

# Welcome to the Library!

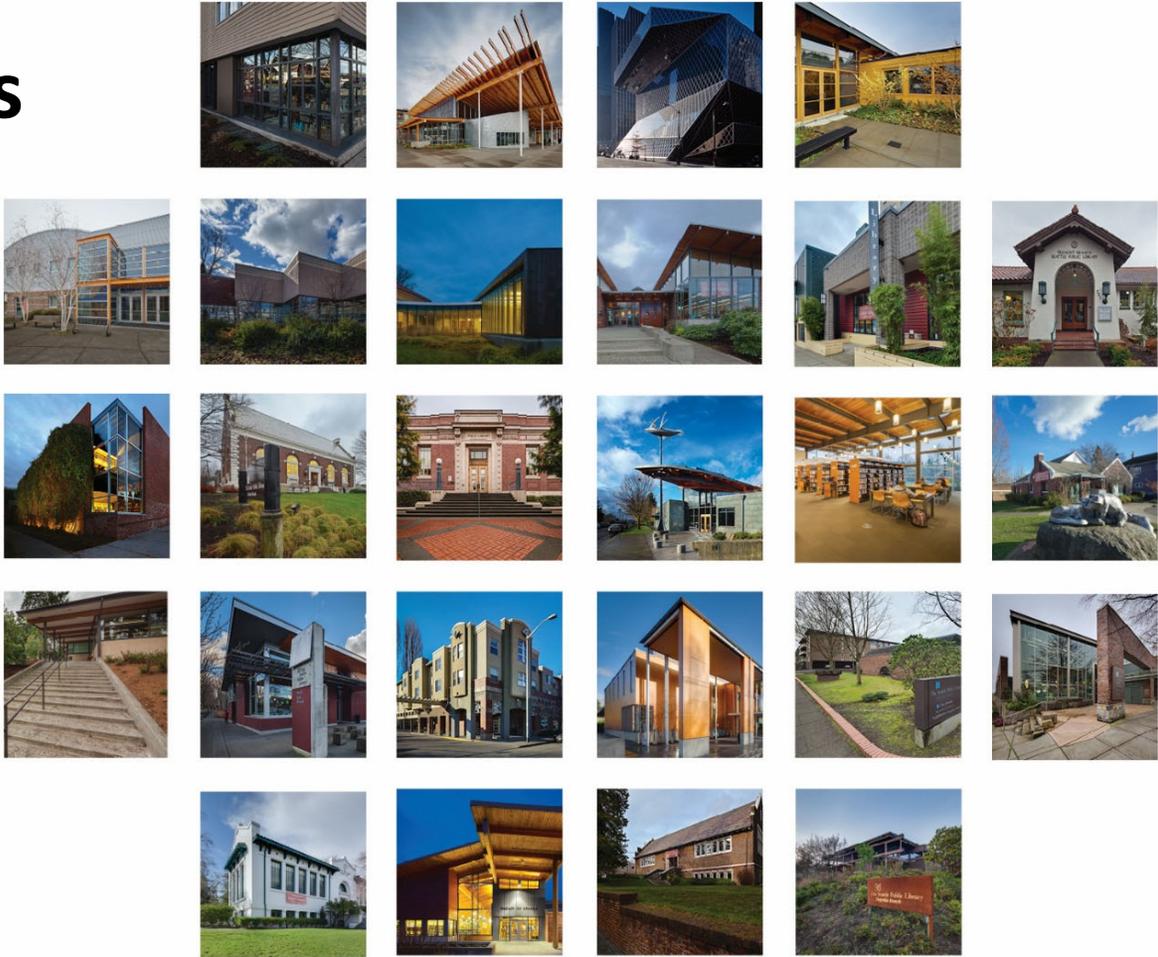
An introduction to The Seattle Public Library

March 2024



# Library Resources

- Central Library and 26 neighborhood branches
- Maintenance and Operations Center
- 677 wonderful Library staff
- 2019 Library Levy
- Fleet vehicles (including the Bookmobile!)





# Library Governance

Five-member Board of Trustees

Members serve five-year terms

Current members include:



**W. Tali Hairston**  
Board president  
2020-present



**Yazmin Medhi**  
Board vice-president  
2022-present



**Carmen Bendixen**  
2020-present



**Ron Chew**  
2016-present



**Jay Reich**  
2016-present  
Term expiring 2024





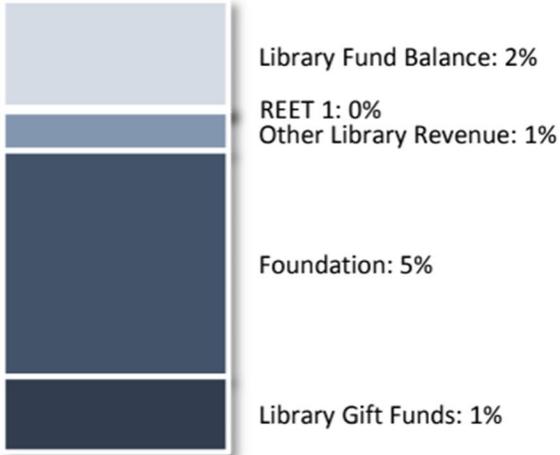
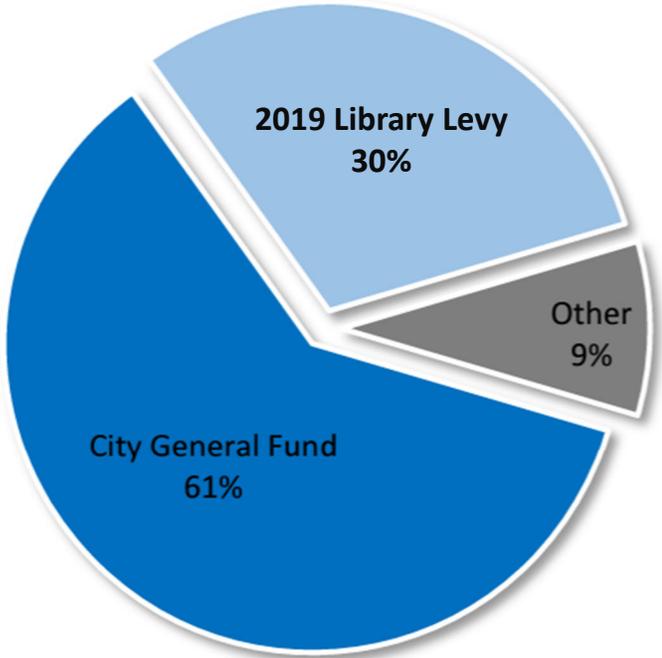
# Library Usage from 2023



- 281,000 active patrons in 12 months
  - A record high!
  - Over 75,000 new cardholders in 2023
- 2.8 million physical and digital in our collection
- 3,500 classes events and activities with 100,000 attendance
- Over 430,000 questions answered by Assisted Information Services
- 13.4 million physical and digital checkouts
- 341,000 Public Computer sessions



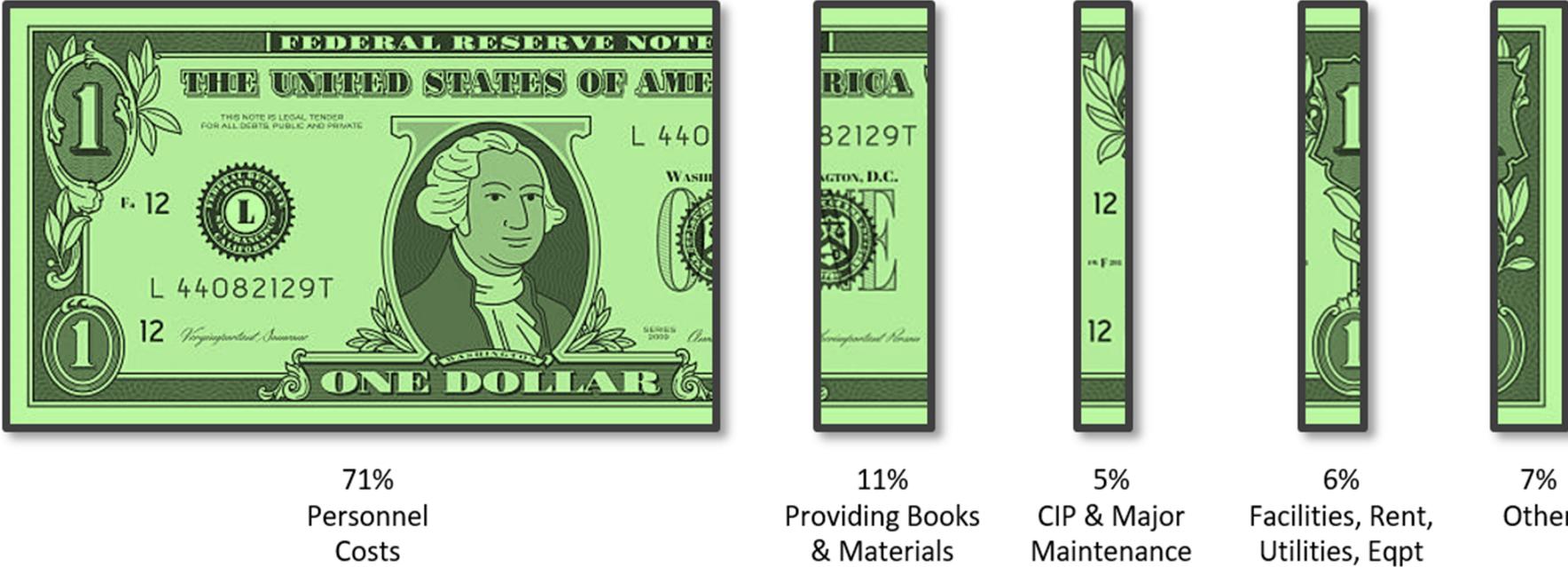
# 2024 Library Budget





# Library Budget

Figure 2: How \$1.00 is spent at the Library and the Proposed Budget



# Library Services



## Books and materials

- 2.8 million items in our collection
- 13.4 million total circulation in 2023



## Information and reference

- Over 430,000 questions answered in-library, by phone, and online through chat and email in 2023

# Library Services



## Programs for All Ages

- Free classes, events and activities at Library branches, in the community and online



## Special Collections

- Over 50,000 items documenting and exploring the culture and history of Seattle and the Pacific Northwest

# Library Services



## Mobile Services

- Monthly Bookmobile visits
- Home service and books by mail for those with long term illnesses

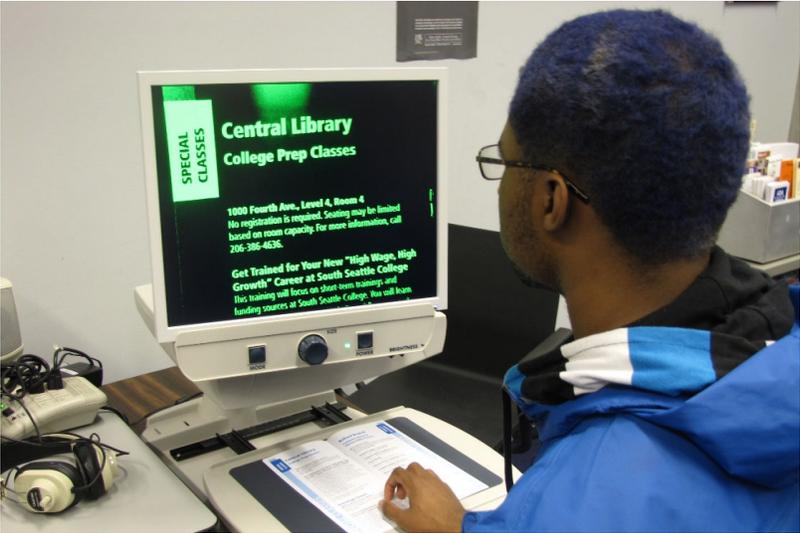


## Publicly Available Spaces

- Including study rooms, meeting rooms, music practice rooms and event rental spaces



# Library Services



## Library Equal Access Program

- Assistive equipment & software make it easier for people with vision, hearing and mobility impairments to use computers.



## Social Services Team

- Information and referrals to housing, mental health counseling, job training, food assistance, domestic violence support, transportation and more.

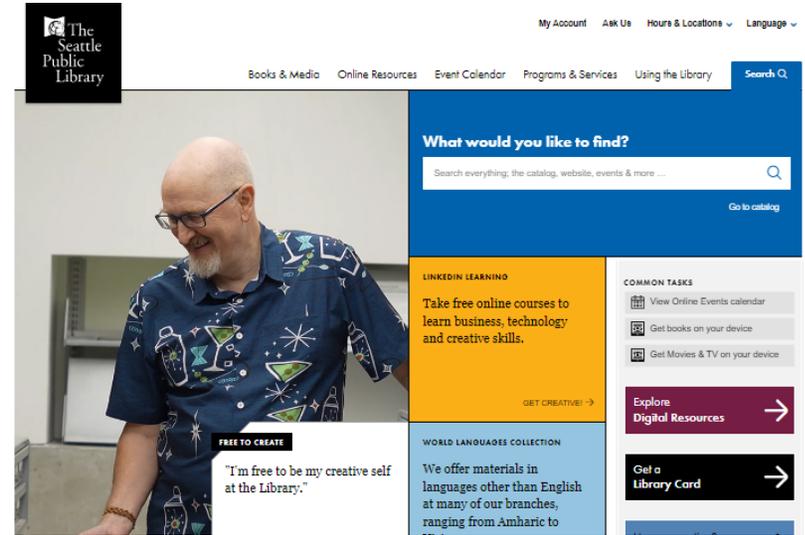


# Library Services



## Technology Access

- Computers, internet/Wi-Fi, tablets, printers, scanners, and fax machines, self-checkout and pick-up lockers



## The Library Online

- [www.spl.org](http://www.spl.org)
- 5.1 million visits in 2022

# Library Outreach and Engagement



## Encampment Support

- Outreach to sanctioned encampments, including Tiny House Villages
- Provider of Wi-Fi hotspot hubs



## Community Listening

- Ongoing work throughout the community
- Focused opportunities around strategic planning and Levy planning

# Challenges and Opportunities

## CHALLENGES

- Building maintenance
- Security
- Budget, which impacts:
  - Hours
  - Collections
  - Programming
  - Maintenance

## OPPORTUNITIES

- New 10-year Strategic Plan (2024-2034)
- Reopening Green Lake Branch
- New Library app this year
- New funding for electric vehicle chargers
- Other potential state and federal funds
- Renewal of the 2019 Library Levy

# Questions?

**Thank you!**