



Since 2007, the library has had a capital needs plan that calls for renovations and additions to all library facilities based on the changing ways we serve and advance our community.

## **Key Facts:**

### ***Why is the Library Requesting a Bond Referendum?***

Voter approved bonds are the only way the library can obtain substantial funds for building and renovations. The goal is to update all library locations by adding and reconfiguring space, technology and resources to better fit the way customers need and use the library today. The capital needs plan was developed in 2007 and is reviewed each year. The only new buildings are Ballentine and Sandhills. Following green building guidelines and sustainable practices will mean substantial energy savings for all locations.

### ***Why now?***

It's been 24 years since the last bond referendum in 1989, and most of our facilities haven't been significantly improved or updated since then. Interest rates are at an all-time low - it costs half as much today for twice the value added in 1989.

### ***What will it cost the taxpayer?***

Estimates indicate the maximum impact on taxpayers to be \$12-14/year for a \$100,000 home. For as little as one cup of coffee each month, we can ensure access to needed resources and technology, as well as the opportunity to share information and exchange ideas.

### ***Why spend money on libraries when everyone has a smartphone/tablet?***

Technology has made libraries more essential to their communities - not obsolete. In fact, many people in Richland County rely on the library for access to technology, computers and the Internet. Even if you may not use the library, your friends, family and neighbors are most likely relying on its services.