



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Flemington Park Refresh Project – Branch Closure

Date: December 1, 2025

To: Toronto Public Library Board

From: City Librarian

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Toronto Public Library Board approval to close the Flemingdon Park branch for approximately eight months to complete a refresh of the branch interior.

Flemington Park branch is expected to close in late December 2025. Once work is complete, the branch will reopen with full service.

The renovation project will address several State of Good Repair items including replacement of all flooring and finishes, installation of a new barrier-free service desk, window shades, new furniture including a custom-built pod for newcomer services, new shelving layout on the ground floor and an update to the second floor program room where Youth Hub Service is offered every day after school.

Alternative library services will be available at nearby Don Mills and Thorncliffe branches.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Librarian recommends that the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. approves the closure of the Flemingdon Park branch for renovation for approximately eight months.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

The Director, Finance & Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this financial impact statement and agrees with it.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

The renovation of the Flemingdon Park branch supports many strategic plan priorities and goals including:

- Enhancing physical spaces to provide welcoming, safe, inclusive, and sustainable multi-use environments;
- Establishing spaces that build resilience and belonging in every neighbourhood.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on June 24, 2024, the Board approved the [Branch Closure Policy](#) which outlines the type of communication and Board approvals required based on the expected duration of closure. Branch closures greater than 3 months are approved by the Board, via a Board Report.

COMMENTS

The Flemingdon Park branch is located inside the Dennis R. Timbrell Community Centre. It is a 7,250 sq. ft. neighbourhood branch with library service on a single floor and a program room on the second floor above the library space where library programming, including a Youth Hub, operates. This small neighbourhood branch serves a catchment population of approximately 22,553 people. In 2024, the branch had over 152,832 visits, an increase of 18.2% over 2023. More than 51,000 items were circulated, 24,133 people attended programs, more than 52,533 Wi-Fi sessions were hosted at the branch, and approximately 16,236 internet workstation sessions were used.

Scope of Project

This project consists of the following priority upgrades:

- New service desk and self-checkout station
- Custom built pod/workspace for Library Settlement Partnership staff
- New children's furniture
- Fresh paint and new flooring
- Improvement and expansion of computing and laptop use areas
- Revitalized Youth Hub space
- Refresh of gaming equipment for teens, Play & Learn STEM Kits, kids sensory and play-based learning items, and digital monitors.

Construction Timeline

Construction is expected to take place over a period of approximately six months. The branch will close to the public in late December 2025, for handover to the general contractor in early 2026. Construction is expected to be completed by the end of Q2 2026, and the branch will re-open to the public in early Q3 2026.

Alternate Service Plan during Branch Closure

The nearby branches are Thorncliffe branch at 48 Thorncliffe Park Drive, and Don Mills branch located at 888 Lawrence Avenue East. Library customers will be directed to use these or other nearby branches. Customer holds will be redirected to the Thorncliffe branch for pick-up. Both Don Mills and Thorncliffe offer Youth Hub service.

Library Settlement Partnership services will be available at nearby branches Thorncliffe and Victoria Village (184 Sloane Ave, near Victoria Park and Lawrence). Financial Empowerment Service will be made available at Thorncliffe branch.

Flemington Park branch staff will continue to provide outreach services such as Kindergarten Outreach, promotion for Summer Reading Club, and visits to schools and childcare centres. Staff will also maintain contact with community groups and agencies identifying service needs and planning for services to be delivered at the re-opening of the branch. Staff will also continue to participate in key community events.

Library staff and customers will be informed of the changes to the services and the progress of the construction through in-branch promotion, the library's website and social media channels. The local Councillor has been kept up to date on the progress of the project and will continue to receive regular updates to share through their community newsletters.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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