

Cambridge Public Library
IDEA|EXCHANGE[®]

**2025 OPERATING
BUDGET
AND CAPITAL
PRIORITIES**



“The Cambridge libraries have always been a safe-haven for me since I was a kid. It’s lovely being a 30-year-old woman now and still connecting with the community that held me together when I was 12.

I hope the library continues to be a place people of all ages can get together or escape the stress of everyday life.”





OUR COMMUNITY SURVEY

In 2023, Intent Consultants conducted our first community survey to collect feedback from residents and members. These are some of the highlights from those surveys:

64% VISIT THE LIBRARY MORE THAN ONCE A MONTH.

77% ARE EXCITED ABOUT OUR FUTURE AND COMMITMENT TO LITERACY AND OUR COMMUNITY.

80% REPORT IT'S AMAZING THAT WHAT WE OFFER IS FREE.

96% AGREE THAT PUBLIC LIBRARIES ARE NEEDED NOW, MORE THAN EVER.

100% BELIEVE THAT PUBLIC LIBRARIES ARE IMPORTANT FOR THE COMMUNITY AND BRING VALUE.

2024 – 2027 Cambridge Public Library STRATEGIC PLAN



INSPIRE THROUGH EXPERIENCES

Creating opportunities to explore and learn together.



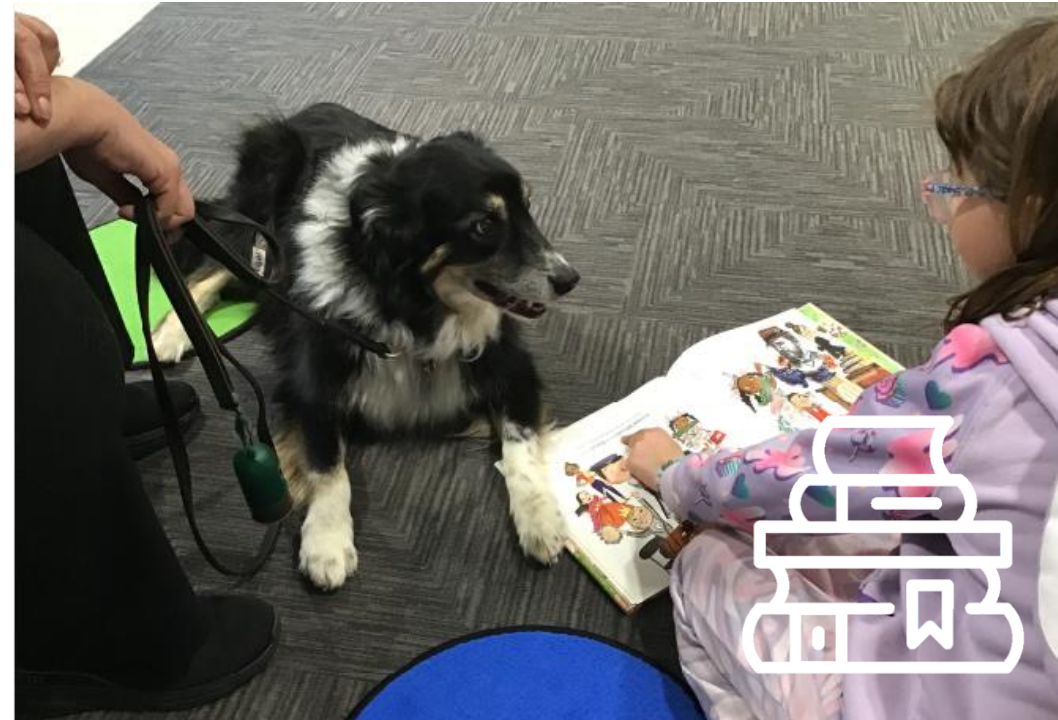
CONNECT THROUGH COMMUNITY

Inviting people and partners to create positive change.



EMPOWER THROUGH LEARNING

Embracing knowledge that inspires people to unlock their potential.



LIBRARIES FOR LIFE



**40% OF CAMBRIDGE RESIDENTS
HAVE A MEMBERSHIP CARD AND
USED IT IN 2023**



**735,000+ VISITS WERE MADE TO
OUR FIVE LOCATIONS ACROSS
THE CITY IN 2023**




**860,000 + ITEMS WERE
BORROWED FROM LIBRARIES
AND VIRTUAL LIBRARY 2023**





CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AND FISCAL STEWARDSHIP

- Historical track record of returning operating surpluses to City reserve funds.
 - Service and Division reviews for continued improvement, efficiencies.
 - 2020 returned \$325,000.
 - 2021 reduced FTEs permanently by 1 and submitted a 0% increase.
 - 2023 first-time conducting community survey and focus groups to inform library's strategic priorities.
 - 2025 budget lines examined and where appropriate, applied zero-based budgeting practices.
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2025 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

Expenses	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Salaries and Benefits	\$6,978,400	\$7,437,200
Library and Gallery Materials/Programming	\$ 968,300	\$ 934,900
Operational Expenses	\$1,414,200	\$1,605,800
Total Expenses	\$9,360,900	\$9,977,900
Revenue		
Other Grants, Fees, Fund Transfers	\$759,700	\$816,900
Municipal Grant Revenue	\$8,601,200	\$9,161,000
Total Revenue	\$9,360,900	\$9,977,900

2025 CAPITAL BUDGET PROJECTS

Project #	Description	Budget	Funding Source
A/00623-10	Library Materials (2025)	\$109,000	Development Charges
A/00624-10	Library Computer Equipment (2025)	\$271,200	Infrastructure Renewal Fund
A/00625-40	Library Elevator Modernization (Hespeler)	\$176,800	Grant/Reserve Funds
A/01595-20	Library Facilities Master Plan	\$ 90,000	Development Charges
A/01718-40	Library Atria Revitalization (Queen's Square)	\$252,500	Infrastructure Renewal Fund

TOTAL \$899,500

**“I go to a lot of libraries,
but everywhere I go I talk
about Cambridge Public
Library, this library is
what other libraries
should strive toward -
the best among
libraries!”**

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