



1. **Why is the Library pursuing a \$259 funding proposition on the school ballot?**

New York State Education Law §259(1)(b) allows association libraries to have a proposition placed on the school ballot. If the vote passes then the Library funding will be determined directly by the taxpayers.

2. **Is the Library budget part of the school budget?**

No! The Library budget is a separate line and is not part of the school budget. The school district's only role is to collect the taxes for the Library. The Library and the school district remain separate entities.

3. **Will the Library budget be on the school ballot every year?**

No, the Library budget will remain the same unless there is another \$259 vote. In the future, if the Library is requesting a change in its budget, it will need to gather voter signatures on a petition in order to have a \$259 proposition placed on the school ballot and have the voters decide.

4. **How much will I pay for Library services?**

The taxed amount depends on the assessed value of your property. For a property assessed at \$400,000 (the average in Putnam Valley), your tax will increase by less than \$50 a year (based on 2022 total taxable assessed values.)

5. **How is the Library funded now?**

Currently, the Library is under a yearly contract with the Town of Putnam Valley to provide Library services. That contract provides the Library with the largest portion of its funding with smaller amounts coming from donations, grants, and the county. A successful \$259 vote will replace the Town contract and provide the Library with a guaranteed and stable amount of funding from year to year as decided by the voters.

6. **Is the Library asking for a budget increase?**

Yes, the current Town contract amount is \$347,650. The \$259 vote asks for \$460,000. This will allow the Library to restore resources and hours, enhance services for the community, complete overdue building maintenance, and enable the upkeep and improvement of operations.

If you have additional questions, please contact Kathy Reilly, Library Director at 845-528-3242 or Terry Raskyn, President of the Board of Trustees at traskyn@putnamvalleylibrary.org



Assessed value of home	What the Town contract (\$347,650) costs your household now in taxes per year	What the voter-approved budget (\$460,000) will cost you per household for the year	The difference in your household's yearly tax
200,000	35.36	60.00	24.64
250,000	44.20	74.99	30.80
300,000	53.04	89.99	36.96
350,000	61.88	104.99	43.12
400,000*	70.71	119.99	49.28
450,000	79.55	134.99	55.44
500,000	88.39	149.99	61.59
550,000	97.23	164.99	67.75
600,000	106.07	179.99	73.91
650,000	114.91	194.98	80.07
700,000	123.75	209.98	86.23
750,000	132.59	224.98	92.39
800,000	141.43	239.98	98.55

*The average home in Putnam Valley is assessed at \$400,000.

*These numbers are based off of the 2022 taxable assessed values.