

## To Our Community,

The Skaneateles Library Board would like to thank the community for its support of a new library on the Fennell Street site. While the May 19 tax levy proposition passed, the close vote demonstrated that our community holds a wide range of perspectives regarding this important project. We recognize that earning the confidence of the entire district remains an important responsibility.

The vision for a new library has been shaped over the past six years through community surveys, public meetings, stakeholder discussions, and countless individual conversations. Throughout that process, the Library Board, staff and Building Committee have carefully evaluated community input, facility needs, financial considerations, and design options in an effort to create a library that will serve residents for generations to come.

As we move into the next phase of the project, we are preparing to reapply for the necessary building permits. We have expanded our professional team by engaging two experienced local architects who are working closely with us to refine the plans. We are committed to meeting all regulatory requirements and ensuring that the project proceeds thoughtfully and responsibly.

The Board has also established a Development Committee to continue private fundraising efforts. Philanthropic support remains an important component of the project and also helps sustain the outstanding programs, services, and educational opportunities that the library provides throughout the year.

Most importantly, we recognize that listening must continue. The close tax levy vote reminded us that many residents still have questions, concerns, or ideas that deserve to be heard. Our goal is not simply to move the project forward, but to do so in partnership with the community.

To that end, the Library Board is launching a **Community Listening Tour** throughout the library district beginning in August. These informal sessions are intended to provide an opportunity for residents to ask questions, offer suggestions, and share their perspectives directly with Board members. We hope these conversations will help us build greater understanding and strengthen support for a library that reflects the needs and values of the entire community.

Our first two Community Listening Sessions will be held on **Thursday, August 6, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the Borodino Community Center and August 11 from 4:00 - 5:30pm at Owasco Fire Dept, Station 2.**

We encourage everyone to attend, whether you supported the project, opposed it, or are still seeking more information. Your voice is important, and we look forward to the conversation. To get info about future sessions visit [skanlibrary.org](http://skanlibrary.org).

The Library Board remains committed to building a flexible and accessible library that serves the entire community. We believe the best path forward is through open conversation, transparency, and a willingness to listen. We hope you will join us as we continue shaping a library that reflects the needs and aspirations of our entire community.

Respectfully,

Dave Hempson

Skaneateles Library Board President