

BUSINESS ENERGY SOLUTIONS

ENERGY EFFICIENCY CASE STUDY:

Park Street Library @ the Lyric
Hartford, CT



Background

The Hartford public library is a center for community engagement and has been a lauded resource to residents for years. Residents visit their local library not just to borrow books, but also for technology services, classes, and community programs. For some, the library is the only place they can access the internet to complete schoolwork, submit job applications, file taxes, or even just get out of the cold.

The Hartford public library is a vital community resource. For more than 45 years, its Park Street Library @ the Lyric has been located in a small storefront rented by Hartford Public Library. Participation in library services grew and the space needed to expand to meet the demand. After years of planning and construction, Hartford Public Library opened a new 13,000 square-foot location for the branch in October 2021 designed to fully accommodate the community.

Goal

While designing the new Park Street Library @ the Lyric, the architect wanted to prioritize energy efficiency. The goal was to install energy-efficient lighting as well as high efficiency heating and cooling equipment during new construction that would result in significant energy and cost savings while keeping the space comfortable.

Outcome

Working in partnership with Eversource, the library team installed LED interior lighting with controls, LED exterior lighting and high efficiency cooling and heat recovery equipment. The energy-efficient components of the building save the library up to 47,171 kilowatt hours per year, totaling more than 704,000 kilowatt hours over the life of the equipment. This translates to tangible savings of over \$7,000 in annual cost savings – or 350 books, 150 new items for Library of Things, or 6 months of story time programs at a branch library. By working with Eversource, Hartford Public Library was also able to take advantage of incentive programs, receiving over \$17,000 in incentives for installing their energy-efficient lighting and equipment, which resulted in lighting that is 48% more efficient than code requires.

Park Street Library @ the Lyric is one of two Hartford Public Library locations with LED lighting, and there are already plans to make similar energy efficiency upgrades at other branches. These upgrades will continue to positively impact the libraries and the communities they serve.

Switching to energy-efficient lighting, is one of the easiest ways to save money and energy while doing your part for the environment. For more information about incentives on lighting and other energy efficient equipment, visit [Eversource's Lighting page](#) or visit [Energize CT](#).

"At Eversource, our mission is to provide our customers with reliable service, and we're also firmly committed to making a difference in the communities we serve so they can thrive. Libraries are a fundamental part of the fabric of any community, serving people of all backgrounds, ages and interests. We're proud to support the new Park Street Library @ the Lyric and sponsor the Eversource Community Room which we hope will energize learning and community engagement here in Hartford for generations to come."

- Jim Hunt

**Executive President, Corporate
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