

Howland Public Library

Long Range Plan

2020 – 2023

Mission

We strive to be a library that is integral to the lives of all residents and is responsive to our community's changing needs. The Howland Public Library provides free and equal access to information, education, enrichment, and personal growth experiences. Our goal is to enrich our community by facilitating life-long learning and to promote social responsibility through collaborations which encourage innovative solutions to personal, community, and social issues.

Vision

Our library strives to create and sustain deeper connections within our community. By listening and fostering communication, we will continually evolve to meet the needs of our community.

Core Values

We embrace the core values of the American Library Association and the Library Bill of Rights, specifically the following:

Education & Life-long Learning

We promote the creation, conservation, and enhancement of a learning society. We endeavor to provide programs, materials, and information that will allow patrons to grow in mind, body, and spirit.

Access

We endeavor to have all information resources, regardless of technology or format, equally accessible to all library users.

Social Responsibility/ The Public Good

We recognize our broad social responsibility to the community. We support efforts to inform and educate the public.

Intellectual Freedom

We uphold the values of intellectual freedom and resist efforts to censor library resources.

Howland Public Library

Themes and Goals		
Theme	Goals	
Theme 1 Community members require access to technology and technology services that are relevant and functional.	Goal: Ensure that community members have access to current and functional technology. Goal: Expand technology services.	Goal: Continue to expand our “Library of Things” to include technology items.
Theme 2 Community members require a building that meets their needs.	Goal: Obtain professional assessment on the status of the physical building.	Goal: Obtain input from community members regarding the physical space, needs, uses, and future aspirations for the library.
Theme 3 Community members want a safe and walkable city with safe spaces for all people.	Goal: Collaborate with community organizations to increase young adult programming outside the library. Goal: Host safety programming at the library.	Goal: Meet with city officials to share findings from Community Conversations regarding pedestrian safety.
Theme 4 Community members want communication to be transparent, accessible, and centralized.	Goal: Provide opportunities in the library for community members to meet their local government officials.	Goal: Increase community information on the website.
Theme 5 Community members want to maintain the welcoming and diverse community that exists while exploring new opportunities to make connections.	Goal: Increase the number of adult programs that allow for social interaction. Goal: Seek partnerships with community organizations to expand art exhibits that highlight diversity.	Goal: Explore tools and methods to better examine and quantify collection diversity. Goal: Explore opportunities for the Teen Council to volunteer outside the library.