

Library Director Report November 2022

Focus Areas:

Building Project (BP)

West Side Analysis (WS)

Organizational Development (OD)

PUBLIC HEALTH

Same as October, which is encouraging. Dane County is at a LOW COVID-19 Community Level. I will continue to pass on a reminder from Public Health - If you do test at home, and test positive, please report your test result to Public Health to help them maintain an accurate status on COVID conditions in Dane County.

BUDGET 2023

The final stage of the 2023 Budget resulted in an adopted budget that kept the Library at its current level of services with an approved supplemental ask to add two security monitors at the Hawthorne Library. The 2023 Executive Operating Budget for MPL saw an increase of 1.75% from our 2022 adopted budget, or approximately \$380K.

The 2023 Executive Capital Budget remained the same as our proposal with keeping \$15M in the 2023 CIP for the Imagination Center at Reindahl Park. The amount on a building project is always front loaded, and the expenditures or modifications to this line item will change over a 3 year period.

I commend the work of our dedicated library staff that is greatly valued and appreciated by Madison's residents as a major factor in retaining our funding levels. The innovative programs and services with an equity focus, many times in partnership with other community agencies, helps meet many needs in our community. The resilience of staff addressing the challenges of delivery of services during the pandemic conditions was especially admirable.

IMAGINATION CENTER (BP)

The current stage of schematic design is beginning to reach some of the details involved in the project. The primary stakeholders are examining types of building materials, both interior and exterior, HVAC systems, flooring choices, and more. We are getting more content from JLA as to the final arrangement of space within the facilities and more details to the shape and elevations to the overall structures.

We have expanded the input from MPL staff as we begin meeting with designers on many topics requiring their expertise. To give you an idea of the scope of this discussions here is brief list of some of the areas we have been addressing. Plumbing, Electrical, Low Voltage (this includes cameras), Collections, Interiors, LEED, Mechanical systems, plus the usual interior layout and exterior material discussions.

WEST SIDE COMMUNITY ANALYSIS (WS)

Rynn Kerkhove reported that the Tell Us engagement for the West Side Plan continues. Recently, she tabled at the Catholic Multicultural Center's Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration and Wisconsin Hmong New Year at the Alliant Energy Center. Rynn continues to have one-on-one meetings with local organizations like the Elver Park Community Center and neighborhood associations to promote that plan

and develop future engagement opportunities. For the remainder of their season, Katarina (new intern - see below), Savannah Carr, Librarian at Goodman South Madison Library, and Rynn will be tabling at Centro Hispano's Mercadito every Thursday evening to promote Tell Us and solicit feedback from residents.

Rynn has hired an intern to assist with her collection of data and community input for the West Side study. Katarina Ampian started on November 14th. She will be assisting MPL with engagement for the West Side Community Analysis and the Imagination Center at Reindahl Park during their internship by supporting events and processing feedback. Additionally, they will research other library systems and produce a report that will inform MPL's planning process as the West Side Plan continues.

Katarina provided a short background note on her experience leading up to her internship with MPL:

My name is Katarina Ampian (She/They) and I am the new Library Civic Engagement Intern. I am currently enrolled online at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee obtaining my Masters in Library and Information Science with concentration in archives. I will be graduating from the program this coming May. I received my Bachelors of Arts degree in English from the University of Minnesota Duluth in 2015. I worked at the Wisconsin Historical Society as a Manuscript Collections Assistant until June 2022 processing archival collections. I also worked as Publication Assistant in the University of Minnesota Duluth Marketing and Public Relations department for four years writing articles for their web homepage and creating press releases. Additionally, I was an Intern at the Pope County Museum and Historical Society for 2 years processing their photography collection and assisting researchers and genealogists with their inquiries among other various duties. Lastly, I know American Sign Language and assisted teaching it during my undergraduate degree. I look forward to working with MPL during the coming months.

Welcome aboard Katarina!

ELECTION DAY

It finally arrived! MPL again played an important role leading up to the election by registering voters and providing space for community volunteers also registering voters. Several libraries were early voting locations and some acted as polling places. Library staff also provided assistance at polling locations. At the request of the City Clerk, several City Department and Division heads, including myself, agreed to serve as Chief Inspectors. I can attest after serving in this capacity that Madison's elections are extremely well prepared and executed. I attribute this to the City Clerk and her staff, plus all of the election officials that include many who have been working elections for years to provide their expertise. The level of support to the polling locations throughout the entire election day is amazing.

MEMORIAL FOR BARB DIMICK

The family of Barb Dimick had identified the Madison Public Library Foundation as a way to honor Barb's life and her many contributions to MPL as a long time library director and youth services librarian. We have been contacted by the Foundation to provide suggestions for the funds. Since Barb had a strong passion for serving the community especially through her work with youth services, it was recommended that the memorial be located in the Youth Services area in Central Library. We offered some ideas to be shared with the family. I will be updating the Library Board on the project after we hear back from the Foundation.

COVERING WISCONSIN

I joined Mayor Satya for a press conference at Pinney Library announcing MPL's partnership with Covering Wisconsin to host their services at the Hawthorne and Pinney libraries. Covering Wisconsin is a federally certified, state-licensed navigator agency based out of the University of Wisconsin- Madison. Their mission is to connect Wisconsin residents with health insurance coverage and other programs for health. Trained expert Navigators help consumers compare health care plans and prices across coverage options and help submit applications.

Covering Wisconsin was very appreciative of our partnership to provide a community connection and place for their services in assisting residents with health care plans.

NEW MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

At the request of the Foundation's hiring committee I was asked to give the Executive Director finalists a tour of Central Library and present an overview of our operations along with some of the expectations of the relationship between our organizations. There is an expectation that a decision will be made on the position by Thanksgiving.

MEETINGS, COMMITTEES, TEAMS & MORE

City

Mayor's Management Team
Mayor Check-in
Racial Equity & Social Justice Strategic Planning
Deputy Mayor Check-in
Mayor's COVID-19 Taskforce
Finance Committee Meeting
Common Council Budget sessions

MPL

Meeting with ReThinking Libraries (Consultants to the Dane County formula review)
Tour of Central Library to Margret Sullivan Studios representative
Meeting on memorial for Barb Dimick

Library Management Team
MPL Foundation Grant discussions
Imagination Center Design Team
MPLF Board Meeting
Lakeview Lease Review
Meeting MPL Foundation Executive Director
Wisconsin Book Festival

External

Press Conference for Covering Wisconsin
Meet and tour with Foundation's Executive Director candidates
Chief Inspector Training
Chief Inspector at Blackhawk Church Polling Place
Wisconsin Resource Library Directors
Digital Equity Leaders Network

ExLibris
Presentation to Downtown Kiwanis