



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Malvern Branch – Closure for Renovation

Date: September 23, 2024

To: Toronto Public Library Board

From: City Librarian

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Toronto Public Library Board approval for the closure of Malvern branch for renovation for approximately five months.

Malvern branch is expected to close at the beginning of November 2024. Once work is complete, the branch will reopen with full service.

The renovation integrates the former Youth Hub space into the main library and delivers a brand-new Youth Hub and Programming Space, an expanded Digital Innovation Hub, an updated Learning Centre, two new Virtual Interview Spaces, refreshes three serveries and removes a service desk to increase customer seating and study areas.

Alternate library services will be available at nearby branches: Woodside Square, Burrows Hall, Highland Creek and Goldhawk Park.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Librarian recommends that the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. approves the closure of the Malvern branch for approximately five months.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the current year's budget.

The Director, Finance & Treasurer has reviewed this Financial Impact Statement and agrees with it.

COMMENTS

To minimize disruption to service, the branch will close once construction materials are delivered and ready for installation. It is anticipated this approach will reduce the overall closure period required for the renovation.

For the duration of the closure, the following alternate service plans will be in effect:

- Customers will pick-up holds at nearby branches, such as Woodside Square, Burrows Hall or Highland Creek. Burrows Hall will be identified as the buddy branch for existing holds.
- Customers will be encouraged to visit nearby branches with easy TTC access such as Burrows Hall and Woodside Square.
- Where appropriate, programming and service offerings will be relocated to nearby branches.
- Staff will be temporarily reassigned to nearby public service locations including staff from Adult Literacy Services and the Leading to Reading Program.
- Staff will continue to provide outreach services, including visits to schools, childcare programs, after-school programs, and outreach to community agencies and partners.

- The co-located City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation community centre will continue operations and will not be impacted by the Malvern branch closure or renovation.

When construction is complete, the Malvern branch will reopen with full service, including a newly renovated Youth Hub and programming space, an expanded Digital Innovation Hub, an updated Learning Centre, two new Virtual Interview Spaces, refreshed serveries and removal of a redundant service desk to increase customer seating and study areas.

Library customers will be informed of the closure and the progress of the renovation through updates available on the library's website and through social media channels as well as posted branch signage. The local Councillors will receive regular updates to share through their community newsletters. Local partner organizations will also be provided with updates through established networks.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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