

Hubbard Public Library Operating Levy Frequently Asked Questions

Why does the library need an operating levy?

Since 2001, state funding of Hubbard Public Library has decreased over \$1,353,000.00. It has become clear that public libraries in Ohio cannot depend solely on state funding to operate. Over 70% of the population of Trumbull County already pays for at least one library operating levy. Hubbard Public Library has never had an operating levy, but a decade of declining state funding has made it impossible to maintain adequate library services in Hubbard with state funding alone.

How much will the levy cost and when can I vote?

The 1.9 mill operating levy will cost **\$29.09 per year (\$2.42 per month)** in new taxes for the owner of a home valued at \$100,000.00. Those with the Homestead exemption would pay less. You may cast your vote on Tuesday, May 4. Visit the library's webpage (www.beyond-books.org) to calculate the value of the materials and services available at Hubbard Public Library.

How will the levy funds be used?

Library hours will be restored and the drive-up window reopened. The materials budget will be increased by at least 30% and Children's programming will be returned to former levels. Homebound services will be extended and public access computers will be kept current with high speed internet access and valuable online databases.

Doesn't the library already have a levy?

The Hubbard Public Library receives **no** local funding other than fines, fees, and gifts. In its 72 year history, the Hubbard Public Library has never had an operating levy. A ten year bond issue was passed in 2000 and has been paid off. Those dollars were used to expand the library building and make the library ADA compliant. Because tax collections are one year in arrears, the bond issue will appear on property tax bills for the last time this year. If the operating levy passes, collection would not begin until 2011. The bond issue currently costs approximately \$2.42 per month for a \$100,000.00 home. Since this tax will not be collected after this year, the net increase in 2011 taxes for the owner of a \$100,000.00 home would be about \$2.43 per month if the operating levy passes.

I thought the library received money from the school levy.

Hubbard Public Library receives no money at all from Hubbard Schools or any of their levies.

What will happen if the levy does not pass?

Because the state can no longer provide a stable source of funding for the Hubbard Public Library, there would be additional cuts in every area of library service. In order to maintain the library building and the technology essential to providing public library services there would need to be immediate decreases in materials purchases, Children's programming, and Homebound service. If state funding continues its downward trend, there may not be enough dollars left to support an independent library in Hubbard. Joining the Warren-Trumbull County Library System would mean that Hubbard taxpayers would lose their local Board of Trustees and take on the operating levies already passed by Warren library patrons.