



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, August 16, 2022

Study Session

Item -2

Grand Island Public Library- Meeting the Community's Needs

Staff Contact: Celine Swan

Grand Island Public Library

Meeting the Community's Needs



Mission Statement

To inspire and strengthen our community by connecting people with information, ideas, and experiences.

8/16/2022 Study Session



Grand Island Public Library

The Grand Island Public Library is for everyone!



Grand Island Public Library in FY20-21

- 31,553 registered cardholders
- 97,727 items on our shelves
- 227,708 material & electronic circulations
- 10,439 new items added



The value of GIPL programs & services

- The Library's annual expenses represent:
 - Hall County: **\$26.77** per capita
 - City of Grand Island: **\$31.69** per capita
- GIPL patrons save an average of **\$4,075.56 per year** borrowing Library items rather than purchasing items themselves.
- GIPL received **more than \$113,000** in grant funding in the year 2021.



Source: "What's Your Library Worth?" Calculator www.ilovelibraries.org/what-libraries-do/calculator

Voices from staff and community

- Representative from the Multicultural Coalition, who holds weekly meetings with Afghan mothers and their children to study English in the Library: **"You are so accommodating to the special needs of these women with their children... Your toys are just super – what fun the children have and thus allow their moms to concentrate and study."**
- Staff member who oversees the Teen Library Council program: **"About half of these teens are homeschooled, so TLC provides an important social opportunity for them. They also get the opportunity to feel some ownership of the library and teen area by helping us with projects and collection development."**

Grand Island Public Library cardholders

- Library cards are FREE for people with an address in Hall County
- The number of library card sign-ups is increasing!

Month (2022)	New cards added
January	87
February	112
March	155
April	164
May	186
June	242
July	318



GIPL partners with...

- United Way
- CHI St. Francis
- Greater GI Regional Center
- Heartland Health Center
- Central District Health Dept.
- H3C
- Head Start
- GI Early Learning Center
- Grand Island Public Schools
- Northwest High School
- Trinity Lutheran
- NE State Fair
- Red Cross
- Migrant Program
- Humanities Nebraska
- Grand Island Children's Museum
- Literacy Council
- Adult Basic Education
- Central Community College
- Chamber of Commerce
- Stuhr Museum
- Hall County Historical Society
- DAR
- Prairie Pioneer Genealogical Society
- Department of Labor
- Clean Community System
- Multicultural Coalition
- Boy & Girl Scouts
- YMCA & YWCA
- Hall County agencies
- Central District Health Dept.
- Hope Harbor
- Salvation Army
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Vocational Rehab
- Goodwill
- GI Police Department
- GI Fire Department
- GI Parks & Recreation
- Hall County Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Crane Trust
- Railside
- Newcomers and More
- Teammates
- Tobacco Free Hall County
- Community Youth Council
- Hall County Extension & 4-H
- Health clinics



"Being closed on Saturday is not conducive to those who work during the week"

Voices from the community

"If the library could be adequately staffed to be open longer hours seven days a week, it would be a huge benefit to the community!"

In 2021, when asked, "How could the Library or its services be improved, if at all?", survey respondents **overwhelmingly cited a desire for more library hours.**

- "More programs at convenient times for working adults (evenings/weekends)"
- "re-institute pre-Covid hours"
- "I would like to see extended hours."
- "It could be open in the evenings a few nights a week."
- "More new release books, longer hours"
- "more programs, more hours, a bookmobile"

"Más horas"

"Bring back Saturday open hours and open later in the evenings like before COVID. New hours are not conducive for working patrons."

"Please, please, please, go back to having the library open on Saturdays. Not sure why that decision was made as Sunday is only a couple of hours. It's not convenient at all."

"Extended hours and more active book clubs"

"Longer evening hours"

- "Open longer on Saturday maybe until 2pm"
- "Stay open until 5 pm Saturdays."
- "Expand use and options in makerspace"
- "just would like to see longer hours being open on the weekends"
- "open more hours"
- "open later"
- "Hours expanded. Maker space fully developed."

"It would be amazing if weekend hours were longer and available."

"More times for the makerspace. Also, need more after hours time or open later at night--I can't always go in during the day."

The economic importance of literacy

- More than **43 million adults** in the United States cannot read, write, or do basic math above a third-grade level.
- It is estimated that bringing all adults to a sixth-grade reading level would generate an additional **\$2.2 trillion** in annual income.
- It is estimated that **\$106-\$238 billion** in annual health care costs are linked to adult low literacy skills.



Source: ProLiteracy.org https://www.proliteracy.org/Portals/o/pdf/PL_AdultLitFacts_US_flyer.pdf

The importance of early childhood literacy

- Nationally, **two out of every 10 children** enter kindergarten with **skills two to three years lower** than their grade level. (ProLiteracy)
- Children who are behind when they start kindergarten make up the **largest portion of high school dropouts**. These students have a less than 12% chance of attending college. (Children's Reading Foundation)

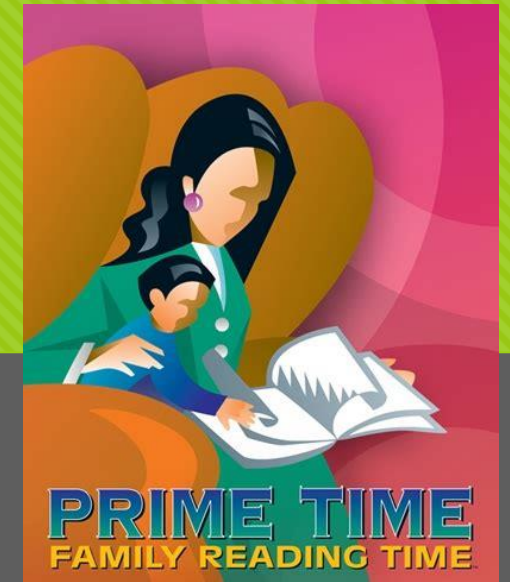


The Importance of Family Literacy

- According to the U. S. Department of Health & Human Services, **a mother's reading skill** is the **greatest determinant of her children's future academic success**, outweighing other factors like neighborhood and family income.



Prime Time Family Reading Time



- Longstanding Humanities Nebraska bilingual program that encourages families to read together.
- Offered only in evenings.
- A 2010 longitudinal study of Prime Time participants showed that they **outperformed their peers on standardized tests through high school.**



More than just books

- Job seeker resources
- Citizenship resources
- Educational technology
- English Language Learning resources
- Tax assistance
- Agency referrals
- Homebound patron delivery
- Free seed library
- Dedicated art & exhibit space



The Makerspace

- Equipment includes 3-D printer, laser cutter, embroidery machine, sublimation printer, Cricut cutting machine, and heat and mug presses.
- New Portable Digital Media Lab equipment includes cameras and recording equipment available for loan.
- Patrons can make gifts, t-shirts, livestock tags, personalized promotional materials, and more.
- The Library has offered Makerspace classes in partnership with CCC.
- Available on a limited appointment-only basis due to inadequate staffing.



Current limitations

- Limited hours
 - Closed Saturdays
 - Only open in the evening on Mondays
- Limited meeting room availability for community groups
- Safety & security concerns (child supervision/missing children, medical emergencies, belligerent/noncompliant patrons, theft of materials)
- Limited Makerspace availability

A 3.0 FTE increase would allow the Library to...

- Further meet the economic and educational needs of the residents of Grand Island and Hall County.
- Maintain Gold accreditation from the Nebraska Library Commission and eligibility for grant funding.
- Remain open longer hours to assist patrons who work or attend school during the day.
- Fully utilize the Makerspace with a full-time Librarian overseeing the Library's technology.



Council Agenda Memo

From: Celine Swan, Library Director

Meeting: August 16, 2022

Subject: Adding 3.0 FTE to 2022-2023 Library Budget

Presenter(s): Celine Swan, Library Director

Background

The Grand Island Public Library's current staffing is 18.5 FTE. An additional 0.5 FTE for Summer Temp Workers was approved by the City Council in each of the last two years, bringing the total to 18.5 FTE. The Library is requesting to add 3.0 FTE to the 2022-2023 budget including the 0.5 FTE Summer Temp Workers.

Discussion

The Grand Island Public Library's historical data from 2017-2022 with statistics on patrons visits, hours open, physical and digital checkouts, and holds placed and filled.

Fiscal Year	Patron Visits	Total Hours Open	Total Circs	Physical Circs	Digital Circs	Holds Placed	Holds Filled
2017	245,526	3,321	317,812	281,576	36,236		
2018	235,412	3,146	328,850	277,132	51,718		
2019	242,020	3,146	311,926	251,055	60,871	14,148	9,253
2020*	96,334	2,024	196,712	138,357	58,355	15,112	11,191
2021	48,573	2,404	227,708	170,248	57,460	15,786	12,820
2022	84,003	2,625	248,850	200,769~	48,081~	13,855	19,217
2022 10/1/21- 12/31/21	20,931						
2022 1/1/22- 8/8/22	63,072						
Average	158,645	2,778	271,976	223,674	52,928	14,725	13,120
TOTAL	951,868	16,666	1,631,858	1,118,368	264,640	58,901	52,481

*2020 - closed to the public 3/16/20 - 7/2/20

~through 8/9/22 at 8 AM

With increased staff, the Library will be able to:

- **Add Tuesday evening hours.** Currently the Library's only evening hours are on Monday, when it closes at 8:00 p.m. (All other weekdays the Library closes at 6:00 p.m.) Evenings are popular times for nonprofits and community organizations to book meeting rooms; however, Monday evenings are often already booked with Humanities Nebraska Prime Time Family Reading Time and Pajametime storytime for kids.

- **Add Saturday hours.** The Library is currently closed on Saturdays due to inadequate staffing. Historically, Prime Time Preschool and Adult Bygone Book Club programs have been held on Saturdays. With additional staff, the library could be open 11:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.
- **Maintain accreditation.** The Nebraska Library Commission requires that libraries meet certain criteria to remain accredited in good standing and be eligible for grants. Increasing weekly open hours from 51 to 56 would enable the Library to maintain its Gold rating for a Class A city. Without accreditation, the library will not receive grants or other funding.
- **Increase Makerspace availability and services.** With current staffing levels, the Library's Makerspace can operate by appointment only. Staff have had to turn away customers who request to use the Makerspace on days when staff is unavailable.
- **Meet community needs.** In community survey responses collected in the fall of 2021 for the 2022-27 Strategic Plan, on how the library or its services could be improved, **increased hours and availability of services** was by far the most-cited topic. Additionally, many of Grand Island's underserved population benefits from the library services such as the public computers for applying for jobs, and social services referrals to organizations such as Heartland Health and the Multicultural Coalition.

3.0 FTE breakdown:

- **1.0 FTE Librarian I/II.** This Librarian's duties would complement the duties of the existing Librarians. In addition, this Librarian's duties would include:
 - Oversee Makerspace, Digital Media Lab, and Portable Digital Media Lab
 - Coordinate Library website and social media outreach
 - Work with technology vendors such as TLC, Bibliotheca, Comprise, Demco, and Beanstack to maintain and upgrade existing library technologies
 - Create and maintain a Library Technology Plan
 - Ensure upgrades and fixes to servers, kiosks, computers, software, etc. are completed in a timely manner
 - Evaluate and provide recommendations on Library technology updates
 - Work with City IT
 - Research technical issues, offer computer classes, Book-a-Librarian, and provide staff training.
- **1.25 FTE Part-time Library Assistant I's.** Library Assistant I's handle all day-to-day customer-facing service functions of the circulation and reference desks, in addition to:
 - Processing new materials
 - Assisting patrons in the Children's Area
 - Planning, coordinating, and providing library programs
 - Assisting with community outreach and library marketing
 - Checking in materials and answering phones

- **0.25 FTE Part-time Library Page.** Sundays, we have huge bins full of books and other materials returned. In addition to shelving, Library Pages' duties also include:
 - Shelf-reading to ensure books are in order and not missing
 - Assisting customers with directions, finding books, and using the catalog
 - Assisting customers over the phone with questions, book requests and renewals, meeting room booking requests, etc.
 - Assisting in the Children's Area
- **0.5 FTE Part-time Summer Temporary Workers.** Summer is the busiest time in the Library and in order to maintain a robust Summer Reading Program and ensure the bustling Children's Area is adequately supervised, and provide programming for children, teens, and adults, as well as outreach and partner programs with the community we must have summer help.

A look back at staffing from 2007-2022

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Custodians	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Librarians - I & II	5	5	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2
Assistant Director	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Library Assistants I & II	13.7595	14.7595	14.3595	14.3595	14.2787	14.2787	14.2787	14.2787	14.2787	15	15	15	15	15	11	11
Library Clerk	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Library Director	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Library Page	2.135	2.2135	2.6135	2.6135	2.2769	2.2769	2.2769	0.3769	2.2769	2.5	2.5	2	1	2	1	1
Library Secretary	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maintenance Worker	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Seasonal Worker	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5		
	26.2695	27.348	27.348	27.348	24.5556	23.5556	23.5556	21.6556	23.5556	25	25	23.5	23.5	23.5	18	18

*We added 0.5 to the 2022 budget for Summer Temp Workers

18.5

**Library FTE
Requests
FY23**

	Librarian 1 (0315) – (FTE1) –	Library Temp Worker – () – FTE 0.5) –	Part-time Library Assistant 1 (0326) – (FTE 3.0) –	Library Page (0346) – (FTE 1.0) –	
FTE	1.0	0.5	1.25	0.25	
Wage amount (an hour)		\$11.00			
Salaries	\$62,178.00	\$11,440.00	\$48,076.32	\$6,835.78	
FICA (7.65%)	\$4,757.00	\$875.16	\$3,677.84	\$522.94	
Work Comp (8810-.06%)		\$6.86	\$28.85	\$4.10	
Health	\$11,578.00				
Pension (6.5%)	\$4,042.00				
HRA-VEBA	\$810.00				
<u>Assumptions are Step 1</u>	\$83,365.00	\$12,322.02	\$51,783.01	\$7,362.82	\$154,832.85

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 issue at hand.

It is the intent of City Administration to bring this issue to a future council meeting for the