



# OTSEGO DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARY

401 Dix Street • Otsego, MI 49078 • P (269)694-9690 • F (269) 694-9129 • www.otsego library.org

## MILLAGE INFORMATION • AUGUST 4, 2026 BALLOT PROPOSAL



Since Last Operating Millage Ask.  
Operating on 1 Mill voted in 1996.  
*(now at 0.9502 due to headlee rollback)*

In 1996, min wage was \$3.35/hr -  
7000 ft<sup>2</sup> facility.  
In 2027, min wage will be \$15/hr -  
now 18,400 ft<sup>2</sup> facility.

**DEBT MILLAGE COMPLETE IN MAY 2027 - LAST LEVY**

- The library's construction bonds will be paid off in May 2027, and the levy for 0.5 mill will be dropped from tax roll.

**REFINANCED BONDS TO SAVE TAXPAYER DOLLARS**

- In 2016, the library refinanced its building's debt bonds,  
**SAVING TAXPAYERS OVER 1.5 MILLION 2016 - 2026.**

**RISING EXPENSES ARE OUTPACING OPERATING INCOME**

- In particular, rising costs for building & equipment maintenance, along with increased staffing expenses due to increasing minimum wage rates, are outpacing income.

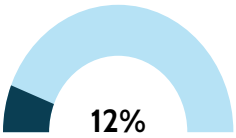
**FUND BALANCE DEPLETION**

- The library has had to rely heavily on its fund balance to cover both upgrades and routine maintenance as well as regular operating costs.

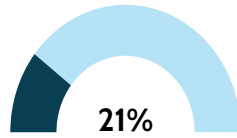


### INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS: OUR FACILITY IS 17 YEARS OLD

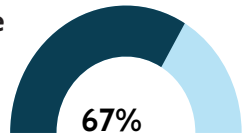
The library has over \$500,000 in known infrastructure repair & essential maintenance needs, including HVAC, crumbling exterior masonry, lighting, parking lot maintenance, and accessibility improvements.



Since 2010, Operating Millage Income has increased **12%**. Overall Income (including millage and all other sources) have increased **21%**.



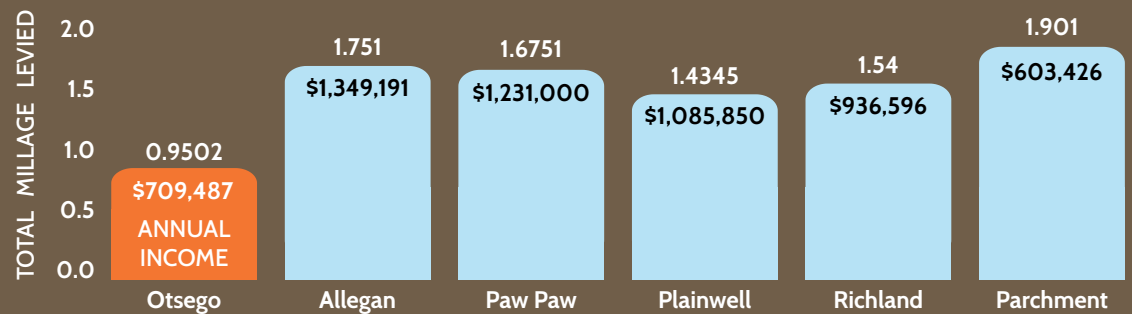
Meanwhile, since 2010, Overall Expenses, have increased **67%**.



**400% INCREASE IN BUILDING & GROUNDS COSTS SINCE 2005 DUE TO AGING FACILITY (17 YEARS OLD) AND EQUIPMENT**

### COMPARABLE LIBRARIES

Compared to other local libraries, millage funding for the Otsego District Public Library lags behind. Millage income is the primary source of library funding.



## Community Forums: Otsego District Public Library

Wednesday, July 22

10 AM - 11:30 AM and 5:30 PM - 7 PM

Join us for coffee at an upcoming Community Forum at the library, where Library Director Andrea and Assistant Director Leesa will be available for an open Q & A session.

This is a great opportunity to learn updates and facts about the current state of the library, ask questions, share feedback, and connect with others in the community. Whether you're curious about programs, resources, or future plans, we'd love to hear from you. All are welcome!

