

Library Levy 2017 Annual Report

June 6, 2018

Seattle City Council

Civic Development, Public Assets,
and Native Communities Committee



- **Library hours cut**
- **Week-long staff furloughs**
- **Book budget cut**
- **Outdated computers**
- **Building Maintenance cuts**


The Seattle Public Library

**LIBRARY
CLOSED**

Aug. 27–Sept. 3
Due to budget cuts

<p><i>Limited access to the catalog and online resources will be available. Go to www.spl.org</i></p>	<p>The book drop at this branch closes at 5 p.m. Aug. 25 and reopens at 9:30 a.m. Sept. 4</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not leave Library books and materials outside the building during the closure. You will be responsible for theft, loss or damage to Library materials.• No items will be due and no fines charged or accrued during the closed week.• If you have book donations, please call the Friends Book Sale Office at 206-523-4053 or e-mail book.sale@spl.org.	<p>Libraries will resume regular hours on Tuesday, Sept. 4</p>
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Branch Sunday Closed

Week-long closure each year 2008-2012



- August 2012
- 63% approval
- \$123 million seven-year levy





4 Levy Promises:

- Keep libraries open when patrons need them
- Provide a robust collection of books and materials
- Improve computer and online services
- Maintain buildings for the next generation

The levy also includes support for an additional \$5M of cuts the Library would otherwise have had to take during the economic downturn





Changes in Library use since 2012

- More community outreach
- Increased circulation of digital materials
- Increased reliance on free Wi-Fi
- More programs
- More challenging environment



Library by the Numbers

	Pre-levy 2012	2017		% Change
Total Open Hours in Buildings	61,122	68,296	↑	12%
New Library Card Sign Ups in prior 12 months	53,406	64,214	↑	20%
Total # of Active Patrons in prior 12 months	230,924	255,224	↑	11%
Total # of Programs	7,023	10,950	↑	56%
Total # of Program Attendees	226,380	328,979	↑	45%
Total Circulation	11,435,302	11,618,946	↑	2%
Total Digital Circulation	1,007,560	3,280,948	↑	226%
Total Physical Material Circulation	10,427,742	8,337,998	↓	-20%
Total In-Person Visits	6,470,116	5,162,519	↓	-20%
Total # of Computer Sessions (pc and laptops)*	1,329,421	907,228	↓	-32%

*Does not include in-building WIFI sessions or hotspot device lending



Hours = Access

2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Retained 6,000+ new open hours systemwide
 - Open 52 weeks a year
 - 7-day service at Columbia and Northgate branches
 - All locations open Sunday
 - Added 32 open hours per week by restoring Friday hours at International District/Chinatown, University, High Point and South Park branches
- Offered 1,500+ outreach events to bring Library services to every Seattle community

2017 Levy spending - \$4.2 million



Access when patrons need it

We didn't have preschool, but my mom says the Library was our preschool.



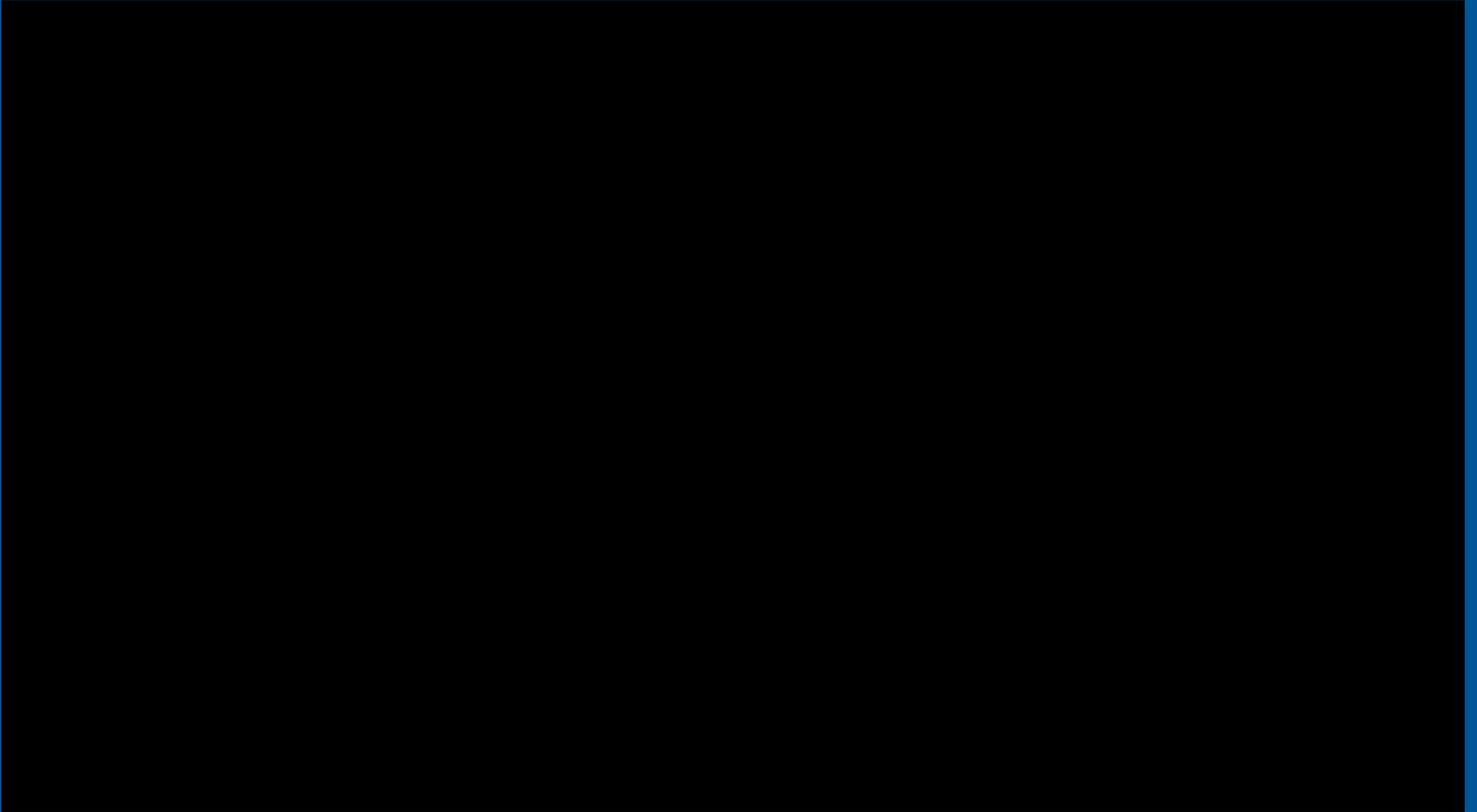


Collections = Quality

2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Launched Peak Picks, no hold, no wait collection of popular books systemwide
- Added Kanopy streaming movie service
- Added 60, 000+ new titles in the physical and digital collections
- Bought 31,000+ more copies of popular materials to shorten wait times
- Implemented “floating collections” for DVDs, CDs and most books to reduce transit time and improve collection variety at branches

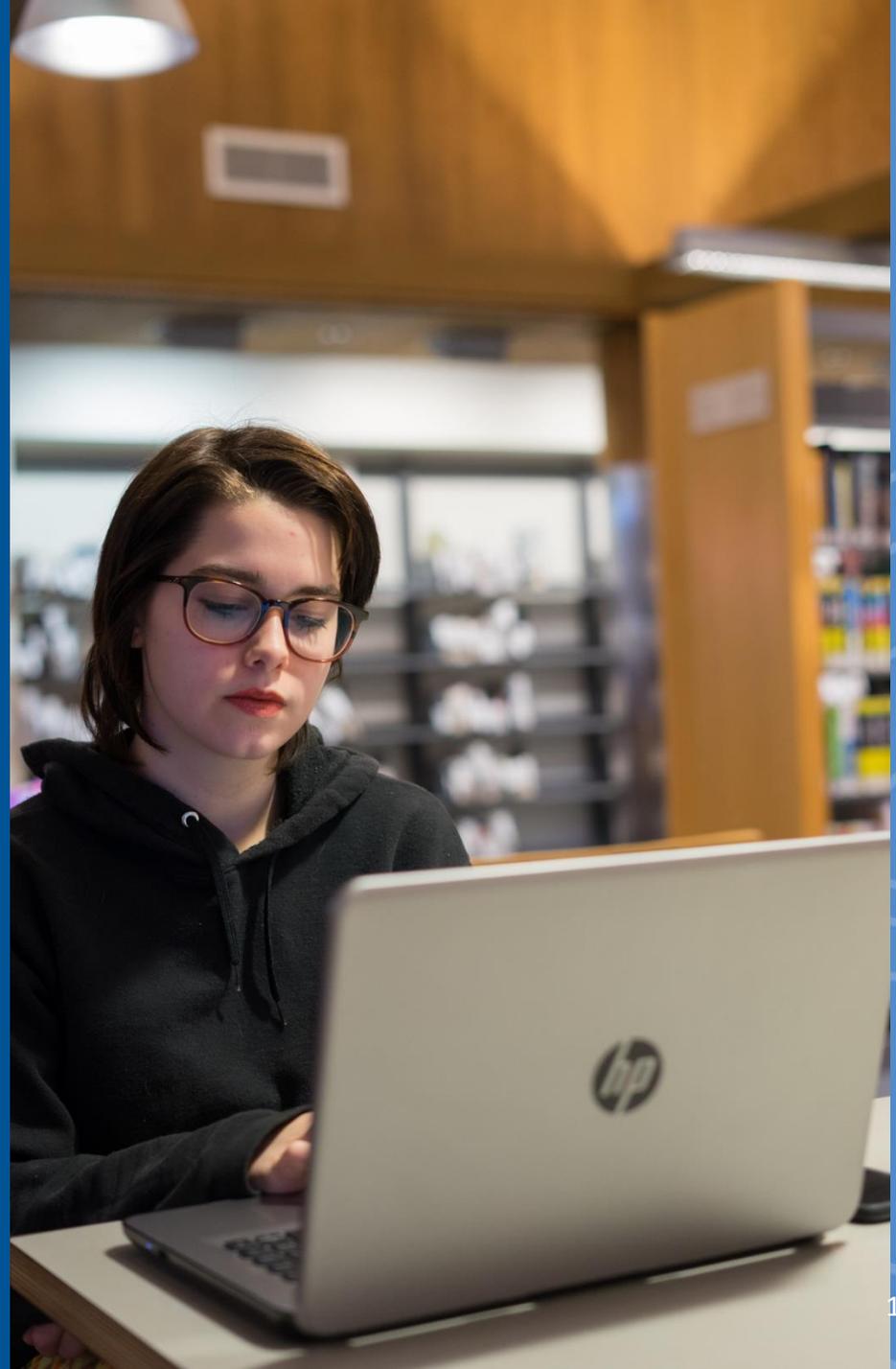
2017 Levy spending - \$3.1 million





More titles in all formats

I wanted to watch #SevenSamurai
for the long(est) time and
@SPLBuzz made it possible through
#Kanopy. Awesome movie!!
#ThankYouSeattlePublicLibrary





Peak Picks in every branch

I'm not on Facebook as much since I have to finish my Peak Picks books in 2 weeks!

Thank you so much for putting in the **peak pick** shelf! It is my favorite part of going to the library and looking at what is on the shelf!

I feel like I'm visiting the **proverbial candy store** when I go to the library and see what's on the Peak Picks table.

Dropped by to pick up some books on hold and wandered over to the new books section – **WOW #peakpicks** - no holds, no wait and 2 weeks for return - snagged #HarlanCoben's new one without the wait!

WOW! I thought I would have to wait three months for this book!



Technology = Opportunity

2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed design and testing of new website for public use in early 2018 that is mobile friendly for the increasing number of patrons using cell phones as their primary device
- Offered 300+ technology classes to teach patrons how to use email, the internet, and adobe in-design and how to spot fake news, etc.
- Replaced 353 levy-funded public computers
- Installed new scanning, printing and copying equipment in all branches

2017 Levy spending - \$1.7 million



Upgraded technology

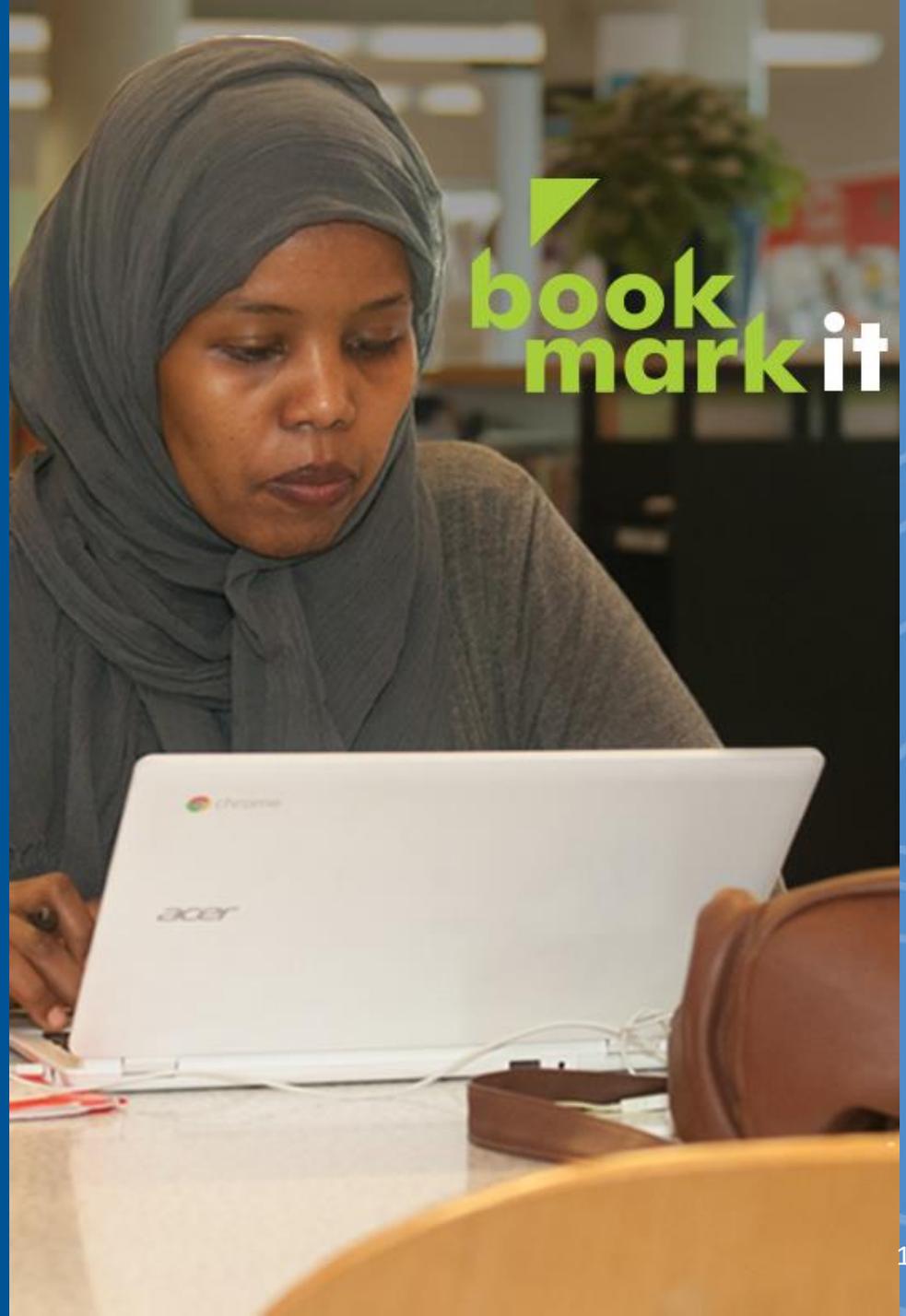
In all my years of life this will be the first time I have gotten to use a laptop. Maybe now I can use this for practice and eventually get my own laptop!





Website redesign

Wonderful!! So much information packed into the site and I can use my phone to browse.



What would you like to find?

[Catalog](#)[Former Catalog](#)

LEARN ABOUT SEATTLE WRITES

Join us for free creative writing classes, workshops and writing circles.

[MORE →](#)

EXPLORE BIRD WEEK

Celebrate Seattle Bird Week
April 23 - 30.

[WATCH VIDEOS →](#)

LIVING CULTURES

Celebrate the resilient indigenous cultures of the Pacific Northwest.

[EXPLORE ARTS & CULTURE](#)

COMMON TASKS

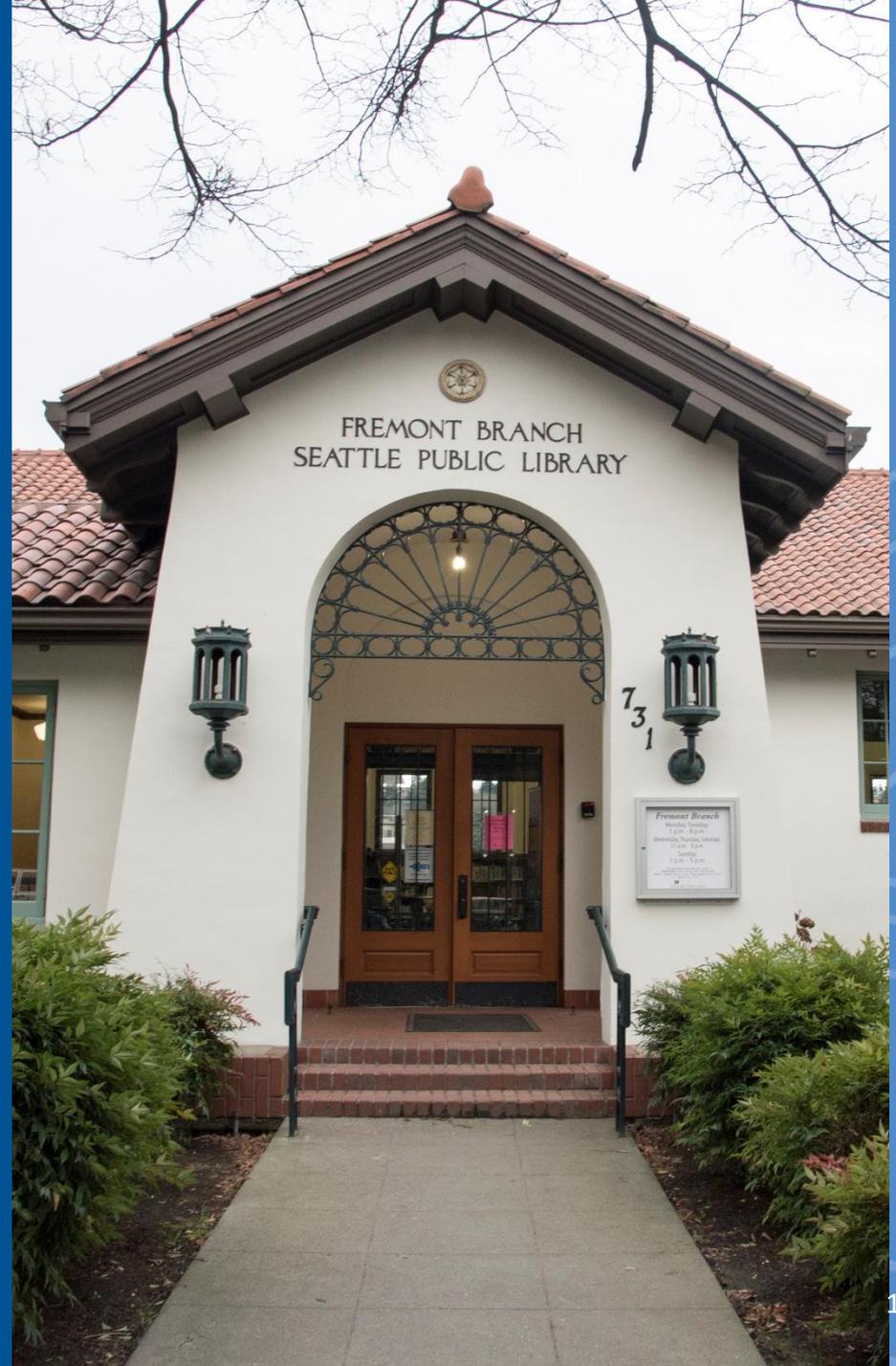
[Reserve a computer](#)[Reserve a room](#)[Pay a fine or fee](#)[Get tax help](#)[Get a Museum Pass](#)[Get Homework Help](#)

Get a
Library Card →



Preserving our assets

Thank you sooo much! I went on Saturday to my much beloved Fremont library. Thank you. I like Seattle Center, I like the aquarium, the zoo. But I LOVE my library!!!!





Maintenance = Sustainability

2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

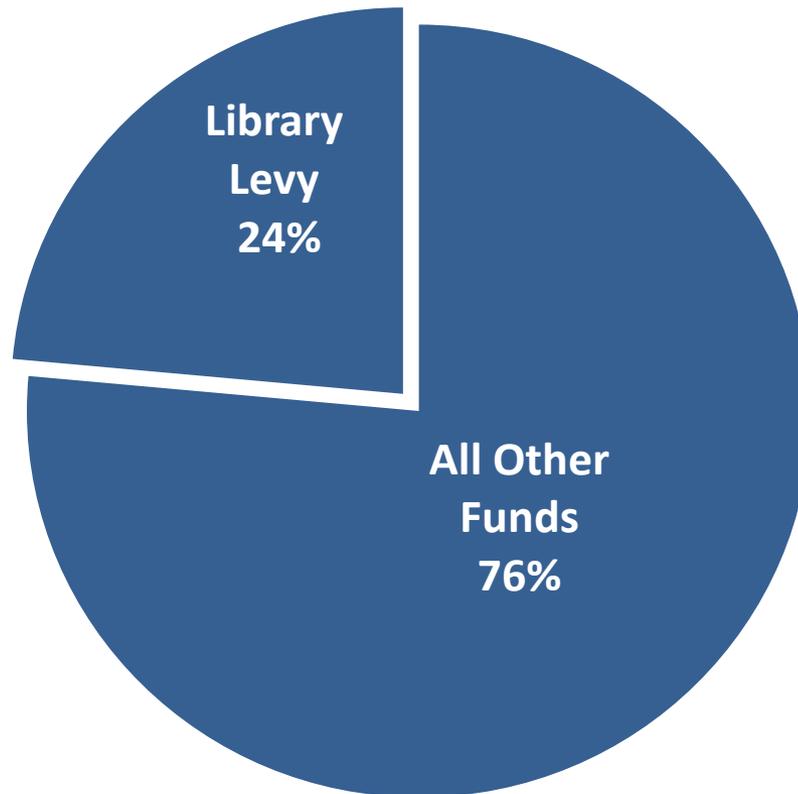
- Completed refurbishment of Beacon Hill, Greenwood and High Point branches and initiated plans for Lake City and South Park branch projects
- Completed 12,000+ work orders to keep some of the City's most heavily used buildings clean, efficient and in good working order
- Performed deep carpet cleaning, high dusting, window washing and upholstery cleaning at all locations
- Completed exterior repairs at Fremont Branch and safety improvements at Central Library

2017 Levy spending - \$6.7 million



2017 Library Budget

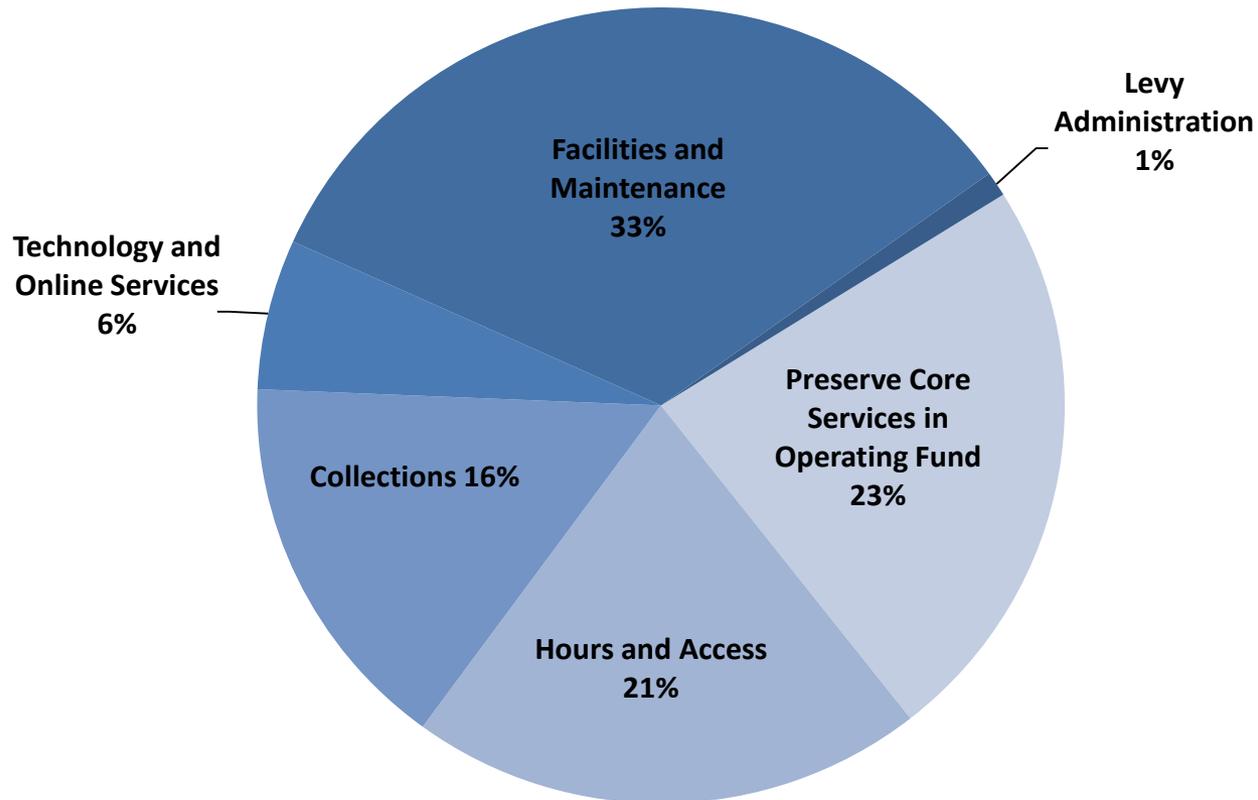
\$81.1 million





2017 Levy Spending

\$20.6 million





Public Engagement

2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

New Round of Community Conversations

- Technology and Access
 - June 3, 2017: 2100 Building, 2100 24th Ave. S.
- Strategic Direction
 - September 26, 2017: Central Library
 - October 21, 2017: Rainier Beach Branch

Community Listening

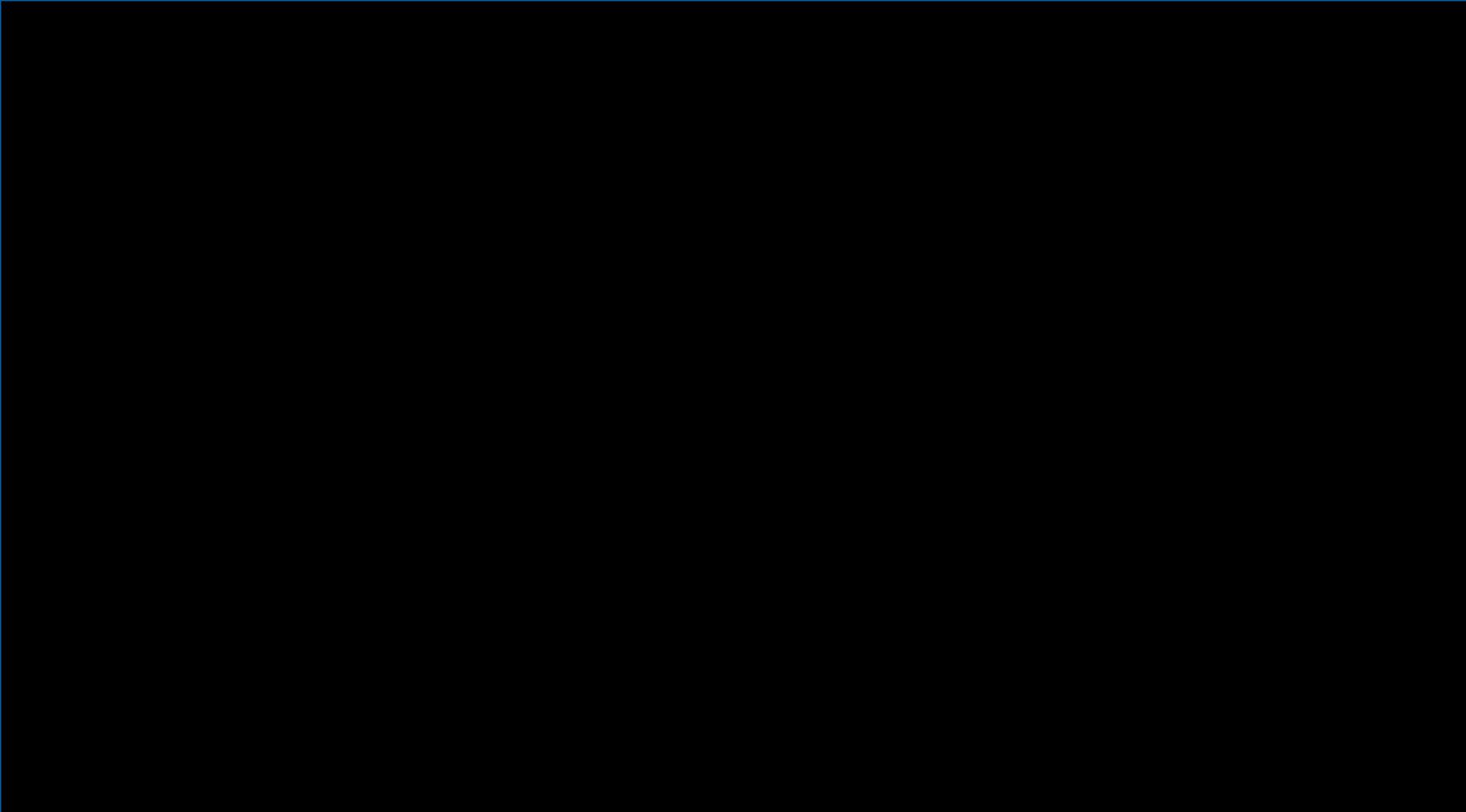
- Skill building for Southwest Region staff
- Website development focus groups
- Beyond the Frame planning process



“There is nothing more important than listening to our patrons and delivering on our promises.”

**-Marcellus Turner,
chief librarian**







Library Levy Oversight

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Chief Librarian

Marcellus Turner

www.spl.org/levy

