Park Ridge Public Library

STRATEGIC PLAN

January 2026 - December 2030

Approved by the Park Ridge Public Library Board of Trustees on August 19, 2025

INITIATIVE	GOAL	ACTIVITIES	OUTCOME
Optimize spaces	Pursue facility improvements	• Update the Library's interior spaces by working with staff and/or design professionals to develop options, plans, cost estimates • Explore opportunities for better utilization of the North Lawn (Touhy/Prospect) in collaboration with the City of Park Ridge • Explore the viability of a future building expansion project and potential support within the community	Dynamic Library spaces that serve the community with excellence, both today and in the future
Invest in resources and staff	Identify opportunities to invest in materials, technology, staffing, and resources	• Improve digital access and ease of use of the Library and its resources • Evaluate digital materials spending to reduce wait times on popular materials • Utilize data and feedback to maximize the use of physical materials • Empower Library staff through continuous learning to drive excellence and sustain a high-performing team	Seamlessly integrated resources and high-performing staff poised to exceed community expectations and cultivate meaningful connections
Align programming, services, and outreach	Advance and adapt the Library's services, programs, and outreach	• Develop engaging programs and services tailored to younger adults (20s and 30s) • Expand multi-and intergenerational programming to foster community connection • Explore and pilot artificial intelligence (AI) programs and services • Evaluate new services that respond to community needs and enhance convenience • Pursue partnerships to broaden outreach and services for seniors and retirees	Engaging programs, responsive services, and targeted outreach that reflect community needs and deliver lasting impact
Increase community awareness and support	Increase community awareness and strengthen partnerships to grow appreciation, engagement, and support for Library services	• Establish a Library Foundation to boost charitable giving while also supporting the growth of the Friends of the Library • Increase investment in community awareness and engagement initiatives • Leverage community engagement to grow volunteerism • Strengthen and expand partnerships with local organizations	A well-informed community that embraces the Library's impact and invests in its continued success

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MISSION

At the heart of a vibrant community, the Park Ridge Library connects people with information, ideas, and one another.

VISION

Inspire a future where knowledge, ideas, and connections empower every individual to grow, thrive, and succeed.

VALUES

Access

We ensure open, equitable access to ideas and information, defending intellectual freedom, and providing a space where all feel safe and empowered to learn.

Education and Lifelong Learning

We support a culture of learning by providing reliable resources, dedicated spaces, and opportunities for human connection and discovery at every stage of life.

Collaboration

We work together - supporting our patrons and building lasting partnerships to strengthen our community.

Community

We build trust through reliability, support, and understanding.

Innovation

We tirelessly explore all opportunities for improving our collections, services, and the patron experience.