Jasmine D. McCoy, Business Administrator
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PRESS RELEASE

Construction Update on Bound Brook Memorial Library Restoration

Bound Brook, NJ – July 27, 2026 – The Borough of Bound Brook is pleased to provide the community with an update on the continued restoration of the historic Bound Brook Memorial Library, following the successful completion of asbestos abatement earlier this year.

In May 2026, the Borough Council awarded a construction contract to Westcraft Builders for the alteration phase of the library restoration project.

This important phase marks a significant milestone in returning the library to public use while preserving one of the Borough's most treasured historic buildings.

The current phase of construction includes the restoration of:

- The Adult Reading Room
- The Main Level
- Both Mezzanine Levels

These areas will be renovated and reopened to the public upon completion of the project.

As construction progresses in phases, the Children's Area located on the lower level, along with the Conference Room and Archive Room on the upper level, will remain closed until a future Phase 3 renovation is undertaken.

Construction is progressing steadily and is anticipated to be substantially complete in early fall 2026.

Upon substantial completion of the project, the Borough, in partnership with the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey, will announce a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the reopening of the library and welcome patrons back to the facility.

The Borough remains committed to preserving the historic character of the library while modernizing the building to better serve residents for years to come. Additional project updates will be shared as construction milestones are achieved.

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PRESS RELEASE

UPDATE: Asbestos Abatement at Bound Brook Memorial Library

Bound Brook, NJ – January 27, 2026 – The Borough of Bound Brook is providing an update to the community regarding the asbestos abatement project at the Bound Brook Memorial Library, following the project update issued December 2025.

The Borough is pleased to report that asbestos abatement activities were successfully completed during the week of January 19, 2026.

During the course of the project, the scope of work was expanded to include the main reading room, based on a recommendation from the Borough's environmental consultant.

This proactive measure was undertaken to reduce future disruption for upcoming renovations.

With the abatement phase now complete, the project will move into its next stage. The project architect will prepare updated specifications. These specifications will be used to advance the project into the bidding phase for the alteration portion of the library improvements.

The Borough remains committed to keeping residents informed as the project progresses and appreciates the continued patience and understanding of the community as these necessary improvements move forward.

Additional updates will be shared as milestones are reached.

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PRESS RELEASE

UPDATE: Asbestos Abatement at Bound Brook Memorial Library

Bound Brook, NJ (December 2, 2025) – The Borough is pleased to provide the community with an update on the ongoing asbestos abatement project at the Bound Brook Memorial Library, which continues to make substantial progress as it advances into its next phase.

Since work began on October 27, 2025, crews have completed several major components of the abatement plan. On the second floor, abatement activities are nearing completion following the removal of all filing cabinets and storage materials. The area above the ceiling has been fully sealed to ensure proper containment.

In the boiler room and mechanical areas, the abatement of pipe and fitting insulation has been successfully completed, and have passed the final air test.

Significant progress has also been made on the upper level, where ceiling abatement is now complete. Crews have removed the floor poly, tile, and mastic. In addition, the abatement team has finished removing the floor tile on the first floor, marking another key milestone for the project.

The Borough will continue to share updates as the project moves forward. Officials extend their appreciation to the public for its patience and understanding as this essential work is completed to ensure the safety and long-term usability of the library facility.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UPDATE: Asbestos Abatement to Begin at Bound Brook Memorial Library
October 27, 2025

Bound Brook, NJ (October 24, 2025) – The Borough of Bound Brook is pleased to announce that asbestos abatement at the Bound Brook Memorial Library, located at 402 E. High Street, will begin on October 27, 2025. The Borough has awarded a $321,000 remediation contract to Teal Management, with work expected to be completed by December 2025.

Following the completion of remediation and alterations, the Borough anticipates reopening the main floor of the Bound Brook Memorial Library in 2026.

The Borough continues to actively pursue grant opportunities to support ADA upgrades and various improvements aimed at establishing a barrier-free environment within the library. These improvements will ensure that the library is accessible and welcoming to all members of the community.

In support of these efforts, the Borough was recently awarded $70,350 from the Preserve New Jersey Historic Preservation Fund. This funding will assist in the development of a Historic Preservation Plan, National Register Nomination, and Architectural and Engineering drawings for both the Bound Brook Memorial Library and its historic graveyard.

"We are thrilled to be taking this next step toward reopening our library," said **Jasmine McCoy, Business Administrator for the Borough of Bound Brook**. "The asbestos abatement is a major milestone in restoring this historic building, and we are equally committed to making it an accessible and inclusive space that serves all residents."

Until remediation is completed, the Bound Brook Memorial Library will remain closed and Somerset County Library System (SCLS) services at the location will remain suspended. The Borough continues to work closely with the SCLS and remains grateful for their ongoing partnership and support.

During the closure, residents are encouraged to visit any of the 10 open branches within the Somerset County Library System, including locations in Bridgewater, Hillsborough, Manville, Montgomery, North Plainfield, Somerville, Warren Township, Watchung, Branchburg, and Martinsville.

For assistance with library services or general inquiries, residents may contact the Somerset County Library System by phone at 908-458-8415 or by email at ask@sclibnj.org. Additional information is available at https://sclsnj.org.

About Bound Brook: The Borough of Bound Brook is located in Somerset County, NJ along the Raritan River. Bound Brook's population is approximately 12,000. In 1681 a community was established in the area near the Bound Brook stream which flows into the Raritan River, and is the origin name for the Borough. The Betsy Ross Flag was first officially raised in 1777 by General Washington in the Camp of the Continental Army at Bound Brook and during the American Revolutionary War the Battle of Bound Brook took place on April 13, 1777. A number of sites in Bound Brook are on the National & New Jersey Registers of Historical Places including the Bound Brook Train Station, the Brook Theatre, and the Old Stone Arch Bridge. For more information visit our website at https://boundbrook-nj.org.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Borough of Bound Brook Plans to Address Remediation of Bound Brook Memorial Library in 2025

Branch Remains Temporarily Closed Until Asbestos Remediation & ADA Compliance Completed

Bound Brook, NJ (January 14, 2025) – The Borough of Bound Brook announces that it intends to set aside funding in its 2025 budget to address asbestos remediation of the Bound Brook Memorial Library and ADA upgrades required by the Somerset County Library System. Until the necessary funding is secured and the mandatory updates made, Bound Brook Memorial Library located at 402 E High Street must remain temporarily closed and Somerset County Library services suspended.

The Borough of Bound Brook was recently advised that the Somerset County Library can no longer direct temporary resources to Bound Brook for alternate site outreach and will revisit a new contract once the Borough can provide a suitable location for this branch.

The Somerset County Library System and the Borough of Bound Brook entered into a 2005 agreement requiring various improvements to the building, including enhancements to establish a barrier free environment on the library's main floor.

"We are working through identifying the necessary funds to address the environmental issues and ADA upgrades at the Bound Brook Memorial Library," said Jasmine McCoy, Business Administrator for the Borough of Bound Brook. "At the same time, we remain open to and are continuing efforts to partner with an appropriate temporary location in Bound Brook that could provide holistic library services while the asbestos issue at our branch is abated. We are committed to doing everything we can to resume local library services in Bound Brook and are thankful to the Somerset County Library System for all the assistance they have been providing to our community."

Bound Brook Memorial Library shut its doors in October 2023 after the Borough was made aware of asbestos in the building, an unsafe environmental condition that requires professional abatement. During 2024, the Borough explored various funding opportunities and no funds were available for appropriation at the time.

During the summer of 2024, the Somerset County Library System was able to provide mobile services in the Borough of Bound Brook's Commuter Lot located near the train station. Additionally, during the fall of 2024 through January 2025 printing and internet

services that Bound Brook Memorial Library used to offer have been provided out of Bound Brook's Municipal Court. However, these services will end as of January 31 until further notice.

The Borough of Bound Brook has explored temporary locations to host library services until funding was made available to address asbestos remediation issues and ADA upgrades at its branch, but have so far been unsuccessful in its attempts. The Borough intends to address the library remediation needs in this 2025 budget year.

Pending an appropriate satellite branch location can be established, or until the remediation and ADA upgrades of Bound Brook Memorial Library is completed, the residents of Bound Brook will need to visit one of the other 10 active locations under the Somerset County Library System. Those current open library branches are:

- Bridgewater Branch – 1 Vogt Drive, Bridgewater
- Hillsborough Branch – 379 South Branch Road, Hillsborough
- Manville Branch – 100 South 10th Avenue, Manville
- Montgomery Branch – 100 Community Drive, Skillman
- North Plainfield Branch – 6 Rockview Avenue, North Plainfield
- Somerville Branch – 35 West End Avenue, Somerville
- Warren Township Branch – 42 Mountain Boulevard, Warren
- Watchung Branch – 20 Stirling Road, Watchung
- Branchburg Reading Station – 412 Olive Street, Neshanic Station
- Washington Valley Reading Station – 196 Washington Valley Road, Martinsville

For assistance with general library inquiries residents can contact the Somerset County Library System by phone at 908-458-8415 or by email to ask@sclibnj.org. Additional information about the Somerset County Library System can be found by visiting https://sclsnj.org.

About Bound Brook: The Borough of Bound Brook is located in Somerset County, NJ along the Raritan River. Bound Brook's population is approximately 12,000. In 1681 a community was established in the area near the Bound Brook stream which flows into the Raritan River, and is the origin name for the Borough. The Betsy Ross Flag was first officially raised in 1777 by General Washington in the Camp of the Continental Army at Bound Brook and during the American Revolutionary War the Battle of Bound Brook took place on April 13, 1777. A number of sites in Bound Brook are on the National & New Jersey Registers of Historical Places including the Bound Brook Train Station, the Brook Theatre, and the Old Stone Arch Bridge. For more information visit our website at https://boundbrook-nj.org.

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