



Library Advisory Board

Meeting Agenda - Final

- Chair, Lonica Rowley*
- Vice Chair VACANT*
- Boardmember Ellen Bachman*
- Boardmember Christal Cline*
- Boardmember James Martherus*
- Boardmember Mark Powell*
- Boardmember Kristin Ricklefs-Johnson*
- Boardmember Megan Sterling*
- Boardmember Karina Wilhelm*
- Boardmember Jo Wilson*

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

5:30 PM

Library Board Room

- 1 Call Meeting to Order**
- 2 Approval of the minutes from the May 20th, 2025, Library Advisory Board Meeting
- 3 Items from citizens present****
- 4 Introductions, Recognitions, and Announcements**
- 5 Election of the Vice Chair for the Library Advisory Board**
- 6 Discussion items:**
 - 6-a **Hear an overview of library services that include library programs, Mesa Public Library’s strategic plan, staff support, and library budget.**
 - 6-b **Hear a presentation on co-location opportunities with Mesa Public Schools**
- 7 Library Director’s Updates: Hear an update on The Mesa Reads Together Program, The Gateway Library and Red Mountains 30th Anniversary Celebration ***
- 8 Identify Items for Future Agendas***
- 9 Adjournment**

* These items are not for Board discussion and no Board action will be taken on the items.

** The public may address the Board on any item. The Arizona Open Meeting Law (ARS § 38-431 et seq.) limits the Library Advisory Board to discussing only those matters specifically listed on the agenda.

The City of Mesa is committed to making its public meetings accessible to persons with disabilities. For special accommodations, please contact the City Manager's Office at (480) 644-3333 or AzRelay 7-1-1 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Si necesita asistencia o traducción en Español, favor de llamar al menos 48 horas antes de la reunión al 480-644-2767.



Mesa Public Library

Overview of Library Services
September 2025

City Leadership



Councilmember Rich Adams
District 1 Councilmember



Councilmember Julie Spilsbury
District 2 Councilmember



Councilmember Francisco Heredia
District 3 Councilmember



Mayor Mark Freeman
Mayor of Mesa



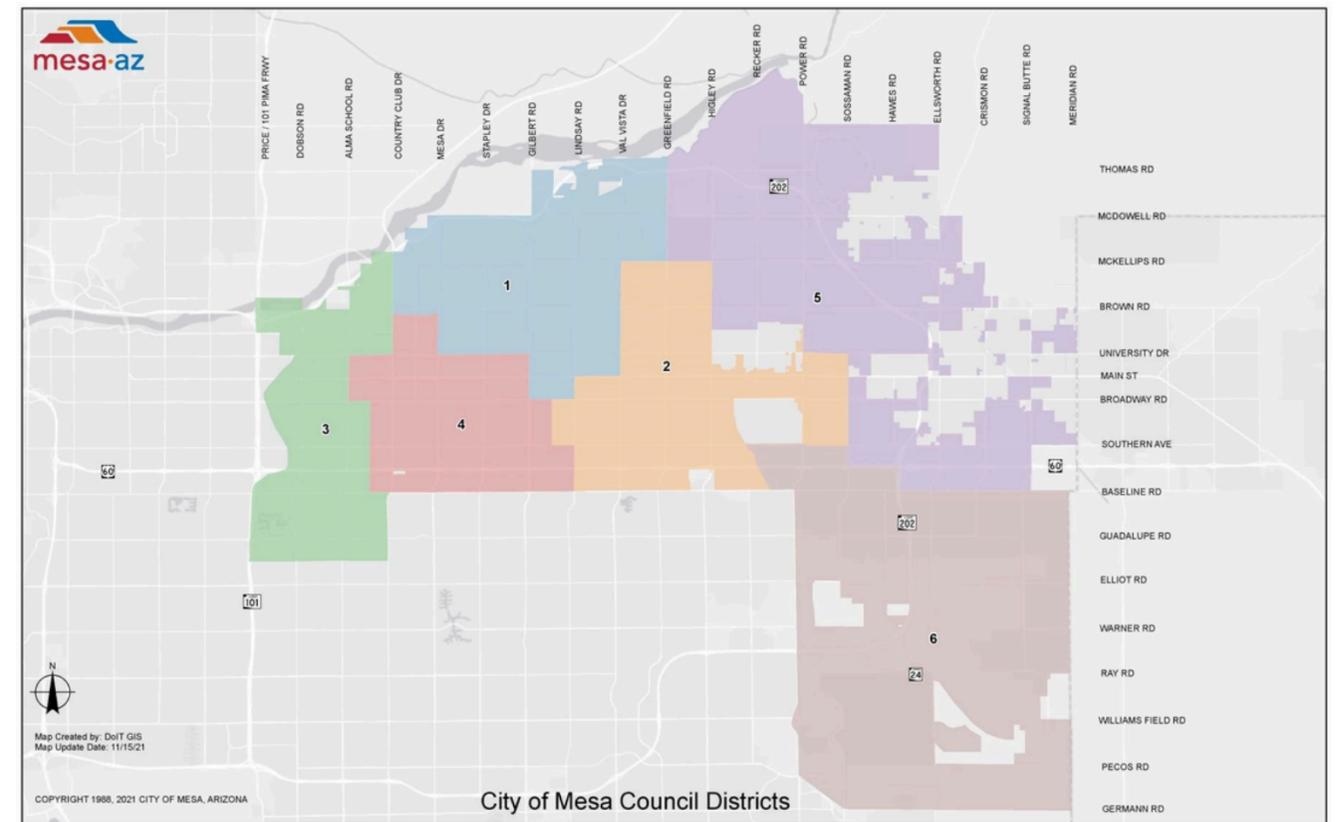
Councilmember Jenn Duff
District 4 Councilmember



Councilmember Alicia Goforth
District 5 Councilmember



Vice Mayor Scott Somers
District 6 Councilmember



City Council Strategic Priorities

Innovation, Inclusion and Outstanding Services are the 'The Mesa Way.'

The City of Mesa delivers innovative services and inclusive solutions for all residents, businesses and visitors through six Strategic Priorities.



**Community
Health & Safety**



**Skilled & Talented
Workforce**



**Neighborhoods &
Placemaking**



**Strong Community
Connections**



**Thriving
Economy**



**Sustainable
Environment**

Curiosity
Learning
Connection
Inspiration
Creativity
Dreaming starts here.



Our Mission:

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

LIBRARY STAFF

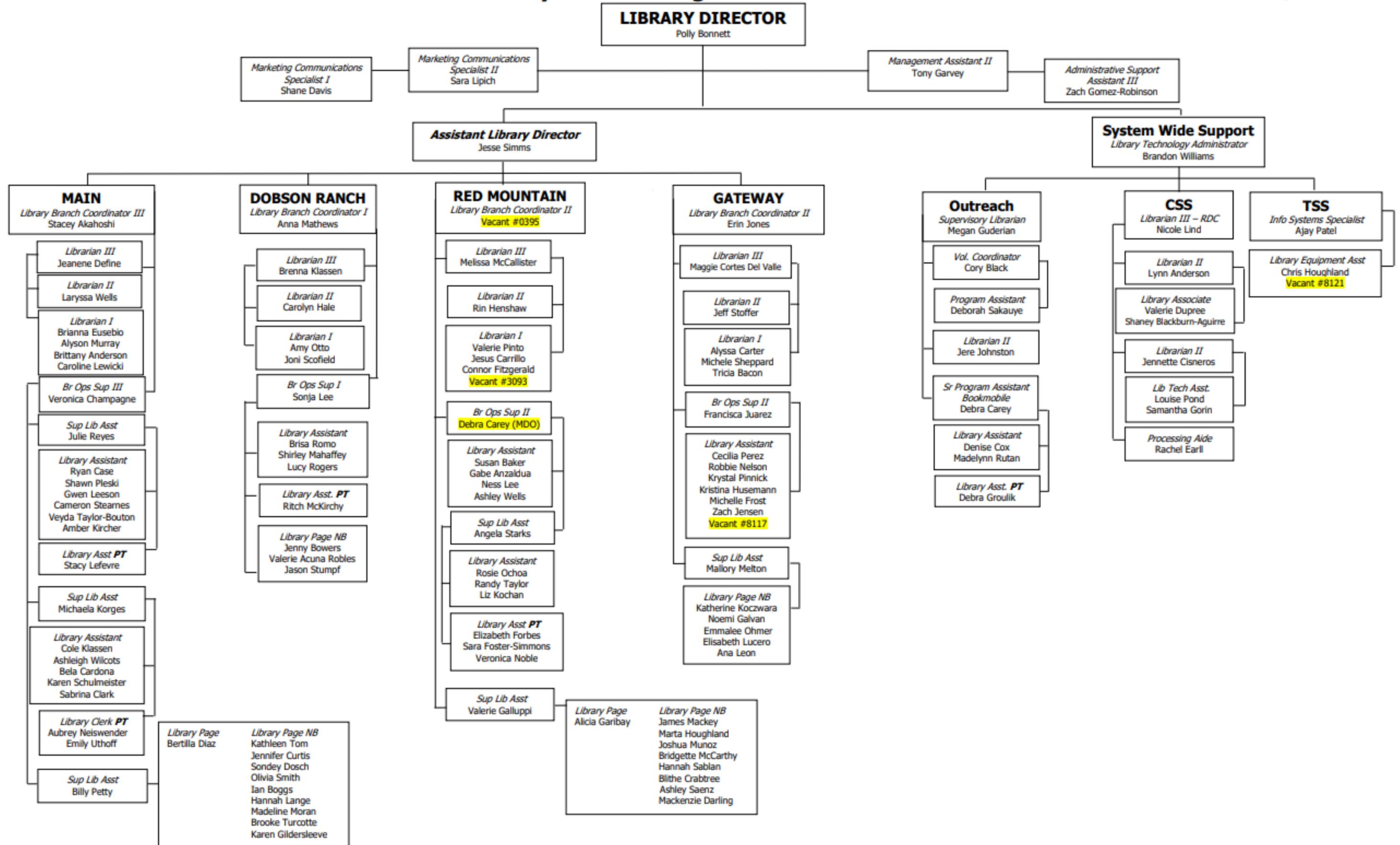
87 FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES

35 PART-TIME EMPLOYEES



Library Services Organizational Chart

August 2025



COLLECTION SUPPORT SERVICES (CSS)

Process

- Select, Order, receive, pay invoices, process items, out to shelves

Physical items ordered FY 24/25

- 45,403

Digital: Overdrive / Cloud

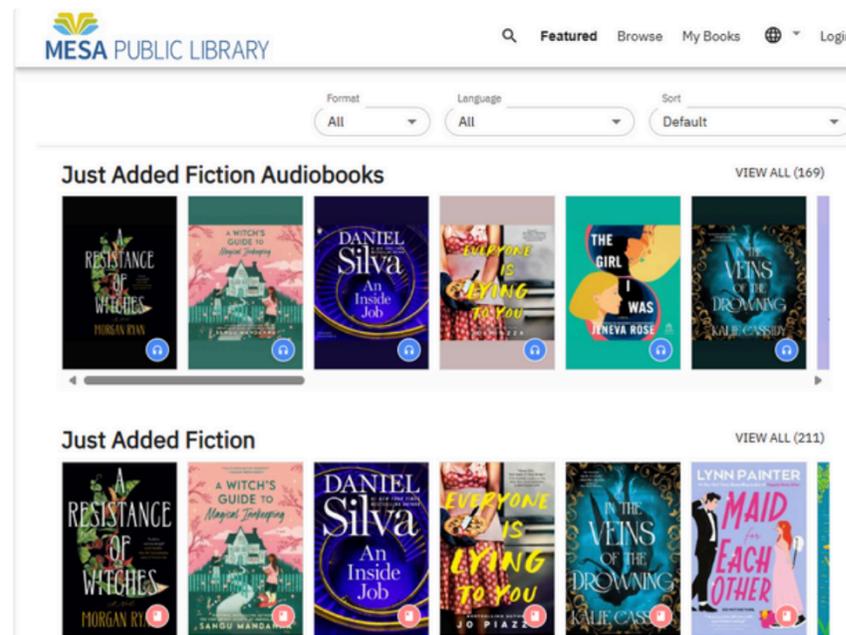
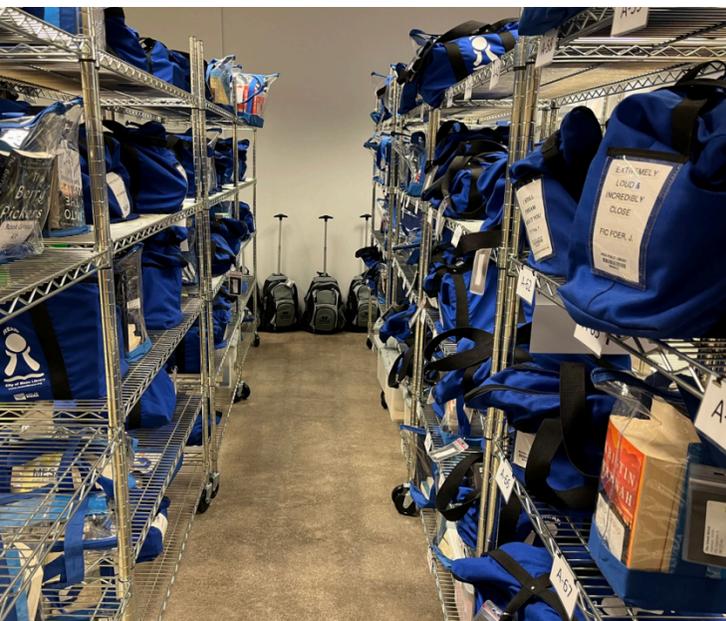
- 12,500 Ebooks & 7,500 Eaudiobooks

Total Physical & Processing budget

- ~ \$1,100,000 including City (\$590,000), County LAP (\$376,000) and SGIA (\$22,000)

Total Databases / Subscriptions

- ~ \$435,000 (LinkedIn Learning, Ancestry, Freegal, Kanopy, Wall Street Journal)



OUTREACH / TEAM LEAP

Stats

- Spoke to 16K people at outreach events and 1700 new library cards

Read Runner Stops

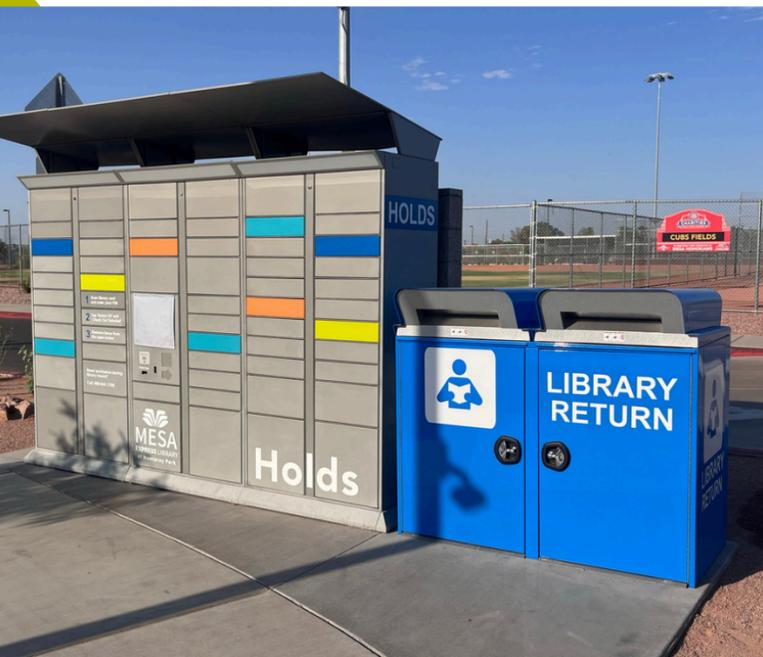
- 8 stops throughout Mesa 2x a month

Big Events

- Celebrate Mesa, I ♥ Mesa Day, Dia de los Muertos at the MAC, school events and more!

MEL at Brady Park

- Self-service library / Expanded access



VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Volunteers

- 371 total volunteers
- 25,932 hours given
- Homebound
- Volunteer luncheon

What do volunteers do for the library?

Bookstore

- 67,000+ item donated
- Booksale Earnings FY 24 \$60,000
- eBay/Amazon online \$45,000
- Big Book Sales! 2025 total
 - Spring Sale and Big Book Sale - \$7600



TECHNICAL SUPPORT SERVICES (TSS)

Support

- Provide *1st level technical support for staff and patrons and escalate issues to city helpdesk if needed*

Devices

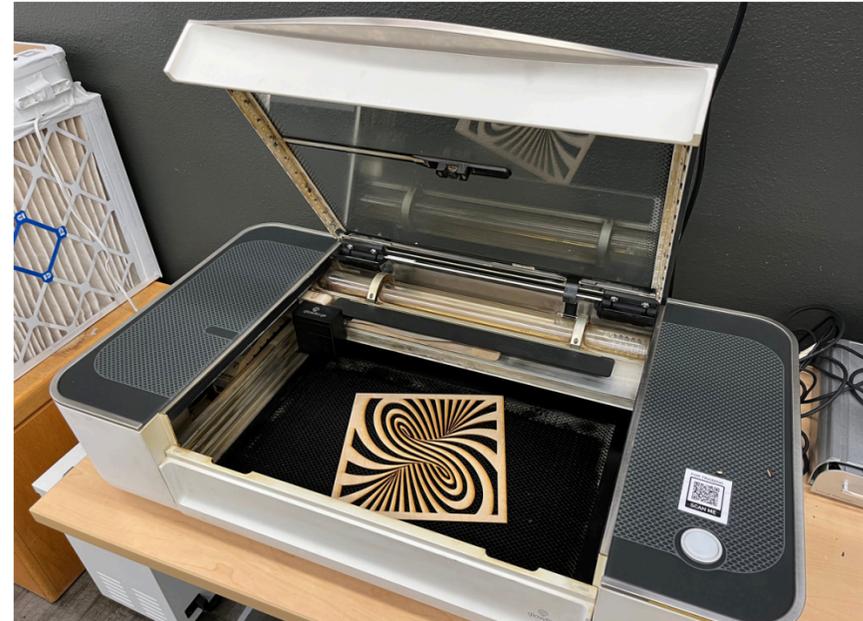
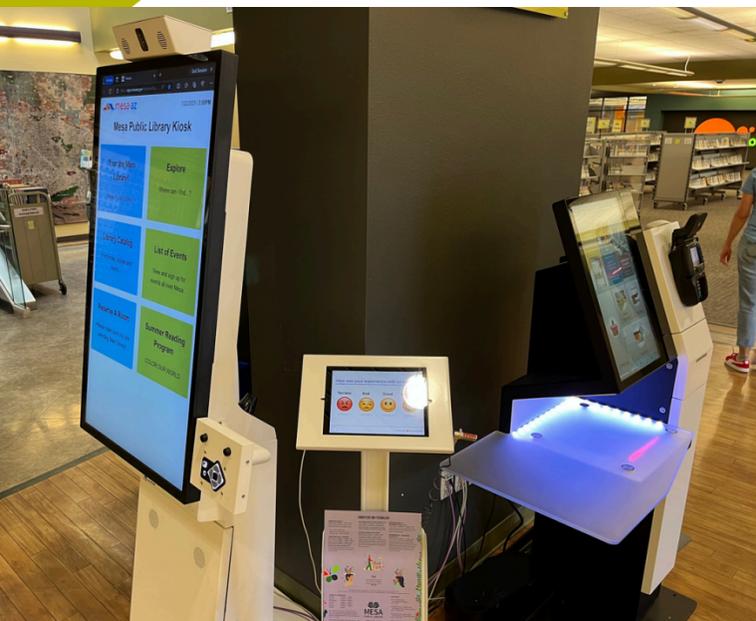
- ~650 total devices
- PCs, laptops, Laser cutters, sorters, lockers, self-checkouts...

Stats

- ~2000 support ticket since 2022
- average 55 tickets monthly

Upcoming Projects

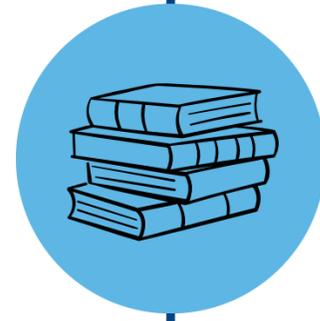
- ***TOP SECRET*** Gateway library (new tech)
- More hold lockers
- New 3D printers
- New Pay for Print system



STRATEGIC PLAN



Customer Experience



Community Literacy



Engagement and Access



Staff Support





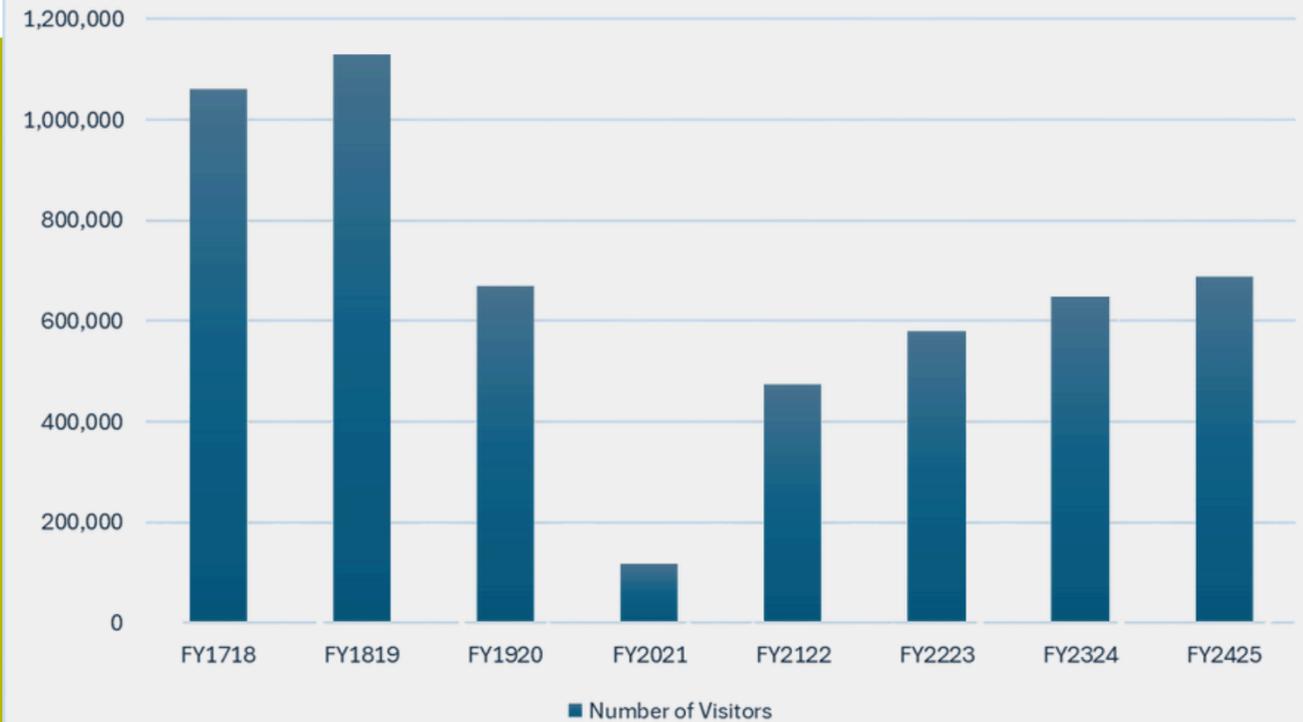
CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

Mesa Public Library supports and embraces our community's rich diversity.

We provide inclusive environments and resources to serve our guests fairly and equitably.



Library Visitors



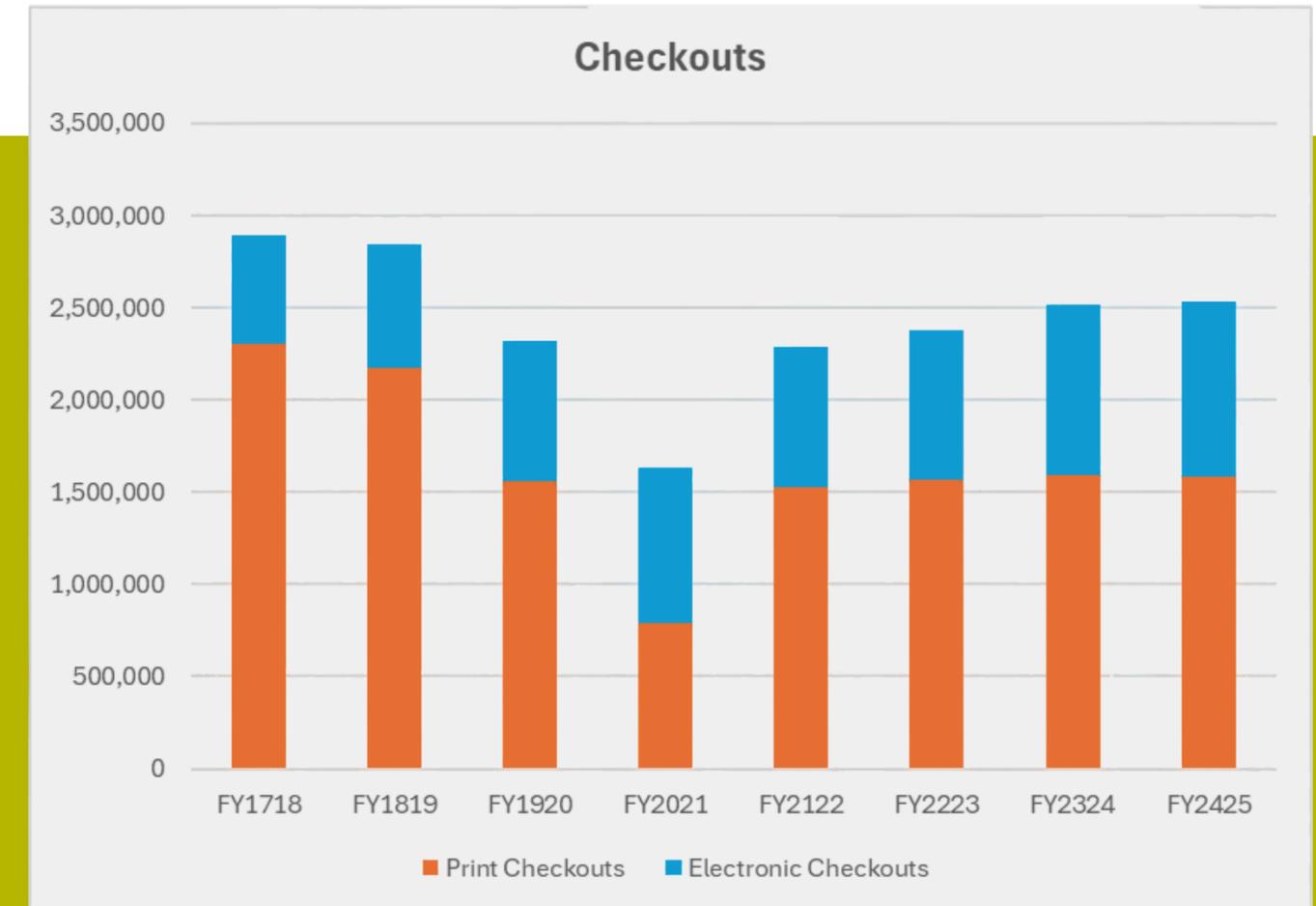
690k Visitors in FY24/25

COMMUNITY LITERACY



Mesa Public Library recognizes the importance of all forms of literacy in creating vibrant and strong communities.

We provide programs, services, and collections to empower individuals and support lifelong learning.



Over 2.5 Million Checkouts
in FY24/25

ENGAGEMENT AND ACCESS

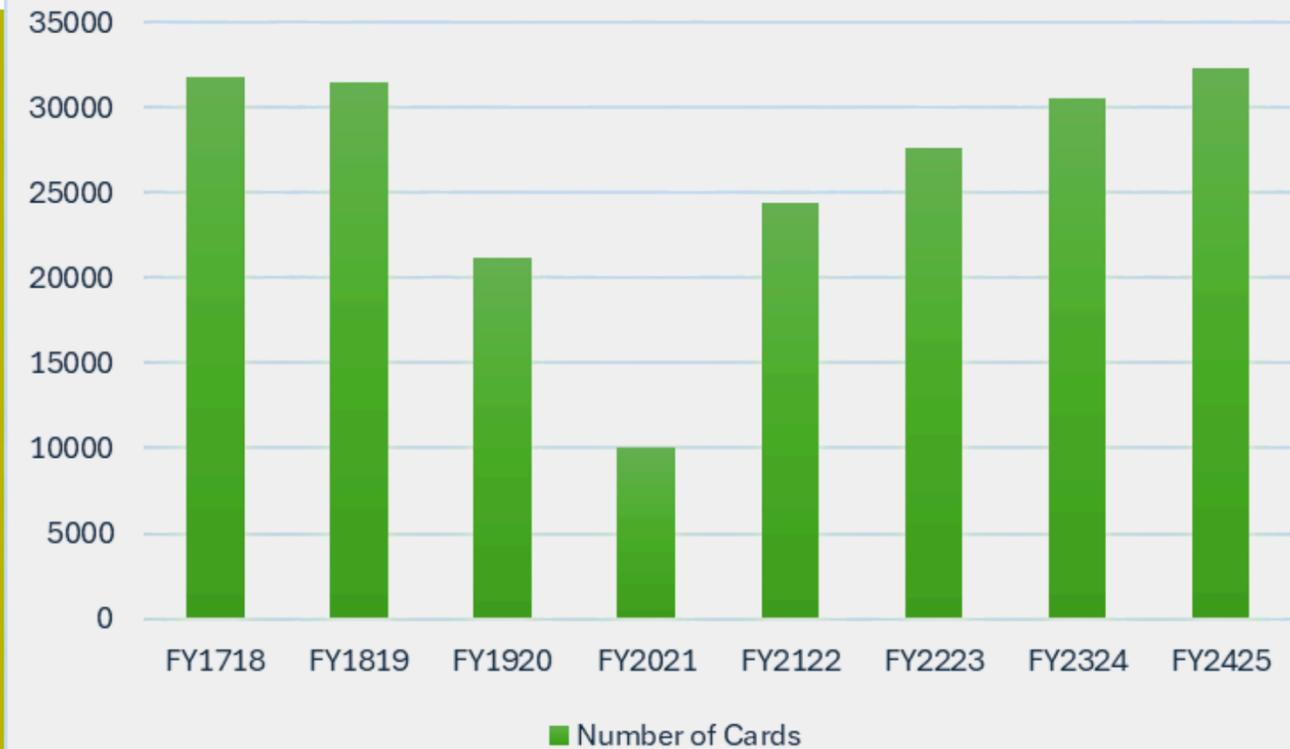


Mesa Public Library strives to expand our reach to connect with all residents.

We offer services that extend beyond our walls, employ innovative strategies, and build community partnerships.



Library Cards Issued



Over 32,000 New Card Holders in FY24/25

STAFF SUPPORT



Mesa Public Library recognizes that our staff is the foundation for transformational library services.

We support each other to learn, grow, and help our community thrive.



LIBRARY JOY

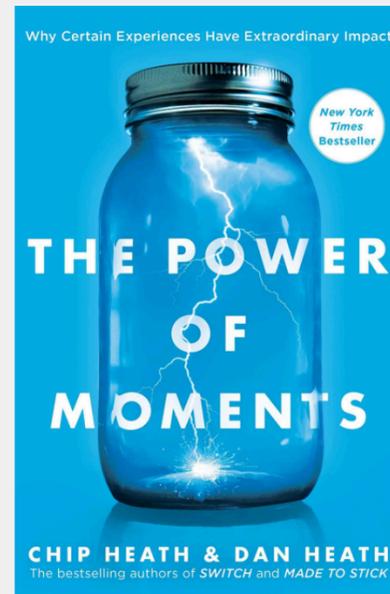


LIBRARY FANDOM - DISNEY EDITION



THE POWER OF MOMENTS

“Defining moments shape our lives, but we don’t have to wait for them to happen. We can create them.” – The Power of Moments by Chip and Dan Heath



OUR SHARED VALUES

Accessibility

We deliver free access to people-centered services, programs, and resources.

We serve everyone fairly and equitably.

Hospitality

We are welcoming hosts and provide safe and inclusive spaces to freely learn and grow.

We are responsive and respectful of our guests' needs.

Quality

We offer relevant and accurate resources to educate and entertain.

We are prompt, objective, confidential, and knowledgeable.

Innovation

We look to the future while sustaining and improving every day.

We practice curiosity and think creatively and critically.

Collaboration

We engage and partner with our community to create connections.

We listen and work together.



Library Budget

Annual MPL Budget	FY 25-26
Personnel Budget	\$8.5
Operational Budget	\$2.7
TOTAL	\$11.2





QUESTIONS?

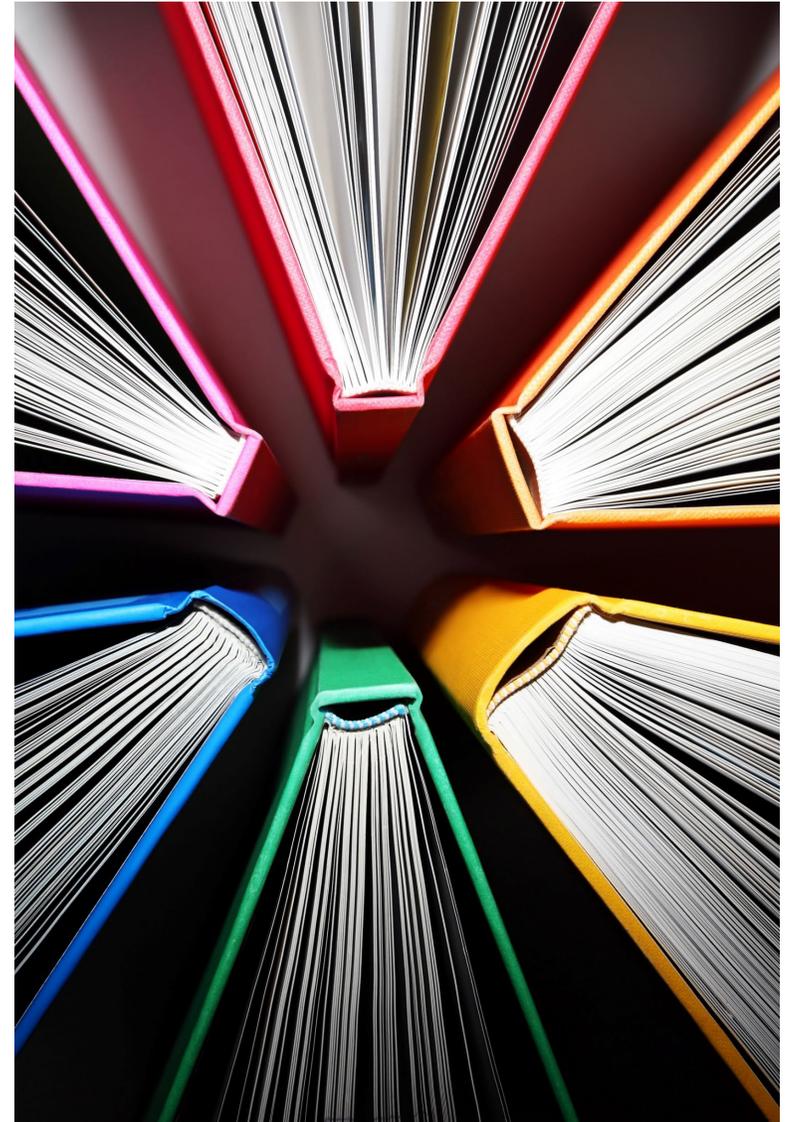


LIBRARY CO-LOCATION OPPORTUNITIES WITH MESA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

John Sheffer, DSD Deputy Director
& Polly Bonnett, Library Director

SCOPE

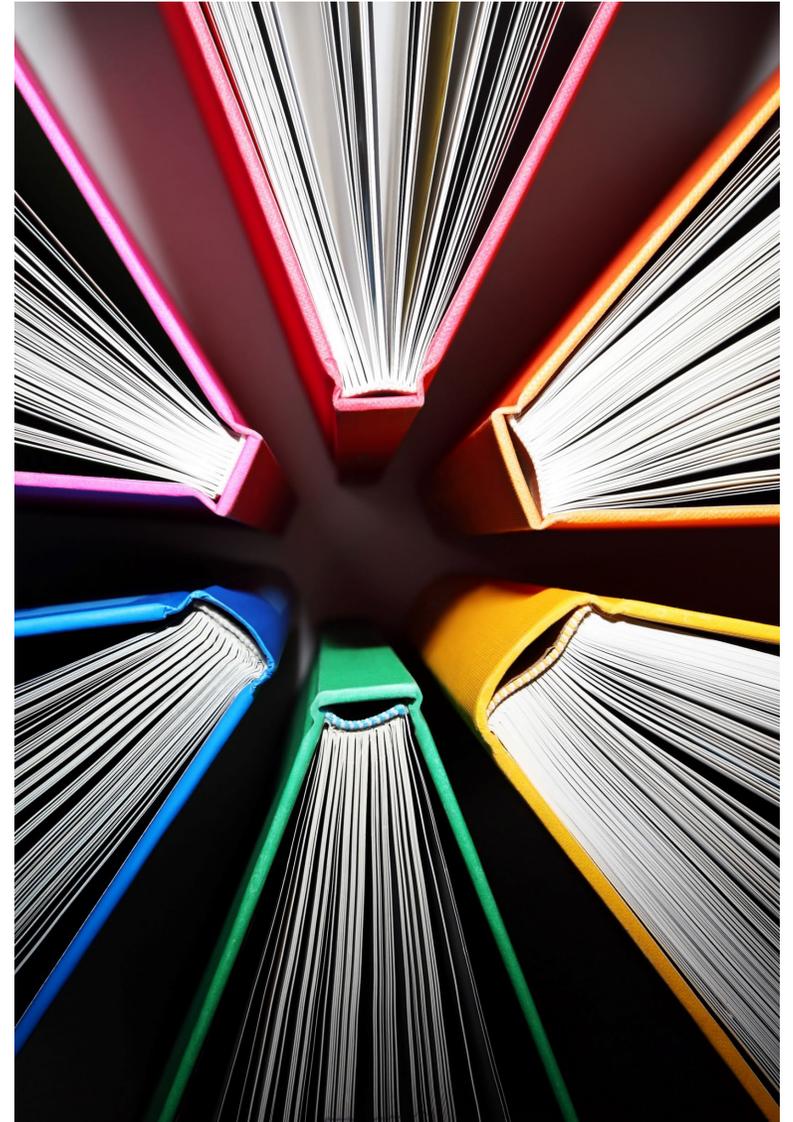
- Objective: Determine if co-location library is a practical and mutually beneficial solution for City & MPS
- Primary Focus:
 - Underserved areas (3-mile radius)
 - Campuses with enrollment declines - opportunity for repurposing
 - H.S. & Jr. H.S.
- Identify benefits: Community / City / MPS
- Collaboration with MPS Director of Community Partnerships
- Site Exploration: Evaluate availability of space meeting criteria to operate a library
- Cost Comparison: Co-location vs. alternatives



SCOPE

Develop criteria for site evaluation:

- Underserved area
- Independent access
- Adequate parking
- 10,000–15,000 sqft
- Space for: adults, children, teens, staff, storage, collections
- Arterial street for visibility and access
- Appropriate security measures



KEY FINDINGS

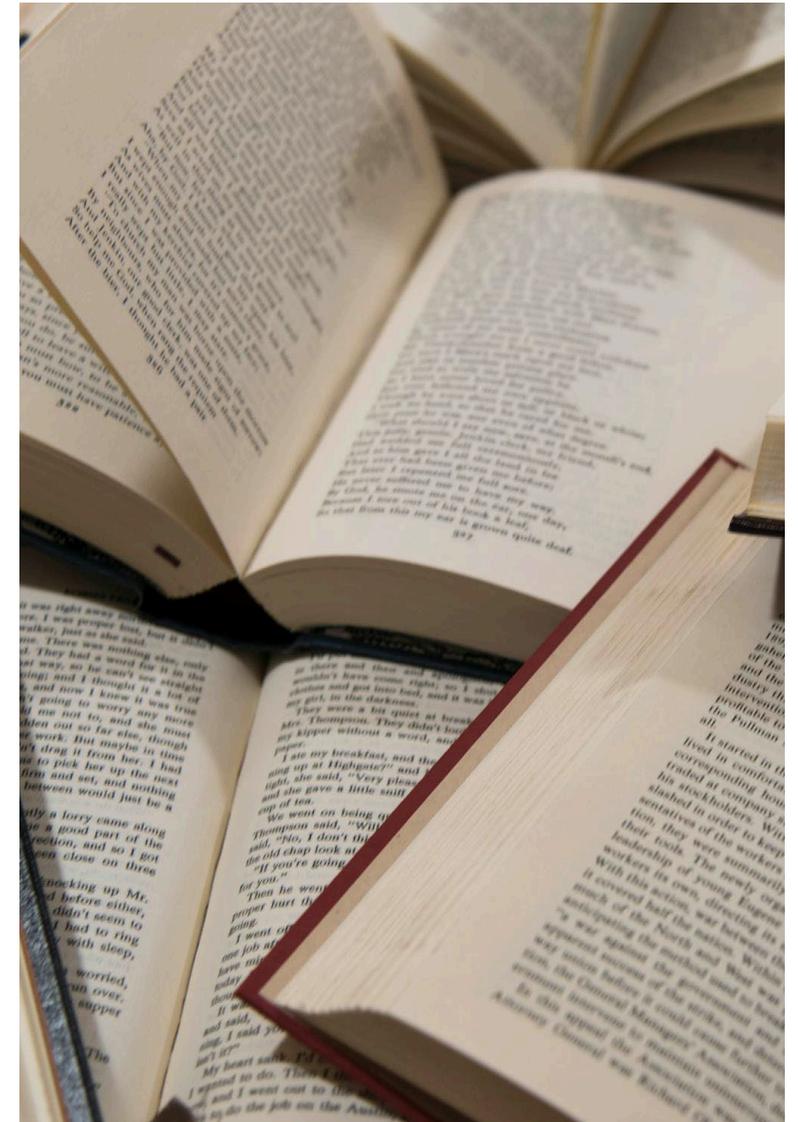
Basha & Hamilton High Schools:

- Designed & built as co-located facilities
 - Differs from co-location at existing school
- Observations:
 - End of school day an influx of 100+ students
 - Teen zone - safe place for students until parent pick up
 - Students browsed library books & used electronic services
- Library staff:
 - Some residents avoid library right after school
 - Small portion of the operating hours
 - Overall co-locations increase community access and enhanced school resources



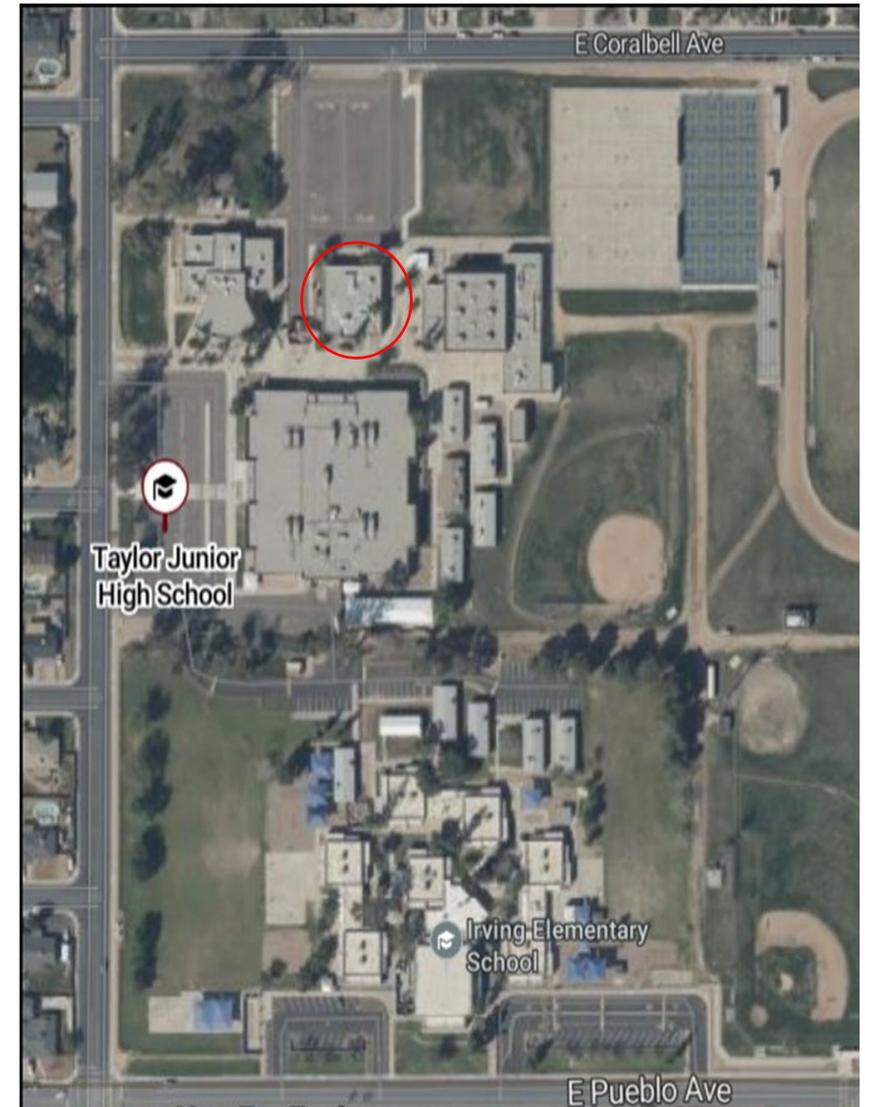
KEY FINDINGS

- MPS Director of Community Partnerships expressed a high level of interest in pursuing a co-located library with the City
- MPS co-locations: Bezos Academy & Polaris Academy
 - Provide services not otherwise available
 - Library co-location could provide similar benefit
 - Multiple potential locations
- Costs: Co-located spaces require renovations
 - May be offset by the value of services provided



KEY FINDINGS

- Potential Location: Taylor Jr HS located at 705 S. 32nd St.
- Located in an underserved area
- Independent access
- Satellite building
- Adequate parking
- Approx. 8,500 sq. ft. available
 - Adequate for small-scale satellite library
- Near arterial street
- Ability to implement security measures



COST COMPARISON

Mesa Engineering cost estimates:

- Generalized: Subject to architectural analysis, site-specific review, and operational planning
- Co-location estimate based on Taylor Jr HS
 - Existing building layout (restrooms, interior arrangement)
- Gateway & Express reflect costs at time of construction

Co-Location

Construction \$1-3M (\$700/sqft)

Annual Operations \$500k

Gateway Library

Construction \$20-25M
(\$938/sqft)

Annual Operations \$1.7M

Express Library

Construction \$1.2M
(\$1000/sqft)

Annual Operations \$350k



CONCLUSION

- Co-locating a library at a MPS represents a viable and cost-effective strategy for expanding services
- Benefits:
 - Shared infrastructure
 - Increased community access in underserved areas
 - Enhanced school resources
 - More cost-effective than renting commercial property
- Taylor Jr HS could serve as a candidate for a pilot location
 - Facility closely aligns with library evaluation criteria



NEXT STEPS

- Engage stakeholders for input and support
- Continue conversations with MPS
- Consider alternative co-location options
- Conduct a formal feasibility study

