

SOME QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE ABOUT THE BOND PROPOSAL

Q: What will this bond cost me?

A: Like your home, the bond to renovate and expand Cromaine is an investment in this community that we will pass on to our children and grand children. Our ancestors made this same type of investment when the original library was built in 1927 and when the addition was constructed in 1980. Each household's taxable value will determine the actual cost of the bond. However, based on taxable values through 2008, it is estimated that the 25-year, \$23.9 million proposal will cost an average of 1.08 mills per household. Like your home mortgage where you likely have a fixed amount for principal and escrow, the bond repayment is fixed and so it may require higher or lower amounts determined by the taxable value of the district that year. The first year's payment is highest then decreases through the life of the bond.

Q: What happens to the Crossroads branch?

A: Cromaine rents the Crossroads branch while we own the Village site. The new expanded library on the Village site will better fill the needs of our community and allow us to increase the number of hours that we are open. With all of the staff and collection on one site, Cromaine will be open more hours – 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and Noon to 6 p.m. on Sundays. However, to provide added hours and services, we will have to close the Crossroads Branch.

Q: Why was the Village site chosen to expand on? Why not some other place?

A: Cromaine owns the entire Village site which is within walking distance of preschool, elementary, middle, and high schools. The conceptual design preserves the investment this community made in its library in both 1927 and again in 1980. The new expanded library will be open for longer hours, will give us more space, and will have safe, well-lit and sufficient parking. Using this site means we will not be competing with developers to acquire property, nor will we be removing property from the tax rolls that could generate new property tax revenue for our community.

Q: What have Hartland Township and Hartland Consolidated Schools said about this proposal?

A: We have had preliminary conversations with Hartland Township's Planning Director and a meeting with the Planning Commission Chair, Trustee liaison to the PC, and Fire Marshall. In order to save your taxpayer dollars, we have not implemented the formal plan review process because it is both time-consuming and costly to do. Since our design is viable but conceptual, we seek your input as voters first. School administrators have been very positive about 1) our commitment to serve their students even more effectively with more hours; 2) the added space, including study room space; 3) in this geographically central location for their district; and 4) with our separate collection and program areas for teens and children.

Q: What about the 1927 building? What happens to it?

A: The renovation and expansion of Cromaine builds on the investment to this community's future by respecting its heritage. The 1927 library, the only library this community had until 1980, is preserved and becomes a central, not occasional, part of the daily use of the building. The new expansion to the original building and addition will give us much-needed space for people at tables, in seating, using computers, and their own laptops.

Q: When is the election?

A: The election is Tuesday, August 3, 2010. The last day to register to vote in this election is Friday, July 6, 2010. The last day to request an absentee ballot is Saturday, July 31, 2010.