ROCHESTER HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Strategic Plan 2025-2027

Founded in 1924, Rochester Hills Public Library empowers people to explore and create with resources that enlighten, educate, entertain, and inform.

POPULATIONS WE SERVE

- Early Learners

- Students

- Job & Social Benefit Seekers

- Seniors

- Small & Independent Businesses

- Educators & Administrators

- New Citizens/ELL

- Community Partners

- People living with Disabilities

- Parents

- Story Lovers

- Researchers

- Hobbyists

RHPL OFFERS . . .

- **Ingenuity:** Makerspace for experience-based learning

- **Spaces:** Ten study rooms, a quiet study room, three community meeting rooms

- **Technology:** Free WiFi, computer lab, printers, copier, digitizers, scanners

- **Accessibility:** Software, mobility scooters, magnifiers, Oakland Talking Book Service, community bookmobile, drive-thru service, mini-branches in local centers

- **Local History:** digitized archives, artifacts

- **Family Learning:** play-based learning stations, Family Place Training, early literacy bookmobile

- **Volunteer opportunities:** Friends of RHPL

- **Location:** In the heart of downtown Rochester

OUR PURPOSE

- Inspire Lifelong Learners

- Nurture Developing Minds

- Advocate Critical Thinking

- Foster Community Collaboration

- Provide a Welcoming Space for Enjoyment & Discovery

PURPOSE

VISION

ROCHESTER HILLS
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Inspire Lifelong Learners

- Encourage reading, listening, and viewing opportunities that match individual's personal taste and preferences.

- Provide easy access to materials that support reading as a hobby and habit.

- Create opportunities to experience, discuss, and reflect on stories that enhance self-awareness and broaden perspectives.

- Acquire materials in a variety of formats and in sufficient quantities to meet demand.

- Offer experience-based learning opportunities, equipment, and technologies that foster productivity or creative self-expression.

- Provide learning opportunities for text-based learning, online self-guided tutorials, and in-person instruction.

- Provide programs that facilitate learning and discussion about popular interest topics and foster various literacies (reading, digital, financial, health, etc.).

- Provide formal skill-building opportunities with an emphasis on those that support career and life-readiness.

PURPOSE

VISION

Nurture Developing Minds

- Engage parents, caregivers, and educators with techniques for building literacy skills.

- Offer passive and active programs that teach the building blocks of literacy (singing, playing, talking, listening, reading, and writing.

- Provide access to circulating materials, including play-based learning collections, for use outside of the library.

- Create inclusive environments that enable developing minds to find stimulating materials and services that match their interests and practice social interaction.

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PURPOSE

VISION

Advocate Critical Thinking

- Offer programs that encourage deep thinking and the articulation of ideas.

- Teach individuals how to evaluate information based on currency, accuracy, authority, reliability, and purpose.

- Provide outreach to local schools and develop services that support student activities and research needs.

- Provide library services and programs that stimulate connections between history and contemporary life at the local, regional, state, and world level.

- Motivate STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math)-based learning and computational thinking.

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PURPOSE

VISION

Foster Community Collaboration

- Cultivate partnerships that advance the library's mission.

- Promote convenient access to the library by meeting customers where they are.

- Expand the presence of the library outward to the community to improve engagement and use of library services and materials.

- Encourage good citizenship and respectful discourse through active and passive programming.

- Create mutually beneficial volunteer opportunities for individual community members who support the library's mission.

ROCHESTER HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

PURPOSE

VISION

Provide a Welcoming Space for Enjoyment & Discovery

- Provide sufficient space that allow individuals to be productive in their work,
  study, and hobby pursuits.

- Create a useable and accessible online library experience that provides easy access to digital materials and online resource.

- Create inclusive and barrier-free facilities to maximize independent use of the library regardless of ability.

- Provide self-service opportunities to reflect a modern library facility.

- Provide programming and services that help new citizens navigate the community.

- Provide touch points for unexpected delight.

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FOCUS

- RHPL will empower departments, committees, and teams to develop action items that correspond to each vision statement.

- Outcomes for each action plan item will be defined and measured for success.

- Leaders of strategic plan initiatives will provide quarterly progress reports.

- The library director will provide mid-year and annual reports on implementation of the plan.

- The strategic plan action items will be reviewed annually and updated accordingly.

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GOAL HIGHLIGHTS

2025

- Finalize new contracts with City of Rochester and Oakland Township Library Board

- Refine shelving locations in teen post-renovation (i.e. rearrange so fiction isn't split up)

- Develop a roadmap based on the newsletter cycles, to restructure programming and create a more cohesive, building-wide approach to programming.

- Provide first-grade field trips for all RCS schools

- Increase the number of holds to allow patrons to communicate more items they wish to see added to the collection

- Form Green Committee of staff in order to coordinate new initiatives that maximize environmentally conscious options in the library.

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GOAL HIGHLIGHTS 2026

- Relaunch How-To Fest (short learning talks by community members and staff).

- Research feasibility of adding electronic signage for study rooms indicating when the room will next be available

- Host a conference for early childhood educators at the library

- Renovate a publicly accessible room as a private space for nursing patrons or religious reflection

- Implement smart building technology solutions like automated lighting, climate control, and energy monitoring to support green initiatives.

- Update all restrooms for maximum accessibility.

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GOAL HIGHLIGHTS
2027

- Explore the potential of large language model AI to enhance patron services by providing intuitive, chat-based assistance for discovering library materials.

- Provide mobile STEAM programs at community events or pop-up programming

- Partner with existing or new delivery service to develop a procedure for delivering holds via 3rd party.

- Pilot offering self-service, express hours (with a limited staffing model) for library use from 8:00am - 9:00 or from 6:00pm - 9:00pm on Fridays and Saturdays.

- Reevaluate the integrated library system; focus on the quality and usability of data analysis.

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www.rhpl.org