



2025 City Council Presentation

Amita Lonial, Director

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Library Leadership



Amita Lonial
Library Director



Andrea Cobb
Board President



J. Manny Santiago
Board Vice President



Elizabeth Bowman
Board Trustee



Priya Saxena
Board Trustee



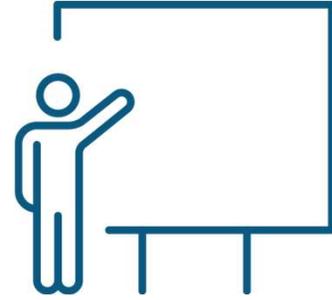
Joel Zylstra
Board Trustee



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Agenda

- Value of public libraries
- Collections
- Facilities
- The future

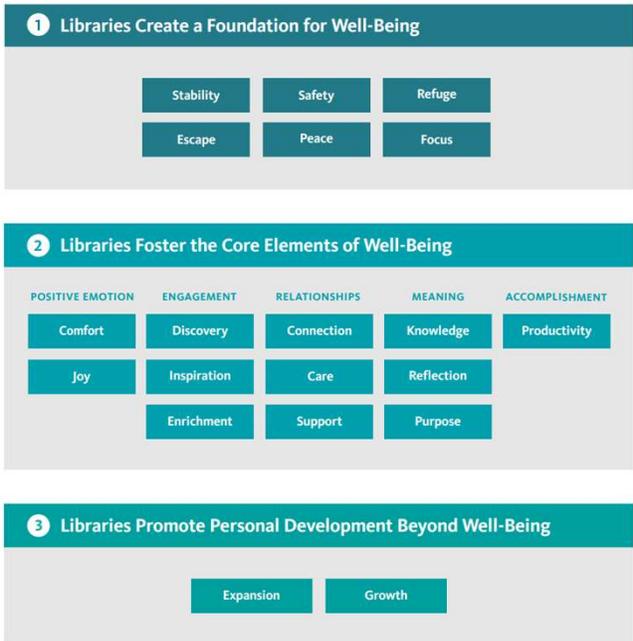


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Libraries & Well-Being

20 Factors of Patron Well-Being Experienced Across 3 Stages

Source: Libraries and Well-Being: A Case Study from The New York Public Library (2024)



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2024 Library Data Snapshot



Total Visitors

465,851

Programs Offered

2,809

Program Attendees

50,324



In-Person Checkouts

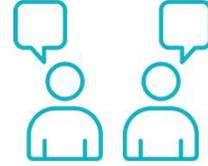
1,166,401

Digital Checkouts

580,485

Total Checkouts

1,746,886



Questions Answered
by Staff

63,051

Public Computer Sessions

58,571

Public Wifi Users

45,648



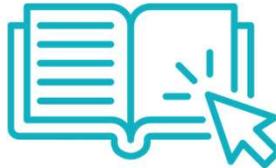
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Library Collection Data



Total Physical Collection
available

406,524



Total Digital Collection
Available

48,125



Number of Online
Resources

85

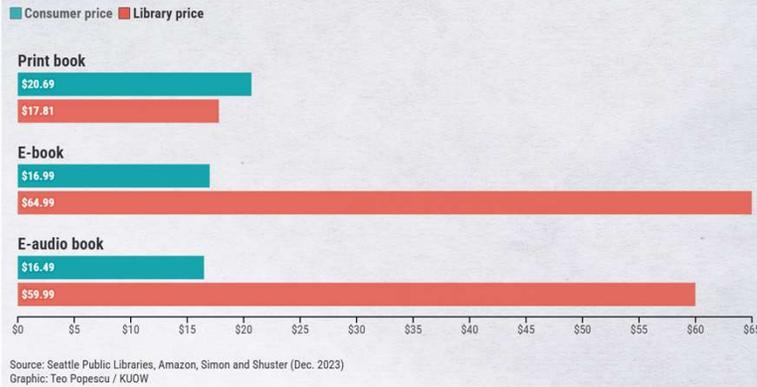


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Trends in eBook Marketplace

Libraries are paying more for digital copies than you

Comparing costs of *The Woman in Me* by Britney Spears.



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Trends in eBook Marketplace

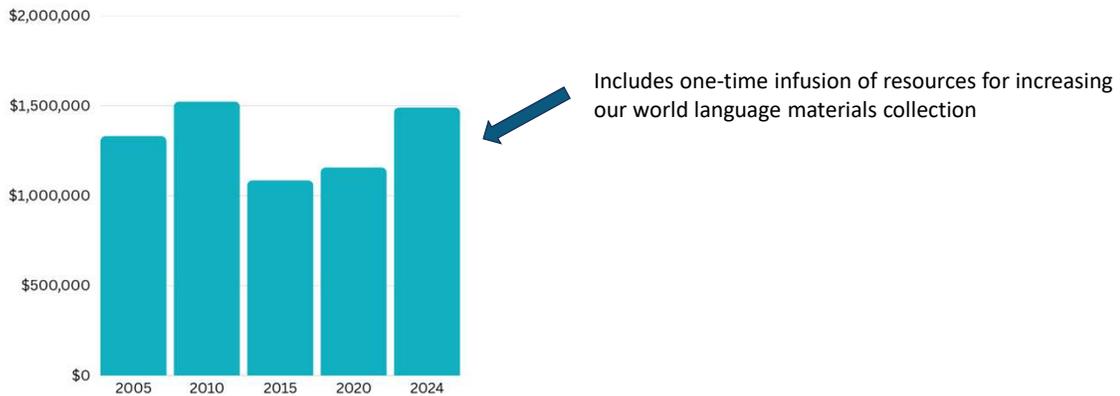
Libraries need a lot more digital copies to meet demand

Comparing Seattle libraries' available copies of *The Woman in Me* to the number of holds placed by the public, as of December, 2023.



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Library Collection Budget



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Further Trends in Collection Use

- Legacy physical media (DVDs, CD audiobooks, etc.) are on the decline especially for children and teen collections
- Demand for non-traditional physical media is increasing such as video games, Wi-Fi hotspots, Chromebooks, etc.
- Footprint of our physical collections in our current buildings inhibits our ability to provide quality in-person learning and civic engagement space

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Facilities Overview

Library	Square Footage	Year Built	Last structural remodel
Mottet Library	5,024	1930	1989
Kobetich Library	4,882	1980	NA
Swasey Library	9,686	1960	1987
Main Library	95,727	1903	2024
Wheelock Library	16,932	1927	1988
South Tacoma Library	7,645	1959	1987
Fern Hill Library	7,996	1989	NA
Moore Library	15,487	1988	NA



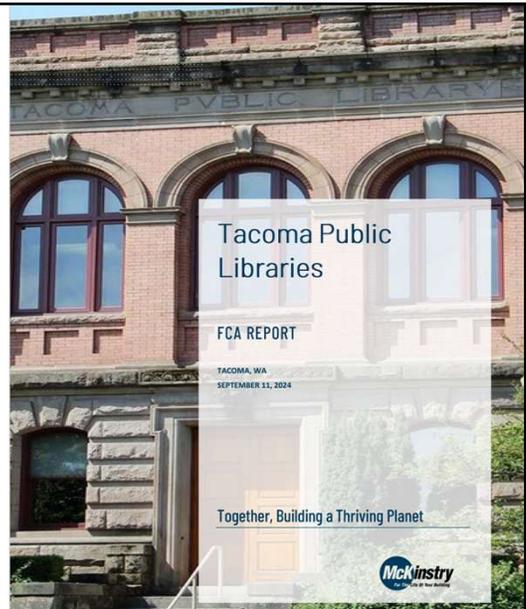
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2024 Facilities Condition Assessment

TPL conducted our own Facilities Condition Assessment as the first step towards developing a capital facilities plan. The findings revealed a host of aging infrastructure nearing the end of their lifecycle ranging from fire alarm systems, electrical panels, and plumbing systems.

Additionally, parking lots and walkways require regular maintenance due to wear and tear, and the building envelope components, including doors and windows, need attention to enhance energy efficiency and security.

Tacoma Public Libraries FCA Report by McKinstry



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2024 Library Facilities Condition Assessment

Library	Overall condition	10 year capital needs (estimated)
Mottet Library	Critical	\$628,000
Kobetich Library	Critical	\$530,000
Swasey Library	Poor	\$745,000
Main Library	Fair	\$4,430,000
Wheelock Library	Fair	\$1,250,000
South Tacoma Library	Fair	\$484,000
Fern Hill Library	Good	\$416,000
Moore Library	Good	\$880,000



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2024 Facilities Condition Assessment, cont.



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2024 Level of Service Study

Assessed libraries effectiveness in meeting community needs across seven categories: location, plan organization, accessibility, technology, interior flow, visitor experience, and safety.



shks
ARCHITECTS

TACOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY
Level of Service Study
OCTOBER 2024

Tacoma Public Libraries Level of Services Study by shks Architects



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2024 Level of Service Study, cont.

Recommended facility size and hours

	Mottet		Kobetch		South Tacoma		Fern Hill		Swasey	
	Existing	Rec.	Existing	Rec.	Existing	Rec.	Existing	Rec.	Existing	Rec.
GENERAL										
Size	5,025sf	10,000sf	5,000sf	12,000sf	7,475sf	14,500sf	7,996sf	16,000sf	9,686sf	16,000sf
POPULATION										
Service Area Population	11,100	16,200	15,820	23,000	23,420	34,200	22,750	33,215	27,400	40,000
SERVICE										
Open days/week	5 days	6 days	5 days	6 days	5 days	6 days				
Open hours/week	40 hrs	48 hrs	40 hrs	48 hrs	40 hrs	48 hrs				
Full-Time Staff	3.5	6	4.5	6	3.5	7	5.5	8	7	8
Seating	35	40	33	40	48	50	41	60	38	60
Computers w/internet	7	12	8	12	13	18	13	15	13	18
Printers	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	2
COLLECTIONS										
Physical Collections (all materials)	19,816	16,000	29,290	18,000	31,732	20,000	40,445	24,000	45,437	24,000



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2024 Level of Service Study, cont.

Recommended facility size and hours

	Moore		Wheelock		Main		TPL System			
	Existing	Rec.	Existing	Rec.	Existing	Rec.	Existing	Rec.	Δ	Δ
GENERAL										
Size	15,487sf	24,000sf	16,932sf	35,000sf	95,727sf	50,000sf	115,321sf	177,500sf	+62,179sf	154%
POPULATION										
ServiceAreaPopulation	32,100	46,900	33,510	49,000	38,180	55,700	204,280	298,215	+93,935	146%
SERVICE										
Open days/week	5 days	7 days	5 days	7 days	5 days	7 days	40 days	49 days	+9 days	123%
Open hours/week	40 hrs	56 hrs	40 hrs	56 hrs	40 hrs	65 hrs	320 hours	401 hours	+81 hours	125%
Full-Time Staff	10	14	10	16	14	20	58	85	+27	147%
Seating	66	100	92	120	92	200	445	670	+225	151%
Computers w/Internet	21	25	19	25	18	30	112	155	+43	138%
Printers	2	3	2	3	1-2	3	12	19	+7	158%
COLLECTIONS										
Physical Collections (all materials)	70,999	34,000	84,444	100,000	75,866	50,000	398,029	268,000	-112,029	72%



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Planning for the Future Strategic Plan Refresh

- Update our community and operational goals for the next five years
- Community input includes:
 - Community survey
 - Stakeholder interviews
 - Book buddy ballots
- Finalize and adopt new goals by December 2025

2020-2024 Strategic Goals:

- Equity and Access**
- Learning, Creativity, and Innovation**
- Investment in Youth**
- Cultivate and Engage Community**
- Responsible and Resilient**



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Planning for the Future

Tacoma Public Library Foundation

Library Foundation Trustees:

- Wayne Williams, President
- Bill Ryberg, Vice President
- Jackis Coulibaly, Treasurer
- Archi Sharma, Secretary
- Jennifer Wolbrecht, at-large
- JR Nobles, at-large
- Elizabeth Bowman, Ex Officio
- Amita Lonial, Ex Officio

Accomplishments:

- Annual Library Giving Day campaign since 2021
- Securing funds to support children's area at the remodeled Main Library
- A New Chapter Begins: Preview Brunch at the Main Library
- Literacy is a Big Dill: Pickleball Tournament
- Maintain TPL merchandise store

