

East Islip Public Library

Long-Range Plan

2021-2026

Introduction

One of the most important tasks of any public library is to ask itself difficult, searching questions about its goals and objectives, and about its role within the community. The past year has been a difficult time for the East Islip, Great River, Islip Terrace and North Great River communities. The Coronavirus pandemic made its appearance, businesses have closed, schooling has been interrupted, friends and neighbors sickened and some lost. The East Islip Library has not been immune to this disruption, but we are happy to now be back open and beginning to restore services.

Although our mission has never changed, to serve “the educational, cultural and intellectual needs of the communities...”, we now need to carefully examine each service and collection to determine its necessity and the safest way to re-establish all of our services and activities. Below is a planning document outlining our future goals and activities. It is our hope that it will provide a clear vision of what the library would like to accomplish over the next five years.

Goals and Activities

The goals below outline desired outcomes, with the activities listing ways to measure the success of reaching each goal.

Goal 1: Create a library environment that is more user friendly, accessible, and welcoming.

Activity 1.1: Examine each collection and sub-collection to make sure the current arrangement makes sense from user’s standpoint

Activity 1.2: Continue extensive weeding program to remove unwanted books from shelves and to create open shelf space and possible open floor space

Activity 1.3: Examine the use and/or circulation of collections to make sure they are still needed and are properly located

Activity 1.4: Add new face-out display units to highlight special collections and/or new material in a retail-like merchandising plan

Activity 1.5: Evaluate and change the layout of spaces/floor plan to foster a more user-friendly atmosphere

Activity 1.6: Evaluate public service and staff spaces to determine if they are properly located to best serve their constituents

Activity 1.7: Replace meeting room signs with a digital schedule for each room

Goal 2: Improve safety within and outside the facility for users and staff

Activity 2.1: Review and update, as necessary, the COVID-19 policies and guidelines

Activity 2.2: Examine programs and services to make sure they adhere to COVID-19 safety protocols

Activity 2.3: Add additional security cameras to cover blind spots

Activity 2.4: Replace remaining outdated cameras with new, higher resolution cameras

Activity 2.5: Examine lighting placement inside and outside the building to foster better security

Activity 2.6: Replace remaining light fixtures with brighter LED lighting to increase visibility

Activity 2.7: Upgrade network firewall to protect against cyber breaches/crimes

Goal 3: Move services and facility to a more energy efficient and higher sustainability model

Activity 3.1: Continue conversion of all lighting to LED fixtures

Activity 3.2: Evaluate replacing existing solar panels with more energy-efficient units

Activity 3.3: Examine the feasibility of creating a rooftop garden

Activity 3.4: Install automobile charging stations in the library's parking lots

Activity 3.5: Replace existing HVAC units with more energy-efficient ones

Activity 3.6: Incorporating sustainable design into all facility improvements

Goal 4: Maintain an ever-evolving facility

Activity 4.1: Examine and follow the recommendations listed in the "Building Condition Report"

Activity 4.2: Examine whether to upgrade the sound systems, screens and projectors in all meeting spaces to work with emerging technology

Activity 4.3: Create a digital media area where users would have access and training to create their own digital projects or conduct virtual meetings

Activity 4.4: Upgrade Internet bandwidth

Activity 4.5: Investigate adding additional self-checkout stations

We hope this planning document will provide the East Islip Public Library with a stable framework from which to meet the challenges and opportunities that the future will bring.