

Library Director Report July 2022

Focus Areas:

Building Project (BP)

West Side Analysis (WS)

Organizational Development (OD)

PUBLIC HEALTH

Dane County is now at a High COVID-19 Community Level. It is not mandatory to wear a mask but strongly recommended to wear a mask indoors during this time. It is strongly recommended to keep current on your vaccinations. I did ask about waiting for the potential new vaccine that is supposed to target the latest variant. Public Health recommends not waiting if you are eligible to get boosted, and more than likely the new vaccine will still be available to you later. Another reminder that the last age group from 6 months to under 5 is now eligible for vaccination. MPL parents/caregivers can use their Emergency Paid Leave (EPL) to have their children vaccinated.

MPL continues to distribute rapid/home tests from our libraries. It has been extremely popular and we do frequently run out of supply, but we have been able to get more supply when needed.

BUDGET 2023

The 2023 Operating Budget was filed with the Mayor's office. Agency presentations to the Mayor's budget team will begin August 10, 2022. The Executive Operating Budget will be finalized in September and introduced to Common Council on October 11, 2022.

IMAGINATION CENTER (BP)

Schematic design continues on the facilities and grounds for the Imagination Center. Parks now has two representatives working with the design team and we will have more opportunities to plan for collaboration between our agencies. The MPL Core Team has started to expand our reach to other MPL staff for their input on use of space, collections, and programming needs. Facilities is also working with City Engineering to determine best energy practices and how to maintain the property.

I was in attendance at the July 13th Board of Parks Commissioners to respond to any library related questions regarding a presentation by Brent Pauba from City Engineering on the ICRP project. There is a concern about some loss of trees as to where the facility is sited, but unavoidable if we take into consideration many of the other elements dependent on that location.



MPL FEATURED

MPL's AnjiPlay was recently featured in the first of a Summer Blog Series on Libraries and Play by Liz McChesney. The article, "True Play and Literacy Connect at the Library" can be accessed at <https://usplaycoalition.org/ssb221> MPL's programs are prominently featured in the article and there is an excellent explanation on the importance of play and its connection with literacy.

MEETING WITH NEW ALDERS (BP)

With the recent appointment of three new alders I was able to meet with each of them to introduce them to MPL and answer any questions they may have about our operations. Alder Paulson had several questions about early literacy and reading so I have put him in touch with Tammy Ocampo, Director of Youth Services. Alder Tishler is very tech oriented and has developed some interesting options for hybrid meeting at UW-Madison. I connected Pat Garvey, MPL's Computer Technician, and he visited Tishler's operations at UW to get a demonstration of the technology, which we may be using at MPL or some variation of the process. The final visit was with Alder Phair, not really a "new" alder as he had previously served on the Common Council for many years, but it allowed us to get caught up and apprise him of the recent work at Meadowridge Library and the upcoming Imagination Center.

TEAM CITY AWARDS

Central Library was host to the Team City Awards program on July 13th due to the extra large number of City employees receiving recognition from Mayor Satya. I was part of the Subtle Acts of Exclusion training development team that was recognized at the event.

The Mayor and many of the participants commented on the beautiful space and thanked us for our assistance with the arrangements for the event. Special thanks to the MPL Event team for making that happen.

AMPIFYING COMMUNITY VOICES (BP)

We continue to make progress on the adaptation of three of our community spaces to allow for hybrid and teleconferencing capabilities. The project at Central Library is being supported by a grant from the MPL Foundation. The initial cost estimates are higher than expected so we will have to look at a phasing of the installation and add to the initial system as funds become available. The projects at Pinney Library and Goodman South Madison are still being configured by Pat Garvey and will be moving forward. We are also dealing with higher costs on these projects and very limited supplies of tech equipment which are pushing the projects back. These two projects are funded by an IMLS grant through the DPI.

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY ANALYSIS (WS)

Rynn has finalized the new version of Tell Us packets. This was the tool we had used for the collection of community input on the Eastside study. We will begin distribution through libraries as a start for getting these into the community. Rynn is also targeting various groups beginning with neighborhood associations. She will be expanding that reach in future rounds.

Rynn and I have a scheduled meeting with Alder Figueroa Cole who is interested in learning more about the Westside study.

CHANGES TO THE COMMON AREA MAINTENANCE (CAM) FOR GOODMAN SOUTH MADISON LIBRARY

City Real estate has finalized the terms between the City and Urban League as to the division of CAM related costs that will impact MPL's budget.

Here is the Fiscal Note on the upcoming resolution:

The proposed resolution authorizes the execution of an amended and restated Operating Easement at the Village on Park for the Goodman South Madison Library.

The Library is responsible to pay its pro rata share of the common area maintenance (CAM) costs for the Village on Park, which is wholly owned and operated by the Community Development Authority of the City of Madison (CDA).

The Easement changes the methodology to allocate the CAM costs, revises the payment for CAM costs from a single annual payment to a monthly payment and adds other reasonable costs (security, PILOT taxes, and stormwater/urban forestry) to the CAM charges.

The CAM costs in 2021 were \$3,627. The 2022 costs are estimated to be \$11,800. The Library 2022 adopted operating budget does not include funding for Goodman South Library CAM costs. The Library is anticipating a credit for the Pinney Library CAM charges of approximately \$20,000. This credit will offset the unanticipated Goodman South Madison CAM charges.

The costs for 2023 - 2025 are estimated at \$17,500 - \$26,700.

[Finance did make us whole for this additional cost in our 2003 Cost to Continue budget. - gm]

DANE COUNTY REPORT

The reimbursement formula will remain the same for 2023 as it was for 2021 and 2022. There was a vote by the DC Directors to retain the services of ReThinking Libraries (RTL) a consulting company to review and provide analysis on the current formula and perhaps offer an alternative.

There was a discussion on intellectual freedom and in particular how staff may respond to customers regarding hot button topics, or issues that staff might find personally offensive.

Although MPL is already handing out Rapid/Home test kits at our libraries, Public Health did inquire if other DC libraries would be interested in making the tests available at their facilities.

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
Budget Contacts Meeting

Royster Corners Condo Association
Budget Team meeting on 2023 CIP
Meeting with City Real Estate on Goodman South on changes to CAM
Operating Budget discussions
Meeting with Pinney Staff
PlayLab Planning Session

External

MPL

Library Management Team
All Staff Town Hall
MPL Foundation Grant discussions
Imagination Center Design Team
MPLF Board Meeting
Meeting with MPL Foundation Executive Director
Meeting with MPL Budget Team

Wisconsin Resource Library Directors
Urban Libraries Council Director/CEO Calls
Digital Equity Leaders Network
Webinar: "If the Internet is Broken. How Can Libraries Help Fix it?"
Digital Equity Leaders Network: NTIA and Census Bureau's Digital Equity Mapping Project
DMI Nosh at Noon: Future of Public Spaces in Madison