The Ridgewood Public Library is always planning for the future. Since our 2014-2018 Strategic Plan, changes in our community and the library are driving the need to reimagine what we do. We’re adapting our space, collection, programs, and services to respond to changing community needs and new demands for library use. We will coordinating our plans with the new Village of Ridgewood Our Vision, Our Future master plan to ensure that the library is aligned with the Village’s overall development and the community’s vision for the future.

This strategic plan – Reimagining the Ridgewood Public Library – reflects our ideas about how best to position our library in today’s world to provide exceptional library service to Village residents of all ages.

**Our Vision**
The Ridgewood Public Library is the community’s first choice for learning, personal growth, discovery and community engagement.

**Our Mission**
The Ridgewood Public Library changes lives and builds community everyday with resources, programs and services that enable everyone to succeed.

**Our Values**
The Ridgewood Public Library will
- Provide exceptional customer service.
- Offer a safe, welcoming, and fully accessible library.
- Embrace change with excitement and enthusiasm.
- Collaborate and partner with other community organizations.
- Support and encourage staff development and training.
- Celebrate our community’s rich diversity and talents.
- Make Ridgewood a better place to live.

**Strategic Goals**

**GOAL ONE:**
Reimagine the Ridgewood Public Library’s physical space to enable everyone in the community to have an exceptional library experience.

The Ridgewood Public Library was last updated in 1998, a time when libraries and the people who use them interacted in a completely different manner. The Reimagine RPL project is a top to bottom initiative that will provide a comfortable place for everyone in the community to work, read, meet, converse, relax, and grow. A concept plan for reimagining the space was adopted by the Board of Trustees in 2018.
GOAL TWO:
Create a responsive, adaptable and enriching library experience for the entire community.
The way in which people use libraries is changing. Demand for older fiction, non-fiction and reference materials is being replaced by interest in library programs and study areas. People use the library as a place to work or to meet with a friend, for relaxation and contemplation, for high-speed access to the Internet, to attend a program, participate in a maker activity, or participate in a book discussion.

GOAL THREE:
Develop partnerships with other libraries and community organizations to achieve mutual goals.
The Ridgewood Public Library will develop partnerships to strengthen Village cultural and educational initiatives, recognizing that together everyone achieves more.

GOAL FOUR:
Build greater community awareness of the library and all it has to offer.
The Ridgewood Public Library will take active steps to extend its benefits into the community. Building on past success, the library will focus its messaging to acquaint the entire community its valuable services and new resources, and reach out to groups who may currently underutilize the library.

GOAL FIVE:
Ensure a sustainable Ridgewood Public Library for now and future generations.
Thanks to the guidance of the Board of Trustees, the library is a leader in northern New Jersey. The library is supported by generous municipal appropriations from the Village of Ridgewood and private donations from the library’s Friends and Foundation. This partnership of community support and dedicated library volunteers and staff is essential to the library’s overall success. To uphold its longstanding reputation as the “best public library in Bergen County,” all library stakeholders need to work together to provide the necessary combination of private and municipal funding. Stable funding will enable the library to expand its programs, attract and retain exceptional staff, and deliver innovative and exceptional services.

The Ridgewood Public Library Mission

The Ridgewood Public Library is dedicated to providing information, education, culture and inspiration. We encourage our community to pursue lifelong learning and the enjoyment of books, programs and resources in a variety of formats. We strive to offer the best possible library materials, staff, technology and facility, with ready and equal access for residents of all ages.