

Round Lake Library

Strategic Plan

2025-2030

Adopted

Round Lake Library Board of Trustees

## 2025 Round Lake Library Board of Trustees:

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

## Mission Statement:

The Round Lake Library delivers quality library resources and services, preserves a link to our local history and functions as a contributing partner with the Southern Adirondack Library System (SALS) in order to meet the needs of our ever changing community.

## History:

The Round Lake Library is unique to the SALS system in that it is an association library, with two branches. It was chartered to serve Round Lake in 1897 and the charter was expanded to include the town of Malta in 1976. The Round Lake Library has operated in Clark House, a building owned by Woman's Round Lake Improvement Society (WRLIS), since inception, and in 2009 we partnered with the Town of Malta to lease space and open a branch in the Malta Community Center. The Town of Malta has grown tremendously in this century and now has a population of just over 17,200. We are open six days a week at both locations, providing a total 110 hours of library services to the town each week.

During the last several years, we have had many accomplishments. We have renovated the facilities at Clark House, improving the use of space, updating the computer area, and making changes to lighting, storage, and the circulation desk area. At Malta, we have upgraded shelving, electrical outlets, and staff areas, as well as improving the exterior signage. We have developed community awareness and outreach with an online newsletter, use of social media, and new handouts for library patrons. The librarians have participated in local public events, including Malta Community Day, an annual book sale, various displays, and speaking at a Malta Rotary meeting. The Library has improved the online collections and digital access through platforms such as Hoopla and Overdrive, as well as providing regular in-person programming such as book clubs and author events. Further, we have enhanced existing early literacy programs, both by improving spaces, materials, and collections and by providing staff with opportunities for professional development, such as literacy volunteer training courses.

It is with this background that we update a strategic plan that will guide us to continue to grow and serve the community of the town of Malta.

**THE PLANNING PROCESS**

In late 2024, an ad hoc committee was formed to develop the Strategic Plan for 2025–2030. Meeting throughout the winter and spring, the committee reviewed the previous plan, noting which tasks had been completed, which were ongoing, and which had not yet been addressed.

To assess the needs and preferences of our service population, the committee created a written survey. The survey was made widely available through multiple channels, including an email blast to the library's mailing list, the monthly newsletter, bookmarks with a link to the online version, and paper copies at both library locations. The results were compiled and used as a key tool in shaping this updated plan. The committee also discussed additional objectives and strategies to include in the revised five-year plan.

This document reflects the efforts of the full Board of Trustees to chart a clear direction for the Round Lake Library and the community we proudly serve.

**ROUND LAKE LIBRARY GOALS 2025-2030**

## FACILITY ENHANCEMENT

Goal: Improve the efficient use of space across all library facilities to enhance resource accessibility and create a welcoming environment for all patrons

Key Objectives:

1. Maximize space utilization in both library buildings

Strategies:

1. Reorganize the children’s non-fiction section in both buildings to better accommodate current space constraints
2. Explore updated shelving solutions for the children’s room at the Malta Branch to improve accessibility and flow
3. Assess the feasibility of creating a dedicated reading area at Clark House.
4. Identify and implement alternatives for accessing materials located on the second floor at Clark House
5. Renovate the kitchen and supply storage area at Clark House to support better functionality and staff use
6. Consult with WRLIS to develop a plan to upgrade windows upstairs in Clark House

B. Increase the street visibility of the Malta Branch

Strategies:

1. Partner with the Town of Malta to enhance exterior signage and lighting along Route 9

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## COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND INVOLVEMENT

Goal: Make Malta Community aware of accessibility of the services provided by the library

Key Objectives:

1. Make programs and services known to current and possible library users

Strategies:

1. Continue online newsletter
2. Continue social media
3. Continue handouts, place brochures in several public places
4. Submit articles to publications that are distributed to the Community
   1. *Malta Neighbors*
   2. *Malta Guide*
   3. *Saratoga Today*
5. Use News 9 Community Calendar

B. Continue to explore the needs of specific populations in the community

Strategies:

1. Identify outreach groups-seniors, local schools, new residents, students, younger children . and their needs
2. Develop programming and/or collections to meet those needs

1. Address growth of businesses in Malta

Strategies:

1. Contact businesses to request their contributions to library success
   1. sponsor programs
   2. financial support
   3. promote library usage

D. Increase visibility of the library

Strategies:

1. Malta Community Day
2. Parades and local public events
3. Annual Book Sale
4. Displays
5. Town/Village meetings

## Collections, Programs and Technology:

Goal: Provide diverse and inclusive collections, programs and services to meet the educational and recreational needs of our community and serve all ages and abilities

Key Objectives:

1. Collections: Maintain a diverse and inclusive collection, supporting access to content in accessible formats that meet the needs and interests of our patrons

Strategies: Review library’s collections development policy

1. Maintain a diverse collection in accordance with the American Library Association’s Library Bill of Rights
   1. Select material in multiple formats that meet the needs of all of our library users
   2. Evaluate how material is cataloged, labeled and displayed
2. Continue to provide material and the needed technology that promotes literacy at all levels; early, middle and adult
3. Continue to promote the enjoyment of literature
4. Programs: Provide diverse and inclusive programming that reflect the cultural perspective of our diverse community

Strategies:

1. Partner with local community organizations to bring in culturally diverse programs
2. Provide early, middle and adult literacy programs that serve all abilities

C. Technology: Continue to leverage technologies that enhance and expand the services for our library patrons

Strategies:

1. Improve User Experience: Look into offering services such as wireless printing
2. Support digital literacy and learning: Offer small workshops and guides to help patrons develop digital skills
3. Provide staff with training on the latest technologies

## Sustainability

Goal: Continue to evaluate library services and ensure that this dynamic community’s future library needs are met

Key Objectives:

A. Continuously access building needs of both Clark House and the Malta branch

B. Make environmentally friendly building and business decisions

C. Continue to evaluate funding to prepare a sustainable budget

**NEXT STEPS**

By adopting this Strategic Plan the Board of Trustees and the Library Director affirm the document and agree to work toward its implementation. The Strategic Plan will be made publicly available on the Round Lake Library’s website ([www.roundlake.sals.edu](https://www.roundlake.sals.edu) ). A plan of action to address the key objectives will be developed at trustees meetings. In addition, the Strategic Plan will be reviewed quarterly to assess our progress toward accomplishing our goals. The library director’s annual review will also include consideration of the steps taken to meet this end. The Woman’s Round Lake Improvement Society (WRLIS) will be updated at their monthly meetings.