City of Grand Island

Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Study Session

Item -3

Presentation and Discussion Concerning the Grand Island Public Library

Staff Contact: Steve Fosselman, Library Director

Council Agenda Memo

From: Steve Fosselman, Library Director

Meeting: January 17, 2017

Subject: Presentation and Discussion Concerning the Grand Island Public Library

Presenter(s): Steve Fosselman, Library Director and Alan Lepler, President, Library Board of Trustees

Background

The long range plans of the Grand Island Public Library have been incorporated into a process called GILIBRARY 2020. Past documentation provided to Council is attached with annual progress indicated. In 2015 our planning process was dovetailed with the Grow Grand Island initiative. Our library services touch upon all five of the Grow Grand Island pillars and 17 ways in which our community's needs through Grow Grand Island and our library's response through GILIBRARY 2020 most intersect.

Discussion

At its January 23, 2017 meeting, the Grand Island Public Library board of trustees will be approving a 2016 GILIBRARY 2020 progress report. Items for consideration will be shared with Council at this study session, along with the library's progress toward a facilities master plan to be chiefly financed by donations in the 295 Special Projects fund. Staffing, budget and library usage patterns will also be highlighted.

Conclusion

This item is presented to the City Council in a Study Session to allow for any questions to be answered and to create a greater understanding of the Grand Island Public Library.

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND Public Library

GILIBRARY 2020

a report of the Grand Island Public Library long range planning progress to the Grand Island City Council

as approved by

Grand Island Public Library Board of Trustees

May 20, 2013

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND Public Library GILIBRARY 2020

I. Library Board in City Government & Community

The Grand Island Public Library board of trustees derives its authority to represent the library to our community from Chapter 19 of our city code. Here are a few segments of city code:

The library board shall consist of seven members, to be appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council. The members shall be residents of the city of Grand Island. Neither the mayor nor any member of the city council shall be a member of the Library Board. Terms of office shall be a four (4) year period, with board positions terminating on June 30 of the year their respective term expires.

Among its powers are to establish regulations for the government of such library as may be deemed necessary for its preservation and to maintain its usefulness and efficiency and to exercise such power as may be necessary to carry out the spirit and intent of Neb. Rev. Stat. §51-201 through §51-219 and to carry out the provisions of this chapter in establishing and maintaining the public library.

NAME	TERM START	TERM EXPIRATION
Kristine McElligott	07/1/2008	06/30/2016
Angela Aldana	06/12/2012	06/30/2016
Rob Czaplewski	11/24/2009	06/30/2016
Karl Kostbahn	04/12/2004	06/30/2014
Nancy Jones	07/01/2006	06/30/2014
Rebecca Rosenlund	07/01/2010	06/30/2014
Alan Lepler	07/01/2010	06/30/2014
City Councilwoman Julie Hehnke	01/08/2013	12/31/2013

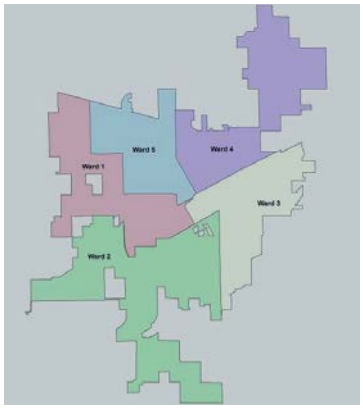
II. GILIBRARY 2020 Planning Cycle

Various ongoing planning cycles have been in place at the Grand Island Public Library since before 1990. We consider this to be a continuous process with periodic refocusing efforts. Since 2011 we've been involved in GILIBRARY 2020. We appointed a citizen committee that met several times, making a recommendation for action that was approved a little over a year ago. Since then we have used GILIBRARY 2020 to produce our current fiscal year strategic plan and to develop long range strategic planning initiatives. This is a good time for us to update you on our process as we look into the future of the library by the year 2020.

III. Planning Committee Work

A. 2010 Census

Part of the planning committee's work centered around learning about our wonderfully unique community. We took a good look at the 2010 census data noting an increasingly diverse population with very diverse patterns for those under 18 years of age.



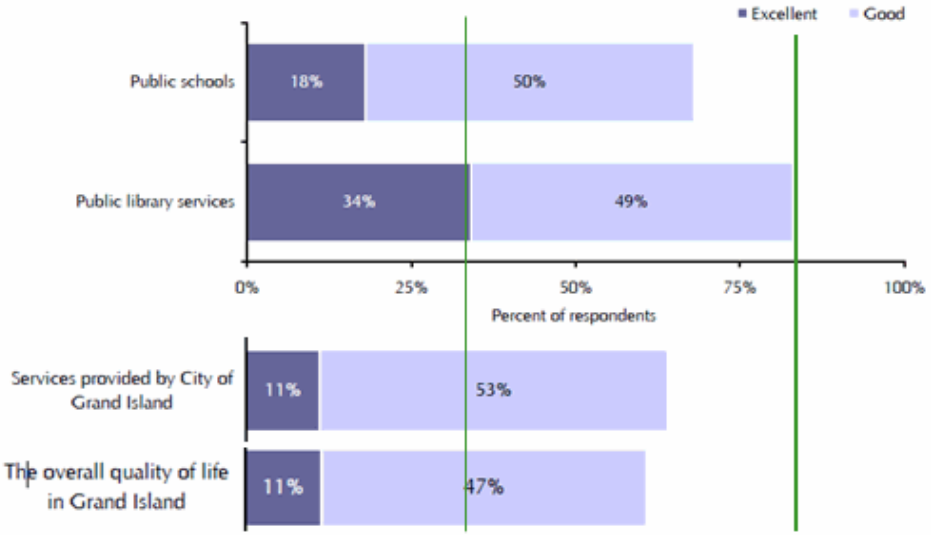
Examples:

- 28% are under 18 years old
  - Of those, 40% are Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
- 13% are 65 or older
- 27% of our total population are Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
  - 42% of Hispanic or Latino (of any race) are under 18

B. 2011 National Citizen Survey

We were able to glean valuable information from this analysis done by the city pertaining to the:

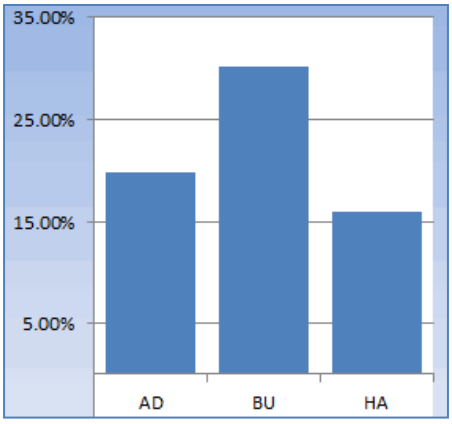
- High percentage of citizens making use of library services and their perception of our services
- Need for additional opportunities to attend cultural activities
- Need for enhanced sense of community
- Need for enhanced openness and acceptance of the community towards people of diverse backgrounds
- Need for enhancement of Grand Island as a place to raise children and for services to youth
- Need for enhancement of Grand Island as a place to retire
- Need for enhanced opportunities to participate in social events and activities
- Need for enhanced reputation of Grand Island and rating of city services



C. Additional Measures

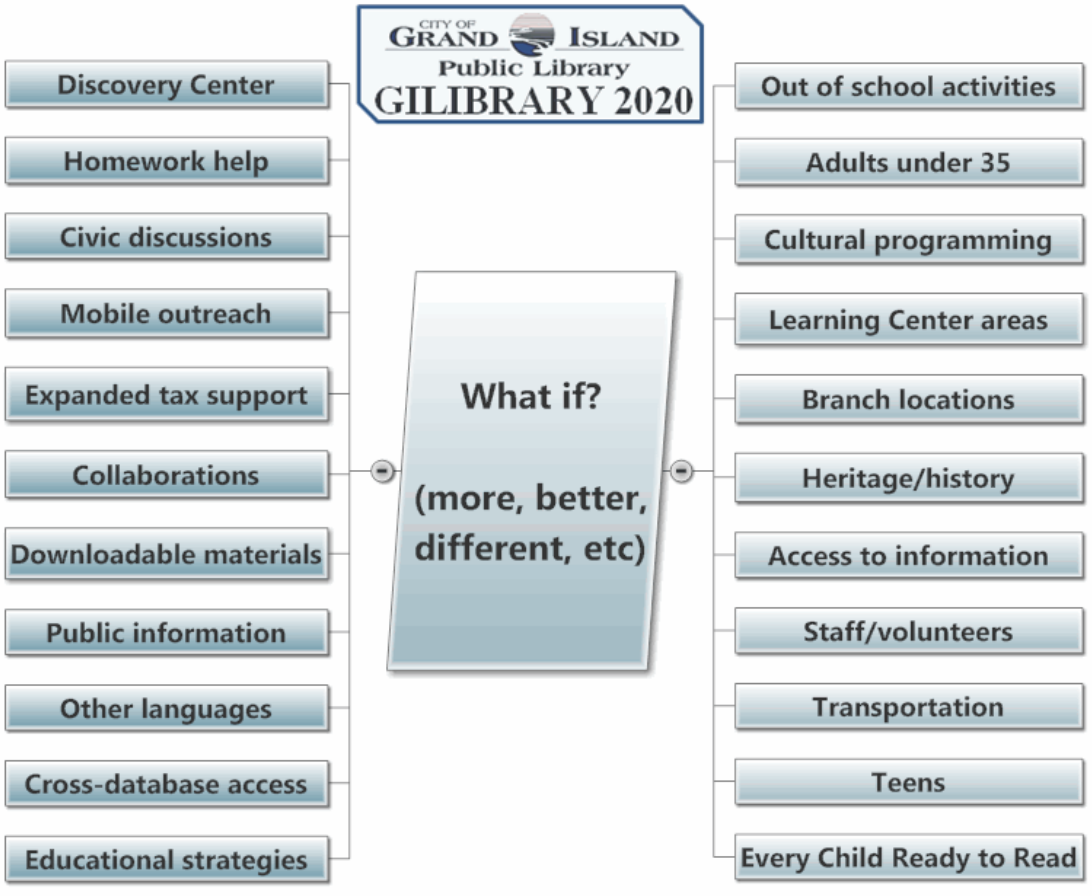
We are different from other communities in a variety of ways, including:

- Our percentage of college degreed adults
  - Hall County's population 25+ years of age with a 4-year college degree or higher lags behind other counties
- The needs of our youth
  - The "2010 Kids Count Data Book" for Nebraska indicated Hall County's conditions related to poverty and basic living needs
- And "County Health Rankings" for Nebraska noted significant needs in our county related to various health outcomes and factors



D. Applications for Future Library Service

Committee-inspired possibilities for future library services arose during discussions and were offered to us for our consideration. These were phrased in a "What If" format as in "What if the Discovery Center became Grand Island's Children's Museum?" and "What if every child REALLY entered school ready to read and learn?"



IV. Components of GILIBRARY 2020 Plan

A. Mission Statement

The Grand Island Public Library is the gateway for the people of our diverse community to achieve a lifetime of learning and literacy.

B. Guiding Principles

1) Our Library as a Learning Center

Facilitating Learning for All. Library users' definitions of learning vary widely. For some, it is to study, for others to experience. Grand Island citizens learn through imagination, information, knowledge, curiosity, leisure, observation, serendipity, research, teamwork, fun, collaboration, stumbling upon, head, heart, gut, facts, opinions, absorbing, wisdom, attainment, opportunity, discovery, understanding, history, living in the moment, envisioning, diversity, community, and of course reading. Such definitions share attributes of joy of discovery and attainment of knowledge, and come to life in many of the library's goals that relate directly to learning.

Fostering Literacy in All its Forms. Our library's role in literacy will always relate to our community's need for citizens who can read and write. In addition, our library is essential in computer literacy, information literacy, visual literacy, health literacy, financial literacy, global literacy, multilingual literacy, cultural literacy and so many other 21st century skills that equate with successfully deciphering and making successful use of that which is deciphered.

Providing Access to All Types of Materials, Information, Programming and Spaces. The library goes far beyond often-noted book checkout and story hour activities. We are uniquely qualified to assemble and provide an ever-increasing variety of "containers" the people of our community make use of to learn and grow throughout their lives. Among these containers are books, audios, videos, databases, digitized resources, eBooks and magazines, social media, library staff assisting users with information needs, and computer and mobile device use to access library information and databases. Literacy and learning enrichment can be accessed through the containers of library programming for children, teens and adults. And learning and literacy are assured through the very spaces within the Edith Abbott Memorial Library, out in the community through mobile outreach, online at our Internet branch, and through other present and future physical and virtual means.

2) Our Library as a Community Center

Responding to Community Demographics. We live in a wonderful, unique community that is increasingly diverse and has needs that can and should be met through library materials, information services and programming. This includes ensuring service to all cultures, age groups, education or economic levels, locations in this city's spreading geographic footprint, and obstacles of access to our services.

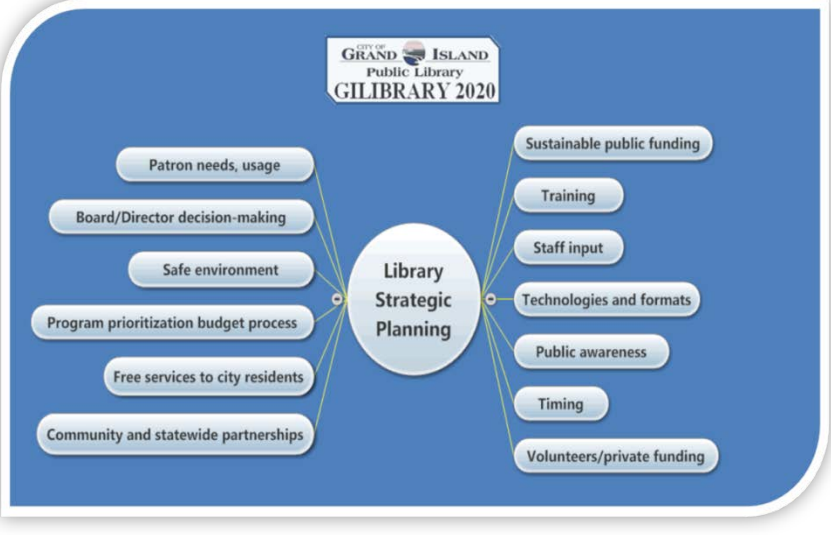
Engaging in Community Development. At the same time we provide a distinct learning and literacy service, we also serve as a central gathering place for our community and a broader community betterment function including economic development, formal and informal educational partnerships, and community solution-finding with a variety of helping agencies.

Enhancing City Government. The Library most directly touches on quality of life within city government's priorities but also impacts stewardship, safe community and strategic development results desired by our city. And in examination of the National Citizen Survey conducted by the City of Grand Island in 2011, a very high percentage of citizens make use of library services and have a positive perception of our services. This survey also highlighted our community's needs for additional or enhanced opportunities to attend cultural activities, sense of community, openness and acceptance of the community towards people of diverse backgrounds, Grand Island as a place to raise children and for services to youth as well as a place to retire, participation in social events and activities, reputation of Grand Island and rating of city services. Through effective library planning, much can be accomplished to meet these community needs as a valued component of city government.

Practicing Democracy in Action. An informed citizenry and democracy have been equated with the American public library from this nation's infancy. Nebraska State Statutes proclaim "that public libraries perform services which are vitally important for the maintenance of an educated and democratic society, including, but not limited to, providing information which stimulates thought, awareness, and involvement in issues of public interest and providing avenues for intellectual and cultural growth and enjoyment." Our public library embraces democracy in action through our long-standing tradition of free services to community residents, equitable access to materials, protection of the privacy of citizens' use of library materials and information resources, and the freedom to make use of the library without censorship.

3) Our Library as a Learning Organization

Strategic planning is one of many ways our Library learns and grows as an organization in support of our mission. Other ways include but are not limited to:

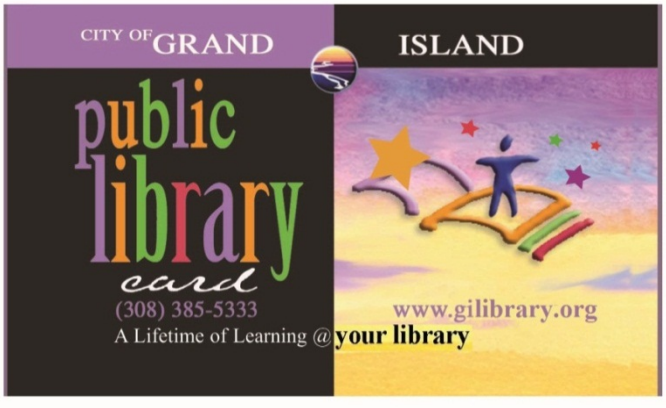


Putting Principles into Action. Through free and equal access to informational, educational, and recreational resources and services, our Library's mission embodies the very significant role the public library plays in providing services to the entire community - one of active, pivotal participation in responding to community-wide needs.

C. Library Service Goals [distinguished between Core and Supportive, each alphabetized by Service Response]

Core Goal	Service Response Statement
Residents will have information to support and promote democracy, to fulfill their civic responsibilities at the local, state, and national levels, and to fully participate in community decision making.	**BE AN INFORMED CITIZEN**: Local, National, and World Affairs
Residents will have high-speed and mobile access to the digital world to ensure that everyone can take advantage of the ever-growing electronic resources and services available through the Library.	**CONNECT TO THE ONLINE WORLD**: Public Internet Access
Children from birth to age five will have programs and services designed to ensure that they will enter school ready to learn to read, write, and listen.	**CREATE YOUNG READERS**: Early Literacy
Residents will have someone to answer their questions on a wide array of topics of personal interest.	**GET FACTS FAST**: Ready Reference
Residents will have a central source for information about the wide variety of programs, services, and activities provided by community agencies and organizations.	**KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY**: Community Resources and Services
Adults and teens will have support to improve their literacy skills in order to meet their personal goals and fulfill their responsibilities as parents, citizens, and workers.	**LEARN TO READ AND WRITE**: Adult, Teen, and Family Literacy
Residents will have resources to identify and analyze risks, benefits, and alternatives before making decisions that affect their lives.	**MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS**: Health, Wealth, and Other Life Choices
Residents will have resources they need to explore topics of personal interest and to continue to learn throughout their lives.	**SATISFY CURIOSITY**: Lifelong Learning
Residents will find materials to enhance their leisure time and will have help to make choices from among the options.	**STIMULATE IMAGINATION**: Reading, Viewing and Listening for Pleasure
Students will have resources to succeed in school.	**SUCCEED IN SCHOOL**: Homework Help
Residents will know when they need information to resolve an issue or answer a question and will have the skills to search for, locate, evaluate, and effectively use information to meet their needs.	**UNDERSTAND HOW TO FIND, EVALUATE, AND USE INFORMATION**: Information Fluency
Residents will have safe and welcoming physical places to meet and interact with others or to sit quietly and read and will have open and accessible virtual spaces that support social networking.	**VISIT A COMFORTABLE PLACE**: Physical and Virtual Spaces

Supportive Goal	Service Response Statement
Business owners and nonprofit organization directors and their managers will have tools to develop and maintain strong, viable organizations.	**BUILD SUCCESSFUL ENTERPRISES**: Business and Nonprofit Support
Residents will have programs and services that promote appreciation and understanding of their personal heritage and the heritage of others in the community.	**CELEBRATE DIVERSITY**: Cultural Awareness
Residents and visitors will have resources to connect the past with the present through their family histories and to understand the history and traditions of the community.	**DISCOVER YOUR ROOTS**: Genealogy and Local History
Residents will have services and support to express themselves by creating original print, video, audio, or visual content in a real world or online environment.	**EXPRESS CREATIVITY**: Create and Share Content
Adults and teens will have skills and resources to identify career opportunities that suit their individual strengths and interests.	**MAKE CAREER CHOICES**: Job and Career Development
New immigrants will have information on citizenship, English Language Learning (ELL), employment, public schooling, health and safety, available social services, and any other topics that they need to participate successfully in American life.	**WELCOME TO THE UNITED STATES**: Services for New Immigrants



Our Library strives to fulfill our mission and guiding principles by concentrating on these core goals and by learning how to better serve Grand Island through these supportive goals.

D. Targeted Strategic Planning Initiatives by the Year 2020 (subject to revision)

Every CHILD Ready to READ @ your library

1. Early Literacy Discovery Center in Children's Section fully serving as Grand Island's literacy-based Children's Museum

2. More concentrated efforts and partnerships to ensure that all children are ready to read and learn by the time they enter school, and that library services match their needs as students

3. Enhancement of library technology integration and efficiencies, as well as additional training opportunities for staff and public

4. Thorough analysis of current and emerging physical and electronic collection usage, programming opportunities, patron card usage, community demographics and various partnerships to match this diverse community's learning and literacy needs

5. Strengthening delivery of Library services relevant to community needs as expressed in National Citizen Survey for Grand Island

6. Reshaping Reference Area and other spaces to delineate specific Library Learning Center areas and expansion of Teen Area space

7. Improvements to meeting room spaces and technologies including expansion of videoconferencing capabilities for community distance learning

8. Expansion of programming opportunities for civic discourse, community building and a more informed citizenry in our democracy

9. Resumption of mobile outreach to our youngest and eldest within Grand Island and better means of transportation to the Library

10. Determination of need for Library branches/outlets and expanded Internet Branch

11. Determination of ability to provide tax-based Library services outside of Grand Island

12. Expansion of public information about Library services and their value

V. Next Steps

To accomplish these strategic planning initiatives, we continue cycling through our planning process. Our board meetings include action items and discussion items. With the help of our library director we will be thoroughly researching, discussing and determining how to accomplish each initiative, we'll phase each one in between now and 2020, we'll work with our director and city administration/council on staffing and funding needs, and we'll ratify our plans on an annual basis in accordance with city council approved staffing and funding budgets.

To provide the GILIBRARY 2020 plan with a solid foundation for the benefit of our community's citizens, we have started discussions of two important budgetary needs:

1) Staffing – filling the vacant Library Assistant Director position and providing additional after-school staffing for assistance to youth. This will have an impact on the city's general fund budget.
2) Building Space Modifications – the Edith Abbott Memorial Library was especially designed to accommodate modifications as needs change and evolve. Several strategic planning initiatives may involve some modifications to better serve our patrons through use of donated funds.

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND Public Library

GILIBRARY 2020
2014 Progress Report

moving forward as this diverse community's gateway for a lifetime of learning and literacy

1 Building up our Discovery Center / literacy-based Children's Museum

The joy of lifelong learning and literacy starts soon after birth in our Discovery Center. This area serves as Grand Island's literacy-based Children's Museum with interactive stations for children and parents to playfully learn essential pre-literacy skills and practices.

Thousands of delightful picture books and sturdy board books along with CDs and videos are located in the discovery center to spur children's imaginations as they go from station to station:

- Forming and repeating letters, words, stories and play-action with string-drawn eggs, spinning pictures, P is for Puppet and other interactives
- Singing simple rhymes while pulling dancing figures up and down or spinning the clock
- Taking their turns with the ABC Whirligig
- Making themselves at home with kitchen, garden, dress-up dream wardrobe and tool bench
- Computing away at toddler stations with fun educational software
- And so much more!

In 2014 new hands on stations were added for kids— chalk table, art table, & hands on science.

2014 was also a growing year for the Discovery Center's updated ParenTALK section, ensuring reliable resources for our parents and caregivers.

1,000 board books
13,000 picture books
3,300 children's DVDs & CDs
800 ParenTALK resources
and much more to check out!

As their schedules allow, library staff members provide tours and one-on-one consultation to children and parents in the most effective ways to enjoy the Discovery Center.

2 Getting kids ready to read, and supporting them as students

With the help of our library's new "0-5" focus group along with more community partnerships and growing use of our Discovery Center, preschool programming and services have expanded in keeping with our goal that every child enters school ready to read.

Additions to our programming include a rotating schedule of Saturday sessions each month — **Paws to Read Storytime** (week one), **Stories and Crafts** (week two), **Hot Cocoa en la Manana** in partnership with the Multicultural Coalition (week three) and **I Got Rhythm...SING, READ, and DANCE** (week four).

FYI: This report has the highlights, come to the library for the full story!

These new Saturday programs fit in well with our standard weekday offerings — Monday morning Play and Read Lapsit for children ages 1-2 years, Tuesday morning Rock and Read Baby Lapsit for kids from birth to age 2, Tuesday evening Family (Pajama Time) Story Hour for all kids, and Wednesday morning Ready to Read story time for children ages 3 to 5 years. Through books, music, crafts, educational toys, and lots of FUN, we use the American Library Association's Every Child Ready to Read initiative. We encourage parents and caregivers to talk, sing, read, write, and play with their children and promote early childhood literacy.

155 Preschool Story Times — 3,500
70 Summer Reading Activities — 5,000
75 Outreach and Other Activities—11,000
Total 300 Children's Programs— 19,500 Attendees

25 Teen Summer Reading Activities — 750
30 Outreach and Other Activities—650
Total 55 Teen Programs— 1,400 Attendees

Special preschool programs throughout the year begin in January with our Bear Fair. Six fun sessions center around Bear Tales and emphasize your child's health and safety with Bearobics and other stations for kids, their teddy bears and stuffed animals. Outreach to community events for young children also puts us in contact with many parents who might not know about our services while their little ones are enjoying library crafts.

FYI: "More than half of Hall [County] kids under age 5 at risk educationally" - 11/2/2014 Grand Island Independent. Our library services help get children ready to read and eager to learn!

In 2014, our library began working with community agencies on a state early childhood Sixpence program. We're also more involved with social service professionals who meet with parents and children at the library to take advantage of our resources.

We again partnered with ESU 10 to conduct an Every Child Ready to Read workshop for parents, educators and caregivers. Our partnership with United Way's Born Learning initiative continues and in 2014 we helped establish their four-county Dolly Parton Imagination Library program.

Our work with youth continues as they become students with out-of-school programming and services designed to continue the fun of literacy and learning. Summer Reading 2014 was all about that "Fizz, Boom, Read" for 2,000 grade school kids enrolled to read. Many others joined them for the fun daily activities that included professional performers, writing and book clubs, crafts, and weekly reading enrichment club.

Other special programming during the year for grade-schoolers included our annual Edith Abbott birthday tea, school break programming, literacy days and other activities. We also expanded to two 6-week sessions of our bilingual Prime Time Family Reading Time. Such programming ensures that our library continues to develop its services to meet the needs of this increasingly diverse community.

Just as the littlest ones enjoy crafts, singing and talking as essential pre-literacy skills, our school age kids are increasingly unleashing their creativity thanks to fantastic literacy and learning-based programs at the library. In 2014 this developed into a "maker culture" intermixing library resources, programming, staffing, and the experiences and enthusiasm of our youth making things through high school.

2014's Teen Summer Reading Program "Spark a Reaction" did just that for about 150 tweens and teens with robotics, talent shows, terrarium building, teen art exhibit, Iron Chef competition, and duct tape creations. Teen book club/craft days, Anime Club, programs during breaks, Teen Tech Week — "Libraries are for Making…", Teen Read Week — "Turn Dreams into Reality @ your library", outreach and other activities rounded out an amazing year of fun learning.

One of many partnerships that grew in 2014 was with the Roots and Shoots team of students learning about problems in nature and then deciding how to help solve them. We continued to partner with the city's CYC (Community Youth Council) helping them out with their Bedtime Blessing Bags and Flicks For Kids projects. Representatives from Roots and Shoots and CYC were among the 65 volunteers who helped us plant our new rain garden this past fall.

Supporting our students also involves resources and the library staff to deliver them. We serve all community students, whether enrolled in a public or private school, or homeschooled.

7,000 children's fiction
18,000 children's nonfiction
3,300 children's DVDs & CDs
5,000 Young Adult fiction
3,500 Young Adult nonfiction
Overdrive downloadables
Tumblebooks for kids & teens
Grolier Online
Homework Helper Tutor.com
Points of View Reference
Research databases
and much more for our youth!

Our resources support their curriculum and leisure needs in print, audiovisual and electronic forms.

And with the increasing use of tablets in the schools, we partnered with GIPS and the city's IT Department to make sure their devices work on our wireless network.

3 Keeping pace with library technology

Technology is one of many valuable library resources, not just for our youth but for all citizens. The use of technology is infused through every part of this progress report. To take advantage of electronic resources and technologies, in 2014 we increased our Internet

FYI: "Libraries are key partners in efforts to provide community anchor-based public access to the Internet, access to E-Government services, and training on computer applications." - Broadband in Nebraska: Current Landscape and Recommendations

bandwidth to 50 Mbps thanks to federal universal service discounts. We also increased access to the growing amount of downloadable resources and electronic research databases that provide highly authoritative information.

In 2014 we worked with the city's Public Information Office to make improvements to our website at www.gilibrary.org. This is truly our Internet Branch with 24/7 access to searching our

Catalog & Reference Quick Access	Books, eBooks & More
Catalog Search	Overdrive Downloadables
My Account Online	OneClickdigital Audio
Suggest a Purchase	Zinio eMagazines
Online Databases	Tumblebooks Kids
NebraskAccess	Tumblebooks Teens
Reference Email	Online Book Clubs
Book a Librarian	Online Book Sale
eGov Resources	Book News(letters)
In-Library Wireless Printing	2015 Book Club
Abbott Sisters Research Center	Free Computer Classes

online catalog, requesting holds on materials, renewing items, downloading eBooks and audiobooks, subscribing to newsletters that highlight our book collections, and conducting your own research.

Facebook and Twitter remain significant communication and interaction library forums. For example, www.facebook.com/gilibrary increased its "likes" by 90% and ended the year with nearly 2,400.

> We just went to baby lapsit for the first time and it was excellent! - from a 2014 Facebook comment

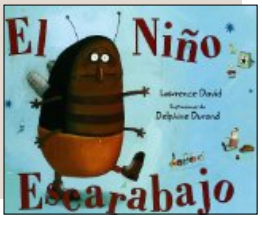
Throughout the year, we continued to implement technology improvements with the help of the city's Information Technology division. We routinely conducted "Book a Librarian" sessions to help patrons use their new mobile devices to borrow eBooks and other electronic materials. Our library is one of two represented on the Nebraska Information Technology Commission Community Council to recommend statewide technology advances.

4 Making changes in collections and programs to match our diverse community needs

Library staff worked hard in 2014 analyzing and updating our current collections representing many thousands of fiction and nonfiction books, print magazines, and audio video materials. At the same time, we continued to add downloadable eBooks and audiobooks, eZines and other new media. This translated to checkouts of electronic materials rising to 7% or 22,000 of total checkouts.

800 Spanish adult nonfiction
600 Spanish children's nonfiction
500 Spanish adult fiction
400 Spanish children's easy readers
200 Spanish DVDs
150 Spanish children's fiction
150 Spanish adult CDs
150 Spanish children's paperbacks
and many other Spanish items

Other changes to collections represent the increasing cultural diversity of our population. Numbers of items in Spanish increased in 2014, and we continue to study how to incorporate Spanish and other languages into our collection.



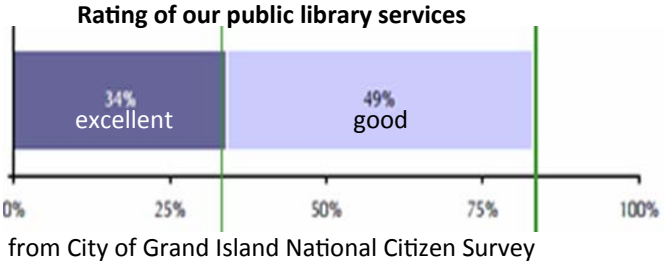
Prime Time Family Reading Time and Hot Cocoa en la Manana are two examples of our continuing work to diversify our programming.

> FYI from 2010 Census for Grand Island: 28% are under 18 years old. Of those, 40% are Hispanic or Latino (of any race). 13% are 65 or older.
>
> 27% of our total population are Hispanic or Latino (of any race). 42% of Hispanic or Latino (of any race) are under 18.

5 Building on our strengths as surveyed by the city

GILIBRARY 2020 was dove-tailed with the city's Grander Vision process during 2014. Future library planning will build on the priorities of Grander Vision as we contribute to:

- an early childhood education plan
- arts and humanities, entertainment and cultural engagement opportunities
- improved public transportation, pedestrian/ bicycle access to library
- outreach to neighborhood associations, affordable and senior housing, and our most vulnerable populations
- resources and programming to support career pathways and a culture of entrepreneurship
- modeling community beautification and Highway 30 economic development, and serving as an anchor institution in community-wide economic development marketing efforts
- lifelong learning with 21st Century Learning Model library-service components
- storm water management via our rain garden
- resources for a healthy community



from City of Grand Island National Citizen Survey

The National Citizen Survey conducted by the City of Grand Island in 2011 continued to provide guidance to our library in 2014. The library functions to help solve needs for additional cultural activities and social events, services for youth, enhanced sense of community, acceptance towards people of diverse backgrounds, and enhancement of Grand Island as a place to raise children as well as to retire.

6 Reshaping reference, teen and other areas as library learning center areas

Renovation and expansion of our library was planned over ten years ago and completed in 2007. At that time, various services were already shaping up to be more collaborative learning areas. The library is serving more and more as a community center for people engaged in learning and literacy. The library has continued to build upon this focus. Some examples: devoting more space for the Teen area, rearranging reference shelves, providing computer class opportunities, and making our Large Print section into a senior lounge.

In 2014 we built a rain garden — our first outdoor learning center — and held our first Friday Night Live(brary). We began a weekly genealogy assistance service in the Heritage Room in partnership with the Prairie Pioneer Genealogical Society. And we began work with an architect to develop a plan for future learning center changes.

Every library area has the potential of becoming a learning center. In 2014 we outfitted our Art Alcove with beautiful and educational exhibits. And as part of a statewide Smart Investing @ Your Library grant, an area in adult services was set aside for citizens to discover new books and other resources on personal finance.

30 computer classes
700 Mango language sessions
80,000 public access computer sessions
70,000 genealogy database searches
250 Tutor.com sessions
and many other learning center applications!

Computer classes and public access computing, Literacy Niche tutoring sessions, Multicultural Center Mango language database use, study room use, parents and children learning together in the Discovery Center, teens collaborating at a booth, and informal gathering space in the lobby available to all—these are just a few ways in which the library was used as a learning center in 2014.

7 Improving meeting rooms and videoconferencing capabilities

Spaces within our library were used at least 1,000 times — 400 uses of our lobby meeting rooms — during 2014 for public meetings, library programs, study sessions, and informal collaboration with an estimate of 30,000 attendance.

FYI: Public meeting room space is made available by the library "on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use."

With several instances of competing use for our spaces and need for improved meeting room technologies, we began work with an architect to create a separate videoconference room. This work continues in 2015.

8 Expanding programming for community building and more informed citizens

This goal took place outside our library in 2014 with the addition of our rain garden. Many thanks to the city's Community Development division and Public Works department, staff of Nebraska Statewide Arboretum and Nebraska Forest Service, and 65 community volunteers. Matching funds came from the Nebraska Environmental Trust, a beneficiary of the Nebraska Lottery. Later in the year we were thrilled to receive the Central Platte Natural Resources District Community Award.

Inside the library, community building and a more informed citizenry were made possible through a variety of partnerships. We were involved in Affordable Care Act information sessions, tax preparation, the Grander Vision process, plans for airport expansion, Hall County Community Collaborative for child wellbeing efforts, public meetings on resurfacing projects, Moonshell Arts and Humanities Council Munch and Learn sessions, and other community collaborations.

Library programming also serves to build our community and better inform citizens.

Our Adult Summer Reading Program with 75 participants, monthly book club meetings, visits from noted authors, and programs on history, art, and other informative subjects were held.

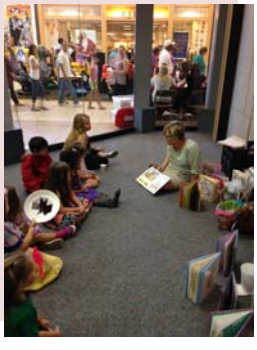
With our library's 130th anniversary last October, the community's Harvest of Harmony parade was aptly themed "From Pages to Parade … Making Characters Come Alive" and our Library Director was named grand marshal.

Special first-place honors went to our library's team in the Literacy Council spelling bee with the winning word "pandiculation".

Another wonderful community honor for our library in 2014 was the Spirit of Girl Scouting Community Benefactor award. Our library really does help build a strong community!

9 Taking our services out to our youngest and eldest / better transportation to the library

Mobile outreach does continue without a bookmobile. Volunteers made 230 homebound deliveries in the past year and preschools used our drive-up window to check out lots of crated children's books. Outreach to community events kept us in touch with those who may not have adequate access to our facility.



Discussions leading to 2015 centered around a future outreach van and improved transportation to the library.

10 Establishing library branch and expanded internet branch services

11 Reviving tax-based library services outside of Grand Island

These were discussion items in 2014 and need to be addressed in 2015 for future action.

12 Getting the word out more about library services and their value

Through National Library Week, National Library Card Sign Up Month, Acts of Kindness Week, Friends book sales, community group presentations and booktalks, tours, book displays, visits to classrooms, and a variety of other events, we worked hard in 2014 to get the word out.

Many thanks to our city Public Information Office and the media for so many news releases and stories throughout the year. We were also on GITV three times.

Our own staff and board members, our volunteers and our patrons have been faithful messengers of the value of library services. We can always reach more and we invite you to help us. Make good use of the library in 2015, attend our youth and adult programs, and like us on Facebook. Encourage others to make use of library services and find ways to demonstrate your support for your library as we all help build this strong community!

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND Public Library

GILIBRARY 2020 Update for 2015-2018

Approved by Library Board of Trustees July 20, 2015

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Library Mission Statement and Guiding Principles

Mission

The Grand Island Public Library is the gateway for the people of our diverse community to achieve a lifetime of learning and literacy.

A Lifetime of Learning Happens @ Your Library!

Guiding Principles

1) Our Library as a Learning Center

- Providing access to all types of materials, information, programming and spaces
- Facilitating learning for all
- Fostering literacy in all its forms

2) Our Library as a Community Center
   - Responding to community demographics
   - Engaging in community development
   - Enhancing city government
   - Practicing democracy and informed citizenry in action

GILIBRARY 2020 Planning Team

The planning team for the 2015-2018 update to GILIBRARY 2020 is comprised of the Library Board of Trustees, Library Director Steve Fosselman, and Librarians Celine Swan, Gerianne Pickering and Kathleen Nonneman. Citizen members of the GILIBRARY 2020 planning committee were gathered together in 2011 to produce the basic structure and 12 planning initiatives in place throughout the year 2020.

GILIBRARY 2020 is also focused on a much broader planning effort now in place: Grow Grand Island / A Grander Vision for the Heartland. Library representatives have become partners in implementing several Grow Grand Island initiatives and GILIBRARY 2020 reflects the scope of this broader community plan.

Community Needs

With the creation of Grow Grand Island/A Grander Vision for the Heartland, a rich matrix of community needs has been established and 2015 is its first year of implementation. The emphasis of GILIBRARY 2020 during the next three years will be to dovetail our twelve planning initiatives with the Grow Grand Island initiatives.

Collectively, Grow Grand Island has produced the following five pillars representing the foundation of our community. Our public library is an essential partner in keeping this foundation strong as community needs are met.

In large measure or small, our library services touch upon all five of the Grow Grand Island pillars. Following are the ways our community's needs through Grow Grand Island and our library's response through GILIBRARY 2020 most intersect in the next three years.

1.1 specifically target small businesses

1.6 launch ENGINE - Engaging the Next Generation of Grand Island, Nebraska that cultivates the next generation of business leadership

2.2 enhance existing and potential future entrepreneurs

3.1 develop a positive self-image, encourage the community's own residents to be its best ambassadors, and increase resident engagement in community improvement initiatives

3.2 promote positive stories about Grand Island

3.3 develop long-range Corridor Improvement Plans and signature gateway beautification projects to promote positive first impressions upon entering the community

4.1 optimize career pathways and programs offered in area schools

4.2 expand the availability of two-year and four-year degree options in Grand Island, with consideration given to the potentially catalytic redevelopment role of a higher education presence and accompanying student population

5.6 continue to advance the development and utilization of unique assets in the community

5.8 work with the City of Grand Island and all relevant partners in the community

5.9 implement the recommendations of the Community Housing Study for Grand Island

5.11 create an early childhood education plan

5.12 support the development of arts and humanities countywide and develop entertainment strategies for all of the communities

5.13 provide public transportation for all

5.14 encourage neighborhood associations to enhance community safety, host community activities, festivals, and reduce crime.

5.15 provide support for the region's most vulnerable populations

5.16 enhance cultural engagement & understanding

Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives

Our public library is a learning organization with dedicated, quality service-minded staff, volunteers, and board members. Together we seek continuous improvement and efficiencies consistent with available funding and citizens' needs. Our library's longstanding commitment toward collaborative, cooperative and effective partnerships is also key to the success of GILIBRARY 2020.

With a great many materials, programs and services already in place, this 2015-2018 strategic plan highlights new objectives within our 12 established GILIBRARY 2020 goals. Most of these goals and objectives are also related to Grow Grand Island priorities as noted below. Estimated timelines and measures are provided as known at this time.

Responsibility for implementation of this plan will rest with the Library Director, with daily operational responsibility delegated to the Assistant Director in teamwork with our Librarians.

1. Building up our children's section Early Literacy Discovery Center

a) Update our children's museum-quality area to highlight infant, toddler and pre-school areas with designated picture and board book resources that are linked to the different interactives [2015]

b) Partner with Headstart Sixpence program in adding appropriate interactives to Discovery Center and Bookingham Palace programming room, funded by Sixpence grant [2015]

c) Strengthen information to parents to encourage self-directed understanding of the Discovery Center and age-appropriate library story time classes for their children [2016]

d) Increase attendance in children's classes by 1000 each year by adding structured classes on the literacy elements of our Discovery Center and opportunities for various story time classes

Grow Grand Island # 5.11 – create an early childhood education plan

2. Getting kids ready to read, and supporting them as students

a) Work with United Way to strengthen the Imagination Library program in our children's section [2016]

b) Redesign Easy Readers area to encourage greater use of these materials by pre-schoolers and early elementary students [2015]

c) Increase attendance in children's classes by 1000 each year by adding a second Ready to Read (3-5 year old) story time for up to 25 children and parents on Wednesday mornings

d) Increase attendance in children's classes by 2000 each year by adding a music-themed afterschool story time on Wednesdays for up to 50 children through early elementary grades

e) Provide drop-in story time services and non-class use of Bookingham Palace as time and circumstances allow

f) Provide early childhood education training to selected library staff each year

Grow Grand Island # 5.15 - provide support for the region's most vulnerable populations

g) Partner with Hall County Community Collaborative and Grand Island schools to make library services known and available to help narrow the gap in learning and development related to economically advantaged families and children living in poverty [2018]

h) Increase attendance in children's classes by 1000 each year by creating a mobile interactive STEAM related center available to elementary students after and out of school [2017]

i) Intermix makerspace/interactive learning equipment and STEAM elements with print and nonprint materials adjacent to teen section to support after and out of school learning [2017]

Grow Grand Island # 4.1 - optimize career pathways and programs offered in area schools

j) Increase attendance in teen classes by 1000 each year through makerspace related classes

k) Develop designated outdoor children/teen/parent programming and reading spaces [2017]

l) Conduct at least two cooperative projects each year with our Teen Library Corps and other leadership groups such as Community Youth Council or Youth Leadership Tomorrow

3. Keeping pace with Library technology (Technology Plan)

a) Finalize our projects for a new telephone/voice messaging system and an upgraded adult section print release services [2015]

b) Make improvements to our website, social media presence, online catalog, efficiencies in processing and circulation of materials, and use of library services on mobile devices each year

c) Digitize portions of our microfilm holdings and historical records each year

Grow Grand Island # 1.6 - launch ENGINE - Engaging the Next Generation of Grand Island, Nebraska that cultivates the next generation of business leadership

AND

Grow Grand Island # 2.2 - enhance existing and potential future entrepreneurs

d) Upgrade meeting room technologies including videoconferencing [2017]

e) Add technologies for mobile device exploration/makerspace technology and increase attendance in classes by 1000 each year

4. Making changes in collections and programs to match our diverse community needs

a) Supply library resources and conduct at least two classes each year assisting citizens with post-secondary learning opportunities

Grow Grand Island # 4.2 - expand the availability of two-year and four-year degree options in Grand Island, with consideration given to the potentially catalytic redevelopment role of a higher education presence and accompanying student population

Grow Grand Island # 5.9 - implement the recommendations of the Community Housing Study for Grand Island

b) Provide library materials and co-sponsored classes on housing choices, financial literacy, and home ownership responsibilities as our community ensures that ample, affordable, and attractive housing is available to meet the diverse needs of existing and potential future residents [2016]

c) Partner with community groups to create a Citizenship Corner in the library's Multicultural Center and to co-sponsor at least 15 diversity-related, multi-lingual programs each year

Grow Grand Island # 5.16 - enhance cultural engagement & understanding

d) Increase culturally diverse identifying library card ownership and use of library services by 10% each year

e) Increase mobile-device identifying library card ownership by 10% each year and checkout of library eBooks, eAudios, eZines and other downloadable library materials by 20% each year

f) Increase turnover rate (average checkouts of all library circulating collections per year) by 25% each year

g) Adjust collection sizes, locations and signage to reflect patrons' changing needs

5. Building on our strengths as surveyed by the City

Note: In examination of the National Citizen Survey conducted by the City of Grand Island in 2011, certain positive indicators pertaining to library operations were:

- the high percentage of citizens making use of library services and their perception of our services
- need for additional opportunities to attend cultural activities
- need for enhanced sense of community
- need for enhanced openness and community acceptance towards people of diverse backgrounds
- need for enhancement of Grand Island as a place to raise children and for services to youth
- need for enhancement of Grand Island as a place to retire
- need for enhanced opportunities to participate in social events and activities
- and need for enhanced reputation of Grand Island and rating of city services

a) Contribute to the work of at least three Grow Grand Island committees each year and coordinate efforts with partners on these committees as well as with the other committees intersecting our services

b) Strengthen efforts to inform community agencies, governments and Grow Grand Island leadership of the vital role our library plays in community betterment

Grow Grand Island # 5.8 - work with the City of Grand Island and all relevant partners in the community

AND

Grow Grand Island # 3.1 - develop a positive self-image, encourage the community's own residents to be its best ambassadors, and increase resident engagement in community improvement initiatives

Grow Grand Island # 5.12 - support the development of arts and humanities countywide and develop entertainment strategies for all of the communities

c) Along with our many youth-related activities, continue to build upon literacy and learning opportunities for general audiences, including:
   a. at least four Friday Night Live(brary) concerts or open houses with extended-hours library service each year
   b. at least four statewide/regional art exhibits each year
   c. at least three programs featuring well-known authors
   d. at least two cultural/historical programs each year
   e. and community partnership in celebrating our community's involvement in Nebraska's sesquicentennial [2017]

6. Reshaping Reference, Teen and other areas as Library Learning Center areas

a) Expand teen spaces and resources [2016]

b) Provide classes and spaces each year for digital literacy learning, financial literacy, job seekers (in cooperation with NEworks), health information, and other learning center activities

c) Work with U. S. Small Business Administration on a series of classes on small business development [2016]

Grow Grand Island # 1.1 - specifically target small businesses

d) Develop informal group study areas (collaborative learning spaces) so that groups can meet and learn together with immediate access to needed technologies and collections

e) Work with United Way to create a self-guided 211 information and referral section at the library

7. Improving meeting rooms and videoconferencing capabilities

a) Realign existing space to build a separate videoconference room and update the current meeting room space [2016]

b) Increase public meeting usage by 15% each year through fewer booking conflicts that result from the separation of spaces

c) Realign lobby spaces to reduce lounge and increase library programming functions [2016]

8. Expanding programming for community building and more informed citizens

a) Expand hours open to the public [2015]

b) Provide at least three opportunities each year to increase individuals' capacities to engage in community building conversations through TED Talks, Humanities Nebraska or other initiatives

c) Host Grow Grand Island meetings and other community building entities each year

d) Complete our rain garden with interpretive signage funded by city's stormwater program to inform citizens of waterwise projects

e) Continue developing community uses of outdoor library spaces adjacent to the rain garden that enhance the Highway 30 corridor in keeping with our role as community anchor institution and as a major cultural/public space on the west anchor of the core downtown/civic area

Grow Grand Island # 3.3 - develop long-range Corridor Improvement Plans and signature gateway beautification projects to promote positive first impressions upon entering the community

9. Taking our services out to our youngest and eldest / better transportation to the Library

Grow Grand Island # 5.14 - encourage neighborhood associations to enhance community safety, host community activities, festivals, and reduce crime

a) Make use of a library van or small bookmobile for city-wide delivery and checkout of materials and programs to neighborhoods, child care facilities, senior care facilities, the homebound and community outreach opportunities such as Neighborhood Night Out [2017]

b) Partner with GIAMPO and City Public Works Department on public transportation to/from the library and a Highway 30 pedestrian crossing [2018]

Grow Grand Island # 5.13 - create a regional transportation plan to serve the local communities and beyond, provide public transportation for all

10. Establishing Library Branch and expanded Internet Branch services

Grow Grand Island # 5.6 - continue to advance the development and utilization of unique assets in the community

a) Partner with City of Grand Island and community organizations to determine the feasibility of planning a library branch or co-located library services for our expanding community [2018]

b) Convert library website into a full-fledged Internet Branch with seamless, multi-platform 24/7 access to digital media and electronic databases [2017]

11. Reviving tax-based Library services outside of Grand Island

a) Increase non-resident household cards by at least 40 each year through a partnership with Wood River Rural School District 21st Century Community Learning Center grant for after-school library programming and access to library materials and databases

b) Work with City of Grand Island, Library Board of Trustees and County Board of Supervisors to determine the feasibility of resuming an interlocal agreement providing free library cards to Hall County citizens residing outside the corporate limits of Grand Island [2018]

c) Explore state law and desirability of other tax-based library service arrangements in line with our multi-county Metropolitan Statistical Area [2018]

12. Getting the word out more about Library services and their value

a) Work on at least three GITV video productions each year

b) Develop cross-promotional efforts with at least five partner agencies each year

c) Provide ongoing public information about our Early Literacy Discovery Center, the value of obtaining a library card, availability of digital library materials, various programs and services, and the learning center and community center roles of our library

Grow Grand Island # 3.2 - promote positive stories about Grand Island and Central Nebraska

d) Partner with Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Corporation and other business leaders each year to educate and promote library programs and services for our community

Strategic Plan Evaluation

Our library's Assistant Director will track quarterly progress toward completing objectives, and will establish baselines for any measures indicated. These quarterly reports will be shared with the Librarians for any follow-up action needed, and will be forwarded to the Director for review and distribution to the Library Board. An annual evaluation and progress report will be produced for distribution to the Library Board, City Administrator, Mayor/City Council and media.

Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) Analysis

Internal Environment	Strengths	Weaknesses
HR	friendly, knowledgeable, helpful staff; well trained; director with years of experience; existing staff are well focused on community needs and library responses	understaffed due to lack of funding; need to regain staffing for GILIBRARY 2020 implementation; time for advanced staff training
Facilities	new building w/some room to grow; very adequate parking; high traffic location; easy to use layout; new waterwise garden	main entrance heat and late sun; handicap parking perceived as far from library; decreased hours with funding; it's time for facility changes
Technology	good number of computers and wifi access; Network Nebraska membership for internet and potential videoconferencing; expanding digital collections; easy to use website with a lot of services; strong social media presence	mobile device access to all library services; aging videoconferencing and meeting room equipment; need Assistant Director for current technology supervision and future technology planning
Funding	maintained adequate service and made internal adjustments to strengthen library priorities that were not city program-budget priorities; fair non-resident household library card fee; e-rate funding for internet access	loss of funding over the last few years; not enough to fully staff, have more hours; lack of county financial support of library services to non-city residents
Collection	wide variety; staff knows needs; expanding digital collections	not always a wide selection of books for digital checkouts; current collections do not always match patrons' needs - we need an Assistant Director to supervise this critical function
Services, Programs & Outreach	a wide variety of services for all different ages and segments of our community; library considered a model of community diversity; all ages enjoy interactive learning (maker culture); very strong partnerships with community agencies	lack of outreach vehicle and its connection to neighborhoods, child care, senior care, and homebound; need more programming to get every child ready to read; more cultural programming needed
Operations	learning organization approach to making continual improvement; organized, creative staff	Daily operations has been more of a struggle without an Assistant Director; lacking more time to identify and resolve issues
Governance	strong library board; City supportive of the value of library services despite assigned program-budget priorities	quality of life priorities needs to be rebuilt
External Environment	**Opportunities**	**Threats**
Economy	improving economy after great recession; Grow Grand Island outlook on increasing business and educational opportunities	poverty-level indicators, low percentage of educational attainment for adults; higher levels of low paying jobs and lower levels of white collar employment
Technology	expansion of digital content and patron use; information broadcast via social media; collaboration with Pioneer Consortium and Central Nebraska Digital Coop; more bandwidth and video possibilities with Network Nebraska	expensive to upgrade and maintain equipment and technology services; increasing reliance on networks for always need infrastructure improvements
Social Climate	diversity is part of our community and all segments appear comfortable using our library; learning and literacy have high value	ever-changing demographics; perceived as homeless hangout; community building work ahead for Grow Grand Island
Community Relations	working side by side with Grow Grand Island community individuals, businesses, and agencies to build a stronger community; Wood River 21st Century Learning Center grant	Continual struggle with informing the public of library services and programs

Community Profile and Demographics

Grand Island is Nebraska's largest city outside of the Omaha & Lincoln Metropolitan areas. Grand Island's 2010 U.S. Census population count was 48,520. In 2013, after our community's census population estimate exceeded 50,000, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget announced the designation of the Grand Island Metropolitan Statistical Area which includes the counties of Hall, Hamilton, Merrick and Howard. Grand Island's census population estimate for 2014 was 51,236.

Incorporated in 1872, the vital city services of fire, police, gas/electric and public library were carved out during the town's first decade and by 1884 the formal establishment of the Grand Island Public Library took place. As recounted in "History of Hall County Nebraska" by A. F. Buechler, "A board appointed by the city took charge and the service and equipment were gradually improved from year to year". From its humble beginnings without a home but with a committed group of visionary board members, its first home within a law office above a bank building, a long term home as a Carnegie library, on through dedication of the Edith Abbott Memorial Library in 1974 and expansion/renovation in 2007, the Grand Island Public Library maintains a vital role in serving our community through continual improvements.

According to Buechler's work, a party of thirty-five persons were engaged for the settlement of Hall County. Thirty in this party were "Germans from the Schleswig-Holstein territory, who had been a few years in the United States". This immigrant heritage continues today with Grand Island as a wonderfully diverse place with its own unique demographics and community development prospects.

As an example, between 1990 and 2010 the composition of our community has changed considerably and we have become much more diverse. Most notably, our city's Hispanic/Latino (of any race) population has increased from 4.79% in 1990, to 15.8% in 2000 and up to 26.8% in 2010. In comparison for Nebraska cities with more than 30,000 population, Bellevue has 16.3%, Hastings 9.8%, and Kearney 7.3%.

The percentage of Black/African American population rose just slightly between 1990 (.34%) and 2000 (.4%) but has since increased to 2.1% in 2010. Those who declared "some other race" increased from 9.6% to 13.1% of our city's population.

While 27.6% of our total population is under 18 years of age, a much larger proportion of the Hispanic/Latino (of any race) population, 41.8%, is under 18.

Another unique aspect of our community is educational attainment. The percentage of our county's population 25+ years of age with a 4-year college degree or higher is 15.95%. That compares to Hamilton County at 18.64%, Adams County at 19.86%, and Buffalo County at 30.22%. While Hall County's percentage is lower than others, it represents an increase from past years. In 1990, 14.6% of Hall County citizens 25+ years of age had attained a 4-year college degree or higher.

The "2014 Kids Count Data Book" for Nebraska shows significant needs among Hall County's youth related to poverty, food stamp and WIC participation, participation in Free and Reduced Lunch programs, births to teenagers, dropout rates, etc. And "County Health Rankings" for Nebraska show significant needs in our county related to various health outcomes and factors.

More detailed demographic information about our community can be found in the Additional Resources section.

Additional Resources

This section is a work in progress. Resources will be added as time allows.

Key Results from the 2011 National Citizen Survey Conducted for the City of Grand Island

FIGURE 3: RATINGS OF OVERALL COMMUNITY QUALITY

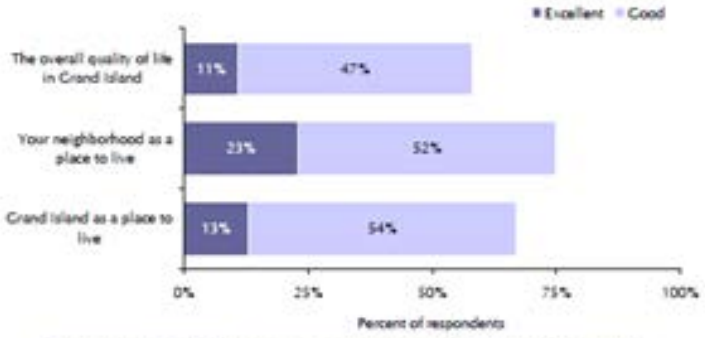


FIGURE 4: LIKELIHOOD OF REMAINING IN COMMUNITY AND RECOMMENDING COMMUNITY

FIGURE 53: RATINGS OF CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

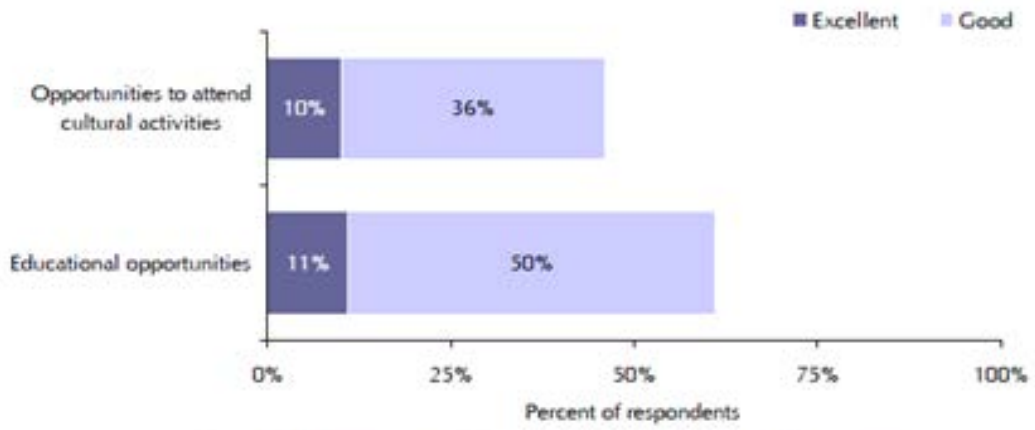


FIGURE 54: CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES BENCHMARKS

	Comparison to benchmark
Opportunities to attend cultural activities	Below
Educational opportunities	Similar

FIGURE 63: RATINGS OF COMMUNITY QUALITY AND INCLUSIVENESS

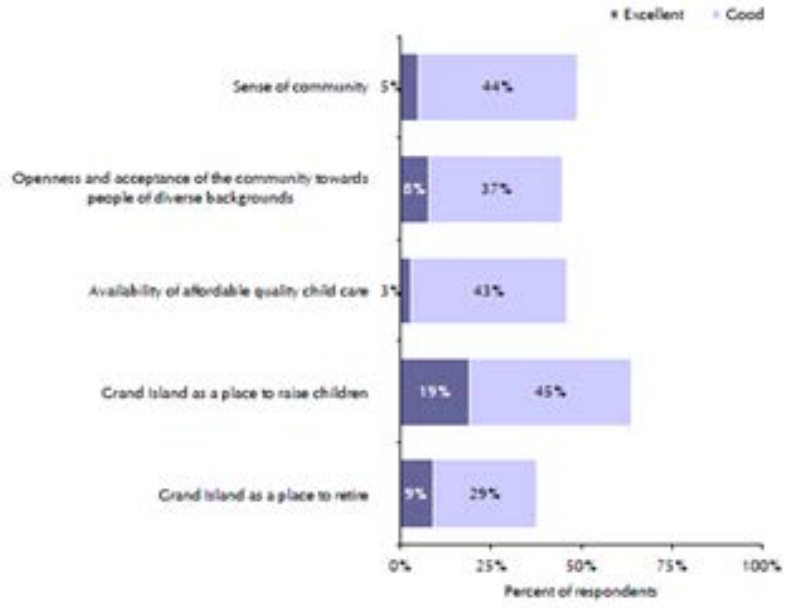


FIGURE 55: PARTICIPATION IN CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

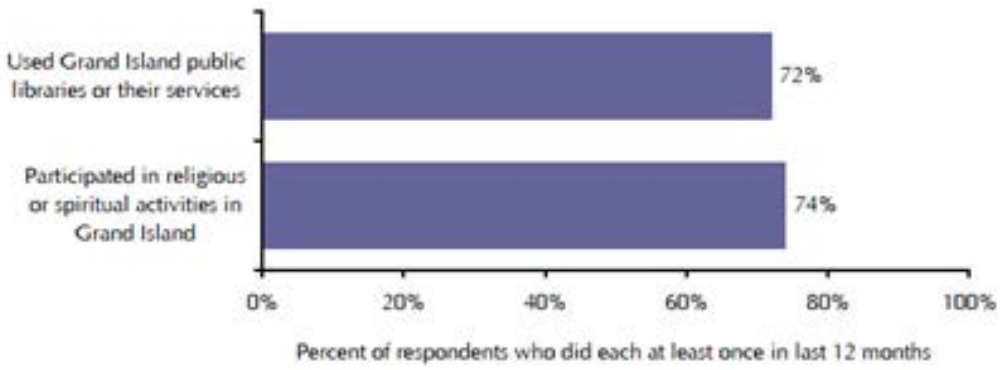
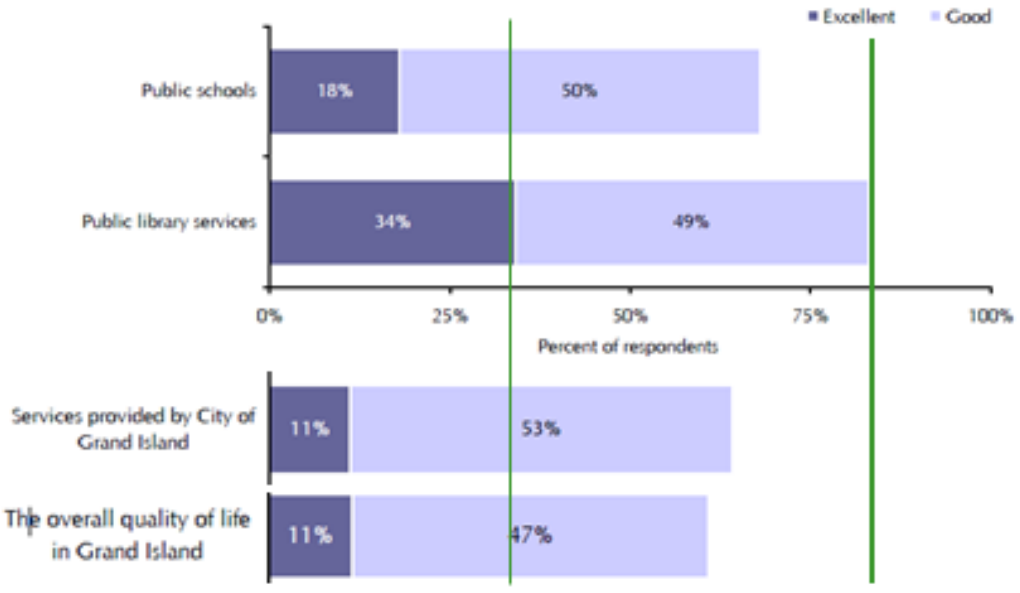


FIGURE 56: PARTICIPATION IN CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES BENCHMARKS

	Comparison to benchmark
Used Grand Island public libraries or their services	Similar
Participated in religious or spiritual activities in Grand Island	Much more

A Strong Public Library Strengthens a Community

FIGURE 57: PERCEPTION OF CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES



HELPING BUILD A STRONG COMMUNITY 12 WAYS @ YOUR LIBRARY

GILIBRARY 2020
2015 Progress Report

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND Public Library

This report has the highlights, come to the library for the full story!

Every CHILD Ready to READ @ your library

This is a big goal as we make continual improvements to our Discovery Center and help children be successful readers and students.

Our community partner Sixpence Head Start Child Development and Family Program supported this goal in 2015 with their donation of additional furniture and interactives for a new Baby Zone, a new Music Center area, more science interactives, baby toys, a new dress up area, improvements to our mother's nursing room, enhancements to Bookingham Palace, new book bins and gliders, and much more. Grand Island's Sixpence works primarily with children through age three and their teen parents.

1 Building up our Discovery Center / literacy-based Children's Museum

2 Getting kids ready to read, and supporting them as students

Additional regularly scheduled programming : In response to community needs, in 2015 we added a Wednesday Baby Lapsit @ 6 p.m., Wednesday Storytime @ 11 a.m., Wednesday After-School Bookbop @ 2:30 p.m., Clean Community System Storytime on recycling 2nd Saturday of each month @ 11 a.m., monthly homeschoolers program, monthly Wood River Schools 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant programs, and a Minecraft /Coding Club.

Check out our regularly scheduled kids & teens programs online

Summer Reading Programs for kids and teens: Congratulations Shoemaker Elementary for winning the coveted children's Summer Reading Program Trophy! 2015 Super Hero programs included a Fantastic Future Me interactive display from Omaha Children's Museum, NEST 529 partnership; expanded programming including Minecraft/Coding, Super Kids Club for 3rd-5th grade, Superheroes Storytime for preschoolers-2nd Grade; Summer Art Contest for Teens, and our Library after hours teen program finale.

Many thanks to the super support of community schools, businesses, agencies, volunteers and the Library Foundation for making Thursday Enrichment Club, Mighty Monday programs and other Summer Reading activities a success.

Rounding out the year we had: another fantastic Bear Fair with dozens of community partners; ESU 10 Every Child Ready to Read Workshop; Hot Cocoa en la Manana with Multicultural Coalition including presentation by Linh Quang Lion and Dragon Dance Troupe from Lincoln and Humanities Nebraska / Nebraska Cultural Endowment program on culture of India; Grand Island Public Schools Literacy and ELL Nights at the library, FAST Program outreach and library visits; ongoing work with Hall County Community Collaborative;

Grand Island Little Theatre "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" acting workshop; partnership with Central Nebraska Reading Council for "No Pirates Allowed: Said Library Lou" guest author Rhonda Gowler Greene; another fun Edith Abbott Birthday Tea Party with special thanks to Stuhr Museum;

lots of outreach programs to Early Learning Center, school and daycare classes, community events such as Healthy Kid's Day at the YMCA and Kid's Day at Fonner Park; many teen volunteers from schools, churches, CYC, etc.;

library out of school programming during spring break and winter break; special events such as Dr. Seuss Day, Teen Read Week, Teen Tech Week; ongoing partnerships with too many organizations to list in this space and MUCH MORE!

205 Story Times — 4,800 attendees
65 Summer Reading Activities — 6,900 attendees
75 Outreach and Other Activities—6,800 attendees
Total 345 Children's Programs— 18,500 Attendees
35 Teen Summer Reading Activities — 1,350 attendees
40 Outreach and Other Activities—1,650 attendees
Total 75 Teen Programs— 3,000 Attendees

3 Keeping pace with library technology

A redesign of our library webpage at www.gilibrary.org greatly improved access to 24/7 services.

New services in 2015 included One Click Digital with access to thousands of downloadable audiobooks; Newsbank access to full text of Grand Island Independent, 38 Nebraska newspapers, and thousands of papers from across the U.S. and around the world; Value Line Digital Platform to help evaluate investments and make smarter, more profitable decisions.

NebraskAccess databases provided by the Nebraska Library Commission expanded during the year, thanks to an increase in state appropriations.

At end of 2015, work was underway to add another downloadable service—Hoopla, for checkout of movies, TV series, music, audiobooks, eBooks and comic books. Hoopla, Overdrive, One Click Digital and Zinio represent our "fantastic four" so far for online downloadable services that complement our "physical" collections. Our online resource center is a big part of a 21st century public library.

As more and more patrons obtain mobile devices, our staff members are providing one-on-one assistance in using the fantastic four and our other 24/7 online services.

90,000 public access computer & wireless sessions
110,000 uses of selected databases
30,000 downloadable checkouts
270,000 Online Book Club accesses
and much more!

4 Making changes in collections and programs to match our diverse community needs

We had another very successful year of bi-lingual Prime Time Family Reading Time sessions; continued growth in Spanish language materials; continued expansion of downloadable collections as well as increasingly popular physical formats such as Playaways and Playaway Kits; collaboration with Multicultural Coalition with Hot Cocoa en la Manana and Day of the Dead

5 Building on our strengths as surveyed by the city

A previous City survey provided insight into the strengths of the library in helping build a stronger community. The library became even stronger in 2015 with additional City funding for staffing and increased hours. The change in hours was part of the reason our library received gold-level accreditation from the Nebraska Library Commission in 2015.

As the Grow Grand Island community visioning process developed, we folded the library's GILIBRARY 2020 strategic plan in with all five of Grow Grand Island's pillars and 17 of the plan's initiatives. The library was also involved in several committee meetings during the year.

6 Reshaping reference, teen and other areas as library learning center areas

7 Improving meeting rooms and videoconferencing capabilities

8 Expanding programming for community building and more informed citizens

Planning continued in 2015 toward future redesign of library spaces as a community center filled with collaborative learning and literacy areas. In the meantime, we continued weekly genealogy assistance service in the Heritage Room in partnership with the Prairie Pioneer Genealogical Society and held two Friday Night Live(brary) after hours events including a Heritage Room open house.

As computer coding, robotics and other "maker" library uses flourished in 2015, we started to refine our concepts of future spaces. Children, teens and adults all participated in these activities. The Adult Summer Reading Program offered opportunities for growth through authors, artists, veterans and other heroes, and even an outdoor vintage auto show next to our rain garden.

Other learning opportunities for adults delved into a six-week Smart Investing @ Your Library course, Small Business Association classes, Health Insurance Market Place navigation, even more author events, book clubs, art exhibits, AARP income tax preparation assistance, and a regular stream of text proctoring.

Two additions to our computer class offerings in 2015 were Social Networking and Google Docs, and we partnered with Nebraska Works to offer Job Seeking classes.

Community building happens inside and outside the library. Outdoor venues for our services included the polyhedron exhibit on the south side of the building in cooperation with Jerome Dubas and Grand Island Public School's art students, and our annual appearance at the Harvest of Harmony parade featuring the Summer Reading Program winning Shoemaker Elementary students.

Inside the library, community building took place during library-hosted Grow Grand Island committee meetings and community input meetings of the City's long range transportation plan "Journey 2040", part of the new Metropolitan Planning Organization.

We have dozens of community partners, and one in particular to highlight in 2015: the Grand Island Public Library Foundation & Friends. Your book sale purchases and foundation donations make their way back in the form of program sponsorships and other amenities not covered by the city's budget. Thousands of hours of labor are saved every year thanks to our volunteers under the Foundation's coordination.

Thanks to all of you great community builders for your continual support of our public library! Please know how much we appreciate you every day!

9 Taking our services out to our youngest and eldest / better transportation to the library

10 Establishing library branch and expanded internet branch services

11 Reviving tax-based library services outside of Grand Island

Thanks to a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant, Wood River schools has funding to support the purchase of about 40 nonresident household library cards and we have designed a monthly educational program for these students! No other changes were made in these areas in 2015 and need more study in the next few years.

12 Getting the word out more about library services and their value

GI Library Journal is our new monthly newsletter, highlighting the past month's activities as well as coming attractions. You can see that our staff, board, and volunteers work tirelessly not only to serve you but to inform you of all our services. Every book display, library week celebration, brochure, website update, Facebook post, Twitter feed, column in the newspaper or PSA on the radio or TV, and everything else matters.

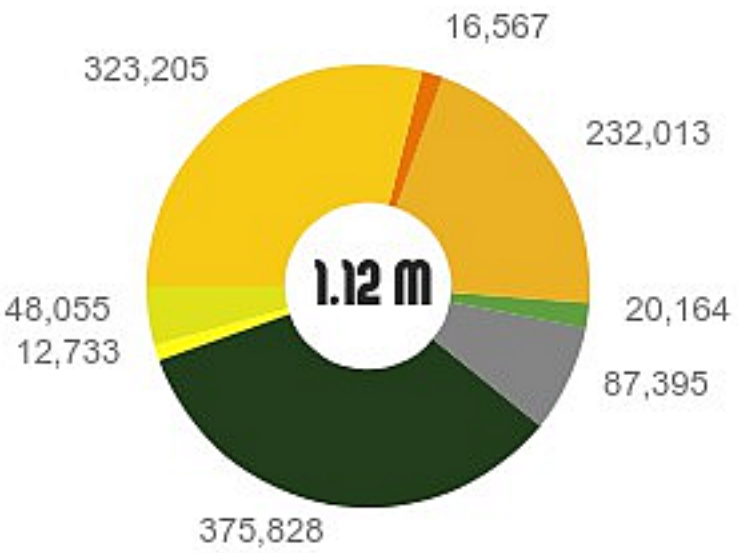
We are especially thankful for our City Public Information Office and the media for so many news releases and stories in 2015.

Encourage others to make use of library services and find ways to demonstrate your support for your library as we all help build this strong community!

GRAND ISLAND Public Library GILIBRARY 2020 Helping Build a Strong Community 12 Ways

GILIBRARY by the Numbers 2014 -15

Patron Use

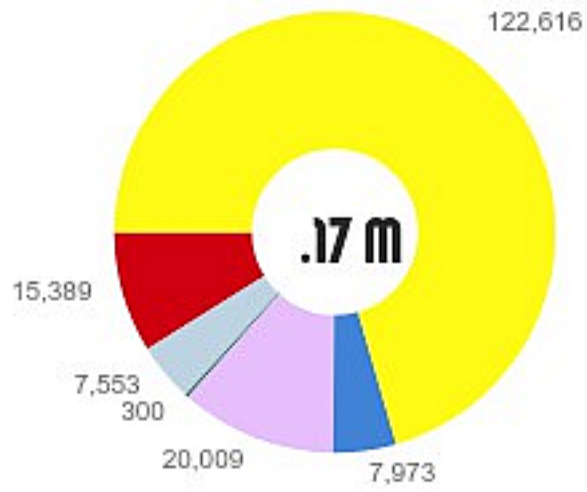


- Checkouts (29%)
- Visitors (21%)
- Computer Sessions (8%)
- Reserves Placed (1%)
- Reference, Microfilm, Interlibrary Loan (1%)
- Program Participants (2%)
- Online Resources Use (34%)
- Registerd Borrowers (4%)

what's the IMPACT?

1.29 million library services & resources for your lifetime of learning and literacy!

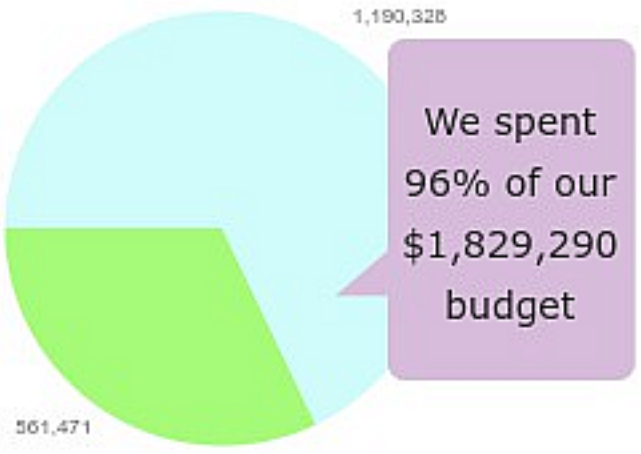
Collections



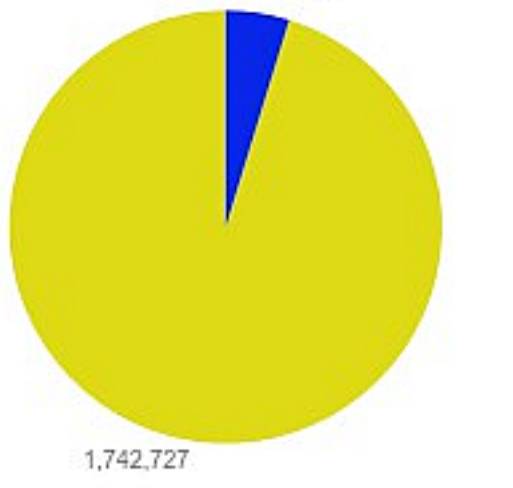
- Books (71%)
- eBooks (12%)
- Video/Software (4%)
- Audio (5%)
- Magazine/Newspaper Subscriptions (0%)
- Downloadable Audio (9%)

Total items added during year	15,272
Total items withdrawn	24,009

Budgetary



Other Library Funds	Revenues	Expenses
Library Trust (201)	2,228	0
Pioneer Consortium (280)	123,029	46,360
Special Revenues (295)	7,910	12,152



The Grand Island Public Library is the gateway for the people of our diverse community to achieve a lifetime of learning and literacy.

A Lifetime of Learning Happens @ Your Library!

CITY OF GRAND ISLAND Public Library

approved by Grand Island Public Board of Trustees August 15, 2016 as a supplement to the 2015 GILIBRARY 2020 Report

visme

Presentation and Discussion Concerning the Grand Island Public Library

By Steve Fosselman, Library Director and Alan Lepler, President, Grand Island Public Library Board of Trustees

Grand Island City Council Study Session

January 17, 2017

Library Board in City Government & Community

- Seven Grand Island citizens appointed by mayor and confirmed by city council
- establish regulations for the government of the library for preservation, usefulness and efficiency
- exercise power to carry out State Statute §51-201 through §51-219

NAME	TERM START	TERM EXPIRATION
Tanya Hansen	07/01/2016	06/30/2020
Sapna Purawat	07/01/2016	06/30/2020
Rob Czaplewski	11/24/2009	06/30/2020
Edward Meedel	06/24/2014	06/30/2018
Kelli Arens	06/24/2014	06/30/2018
Rebecca Rosenlund	07/01/2010	06/30/2018
Alan Lepler	07/01/2010	06/30/2018
Julie Hehnke, Councilmember	01/08/2013	12/31/2017

- First Library Board appointed prior to 1884 library establishment

LIBRARY

- Access of Demonstrators, Solicitors
- Circulation Policy
- Code of Conduct
- Collection Development (Materials Selection)
- Confidentiality of Library Records
- Distribution of Tax Forms
- Eating and Drinking
- Edith Abbott Memorial Library Projects Fund (Donations)
- Emergency and Safety
- Library Funds Policy
- Library-Initiated Displays
- Marketing and Advocacy
- Meeting Room
- Patron Concerns
- Personnel
- Public Access Computers
- Smoking
- Staff and Board Development
- Youth Safety
- Appendix
- Fees

Library Funds Policy

- Library Board authority over all money collected or donated to the credit of the library fund(s) established within the City of Grand Island
- Conformance with standard operating procedures of the City of Grand Island
- Donations from the Myrtle Grimminger estate in the Edith Abbott Memorial Library project fund of the city's Special Revenue Fund for projects outside the scope of the Library's general fund budget
- Abbott Trust fund for purchase of nonfiction books
- No other funds are administered, controlled or accounted for by the Library Board

GILIBRARY 2020 PLAN

Mission Statement

The Grand Island Public Library is the gateway for the people of our diverse community to achieve a lifetime of learning and literacy .

GILIBRARY 2020 PLAN

Guiding Principles

1) Our Library as a Learning Center

- Facilitating Learning for All
- Fostering Literacy in All its Forms
- Providing Access to All Types of Materials, Information, Programming and Spaces

2) Our Library as a Community Center

- Responding to Community Demographics
- Engaging in Community Development
- Enhancing City Government
- Practicing Democracy in Action

3) Our Library as a Learning Organization

- Strategic Planning Plus …

From 2013 Report to Council

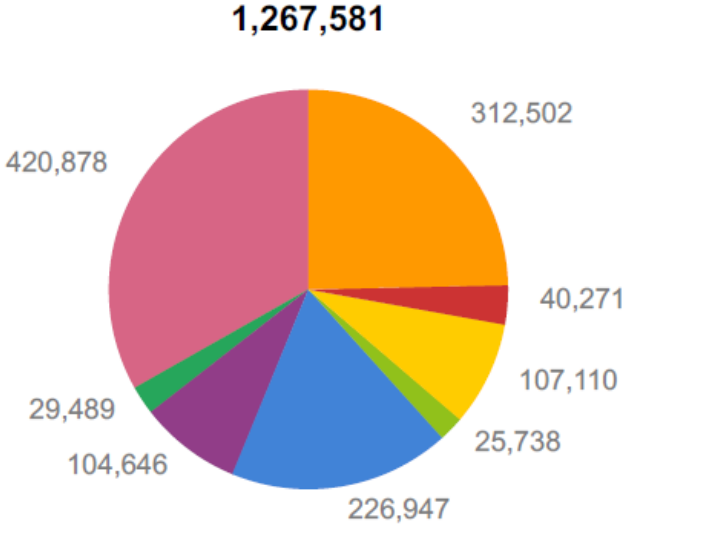
- Building Space Modifications – the Edith Abbott Memorial Library was especially designed to accommodate modifications as needs change and evolve. Several strategic planning initiatives may involve some modifications to better serve our patrons through use of donated funds.

GILIBRARY 2020 PLAN

2016 Highlights

- Restoration of County funding
- Establishment of uniform year-round hours of operation
- Nebraska 150 programming partnership with Stuhr Museum and Hall County Historical Society
- Nebraska Warrior Writers Project partnership with Humanities Nebraska
- Partnership with Moonshell Council Munch and Learn sessions
- ~4,000 participants in three Summer Reading Programs
- Preliminary work with City PIO on library web sub-site
- Progress on implementing advanced technologies for more efficient patron services
- Participation in UNL Innovation Campus satellite makerspace grant application
- Work on design concepts for needed facility renovations
- Continued improvements to Children's Area in partnership with Sixpence program
- Staff reorganization

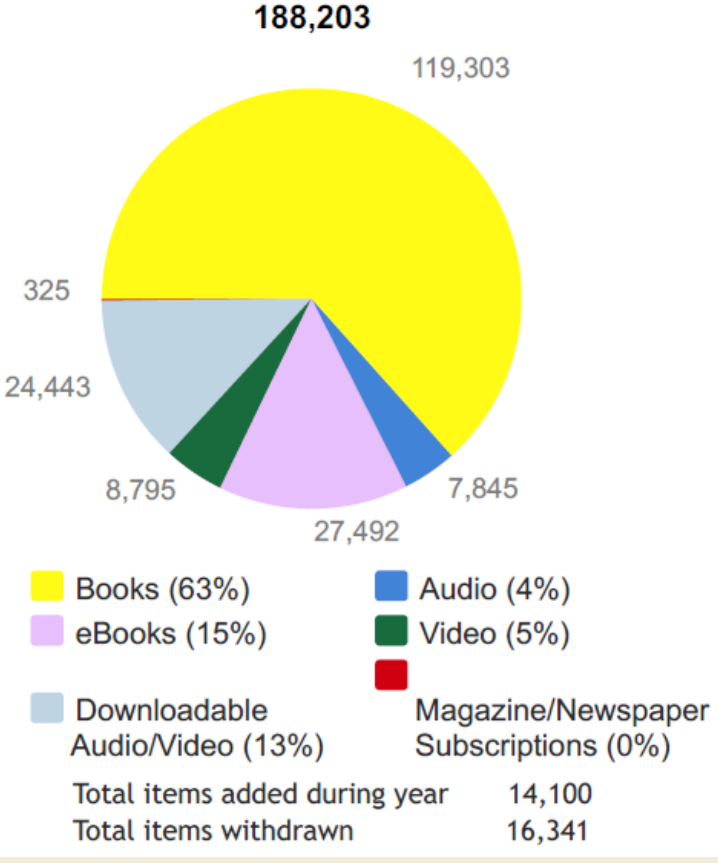
Patron Use



what's the IMPACT?

1.5 million library services & resources for your lifetime of learning and literacy!

Collections

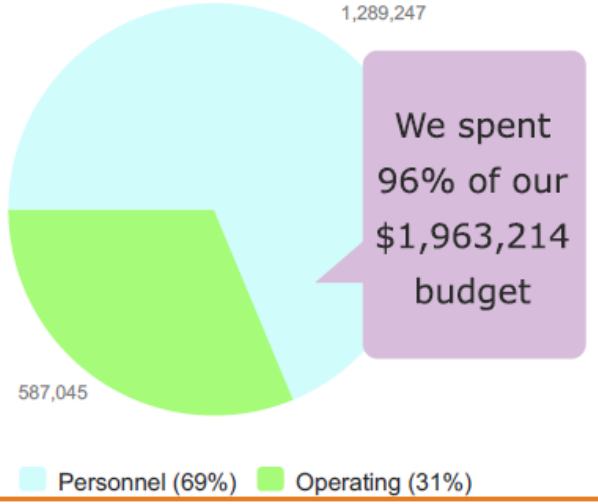


Total items added during year	14,100
Total items withdrawn	16,341

LIBRARY

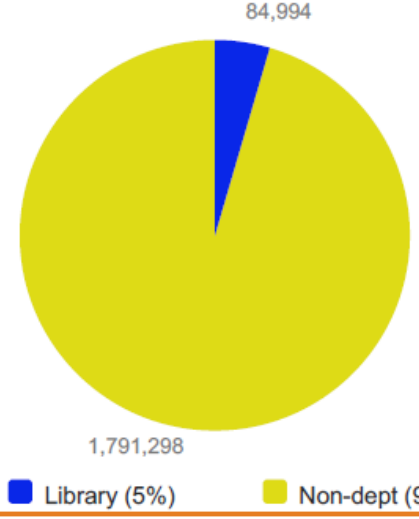
Budgetary

Gen Fund Expenses (100)

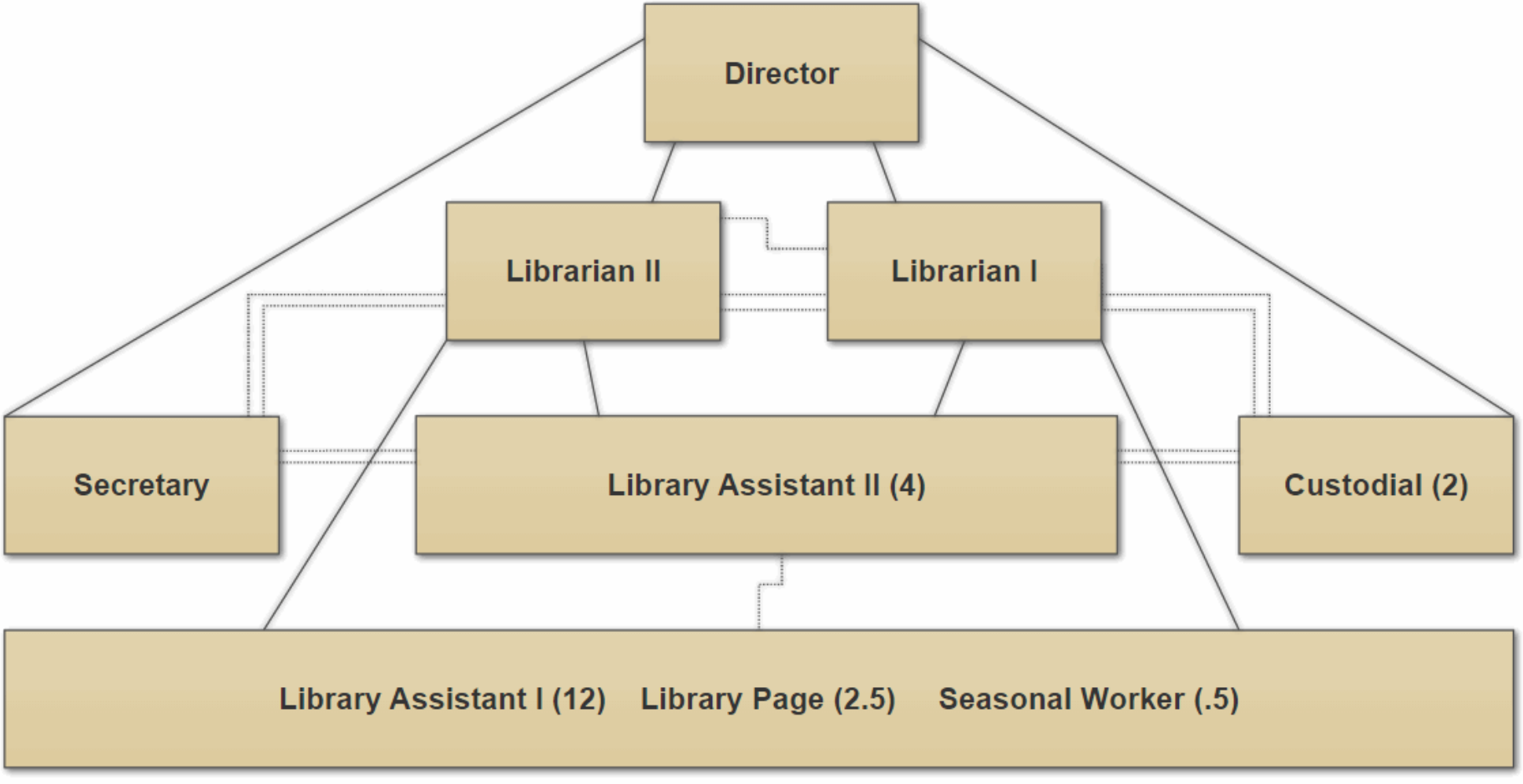


Other Library Funds	Revenues	Expenses
Library Trust (201)	4,976	0
Pioneer Consortium (280)	34,959	34,470
Special Revenues (295)	2,300	7,099

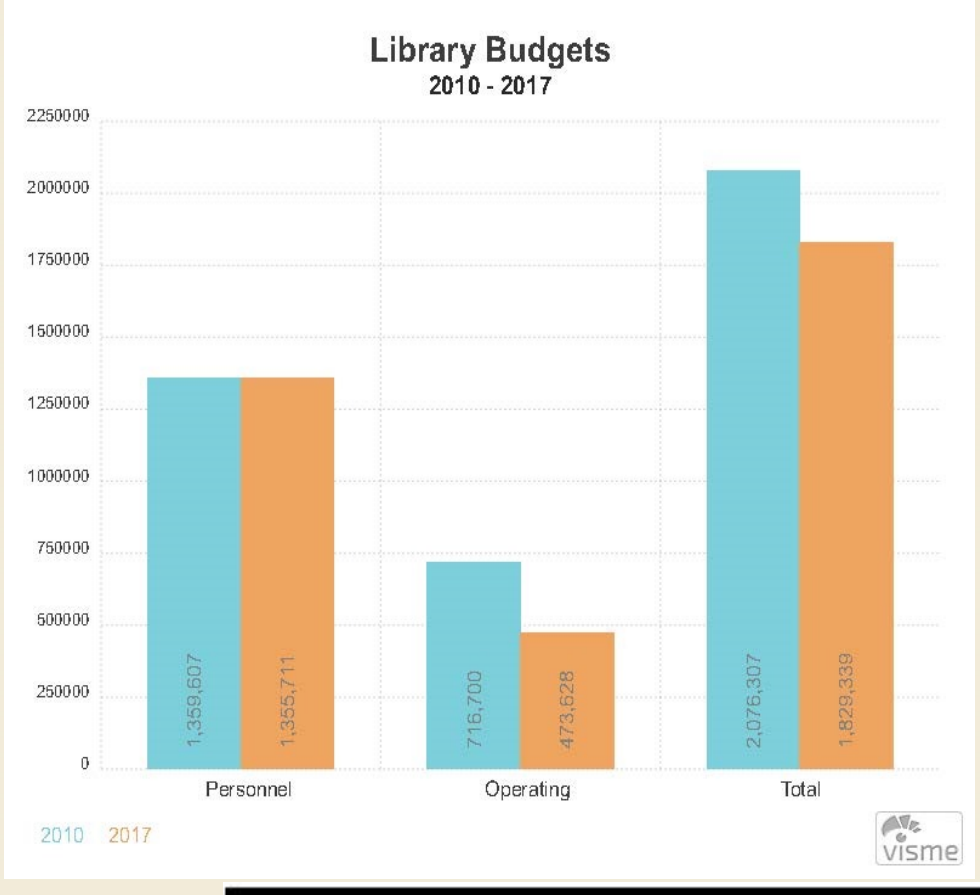
Gen Fund Revenues (100)
Comprising 100% of Expenses

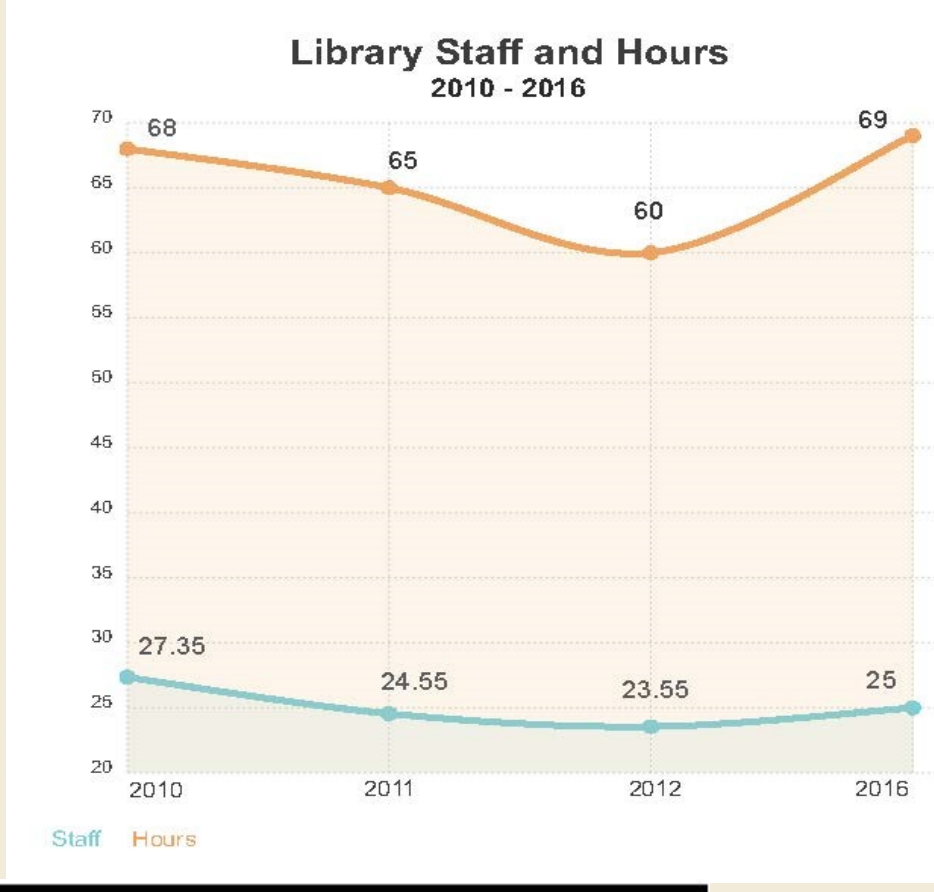


25.0 FTE


Director
Librarian II
Librarian I
Secretary
Library Assistant II (4)
Custodial (2)
Library Assistant I (12)
Library Page (2.5)
Seasonal Worker (.5)

Library Budgets, Staffing and Hours Comparisons





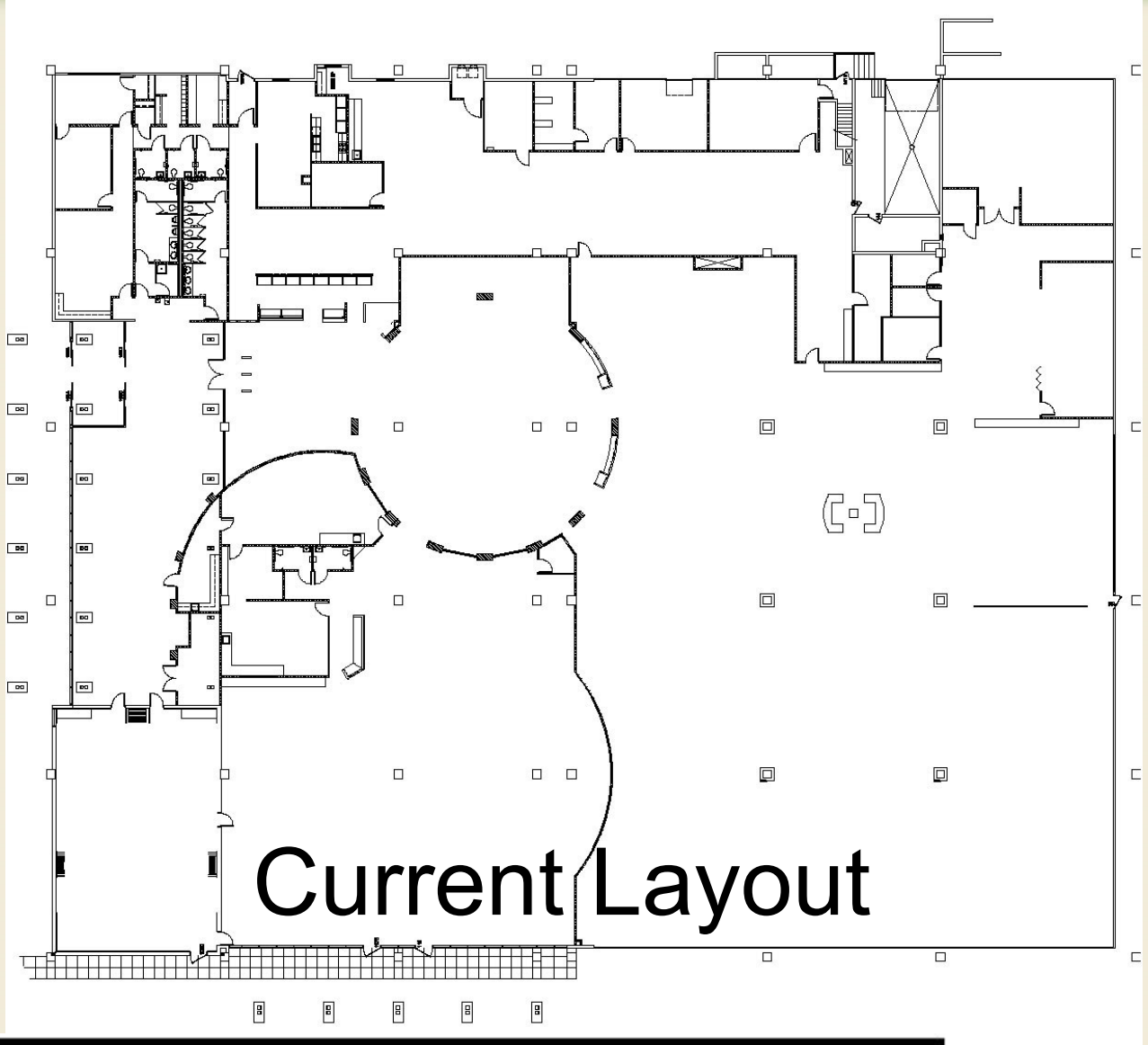
GILIBRARY 2020 PLAN

2017 Preview

- Registration of additional County patrons
- Additional Nebraska 150, Nebraska Warrior Writers Project and other community programming partnerships
- Roll-out of library web sub-site
- Full implementation of advanced technologies for more efficient patron services and examination of other technological efficiencies
- Improvements in collection development and utilization
- Continued improvements to Children's Area including designated Ready-to-Read area and after/out-of-school programming space
- Moving forward with current project for needed facility renovations and development of a multi-faceted long-range facilities master plan

Major Components of Needed Non-Tax Supported Facility Renovations

1) Meeting Rooms / Friends-Internet Cafe
2) Admin Area Flip
3) Teen / Makerspace / Study Rooms
4) ADA Parking and Patron Walkway Access



Our process has involved Board and staff examination, and professional assistance, of needed changes to library spaces for greater efficiency in our highly adaptable layout, changing needs and patterns of library use, and to meet building project goals with non-tax resources that were not available during the 2005-2007 expansion project (however, that project did include approximately $1.6 million in non-tax resources).

This café proposed in 2005 but not constructed due to lack of funding can now be developed to accomplish three key elements of public library design – procession, services & flexible space

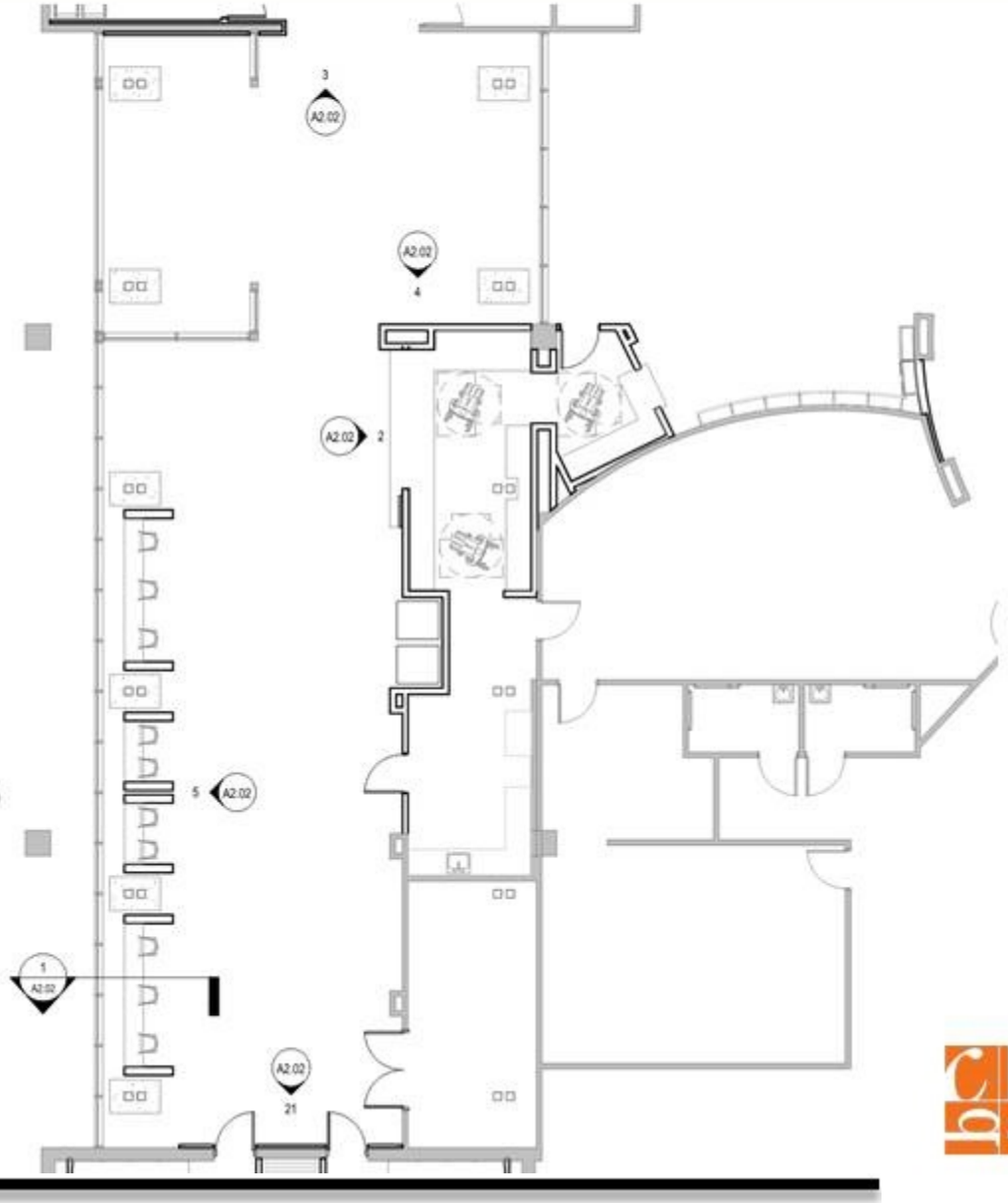
THE LOBBY / COFFEE SHOP

- NEW COFFEE SHOP AND VENDING AREA
- ACCESSIBLE FROM EXISTING KITCHEN AREA
- NEW DONOR WALL ADJACENT TO ENTRY DOORS

- INCREASED STORAGE CAPACITY BY RELOCATING VENDING

- BUILT-IN BAR HEIGHT COMPUTER NOOKS
- CREATES INDIVIDUAL AND COLLABORATIVE WORK SPACES

- BRINGS ATTENTION TO MEETING ROOMS AS ADDITIONAL AMENITIES OFFERED BY THE LIBRARY



THE MEETING ROOMS

- BRINGS ATTENTION TO MEETING ROOMS AS ADDITIONAL AMENITIES OFFERED BY THE LIBRARY
- LARGE SIGNAGE AND BRIGHT COLORS HELP WITH WAYFINDING

- CREATE "FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY" STORAGE SPACE AND NEW MEETING ROOM

- INCREASED FLEXIBILITY WITH ACOUSTICAL PANELS, WALL PROTECTION AND ADDITIONAL RECESSED PROJECTION SCREENS
- VISUAL IMPACT OF CONFERENCE CENTERS

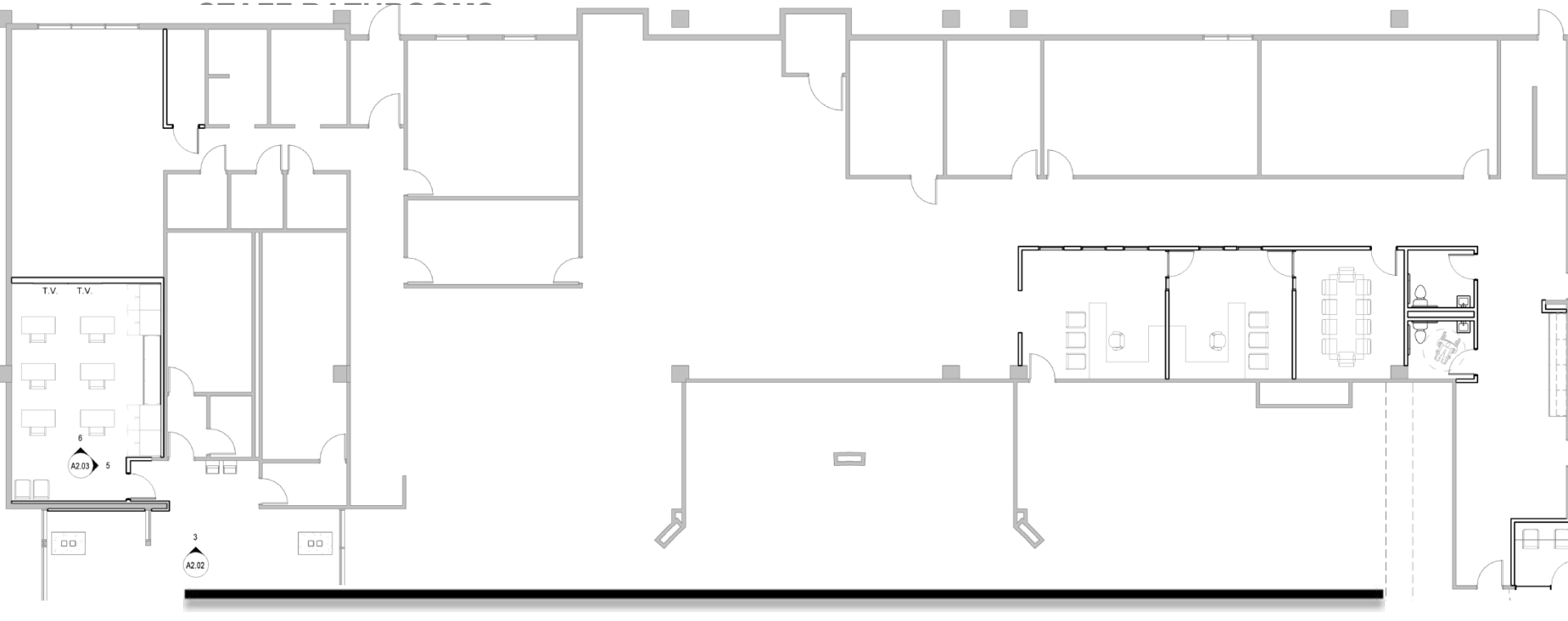
CURRENT ADMIN AREA AND FRIENDS BOOK SALE STORAGE WOULD BE 'FLIPPED'

419 uses of these meeting rooms in 2016 – 60% for the full room

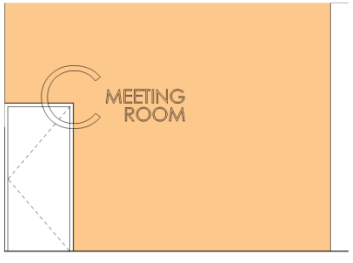
FLIPPING SPACES TO BRING ADMIN AREA INTO WORKROOM

- NEW ADMINISTRATION RECEPTION, OFFICE AND CONFERENCE ROOM

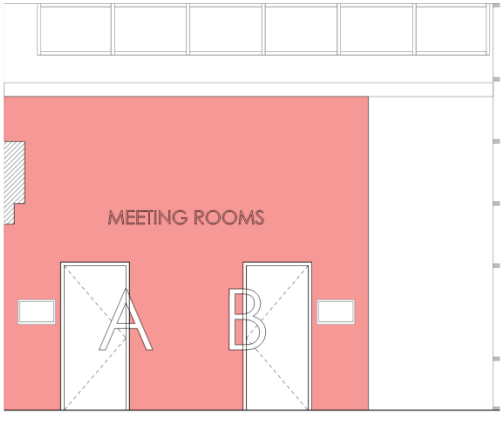
- ADDITION OF TWO



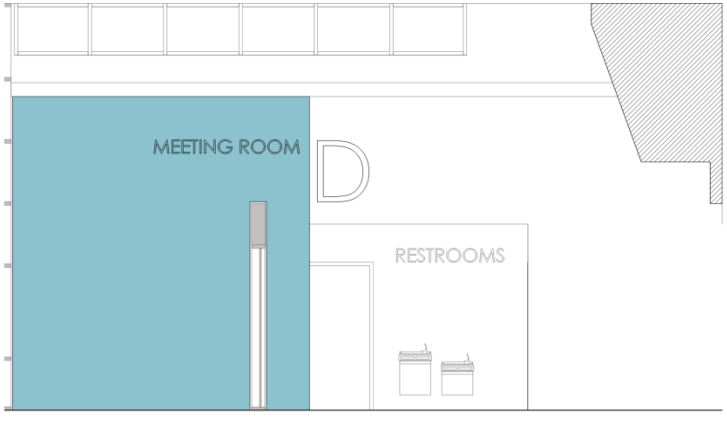
THE MEETING ROOMS



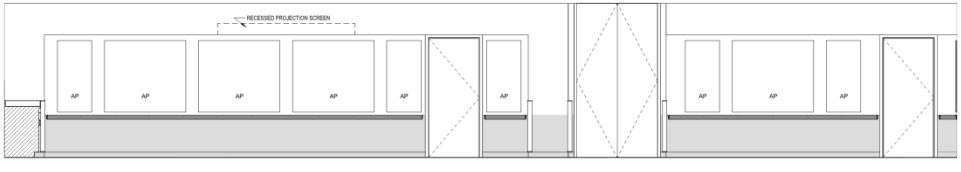
Meeting Room C Elevation



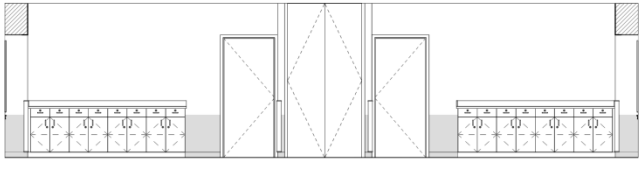
Meeting Rooms AB Elevation



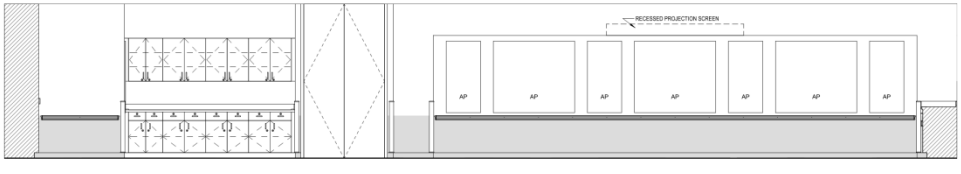
Conference Room C Elevation



Meeting Rooms ABC - East Elevation



Meeting Rooms ABC - North Elevation

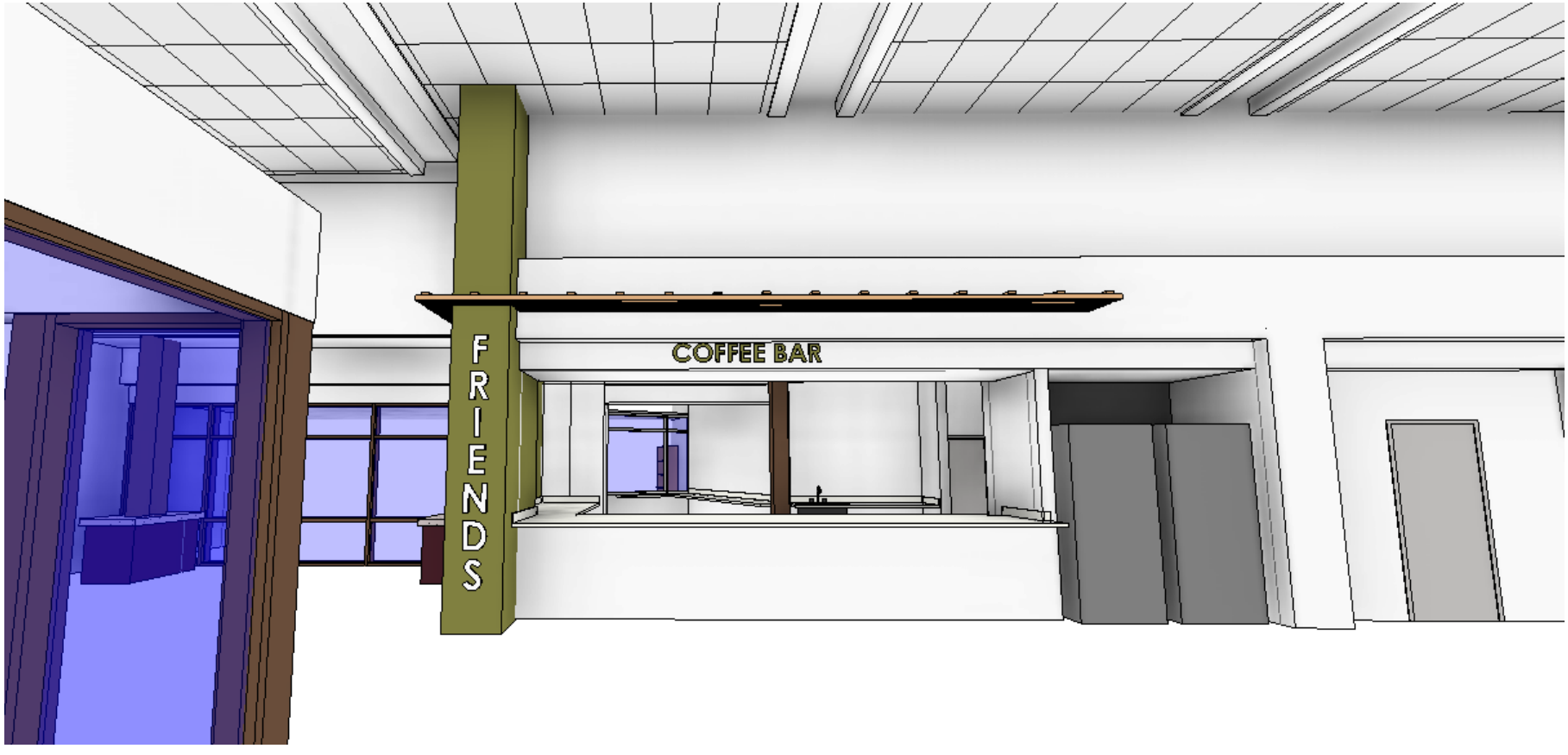


Meeting Rooms ABC - West Elevation

Meeting Rooms ABC - South Elevation

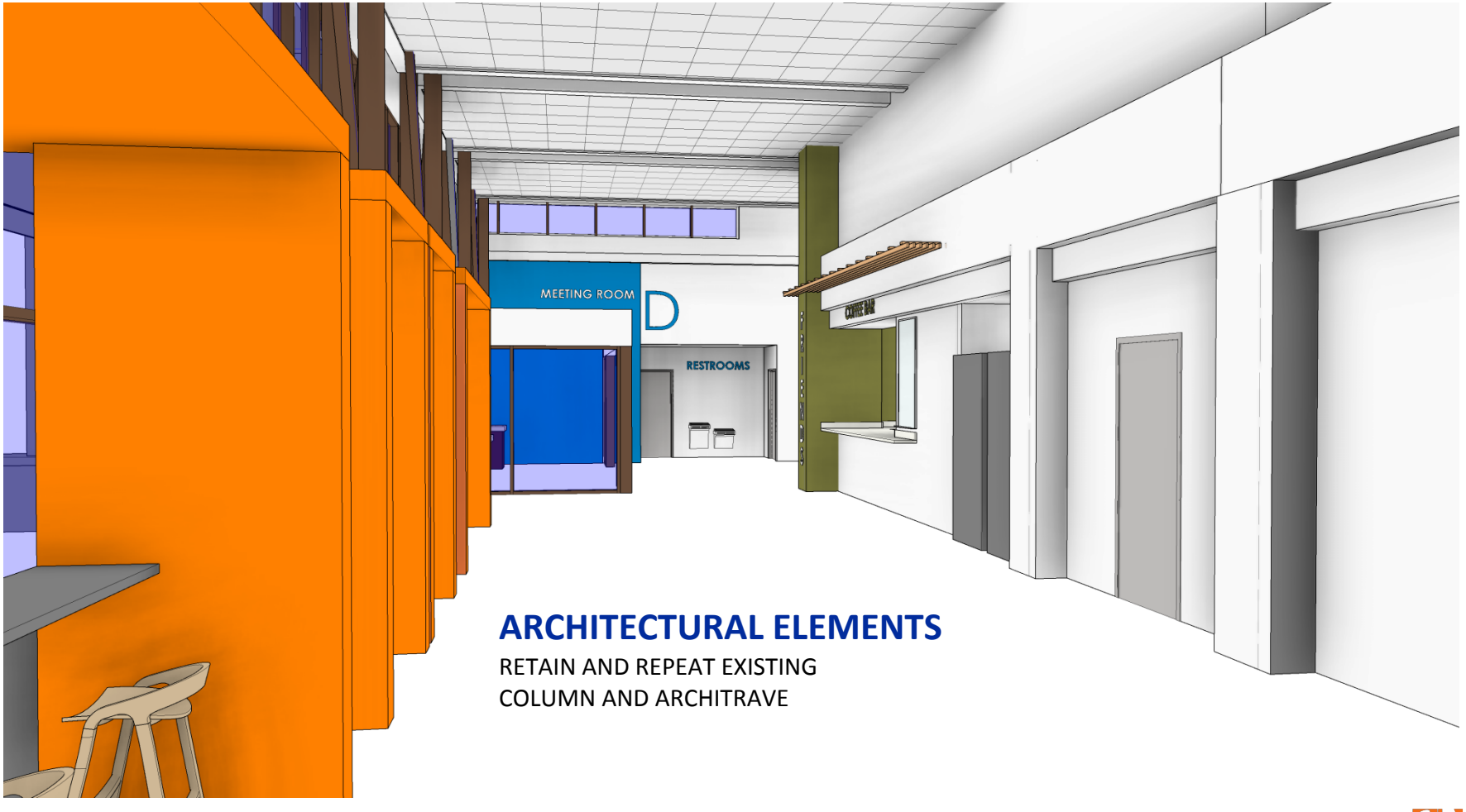
NEW LOBBY SPACE

USING COLORS AS A WAY TO HIGHLIGHT DONOR WALL, COFFEE BAR, MEETING ROOMS, STUDY NOOKS



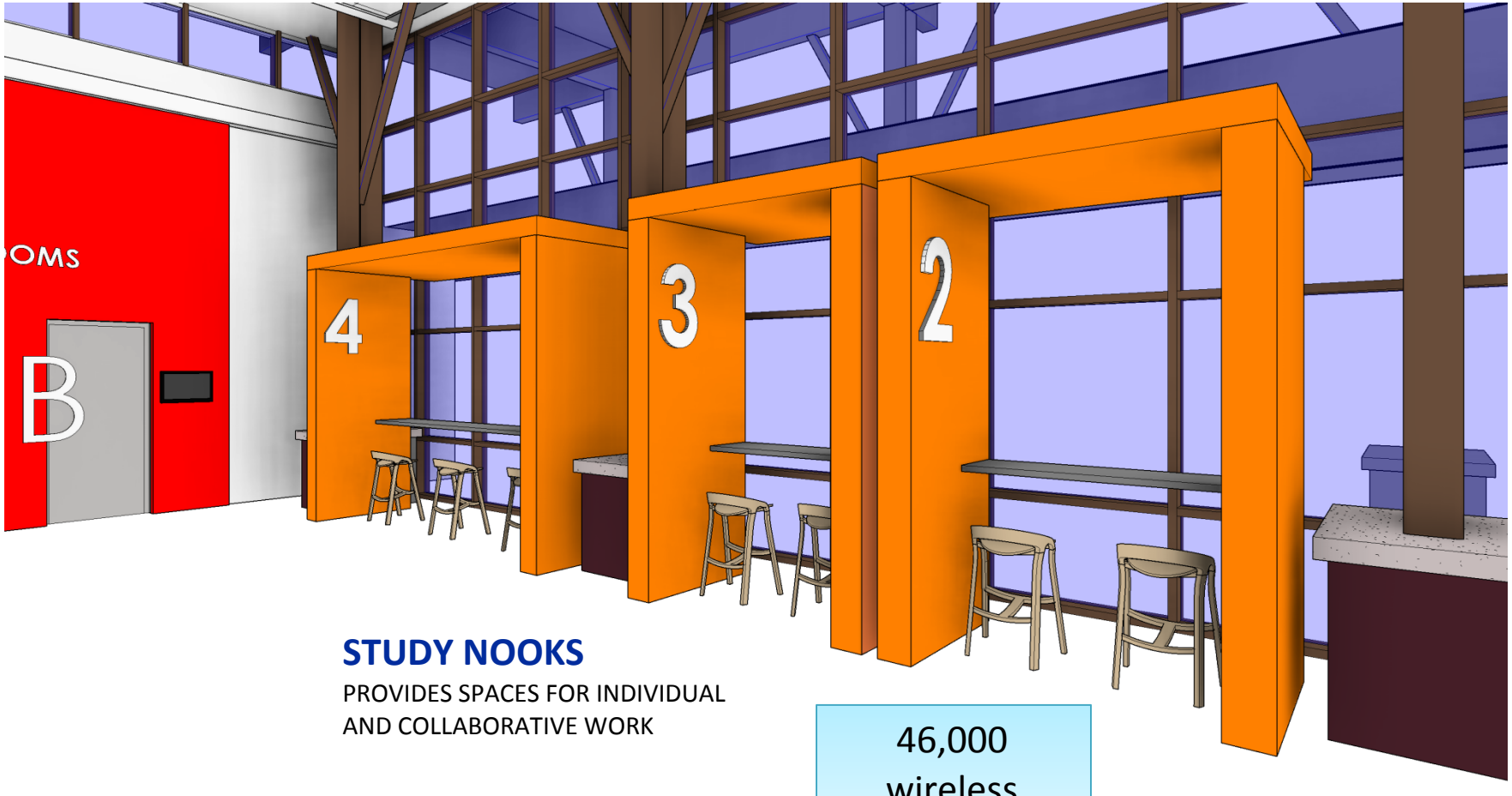
"OPEN" CONCEPT

CREATES OPPORTUNITIES FOR VENDING
AND ALLOWS LOBBY TO BE MONITORED



ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS

RETAIN AND REPEAT EXISTING
COLUMN AND ARCHITRAVE



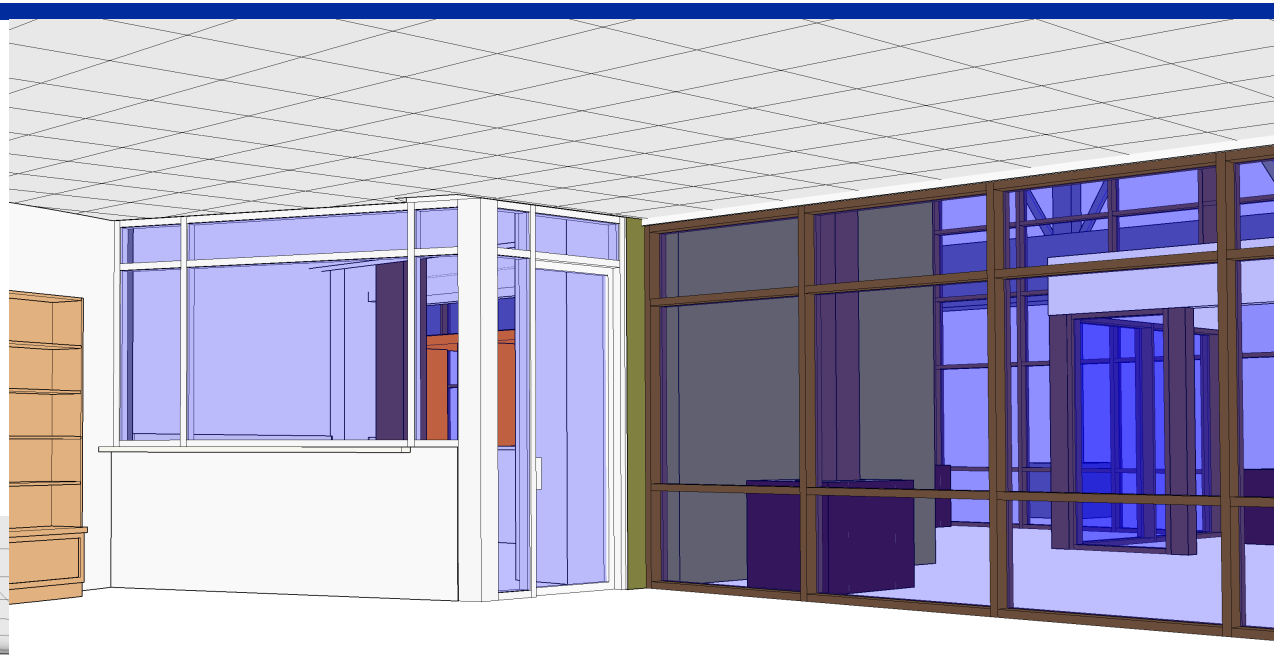
STUDY NOOKS

PROVIDES SPACES FOR INDIVIDUAL AND COLLABORATIVE WORK

46,000 wireless sessions in 2016

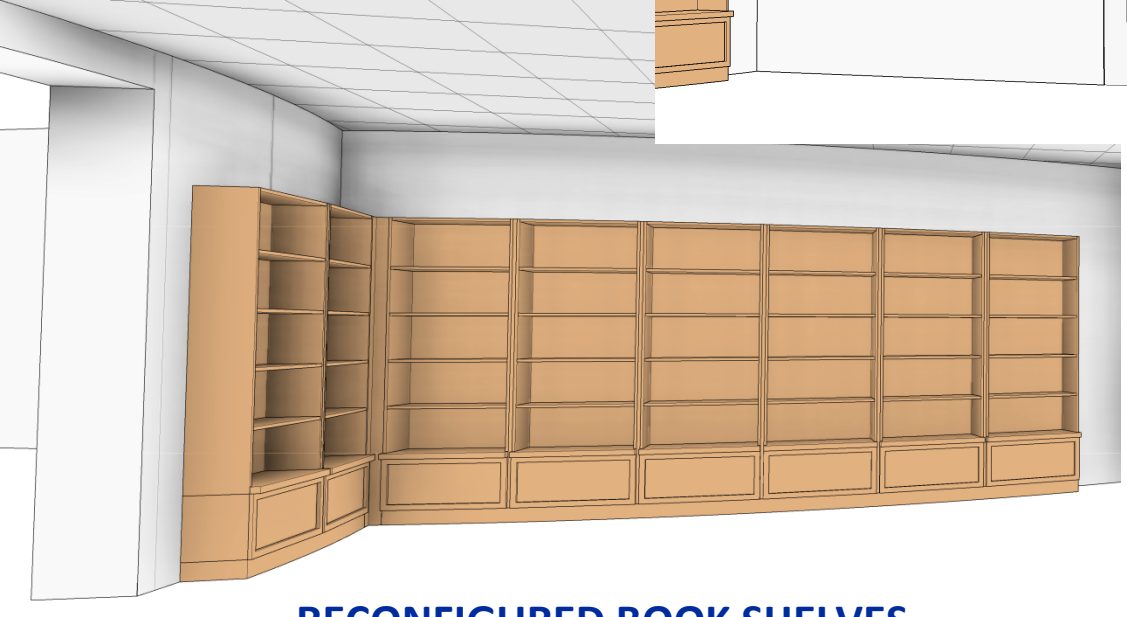
SIGNAGE

LARGE LETTERS IN BOLD COLORS AND PLACED STRATEGICALLY



FRIENDS COUNTER

TIES INTO COFFEE BAR IN LOBBY
FOR SALE OF BOOKS AND COFFEE



RECONFIGURED BOOK SHELVES

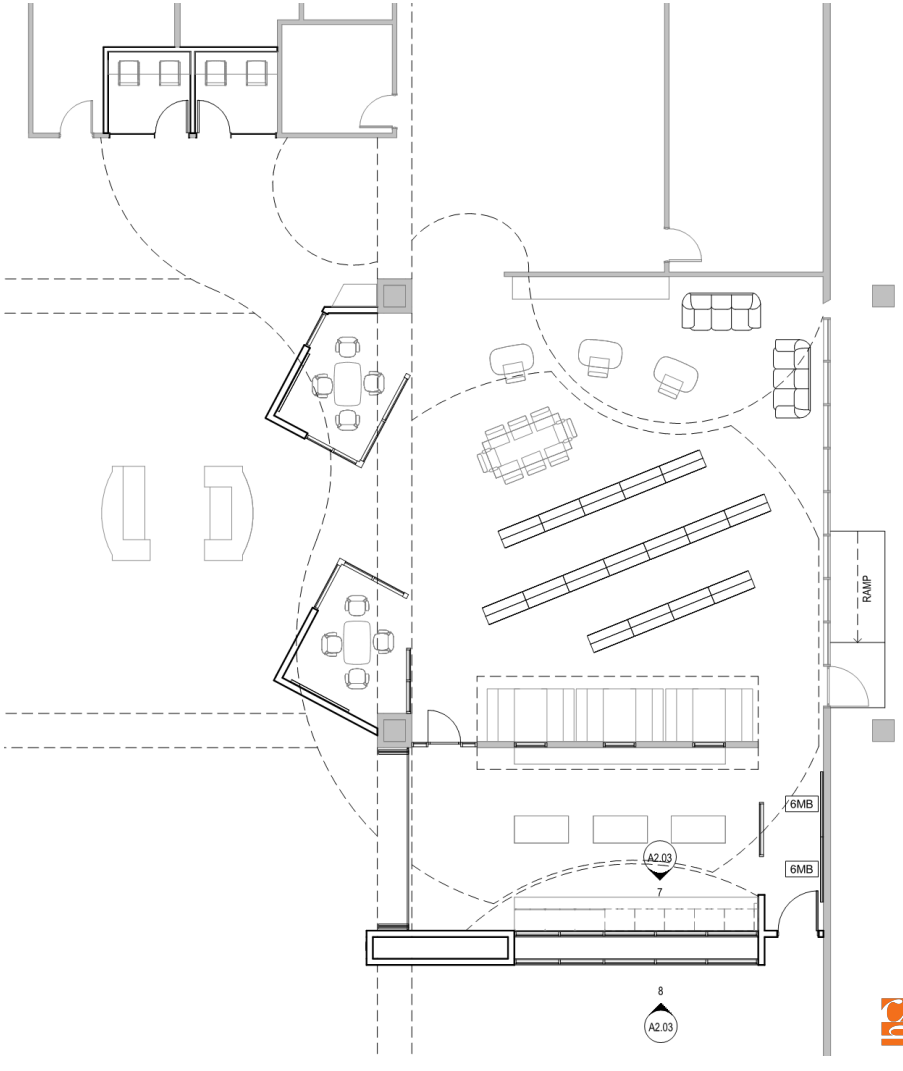
THE TEEN / MAKER SPACE

- SMALL COLLABORATION AND GROUP STUDY SPACES ROOMS SERVE AS ENTRY POINT

- FLOOR TREATMENT AND CEILING ELEMENTS CREATE VISUAL INTEREST AND INCORPORATE CURVILINEAR FEATURES

- ADDITIONAL PROCTORED EXAM ROOMS

- MAKER SPACE TO ADD ADDITIONAL AMENITIES TO LIBRARY
- SLIDING GLASS PARTITION FOR VISIBILITY AND SOUND CONTROL
- SPACE TO DISPLAY OBJECTS CREATED IN THE LIBRARY



CITY OF Grand Island NEBRASKA

LIBRARY

A Lifetime of Interactive Learning @ Your Library

for all ages, with growing emphasis on STEAM

MOVING GLASS WALL

ALLOWS FULL VISIBILITY &
BLOCKS SOUND TRANSFER

SMALL STUDY CUBES

PRIVATE STUDY GROUPS
SPACES FOR COLLABORATION
VISIBILE TO STAFF

MOVING GLASS WALL

ALLOWS FULL VISIBILITY &
BLOCKS SOUND TRANSFER

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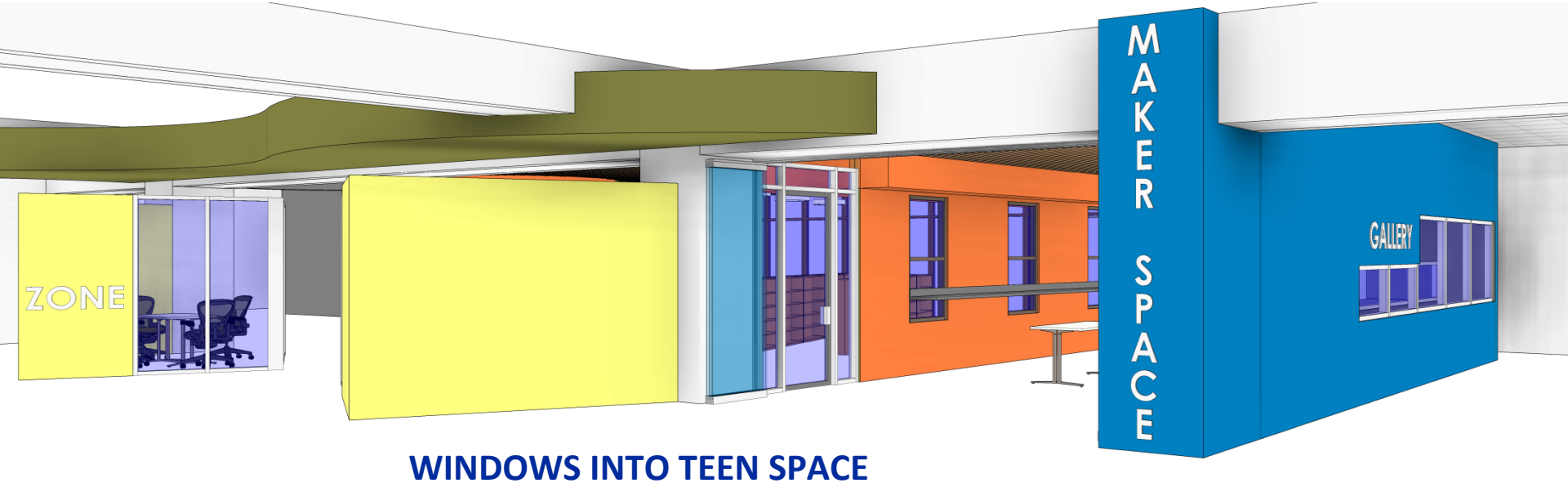


WINDOWS INTO TEEN SPACE

ALLOWS FOR INTERACTION
AND INSPIRATION

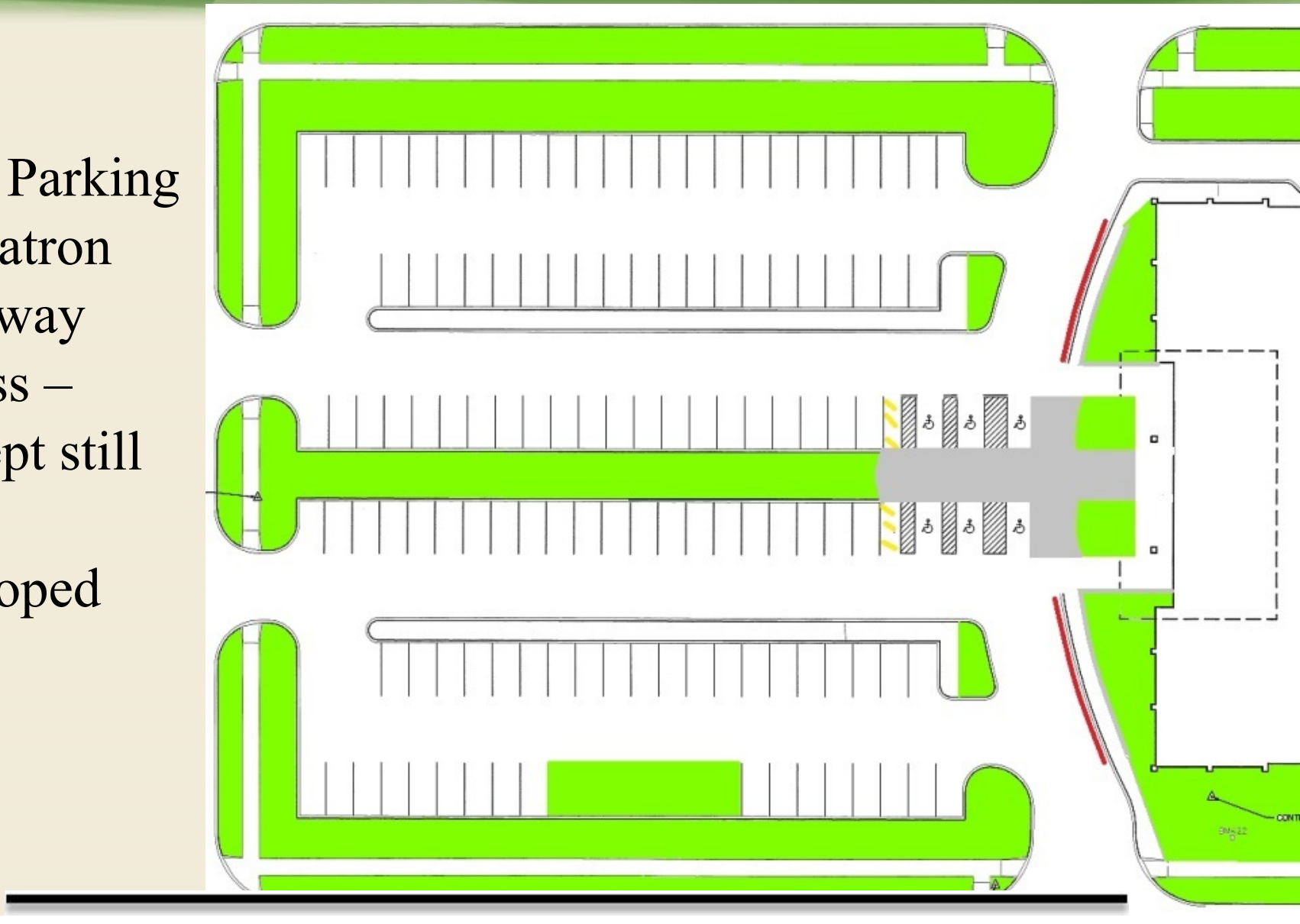
GALLERY DISPLAY CASES

OPPORTUNITIES TO DISPLAY
OBJECTS MADE IN THE LIBRARY

CEILING ELEMENTS

CREATES MINI-SPACES WITHIN
INCORPORATES CURVILINEAR ELEMENTS
ADDS VISUAL INTEREST

ADA Parking and Patron Walkway Access – concept still being developed



Preliminary Costs and Next Steps

- Interior renovations estimated at $850,000 + contingencies and architect/engineering to be determined
- ADA Parking and Patron Walkway Access – preliminary costs to be completed soon
- Issuance of RFP for Architectural Design & Build and presentation to Council for approval to proceed with non-tax funding sources fully secured
- Implementation of long-range library facilities master plan beyond 2020