

## LLNJ Town Hall Meetings Q&A - May 19 & 21, 2025

Questions	Answers
Rather than completely eliminating the fee cap, would you consider changing it to 5%, 7% or 10%	Yes, but a cap that is less than 10% will not permit us to proceed with the FY26 budget as proposed.
Many libraries in the state are on a calendar fiscal year. I know LLNJ is on a July to June fiscal year. My library has approved the FY 2025 budget. If LLNJ charges us in FY2025 for the increase in delivery costs, it will really mess up my budget. Is it possible to bill us for any increase in delivery cost-share in FY 2026 so we won't go over budget in 2025?	Yes, please refer to the presentation slide about invoicing.
Can those items [plastic bags and bins] be returned/recycled through the delivery service back to LLNJ?	Yes. Used plastic bags should be sent to our office via delivery. Extra blue bins can be given to your driver. Please contact our office before sending if you have a large quantity of either item to return.
Do we have a gas price set where the sur-charge goes away? Hopefully gas could go down.	The fuel surcharge will be eliminated in the upcoming agreement with TForce.
Have any of the vendors explored using electric delivery vans instead of gas-powered vehicles?	None of the three vendors that responded to our recent RFP proposed using electric vehicles. The vendor does not own the vehicles. They are owned by contracted drivers.
Has there been any consideration given to handling deliveries in-house?	Yes, but after conversations with other consortia that handle delivery in-house, we determined that the start-up costs were prohibitive.
I'm looking at the spreadsheet with the cost breakdown. My library has a 5 day delivery pickup. the cost for 2026 would be \$1,134.00? Who should I email regarding invoicing?	Please contact Jennifer Bruno at <a href="mailto:Jennifer@librarylinknj.org">Jennifer@librarylinknj.org</a>
I'd like to see LLNJ's financial policy document to see if it addresses the spending. I'm not saying you are profligate spenders, at all, just I feel uncomfortable not knowing there's an upper limit.	Our <a href="#">Finance Policies and Procedures</a> manual is available on our website.
By when does a library should notify LLNJ if it chooses to change the number of days for delivery?	Please contact our office as soon as possible. We will be handling these requests on a case-by-case basis.

What is cost of flat rate contract?	The cost of contracted delivery service under the new contract with TForce will be \$1,091,945.
Is your goal to eliminate the cap clause entirely, or replace with a different cap? With no cap clause at all, what would prevent a complete overhaul of delivery that offsets, say, the majority of the delivery costs to individual libraries and upend the balance?	Bylaws Committee and Executive Board are recommending that the cap clause be eliminated entirely. Any future adjustments to member fees or cost shares will be determined by the Executive Board, with careful consideration of actual cost increases and the financial health of LLNJ. LLNJ remains committed to transparency and will continue to communicate any proposed changes in fees or cost shares to members in advance.
What is the state of the reserves? How much is in that fund, and is any of it restricted?	As of April 30, we had about \$1.5 million in reserves. We estimate that we will have about \$1.2 million at the end of our fiscal year on June 30. Technically about \$700,000 of the reserves are restricted because they were received via our grant from NJSL.
<b>Comments</b>	
My concerns with the possibility of a different cost share cap are: 1. that's not the kind of thing that belongs in bylaws generally, and 2. In an emergency, LLNJ would need to convene the membership to raise cost shares more. I don't think there's any reason to tie their hands like that. But I would support a higher cost-share cap measure in policy or standard operating procedure.	
If there isn't a cap, theoretically, this could be an incentive for the state to reduce LLNJ funding because the member libraries wouldn't be held to a small increase.	
Even tho Will thinks this kind of language shouldn't be in the bylaws, the 2% language already IS there. Believe it was probably added when Christie put the 2% cap	
Thanks to Ralph and all the LLNJ staff for this thoughtful budget and careful consideration of cost sharing in a way that is fair and sustainable for libraries AND LLNJ. Thanks, too, for everyone who came to become informed and pass on questions and concerns. Best Membership Ever.	