

**Library Director Report
August 2018**

BP: Building Projects

CR: Collaborations including representing MPL in Local, State, National, and International roles

EL: Early Literacy.

LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION (BP) (CR)

Pinney Project: There will be a resolution introduced at Common Council on September 4, 2018 for the lease on an interim location for Pinney Library during the period of service gap expected between the closure of the existing Pinney and the opening of the new Pinney. At this time we are planning to close Pinney on December 1, 2018 and reopen in the interim location in early January 2019. The current timetable for us to move into the new space is approximately January of 2020. So the lease will go from December 1, 2018 to the end of January 2020, with the option of 3 more additional months.

AMMENDED Adjustments to the Pinney Project CIP: As I reported to the board at the June meeting, City Finance had removed the \$1.5M in-kind figure from the Pinney CIP budget. This did not change the total amount approved for the project since adjustments were made when the in-kind amount was removed. In addition, with the anticipated need for an interim location, an amendment was added to the budget. Basic breakout of the project budget:

REVENUE

9,210,000	CITY
<u>1,000,000</u>	PRIVATE
10,210,000	PREVIOUS PROJECT TOTAL
<u>550,000</u>	300,000 AMENDMENT
10,760,000	10,510,000 TOTAL

EXPENSES

4,800,000	CONSTRUCTION
760,000	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
3,400,000	DEVELOPMENT & SOFT COSTS (includes purchase of gray box)
<u>1,580,000</u>	1,500,000 FFE
<u>220,000</u>	INTERIM COSTS (Removed)
10,760,000	10,510,000 TOTAL

Reindahl Project: Kevin Englebert, our new library planner, started work on August 20th. He has been very busy meeting staff, learning about MPL operations, and meeting with Alder Baldeh concerning the Reindahl project. He will begin his first round of stakeholder meetings soon.

Kevin will be attending the upcoming Library Journal Design Institute in Minneapolis in mid-September. Our Reindahl Park project has been selected as one of the hands-on, architect-led breakout sessions dealing with real-life design challenges.

Goodman South Madison Library Renovation: We are still in the process of securing bids for the materials and work to begin on the project. The closure dates may need to be adjusted depending on the availability of materials and labor.

BUDGET DISCUSSIONS (BP)

I had been scheduled to meet with the Mayor to discuss our budget asks for 2019 but then the floods hit and the Mayor needed to focus on addressing that need within the city. I will be meeting with Finance to discuss a possible solution to closing a budgetary gap for our hourly workers. On September 12, 2018 I will be presenting our CIP budget to the Finance Committee.

WORT DEMOCRATIC GOVERNOR'S CANDIDATE FORUM (CR)

Central Library was host to a forum for the Democratic Governor's race just prior to the primary. All of the candidates except one participated at the event. It was one of the highest attended program events ever at Central Library. The Community Room was filled as well as the Madison Room. We began putting the overflow crowds into the youth area and Bubbler area joining in on the video displays. Total attendance was estimated at 450 with probably another 150 that left when we could not make additional accommodations. WORT could not stop praising the work of our staff in getting the space ready for the event and the coordination of the crowd on the day of the event. We had not anticipated extending the event to the youth or Bubbler areas, but when staff noticed the need they made it happen.

MURAL ALLEY (CR)

MPL joined the Madison Art Commission with coordinating a public mural project on the back of buildings in the Madison East Shopping Center, where Hawthorne Library is located. The 5 murals were created with guest artists paired with community participants. The *Isthmus* covered the story: <https://isthmus.com/news/snapshot/local-youth-create-mural-alley/> There was a well attended opening celebration of the art, complete with the artists, community participants, and music provided by MPL music academy performers.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION (CR)

MPL has been recognized in a number of ways recently.

Two recent IMLS grant awards will involve MPL.

Research Foundation for the State University of New York

The University of Buffalo will lead a research-practice collaboration in partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, and Madison Public Library. The project will engage researchers and library staff in the study and co-design of assessments of learning in makerspaces. The project responds to librarians' need to better assess facilitated learning in their spaces, patrons' desire for constructive formative and summative feedback, and a need for guidance on how best to act on assessment data for all. Ultimately, the project will result in the development of adaptable assessment tools that will support librarians' development of assessment literacies for promoting lifelong learning for inquiry-based, hands-on learning experiences.

Urban Libraries Council

Urban Libraries Council will build programs and partnerships that will result in greater availability of STEM learning programs for low-income middle school youth. The project seeks to encourage public libraries to promote STEM equity and extend teen programs to the "tween" years, and it will highlight to policy and decision makers the opportunity and impact of library-school partnerships for STEM learning. It will result in an online resource guide for library practitioners and their local partners with case studies of pilot projects, as well as a webinar series to help library-school partners adopt effective strategies. In addition to supporting the

development of pilot library-school partnerships that implement complementary STEM programs, the project aims to document learnings and best practices.

In conjunction with this grant, I have been invited to participate on the working group.

ULC Director's Working Group on STEM Partnerships, taking place in Washington, DC.

The conversation will bring together 10 to 12 library CEO's to discuss how to strengthen the library field's ability to build multi-sector partnerships which reach underserved youth with STEM opportunities. This project is funded by IMLS and builds directly on the relationships and the experience gained during the Leaders Library Card Challenge.

LJ Design Institute

The Design Institute is a library building and design event that is centered on the latest trends in library design. This full-day think tank provides expert panel discussions with architects and librarians, as well as hands-on, architect-led breakout sessions dealing with real-life design challenges submitted in advance by you and your fellow attendees. This event will have a special focus on equity.

MPL was invited to deliver the keynote address due to our work with involving equity as part of our building plans. Sarah Lawton, Pinney Library Supervisor, and Catherine Duarte, former MPL Library Planner, will be presenting the keynote on MPL's "Communities Inspiring Libraries: A Strategic Plan for Eastside Growth." In addition, MPL's upcoming Reindhal project has been selected for one of the hands-on architect design challenges at the Institute.

STAFF NEWS (CR)

The recent floods involved many MPL staff. Our Facilities and Maintenance staff was on high alert to any necessary issues to be addressed. They continue to monitor on an ongoing basis as flood conditions still exist. And I wanted to officially make a record of my letter to Mayor Soglin about the outstanding contributions by Alicia Ashman staff during the first night of flooding, as a public record.

Mayor Soglin, You may be aware of the several rescues that happened last night due to the flooding waters, but I wanted to share one story that might not make the headlines, in which MPL is very proud.

The Alicia Ashman Library last night literally became an island from the flooding at Old Sauk and High Point Road. Despite operating on emergency lights and very limited capacity, Pam Wittig, the librarian in charge kept the library open knowing it was too dangerous for staff and patrons to challenge the surrounding waters. Pam was joined by Library Assistant Marina Fritz, and three Library Pages, Mary Lynch, Madeline Urso and Shanin Chapman (It was Shanin's first day on the job), who assisted with patrons until 1:30am.

At around 9pm when the lights came back on, a firefighter brought a woman into the library who had been stranded in her car for over 3 hours. Pam remained with her at the library until 4am and then gave her a ride home at that time.

When our Facilities Manager contacted Pam, thanking her for her leadership during the crisis, she simply replied, "Well, I was the librarian."

I am very proud of our staff's response last night and their willingness to face new challenges, even if that means turning a library into a shelter from the storm.

-Greg

SPECIAL NOTICES

Annual MPL Staff Day is Thursday, September 13th at Central Library from 9am-4pm. Library Board members are welcome to drop in for any part of the day.

I will not be at the September 6th board meeting. Tana Elias and I will be attending the ULC Annual Forum in Baltimore.

Business Meetings

- Check in with Ching at GSMB
- Pinney Budget Discussion
- Weston Gift Meeting
- Interim Pinney site visit
- Meeting with RDC on signage
- Library Management Team
- Pinney Interim Site walk through
- Meeting with Kelly Hiser on music projects
- ULC Webinar: Othering in the Library
- On-boarding with Kevin Englebert
- Pinney Art Meeting

City Business

- Dept/Division Head Meeting with Mayor
- Equitable Workforce Plan
- Performance Excellence Leadership Team (Formerly SMOC)
- Mayor's Management Team
- Mayor's Human Services Committee
- Line of Sight Committee meetings (Bi-Weekly)
- Human Resource Check-in Meeting
- RESJI Committee
- Imagination Center meeting with Alder Baldeh
- StartingBlock, City space discussion

Public/Media Appearance

- Concert on the Square
- InBusiness Executive Connect Event
- WORT's Democratic Governor's Forum at Central Library
- Main Street Bazaar: Business Incubator Open House
- Library Staff Picnic

- WLA Leadership Panel
- Live Undiscovered Music (LUM) Launch Party
- Forward Fest PechaKucha
- Madison Mural Alley Opening Celebration
- Forward Fest closing event
- Wisconsin Book Festival launch
- Orton Park Festival
- Pop Up Book Club



UrbanLibCouncil @UrbanLibCouncil Aug 17
From Summer Reading to Lambeau Leaping,
[@madisonlibrary](#) director [@gmickells](#) takes in
a Packers win!

*Urban Libraries Council tweeted a photo of me
at the August 17th Packer pre-season game
against the Steelers. It was my first Packer
game. Packers won 51-34.*