

Introduction

In May 2014, the Southborough Library hired a new director who initiated the library's latest strategic plan, as part of reviewing the overall operating structure. While the library receives accolades and vocal support from the Southborough community, this is not necessarily reflected in the library's annual budget and its funding from the Town of Southborough.

Additional funding is needed in order to bring the library into the 21st century. The Southborough Library hopes to identify opportunities to improve, develop, and expand library services in the future.

In order to move forward, the library will need to consider several factors. One of the primary ways to move the library forward is through better communication. Communication can be improved in a number of areas, including in conversations with the Board of Trustees and the Friends group, among the library staff team, between town departments and the library itself, and with the community. Everyone is committed to making the Southborough Library a beacon for lifelong learning and transforming it into a community epicenter. Now is the time to work together to help achieve this goal.



The Library will partner closely with the Southborough Library Fund and The Friends of the Southborough Library over the next five years. The Friends advocate for the library and raise funds through book sales while also providing funding for the majority of the library's museum passes. These programs and activities bring awareness to the Southborough community about the value and importance of their library. The Southborough Library Fund seeks donations, grants, and bequests from individuals, businesses, and organizations. These gifts will help bridge funding gaps.

Based on the brainstorming ideas and information gathered through the library's Community Survey, Strategic Planning Committee Meetings, and Individual Focus Groups, a collective vision of the library over the next five years began to emerge. This document is that plan.