



RICHMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

September 24, 2025

Main Library
101 E Franklin Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
804.646.2547

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, September 24, 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-July 23, 2025, Regular Meeting
- Approval of Statistical Reports
- Approval of Pending Deposited Gifts Report

Public Comment Period:

Reports:

- Library Friends
- Library Foundation
- Library Administration
 - Tech Services Update by LCSM
- Advocacy Taskforce
- Policy Taskforce

Ms. DeBoer/Mr. Dishon

Ms. Revere/Mr. Firestine

Mr. Firestine

Ms. Erin Brallier

Ms. Peterson/Ms. Carter-Gunter

Ms. Altman

Board Committee Reports:

- Chair Report
- Finance Committee
- Facilities Committee
- Governance Committee

Ms. Peterson

Mr. Yates/Mr. Firestine

Ms. Woody/Mr. Firestine

Mr. Sawyer

Unfinished Business

Ms. Peterson

New Business

Ms. Peterson

Adjourn

Ms. Peterson

Next Meeting:

Date: October 22, 2025 (No Meeting in November)

Time: 11:45 a.m.

Location: Hull Street Branch Library
1400 Hull Street
Richmond, Virginia 23224
Phone: 804.646.6675

Library Board Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
July 23, 2025

PRESENT: Chair Christine Peterson, Vice Chair Sheron Carter-Gunter, Emily Altman, Brent Graves, Cynthia Hinds, William Yates

ABSENT: Garrett Sawyer, Janet Woody

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

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 Ginter Park Branch Library located at 1200 Westbrook Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23227. 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.

Agenda	Approve the July 23, 2025, Agenda as amended to add for discussion the mural project at the Belmont Branch Library Meeting in under New Business. <i>Motion: William Yates, 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 June 25, 2025, Meeting Minutes, the Current Financial Reports, Statistical Reports, and Donations Report as Submitted: <i>Motion: Emily Altman, Second by Sheron Carter-Gunter</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>	Chair Ruth DeBoer provided an updated on the Friends of the Library's recent activities: • The Friends of the Library have sent their annual donation to the Library, totaling approximately \$32,000. The Library has already allocated these funds for specific purposes. • An author has been selected for the Annual Meeting, which is tentatively scheduled for October; the exact date will be confirmed soon. • The Fall Book Sale is planned for the first full weekend of November 2025. • Discussions are underway with two potential new Board members. • Efforts to recruit additional volunteers are currently in progress. • September 3: Friends Board Meeting.

Reports (Continued)	
Library Foundation <u>Susan Revere</u> <u>Scott Firestine</u>	Ms. Revere provided an update on the Foundation's recent activities and developments: <u>Foundation Update:</u> • The FY25 Impact Report is in development: Release expected October/November. • The annual audit is currently underway. <u>Grant Update:</u> • The Jack R. Anderson Foundation grant report is being finalized. Their support for the Early Learning Center at the Main Library has helped generate interest in enhancing Children's Areas systemwide. • A grant proposal to the Robins Foundation is in progress to support Read with Ripple. Robins continues to be a valued and collaborative partner. <u>Read with Ripple:</u> • In preparation for Year 10, the team is gathering input from preschool principals, daycare partners, and volunteers to inform program improvements.
Administration <u>Scott Firestine</u>	Mr. Firestine presented key statistics demonstrating the Library's strong performance over the past year: • Programs offered increased by 100% • Circulation rose by 19% • New patron card registrations grew by 10% • Door count increased by 5% In Technical Services, significant efforts were made to discard outdated and obsolete materials. This process involved substantial catch-up work and collection weeding. The current year has seen a more balanced approach to collection management. Notably, the North Avenue Branch Library was recognized as having a significant circulation increase. After a period of decline, the branch experienced a remarkable 20% increase in circulation compared to the previous year. Mr. Firestine also announced the passing of Harriet Henderson Coalter last month. Several individuals have inquired about ways to honor her memory. The Foundation maintains the Harriet Henderson Coulter Early Literacy Fund, established upon her retirement, to support donations in her name. An informational email will be sent to all Board members and interested parties regarding contributions to Early Literacy.
Branch Manager Update <u>Louis Maranski</u>	Library/Community Services Manager Louis Maranski provided a concise and informative update on the Ginter Park Branch Library, highlighting recent developments, current initiatives, and future plans: <u>Facility Updates:</u> • Greening Project: Positive feedback continues. Phase 2 will add outdoor seating and a shade structure. • A pine tree was lost in the July 18 storm.

Reports (Continued)	
Branch Manager Update (Continued) <u>Louis Maranski</u>	<u>Usage and Programming:</u> • Circulation up by 5,000(+) items compared to the first half of 2024. • Programs increased across all ages: ○ Young Adult programs grew from 11 to 45 (Jan–June), with attendance tripling. ○ Youth Services attendance also up. <u>Adult Programs:</u> • Gaining regular attendance in programs such as Art workshops, LEGO club, Horror book club, and Tech help sessions to name a few. <u>Community Engagement:</u> • Summer Reading Program: 150+ sign-ups, 50+ prizes given. • Westminster Canterbury Book Club remains active. • Strong new partnership with Henderson Middle School; limited success so far with other public schools. <u>Future Plans:</u> • Create a children’s play/reading nook. • Add more book displays and front-facing shelving. • Expand community outreach.
Advocacy Task Force <u>Christine Peterson</u> <u>Sheron Carter-Gunter</u>	No Formal Report.
Policy Taskforce <u>Emily Altman</u>	Ms. Altman mentioned she did not receive any emails or feedback in the past month over the policies. The plan is to approve the policy changes from last month and maybe approve the additional policies changes in 05.01 Library Card Registration Policy, which Mr. Firestine received additional feedback from Managers and staff. Ms. Altman provided the background for the changes, which she agrees with, except for the new wording under e-Card. The original update it states the e-Card can also be used for <i>computer workstations in the library</i>. In the new change, that language was deleted. Upon conclusion of the discussion, the motion passed as followed: Approve the initial reviewed and updated policies as submitted with the exception of 05.01 Library Card Registration Policy. <i>Motion: Cynthia Hinds, Second by Brent Graves</i> <i>AYES: <u>6</u> NOES: <u>0</u> ABSTAIN: <u>0</u> Approved Unanimously.</i> Next Steps: Mr. Firestine and Ms. Altman to develop a series of experiments to test and evaluate how the 05.01 Library Card Policy should function during a 90-day trial period, with mutual agreement on the approach. Mr. Firestine will report back.

Reports (Continued)	
Chair Report <u>Christine Peterson, Chair</u>	Chair Peterson highlighted the following key points: 1. <u>Departmental Overviews:</u> Members expressed strong support for continuing the practice of having Branch Managers and/or specialists provide departmental overviews. Feedback was positive. A draft schedule outlining staff presenters for the coming months and into next year was distributed. 2. <u>Facilities Upgrades:</u> Chair Peterson discussed the ongoing need for facility improvements and asked members to consider next steps. Key areas identified: 1. Main Library: Upgrades needed to bring the building up to current City Building Codes. 2. Branch Libraries: Belmont, Westover Hills, and East End were identified as the oldest branches, each located in high-use areas. All three are currently too small to adequately serve their communities. 3. Future Growth Areas: Scott's Addition, Council District 8, and Council District 9 were highlighted as growing and significantly underserved regions, signaling a need for expanded library services. Chair Peterson requested members to reflect on how to move forward with addressing these facility needs.
Finance <u>Bill Yates, Chair</u> <u>Scott Firestine</u>	No Formal Report.
Facilities <u>Janet Woody, Chair</u> <u>Scott Firestine</u>	No Formal Report.
Governance <u>Garrett Sawyer, Chair</u> Christine Peterson	No Formal Report.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
Discussion on Three-Board Gathering – Members expressed positive feedback regarding the outcome of the recent Three-Board Gathering. Chair Peterson initiated a discussion about the frequency of future gatherings, asking whether members preferred holding the event annually or every other year. Mr. Yates suggested convening another meeting within the next six months as a possibility. Chair Peterson will collaborate with Chair Ruth DeBoer of the Friends Board and Susan Revere of the Foundation to plan the next gathering. One proposed enhancement is to have each board share their current priorities. This would be followed by the Library Board of Trustees (LBOT) presenting their priorities, concluding with a group discussion on opportunities for alignment and collaboration among all three boards. Members also gave positive feedback on the facilitator's performance during the gathering.	

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Firestine introduce Library/Community Services Manager Hayley DeRoche who gave a presentation on a proposal of a mural project at the Belmont Branch Library. Artist and Museum District resident Zara Fina Stasi will use a Museum District Association grant to fund the project if approved. Stasi approached the library as an involved community member interested in brightening the children's space of the library.

The mural will make the children's area of the library feel enticing and exciting for all community members who enter and use the Belmont Library. It will be painted with community members, led by the artist, who is a professional mural artist, and designed in collaboration with Richmond Public Library. Upon conclusion of the discussion, the motion passed as followed:

Approve the proposal for a mural project at the Belmont Branch Library and to formally commission Richmond-based artist and author Zara Fina Stasi to execute this work, subject to the terms and conditions as outline in the project agreement presented to the Board today.

Motion: Emily Altman, Second by Sheron Carter-Gunter

AYES: 6 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Approved Unanimously.

Richmond Public School Proposed Initiative:

Vice Chair Carter-Gunter proposed initiating a campaign within Richmond Public Schools (RPS) to ensure that all students and staff obtain a library card. Chair Peterson inquired whether Vice Chair Carter-Gunter would be willing to lead the initiative, to which she agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m. by unanimous consent from the members who were present.

There is no meeting in August. The LBOT's next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at the Main Library located at 101 E Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219 starting at 11:45 a.m.

Approved: _____
Christine Peterson, Chair

*Recorder: Gianna Pack, CAP
Senior Executive Assistant*

Director's Report August/September 2025

Director Activities:

Aug 1	Facilities Tour with DCAO Amy Popovich and Chair Peterson: Hull Street, East End, North Avenue, and Ginter park Branch Libraries
Aug 6	Facilities Tour with DCAO Amy Popovich and Chair Peterson: Belmont, West End, Westover Hills, and Broad Rock Branch Libraries
Aug 18	RPL Future Renovation/Expansion Meeting with Chair Peterson and Kevin Vonck – City Hall
Aug 20	Foundation Executive Committee Meeting – Virtual
Aug 21	Update-Action Items with Chair Peterson – Main Library
Aug 25	RPL/RVAPB Conversation with Matthew Slaats, Council Chief of Staff Office – Main Library
Aug 27	HS Integration Project Meeting with Rachel LaFlame – Main Library
Sep 1	Holiday – Labor Day – Libraries are Closed
Sep 3	Foundation Full Board Meeting – Westover Hills Branch Library
Sep 3	RPL Friends Board Meeting – Main Library
Sep 8	Informal and Council Meetings – Virtual and at City Hall
Sep 22	Informal and Council Meetings – Virtual and at City Hall

Hiring:

○ August/September 2025 Hiring Update:

- 0179 – PT Management Analyst, Associate – Main Library Read with Ripple Program – Interviewing Phase
- TEMP0179 – PT Library Technician – Main Library Read with Ripple Program – Interviewing Phase

○ New Hires/Location

- 0056 – Nelanye Green – PT Library Technician – North Avenue Branch Library – September 22, 2025
- 0073 – Jamie Cardona – PT Library Technician – Belmont Branch Library – September 22, 2025
- 0404 – Isabella Freeman-Moore – PT Library Technician – East End Branch Library – September 22, 2025

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month at Richmond Public Library (RPL): Library Card Sign-Up Month had a successful kickoff this year. This year's theme is "One Card, Endless Possibilities."

RPL is celebrating Library Card Sign-Up Month this September with a goal of registering 1,250 new library cardholders. To reach this milestone, library staff will be hosting pop-up events across Richmond, engaging directly with the community and welcoming new users to the world of library services.

As part of the celebration, RPL is inviting the public to vote on a new limited-edition t-shirt design created by local artist Ash Rudolph. Two original designs are in the running, and voting will be open both in person at library branches and online. The winning design will be featured on a t-shirt available in October through the Bonfire platform, with potential expansion to other merchandise such as mugs and tote bags.

In addition, beloved library character Captain Curiosity will visit every branch throughout the month, bringing his imaginative theater experience to audiences of all ages.

It promises to be an exciting and engaging September at RPL, where one card truly offers Endless Possibilities.

Director's Report (Continued)

August/September 2025

Outreach and Engagement Update: August outreach focused mostly on Back-to-School events. These included Richmond School of the Arts, Oak Grove Elementary, Henderson Middle, River City Middle, and Overby-Shephard Elementary. We also reached out to the greater Richmond community through the St. Stephen's Farmer's Market, City of Richmond First Friday, National Night Out events, Westover Hills Neighborhood Association, storytimes at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, Health Sciences Library at VCU, A Better Day Food Pantry, ICA Full House, and the Birdhouse Farmer's Market. Behind the scenes we were gearing up for Library Card Sign-Up Month.

Something Amazing Happened at the Library!

- **Broad Rock Branch Library:** One of our patrons has been using Broad Rock as a study spot for the past few years and she graduated from nursing school, got a job, and passed the NCLEX. She thanked us for being so supportive, and for being such a good place to study.
- **East End Branch Library:** A long time neighborhood resident, has been without housing for some time. Through conversations with a couple of staff, he was able to get connected with someone who has a room for rent and is no longer homeless.
- **Ginter Park Branch Library:** A patron came in to print some legal and financial documents. They were very happy to be able to get their prints done quickly and easily, they thanked staff for their help and said, "It's so important to stay informed. Thank God for the library."
- **Hull Street Branch Library:** The Gratitude Cards left by patrons have been a wonderful success at the branch. One patron wrote, "I am grateful for the library because communities need spaces for families and individuals to interact and learn. Thank you!!" Another notable card came from a patron who expressed gratitude for "The Homies!!! The staff are awesome and have always helped me."
- **Main Library:** Attendee at concert in Library Park said they were new in town, and this made them feel like they were at a "real city library."
- **West End Branch Library:** One-on-One Tech Help (formerly known as Tech Tuesday) has always been a popular program for West End Branch Library patrons. Recently one of the patrons who has been signing up every Tuesday since April voiced her appreciation. She has been working with Library Technician Nico D'Archangel each week to relearn basics on her phone. She shared that she had suffered a severe brain injury last year and is gradually regaining some of her previous technical ability. As an Oxford trained lawyer, it has at times been frustrating. Her regular visits to the Branch for tech assistance have been a local lifeline and she remarked on Nico's patience and ability to assist in an accessible way. The patron also commented on the Branch staff and their kindness and willingness to give support at any time.

Director's Report (Continued)
August/September 2025

Email to Library Directory

Sent: Saturday, September 13, 2025 1:54:49 PM

To: Firestine, Scott R. - RPL <Scott.Firestine@rva.gov>

Subject: Thank you!

I wanted to write with a thank you for your team: I attended my first Book Babies today at Hull Street, and I'm so (so!) grateful you offer such great Saturday programming!

As a working parent, this is how my family will become a family that celebrates books and enjoys RPL. (And Book Babies was recommended by a friend who also has a little one. Neither of us live nearby - for example, we live in the East End.) The team at Hull Street made their library such a welcoming "home" for curiosity and fun. I'd rate the experience a 10 out of 10. We'll be back, and we're grateful!!

All you do makes such a difference. A big, enthusiastic THANK YOU.

With full hearts,

Nina and Ora, ages 41 and 7 months

CIRCULATION FY2026														
LOCATION	FY	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Total
Belmont	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	9,043	9,811	111,857
	FY26	10,213	9,752											19,965
Broad Rock	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	2,138	2,589	29,184
	FY26	2,507	2,094											4,601
East End	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	2,571	3,160	34,212
	FY26	3,166	2,922											6,088
Ginter Park	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	5,169	5,806	58,248
	FY26	6,204	5,920											12,124
Hull Street	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	1,445	1,503	21,506
	FY26	1,706	1,778											3,484
Main	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	8,639	9,568	103,355
	FY26	10,102	9,751											19,853

CIRCULATION FY2026 (CONTINUED)														
LOCATION	FY	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Total
North Avenue	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	2,702	3,318	32,660
	FY26	3,217	3,201											6,418
West End	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	10,591	12,538	135,905
	FY26	13,404	12,202											25,606
Westover Hills	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	8,659	9,636	104,276
	FY26	10,556	9,937											20,493
E-Content	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	52,187	46,592	547,043
	FY26	54,175	54,617											108,792
Totals	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	87,982	94,249	988,411
	FY25	100,221	96,708	93,821	94,050	89,204	92,901	101,187	96,092	104,732	101,665	103,144	104,521	1,178,246
	FY26	115,250	112,174											227,424

PROGRAMS FY2026	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	TOTAL FY26	TOTAL FY25
Belmont														
Adult Programs	9	11												96
Adult Attend	57	60												837
Young Adult Programs	3	0												21
Young Adult Attend	3	0												35
Juvenile Programs	20	6												184
Juvenile Attend	460	132												3,710
Total Attend	520	192	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	712	4,582
Total Programs	32	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	301
Broad Rock														
Adult Programs	3	0												104
Adult Attend	6	0												1,698
Young Adult Programs	3	3												36
Young Adult Attend	16	9												236
Juvenile Programs	44	24												318
Juvenile Attend	242	77												2,153
Total Attend	264	86	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	350	4,087
Total Programs	50	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	77	458
East End														
Adult Programs	24	17											41	75
Adult Attend	136	198											334	712
Young Adult Programs	12	7											19	110
Young Adult Attend	54	30											84	456
Juvenile Programs	22	7											29	242
Juvenile Attend	191	79											270	2,793
Total Attend	381	307	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	688	3,961
Total Programs	58	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	89	427

PROGRAMS FY2026 (CONTINUED)	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	TOTAL FY26	TOTAL FY25
Ginter Park														
Adult Programs	12	10											22	118
Adult Attend	51	40											91	433
Young Adult Programs	10	6											16	93
Young Adult Attend	44	10											54	234
Juvenile Programs	29	18											47	275
Juvenile Attend	351	132											483	1,798
Total Attend	446	182	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	628	2,465
Total Programs	51	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	85	486
Hull Street														
Adult Programs	7	7											14	65
Adult Attend	26	34											60	362
Young Adult Programs	4	1											5	28
Young Adult Attend	25	2											27	83
Juvenile Programs	12	10											22	80
Juvenile Attend	174	96											270	1,352
Total Attend	225	132	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	357	1,797
Total Programs	23	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	41	173
Main														
Adult Programs	16	14											30	279
Adult Attend	188	278											466	7,116
Young Adult Programs	20	17											37	171
Young Adult Attend	211	115											326	1,052
Juvenile Programs	27	19											46	344
Juvenile Attend	863	394											1,257	6,886
Total Attend	1,262	787	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,049	6,102
Total Programs	63	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	113	336

PROGRAMS FY2026 (CONTINUED)	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	TOTAL FY26	TOTAL FY25
North Avenue														
Adult Programs	9	7											16	74
Adult Attend	45	36											81	594
Young Adult Programs	2	2											4	20
Young Adult Attend	59	40											99	208
Juvenile Programs	25	17											42	240
Juvenile Attend	342	312											654	3,396
Total Attend	446	388	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	834	4,198
Total Programs	36	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	62	334
West End														
Adult Programs	12	10											22	154
Adult Attend	48	53											101	736
Young Adult Programs	4	2											6	18
Young Adult Attend	25	17											42	40
Juvenile Programs	29	16											45	235
Juvenile Attend	504	194											698	3,337
Total Attend	577	264	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	841	4,113
Total Programs	45	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	73	407
Westover Hills														
Adult Programs	6	6											12	128
Adult Attend	35	27											62	971
Young Adult Programs	3	4											7	32
Young Adult Attend	21	38											59	98
Juvenile Programs	33	17											50	286
Juvenile Attend	739	550											1,289	5,468
Total Attend	795	615	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,410	6,537
Total Programs	42	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	69	446
Grand Total Attend	4,916	2,953	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,869	46,794
Grand Total Programs	400	258	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	658	3,826

DOOR COUNT FY2026	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	TOTAL
Belmont	5,000	5,000											10,000
Broad Rock	5,285	5,381											10,666
East End	5,175	5,658											10,833
Ginter Park	4,921	4,820											9,741
Hull Street	2,646	2,654											5,300
Main	16,091	18,303											34,394
North Avenue	3,256	3,380											6,636
West End	4,638	4,358											8,996
Westover Hills	6,673	5,865											12,538
TOTALS FY26:	53,685	55,419											109,104
TOTALS FY25:	51,117	54,769	46,019	50,443	37,015	41,276	43,168	39,985	48,783	45,396	46,593	51,924	556,488
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

NOTE: July-Current: The Belmont door counter is currently out of service and scheduled for replacement.

NEW PATRON CARDS													
FY2026	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Total
Belmont	163	147											310
Broad Rock	84	101											185
East End	60	75											135
Ginter Park	83	79											162
Hull Street	64	51											115
Main	284	392											676
North Avenue	42	47											89
West End	105	87											192
Westover Hills	125	79											204
Online Reg E-Card	1,061	1,068											2,129
Total FY26:	2,071	2,126											4,197
Total FY25:	1,545	1,715	2,165	1,743	1,598	1,375	2,020	1,844	1,868	1,745	1,745	1,978	21,341
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

COMPUTER USE FY2025	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	TOTAL
Belmont Workstation	611	575											1,186
WIFI	763	885											1,648
Broad Rock Workstation	695	675											1,370
WIFI	1,662	1,167											2,829
East End Workstation	210	547											757
WIFI	1,375	1,586											2,961
Ginter Park Workstation	719	700											1,419
WIFI	895	1,506											2,401
Hull Street Workstation	457	599											1,056
WIFI	1,295	1,379											2,674
Main Workstation	2,175	2,241											4,416
WIFI	7,388	8,683											16,071
North Avenue Workstation	588	617											1,205
WIFI	1,411	959											2,370
West End Workstation	357	372											729
WIFI	1,874	1,367											3,241
Westover Hills Workstation	587	531											1,118
WIFI	744	726											1,470
TOTALS FY26:	23,806	25,115											48,921
TOTALS FY25:	21,187	21,829	20,636	23,149	17,841	19,621	17,496	18,232	21,343	21,448	21,953	23,306	248,041
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

TECHNICAL SERVICES - FLOATING ITEMS ADDED / DISCARDED				
FY2026	Printed Materials Added (All Branches)	Overdrive Added	Monthly Total Added	Monthly Total Discarded
Jul-25	2,424	787	3,211	785
Aug-25	1,806	335	2,141	420
Sep-25				
Oct-25				
Nov-25				
Dec-25				
Jan-26				
Feb-26				
Mar-26				
Apr-26				
May-26				
Jun-26				
FY26 Totals:	4,230	1,122	5,352	1,205
FY25 Totals:	16,705	4,573	21,278	23,358
FY24 Totals:	14,096	5,041	19,137	43,251

LAPTOP CHECKOUTS FY2026	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	TOTAL
Belmont	2	3											5
Broad Rock	0	1											1
East End	0	0											0
Ginter Park	1	4											5
Hull Street	1	2											3
Main Library	1	1											2
North Avenue	1	0											1
West End	2	8											10
Westover Hills	4	6											10
TOTALS FY26:	12	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37
TOTALS FY25:	35	20	26	26	22	23	15	14	30	18	13	21	263

External Room Requests FY2026	Jul-25		Aug-25		Sep-25		Oct-25		Nov-25		Dec-25		Jan-26		Feb-26		Mar-26		Apr-26		May-26		Jun-26		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				
Belmont																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 15)	13	71	17	80																				30	151	
Broad Rock																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 35)	20	79	3	137																				23	216	
East End																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 35)	27	98	42	184																				69	282	
Ginter Park																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 40)	23	116	15	55																				38	171	
Hull Street																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 47)	9	107	13	309																				22	416	
Main																										
Auditorium (Capacity 250)	27	1,776	26	1,637																				53	3,413	
Annex (Capacity 45)	21	467	14	713																				35	1,180	
Activity Room (Capacity 48)	11	364	15	853																				26	1,217	
Gellman Room (Capacity 80)	19	843	22	1,145																				41	1,988	
Memory Lab (Capacity 4)	76	76	62	62																				138	138	
Innovation Lab (Capacity 12)	12	12	18	18																				30	30	
Study Room B (Capacity 6)	109	219	90	222																				199	441	
Study Room C (Capacity 12)	100	354	81	343																				181	697	
Study Room D (Capacity 12)	86	326	79	387																				165	713	
Study Room E (Capacity 6)	Meeting Room Not in Use																									
North Avenue																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 47)	15	121	17	85																				32	206	
West End																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 44)	7	73	13	146																				20	219	
Study Room (Capacity 8)	79	145	81	174																				160	319	
Westover Hills																										
Meeting Room (Capacity 35)	5	15	3	24																				8	39	
Total: FY26:	659	5,262	611	6,574	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,270	11,836	
Total: FY25:	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	653	6,034	647	6,707	6,967	60,857

Richmond Public Library
FY26 Operating Budget
August 31, 2025

ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	Budget	Actual and Encumbered 31-Aug-25	% Spent	Balance Available 31-Aug-25
60000	SALARIES - FULL TIME	\$ 4,733,156	\$ 715,742	15.1%	\$ 4,017,414
60001	OVERTIME PERMAN	\$ 19,176	\$ 328	1.7%	\$ 18,848
61000	SALARIES - PART TIME	\$ 426,904	\$ 90,832	21.3%	\$ 336,072
62000	SALARIES - TEMPORARY	\$ 10,000	\$ 13,626	136.3%	\$ (3,626)
63000	FICA	\$ 314,974	\$ 49,570	15.7%	\$ 265,404
63001	RET CON RSRs	\$ 291,626	\$ 45,430	15.6%	\$ 246,196
63002	MEDCARE FICA	\$ 73,674	\$ 11,593	15.7%	\$ 62,081
63003	GROUP LIFE	\$ 28,766	\$ 4,002	13.9%	\$ 24,764
63004	CONSTITUTIONAL	\$ 69,193	\$ 10,457	0.0%	\$ 58,736
63006	H/C ACT TEMP	\$ 958,691	\$ 122,928	12.8%	\$ 835,763
63008	STATE UNEMPLOYMENT	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
63011	HEALTH SAVINGS	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
63100	VRS HYBRID DB	\$ 439,381	\$ 56,655	12.9%	\$ 382,726
63105	VRS HYBRID DC	\$ -	\$ 3,905	0.0%	\$ (3,905)
63110	VRS HYBRID VLDP	\$ -	\$ 2,889	0.0%	\$ (2,889)
63115	VRS Hybrid 401a	\$ -	\$ 3,424	0.0%	\$ (3,424)
64103	Educntv #81	\$ -	\$ 2,448	0.0%	\$ (2,448)
Personnel Expenses		\$ 7,365,541	\$ 1,133,830	15.4%	\$ 6,231,711
71141	BOOKS	\$ 952,359	\$ 118,744	12.5%	\$ 833,615
71141	DATABASES	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
71142	MULTIMEDIA PRODUCTS	\$ 2,456	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 2,456
72122	MAGS & NEWSPAPER	\$ 29,277	\$ 23,004	78.6%	\$ 6,273
Collection Development		\$ 984,092	\$ 141,747	14.4%	\$ 842,345
70131	ADVERTISING	\$ 2,297	\$ 16,000	696.6%	\$ (13,703)
70161	PLANNING MGMT SERVICES	\$ 483,050	\$ 117,390	24.3%	\$ 365,660
70215	EQUIPMENT REPAIR	\$ 81,200	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 81,200
70218	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$ 2,402	\$ 1,578	65.7%	\$ 824
70412	TRANSPORTATION	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
70416	EMPLOYEE PARKING	\$ 21,600	\$ 23,360	108.1%	\$ (1,760)
70311	PRINTED SUPPLIES	\$ 3,000	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 3,000
70413	MILEAGE ALLOWANCE	\$ 2,263	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 2,263
70551	SECURITY	\$ 294,543	\$ 259,812	88.2%	\$ 34,731
70552	CONTRACT AND TEMP PERSONNEL	\$ 22,000	\$ 45,270	205.8%	\$ (23,270)
71012	OFFICE STATIONARY SUPPLIES	\$ 3,047	\$ 1,028	33.7%	\$ 2,019
71016	ADVERTISING	\$ -	\$ 10,000	0.0%	\$ (10,000)
71143	LIBRARY OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$ 19,220	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 19,220
72113	POSTAGE	\$ 4,456	\$ 451	10.1%	\$ 4,005
72121	CONFERENCES & CON	\$ 1,904	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 1,904
72123	MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$ 677	\$ 195	28.8%	\$ 482
72124	TRAINING	\$ 1,055	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 1,055
72131	COMPUTER SUPPLIES	\$ 25,662	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 25,662
72153	EQUIPMENT	\$ 138,341	\$ 3,005	2.2%	\$ 135,336
73104	BANK FEES	\$ -	\$ 1,031	0.0%	\$ (1,031)
76119	PAGERS	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
76652	PAPER PRODUCTS	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
77103	FUEL-D/O VEHICLE	\$ 1,686	\$ 324	19.2%	\$ 1,362
77104	VEHICLE MONTHLY STANDING	\$ 493	\$ 82	16.7%	\$ 411
77107	AUTO EXPENSES C	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
77201	INTERNAL PRINTING	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
77501	DIT CHARGES	\$ -	\$ 837	0.0%	\$ (837)
80001	DEPRECIATION	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
80004	BUILDINGS & STR	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
80006	EQUIPMENT & OFFICE MAINTENANCE	\$ 31,160	\$ 692	2.2%	\$ 30,468
80007	VEHICLE EXPENSES	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
95002	OPERATING TRANS	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -
Other Expenses		\$ 1,140,056	\$ 481,056	42.2%	\$ 659,000
TOTAL GENERAL FUND		\$ 9,489,689	\$ 1,756,634	18.5%	\$ 7,733,055

Monthly Budget Report

August 31, 2025

Richmond Public Library
Foundation, Friends, Groups and Individuals
FY2026

Consent Agenda: Deposited Gifts over \$100 Shown as of August 31, 2025

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

Advocacy - Draft
LBOT Points of Contact with Richmond City Council
2024/2025

1st Voter District: Andrew “Gumby” Breton

Email: andrew.breton@rva.gov

Population: 25,626

West End Branch Library

Belmont Branch Library

Council Liaison: Whitney Brown, Email: whitney.brown@rva.gov

Trustee Point of Contact: Emily Altman

2nd Voter District: Katherine Jordan

Email: katherine.jordan@rva.gov

Population: 25,636

Main Library

Council Liaison: Sven Philipsen, Email: sven.philipsen@rva.gov

Trustee Point of Contact: Christine Peterson

3rd Voter District: Kenya Gibson

Email: kenya.gibson@rva.gov

Population: 25,554

Ginter Park Branch Library

North Avenue Branch Library

Council Liaison: Sarandon Elliott, Email: sarandon.elliott@rva.gov

Trustee Point of Contact: Garrett Sawyer

4th Voter District: Sarah Abubaker

Email: sarah.abubaker@rva.gov

Population: 24,300

Westover Hills

Council Liaison: Timmy Siverd, Email: timmy.siverd@rva.gov

Trustee Point of Contact: Janet Woody

5th Voter District: Stephanie A. Lynch

Email: stephanie.lynch@rva.gov

Population: 24,250

No Library in district boundaries.

Council Liaison: Amy Robins, Email: amy.robins@rva.gov

Trustee Point of Contact: Bill Yates

6th Voter District: Ellen F. Robertson

Email: ellen.robertson@rva.gov

Population: 25,236

Hull Street

Close to her boundary are East End Branch Library and Main Library

Council Liaison: Kimberly Kyle, Email: kimberly.kyle2@rva.gov

Trustee Point of Contact: Garrett Sawyer

7th Voter District: Cynthia I. Newbille

Email: cynthia.newbille@rva.gov

Population: 26,234

East End

Close to her boundary is East End Branch Library

Council Liaison: Samuel Patterson, Email: sam.patterson@rva.gov

Trustee Point of Contact: Sheron Carter-Gunter

8th Voter District: Reva M. Trammell

Email: reva.trammell@rva.gov

Population: 25,736

Broad Rock Branch Library (Shared with 9th)

Council Liaison: Rick Bishop, Email: richard.bishop@rva.gov

Trustee Point of Contact: Cynthia Hinds with support from Brent Graves

9th Voter District: Nicole Jones

Email: nicole.jones@rva.gov

Population: 25,930

No library

Broad Rock Branch Library parking lot is in her district.

Her boundary is close to Westover Hill Branch Library

Council Liaison: Tayia West, Email: tayia.west@rva.gov

Trustee Point of Contact: Cynthia Hinds



LOCAL NEWS

Richmond Public Library seeks community help to document Confederate monuments' removal

By: [Emily Richardson](#)

Posted 5:39 PM, Sep 15, 2025

and last updated 10:06 PM, Sep 15, 2025

<https://www.wtvr.com/news/local-news/richmond-library-monuments-collection-sept-15-2024>

Photo by: WTVR



RICHMOND, Va. – The Richmond Public Library is calling on the community to contribute personal stories, photos, and artifacts to create a digital archive documenting the removal of Confederate monuments from the city.

[The Monuments Collection](#), part of the library system's [Digital Special Collections](#), currently contains items like a [photo of the monuments in storage](#), and official government records such as [public comment logs](#). And although those documents are an important piece of the story, the team behind the project says there is a much fuller story to be told.

“The reason we want to add to the Monuments Collection is so that it’s not just the city’s voice by way of the city government in the archives, in the publicly available historical record,” said Ben Himmelfarb, Branch Manager at Richmond’s Main Library. “We want everyday people’s voices in there.”

The [Memory Lab](#) team will host collection events at Richmond’s libraries throughout September and October:

- [Westover Hills Branch Library: Wednesday, Sept. 17, 6 to 8 p.m.](#)
- [Main Library: Saturday, Oct. 4, 1 to 4 p.m.](#)
- [Hull Street Branch Library: Tuesday, Oct. 21, 6 to 8 p.m.](#)
- [West End Branch Library: Thursday, Oct. 23, 6 to 8 p.m.](#)
- [Ginter Park Branch Library: Sunday, Oct. 26, 2 to 4 p.m.](#)
- [Belmont Branch Library: Wednesday, Oct 29, 6 to 8 p.m.](#)

Special Collections Librarian Chloe McCormick said the team will be on-hand at these events to help document your experience of the time period, in whatever form that may take.

“This can be everything from sending us photos that they might have on their phone or computer, recording oral histories with us, bringing in signs that they created,” McCormick said.

The library welcomes digital or physical copies of photos, videos, documents, signs, flyers, oral histories and written memories. Contributors can keep their originals while the library creates digital copies for the archive.

"We're open to a wide variety of formats or items, whatever people feel is important to share with us," McCormick said.

The materials in the Monuments Collection are publicly available for non-commercial use. The team hopes the archive, with the help of community contributions, can tell as many sides of the story as possible.

"It's great for us, as Richmonders, to be able to tell our own stories ourselves through our own mouths, and to show how we actually feel about things," said Marvin Hicks, the library's Community Memory Fellow. "To let the voices of the people be known and to have our own archive full of our own personal histories and stories."

For more information, contact MemoryLab@rva.gov or (804)-646-1609.

∞ END ∞