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**Washington-Centerville Library**

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**Library Asks Voters to Renew Levy**

Washington-Centerville Public Library Board of Trustees recently approved a resolution to put a 3.0 mills renewal continuous levy on the November 2, 2021 ballot. The levy will generate approximately \$5 million in revenue annually, at no additional cost to local taxpayers, and will support current operating expenses. The Library Board used the results of a recent citizen survey to guide their decision. "Survey results showed that 1 in 5 families in Centerville/Washington Township have been financially impacted by COVID-19. In light of that information, the Board decided a renewal was the most responsible decision," says Liz Cline, President of the Library Board of Trustees.

The current 3.0 mills operating levy was passed in 2011 and is set to expire at the end of this year. The local operating levy provides 66% of the Library's total revenue while state funding, which is more volatile due to budget cuts and periodic downturns in the economy, accounts for 31%. "Our citizens take a lot of pride in the fact that we are regularly recognized as a 5-Star Library. The quality of the Library's collection, services, programming and facilities are, in large part, a result of the unwavering financial support of local taxpayers. We realize how fortunate we are and work hard to be good stewards of public tax dollars," says Liz Fultz, Library Director. Centerville/Washington Township citizens only, vote and pay for the Washington-Centerville Public Library levy. They do not vote or pay for other library levies in Montgomery County.

Currently, the owner of a Centerville/Washington Township home assessed at \$100,000 pays less than \$75 annually for the Library's levy. According to the Ohio Library Council, public libraries in Ohio provide \$5 in return for every \$1 in taxes paid. "We are proud of the return on investment the Library provides its citizens. You can quickly recover your tax investment, and then some, by simply borrowing books and movies, using a free meeting room, or attending a free event at the Library," says Ms. Fultz. The Library has not asked for any additional money since 2011.

For more information on Washington-Centerville Public Library, visit [wclibrary.info](http://wclibrary.info).

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