

Why the Library is an Essential Town Service

Just like schools and senior services, libraries are essential to the community's growth and quality of life. Libraries are much more than just books—although despite our size limitations, we do have in many forms—print, audio, and eBooks. However, *libraries also provide many more services and items that are essential to a community's health and quality of life.*

HEALTHY COMMUNITY:

- Cooling and warming centers in extreme temperatures.
- Resources and workshops to assist people of all ages to sustain healthy lives:
 - Classes in fitness, nutrition, cooking, aging in place,
 - Connections to health and medical resources in the community

IN AN EXPANDED LIBRARY, WE WOULD HAVE MORE SPACE FOR PEOPLE TO COME IN FROM THE EXTREME WEATHER AND MORE WORKSHOPS ABOUT HEALTH-RELATED ISSUES.

ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

- Computers, printers, scanners, copiers, and fax machine to help people who:
 - Do not have a computer, printer, copier, scanner, or fax machine at home and need to
 - Apply for a job
 - Pay bills
 - Find housing
 - Get a train or plane ticket
 - Download and print legal and/or court documents
 - Download and print medical forms and information

IN AN EXPANDED LIBRARY, WE WOULD INCREASE OUR PUBLIC COMPUTER ACCESS AND MAKE NEW TECHNOLOGIES AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY.

AFTER SCHOOL RESOURCE

- The library is located right next to or a block from Deerfield's public schools—every school day, we see just how an important nearby resource the library is for our K-12 students by providing:
 - A safe, comfortable space to be in
 - Access to help on homework and research
 - Healthy snacks
 - Outdoor space
 - Activities and workshops to teach, engage, and entertain

IN AN EXPANDED LIBRARY, WE WOULD EXPAND OUR CHILDREN'S ROOM AND CREATE A DEDICATED TEEN SPACE WITH PROGRAM AND WORK STUDY AREAS IN BOTH

LIFELONG LEARNING:

- The library is a haven for lifelong learning and socialization. Throughout the day there are times for people of different age groups to connect with each other or with those of other generations.
- The library's programs offer support and knowledge for all stages of life:
 - Exercise and fitness
 - Health and wellness for each decade of life
 - Crafts
 - Social groups
 - Financial wellness leading up to and after retirement
 - Classes and talks in a wide range of topics
 - Aging in place support

IN AN EXPANDED LIBRARY, THERE WOULD BE MORE SPACE FOR PROGRAMS, MORE COMFORTABLE SEATING FOR JUST READING AT THE LIBRARY AND MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO KEEP IN TOUCH.

LIBRARY OF THINGS:

- The library isn't just books. The community can borrow items to either try out before buying or need to for short-term use:
 - Wifi Hotspots (one of our most popular items!)
 - Household items such as portable cooktops and sewing machines
 - Portable DVD and CD players for those without streaming services or devices
 - Musical instruments
 - Games

IN AN EXPANDED LIBRARY, THERE WOULD BE MORE SPACE TO STORE THESE AND MANY ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR THE COMMUNITY TO BORROW (LIKE A HEDGE TRIMMER OR CAMPING GEAR).