

Library Levy 2014 Annual Report

March 17, 2015

Seattle City Council
Parks, Seattle Center, Libraries and
Gender Pay Equity Committee



The Seattle Public Library

LIBRARY CLOSED

Aug. 27–Sept. 3
Due to budget cuts

*Limited access to
the catalog and
online resources
will be available.
Go to www.spl.org*

The book drop at this
branch closes at 5 p.m.
Aug. 25 and reopens at
9:30 a.m. Sept. 4

- 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.

**Libraries will
resume regular
hours on
Tuesday, Sept. 4**

Branch Sunday Closed

Week-long closure each year 2008-2012

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



4 Levy Components:

- 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

Key Measurements

	Pre-levy 2012	2014	% Change
Total Open Hours In Buildings	61,122	67,726	+11%
Total In-Person Visits	6,470,116	6,580,463	+2%
Total Online Visits	7,120,945	7,229,831	+2%
Total Physical Material Circulation	10,427,742	9,992,321	-4%
Total Digital Circulation	1,007,560	1,752,553	+74%
Total # of Public Internet Sessions	1,329,421	1,377,620	+4%
Total # of Programs	7,023	9,861	+40%
Total # of Program Attendees	226,380	307,269	+36%
New Library Card Sign Ups	53,406	58,728	+10%

More activities

“It was wonderful to be able to see a movie at the library with my child.”

– *Northgate Branch patron*



Hours = Access

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Retained 6,000+ new open hours systemwide
 - Open 52 weeks a year
 - All locations open Sunday
 - 7-day service at Columbia and Northgate branches
- Added nearly 1,300 classes, workshops and outreach events
- Launched Open Air pop-up library for community events
- Answered 22,000+ questions at branches with restored reference staff



POP-UP
V
The Seattle Public Library

openair

- Outdoor Reading Room
- Library card sign-ups
- Free e-books
- Instant streaming video & music

Funded by: THE PAUL G. ALLEN
FAMILY FOUNDATION
The Seattle Public Library Foundation



More titles in all formats

“You have an excellent
selection of foreign-
language DVDs, DVDs
non-fiction, fiction
(and) music CDs. ...
Keep it up!”

– *Beacon Hill Branch patron*



Collections = Quality

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Added nearly 16,000 new e-book and e-audiobook titles
- Added 37,000+ new titles to print books, audiobooks, DVDs, CDs
- Bought 37,000+ more copies of popular materials to shorten wait times
- Launched Pike Place Market Digital Collections and enhanced the Neighborhood History Project
- Launched new service to make it easy to find e-books available for immediate checkout



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79 Seattle Railway Depots and Southern Business District, Seattle, Washington

6A-H2681

Upgraded technology

“Oh wow. What an
incredible experience!!!
Every step of the way,
my online experience
was perfect.”

– *Library patron via
“Ask a Librarian”*



Technology = Opportunity

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Upgraded Wi-Fi infrastructure systemwide to provide faster and more reliable Internet service
- Added digital media software to all Internet computers for the public
- Offered 2,500+ hours of scheduled one-on-one help with technology after systemwide program expansion
- Piloted tablets for families at Central Library
- Installed interactive Visitors Center at Central Library



Preserving our assets

**“The building has
never looked better!”**

*– Library patron who
attended Central Library 10th
anniversary event in May*



Maintenance = Sustainability

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed 11,000+ work orders to keep Library buildings clean, efficient and in good working order
- Retreaded all escalators and refurbished all public elevators at Central Library
- Replaced worn furniture at 18 locations
- Renovated restrooms at Ballard and Fremont branches
- Upgraded security and safety infrastructure at Central Library, Ballard, Capitol Hill and Douglass-Truth branches



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seattle

ring

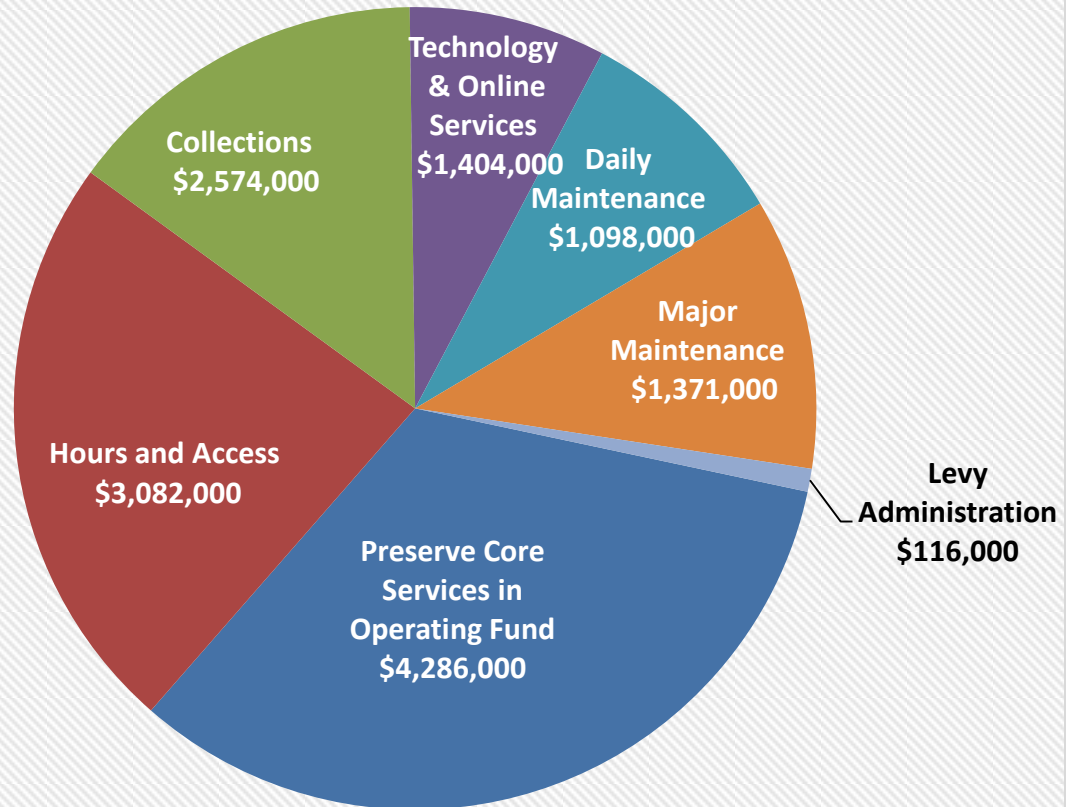
武術隊

LEONG
GROUP
1965

entrance

2014 Levy Spending

Total Actual Spending - \$13.9 million



Public Engagement

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Community Conversations
- Service Priorities Outreach
- Surveys
- In-Service Days for Staff

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

**-Marcellus Turner,
city librarian**



Library Levy Oversight

2014 Library Board of Trustees

Dan Dixon, president

Theresa Fujiwara, vice president

Kristi England

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City Librarian

Marcellus Turner

www.spl.org/levy