STEP AHEAD IDAHO AND LIBRARY! AT HILLCREST EXPANSION
Bid documents are being prepared by Trout Architects for the expansion and tenant improvements at the Hillcrest branch. Denise McNeley will be handling the bid process with Steve Trout and the City’s Purchasing division. The Step Ahead Idaho organization has finished their fundraising piece, and we hope to hold an announcement at Hillcrest in mid-November. The partnership will provide an additional meeting room for Library and Step Ahead use, as well as an entrance at the sidewalk. Staff will keep you posted on the progress and budget for the project. The current estimate for the entire project is approximately $500,000, with costs being shared by Step Ahead, the Library, and the Hillcrest shopping center owner.

MAIN LIBRARY/ARTS & HISTORY VISION PROJECT
Work continues on the concept and site design, as well as the building programs for the complex. Rob Bousfield will give you a complete report and schedule update during the Board meeting. The Request for Qualifications will be released mid-October and has been vetted by the leadership team. We hope to engage a firm by November, and begin the schematic design process and public feedback process in early winter related to concept design.

Chandra Ford and I have begun recruitment on a capital campaign “cabinet” or leadership team that can assist with the messaging and advocacy for the project. Proposals for a marketing firm to assist with messaging and branding of the project have been received and the selection process is underway. Denise McNeley and I are preparing a revised pro-forma operating budget, reflecting building program and concept/site design changes, for the Department of Finance and Administration to review and revise as appropriate.

On September 14, I met with the Mayor’s Council on Youth and Children, and shared the vision project scope with the group and obtained feedback from the Council. I will share some of the feedback with you during the Board meeting.

During September, Terri Schorzman and I conducted “Buzz Sessions” with staff to convey progress on the project and update staff on the schedule.

FALL SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS, AND MATHEMATICS (STEAM) CAMPS
The Library received $5,000 from the Micron Foundation in September to produce additional STEAM camps for children. The Youth Services and Information Services staff will be working on schedules and curriculum with partners as appropriate.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION $17 FOR ’17 CAMPAIGN
The Library Foundation’s annual fundraiser will begin around Thanksgiving and end around Christmas with social media interactions, print and mail brochures, and Foundation Directors staffing promotional booths at Library locations. Last year the Foundation raised over $42,000 with proceeds going toward the purchase of virtual reality stations for Library locations and other technology for
public use. This year, the Foundation has established a goal of $50,000 with proceeds designated for expanded STEAM programming, additions to the physical collection, coding resources for adults, and potentially a portable art display wall.

**STAFF IN-SERVICE DAY**
The annual In-service Day is scheduled for October 9 at the Library! at Bown Crossing. The full-day workshops will provide staff with training on interpersonal skills, customer service, and technology sharing, and provide an opportunity to update staff on Library trends and issues. Thank you, Trustees, for providing the staff with this day of sharing and learning. Please feel free to attend at any point during the day if you would like to observe the activities. A big thank you to Lindsay Zamara and her very capable team for planning and organizing this year’s event.

**ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS:**

**VIRTUAL REALITY AND 3D PRINTING AT MAIN**
Information Services staff hosted a Virtual Reality (VR) and 3D Printing Demo for a group of fourteen adults with developmental disabilities and their aides. They focused on an undersea theme for the visit. They demonstrated how to print sea creatures on the 3D printers and showed them “theBlu” on VR. One of the participants introduced himself to the fish as they floated by during the VR session. Another, showed an unexpected positive involvement in the experience.

**HARRY POTTER BOOK CLUB IN YOUTH SERVICES**
Young fans of quidditch, horcruxes, and all things Harry Potter are meeting once a month as part of Youth Services participation in J. K. Rowling’s Wizard World Book Club. The book club started in June with Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone and each month participants read the next book in the series. The book club is open to kids and teens.

**MEDIA MATTERS**
September was somewhat quiet in terms of media coverage. This will certainly change once we begin public outreach around the new Main Library project.

On that topic, we received four proposals from local creative agencies regarding assistance with messaging and branding. Our review/scoring team consists of representatives from the Library, Arts & History, Mayor’s Office, Community Engagement team, Chandra Ford, and Rob Bousfield. Two firms rose to the top, and the team will meet in early October to either award the contract or determine if we need to go out for new bids.

The Library did generate excellent media coverage via a story from KTVB. The piece began as a simple feature on one of our children’s programs, but then turned into a human-interest story around one of our veteran youth-services librarians. If you have not seen it, I encourage you to do so. The link is as follows, and is also on our Facebook page: [http://bit.ly/2xFIT46s](http://bit.ly/2xFIT46s).
Turning to social media, the Library continues to perform admirably. September 18 was national “Hide a Book Day,” and one of our staff members hid books all over downtown, posting clues on our Facebook and Instagram accounts as to where to find them. Once people found the books, they were asked to post about it on their own social media channels, and “tag” the Library. This clever effort was very well received and brought many smiles.