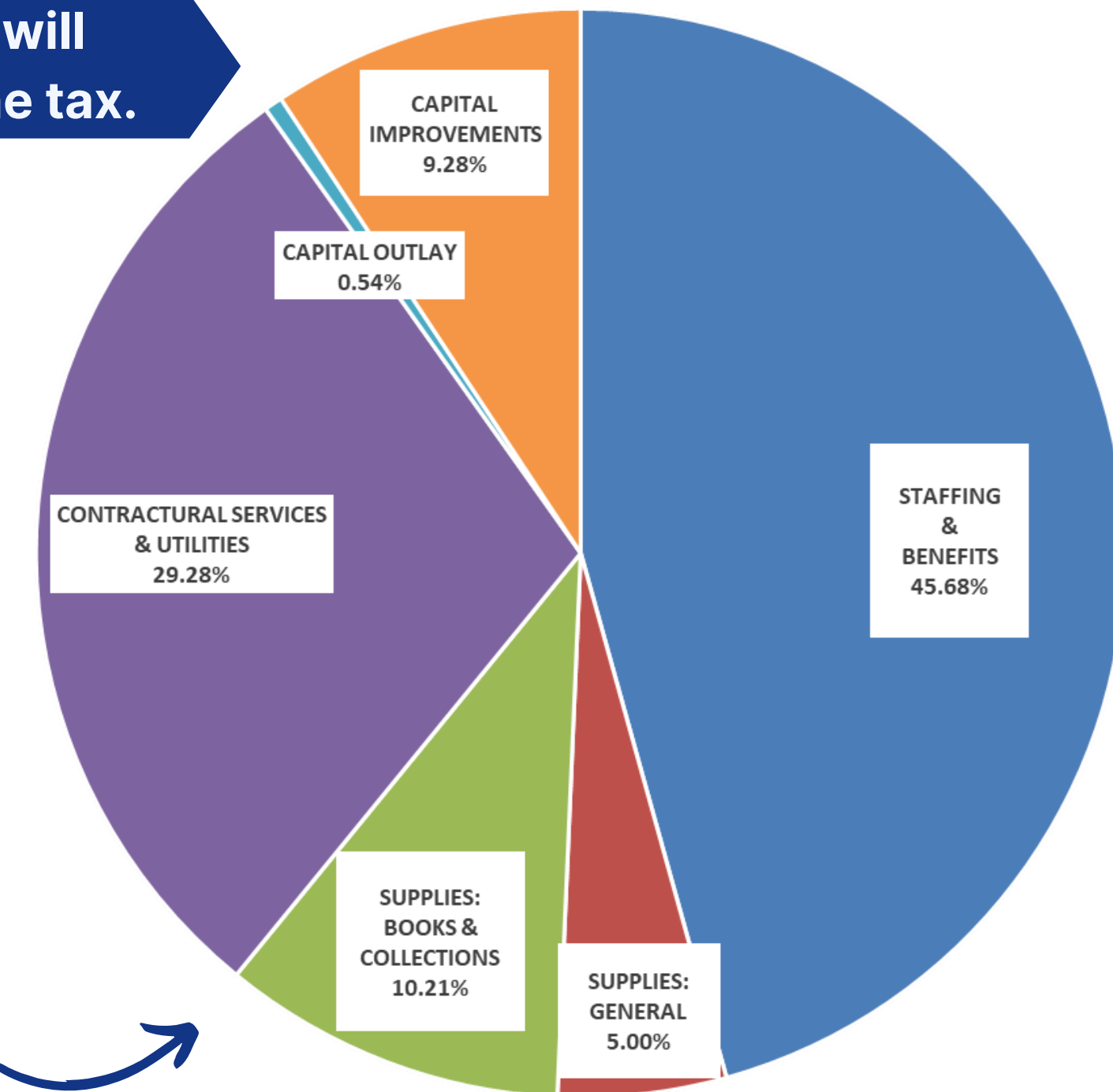
The Library must make data-driven decisions on how to operate on a reduced revenue stream without cuts to hours of operations. **SO... What will be cut to maintain Library operations at 8.3 mills?**

We've slowed down pace of the Capital Improvements Plan; projects will be appropriated as savings are accrued over the 10-year period of the tax.

Budget Lines are reduced beginning in 2026:

- ◆ Book Budget: order fewer copies of less popular titles
- ◆ Book Budget: cut overlapping Database Subscriptions
- ◆ Public Programming: rely more on community partners
- ◆ General Supplies: scale back
- ◆ Advertising/Outreach Attendance at Expos & Fairs
- ◆ Continuing education/Training for Staff
- ◆ Temporarily freeze vacant positions

10-Year Proposed Budget at a glance



ALL LIBRARY PROMISES FOR THE LAST FOUR TAXING DECADES HAVE BEEN KEPT

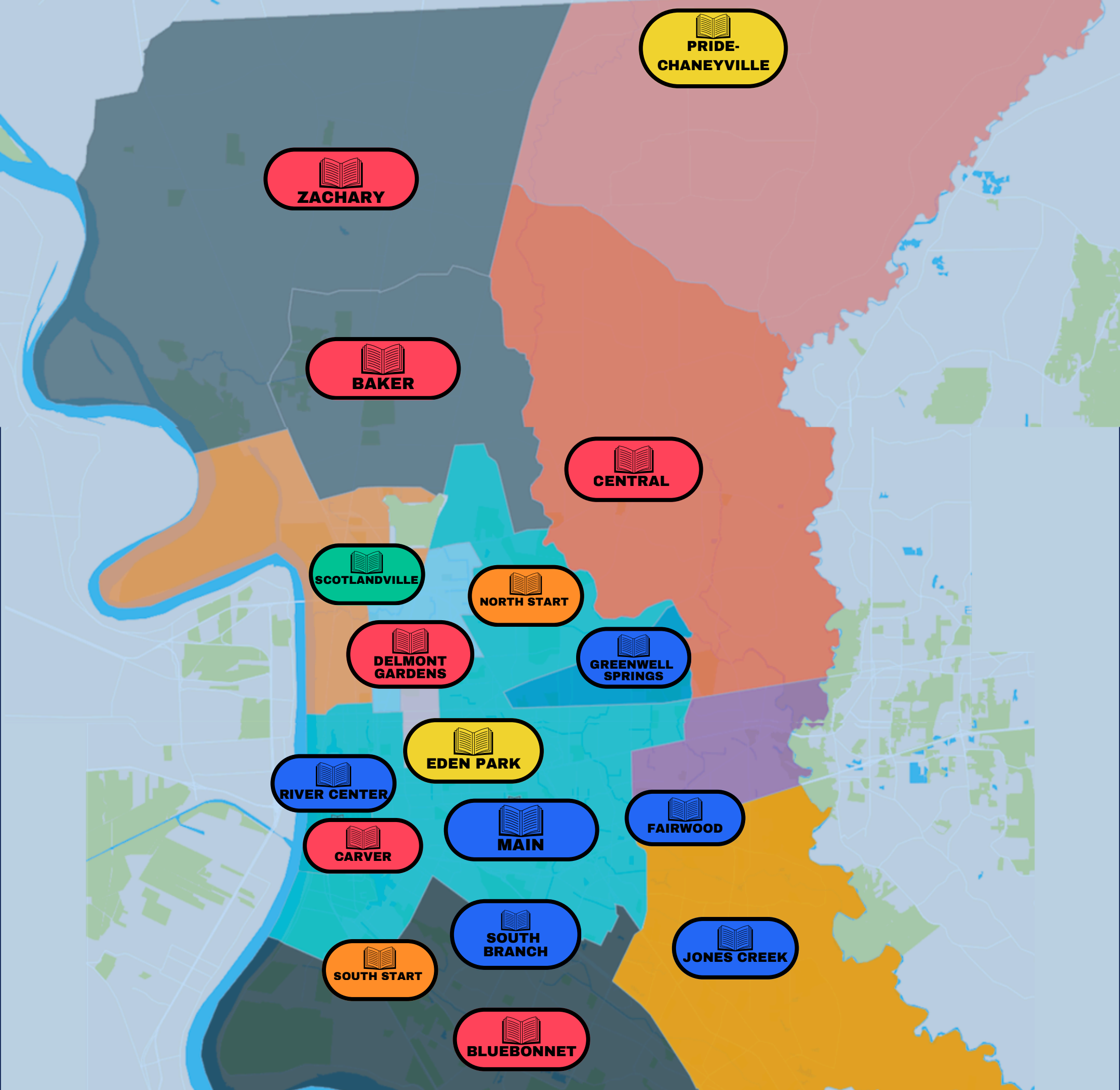
- ◆ The Library’s Fund Balance is not a surplus or “rainy day” fund. It is a working fund that supports important needs and projects on the Library’s pay-as-you-go plan.
- ◆ Funds are designated and dedicated for specific purposes, based on the strategic plan, updated facilities master plan, research, and our data-driven, decision-making process.

FUND BALANCE SNAPSHOT AS OF JULY 2025	
SAVINGS IN FUND BALANCE FOR OPERATIONS & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	\$114,474,955
Net year’s <i>entire</i> Anticipated Operating Budget, based on 8.3 mills	\$53,443,810
Operating Cash for 2026	\$53,443,810
One-time Re-allocation to the City-Parish General Fund to pay down debt	\$52,400,000
There are NO Capital Transfers Out for Current Projects in the 2026 Budget	\$0
Dedicated Reserves: Contingency Reserve, Casualty Loss, & Emergency Storm Reserve	\$2,000,000
Remainder left to assign in Fund Balance for the Library’s planned “Pay-As-You-Go” Capital Improvements Projects	\$60,074,955
Committed Capital Improvements Projects which are not yet <u>fully</u> appropriatedà	
Baker Branch Renovation/Expansion	\$1,169,213
Bluebonnet Renovation Phase 3	\$5,502,693
Carver Renovation/Expansion	\$5,513,640
Central Renovation/Expansion	\$1,826,437
Delmont Gardens Replacement	\$8,435,880
Delmont Gardens Small Business Incubator	\$7,968,692
Main Library at Goodwood: Anticipated Repairs/Upgrades	\$17,543,785
New North Point Development START Branch at old Earl K. Long site	\$5,366,470
Outreach Service Center and the Juvenile Services Center	\$3,827,343
Zachary Branch Expansions/Renovations	\$6,165,067
Other Future, Approved Capital Improvement Projects for which the Library must save over timeà	
Pride-Chaneyville and Eden Park Branch Expansions/Renovations	\$7,649,836
New South START Branch located west of Gardere	\$6,256,740

LIBRARY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

-  COMPLETED RENOVATIONS
-  RENOVATIONS UNDERWAY
-  NEXT IN LINE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND RENOVATIONS
-  FUTURE PROJECTS (WE MUST SAVE FOR THESE)
-  NEW “START” LOCATIONS

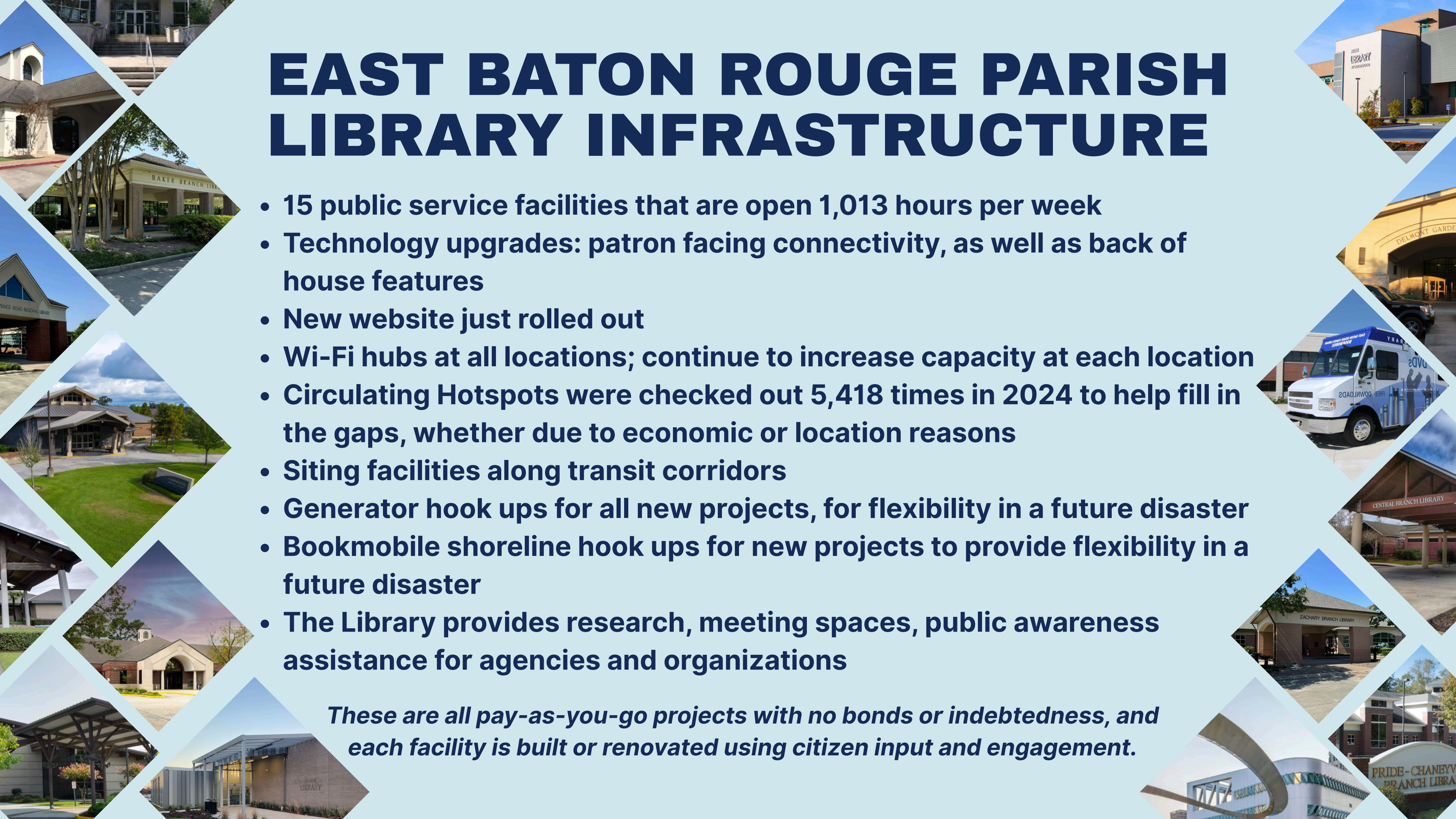
NEW ‘START’ LOCATIONS ARE 8,000 SF BRANCHES IN AT-RISK AREAS WITH LIBRARY SERVICE GAPS THAT OFFER STRATEGICALLY TARGETED ACCESS FOR RESOURCES AND TECHNOLOGY



EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH LIBRARY INFRASTRUCTURE

- 15 public service facilities that are open 1,013 hours per week
- Technology upgrades: patron facing connectivity, as well as back of house features
- New website just rolled out
- Wi-Fi hubs at all locations; continue to increase capacity at each location
- Circulating Hotspots were checked out 5,418 times in 2024 to help fill in the gaps, whether due to economic or location reasons
- Siting facilities along transit corridors
- Generator hook ups for all new projects, for flexibility in a future disaster
- Bookmobile shoreline hook ups for new projects to provide flexibility in a future disaster
- The Library provides research, meeting spaces, public awareness assistance for agencies and organizations

These are all pay-as-you-go projects with no bonds or indebtedness, and each facility is built or renovated using citizen input and engagement.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN (CIP) DETAILS

The Capital improvements Plan will slow down a bit, but it will remain intact. Future or additional projects will be appropriated as savings are accrued over the 10-year period of the millage.

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	TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES	CONSTRUCTION COST	TOTAL 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 SCOPE OF WORK TO BE DETERMINED BASED ON AVAILALBE FUNDING FOR THE FOLLOWING 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 MAJOR IMPROVEMENT ANTICIPATED FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS						
Greenwell Springs Road Regional						
Jones 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 \$325,000	\$277.50	\$ 5.34 per week	Less than one cup of great coffee per week!
Home Valued at \$350,000	\$305.25	\$ 5.87 per week	Less than one cup of great coffee per week!

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

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** revenue for the 2026 tax year.
- The Library would 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.
- Since we are a department of the City-Parish, 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.

WANT MORE DETAILS?

**For more information, visit the Library Millage Page:
ebrpl.com/millage or click through below:**

- Link to the FAQs - [Library Millage Proposal - East Baton Rouge Parish Library](#)
- 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 - [Library Millage Proposal - East Baton Rouge Parish Library](#)
- Link to Capital Improvements Plan overview - [Capital Improvements - East Baton Rouge Parish Library](#)
- Link to Statistics, Outputs and KPIs - [Library Millage Proposal - East Baton Rouge Parish Library](#)
- Link to “Value Proposition” page - [Library Millage Proposal - East Baton Rouge Parish Library](#)
- Link to the “Library and Local Concerns” page - [Library Millage Proposal - East Baton Rouge Parish Library](#)
- Link to [POPL and EBRLibrary PAC pages](#)
- Link to Generations United PAC page - [Link to Generations United](#)
- Link to [Stormwater Master Plan](#)
- Link to [OpenData BR and the 311 Dashboard](#)



Also, visit the [Win EBR page](#) for more information about Thrive! EBR and our partners.

**Scan for the
Library Millage Page**



CONTACT THE LIBRARY

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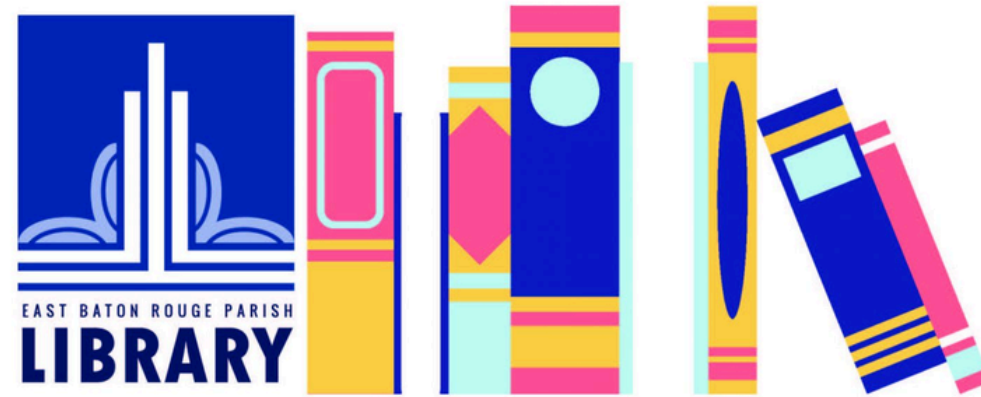
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EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH LIBRARY

 *My*
LIBRARY



THE *heart* **OF THE COMMUNITY!**