

City of Mesa Library Advisory Board Meeting

Date: May 20th 2025
Time: 5:30pm
Location: Main Branch – Board Room



Agenda items	Presenter
1. Call to order	
2. Approval of March meeting minutes	
3. Public Comments During this time, citizens may comment on any appropriate subject not on the agenda. Comments are limited to 5 minutes per presenter. No formal action will be taken by the Board at this meeting.	
4. Introductions, Recognitions and Announcements	All
5. Master Plan Update	JR Clanton + Team
6. MPL Budget Presentation	Polly and Tony
7. Directors Update	Polly Bonnett
8. Identify items for future agendas	All
9. Next meeting Dates	Polly Bonnett
Adjournment	

Notes:



Scan to
share your
feedback!



Learn more: <https://www.mesalibrary.org/about/library-master-plan>

Mesa Public Library Master Planning

Findings and Plan Content



May 14, 2025



Agenda

- ▲ Introductions
- ▲ Project Recap
- ▲ Master Plan Content Overview
- ▲ Findings
- ▲ Strategic Framework
- ▲ Facilities Assessment
- ▲ Recommendations
- ▲ Next Steps

MESA PUBLIC LIBRARY
64 EAST FIRST STREET

Project Recap

Master Plan Project Purpose and Goals

Develop Library Services strategy to 2045

Evaluate and improve library service delivery

Enhance library branches

Create an operational plan

Offer tech-based solutions for economic flexibility

Project Approach – Schedule

Preliminary Schedule



Master Plan Content Overview



Executive Summary

Introduction

Community Profile and Needs Assessment

Strategic Framework & Recommendations

Facilities Analysis

Capital Improvement Recommendations



Introduction



Background on Mesa
Public Library



Purpose and goals of the
plan



Planning process and
methodology



Document Organization

Community Profile and Needs Assessment

01

Demographics
& Population
Trends

02

Peer
Comparisons

03

Services &
Programs
Assessment

04

Community
Needs &
Gaps

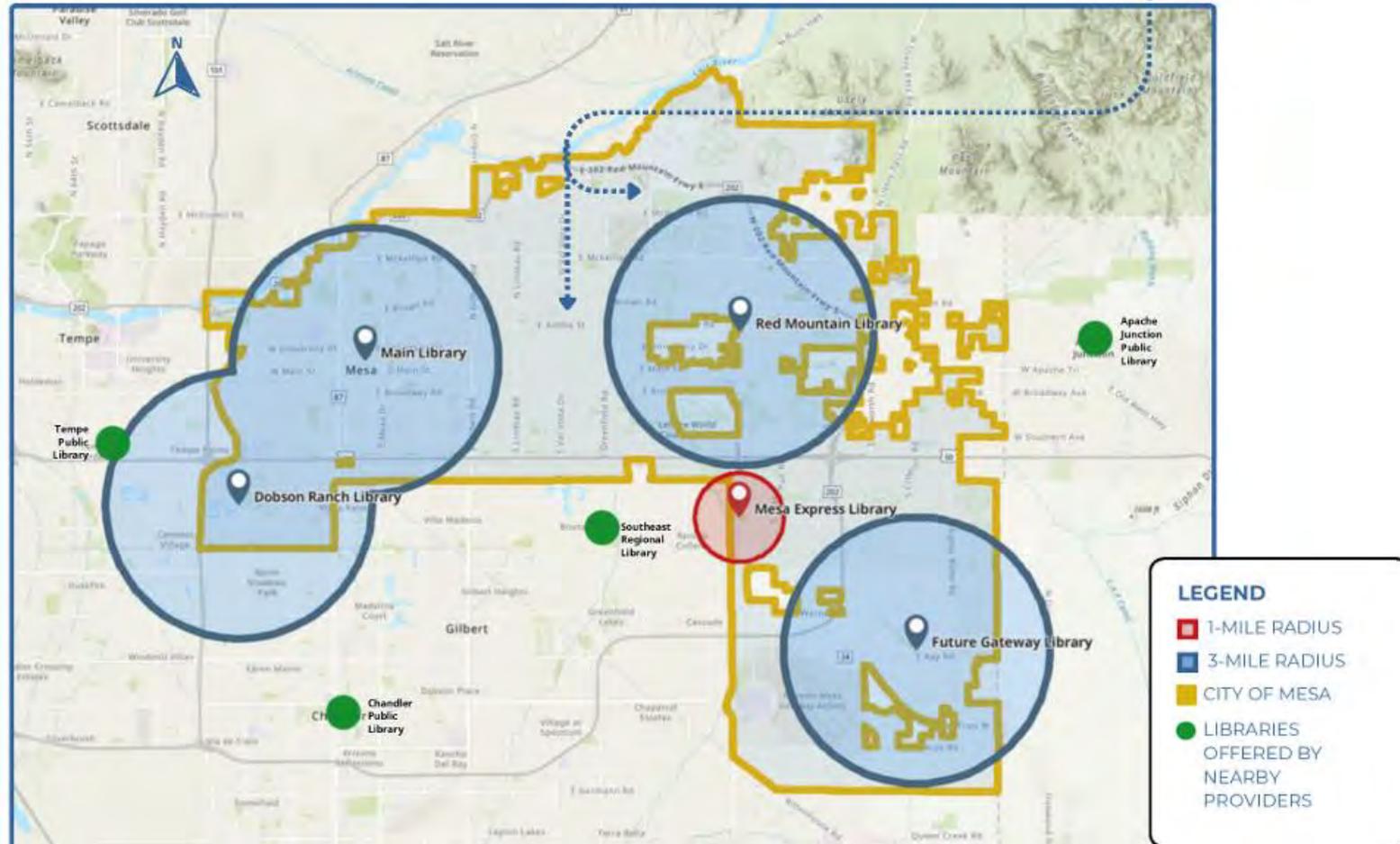
1. Demographics

The City of Mesa had an estimated population of **521,604**

28% = 147,555 residents do not live within a 3-mile radius, or roughly 10 minutes, of a library.

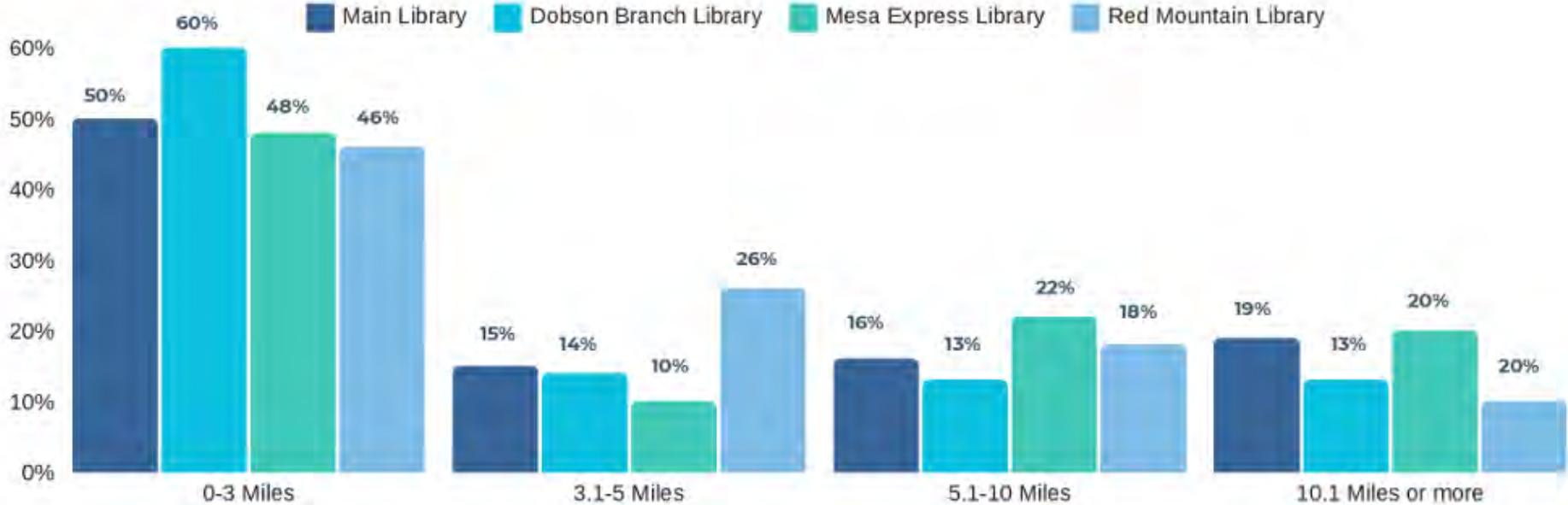
Service gaps are mapped below.

Central/Northern Mesa appear to be most underserved.



1. Demographics

CITY OF MESA LIBRARIES AVERAGE TRAVEL DISTANCE



1. Demographics

SERVICE AREA

DEMOGRAPHIC COMPARISON

HIGHEST VALUE

LOWEST VALUE

3-Mile Demographic Comparison	Main Library	Dobson Ranch Library	Mesa Express Library	Red Mountain Branch
Population	172,206	146,203	91,458	100,331
Households	62,765	60,714	33,668	43,817
Median Household Income	\$57,806	\$74,831	\$88,526	\$69,555
Median Home Value	\$355,964	\$458,108	\$474,073	\$359,823
Median Age	33	37	40	53
Speak Spanish at Home	49,388 (31%)	18,124 (13%)	8,422 (10%)	8,805 (9%)
Household Size	2.71	2.38	2.70	2.24
Households with Children	18,392 (29%)	14,263 (23%)	9,866 (29%)	7,249 (17%)

2. Peer Comparisons

Arizona Comparisons

- Apache Junction Public Library
- Chandler Public Library
- Glendale Public Library
- Maricopa County Library District
- Phoenix Public Library
- Scottsdale Public Library
- Tempe Public Library

National Comparisons

- Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Tucson, Arizona
- Fresno, California
- Sacramento, California
- Kansas City, Missouri
- Atlanta, Georgia
- Colorado Springs, Colorado
- Omaha, Nebraska
- Raleigh, North Carolina

2. Peer Comparisons

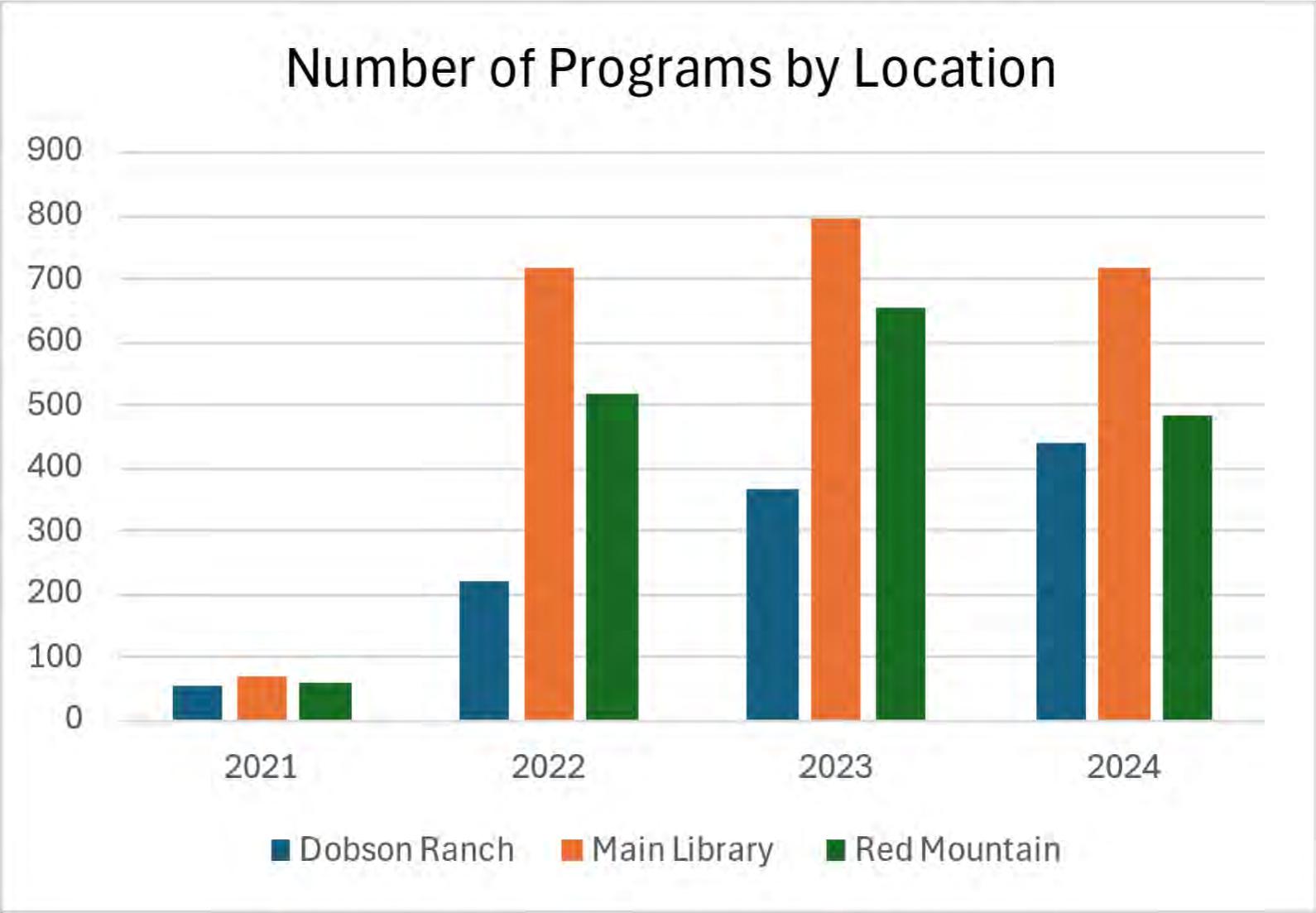
Arizona

- ▲ 3rd Largest service population among Arizona libraries, but ranks 6th in physical locations
- ▲ Ranked 7 out of 8 peers in spending per resident
- ▲ Ranked 4 out of 8 for Public Computer Uses and Library Visits

National

- ▲ Ranked lowest for expenditures per capita, library outlets, and total staff
- ▲ Ranked 8 out of 10 peers for library visits

3. Programming Assessment



3. Programming Assessment

Program Types and Trends:

- **Storytime:** Storytime has consistently been a core offering
- **Craft and STEAM Programs:** Rapid growth, reflecting community demand
- **Health and Writing Programs:** Emerging as popular new categories

Staffing and Capacity Challenges:

- **Staff Vacancies:** Impacted programming consistency in 2024, with gaps extending programming disruptions by months.
- **Capacity Limits:** Ongoing demand for flexible staffing and support to counter vacancy impacts.

Outreach and Community Impact:

- Express Library and Outreach Services expanded reach, offering 68 and 55 programs respectively in 2024.

4. Community Engagement



Tell us your ideas and create the future of our library.

Give Us Your Feedback!

Please return completed comment cards to any Mesa Public Library.

Learn more:

<https://www.mesalibrary.org/about/library-master-plan>



Outreach Method	Points of Contact
E-newsletters	148,821
Social media	23,050
Project website	2,597
Comment cards	250
Total	174,468

4. Community Engagement

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Expanded Collections	Meeting Rooms	Study Rooms
Children's Area/Programming	Café Type Area	Outdoor Spaces
Expanded Hours	Comfortable Seating	Parking
Customer Service	Teen Area/Teen Programs	Book Lockers
E-books	Makerspace/Tech Areas	Accessibility
Adult Programs	Education Programming	
Special Events	Maintaining Current Hours	
Locations	Safety	
Awareness/Marketing	Updated Technology	
	Community Resources	



Strategic Framework

Strategic Framework

The Strategic Framework provides a framework for organizing future investments, improvements, and service expansions to meet community needs.

Strengthen Access to Library Services

Expands access through self-service, extended hours, bilingual resources, and geographic coverage.

Align Programs and Services with Evolving Community Needs

Adapts programs to reflect changing community interests and lifelong learning needs.

Modernize and Sustain Library Infrastructure for Long-Term Viability

Invests in facility upgrades, operational efficiency, and sustainability to support future growth.

Strengthen Access to Library Services

- Expand Self-Service and Hours
- Improve Bilingual and Multicultural Support
- Enhance Staffing Flexibility
- Address Geographic Service Gaps
- Improve Transportation Access

Align Programs and Services with Evolving Community Needs

- Expand STEAM and Workforce Development
- Enhance Comprehensive Learning Opportunities
- Introduce Innovative Touchpoints and Maker Spaces
- Offer Hybrid and Mobile Programming
- Develop Senior-Focused and Multicultural Programs

Modernize and Sustain Library Infrastructure for Long-Term Viability

- Implement Facility Maintenance Plans
- Enhance Sustainability and Energy Efficiency
- Improve Operational Efficiency
- Support Flexible, Multi-Use Spaces
- Strengthen Safety and Security Infrastructure



Facilities Analysis

Facilities Assessment

▲ Facility evaluations at existing libraries

- Building conditions, infrastructure, functionality, and ADA compliance

▲ Collaborative data collection

- On-site visits, staff interviews, task force meetings

▲ Recommendations

- Maintenance, upgrades, and opportunities
- Future locations
- Implementation timeline



Facilities Assessment

Facility improvement categories



Maintenance: Immediate needs for system repairs/replacements

Upgrades: Enhancing existing facilities for better functionality and aesthetics

Opportunities: Additional projects identified from staff and community input (e.g., study rooms, maker spaces)

Main Library



- ▲ Good overall condition; prioritize upgrades for aging mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems.
- ▲ Enhance exterior finishes and landscaping to improve aesthetics, energy efficiency, and outdoor user experience.
- ▲ Activate underutilized spaces (like the basement) for improved functionality.
- ▲ Plan continuous updates for lighting, equipment, and technology systems.

Red Mountain Library



- ▲ In good condition; recommend improvements to key areas (children's, teen spaces, central open areas).
- ▲ Update furniture to modern pieces with integrated power to enhance usability and functionality.
- ▲ Regular maintenance plans needed for high-wear surfaces (walls, floors).
- ▲ Schedule continuous technology and lighting updates to maintain modern standards.

Dobson Ranch Library



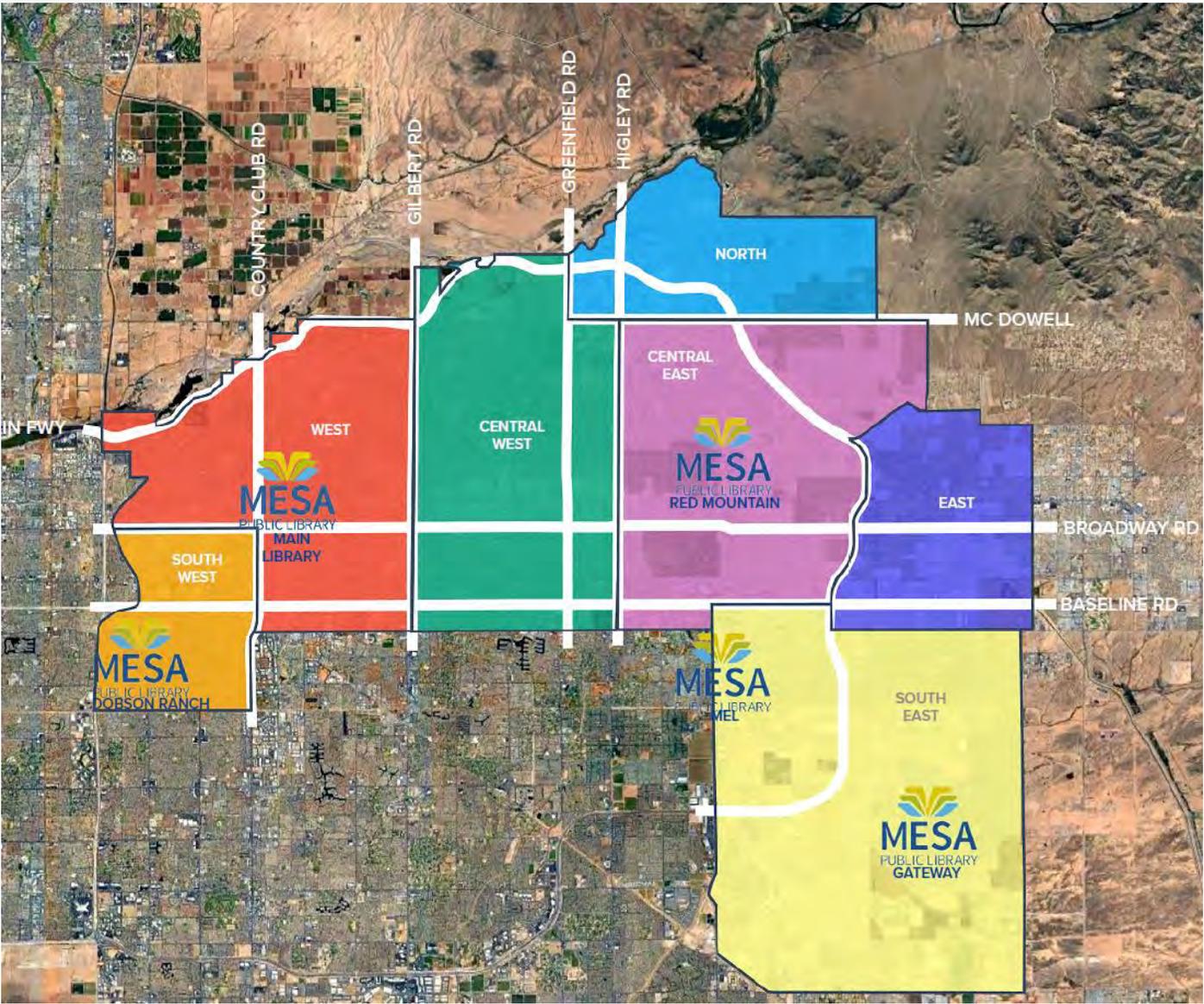
- ▲ High-quality, durable structure; future expansion recommended for dedicated children's and teen areas and enhanced study spaces.
- ▲ Address structural issues on the north side of the building immediately to maintain integrity.
- ▲ Maintain regular cleaning, inspections, and maintenance schedules for all surfaces.
- ▲ Plan for regular technological and lighting updates to meet evolving community needs.

Mesa Express Library

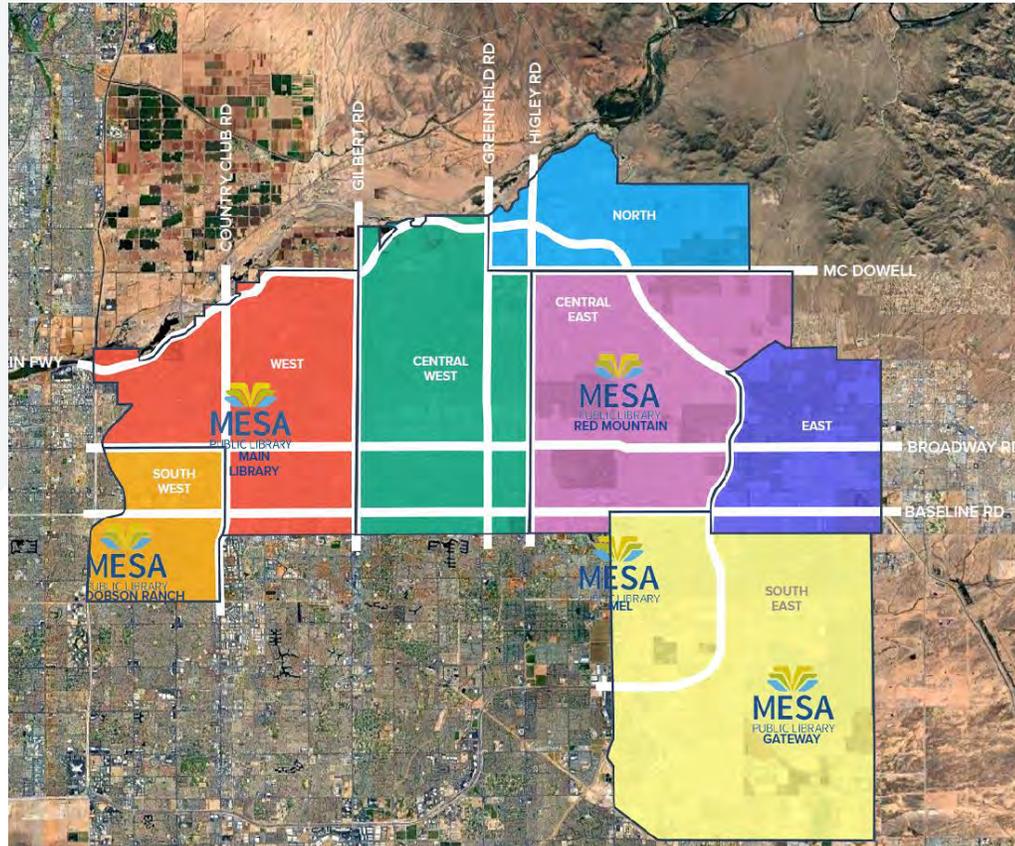


- ▲ Excellent condition, minimal maintenance; consider alternate furniture layouts for flexible, temporary programming space.
- ▲ Regular maintenance of high-traffic surfaces (walls, floors) to ensure longevity.
- ▲ Schedule regular technological upgrades to meet evolving user expectations.
- ▲ Use this efficient design as a model for future small-scale libraries across the city.

Future Locations Assessment



Future Locations



- ▲ Seven Regional Zones based on existing library service areas and geographic markers.
- ▲ Identified Gaps:
 - Central-West
 - North
 - East
- ▲ Demographics in gap areas analyzed for future branch planning over the 20-year master plan.

Key Recommendations

EXISTING FACILITIES	PRIORITY 1			PRIORITY 2		PRIORITY 3	
	2025	2026	2029	2030	2034	2035	2044
MAIN LIBRARY	MA.M.2 MA.M.3 MA.M.4 MA.M.5 MA.M.6	MA.U.1 MA.U.2 MA.U.3 MA.U.4 MA.U.5	MA.O.1 MA.O.2 MA.O.3	MA.U.3 MA.O.4 MA.O.5 MA.O.6 MA.O.8		MA.U.1.2	
RED MOUNTAIN	RM.M.1 RM.M.2 RM.M.3 RM.M.4 RM.M.5 RM.M.6	RM.U.1 RM.U.2 RM.U.3 RM.U.4 RM.U.5 RM.U.6	RM.O.1 RM.O.2	RM.U.7 RM.U.8 RM.O.3 RM.O.4 RM.O.5			
DOBSON RANCH	DR.M.1 DR.M.2 DR.M.3 DR.M.4 DR.M.5	DR.U.1 DR.U.3.A DR.U.4 DR.U.5 DR.U.7	DR.O.1 DR.O.2 DR.O.3 DR.O.5	DR.U.2 DR.U.6 DR.U.8			
MESA EXPRESS				ME.O.1		DR.U.3.B DR.O.4 DR.O.6	

** PROJECT PACKAGES FOR EXISTING FACILITIES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED BY PRIORITY LEVEL. PROJECTS ARE RECOMMENDED TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN THE PRIORITY TIME PERIOD AT MPL DISCRETION AS FUNDS BECOME AVAILABLE.

FUTURE FACILITIES

BOND YEAR	2025	2026	2027	2028*	2029	2030*	2031	2032*	2033	2034*	2035	2036*	2037	2038*	2039	2040*	2041	2042*	2043	2044*	
GATEWAY	★ GATEWAY OPENING																				
MOBILE EXPRESS				+	DESIGN	BUILD	★ EAST EXPRESS OPENING			+	RELOCATE	★ EAST EXPRESS RELOCATED TO NORTH				+	RELOCATE	★ NORTH EXPRESS RELOCATED			
CENTRAL BRANCH				+	DESIGN	BUILD	★ CENTRAL BRANCH OPENING														
EAST BRANCH										+	DESIGN	BUILD	★ EAST BRANCH OPENING								
NORTH BRANCH																+	DESIGN	BUILD	★ NORTH BRANCH OPENING		



Next Steps

Next Steps



**FINALIZE DOCUMENT
DESIGN**



**PRESENTATION AND
ADOPTION**

Thank you!



Library Services

April 24, 2025

Library Director, Polly Bonnett
Management Assistant II, Tony Garvey

Fiscal Year 2025/26

Mesa Public Library supports lifelong learning, empowers individuals, and strengthens the community.



2023 – 2026 Strategic Plan Priorities

Customer Experience
Community Literacy
Engagement and Access
Staff Support





Jan 1, 2025 – Dec 31, 2025



Gateway Library Beam Signing

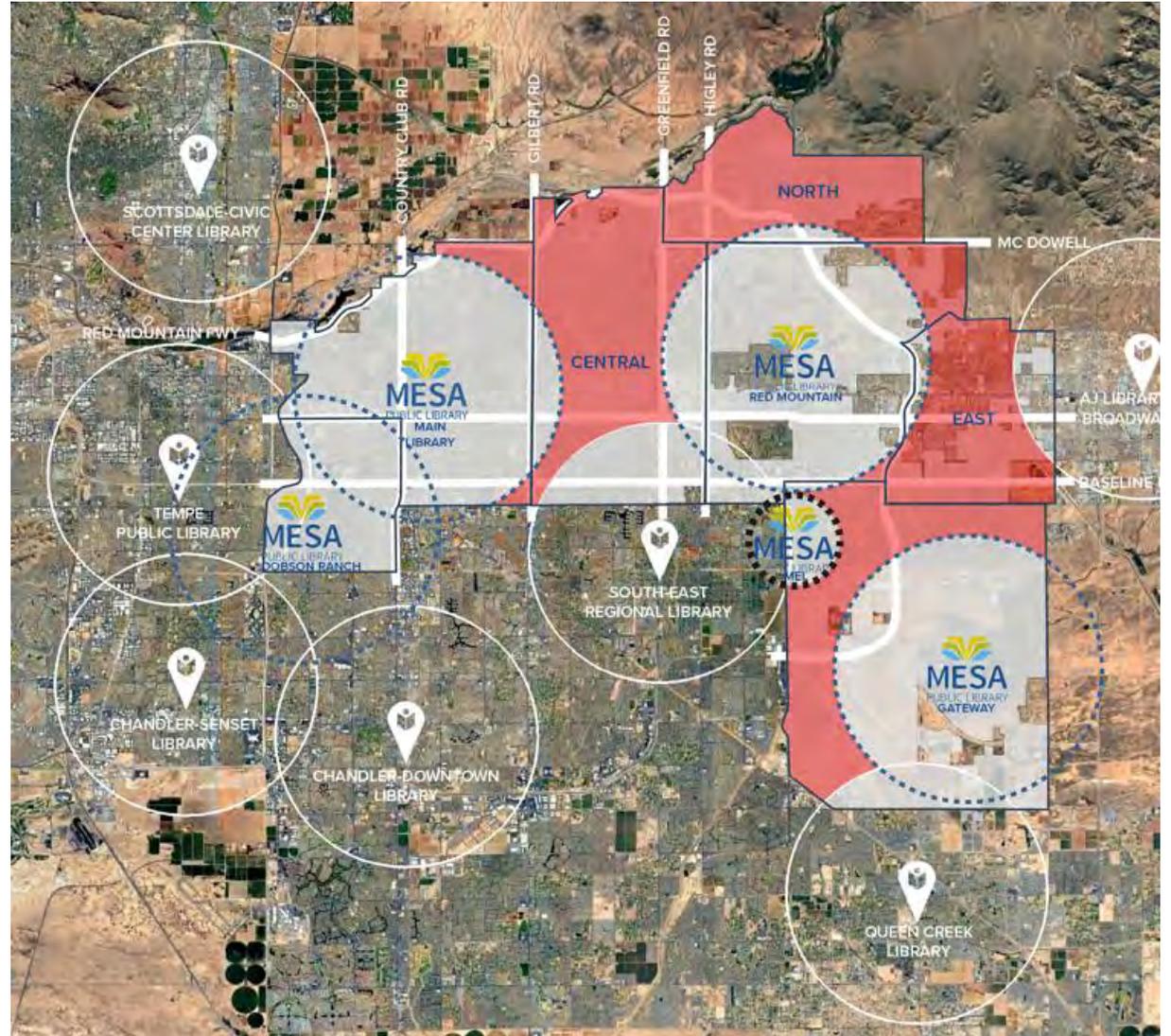


Read Runner



Master Planning

-Completion May 2025-





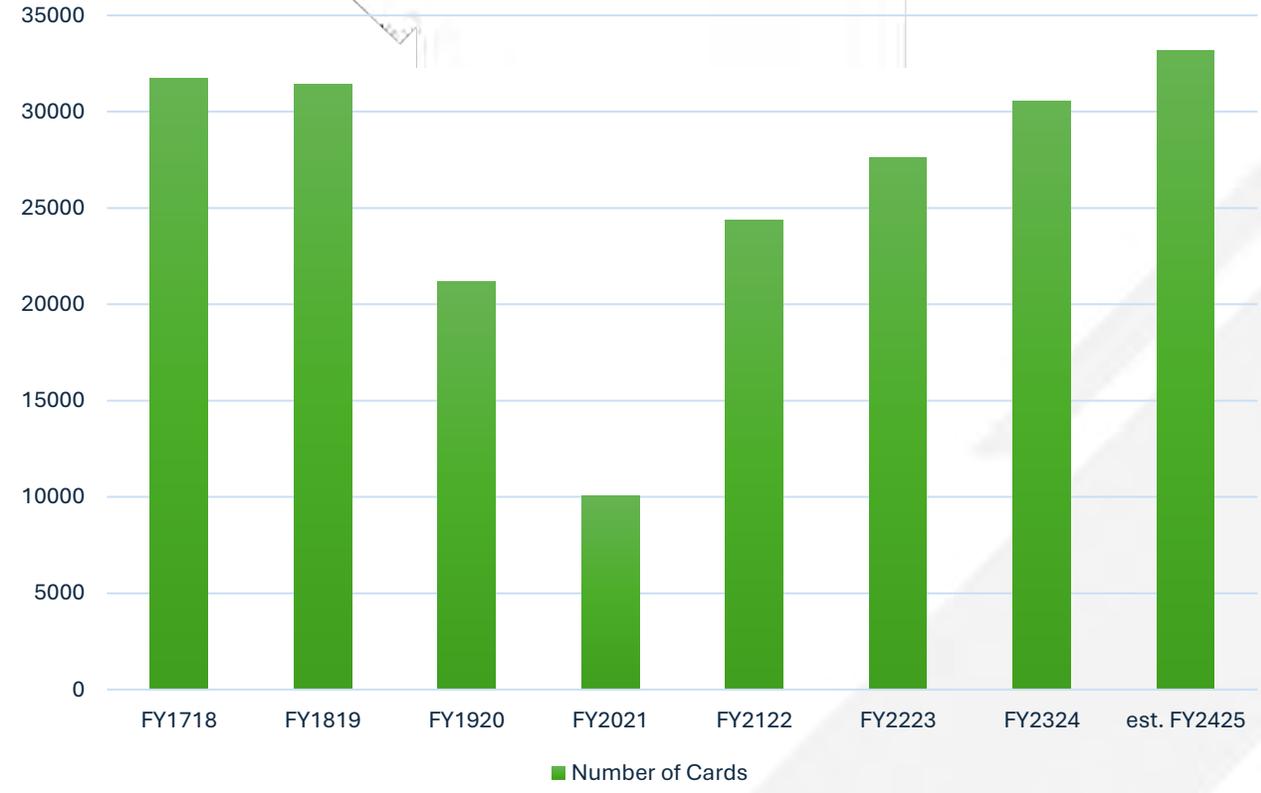
MPL Goes National

Engagement and Access - New Library Users



Objective: Continue and Increase Community Engagement with Library Services

Library Cards Issued



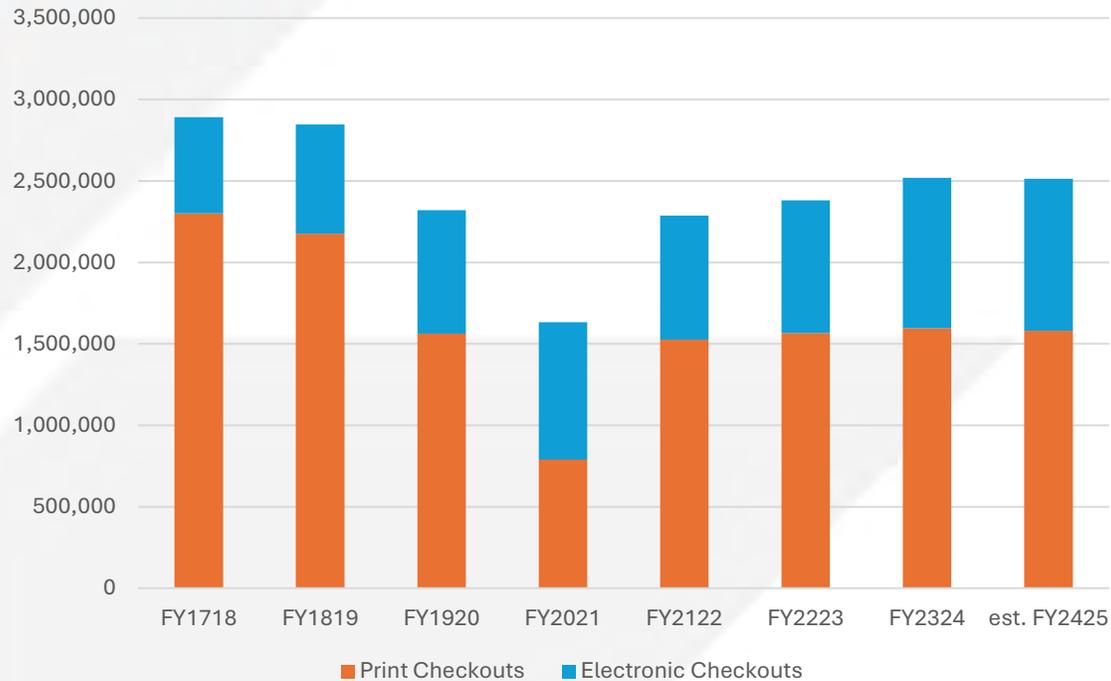
Over **33,000** New Card Holders Projected in FY24/25



Community Literacy for All Learners - Book Checkouts



Checkouts



Objective: Provide programs, resources, and tools to build literacy skills in its many forms, for all ages

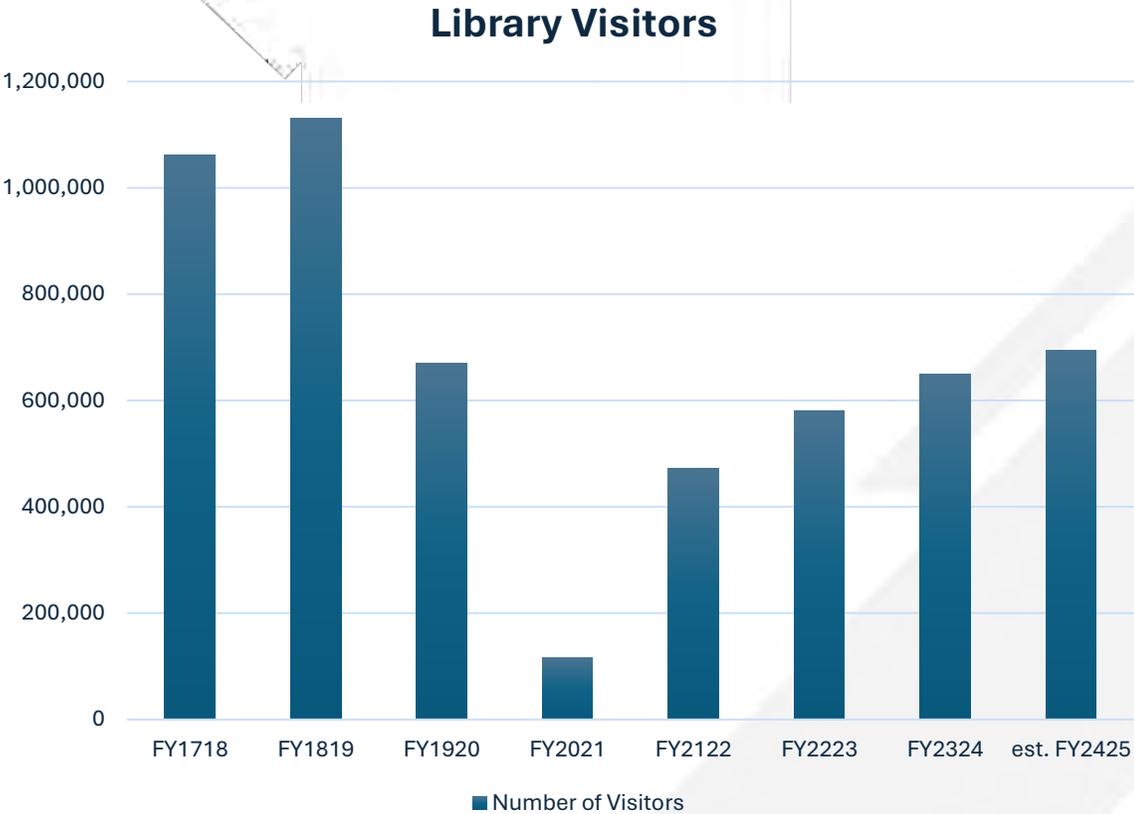
Over **2.5 Million** Checkouts
Projected in FY24/25



Customer Experience - Library Visitors



Objective: Assess buildings to ensure safe and inclusive spaces



Over **690k** Visitors Projected in FY24/25



Gateway Library

Upcoming Milestones

- **Jan – June 2025: Gateway staff hiring**
- **April – Aug 2025: Gateway Staff attends Community Outreach events**
- **July/Aug 2025: Construction completion**
- **Aug/Sept 2025: Branch staff and furniture move into Gateway Library**
- **Fall 2025: Grand Opening Celebration**



Department Financial Summary



Core Business Process	FY 23/24 Year End Actuals	FY 24/25 Revised Budget	FY 24/25 Year End Estimate	FY 25/26 Proposed Budget
Library Resources	\$3.0	\$5.1	\$4.0	\$4.7
Library Programs and Services	\$5.8	\$9.9	\$6.5	\$9.6
Total	\$8.8	\$15.0	\$10.6	\$14.3

*Figures in millions,
rounded*

Base Budget Reductions



Reduction	FTE	Reduction Amount
Security Budget Overage – RM and GW	0	-\$10,400
Gateway Library Supplies and Equipment	0	-\$9,000
Google Ad Grant	0	-\$9,000
“Press Reader” Subscription	0	-\$26,000
VR Headset Licensing	0	-\$6,000
Dobson Ranch Library Page	-.5	-\$16,920
Red Mountain Library Page	-.5	-\$16,920
Total	-1	-\$94,240

Summer Reading 2025



COLOR OUR WORLD.

Your Library's Summer Reading Program

June 1 – August 1, 2025

For Kids, Teens, and Adults!



COLOREA NUESTRO MUNDO.

El Programa de Lectura de Verano de Su Biblioteca

1ro de Junio al 1ro de Agosto, 2025

¡Para niños, adolescentes y adultos!





mesa·az



THANK YOU!

MPL Budget Breakdown



Total Base Budget	<i>\$11,249,649</i>	%
Personnel Budget	\$8,528,568	75.8%
Operational Budget	\$2,721,081	24.2%

