



RICHMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

May 28, 2025

Main Library
101 E. Franklin Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
804.646.2554

11:45 a.m.



Richmond Public Library
101 E. Franklin Street
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 646-4256 / fax: (804) 646-7685



Library Board of Trustees Meeting

**Wednesday, May 28, 2025
11:45 a.m.**

A G E N D A

Call to order: 11:45 a.m. Ms. Peterson

Agenda Ms. Peterson

Consent Agenda: Ms. Peterson

- Approval of Minutes-April 23, 2025, Regular Meeting
- Approval of Statistical Report
- Approval of Pending Deposited Gifts Report

Public Comment Period:

Reports:

- Library Friends Ms. DeBoer/Mr. Dishon
- Library Foundation Ms. Revere/Mr. Firestine
- Library Administration Mr. Firestine
 - Youth Services Update by LCSM Ms. Elizabeth Morris
 - YS/Young Adult Update by Senior Librarian Ms. Genevieve Gray
- Advocacy Taskforce Ms. Peterson/Ms. Carter-Gunter
- Policy Taskforce Ms. Altman

Board Committee Reports:

- Chair Report Ms. Peterson
- Finance Committee Mr. Yates/Mr. Firestine
- Facilities Committee Ms. Woody
- Governance Committee Mr. Sawyer

Unfinished Business Ms. Peterson

New Business Ms. Peterson

Adjourn Ms. Peterson

Next Meeting:

Date: June 25, 2025
Time: 11:45 a.m.
Location: West End Branch Library
5420 Patterson Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23226

Library Board Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2025

PRESENT: Chair Christine Peterson, Emily Altman, Cynthia Hinds, Garrett Sawyer, Janet Woody

VIRTUAL: William Yates

ABSENT: Vice Chair Sheron Carter-Gunter, Brent Graves, Gail Zwirner, Gianna Pack

STAFF: Scott Firestine, Clay Dishon, Attorney Shannan Fitzgerald, Cheryl Clarke, Susan Revere, Friends of the Library Chair Ruth DeBoer, Phil Shephard

The Richmond Public Library (RPL) Library Board of Trustees (LBOT) meeting was called to order by Chair Christine Peterson at 11:45 a.m. at the North Avenue Branch Library located at 2901 North Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23222. The meeting was posted, and the public could attend in person or by viewing the Richmond Public Library YouTube channel <https://bit.ly/2VfKL9U>, where it was live-streamed. A quorum was established.

Chair Peterson announced that William Yates would like to attend today's Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting via electronic communication means, which complies with the RPL Governance Policy 4.12. This policy is to comply with the requirements of section 2.2-3708.2(C)(1) of the Code of Virginia to allow for and govern participation by one or more Library Board of Trustees in meetings by electronic communication means.

Mr. Yates has met the requirement of notifying in advance that he is unable to attend in person due to a personal matter, causing him to be on travel out of the Richmond area, which prevents his physical attendance at the meeting. Mr. Yates will attend from his out-of-area location.

Chair Peterson called for a motion to approve Mr. Yates' request to attend the meeting by electronic communication means from the LBOT Members present.

Motion: Garrett Sawyer, Second by Janet Woody, and moved by unanimous consent from the members who were present.

Agenda	Approve the April 23, 2025, Agenda as Submitted. <i>Motion: Garrett Sawyer, Second by Emily Altman</i> <i>AYES: <u>6</u> NOES: <u>0</u> ABSTAIN: <u>0</u> Approved Unanimously.</i>
Consent Agenda	Approve the March 26, 2025, Meeting Minutes, the Current Financial Reports, Statistical Reports, and Donations Report as Submitted: <i>Motion: Garrett Sawyer, Second by Cynthia Hinds</i> <i>AYES: <u>6</u> NOES: <u>0</u> ABSTAIN: <u>0</u> Approved Unanimously.</i>
Public Comment Period	None present.

Reports	
Friends of the Library (FOL) <u>Ruth DeBoer</u> <u>Clay Dishon</u>	<p>Ms. DeBoer provided an update on the Friends of the Library:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Friends of the Library Board is preparing for the upcoming Spring Book Sale, which will take place on May 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. Note: Spring Book Sale will be in May moving forward. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There will be purchased merchandise for sale, such as bookbags and stickers. • In the process of recruiting new board members. • The Friends are exploring the possibility of hosting a local author for a presentation at their Annual Meeting in the Fall. The date will be confirmed once an author is selected. • The next Friends of the Library Board Meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2025.
Library Foundation <u>Susan Revere</u> <u>Scott Firestine</u>	<p>Foundation Update:</p> <p>The focus is on building fundraising capacity and strengthening relationships. The fundraising efforts center on updating the children's areas across the library system, working with community input, youth librarians, and Library/Community Services Managers.</p> <p>Proposals are in process for the following opportunities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freeman Family Foundation 2. Memorial Foundation for Children 3. Schaberg Foundation 4. Universal Leaf Foundation <p>Also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign/CVC submitted • Platinum Seal of Transparency on Candid
Branch Report <u>Craig Gill-Walker</u>	<p>Library/Community Services Manager Craig Gill-Walker shared recent highlights from the North Avenue Branch. The library remains committed to early childhood literacy, with a strong focus on engaging babies and preschool-aged children through programs like "Baby Arts Play" and a successful partnership with PBS Kids for a Pre-K Literacy Program. Youth Services Librarian Richard Wissmiller has been instrumental in leading these efforts.</p> <p>In response to the conclusion of the G.E.D. program, the branch has introduced new senior-focused offerings such as <i>Armchair Fitness</i> and <i>Movie Date</i> sessions held twice weekly. Outreach to senior living facilities is ongoing to provide meaningful and accessible programming.</p> <p>Workforce development is also a priority. The Branch has partnered with Abacus to host monthly job fairs, along with resume help and mock interviews for patrons. Additionally, a collaboration with Smokey Mug is in progress to install a Little Free Library at their new location.</p> <p>Community outreach continues to grow, with storytimes held at locations such as VCU, Ann Hardy, and Saint Thomas. The Branch is also expanding its book club offerings, including a new initiative with the Heritage Adult Center. These efforts have contributed to a noticeable increase in book circulation across Adult and Young Adult services.</p>

Reports (Continued)	
Administration <u>Scott Firestine</u>	<p>Director's Report: Besides the items submitted in this month's report, several key updates were provided regarding the North Avenue Branch Library. Mr. Firestine contributed additional context to Mr. Gill-Walker's report, emphasizing the notable improvement in circulation at the North Avenue Branch—a point not previously highlighted.</p> <p>Following the severe waterline break in December 2022, which resulted in extensive flooding and damage to a large portion of the collection, the Branch underwent significant renovations. Damaged materials were replaced, and the layout of the building was redesigned to better support patron engagement and browsing. The new design places the circulating collection around the perimeter of the building, allowing easier access and improved visibility for library users.</p> <p>Nearly two years since the incident, the impact of these changes has been closely monitored. The data shows a marked increase in circulation, with current figures already surpassing those of the entire year of 2022. This demonstrates that the adjustments have been effective. Only materials with active circulation remain on the floor; this focused approach has proven beneficial. The ongoing use of experimental layout and collection strategies at this branch is providing valuable insight and may serve as a model for other locations.</p>
Advocacy Task Force <u>Christine Peterson</u> <u>Sheron Carter-Gunter</u>	<p>Chair Peterson began the report by introducing two key topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMLS and NEH Cuts: Mr. Firestine and Chair Peterson are talking on April 23, 2025, along with many other librarians and library leadership, with Senator Tim Kane, aimed exclusively at IMLS and NEH. They feel it is important to support the entire infrastructure of library activities. • RPL Budget: No major cuts currently. Proposes two advocacy suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Email to Council – being thankful for the budget. We have big plans, and RPL is going to serve this community like you have never seen before. ○ In May, the Trustee, Youth Services Librarian, and the Library/Community Services Manager are to show up at their respective Councilmembers' monthly public meeting, with one of those attending to stand up and talk at the meeting to the community about what RPL is going to do for them in the summer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have a handout to have at the meeting. ○ Mr. Firestine has been tasked to work out the details.
Policy Taskforce <u>Emily Altman</u>	<p>Ms. Altman is currently reviewing the policies and then working with Mr. Firestine on the next steps.</p>
Chair Report <u>Christine Peterson, Chair</u>	<p>Chair Peterson expressed sincere gratitude on behalf of the Library Board of Trustees (LBOT) on how much they appreciate the RPL staff for their hard work and dedication during National Library Week.</p>

Reports (Continued)	
Finance <u>Bill Yates, Chair</u> <u>Scott Firestine</u>	<p>Mr. Yates shared that the budget has come through as Chair Peterson indicated and expressed his satisfaction with the outcome. He also noted that the budget presented in the packet is progressing well, with expenditures currently at 76%—a typical rate for this point in the fiscal year.</p> <p>Mr. Firestine added that the Council has held two work sessions so far and, to date, has not made any reductions to the library’s budget. He further highlighted that \$1 million has been allocated in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for library facility updates, allowing for space refreshes and general improvements in buildings that have not been renovated in 10-15 years, with even the possibility of procuring a bookmobile.</p>
Facilities <u>Janet Woody, Chair</u> <u>Scott Firestine</u>	<p>Mr. Firestine noted that the report is making good progress and that public meetings are being scheduled for May and June.</p>
Governance <u>Garrett Sawyer, Chair</u>	<p>Mr. Sawyer reported that he has been collaborating with Chair Peterson on developing a forward-looking governance strategy for the Library Board of Trustees (LBOT). This strategy focuses on two key priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensuring that all nine districts of the City of Richmond are represented on the Board. 2. Promoting a diversified structure of the Board of Trustees. <p>Looking ahead, the plan is to initiate outreach efforts now, recognizing that no immediate changes will occur in the current year. However, as the Board anticipates member transitions in 2026 and 2027, early engagement will help prepare for a more inclusive and representative Board in the future.</p>
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
No Unfinished Business was discussed.	
NEW BUSINESS	
<p>Chair Peterson initiated the discussion of new business, proposing the idea of convening a joint three-board meeting involving the Library Board of Trustees (LBOT), the Friends of the Library, and the Foundation. She recommended inviting Reagan Flacker from the Library of Virginia to lead a session focused on advocacy.</p> <p>Following the discussion, there was motioned that the Trustees organize a three-board meeting in the summer of 2025, comprising the Richmond Public Library Trustees, the Friends of the Library, and the Foundation, to focus on advocacy efforts, and that members Chair Chris Peterson, Cynthia Hinds, and Janet Woody will meet after the May 28, LBOT Meeting to discuss plans for the June 5 three-board.</p> <p><i>Motion: Emily Altman, Second by Cynthia Hinds</i></p> <p><i>AYES: 6 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Approved Unanimously.</i></p>	

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:31 p.m. by unanimous consent from the members that were present.

The LBOT's next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at the Main Library, 101 E. Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

Approved: _____
Christine Peterson, Chair

Recorder: Gianna Pack, CAP
Senior Executive Assistant

Director's Report

May 2025

Director Activities:

May 2-4 Friends of the Library Book Sale – Main Library
May 7 Friends of the Library Board Meeting – Main Library
May 12 Main Library Closed – Building Repairs
May 12 Informal and Formal Council Meetings – City Hall Council Chambers
May 26 Memorial Day Holiday – Libraries Closed
May 27 Informal and Formal Council Meetings – City Hall Council Chambers

Hiring:

- **May 2025 Hiring Update:**
 - 0056 – PT Library Technician – North Avenue Branch Library – Requisition Phase
 - 03TEMP00130 – Temporary/PT Administrative Technician – Main Library/Foundation – Requisition Phase
 - 03INTERN0003 – 0012 – Temporary/PT Early Learning Interns (SRP) – Selection Phase

Outreach and Engagement Update:

April was a very busy month for outreach across the system:

- Broad Rock Branch Library staff attended an El Día de los Niños event with Chesterfield County Public Library system. Reciprocally, they attended RPL's event on April 26. The Broad Rock Branch staff also presented in Spanish to families at Sacred Heart Center on literacy and library services and took part in a Moon Tree Dedication at Boushall Middle.
- Westover Hills Branch Library staff tabled at a sports event at L. Brown Middle as well as at the District 4 City Council Meeting with Mayor Avula.
- Hull Street Branch Library staff attended the first of many A Better Day Food Pantry events, and North Avenue Branch Library staff tabled at a Mary Scott Preschool Enrollment Event.
- West End Branch Library staff attended their first monthly Farmer's Market at Saint Stephen's and partnered with Ginter Park Branch Library staff to participate in Community Day at Thomas Jefferson High School.
- Main Library staff also tabled at Cabell Library, VCU's Health Sciences Library, Career Day at REDD Elementary, Maymont Preschool Enrollment Event, and the VCU Benefits and Well-Being Fair.
- The East End Branch Library staff conducted outreach at Robinson Theater.

Finally, the Team attended several large-scale, citywide events, including the Richmond Poetry Festival, Dominion Energy Family Easter at Maymont, and the Earth Day Celebration at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens.

Tax Preparation Statistics:

Library staff fielded a high volume of phone calls regarding appointments and related inquiries. They consistently went above and beyond in assisting both taxpayers and volunteer tax preparers, providing invaluable support throughout the season.

The Main Library continues to serve as an ideal location for reaching our target audience. According to Alan Boese, AARP Tax-Aide Coordinator, volunteers completed a total of 494 tax returns—460 for the current year and 33 for prior years. Notably, over half of the individuals served were age 60 or older, with an average adjusted gross income (AGI) of \$37,381.

Director's Report (Continued)

May 2025

Things to Celebrate:

- **Broad Rock Branch Library:** This year's Día de los Niños celebration was a huge success! We welcomed 476 attendees who enjoyed a vibrant day filled with activities and community spirit. The event featured 10 community resource tables hosted by local organizations, colorful face painting, refreshing popsicles from La Michoacana, 4 lively story times, fun games, and exciting giveaways. Even our dedicated Homework Help volunteers joined in to lend a hand. Pictures are attached.
- **East End Branch Library:** A patron attended the CCC Job Fair held this month, where he received some promising leads. However, he felt that the companies present did not align with his specific goals. After discussing his background and career aspirations with Library/Services Manager Adam Zimmerli, Mr. Zimmerli connected him with Janette McGrady at ReWork. Since then, they have begun collaborating to help the patron find a position better suited to his skills and professional growth.
- **Ginter Park Branch Library:** One evening, a family from Chesterfield arrived at the Ginter Park Branch Library for toddler storytime, only to find the time had been incorrectly advertised elsewhere. Fortunately, our Youth Services Librarian, Rachel Condon, stepped in and turned the situation around by offering a special story time just for them.
- **Hull Street Branch Library:** One of our patrons, Mr. William Duncan, graced us with a lovely card for Spring: He wrote, "Have a Happy National Library Week. Thanks for all you do for the community...Excellent Staff...Outstanding Service." --Wm. Duncan
- **Main Library:** A patron expressed his sincere appreciation for Librarian Danielle Howard, thanking her for her assistance with his résumé. He shared that both she and the entire Main Library staff had been incredibly helpful. He was grateful that a resource like the Richmond Public Library is available to the community, stating, *"I couldn't be happier with my recent experience at the Main Branch. Thank you!"*
- **West End Branch Library:** A patron came into the library and stated that he had not been inside in over 10 years. He was truly impressed with the renovation. "Before it was dark and dingy, and crowded...the lighting is wonderful and the table lamps are 'on point' as you need light in front of you, not just from above." He expanded on his approval of the updates and left with "I'll be back!"
- **Westover Hills Branch Library:** Senior Library Technician Lenora Wesley was greeted by a customer who used to come into the Branch regularly. This man was going through hard personal times when he would use the Westover Hills Branch Library regularly years ago. On April 22, he brought Ms. Wesley a signed copy of his book, Presley, and thanked her for the kindness she always showed him! He uses the penname KingTracy. He said he got a lot of encouragement when he was here, which is how he has come to the success he has now as an author in his own right!
- That same day, Ms. Wesley helped a long-time regular patron with a notary request. The lady made a point of letting us know how grateful she is for all Ms. Wesley's assistance over the years. She filled out a Gratitude Card and wrote: "I am grateful for the library for/because: of a great library person Lenora Wesley. She is always smiling and positive. She gets me out of copy machine trouble. She helps me find certain books. I was born in 1938, and she has been good for me for a long time!"

CIRCULATION FY25														
LOCATION	FY	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	Total
Belmont	FY22	10,105	7,973	7,528	7,249	7,173	6,764	7,283	7,235	7,934	7,118	7,967	7,424	91,753
	FY23	8,400	9,297	8,586	8,967	7,642	6,982	8,312	8,167	9,161	8,345	8,716	9,056	101,631
	FY24	9,417	9,967	9,066	9,340	8,224	7,515	9,085	8,454	8,780	9,182	9,140	9,329	107,499
	FY25	9,655	8,891	9,159	9,439	8,600	9,685	9,164	9,328	9,468	9,614			93,003
Broad Rock	FY22	2,105	2,733	2,315	2,073	1,945	1,579	1,545	1,502	1,667	1,624	1,641	1,581	22,310
	FY23	1,886	2,413	2,106	1,977	1,721	1,531	1,758	1,807	2,330	2,290	2,080	1,884	23,783
	FY24	1,897	1,953	1,950	2,106	1,836	1,828	2,008	2,135	2,556	2,417	2,229	2,415	25,330
	FY25	2,543	2,564	2,515	2,701	2,433	2,490	2,515	2,241	2,307	2,148			24,457
East End	FY22	2,519	2,799	3,073	3,039	3,149	2,993	3,230	2,928	2,992	2,897	3061	2,830	35,510
	FY23	2,898	3,313	2,951	2,837	2,246	1,990	2,671	2,600	2,487	2,526	2,519	2,451	31,489
	FY24	2,952	3,044	2,307	2,215	2,041	1,988	2,534	2,742	2,961	2,967	3,003	3,038	31,792
	FY25	3,418	2,890	2,989	3,180	2,661	2,606	2,709	2,690	2,782	2,556			28,481
Ginter Park	FY22	4,175	4,452	4,292	3,990	3,754	3,074	3,671	3,585	4,340	3,877	4,015	4,821	48,046
	FY23	4,607	4,802	4,463	4,174	3,610	3,612	4,283	3,728	4,660	4,232	3,889	4,525	50,585
	FY24	4,819	4,795	4,104	3,878	3,733	3,391	4,214	3,947	4,242	3,943	4,241	4,733	50,040
	FY25	5,575	5,005	4,430	4,460	4,045	4,169	4,550	4,683	5,323	5,033			47,273
Hull Street	FY22	1,884	2,141	1,986	2,144	2,014	2,475	2,397	2,324	2,634	2,361	2,065	2,046	26,471
	FY23	1,987	2,359	2,346	2,331	1,895	1,822	2,069	2,073	2,049	2,272	2,233	1,930	25,366
	FY24	2,386	2,461	2,030	2,359	2,470	2,137	2,281	2,059	1,870	1,849	1,777	2,036	25,715
	FY25	2,123	2,120	2,146	2,295	1,785	1,847	1,500	1,517	1,709	1,516			18,558
Main	FY22	6,925	7,554	6,708	6,748	6,810	6,026	6,904	7,269	8,068	6,675	6,442	6,757	82,886
	FY23	7,932	9,457	8,777	8,957	7,149	6,313	8,304	8,189	9,523	8,891	9,053	8,341	100,886
	FY24	9,347	9,863	9,016	9,344	7,839	7,022	7,933	8,265	9,416	9,041	8,665	8,386	104,137
	FY25	8,724	9,236	8,857	8,888	7,880	7,467	8,022	8,039	9,212	8,823			85,148

CIRCULATION FY25 (CONTINUED)														
LOCATION	FY	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	Total
North Avenue	FY22	2,003	2,229	2,141	2,241	2,041	1,724	1,755	1,850	2,256	1,825	1,783	1,706	23,554
	FY23	2,139	2,118	2,085	2,378	2,367	1,743	949	77	-	-	226	1,005	15,087
	FY24	1,638	2,294	2,259	2,390	1,998	1,943	2,392	2,108	2,011	2,119	2,358	2,748	26,258
	FY25	2,943	2,899	2,907	2,965	2,321	2,375	2,468	2,478	2,843	2,441			26,640
West End	FY22	12,036	12,125	11,087	10,998	9,998	9,073	10,369	10,305	11,090	10,253	11,113	12,224	130,671
	FY23	13,150	13,412	10,950	11,072	10,121	8,552	10,395	9,966	10,771	10,338	10,968	11,745	131,440
	FY24	12,573	12,176	10,311	10,507	9,828	8,881	10,400	10,328	10,789	11,027	11,457	12,216	130,493
	FY25	13,977	12,956	11,756	11,346	9,624	9,890	11,234	10,498	10,948	10,547			112,776
Westover Hills	FY22	7,604	8,163	7,214	8,653	7,649	6,836	7,650	6,983	7,908	7,144	7,833	7,803	91,440
	FY23	8,424	8,612	8,155	8,407	7,765	6,496	7,540	7,706	8,344	7,423	7,463	8,703	95,038
	FY24	10,057	9,438	8,550	8,313	7,733	7,198	7,721	8,131	8,432	8,196	8,131	9,168	101,068
	FY25	10,085	9,495	8,938	8,821	7,746	7,906	8,363	8,067	8,351	8,209			85,981
E-Content	FY22	12,630	13,139	11,175	10,431	11,019	11,061	13,230	11,146	11,981	12,939	14,980	14,655	148,386
	FY23	16,079	16,510	14,806	14,910	15,126	16,515	19,182	17,810	23,496	24,317	24,593	24,071	227,415
	FY24	25,640	27,387	26,401	27,051	26,710	27,809	34,405	35,378	37,274	36,890	37,078	39,698	381,721
	FY25	41,178	40,652	40,124	39,955	42,109	44,466	50,662	46,551	51,789	50,778			448,264
Totals	FY22	61,986	63,308	57,519	57,566	55,552	51,605	58,034	55,127	60,870	56,713	60,900	61,847	701,027
	FY23	67,502	72,293	65,225	66,010	59,642	55,556	65,463	62,123	72,821	70,634	71,740	73,711	802,720
	FY24	80,964	82,302	76,087	77,602	72,788	71,882	83,052	84,421	89,019	88,063	78,939	84,438	969,557
	FY25	100,221	96,708	93,821	94,050	89,204	92,901	101,187	96,092	104,732	101,665	-	-	970,581

PROGRAMS FY2025	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	TOTAL FY25	TOTAL FY24
Belmont														
Adult Programs	13	14	7	6	3	3	7	6	9	8			76	122
Adult Attend	51	87	36	26	15	11	325	60	62	46			719	331
Young Adult Programs	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	2			17	12
Young Adult Attend	3	4	6	0	0	0	0	2	1	1			17	10
Juvenile Programs	19	13	17	19	13	12	13	14	15	20			155	196
Juvenile Attend	309	200	281	440	219	222	278	258	342	464			3,013	3,067
Total Attend	363	291	323	466	234	233	603	320	405	511	0	0	3,749	3,408
Total Programs	34	28	26	27	17	17	21	22	26	30	0	0	248	330
Broad Rock														
Adult Programs	7	13	12	12	4	4	6	11	16	8			93	65
Adult Attend	136	616	94	318	8	8	9	119	152	40			1,500	193
Young Adult Programs	7	3	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	3			30	75
Young Adult Attend	34	4	9	18	11	10	12	25	51	29			203	115
Juvenile Programs	31	34	29	34	20	23	20	20	28	30			269	219
Juvenile Attend	62	217	179	274	98	89	70	64	146	607			1,806	928
Total Attend	232	837	282	610	117	107	91	208	349	676	0	0	3,509	1,236
Total Programs	45	50	43	48	26	30	28	34	47	41	0	0	392	359
East End														
Adult Programs	6	8	9	5	8	8	5	7	6	5			67	88
Adult Attend	166	63	65	49	43	52	24	43	67	101			673	718
Young Adult Programs	12	10	10	10	7	10	6	7	10	8			90	65
Young Adult Attend	63	42	62	42	36	23	19	22	30	27			366	412
Juvenile Programs	29	18	17	19	11	17	18	29	18	26			202	93
Juvenile Attend	290	173	238	242	104	79	119	156	301	541			2,243	2,189
Total Attend	519	278	365	333	183	154	162	221	398	669	0	0	3,282	3,319
Total Programs	47	36	36	34	26	35	29	43	34	39	0	0	359	246

PROGRAMS FY2025 (CONTINUED)	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	TOTAL FY25	TOTAL FY24
Ginter Park														
Adult Programs	13	11	9	9	5	15	7	10	8	8			95	61
Adult Attend	76	56	37	30	13	48	15	28	35	34			372	302
Young Adult Programs	9	6	7	10	10	6	6	5	9	10			78	7
Young Adult Attend	17	8	6	36	10	18	15	9	21	12			152	0
Juvenile Programs	21	21	22	23	18	20	19	20	27	30			221	123
Juvenile Attend	146	142	100	142	107	97	111	121	137	243			1,346	895
Total Attend	239	206	143	208	130	163	141	158	193	289	0	0	1,870	1,197
Total Programs	43	38	38	42	33	41	32	35	44	48	0	0	394	191
Hull Street														
Adult Programs	4	4	4	5	0	1	2	18	8	6			52	26
Adult Attend	9	76	13	42	0	3	10	55	55	22			285	245
Young Adult Programs	7	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2			18	13
Young Adult Attend	12	3	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	0			21	81
Juvenile Programs	11	4	6	6	6	5	1	3	5	13			60	62
Juvenile Attend	221	66	90	103	99	82	5	43	73	230			1,012	979
Total Attend	242	145	103	150	99	85	15	99	128	252	0	0	1,318	1,305
Total Programs	22	9	11	13	7	7	4	22	14	21	0	0	130	101
Main														
Adult Programs	22	21	30	26	20	20	22	28	23	24			236	137
Adult Attend	237	217	429	2,662	686	315	290	525	405	412			6,178	2,714
Young Adult Programs	3	0	15	19	16	17	11	17	18	16			132	3
Young Adult Attend	42	0	81	129	75	82	82	109	87	76			763	28
Juvenile Programs	33	21	32	34	34	33	32	30	24	24			297	196
Juvenile Attend	1,090	344	448	515	348	352	523	470	520	469			5,079	3,360
Total Attend	1,369	561	958	3,306	1,109	749	895	1,104	1,012	957	0	0	12,020	6,102
Total Programs	58	42	77	79	70	70	65	75	65	64	0	0	665	336

PROGRAMS FY2025 (CONTINUED)	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	TOTAL FY25	TOTAL FY24
North Avenue														
Adult Programs	3	3	7	9	3	2	6	7	11	8			59	34
Adult Attend	18	20	56	53	112	10	25	57	84	64			499	364
Young Adult Programs	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	0	2	2			15	3
Young Adult Attend	22	15	27	15	35	13	3	0	6	0			136	8
Juvenile Programs	14	15	15	26	13	18	28	16	26	24			195	29
Juvenile Attend	280	162	153	301	240	325	330	219	289	389			2,688	455
Total Attend	320	197	236	369	387	348	358	276	379	453	0	0	3,323	827
Total Programs	19	21	24	36	17	21	35	23	39	34	0	0	269	66
West End														
Adult Programs	7	8	14	13	12	12	11	12	12	27			128	68
Adult Attend	36	40	78	47	60	69	45	47	77	123			622	629
Young Adult Programs	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	2			14	12
Young Adult Attend	4	0	3	7	0	1	0	1	9	12			37	117
Juvenile Programs	21	11	25	25	15	16	15	18	18	27			191	145
Juvenile Attend	469	174	306	289	119	125	171	188	209	423			2,473	2,534
Total Attend	509	214	387	343	179	195	216	236	295	558	0	0	3,132	3,280
Total Programs	30	19	40	39	28	29	27	32	33	56	0	0	333	225
Westover Hills														
Adult Programs	5	8	10	15	11	10	10	11	15	14			109	13
Adult Attend	59	73	50	79	228	29	66	60	69	73			786	62
Young Adult Programs	5	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	4	3			26	12
Young Adult Attend	30	4	3	2	14	3	2	6	13	5			82	129
Juvenile Programs	19	17	22	27	19	19	20	24	32	32			231	76
Juvenile Attend	449	416	448	490	291	319	373	377	517	663			4,343	3,546
Total Attend	538	493	501	571	533	351	441	443	599	741	0	0	5,211	3,737
Total Programs	29	27	34	44	32	31	31	38	51	49	0	0	366	101
Grand Total Attend	4,331	3,222	3,298	6,356	2,971	2,385	2,922	3,065	3,758	5,106	0	0	37,414	23,192
Grand Total Programs	327	270	329	362	256	281	272	324	353	382	0	0	3,156	1,876

DOOR COUNT FY2025	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	TOTAL
Belmont	4,511	3,500	3,508	3,538	2,380	5,720	5,866	5,370	4,639	4,500			43,532
Broad Rock	4,950	5,649	4,956	5,714	3,822	4,284	4,864	4,393	5,676	5,543			49,851
East End	6,348	5,387	5,036	5,489	4,277	4,895	4,134	4,200	5,154	4,940			49,860
Ginter Park	4,530	4,512	4,026	4,023	3,234	3,079	3,026	3,169	3,918	3,303			36,820
Hull Street	3,093	2,773	2,217	2,475	2,112	2,208	1,834	939	2,227	1,088			20,966
Main	14,829	15,511	14,262	16,459	11,153	11,387	9,888	11,304	14,038	14,040			132,871
North Avenue	4,123	7,682	3,061	3,256	3,016	3,151	4,125	2,784	3,884	2,640			37,722
West End	4,235	4,193	3,767	3,913	2,920	2,978	4,985	3,277	3,862	3,962			38,092
Westover Hills	4,498	5,562	5,186	5,576	4,101	3,574	4,446	4,549	5,385	5,380			48,257
TOTALS FY25:	51,117	54,769	46,019	50,443	37,015	41,276	43,168	39,985	48,783	45,396	-	-	457,971
TOTALS FY24:	39,382	46,969	32,640	45,796	32,816	35,874	42,622	46,082	46,907	56,662	54,040	52,146	531,936
TOTALS FY23:	44,405	45,027	38,340	37,779	31,237	29,286	29,662	29,786	30,609	32,727	26,813	34,076	409,747

NEW PATRON CARDS													
FY2025	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	Total
Belmont	141	119	164	110	112	113	158	115	136	125			1,293
Broad Rock	69	95	95	63	63	49	55	69	74	83			715
East End	61	44	42	43	36	27	64	42	36	53			448
Ginter Park	61	59	127	59	32	33	42	43	63	67			586
Hull Street	72	81	81	62	52	43	43	43	54	41			572
Main	222	390	488	474	447	270	378	419	407	298			3,793
North Avenue	43	44	38	40	37	33	44	36	43	52			410
West End	105	90	108	78	51	44	72	70	55	64			737
Westover Hills	105	94	147	71	55	50	72	84	74	91			843
Online Reg E-Card	666	699	875	743	713	713	1,092	923	926	871			8,221
Total FY25:	1,545	1,715	2,165	1,743	1,598	1,375	2,020	1,844	1,868	1,745	-	-	17,618
Total FY24:	1,526	1,689	1,492	1,768	1,668	1,200	1,924	1,581	1,655	1,595	1,510	1,534	19,142
Total FY23:	1,334	1,498	1,366	1,217	1,035	917	1,343	1,270	1,167	1,171	1,301	1,330	14,949

COMPUTER USE FY2025	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May- 25	Jun- 25	TOTAL
Belmont Workstation	690	628	652	662	492	535	483	516	640	651			5,949
WIFI	863	846	792	894	739	788	720	569	1,082	880			8,173
Broad Rock Workstation	724	782	769	905	602	679	663	672	856	865			7,517
WIFI	1,064	1,144	978	1,247	1,019	1,032	1,631	1,738	1,932	2,050			13,835
East End Workstation	661	635	589	587	460	504	495	510	631	499			5,571
WIFI	1,744	1,859	1,676	1,508	1,458	1,555	1,179	1,180	1,509	1,364			15,032
Ginter Park Workstation	598	608	515	533	297	441	384	376	529	500			4,781
WIFI	896	858	900	855	771	840	674	710	813	814			8,131
Hull Street Workstation	453	599	639	616	433	439	455	395	482	460			4,971
WIFI	874	992	1,034	1,328	1,210	845	971	751	1,001	1,230			10,236
Main Workstation	2,599	2,379	2,006	2,086	1,198	1,814	1,718	1,562	1,914	1,840			19,116
WIFI	5,775	6,194	6,010	7,291	5,762	6,898	5,188	5,743	6,123	6,502			61,486
North Avenue Workstation	598	577	504	603	350	347	433	426	440	536			4,814
WIFI	883	748	665	857	769	722	460	647	625	628			7,004
West End Workstation	395	402	422	419	323	350	292	301	324	359			3,587
WIFI	1,165	1,294	1,205	1,479	1,050	972	927	1,247	1,269	1,362			11,970
Westover Hills Workstation	590	560	547	530	399	375	366	383	533	442			4,725
WIFI	615	724	733	749	509	485	457	506	640	466			5,884
TOTALS FY25:	21,187	21,829	20,636	23,149	17,841	19,621	17,496	18,232	21,343	21,448	-	-	202,782
TOTALS FY24:	16,191	18,566	17,176	18,563	13,735	14,255	16,296	17,267	17,903	18,723	19,691	19,587	207,953
TOTALS FY23:	13,430	14,930	14,136	14,657	11,832	11,834	13,204	13,045	13,988	13,375	15,025	15,034	164,490
TOTALS FY22:	7,868	7,453	7,484	10,192	7,706	7,583	8,709	8,046	9,346	10,404	10,819	11,897	107,507

TECHNICAL SERVICES - FLOATING ITEMS ADDED / DISCARDED				
FY2025	Printed Materials Added (All Branches)	Overdrive Added	Monthly Total Added	Monthly Total Discarded
Jul-24	1,033	504	1,537	4,804
Aug-24	1,480	354	1,834	2,107
Sep-24	1,071	271	1,342	202
Oct-24	1,224	322	1,546	240
Nov-24	1,595	257	1,852	182
Dec-24	730	328	1,058	1,729
Jan-25	1,123	588	1,711	11,198
Feb-25	1,570	423	1,993	740
Mar-25	1,949	840	2,789	664
Apr-25	3,568	495	4,063	395
May-25				
Jun-25				
FY25 Totals:	15,343	4,382	19,725	22,261
FY24 Totals:	14,096	5,041	19,137	43,251
FY23 Totals:	29,114	10,656	39,773	5,565
FY22 Totals:	17,756	5,387	23,143	2,117

LAPTOP CHECKOUTS FY2025	Jul- 24	Aug- 24	Sep- 24	Oct- 24	Nov- 24	Dec- 24	Jan- 25	Feb- 25	Mar- 25	Apr- 25	May- 25	Jun- 25	TOTAL
Belmont	12	1	4	4	3	5	3	1	5	4			42
Broad Rock	0	0	1	2	2	1	0	0	1	1			8
East End	3	3	3	3	0	1	2	2	2	0			19
Ginter Park	1	3	1	2	1	0	1	4	3	2			18
Hull Street	5	1	3	1	0	1	2	1	0	1			15
Main Library	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	1	0			9
North Avenue	5	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			8
West End	6	6	7	4	3	6	4	2	14	7			59
Westover Hills	3	5	6	7	11	7	2	3	4	3			51
TOTALS FY25:	35	20	26	26	22	23	15	14	30	18	0	0	229

Room Requests FY2025	Jul-24		Aug-24		Sep-24		Oct-24		Nov-24		Dec-24		Jan-25		Feb-25		Mar-25		Apr-25		May-25		Jun-25		Total Requests	Total Attended
	Requests	Attended	Requests	Attended	Requests	Attended	Requests	Attended	Requests	Attended	Requests	Attended	Requests	Attended	Requests	Attended	Requests	Attended	Requests	Attended	Requests	Attended	Requests	Attended		
Belmont																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 15)	7	42	7	55	9	41	16	60	10	72	10	40	14	63	16	73	12	34	16	52					117	532
Broad Rock																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 35)	46	407	27	144	30	140	50	352	40	228	31	362	3	54	29	244	29	299	30	241					315	2,471
East End																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 35)	14	119	12	29	23	77	21	78	20	41	14	61	11	57	15	53	32	107	37	133					199	755
Ginter Park																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 40)	7	17	11	94	22	115	18	127	12	129	5	46	6	40	9	102	21	198	11	57					122	925
Hull Street																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 47)	10	143	8	127	15	149	21	533	19	265	12	197	18	171	13	280	16	217	22	355					154	2,437
Main																										
Auditorium (Capacity 250)	28	677	32	1,520	23	1,115	28	1,735	22	1,000	28	1,475	25	1,335	30	1,840	35	2,095	34	2,266					285	15,058
Annex (Capacity 45)	21	691	15	306	22	423	20	413	16	319	13	217	14	345	28	639	31	702	21	640					201	4,695
Activity Room (Capacity 48)	21	180	18	351	17	563	17	405	8	106	8	205	13	435	18	446	14	480	18	712					152	3,883
Gellman Room (Capacity 80)	22	274	26	577	25	709	27	526	19	450	12	350	18	528	22	755	24	885	22	667					217	5,721
Memory Lab (Capacity 4)	17	17	16	16	16	16	17	17	20	20	24	24	20	20	17	17	23	23	47	47					217	217
Innovation Lab (Capacity 12)	3	3	6	6	21	21	13	13	22	22	9	9	3	3	5	5	14	14	17	17					113	113
Study Room B (Capacity 6)	79	79	80	157	82	119	77	118	69	164	72	152	70	144	82	215	102	238	111	247					824	1,633
Study Room C (Capacity 12)	68	187	66	153	65	247	72	251	60	236	66	328	56	286	64	311	90	390	83	393					690	2,782
Study Room D (Capacity 12)	64	165	60	171	51	135	60	239	47	193	66	257	51	222	62	316	74	323	86	378					621	2,399
Study Room E (Capacity 6)	66	105	53	91	63	122	77	166	58	149	62	167	61	130	74	182	9	29							523	1,141
North Avenue																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 47)	4	10	6	13	5	20	7	45	6	38	5	32	16	48	13	36	12	28	25	60					99	330
West End																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 44)	7	84	8	86	10	144	20	169	18	106	13	130	7	101	18	209	17	190	17	215					135	1,434
Study Room (Capacity 8)	55	69	67	147	58	93	71	127	60	84	64	95	35	62	57	114	73	116	76	123					616	1,030
Westover Hills																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 35)	11	40	5	68	5	78	3	38	11	51	7	42	6	73	6	93	6	33	7	44					67	560
FY25 Totals:	550	3,309	523	4,111	562	4,327	635	5,412	537	3,673	521	4,189	447	4,117	578	5,930	634	6,401	680	6,647	-	-	-	-	5,667	48,116

Richmond Public Library
FY25 Operating Budget
as of April 30, 2025

ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	Budget	Actual and Encumbered 30-Apr-25	% Spent	Balance Available 30-Apr-25
60000	SALARIES - FULL TIME	\$ 4,507,694	\$ 3,686,560	81.8%	\$ 821,134
60001	OVERTIME PERMAN	\$ 19,176	\$ 1,870	9.8%	\$ 17,306
61000	SALARIES - PART TIME	\$ 545,069	\$ 529,270	97.1%	\$ 15,799
62000	SALARIES - TEMPORARY	\$ 10,000	\$ 103,997	1040.0%	\$ (93,997)
63000	FICA	\$ 313,276	\$ 258,913	82.6%	\$ 54,363
63001	RET CON RSRs	\$ 363,650	\$ 352,343	96.9%	\$ 11,307
63002	MEDCARE FICA	\$ 73,263	\$ 60,741	82.9%	\$ 12,522
63003	GROUP LIFE	\$ 27,436	\$ 20,080	73.2%	\$ 7,356
63004	CONSTITUTIONAL	\$ -	\$ 43,942	0.0%	\$ (43,942)
63006	H/C ACT TEMP	\$ 807,207	\$ 743,085	92.1%	\$ 64,122
63008	STATE UNEMPLOYMENT	\$ -	\$ 799	0.0%	\$ (799)
63011	HEALTH SAVINGS	\$ -	\$ 11,563	0.0%	\$ (11,563)
63100	VRS HYBRID DB	\$ 134,404	\$ 236,520	176.0%	\$ (102,116)
63105	VRS HYBRID DC	\$ -	\$ 16,369	0.0%	\$ (16,369)
63110	VRS HYBRID VLDP	\$ -	\$ 12,116	0.0%	\$ (12,116)
63115	VRS Hybrid 401a	\$ -	\$ 14,535	0.0%	\$ (14,535)
64103	Educnctv #81	\$ -	\$ 1,453	0.0%	\$ (1,453)
Personnel Expenses		\$ 6,801,175	\$ 6,094,155	89.6%	\$ 707,020
71141	BOOKS	\$ 952,359	\$ 698,530	73.3%	\$ 253,829
71141	DATABASES	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
71142	MULTIMEDIA PRODUCTS	\$ 2,456	\$ 634	25.8%	\$ 1,822
72122	MAGS & NEWSPAPER	\$ 29,277	\$ (14,632)	-50.0%	\$ 43,909
Collection Development		\$ 984,092	\$ 684,531	69.6%	\$ 299,561
70131	ADVERTISING	\$ 2,297	\$ 61	2.7%	\$ 2,236
70161	PLANNING MGMT SERVICES	\$ 483,050	\$ 477,534	98.9%	\$ 5,516
70215	EQUIPMENT REPAIR	\$ 81,200	\$ 44,648	55.0%	\$ 36,552
70218	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$ 1,477	\$ 3,213	217.6%	\$ (1,736)
70412	TRANSPORTATION	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
70416	EMPLOYEE PARKING	\$ 21,600	\$ 19,440	90.0%	\$ 2,160
70311	PRINTED SUPPLIES	\$ 3,000	\$ 7,659	255.3%	\$ (4,659)
70413	MILEAGE ALLOWANCE	\$ 2,263	\$ 919	40.6%	\$ 1,344
70551	SECURITY	\$ 294,543	\$ 308,703	104.8%	\$ (14,160)
70552	CONTRACT AND TEMP PERSONNEL	\$ 22,000	\$ 63,889	290.4%	\$ (41,889)
71012	OFFICE STATIONARY SUPPLIES	\$ 3,047	\$ 4,251	139.5%	\$ (1,204)
71016	ADVERTISING	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
71143	LIBRARY OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$ 19,220	\$ 11,126	57.9%	\$ 8,094
72113	POSTAGE	\$ 4,456	\$ 286	6.4%	\$ 4,170
72121	CONFERENCES & CON	\$ 1,904	\$ 1,960	102.9%	\$ (56)
72123	MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$ 677	\$ 7,477	1104.4%	\$ (6,800)
72124	TRAINING	\$ 1,055	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 1,055
72131	COMPUTER SUPPLIES	\$ 25,662	\$ (8,093)	-31.5%	\$ 33,755
72153	EQUIPMENT	\$ 138,341	\$ 134,520	97.2%	\$ 3,821
73104	BANK FEES	\$ -	\$ 8,896	0.0%	\$ (8,896)
76119	PAGERS	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
76652	PAPER PRODUCTS	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
77103	FUEL-D/O VEHICLE	\$ 1,489	\$ 1,434	96.3%	\$ 55
77104	VEHICLE MONTHLY STANDING	\$ 493	\$ 3,899	791.0%	\$ (3,406)
77107	AUTO EXPENSES C	\$ -	\$ 777	0.0%	\$ (777)
77201	INTERNAL PRINTING	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
77501	DIT CHARGES	\$ -	\$ 8,186	0.0%	\$ (8,186)
80001	DEPRECIATION	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
80004	BUILDINGS & STR	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
80006	EQUIPMENT & OFFICE MAINTENANCE	\$ 31,160	\$ 28,828	92.5%	\$ 2,332
80007	VEHICLE EXPENSES	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
95002	OPERATING TRANS	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
Other Expenses		\$ 1,138,934	\$ 1,129,614	99.2%	\$ 9,320
TOTAL GENERAL FUND		\$ 8,924,201	\$ 7,908,301	88.6%	\$ 1,015,900

RICHMOND PUBLIC LIBRARIES - General Fund Budget

Monthly Budget Report

April 30, 2025

<u>General Fund Revenue</u>	<u>FY2024-25 Budget</u>	<u>FY2024-25 Actual YTD</u>	<u>% Recognized</u>	<u>Unrecognized</u>
Lost and Damage Books	\$ 21,782	\$ 13,957	64%	\$ 7,825
Reservation - Book Records	\$ 500	\$ 675	135%	\$ (175)
Room Rental Fees	\$ 300	\$ -	0%	\$ 300
Sales Copy Centers	\$ 17,476	\$ 7,467	43%	\$ 10,009
State Library Aide	\$ 170,000	\$ -	0%	\$ 170,000
	\$ 210,058	\$ 22,099	11%	\$ 187,959

General Fund Operating

	<u>FY2024-25 Budget</u>	<u>FY2024-25 Actual YTD</u>	<u>% Expended</u>	<u>Unobligated</u>
Personnel	\$ 5,081,939	\$ 4,321,697	85%	\$ 760,242
Fringes	\$ 1,719,236	\$ 1,772,458	103%	\$ (53,222)
Books/Materials	\$ 984,092	\$ 684,531	70%	\$ 299,561
Operating Expenses	\$ 1,138,934	\$ 1,129,614	99%	\$ 9,320
Total	\$ 8,924,201	\$ 7,908,301	89%	\$ 1,015,900

Encumbrances YTD

\$ 39,661

RICHMOND PUBLIC LIBRARIES - Special Fund Budget

<u>Special Fund Revenue</u>	<u>FY2024-25 Anticipated</u>	<u>FY2024-25 Actual YTD</u>	<u>% Recognized</u>	<u>Unrecognized</u>
00314 - Gift to the Library	\$ -	\$ 48,201	0%	\$ (48,201)
00308 - Verizon E-Rate Grant	\$ 125,813	\$ -	0%	\$ 125,813
00309 - Public Law Library	\$ 140,114	\$ 100,345.00	72%	\$ 39,769
00311 - Gates Foundation	\$ 1,500	\$ 65,629	0%	\$ (64,129)
00312 - RPL Foundation	\$ -	\$ 12,215	0%	\$ (12,215)
00313 - Friends of the RPL	\$ 33,789	\$ 39,217	116%	\$ (5,428)
00000 - FNDN Restricted Grant	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ -
	\$ 301,216	\$ 265,607	88%	\$ 35,609

<u>Special Fund Expenditures</u>	<u>FY24 Rollover & FY25 Receipts</u>	<u>FY2024-25 Actual YTD</u>	<u>% Expended</u>	<u>Unobligated</u>
00314 - Gift to the Library	\$ 336,264	\$ 234,220	70%	\$ 102,043
00308 - Verizon E-Rate Grant	\$ 186,281	\$ 5,698	3%	\$ 180,584
00309 - Public Law Library	\$ (345,069)	\$ 213,025	-62%	\$ (558,094)
Personnel		\$ 70,496		
Fringes		\$ 37,953		
Books/Materials		\$ 104,576		
Operating Expenses		\$ -		
00311 - Gates Foundation	\$ 100,404	\$ 175,133	174%	\$ (74,729)
00312 - RPL Foundation	\$ (262,865)	\$ 100,340	-38%	\$ (363,205)
00313 - Friends of the RPL	\$ 87,774	\$ 2,527	3%	\$ 85,247
	\$ 102,789	\$ 730,942	711%	\$ (628,154)

Encumbrances YTD

\$ 314,058

Richmond Public Library
Foundation, Friends, Groups and Individual Donations
FY 2025

Consent Agenda: Deposited Gifts Over \$100 Shown
as of May 28, 2025

Date of Check	Donor Name	Current Month Amount	Purpose/Location	YTD Account Balance		
				Gift	Foundation	Friends
	<i>No Donations</i>					
	Monthly Total	\$ 100.00				
	YTD Total	\$ 100.00	Year To Date Total	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ -



Need some summer reading? The Friends of the Library Book Sale will be held May 2-4 at the Main Library, 101 E. Franklin Street. Photos provided by the library.

Books

May 1, 2025

Stock Up

For readers, the Friends of the Library Book Sale is still an integral RVA tradition.

By: Karen Newton

<https://www.styleweekly.com/stock-up/>

Eggs were 44 cents a dozen and Eisenhower was president when the Friends of Richmond Public Library (FRPL) was formed. The year was 1959 when the Friends of the Library book sale was created to raise funds for library programming.

Today library staff and attendees agree that it remains a unique community experience for book lovers and library goers to meet and connect over the love of books, writing and learning.

Chris Larson, executive board member of the FRPL and head of the Shelving Committee, learned that the sale has been held in various parts of the library over the years.

“At one time, it was held outside on the front porch of the main library branch,” Larson says. “Since I’ve been involved for the past ten plus years, the sale has moved from the mezzanine stacks to the auditorium.”

Leslie Ridderhof, a regular attendee of the sale since 2012, appreciates how the library has pared down and reorganized the volume of books, CDs, DVDs, sheet music, and children’s games and books into two rooms that are easily navigable.

“It’s like a small used bookstore within a library,” Ridderhof says.

“The sale is still in the basement but has wider aisles between tables that hold boxes of books instead of previous years where books were on rows of shelving with narrow aisles and long tables of books down the main center aisle that were difficult to rummage through.”

The sale is a gold mine for everyone from bibliophiles to film and music lovers, offering all types of books in paperback and hardback, fiction and nonfiction. Attendees can browse art books, novels, reference books, history, travel, science, children’s picture books and chapter books and books for young adults. There are even vintage and collectible books.

“I once found a few collected works of Edgar Rice Burroughs in hardback, good condition, cloth-bound from the early-20th century,” says Ridderhof. “It was the perfect gift for a sci-fi reader friend and all for only \$2 each!”



Readers peruse titles at a former Friends of the Library Book Sale.

But there's more than books, including CDs and DVDs. There are former library books for sale, as well as gently used and even brand new books, all of which are donated during the Friends' book drives. "Sometimes we have vinyl records, and other ephemera for sale," Larson says. "This year we have a very large collection of sheet music."

The beauty of it is that the inventory changes for each sale. For years, the Friends kept prices lower than most book sales because they're committed to selling all the books and other media on offer. In addition to the scores of books available for sale, there's also a small selection of individually priced books in their Special Collection. "We've increased our prices only once since I've been involved," Larson says. "Currently we sell our hardback books for \$3 and our paperback books for \$1."

Long-time attendees agree that the book sale is a tradition as integral to Richmond as Easter on parade, the Folk Fest or InLight. Larson recalls how excited she used to get when she drove down Main Street and saw the signs announcing the book sale. "I always loved attending as a patron," she says. "I'd see many familiar faces at the sales, and everyone is usually very happy and appreciative of the good deals they find."

Ridderhof is one of those happy faces, making a day of the sale by attending with a friend and having lunch afterward. "I've made the book sale a must twice every year because it offers exceptional value in several types of entertainment media," she says. "It's a chance to give back locally and help the library make room for new inventory."

Friend of the Library members like Ridderhof can enjoy the first two hours of the sale on Friday perusing the stacks before the doors open to the public.

"It's quieter and allows me first dibs and a greater chance to find a particular book I have my heart set on acquiring if it's available," she says. "Depending on the time I have, I usually head straight to my favorite genres first. I then look for favorite authors and sometimes I'll discover a new author to try."

With 13 years of book sales under her belt, Ridderhof has a few pro tips for first timers at the book sale. She suggests setting aside several hours and taking the time to get acquainted with the space and how it's organized. The library does checkout at the entrance/exit taking cash, check or credit card.

"If you have a TBR [that's a to-be-read-list] bring it as a guide so you won't have to remember what you need or already have," Ridderhof advises. "I also collect books to give as gifts throughout the year, so I keep in mind that grandchild, neighbor or friend who might appreciate an interesting biography, cookbook, novel, DVD, new or classic children's book."

Also bring a good carryall bag to load your finds. Some seasoned attendees bring backpacks, bag carts on wheels, or multiple bags. But even those arriving bagless need not worry because volunteers offer boxes and paper bags at the checkout if you don't have one or need extras. They're also happy to set aside your choices if you don't want to haul heavy books up and down the aisles.



Egg prices and presidents may have changed since 1959, but the pleasures of the Friends of the Library book sale endure.

The Friends of the Library Book Sale takes place May 2-4 at the Main Library of the Richmond Public Library, 101 E. Franklin St.; Friday 12-5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Sunday 1-4 p.m. For more info, visit rvalibrary.org.

∞ END ∞

Dia de los Niños at Broad Rock Branch Library – April 26, 2025







∞ END ∞

Richmond Times Dispatch

Richmond libraries freeze hiring, cut part-time hours amid budget crunch

By Samuel B. Parker
May 6, 2025

[Richmond Public Library](#) has frozen hiring and cut hours for part-time employees amid budget concerns, according to an email sent from RPL Director Scott Firestine to staff.

“RPL, along with other city departments, is likely to exceed its personnel budget by the end of fiscal year 2025” on June 30, Firestine wrote in the Wednesday email, ordering managers to stop filling vacant positions and to limit part-time employee hours to 25 per week.

The decision came two days after City Council approved [Mayor Danny Avula’s request for a 3.25% salary increase for all City Hall employees](#) — including the city’s top earners.

[Avula administration defends salary increases for top earners](#)

That proposal encountered resistance from councilwomen Kenya Gibson and Sarah Abubaker. Gibson, who represents the 3rd District, introduced an amendment to strip the raises from city staff making \$150,000 or more, citing [Avula’s claim that the city is weathering a budget crunch](#).

Abubaker, who represents the 4th District, attempted to broker a compromise, suggesting shrinking the raises for employees making \$175,000 or more. But last Monday, she acknowledged that her proposal did not have the five votes needed to pass, and the across-the-board raises survived.

In his email, Firestine said the raises would apply to vacant RPL positions if they are unfrozen in July, but forecasted financial uncertainty — and difficulties — ahead.

“Operations and other lines (in the city budget) are held at FY25 levels,” Firestine wrote. “This will create challenges in maintaining current levels of materials and service.”

City budget documents show that, while RPL’s total funding will increase by \$565,498 next fiscal year, most of that amount will pay for the salary increases for its approximately 80 employees. RPL’s operating budget will only increase by \$1,122.

Firestine told The Times-Dispatch that the tariffs on imported books levied by President Donald Trump’s administration and the surging price of printer ink — which he said has tripled recently — were likely to put stress on RPL.

“We’re going to be very deliberate and cautious going into the next fiscal year,” he said. “Our consistent priority is to carefully manage expenditures while minimizing any impact on the quality of library services for our Richmond community.”

[Proposed city budget cuts threaten arts programs in Richmond](#)

Council staff accidentally included funds for ex-councilwoman’s nonprofit

The raises were not the only controversy to arise as City Council wrapped up its budget deliberation process. After voting on their proposed cuts and additions, the body had \$50,000 in unallocated funds left over and agreed to pocket them for later use.

But budget documents posted online a short while later indicated that the \$50,000 would go to Help Me Help You — the nonprofit founded and run by former 9th District City Councilwoman Michelle Mosby.

Help Me Help You has received \$550,000 in city funds since 2022, but was not included in Avula’s initial budget proposal for 2026. City Council President Cynthia Newbille proposed an amendment to award \$50,000 to the organization, but it was not approved by the body.

Matthew Slaats, interim chief of staff for City Council, told The Times-Dispatch that the line item had been “included in the document in error,” and that it was subsequently removed. The mistake was first reported by the Richmonder.

Last year, 8th District City Councilwoman [Reva Trammell argued that funding Help Me Help You was a conflict of interests](#), given Mosby’s relationships with her former colleagues. Mosby countered that she did not believe her career in public service disqualified her from receiving public dollars.

Council proposes \$21M in budget additions, but don’t identify who proposed changes

Mobile home funding nixed, Black History Museum funding restored

The Council did not pass Gibson’s amendment to restore funding to the city’s mobile home repair program, which supports the restoration of aging, dilapidated trailers.

Avula had previously said his budget would include \$800,000 for the program in 2026, but [later said he had confused unspent dollars from the previous fiscal year](#) with a new financial commitment. In response, Gibson submitted a proposal to put \$1 million toward mobile home repair.

The councilmembers did vote to restore \$100,000 to the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia. The museum on West Leigh Street has received that amount from the city annually since 2023, but Avula’s proposed financial plan did not renew that award.

Trammell during last Monday’s meeting said former Gov. Doug Wilder had reached out to ask the councilmembers to continue their support for the museum.

The body also rejected [policy changes that Avula previously said were included in his proposed budget by accident](#).

The changes included eliminating a requirement that the city attorney publish written legal opinions, and relaxing residency requirements for senior City Hall officials.

“Non-budget-specific items ... still need to be addressed at some point, and will come back to Council,” said Newbille.

∞ End ∞