

STRATEGIC PLAN

2024 – 2026



Mount Pleasant Public Library

LETTER FROM BOARD PRESIDENT AND LIBRARY DIRECTOR



AN EXCITING ERA FOR OUR LIBRARY

2023 was a year of renewed energy for our library! We welcomed a surge of visitors, saw increased interest in both traditional and digital books, and hosted many successful programs.

Now, we're thrilled to announce a major focus for 2024: the renovation of our beloved Main Library. While our 1967 building holds a special place in our hearts, it's time for an upgrade to better serve our community's evolving needs.

Our vision includes:

- Private meeting rooms for collaboration and focused work.
- Reimagined and more usable shared spaces.
- Dedicated children's programming spaces to inspire young minds.
- Safe, accessible outdoor areas for reading, learning, and connecting with nature.

This renovation will also allow us to remove hazardous materials, ensuring a healthier environment while unlocking the potential to create more modern, flexible spaces.

We're actively collaborating with our partners in the Town and Village to bring this vision to life.

Stay tuned for exciting updates throughout 2024!

JULIE EDWARDS, PRESIDENT
JOHN FEARON, DIRECTOR



OUR VISION

The Mount Pleasant Public Library will be a vital part of the community of Mount Pleasant and Pleasantville; it will provide free and open access to the ever-changing world of ideas; it will be an ongoing center of learning, and a place of welcome human connection for residents of all ages.

OUR MISSION

The Mount Pleasant Public Library is a warm and welcoming center of discovery: through books, media and programming we connect people to ideas, and to each other, in order to enrich their lives and the overall life of the community.

OUR VALUES

Respect:

For our patrons, for our staff, for our volunteers.

Inclusion:

All members of our community are welcome, and we will make changes, when necessary, to make sure all feel welcome.

Innovation:

We will be aware of, and respond to, changes in our community and to the changing needs of our community.

Welcoming:

We will endeavor to be warm and welcoming to all who visit the library and to make those visits a positive experience.

Creativity:

We will be innovative and creative in finding ways to solve problems and meet the needs of our community.

Listening:

When members of our community speak to us, we will listen.





LIBRARY BUILDING & GROUNDS

We will continue the process of bringing our libraries in line with contemporary library demands by making necessary and important updates. A vital element of these updates will be the removal of all hazardous materials from the Main Library. We will work with the Town of Mount Pleasant and Village of Pleasantville to make these improvements to our facilities.

The benefits of implementing our Master Plan will be very significant. The improvements to the Main Library, detailed in the Master Plan, will include creating nine new study rooms, adding an upstairs program room and outdoor space for children, and creating barriers to noise transfer. When complete, the Library will be able to host regular meetings for the many community groups in our area and better accommodate the various needs of our users.

Action Items

- Work with the Town Engineer and the Town and Village Boards to develop a detailed phased plan of construction that will allow the Library to continue to provide services while making these improvements
- Commit to starting the first phase of the Master Plan in 2024

MATERIALS FOR THE PUBLIC

Free access to ideas is the core principle of public libraries and we will maintain our strong commitment to this in the future. We will continue to ensure that our collections are comprehensive, diverse and reflect contemporary demand for both content and format.

Action Items

- Support our librarians so that they are empowered to fully exercise their professional judgment regarding the content of our collections
- Allocate resources in the annual budget to ensure our librarians have the finances they need to maintain the Library's collections
- Be flexible and innovative in response to changes in technology
- Ensure that the Library's collection development policies support these goals





PROGRAMMING

We will continue to provide a wide range of high-quality programming for all ages that addresses the informational, educational and entertainment needs of our community.

Programming for children will remain a high priority – we will continue to help children develop a love of books, reading and their local library through storytimes, reading programs and regular events.

In addition, the envisioned improvements to the Main Library will allow us to become a resource for many of our community's organizations and groups.

Action Items

- Construct new study rooms and meeting spaces that can be made available to members of our community
- When appropriate, reduce or remove barriers to the use of our facilities
- Increase the level of financial investment in programming for all ages
- Create new upstairs program areas and safe outdoor spaces at the Main Library





A LIBRARY FOR ALL

We will continue to strive to be a place that is safe and welcoming to all residents, employees and students in the Town of Mount Pleasant and the Village of Pleasantville.

As our community evolves, technology changes, and public library services continue to transform, the Library will be aware, adaptable and responsive to ensure that it remain a place that is welcoming to, and appreciated by, members of our community.

Action Items

- We will regularly review our services and our outreach programs with a view to ensuring that we remain relevant to the members of the community
- Our librarians will continue to be knowledgeable of current library trends and services to ensure that the Library remains at the forefront of these developments
- We will ensure staff have access to regular training and continuing education