# DRAFT Revised Site Selection Criteria for New Branch Libraries January, 2009

#### Capacity of Site

The site should be large enough to accommodate the library facility requirements in a square or rectangular footprint; code required parking at grade or in a parking structure; necessary allowances for setback, zoning requirements, a separate delivery entrance and suitable landscaping. A site that allows for single story, street level configuration is preferred. The site for a new library building or for space in an existing facility should provide for a single street level entrance, an open flexible floor plan with a minimum of load bearing walls and closely placed columns. Site capacity may also consider anticipated future library service needs.

### Proximity to other branches

Planned new branch libraries should be located no closer than 2 miles from other branch libraries in the area, or from other non-city libraries, so that each new branch can have an immediate service area of a one mile radius without overlap. Projected population density will affect the size of the service area, and therefore the building size, of future new branches. New branch libraries will serve not only the immediate service area, but also should be strategically and conveniently located as a destination for the larger geographic area, welcoming people who regularly travel to, or through, the service area and find the new library convenient, accessible and time-saving.

## Accessibility

The site should be in an area frequently visited by all segments of the primary community being served, close to or on primary streets and transit routes, and highly visible. Site should be easy to access by car, bicycle or on foot and is on or near a current or planned public transportation route. It should have convenient access to parking and have the capacity to meet all Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.

#### Neighborhood Compatibility

Future new branch libraries will be sited to provide a positive contribution to the immediate and surrounding neighborhoods, be compatible with existing land uses, and provide a library that will be a destination for the larger regional area. The location would be appealing and convenient to a majority of the people in the targeted service area, with the environment surrounding the future library supporting access and use by library patrons. The site for a new facility will be consistent with neighborhood and City plans for the area, and serve as a stimulus for further business and residential development. Siting decisions may also consider co-location and joint use opportunities with other public or non-profit agencies.