



# BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY

MAYOR: Lauren McLean | DIRECTOR: Jessica Dorr

## Boise Public Library Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Agenda Wednesday, September 10, 2025, 11:30 a.m. • Library! at Hillcrest, Butte Room, 5246 W. Overland Rd., Boise, ID 83705

Public can attend the meeting in person or via YouTube at the following link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJo0NAsCybsN0DtzuAl3LGA>

<b>BOARD OF TRUSTEES</b> Ron Pisaneschi, President Nicole Trammel Pantera, Vice President Evelyn Johnson Reshma Kamal Brian Klene	<b>MISSION</b> The Boise Public Library's mission is to provide access and opportunity for everyone by connecting people to ideas, information, and community.
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MAIN LIBRARY  
715 S. Capitol Blvd., Boise, Idaho 83702  
P: 208-972-8200 | TTY: 800-377-3529

LIBRARY! AT  
BOWN CROSSING  
P: 208-972-8360

LIBRARY! AT  
COLE & USTICK  
P: 208-972-8300

LIBRARY! AT  
COLLISTER  
P: 208-972-8320

LIBRARY! AT  
HILLCREST  
P: 208-972-8340

BOISE CITY COUNCIL: Colin Nash (President), Meredith Stead (President Pro Tem), Kathy Corless, Jimmy Hallyburton, Jordan Morales, Luci Willits

**BOISEPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG**

# AGENDA

## Boise Public Library Board of Trustees Regular/Annual Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, September 10, 2025, 11:30 a.m. • Library! at Hillcrest, Butte Room,  
5246 W. Overland Rd., Boise, ID 83705

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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJo0NAsCybsN0DtzuAI3LGA>

### 1. Call to Order and Introductions

### 2. Communications

Emails/letters from citizens in support of a library in West Boise received at time of publishing, September 5, 2025, 9:30 am.

### 3. Minutes-Action Item

a. August 13, 2025, Regular Meeting

### 4. Consent Agenda-Action Item

All matters on the consent agenda are considered routine and may be approved in a single motion. A trustee may ask that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.

#### a. Payment of Bills and Payroll

#### b. Financial Reports

Year-to-Date through July 31, 2025

Gift Fund activity for July 2025

### 5. Reports

a. Friends of the Boise Public Library

b. Boise Public Library Foundation

c. Library Director including administration and management

### 6. Requests for Reconsideration

Requests for the move, or removal of materials are brought to the Board for reconsideration at the Library Board President's discretion.

None

### 7. Educational Item

None

### 8. Old Business

#### a. Library Facilities Plan Update- Action Item

Staff will review the Library Facilities Plan for 2026-2045 with Trustees and seek approval and endorsement of the plan by the Board.

**Action:** approve, amend, or reject the Library Facilities Plan.

### 9. New Business

#### a. Selection of Meeting Dates for Fiscal Year 2026- Action Item

Per Idaho state code, the Board of Trustees is required to adopt and establish the regular board meeting schedule on an annual basis. A copy of the recommended schedule is included on page 75.

**Action:** The Board will make a motion to approve a Fiscal Year 2026 meeting schedule.

**10. Review, Amend, Repeal, or Adopt Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures**

Boise Public Library policies were reviewed monthly with the annual review completed at the August 13, 2025 meeting. Library Board bylaws will be reviewed at the meeting and can be found on pages 76-79. This is a discussion item only.

**11. Election of Officers for Fiscal Year 2026- Action Item**

Article IV, Section 1 of the Library Board of Trustees Bylaws states: *The Board shall elect at its annual meeting from its members a President and Vice President who shall serve for a term of one (1) year or until his/her successor is elected.*

**Action:** The Board will nominate and elect a president and vice president for a one-year term commencing October 2025.

**12. Selection of Trustee to Review Payment Vouchers**

Trustee review for vouchers by Pantera.

**13. Selection of Meeting Date**

Special joint meeting with City Council on October 14, 2025.  
Next regular meeting on Wednesday, November 12, 2025.

**14. Adjourn**

*Any person needing special accommodations to participate in the above notice meeting should contact the library administration office at 208-972-8258 no later than three working days before the scheduled meeting.*

# BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Library Director's Report

### September 2025

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#### Operations

##### *Hours and Services Status*

All locations experienced normal operations during August without the need for adjustments to hours or services for any reason.

##### *Library Board of Trustees*

##### **Library Tours**

On Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> Evelyn Johnson and Ron Pisaneschi toured all five Boise Public Library locations to meet staff, observe programming, and better understand Library operations.

##### **Fairwell to the First Floor**

On Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> Mayor Lauren McLean and Brian Klene attended the "[Fairwell to the First Floor](#)" community party to acknowledge the current configuration and to prep for upcoming construction. Activities included creating a one-year time capsule, iron-on decals featuring images from the story well mural, and the opportunity to write on the walls.



##### *Upcoming Opportunity for the Library Board of Trustees*

The Library Board is invited to attend the Boise Public Library In-Service Day (*Best In-Service Day Ever, Vol. II: Gather and Grow*) on Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at the Shrine Social Club. With a theme of "Growing Boise Citizens", we will focus on relationship building, futures thinking, and social engagement.

Library staff will begin arriving at 8am to check in, grab a light breakfast and mingle. At 8:30, our day will begin with a welcome and move into interactive sessions, community partner roundtable lunch, a keynote speaker at 1:15pm, and activities designed to connect teams across the system.

There are opportunities for trustees to engage throughout the day, including help to welcome and check in staff at the beginning of the day or joining a community partner at a lunch table for conversations. We will share with you a copy of our interactive program guide closer to the event.

#### Administration and Management Reports:

##### **Programming**

- Information Services prepared for the First Floor renovations by making room on the non-fiction shelves through pulling thousands of books to be stored in the Boise Attic Selections (BATS) collection or weeded. They moved the Idaho Reference collection to storage in under a week.
- [Boise Comic Arts Festival](#) (BCAF), XIII, was held at the Boise Centre on the Grove the last Saturday and Sunday of August. Watch for a summary in the October packet.

##### **Staff Development**

- Circulation and Youth Services teams cross-trained with Information Services to prepare for the collections and services move to the Second and Third Floors during renovations.



## Community Partners

- Library! at Bown Crossing partnered with Central District Health to add a Fit and Fall Proof class. All four neighborhood locations now offer a [Fit and Fall Proof](#) class.
- Staff worked with the Boise School District to schedule and accompany BCAF creators into classrooms to meet with students of all ages and talk about their careers in art.

## Communications

### Monthly Email Newsletter: [August](#)

- Sent August 4, 2025, 14,036 successful deliveries
- Content included articles on: BCAF, Downtown Library construction, Summer Reading survey, BPL Making a Difference with Library user Kylie and her toddler, information on the programming pauses, the Repair Café, Summer Free Swap, August event calendar, and Hoopla.
- 62.23% read the newsletter (8,734 read out of 14,036 sent) / Click Rate 4.63% (365)

### Ultimate Book Nerd Newsletter: [August UBN](#)

- Sent August 25, 2025, 1,201 successful deliveries
- Open/Read Rate: 66.03% (792) / Click Rate 5.8% (46)

### Public Service Advertising, Press Releases and Key Media Coverage

- Free billboard advertising for BCAF through Lamar Advertising, beginning August 4, 2025, worth \$10,000. Four different locations throughout Boise. Example from 12050 Franklin Road below.



- [KTVB](#) Morning News, KTVB News at Six and KTVB News at Five – The 208 all covered the Downtown Library closure/construction project.
- [KIVI story](#) on the Downtown Library construction by Riley Shoemaker.
- [Boise Public Library to close briefly as renovations begin | Boise State Public Radio.](#)
- [Downtown Boise library announces temporary closure at start of September | Local News | idahopress.com](#)
- CBS2 covered the Farewell to the First Floor Party.
- [KTVB News and Wake Up Idaho Stories](#) on West Boise resident request for a Boise Public Library.
- Several BoiseDev articles on Downtown Library construction and Farewell to the First Floor party.
- Boise Comic Arts Festival Stories on [KTVB News](#).
- *From Boise* covered a story on BCAF.

## *Social and Other Marketing Activities*

- Social
  - Facebook
    - 740% increase in month-over-month page impressions (50,153 vs. 5,974)
    - 1.1k% increase in month-over-month page engagements (2,291 vs. 189)
    - 58.8% increase in month-over-month post engagement rate (6.48% vs. 4.08%)
    - 0.3% increase in month-over-month page fans (16,315 vs. 16,273)
  - Instagram
    - 65.5% increase in post engagement (778 v. 470)
    - 29.% increase in post engagement rate (8.15% vs. 6.29%)
    - 1.8% increase in followers (7,283 vs. 7,151)
- Other
  - Internal and external City of Boise articles on the Downtown Library construction project, closure, and Farewell to the First Floor party
  - Completed the Fall Programming Guide
  - Completed signage for the Downtown Library construction period, as well as web updates and social posts
  - Various website and collateral updates

## Library Board of Trustee Meeting Cadence

September 10, 2025

Month	Board	Budget	Reporting
October			
November	Library closure schedule for upcoming calendar year	Rebudget and encumbrance request	
December	Director annual performance review begins	Past fiscal year-end report	Certification of ICfL annual report
January			Annual report to the community
February			
March	Director annual performance review complete		
April		Upcoming fiscal year forecast	
May		Ada Community Library Annexation Compensation Agreement	
June		Upcoming fiscal year budget approval	
July			Mid-year Strategic Plan check-in
August			
September	Annual Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board meeting schedule for upcoming fiscal year</li> <li>• Selection of officers</li> <li>• Review of bylaws</li> </ul>		

Ongoing:

- Policy Review
  - This will include at some point during the year an in-depth presentation about Collection Development
- Interim Budget Changes

# DOWNTOWN LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS, COLE & USTICK BOOK SORTER & LIBRARY FACILITIES PLANNING PROJECT STATUS REPORT

<b>Project Start Date:</b>	<b>Summer 2022</b>	<b>Estimated Finish Date:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Project Manager:</b>	<b>Lindsay Erb</b>	<b>Department:</b>	<b>Library</b>

## PROJECT STATUS:

<b>Period Covered:</b>	August 2025
<b>Project Summary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Downtown Library</u> numerous major repair and maintenance items that need to be addressed to give the library another 20+ years of life, along with space reconfigurations to better serve the public. This work will consist of a program of projects to occur over several years based on project prioritization and budget.</li> <li>▪ <u>Cole &amp; Ustick Library</u> new book auto sorter and tenant improvements.</li> <li>▪ <u>Library Facilities Master Planning</u> to address facilities needs for the next 20 years which will be utilized to aid in future decisions about location, size, design and functions of library facilities as well as to better understand staffing needs and potential funding options.</li> </ul>
<b>DOWNTOWN LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE</b>	<p><b><u>1<sup>st</sup> Floor Renovations and Deferred Maintenance:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Project Scope: Includes 1<sup>st</sup> story portion of building only which includes renovations to information desk, Hayes auditorium, collections, and youth services areas.</li> <li>✓ Deferred maintenance / building systems upgrades will be part of this project scope which includes updates and modifications to the existing mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire alarm.</li> </ul> <p>Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First floor GMP approved by Council</li> <li>• Construction start is estimated to begin September 2025 dependent on lead times / submittal / bid results and budget review.</li> <li>• Pre-Construction logistics finalized with PW / Library leadership team.</li> <li>• Furniture Planning is ongoing.</li> <li>• Exterior Facade and Window improvements scope of work will go out to bid in the spring FY26.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Major Parking Lot Replacement</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Project Scope: Includes replacing existing parking lot storm drainage system and reconfiguring vehicular access, circulation, parking, bike / pedestrian traffic, geothermal line replacement feeding library, landscaping, and site amenities (Book Drop location).</li> <li>✓ South end of parking lot to be completed late Summer 2025 per status update below.</li> </ul> <p>Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schematic design is complete, and pricing received from CM Co for FY27 budget request preparation.</li> <li>• The South end of parking lot will be completed with CCDC work at Anne Frank Memorial and greenbelt re-alignment project at end of 8<sup>th</sup> Street to tie geothermal line connecting Capitol Blvd and 8<sup>th</sup> Street</li> </ul>

	<p>lines into existing line feeding the library. Construction is currently underway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New geo-thermal service line being installed on north side of the parking lot. Coordination between Guho and CM Co ongoing for connection inside the building. Work to be completed by September 7, 2025.</li> <li>• Engagement with Arts and History and Community Engagement has begun to support existing and future art opportunities and wayfinding signage</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Brick repairs/ Window Replacements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Project Scope: Repair exterior cracks in mortar &amp; window replacement for 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> floors.</li> </ul> <p>Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Out to bid in early spring '26.</li> <li>• Work is tentatively planned to begin Spring 2026, pending budget is aligned with bidding climate.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Elevator Upgrades – 4 story</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Project Scope: Upgrade elevator in 4 story with an MRL traction system. This will remove the hydraulic mechanics and replace car completely to have a better overall performance and eliminate the risk of down time due to unexpected underground leaks. There is anticipated energy savings with this type of installation.</li> </ul> <p>Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elevator report was completed in 2022 with recommendations for elevator improvements over the next 4-7 years.</li> <li>• Design has begun. Permit submission slated for mid-summer 2025 with bidding to start Fall 2025 to accommodate the lead times for elevators and align construction with 1<sup>st</sup> floor closure.</li> </ul>
<p><b>COLE &amp; USTICK AUTOSORTER UPDATE</b></p>	<p><b>Scope:</b> Installation of new book auto sorter and tenant improvements to accommodate new auto sorter and staff model update and associated furniture needs.</p> <p>Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AutoSorter delivery and installation is scheduled for end of September 2025.</li> <li>• Tenant improvements underway, set to be finished end of September.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LIBRARY FACILITIES PLANNING UPDATE</b></p>	<p><b>Scope:</b> Assess space utilization, develop and implement a community engagement process to ensure alignment with strategic planning goals and the community, develop recommendations/ alternatives to close the gap with cost estimates, develop various models for new facilities including recommended approach and locations, sizes, and types which includes options for phasing and preparing a 20-year implementation schedule.</p> <p>Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facility Plan is under review by the Board with final review with Board anticipated at September Board meeting. Facility Plan will be in front of Council in October.</li> </ul>

<b>Overall Project Health</b>	<p><b>Summary:</b></p> <p><b>Downtown Library:</b> 1<sup>st</sup> floor renovations with deferred maintenance items are anticipated to be completed by fall of 2026.</p> <p>Major parking lot replacement construction is estimated to begin in fiscal year 2027 when funding is available.</p> <p><b>Cole &amp; Ustick Library:</b> On budget, schedule of delivery has aligned better with construction which is anticipated in fall of 2025.</p> <p><b>Library Master Facilities Planning:</b> On budget &amp; schedule</p>
<b>Highlights</b>	<p><b>Downtown Library:</b> Estimated construction start for early fall. Move preparations are underway. Facility Master Plan has been shared with City Council, Library Board of Trustees, and public.</p> <p><b>Cole &amp; Ustick Library:</b> Construction began in early August with delivery of auto sorter scheduled for install in the fall of 2025.</p> <p><b>Library Master Facilities Planning:</b> Master Facility Plan is in review by Board of Trustees.</p>

#### **PROJECT COMPONENTS:**

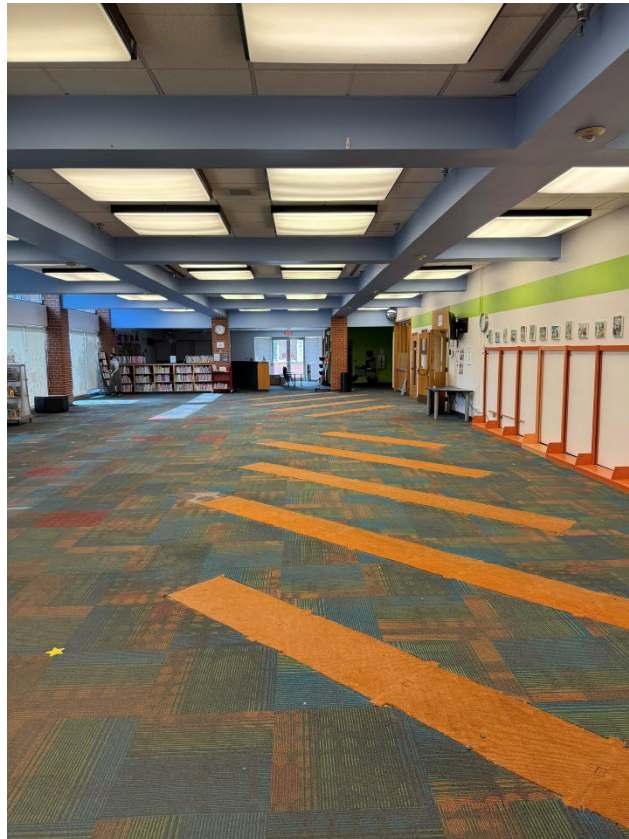
<b>Component</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Scope</b>	Public Works is continuing to review the program of projects to determine proper prioritization based on the information provided in the condition assessment report, efficiencies, and budget.
<b>Budget</b>	The budget will continue to be monitored as we receive estimates and bids to determine the work that can be completed this fiscal year. We have City contingency set aside for each project to ensure we have funding for any potential change orders during construction.
<b>Schedule</b>	Any project specific schedule delays will be noted in the bid package updates section.
<b>Risks</b>	Construction market challenges, including finding multiple bidders and pricing. 1 <sup>st</sup> floor renovation project will include deferred maintenance and full electrical replacement for the building. Electricians are in high demand with large scale projects under construction in the valley. Pending tariffs could cause spikes in construction costs.
<b>Resources</b>	

#### **SCOPE MANAGEMENT:**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>Accomplished</b>	<p>Downtown Library:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auto sorter room construction</li> <li>• Roof replacement &amp; lighting upgrades along parapet</li> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> floor &amp; partial 1<sup>st</sup> floor tenant improvement</li> <li>• Minor Parking Repairs</li> <li>• East &amp; West stair railing work</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visioning work to establish alignment for interior design materials &amp; finishes</li> <li>• Fire pump replacement</li> <li>• Restroom/ plumbing construction work (1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> floors- 4 Story Portion)</li> </ul>
<b>Planned</b>	Downtown Library: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> floor renovations and building systems upgrades</li> <li>• Exterior brick repairs/ window replacements</li> <li>• Major parking lot replacement</li> <li>• Elevator Replacement</li> </ul>

### September sneak peak....







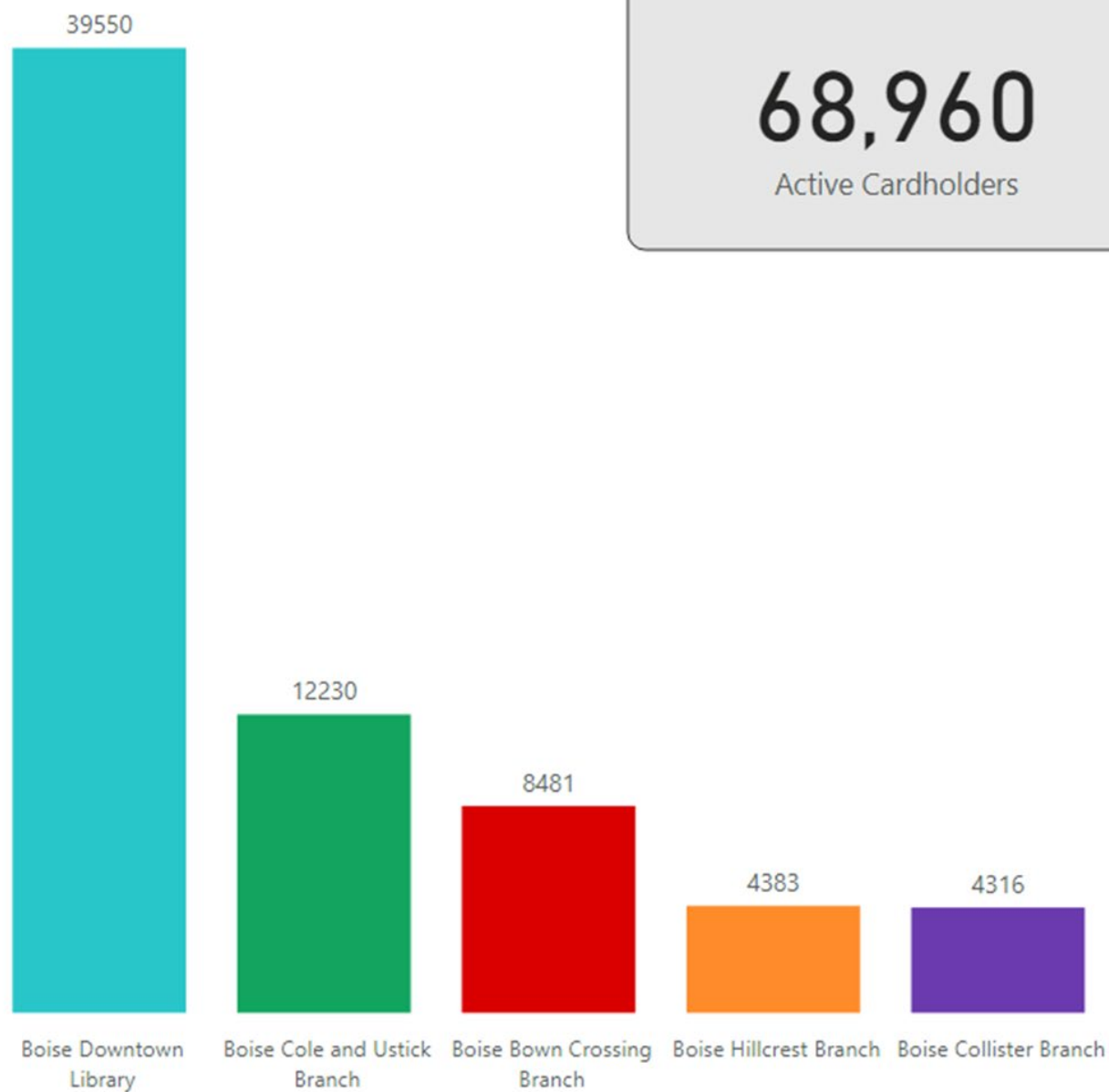
# BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Statistics Report to the Board of Trustees | September 2025

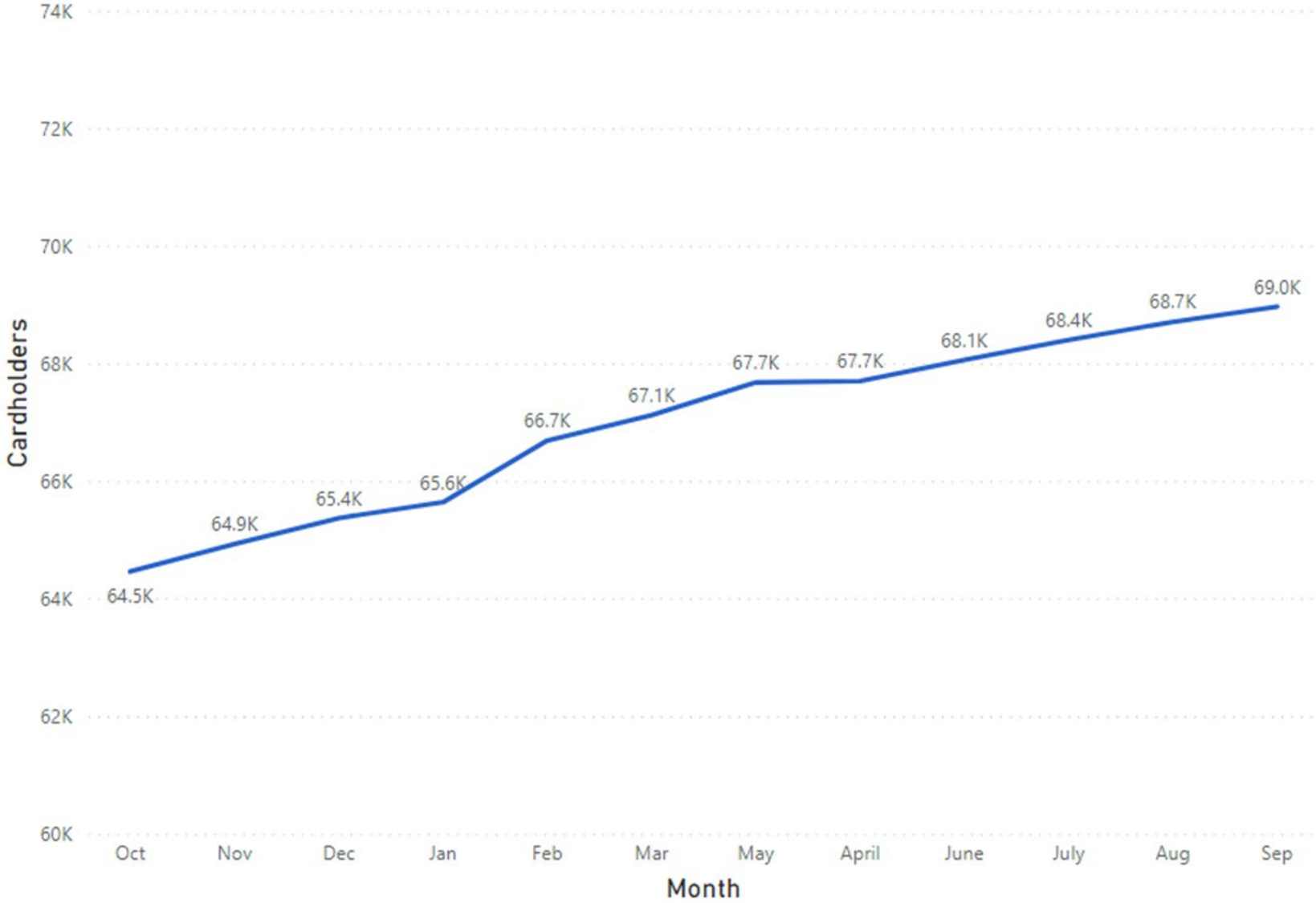


# Active Cardholders

## Active Card Holders

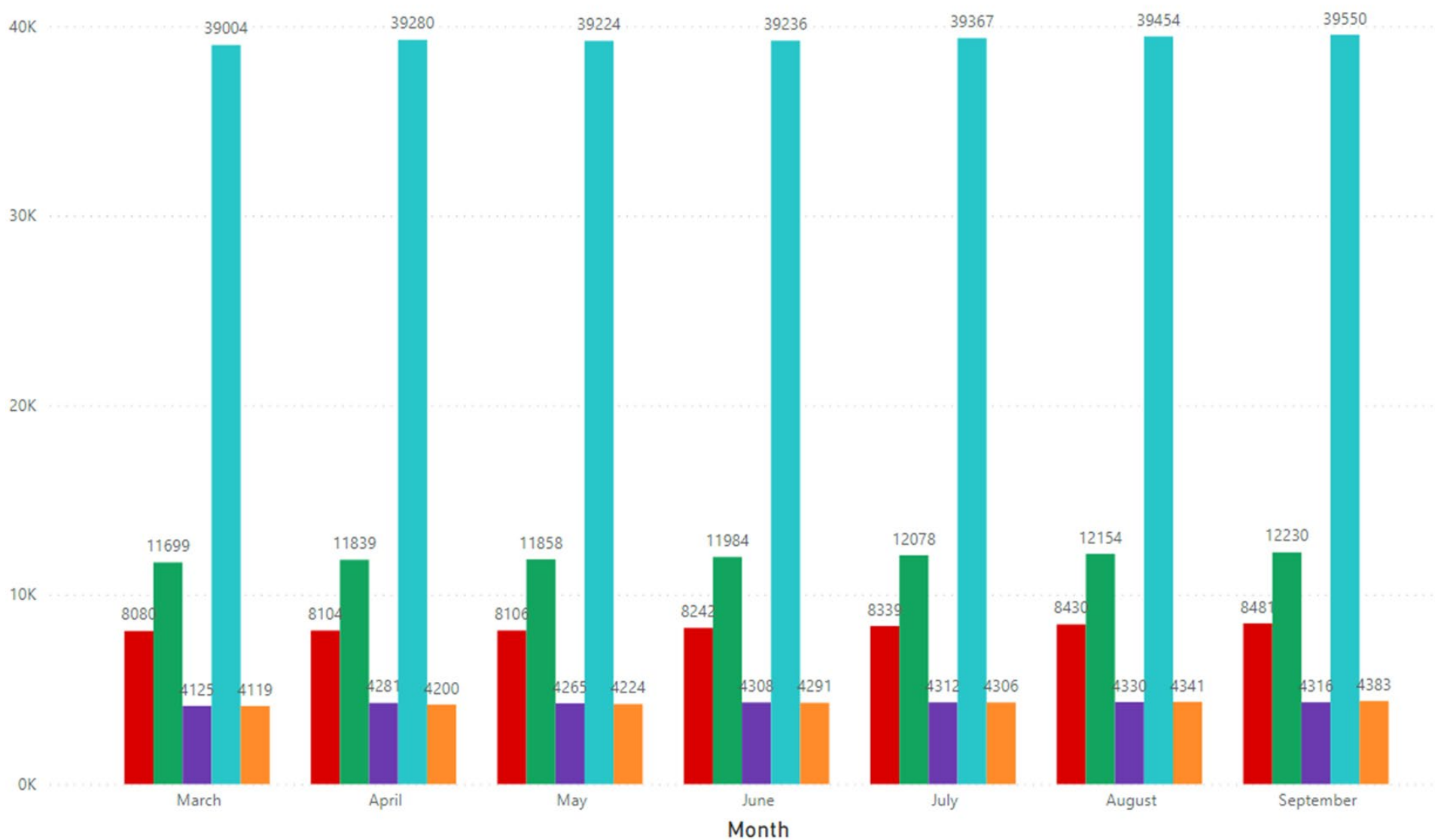


Cardholders by Month FY25



## Active Cardholders by Month and Branch

Branch ● Bown Crossing ● Cole and Ustick ● Collister ● Downtown ● Hillcrest



# In-Person Visits

495,854

YTD through Last Month

59,090

Prior Month

60,783

Prior Month Prior Year

-3%

Month Percent Change

687,149

YTD Fiscal

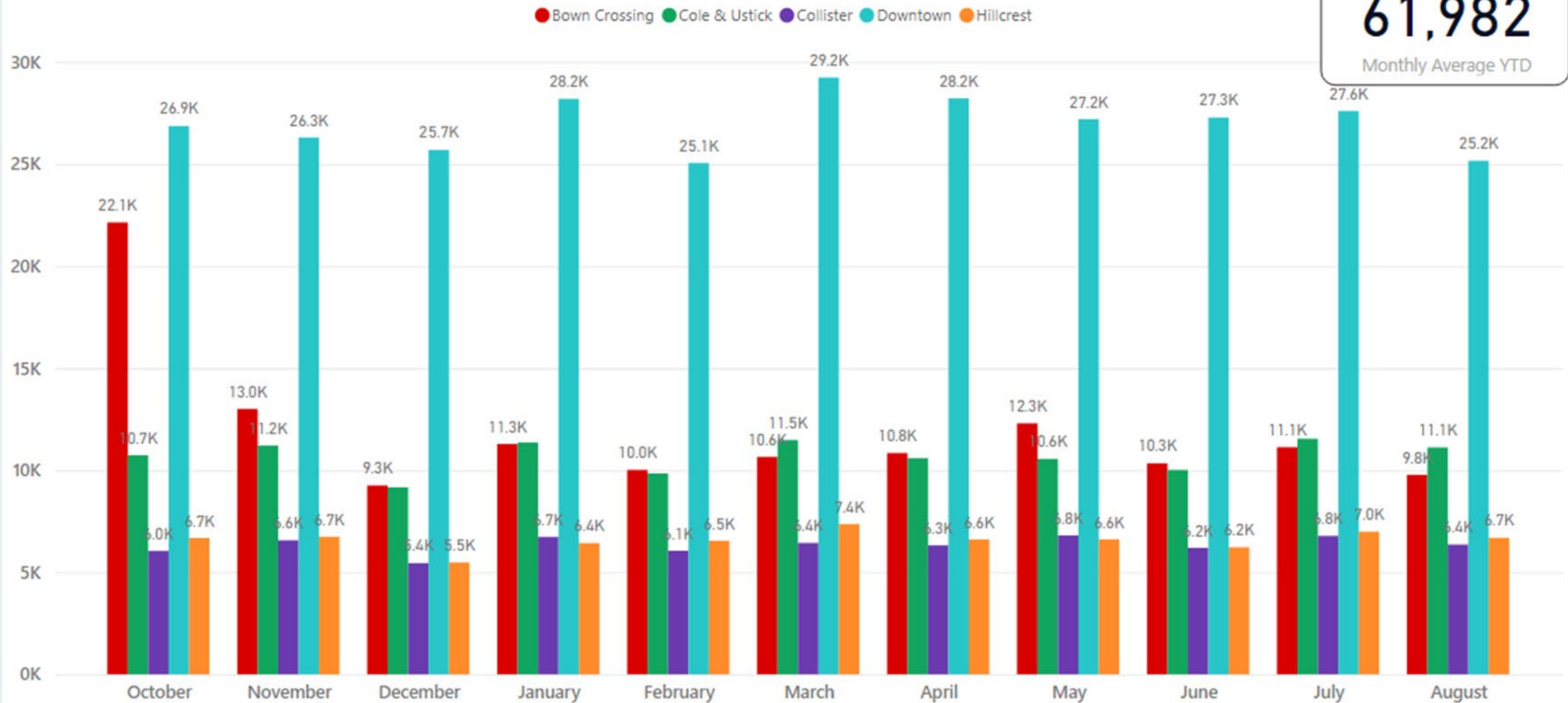
657,210

LastYTD Fiscal

+5%

YTD Percent Change

## In-Person Visits Fiscal Year25



61,982

Monthly Average YTD

59,090

Prior Month

60,783

Prior Month Prior Year

-3%

Month Percent Change

687,149

YTD Fiscal

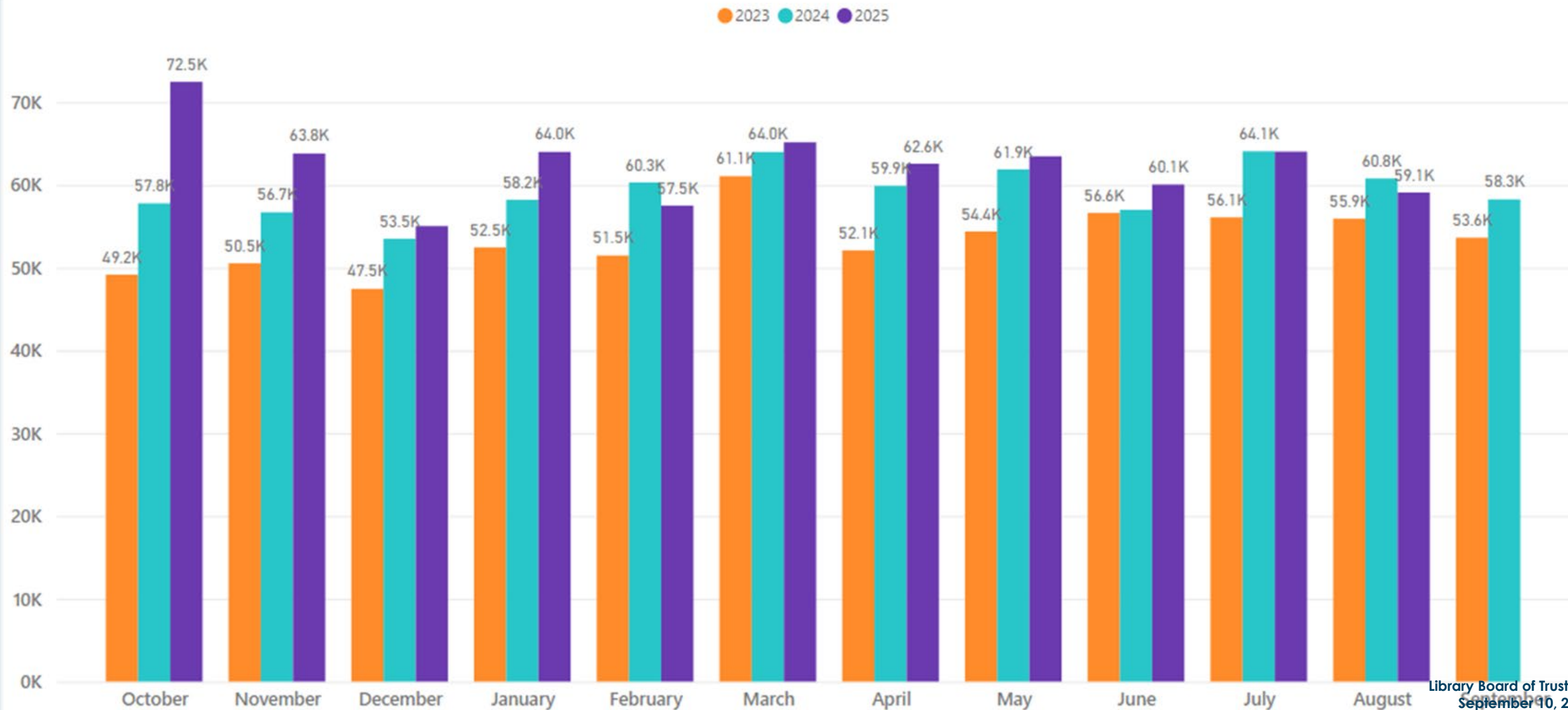
657,210

LastYTD Fiscal

+5%

YTD Percent Change

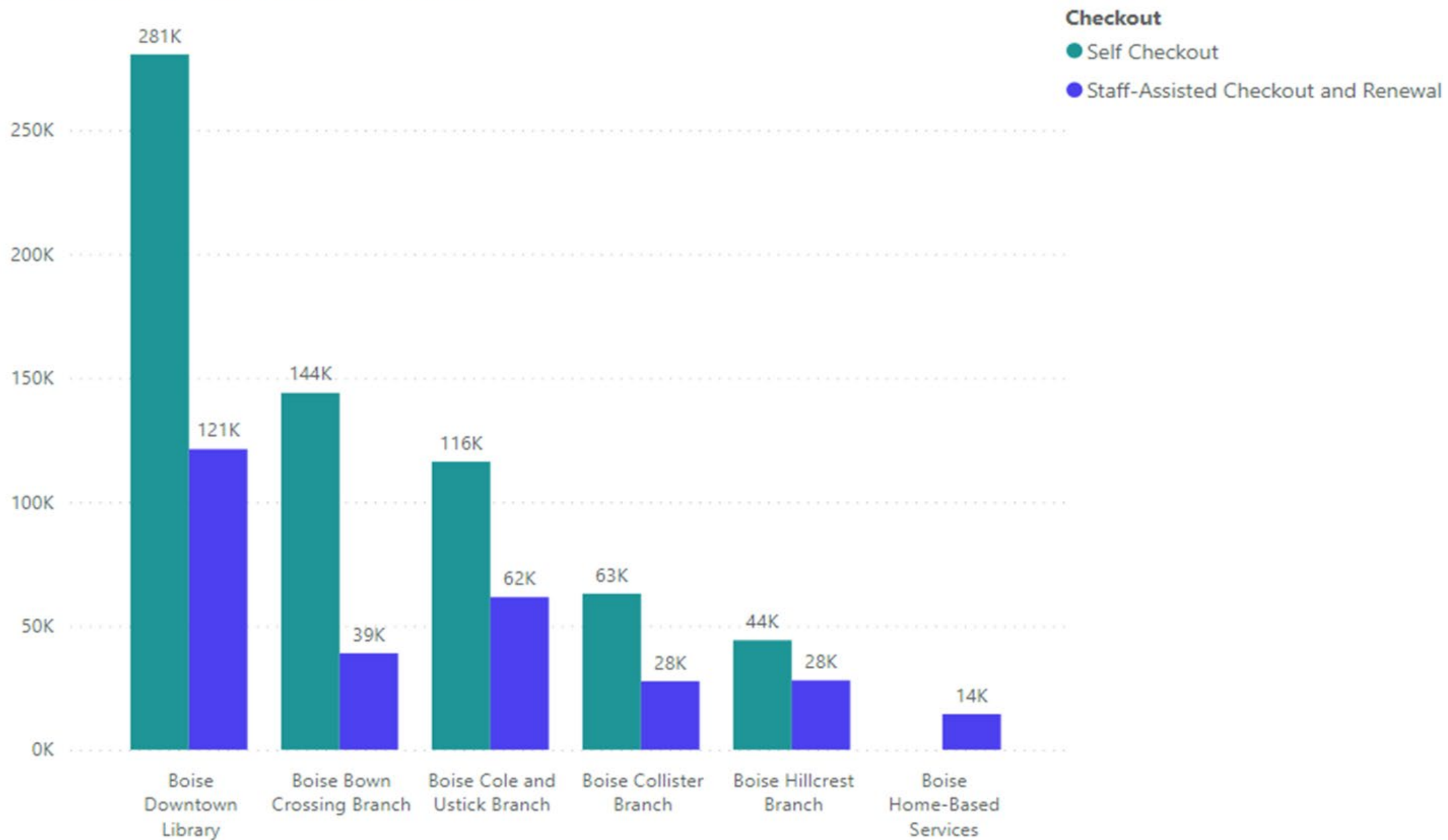
### Total In-Person Visits by Year



# Physical Circulation

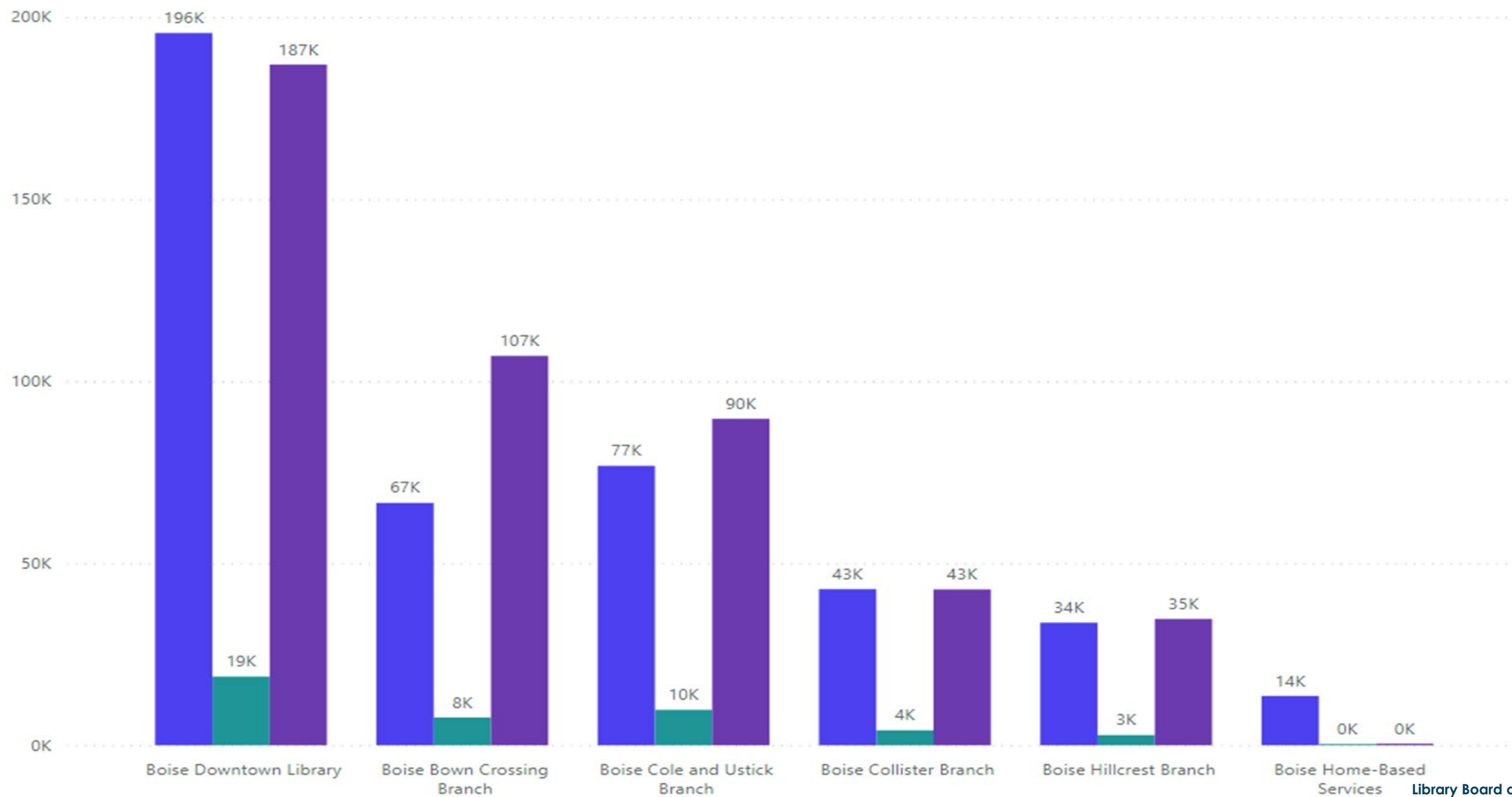


## Physical Circ by Location FYTD25

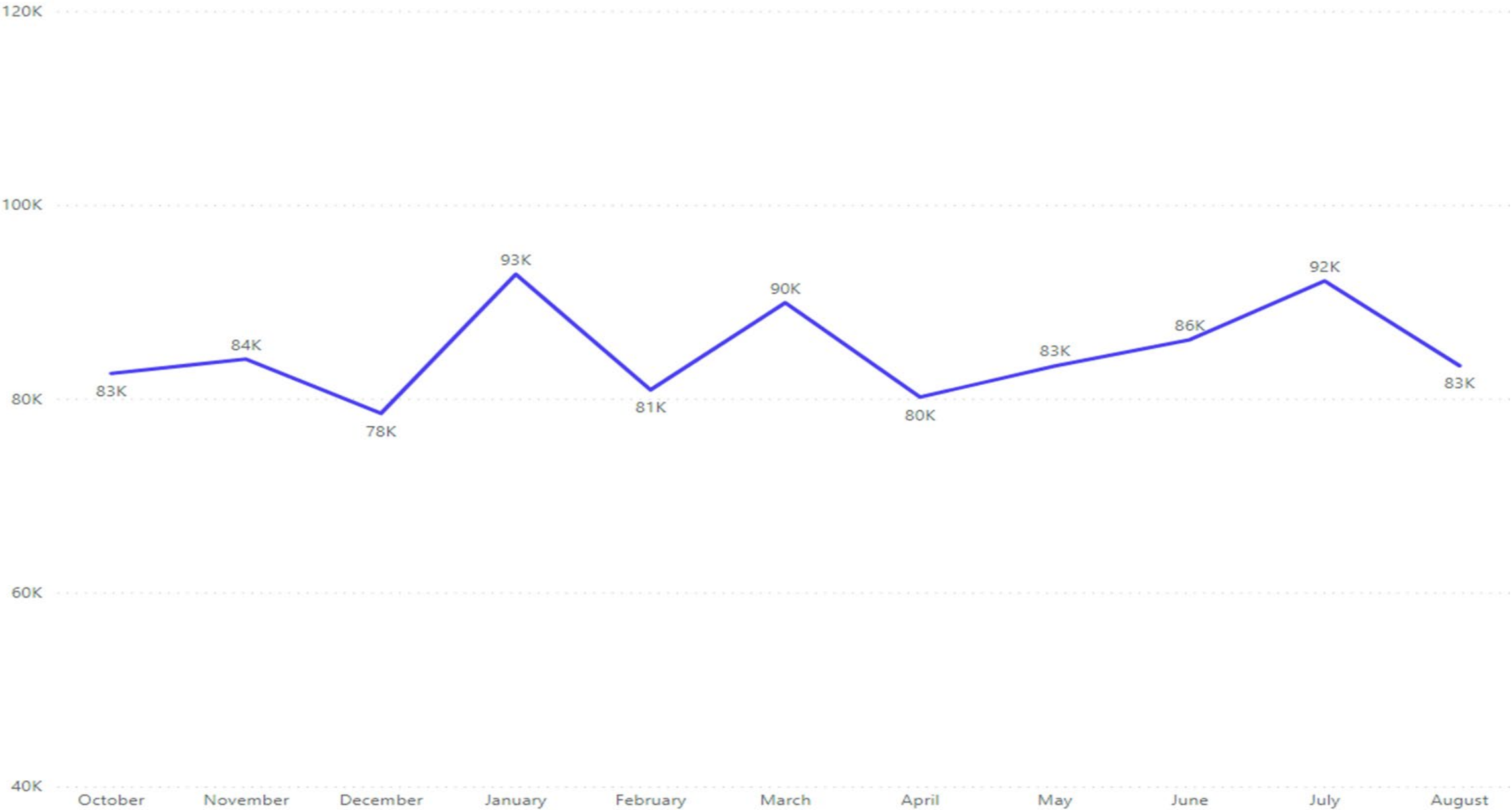


## Physical Circulation by Audience FYTD '25

**Audience** ● Adult ● Teen ● Youth

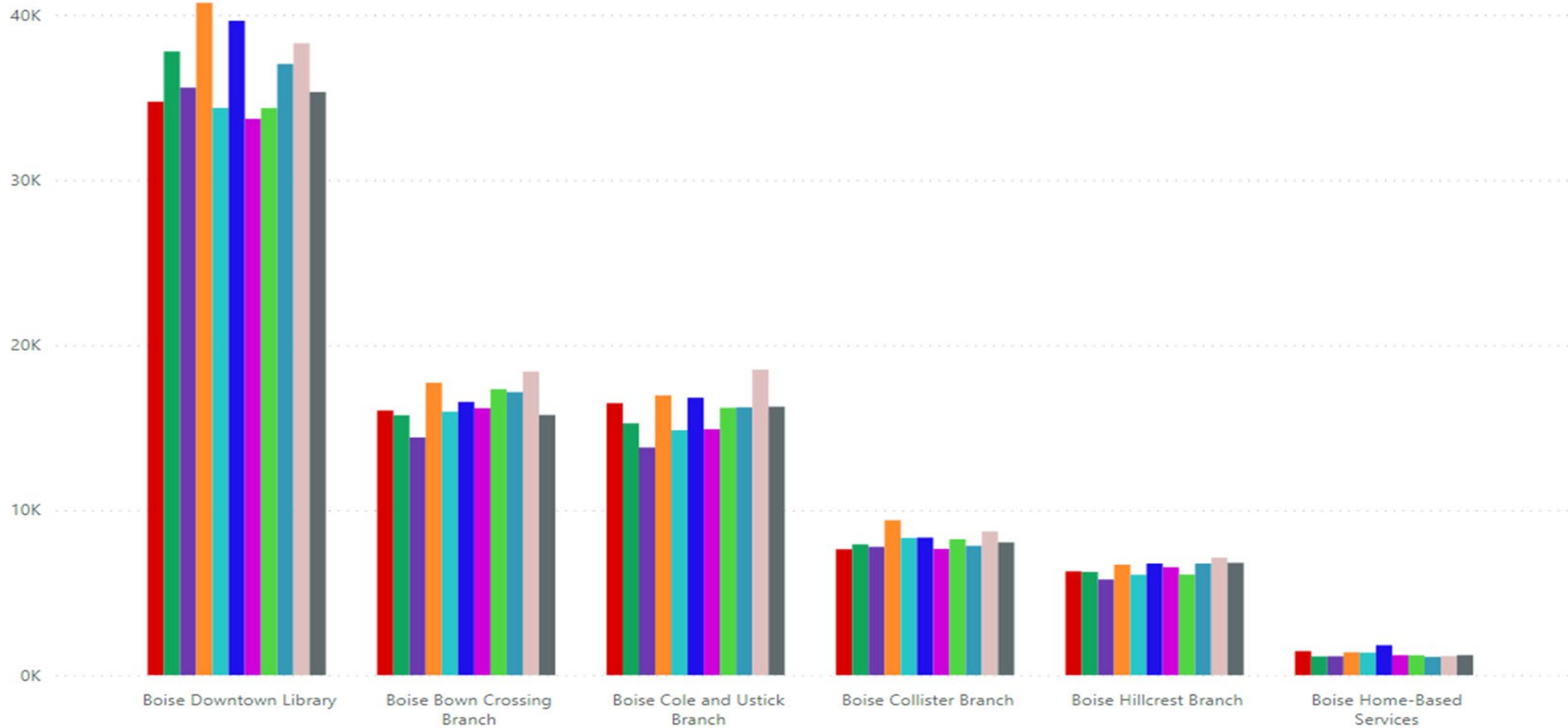


Physical Circulation - Fiscal Year '25



Physical Circulation for Fiscal Year '25

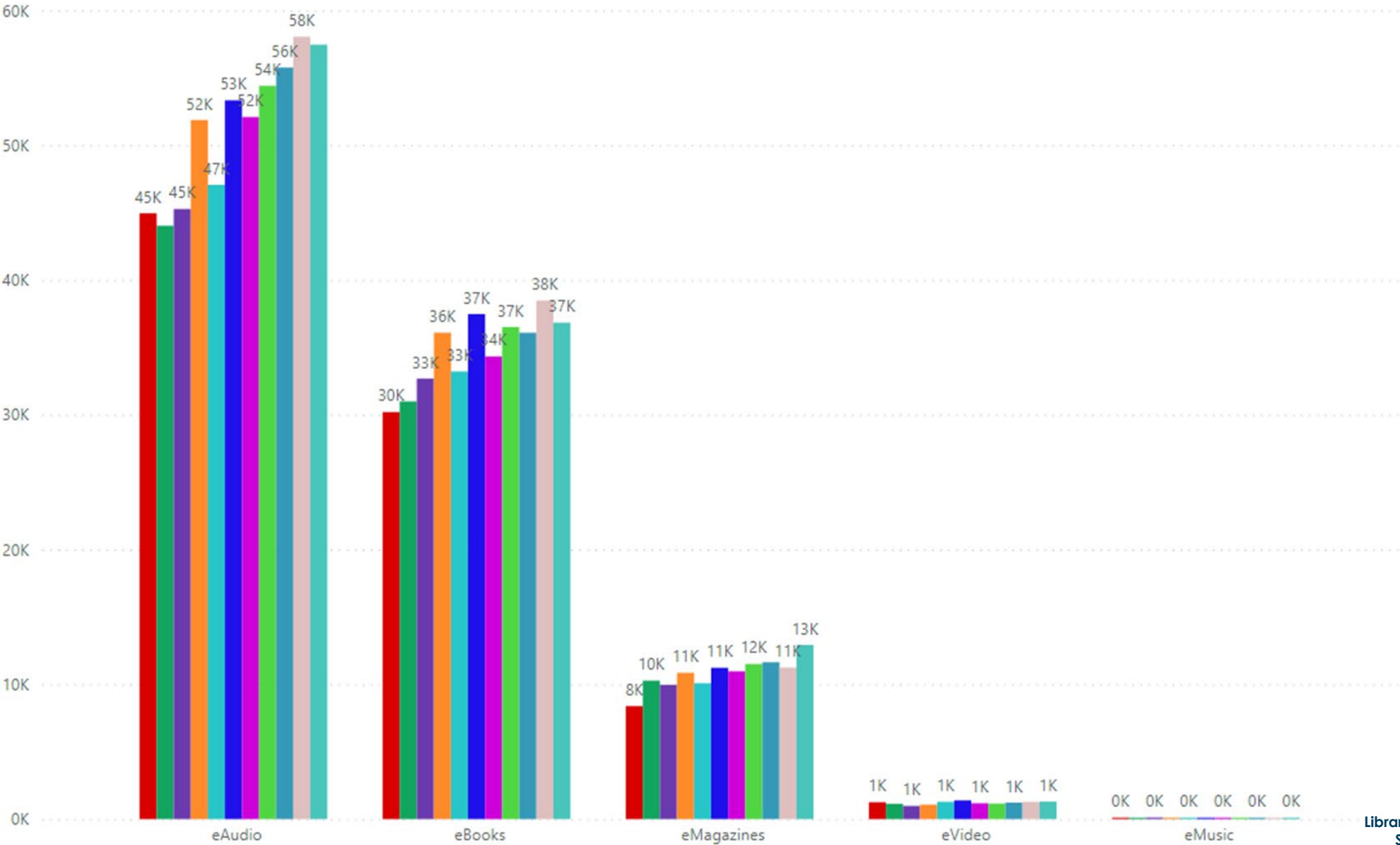
Month ● October ● November ● December ● January ● February ● March ● April ● May ● June ● July ● August



# Digital Circulation

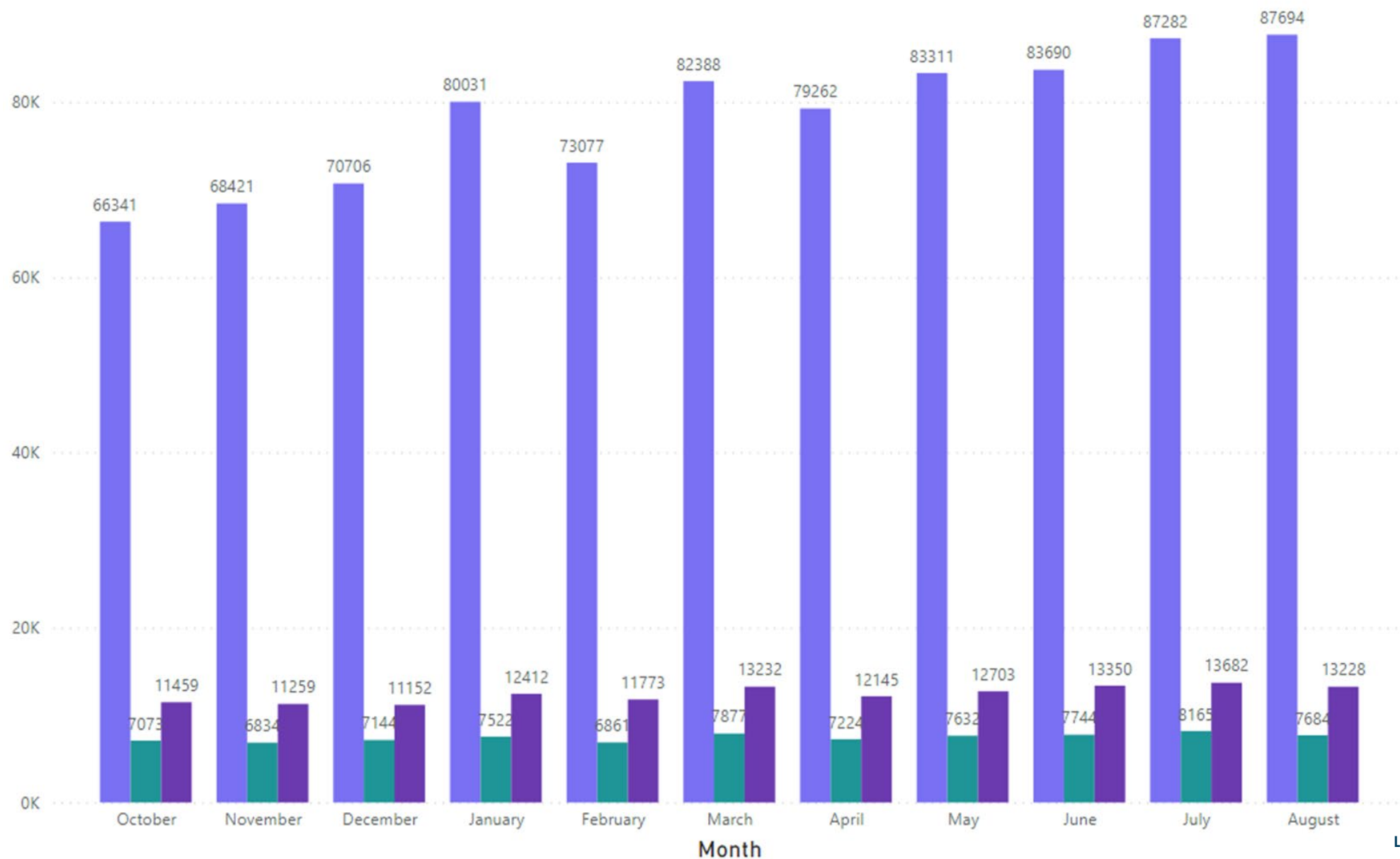
Digital Circulation by Format FY '25

Month ● October ● November ● December ● January ● February ● March ● April ● May ● June ● July ● August



## Digital Audiences by Month - FY25

Audience ● Adult ● Teen ● Youth



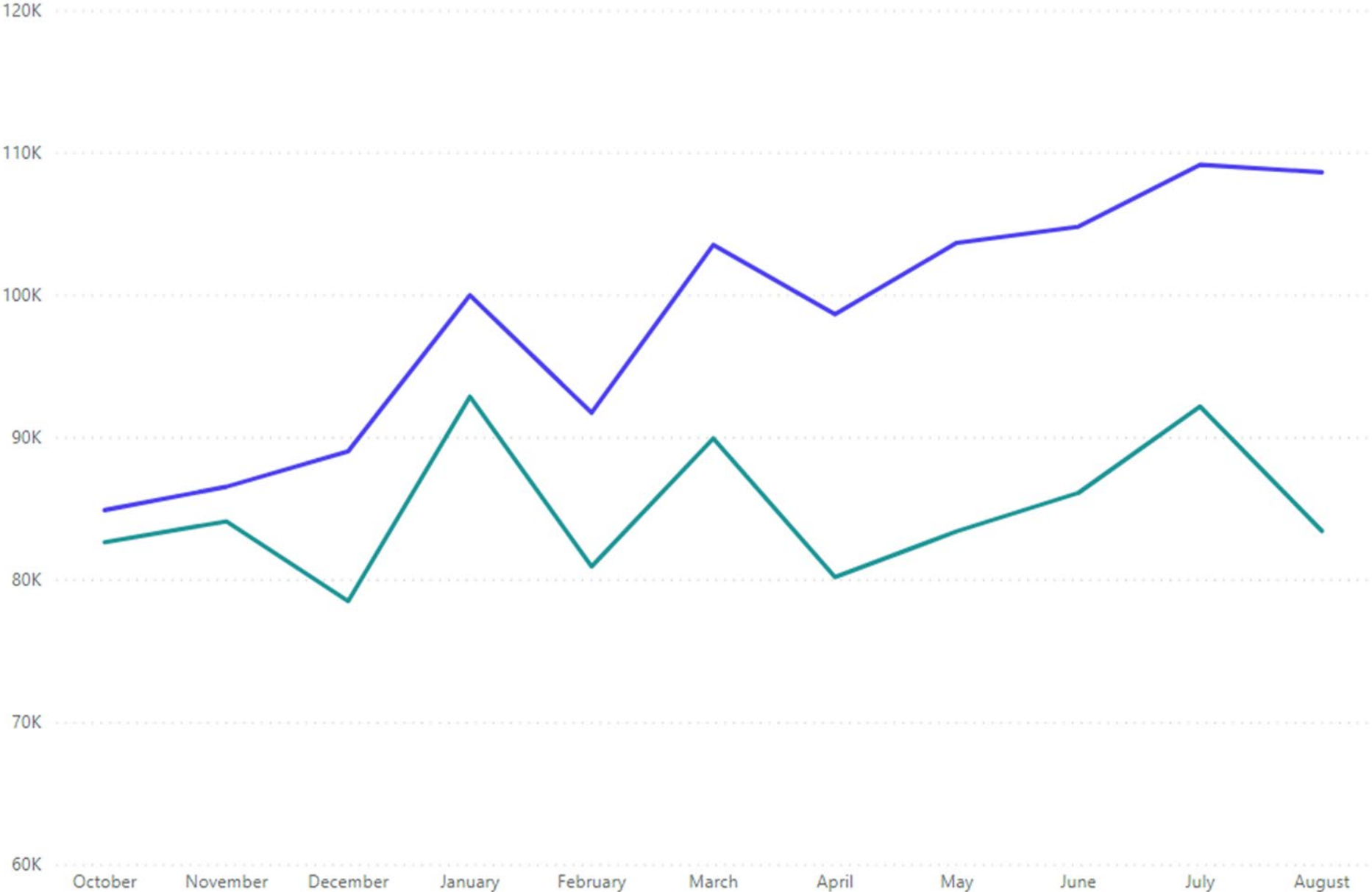
## Digital Circulation by Month - FY25





Physical and Digital Circulation FY25

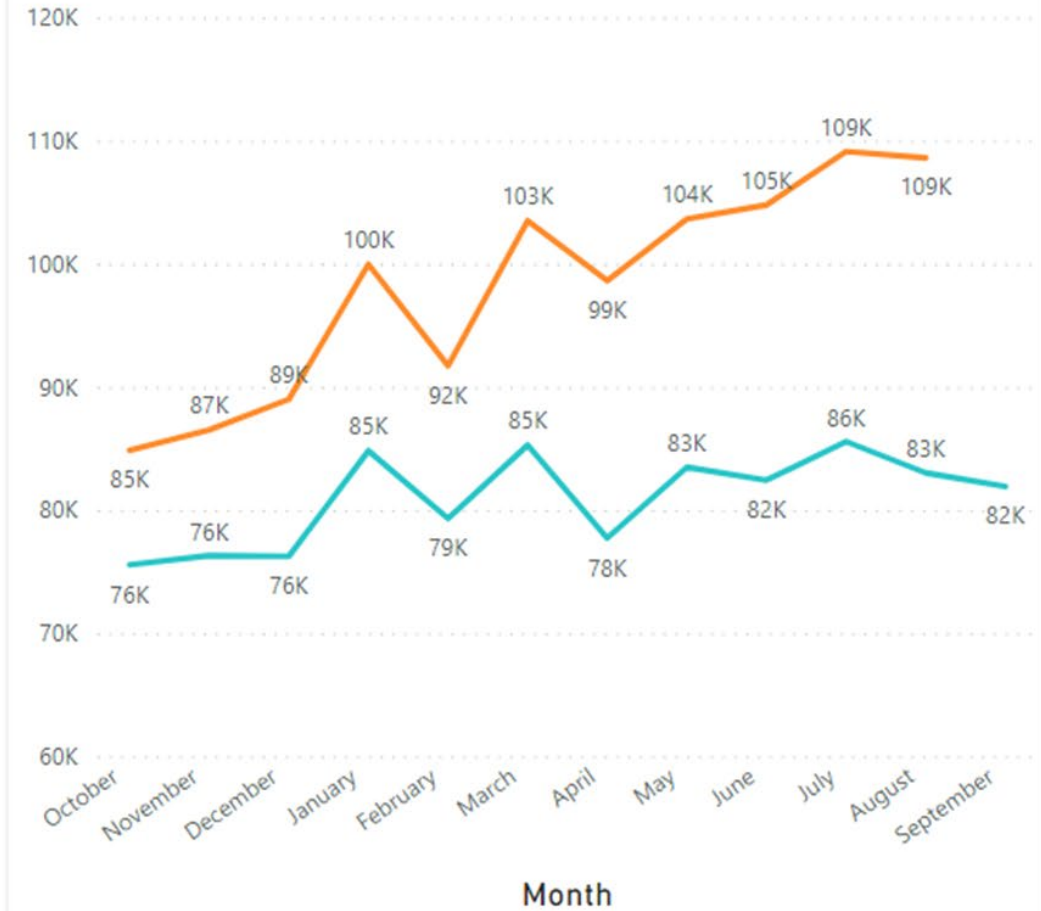
Digital Physical





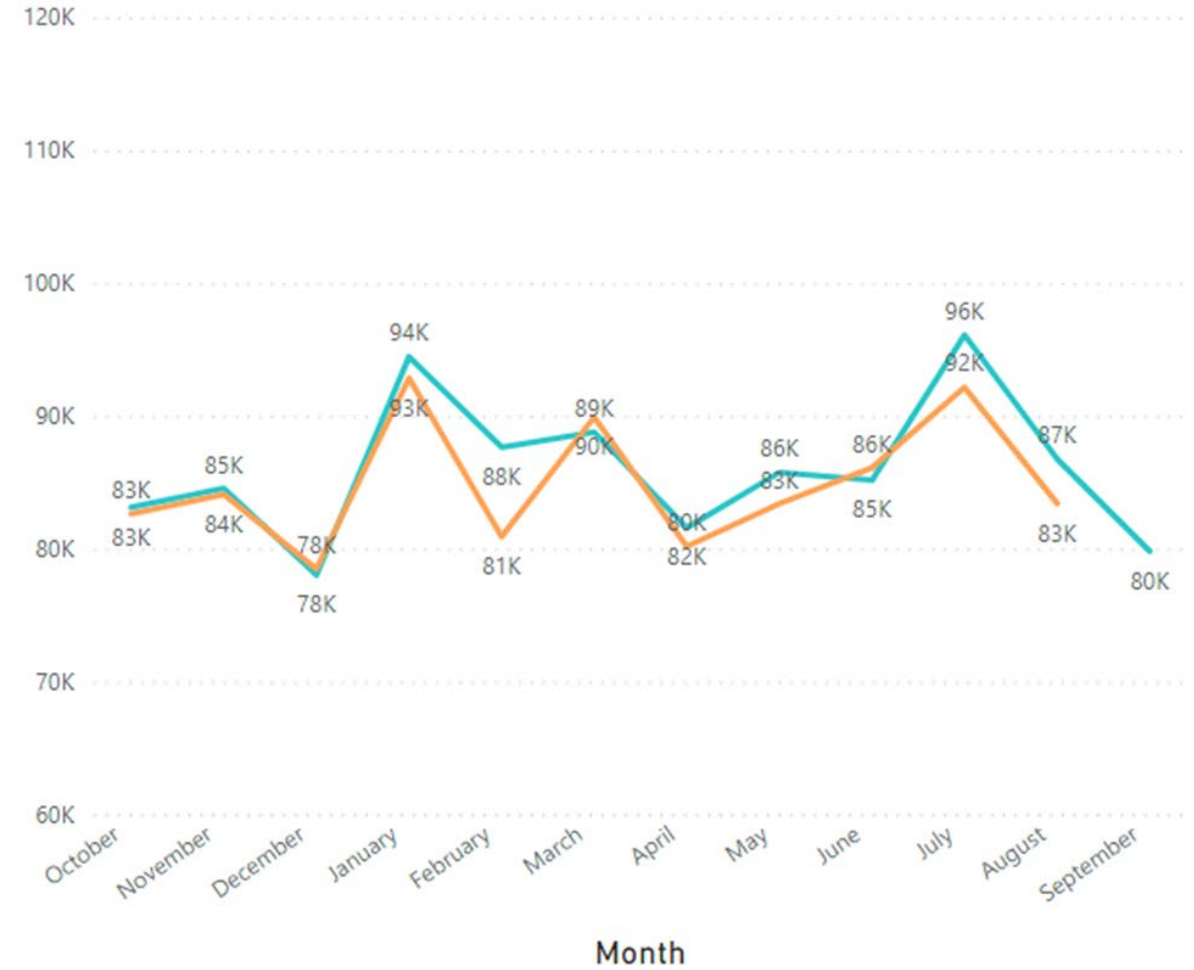
## Digital Circulation Historic

FiscalYear ● 2024 ● 2025



## Physical Circulation Historic

FiscalYear ● 2024 ● 2025



# Reference

## Question Count by Desk and Location FY25

Location ● Circulation ● Desk ● Info Services ● Youth Services

50K

40K

30K

20K

10K

0K

10K

29K

6K

17K

14K

10K

8K

Downtown Library

Library! at Cole & Ustick

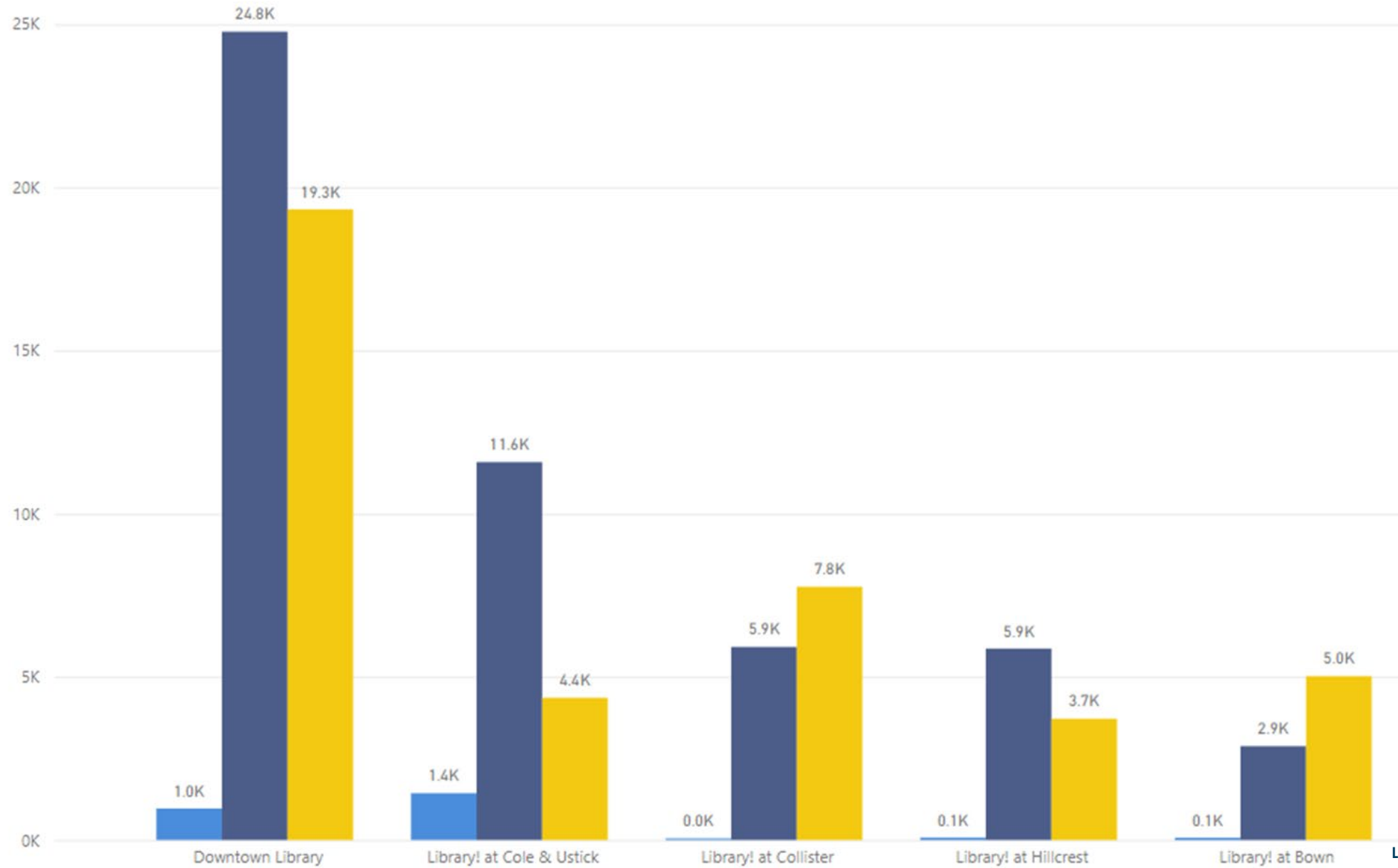
Library! at Collister

Library! at Hillcrest

Library! at Bown

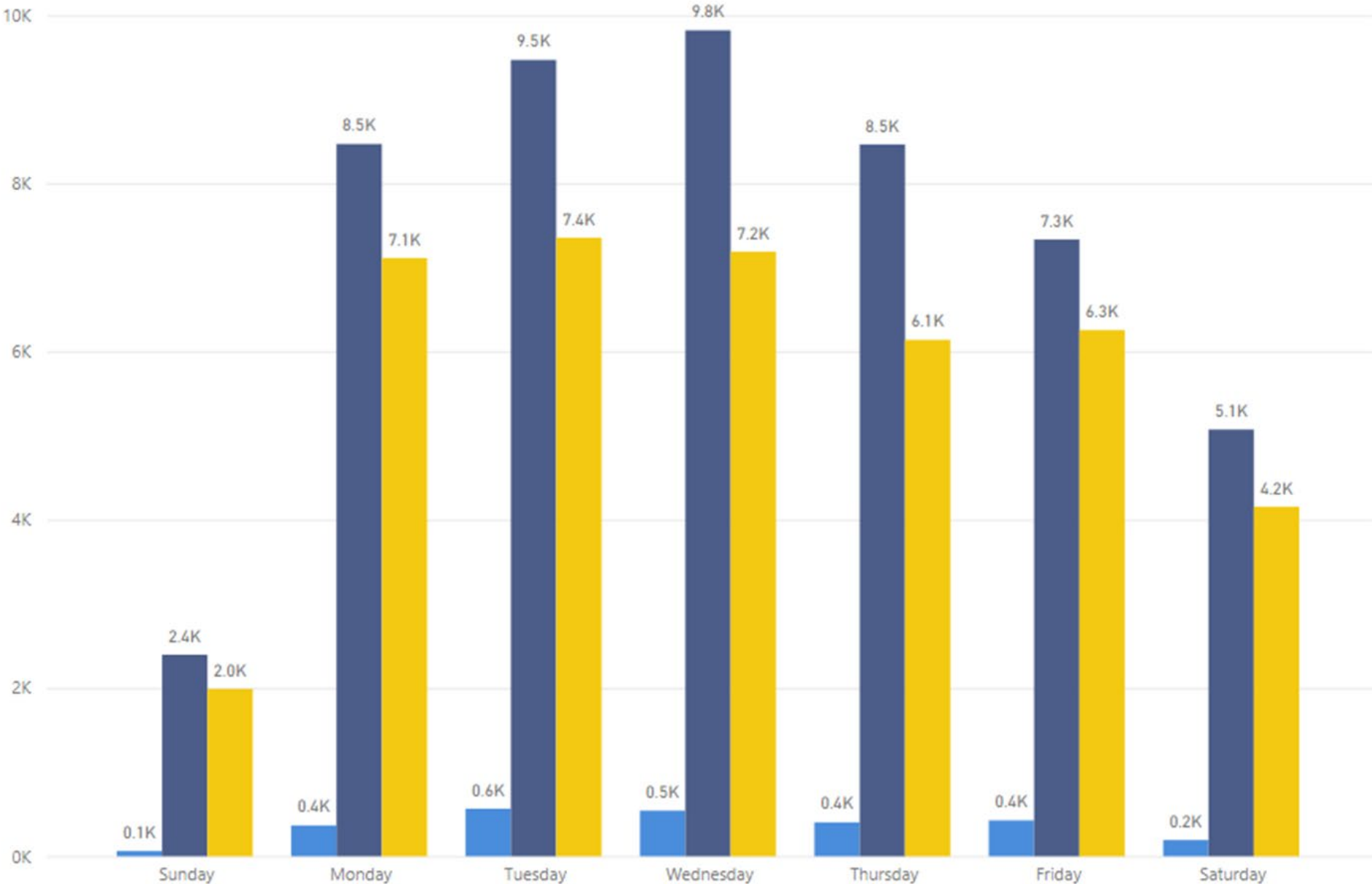
## Question Type by Location FY25

Question Kind ● Curbside Holds Pickup ● Directional ● Reference



Question Type by Day of Week FY25

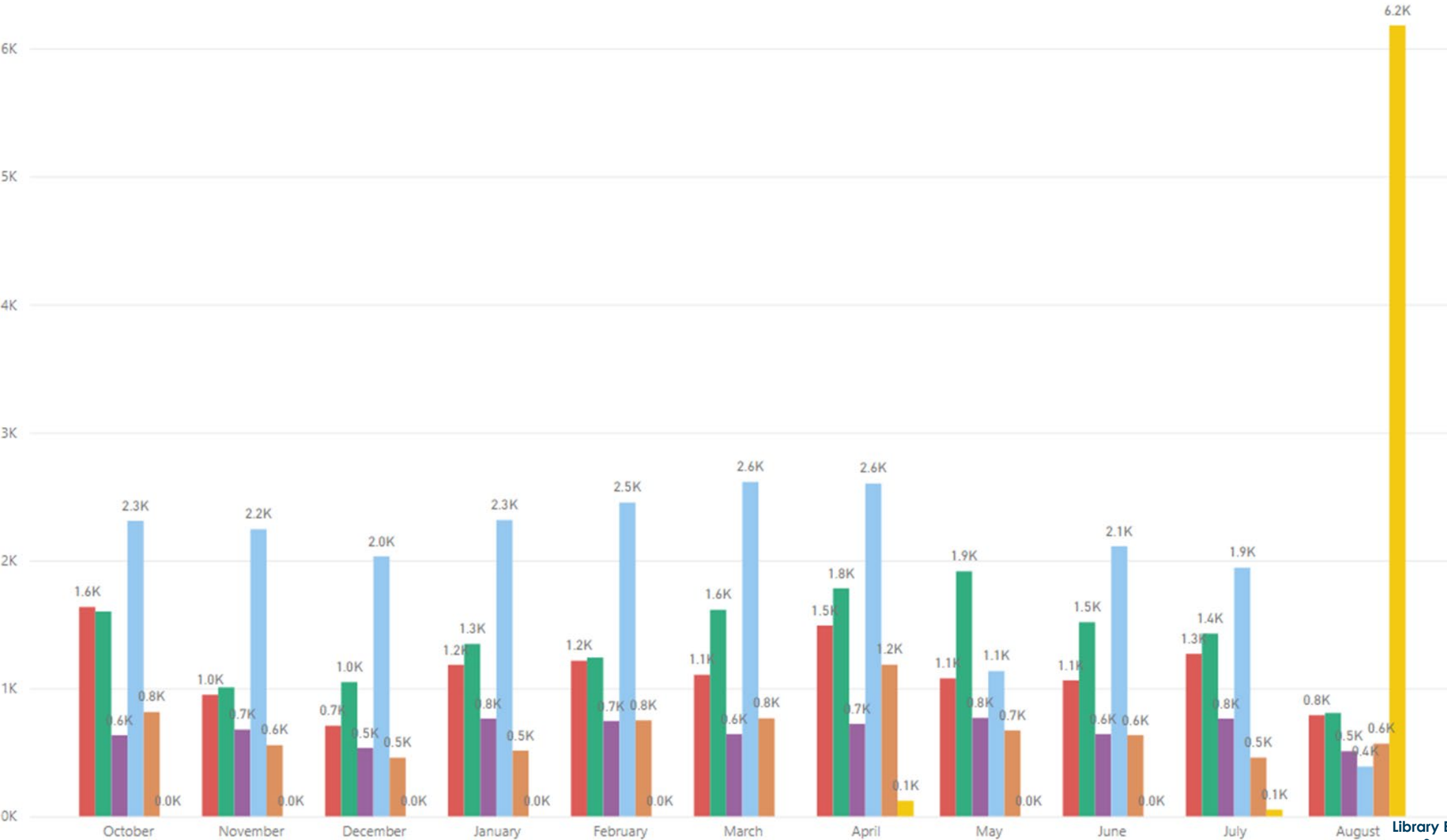
Question Kind ● Curbside Holds Pickup ● Directional ● Reference



# Programs

All Branches Program Attendees FY25

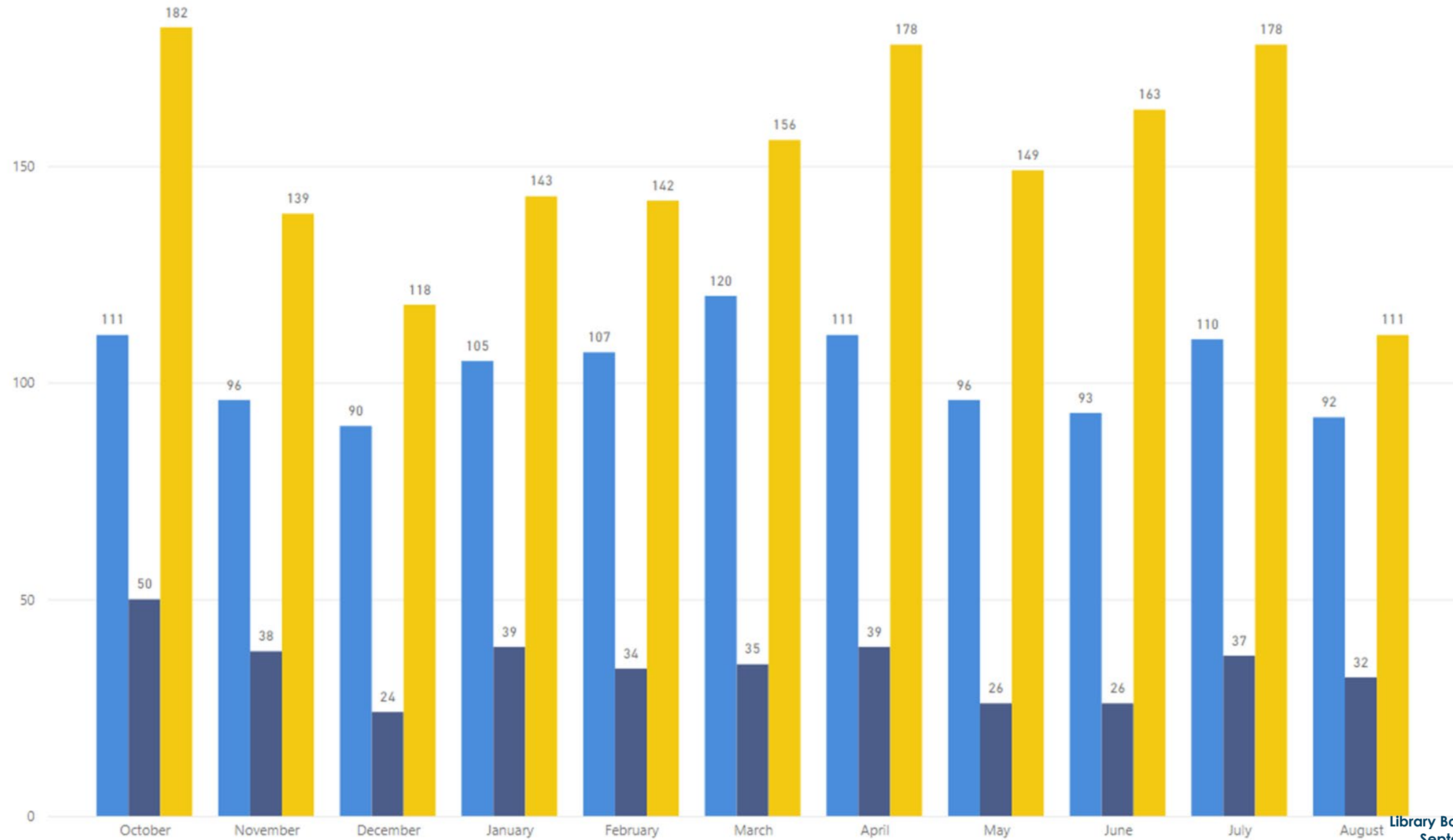
campus ● Bown ● C & U ● Collister ● Downtown ● Hillcrest ● System





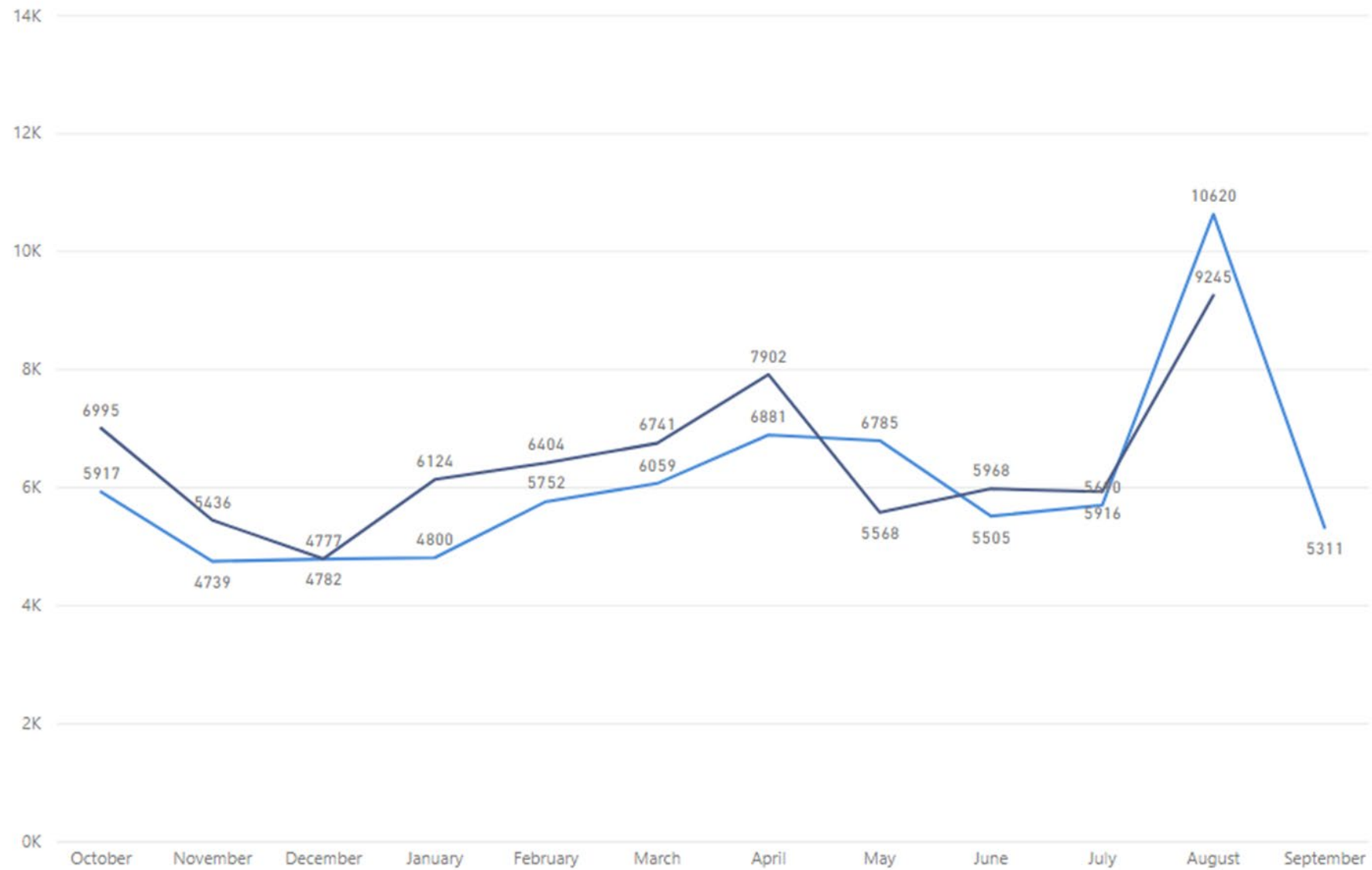
## Events by Audience FY25

Audience\_Types ● Adults (18 & Over) ● Teens (12-17) ● Youth



## Program Attendance FY24-FY25

fiscal\_year ● 2024 ● 2025



# Proposed Schedule of Library Board Meeting Dates

## **October 2025 to September 2026**

The Library Board of Trustees established a regular meeting schedule for the second Wednesday of each month, 11:30 a.m. and rotating between Boise Public Library locations.

Month	Day	Year	Comments
October	14	2025	Boise City Hall in Council Chambers at 3:30pm Joint work session with City Council
November	12	2025	Library! at Cole & Ustick in the Sagebrush Room
December	10	2025	Library! at Hillcrest in the Butte Room
January	14	2026	Library! at Bown Crossing in the Martie Brennan Room
February	11	2026	Library! at Cole & Ustick in the Sagebrush Room
March	11	2026	Library! at Hillcrest in the Butte Room
April	8	2026	Library! at Bown Crossing in the Martie Brennan Room
May	13	2026	Library! at Cole & Ustick in the Sagebrush Room
June	10	2026	Library! at Hillcrest in the Butte Room
July	8	2026	Library! at Bown Crossing in the Martie Brennan Room
August	12	2026	Library! at Cole & Ustick in the Sagebrush Room
September	9	2026	Library! at Hillcrest in the Butte Room September is the annual meeting.

# **BYLAWS**

## **BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### **ARTICLE I**

#### **LEGAL BASIS**

The Board of Trustees of the Boise Public Library exists by virtue of the provisions of Idaho law, including Title 33, Chapter 26 of the Idaho Code. Boise City Code Title 2, Chapter 7 further governs and defines the powers, duties and operation of the Board. The Board exercises the powers and authority and assumes the responsibilities and duties delegated to it under the laws of the state of Idaho and Boise City Code for the provision of public library service in Boise City. In addition to the powers, duties and purposes stated therein, the Board may exercise such other powers, not inconsistent with law, necessary for the orderly and efficient management of the Library.

### **ARTICLE II**

#### **TRUSTEE SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT**

##### **Section 1. Number of Trustees**

A Board of five Library Trustees, selected from the residents of Boise City, shall be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. The Board favors the established custom of the inclusion of one non-voting member of the City Council who will attend board meetings and act as liaison for the Board and City Government.

##### **Section 2. Term of Office**

A term of office shall be for five years; the term of one Trustee shall expire each year on June 30th. Appointments to complete an unexpired term shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term only. Trustees shall hold their office from appointment until the term expiration and until successors are appointed, unless disqualified from office. In accordance with City policy, Trustees shall serve no more than two terms or more than ten consecutive years.

By accepting appointment to the Board, Trustees agree to attend, in-person or virtually, a minimum of three-fourths of the regularly-scheduled meetings annually. Unless excused by the President, missing three consecutive regular meetings, for other than health-related reasons, is considered a resignation from the Board.

##### **Section 3. Salary**

All Trustees, officers included, shall serve without salary or any compensation, except that they may receive actual and necessary expenses when engaged in the business of the Library.

##### **Section 4. Vacancies**

All Trustee resignations shall be reported to the Mayor and City Council by the Board, with a request that the vacancy be advertised. The process for filling a vacancy will be prescribed by the Mayor's office. In the event a Trustee relocates the Trustee's residence outside the City of Boise, this shall be deemed a resignation and a vacancy shall be created.

## **Section 5. Removal**

Removal shall be as provided in Idaho statutes and Boise City Code.

# **ARTICLE III POWERS AND DUTIES**

## **Section 1. Powers and Duties**

The powers and duties of the Board of Trustees shall be as set forth in Title 33, Chapter 26 of the Idaho Code and Boise City Code Title 2, Chapter 7. In addition to the powers, duties and purposes stated therein, the Board may exercise such other powers, not inconsistent with law, necessary for the orderly and efficient management of the Library.

## **Section 2. Policies**

The Board shall act as the policy making body of the Boise Public Library in compliance with all statutes of the State of Idaho and Boise City Code relating to the operation of public libraries and shall develop and maintain, with advice of the Library Director and staff, policies for the Library and rules governing use of the Library with the highest possible degree of operating efficiency in the Library, consistent with the Library's mission and strategic vision. The Board shall have the power as necessary to determine any question of policy.

## **Section 3. Budget**

The Board shall prepare and adopt an annual budget for review and approval by the City Council for the ensuing fiscal year, with the advice and assistance of the Library Director, allocating the proper amounts for materials, salaries, maintenance, and other operating and capital expenses necessary for the orderly and efficient management of the Library. The Board may also approve interim budget recommendations for submission to City Council.

## **Section 3. Expenditures**

The Board shall have control of the expenditures of all moneys collected for the Library Fund.

## **Section 4. Property**

The Board shall have the supervision, care, and custody of any room or building constructed, leased, or set apart for Library purposes, and it may, with the approval of the Council, lease and occupy or purchase or erect on purchased ground any appropriate building. The Board shall take charge of the public Library, reading rooms, and its branches, and of all real and personal property belonging to it, or what may be acquired by loan, purchase, gift, devise, or otherwise, when not inconsistent with the terms and conditions of the gift, devise, or with the terms and conditions of the gift, devise, or bequest. The Board shall have the power to make and enforce all rules, regulations, and bylaws necessary to administer, govern, and protect the Library, reading rooms, and branches, and all property belonging or loaned to it.

## **Section 5. Appointments**

The Board of Trustees shall appoint a Library Director, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The Library Director's duties shall be those prescribed by state law, city policy, together with such other such others duties requested by the Board that are reasonably required for proper operation of the Library.

## **Section 6. Gifts and Trusts**

The Board shall receive and administer any trust or any other fund declared or created by gift or otherwise for the Library and branches.

## **Section 7. Reports**

The Board of Trustees shall annually, not later than the first day of January, file with the board of library commissioners a report of the operations of the Library for the fiscal year just ended. The report shall be of such form and contain such information as the board of library commissioners may require.

## **Section 8. Other Duties**

Additional duties of the Board shall include, but not necessarily be limited to the following: promote the Library and its services to the public; obtain adequate funds for Library operation; developing a program of planned growth and improvement of the Library facilities and Library services; work cooperatively with supporting organizations to promote the Library, provide information to the public regarding the Library and with regard to Library support and improvements; work cooperatively with other public officials and boards and support legislation that benefits Library users; and cooperate with public officials to maintain positive public relations; seek to maintain positive public relations and provide information to the public.

# **ARTICLE IV OFFICERS**

## **Section 1. Election**

The Board shall elect at its annual meeting from its members a President and Vice President who shall serve for a term of one (1) year or until his/her successor is elected. In the event of a vacancy, the Board may elect an officer to succeed the vacant position prior to and until the next annual meeting election.

## **Section 2. Duties**

### *A. President*

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board, authorize calls for special meetings, regulate and control public participation, appoint all committees, execute documents authorized by the Board, serve as ex-officio member of all committees, ensure that a true and accurate record is maintained of all meetings of the Board, plan the meeting agenda with the Director and staff, and perform all other duties associated with that office.

### *B. Vice President*

In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside and perform all duties associated with the President's office.

## **Section 3. Vacancies**

Vacancies occurring in any office shall be filled by majority vote of those Trustees present at the next regular meeting of the Board.

#### **Section 4. Removal from Office**

Any officer may be removed from office by the Board whenever, in the judgment of the Board, the best interests of the Library shall be served by such removal. In the event an officer becomes disqualified from serving as a Trustee (for example, the officer ceases to be a resident of the City of Boise), the officer shall be deemed removed and a vacancy shall be created.

### **ARTICLE V MEETINGS**

#### **Section 1. Frequency**

The Board shall meet for business purposes monthly, except as shall be determined in advance by the Board at a regular meeting. The Board shall hold its annual meeting each year in September for the purposes set forth in Idaho Code Section 33-2606, as may be amended from time to time, including election of officers and establishment of meeting dates for the upcoming fiscal year.

#### **Section 2. Special Meetings**

Special meetings may be called by the President, or upon written request of three Trustees, for the transaction of business stated in the Notice of Special Meeting. Only that business so specified may be acted upon at the Special Meeting. Notification procedures shall comply with Idaho Code and Boise City policies.

#### **Section 3. Quorum**

A quorum shall consist of three (3) Trustees, but a smaller number may adjourn a meeting.

#### **Section 4. Voting**

Each Trustee has one vote. The Director is a non-voting attendee of Board meetings. An affirmative vote by the majority of Trustees present shall be necessary to approve any action of the Board. The President may introduce, vote upon, move, or second a proposal before the Board.

#### **Section 5. Meeting Records**

Records of meetings shall be maintained by the Library Director or the Director's designee.

### **ARTICLE VI PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The parliamentary authority shall be Roberts Rules of Order, current edition, except as stated in these Bylaws.

### **ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Board with a quorum present, by majority vote of the Trustees present. Proposed amendments shall be distributed to Trustees at least two weeks prior to said meeting.

Last Revised August 14, 2024.

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**From:** Alice <alice.ant2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 18, 2025 8:25 AM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] West Boise Library Needed

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hi,

First let me convey my gratitude for all you do for our community as a steward for our libraries. You all are very appreciated in providing this service that is so essential to our citizens and our democracy!

I am also contacting you to request that you reconsider the need for a West Boise library branch. I wonder if you might look at the Boise Parks policy as a guiding principle and adopt a goal of having a library branch in reasonable physical proximity and/or public transportation to all citizens? I believe that policy has really been popular and helped provide a "North Star" to guide parks investments to have the most positive impact.

Library access is most essential to those in our community who are often limited in their ability to travel, and public transportation is extremely limited in West Boise. I believe adding a branch in West Boise would do the most good for the most people, of the choices being considered for funding priority.

Thanks again for your service. You are appreciated!

Alice Antonioli, regular user of the fabulous Ustick library (which is within walking distance of my home)



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**From:** Kathy Stroschein <kathystroschein@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 18, 2025 9:27 AM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] New Library

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

To whom it may concern:

I just reviewed a map that shows that the Boise City Libraries are evenly distributed. I disagree. What about those of us that live at the far end of west Boise? It would be awesome for us to have one in our area of town. McMillan Road and Cloverdale area.

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**From:** Quinn Bahm <quinnbahm@boisestate.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 18, 2025 11:12 AM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] I support Citizens for a Library's request for a library in west Boise

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

I live in west Boise and feel strongly that we should have a Library! located in our area.

Thanks,

Quinn Bahm  
Lecturer  
College of Business and Economics Boise State University  
208-559-7168



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**From:** Cindy Breckel <email.cindyb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 19, 2025 3:26 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Cc:** Mark Salisbury  
**Subject:** [External] West Boise Library Access — Or Lack Thereof?

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Members of the Library Board of Trustees,

My name is Cindy Breckel, and I live at 5960 N Rothmans Ave, Boise, ID 83713. Yes...Boise. You'll see my location clearly marked on the map below (green circle with a green arrow). Now, take a moment to notice where all the library icons are clustered.

You'll likely spot something curious: not a single Boise Library anywhere near me, or frankly, anywhere near much of "our part of" West Boise. Yet in a recent communication, it was stated that libraries are "evenly distributed." I'd love to know how that math works. Because from where I'm sitting, it looks more like we've been left off the map, quite literally.

Also, I couldn't help but notice the concern about "folks in West Idaho" being upset they won't get another library. As one of those West Idaho folks, who pays taxes just like every other Boise resident, I'd like to point out that we don't have a library nearby *at all*, let alone worry about not getting "another" one.

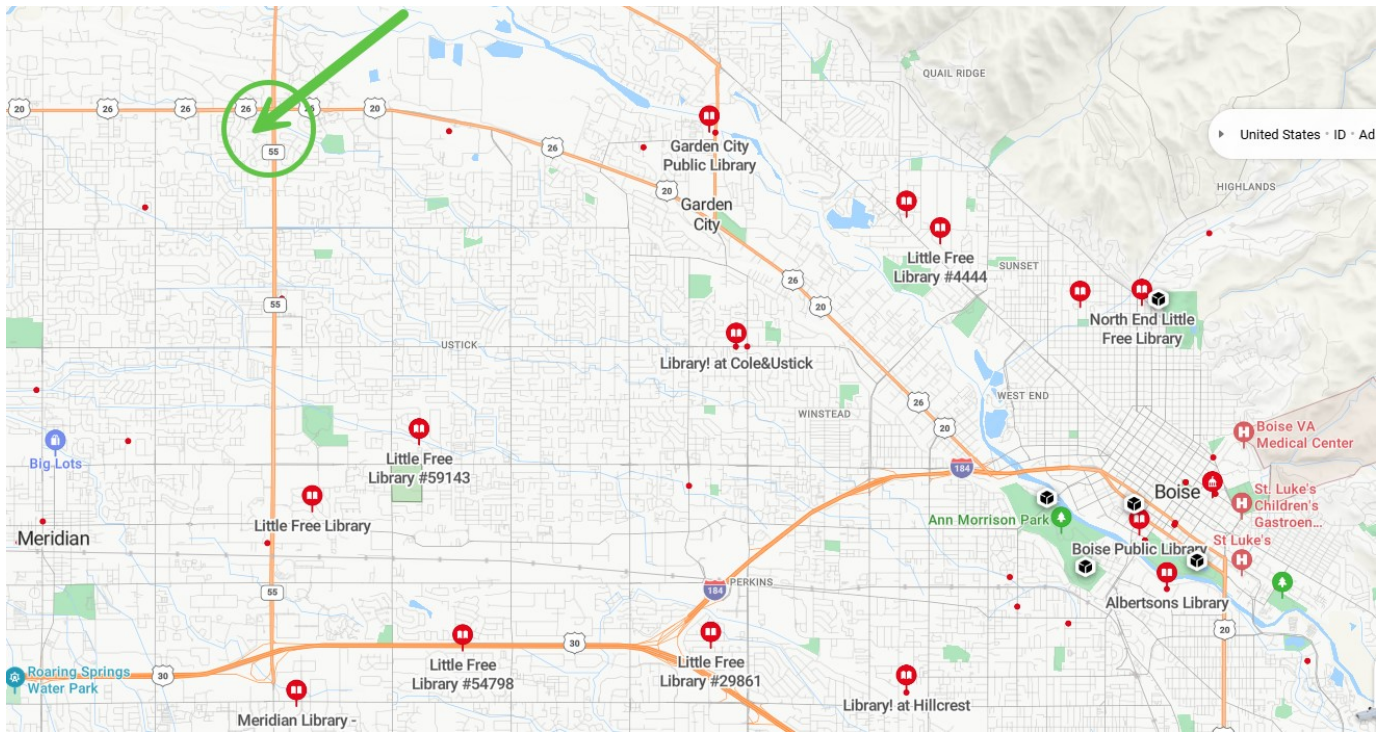
If future library locations are being discussed, may I suggest focusing on areas like mine, which have **none**? My dollars fund the library system too, and the current distribution feels inequitable, to say the least, the very least.

Perhaps it's time to consider a more equitable approach, perhaps allocating tax dollars according to the percentage of shared amenities actually available in each neighborhood. If our neighborhoods, in the extreme West Boise area, aren't deemed worthy of a library, maybe our tax contributions should reflect that lack of service. Fair is fair, right?

This isn't just an oversight - it's a disservice. A city that prides itself on education, access, and community should be embarrassed by how little of that is extended to this part of Boise. Please review the map below because a picture is worth a thousand words! Looking forward to an explanation, or better yet, a better plan!

Sincerely,

Cindy Breckel



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**From:** Taylor P <porter.taylor@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 19, 2025 6:24 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Cc:** Mark Salisbury  
**Subject:** [External] Urgent Request to Reconsider Library

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Boise City Council Members,

I am writing as a West Boise resident to express my serious concerns about the recently presented library facilities plan and to urge you to reject it in its current form. The Group4 analysis fundamentally misrepresents library access equity in our city by using flawed methodology that shows where people currently go, not where gaps in service exist. This is equivalent to saying we don't need new grocery stores because people are already shopping somewhere—it ignores the burden placed on underserved communities who must travel excessive distances for basic city services.

The data speaks clearly: West Boise residents collectively travel over 80,000 miles annually to access library services, compared to just 6,000 miles for the next most underserved area. This represents a massive inequity in city services that contradicts Boise's stated vision of being "a city for everyone." Libraries are not just about books—they provide essential community gathering spaces, free technology access, and educational programming that strengthens neighborhoods. No part of our city should be without reasonable access to these fundamental services.

Accepting this facilities plan locks West Boise out of equitable library access for the next 25+ years, as the next review won't occur until around 2050. While I support improvements to Hillcrest and Collister libraries, the highest priority should be providing service where it's completely missing rather than upgrading areas that already have access. The cost of building in West Boise would be comparable to these other projects, but the community impact would be transformational for an underserved population.

I respectfully request that the City Council reject this facilities plan and direct staff to develop a revised plan that prioritizes equity and addresses the documented service gap in West Boise. Our community deserves the same access to library services that other Boise neighborhoods enjoy, and now is the time to ensure that vision becomes reality.

Sincerely,  
Taylor Porter  
West Boise resident.

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**From:** Nick Davis <nickdavis333@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 20, 2025 4:26 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] Opposition to the Proposed Library Facilities Plan - Unfair to West Boise

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Members of the Boise Public Library Board of Trustees,

My name is Nick Davis, and I am a resident of West Boise. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the draft library facilities plan presented on August 13th. While I support improving our city's libraries, the current proposal is inequitable and fails the residents of West Boise.

The plan's conclusion that library coverage is adequate is based on the flawed logic that because residents travel to existing branches, their needs are met. This overlooks the significant time, travel, and transportation barriers faced by those in my community. It is a sign of a service gap, not a solution.

Prioritizing major upgrades to the Hillcrest and Collister branches while providing no new facility for West Boise is unfair. The first priority should be establishing equitable access for the thousands of residents in an area that has been consistently overlooked. A library is more than a building with books; it is a vital community hub that provides access to technology, educational programs, and safe public spaces—all of which are currently denied to our section of the city.

Approving this plan would cement this service inequity for another quarter-century. I urge you to **reject this draft**. Please direct the development of a new plan that genuinely serves all of Boise and addresses the clear and pressing need for a library branch in West Boise.

Thank you for your time and your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Nick Davis  
6298 N Stafford Pl  
Boise, ID 83713

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**From:** Pam Hartnett <phartnett14@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 20, 2025 4:30 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] Library in West Boise

Caution: This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

I am writing to express my concern, that we in west Boise are being overlooked in convenient library access. We have lived in this area for 27 years and have always had to travel well out of our way to utilize a facility. I realize there was a meeting, that we were out of town and unable to attend....

Could you please address why there was no information, for plans to ever service the tax payers in the “ghost zone?”

Only plans to improve existing buildings far from us?

Feeling like library outcasts in our own city, it’s been long enough that we have been ignored and not served. Some of us have raised our children through all school and college, many, many early years driving them way too far.

Thank you, looking forward to hearing your immediate solution for us. It is our turn, we have paid our fair share.

Pam Hartnett  
Sent from my iPad

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**From:** Maren Hansen <marench@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 20, 2025 9:06 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] West Boise Library

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

To whom it may concern,

I wanted to write in to voice my disappointment in the recent decision to not equip west Boise with a library. While I'm pleased to hear Collister, Hillcrest, and Main will see some upgrades- it's disappointing to not have access to a library that's closer to my home.

Concerned Reader- Maren



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**From:** Krista Hegstrom <kristahegstrom@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 24, 2025 1:20 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] West Boise library

Caution: This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

I have lived near McMillan and cloverdale since 2020 and there isn't a library very close. We used to live in Meridian and had 2 libraries very close by. This has made it be a less frequent place for us to visit now. I would love if you would consider a library location in this area rather than focus on improving only existing locations.

Thank you,  
Krista Hegstrom

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Victor Dominguez <vicdominguez2023@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 24, 2025 2:06 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] W. Boise Library

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Please make every effort to offer a Boise library branch for Boise residents located west of 5 Mile.

Thank you!

Victor Dominguez

13568 W Edenbrook Dr., Boise 83713

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

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**From:** Keiko Neufeld <keiko.neufeld@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 24, 2025 2:48 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] Ask for a Library in West Boise

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Boise Public Library Board of Trustees,

I was born and have lived in West Boise for 30+ years and have always been an avid reader and library goer. I currently live right next to Lowell Scott Middle School, and I grew up living right next to Centennial High School. When I was growing up, my parents made sure to make special trips to the Bookmobile and to other library branches because of my love of reading, even though they were often 15-20 minutes out of the way for us.

Children who attend schools in West Boise have to travel 4 miles to the closest library (Orchard Park), which isn't even in the Boise Public Library system. The closest Boise Public library is at Cole and Ustick, which is 5 miles away. While this may translate to only 15 minutes of drive time, it means an hour and a half walk down busy streets and highways for those without access to cars. A quick trip to the library after school for a child without a driver's license risks walking for an hour down Chinden Road to Orchard Park or almost 2 hours to the Cole and Ustick Branch.

The location analysis that was done for the recent facilities plan has a key flaw in the logic used. The findings were that citizens from all over the city use libraries, so therefore, no new library is needed. However, libraries provide critical services such as educational programs and free technology, so even people who don't have easy access to a library will go out of their way to get to one. Consider a grocery drought analysis. Groceries provide access to food, a critical need for living. So even those without easy access will make an effort to get to a grocery store because they need the products the grocery store provides.

The current libraries are wonderful and I truly appreciate all the amazing work they do. But I would like to request that the BPL Board reconsider the decision to not build a library to serve the citizens of West Boise. Please don't make us wait yet another generation for a library.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Keiko Neufeld

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**From:** Bryan Neufeld <bryanjneufeld@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 24, 2025 11:09 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] Please reconsider the west Boise library

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Boise Public Library Board of Trustees,

I have been following the efforts to get a library added to west Boise, and was extremely disappointed to hear that on August 13th, the board drafted a plan that said no library was needed for the next 20-25 years. My understanding of the decision, was that it was based on data saying that the existing libraries receive traffic from all over the city. Unfortunately, I think there is a major flaw in the logic used.

Let me use a metaphor. If I have three cups placed out in the rain, each cup will catch some water. If I add funnels larger than the cups, more water will be collected in each. In this metaphor, the cups are libraries and the funnels are the extra distances people are willing to travel to get to the libraries. The logic used in the August 13th decision says, "look, all of the cups catch water". However, does this mean that the ground in the gaps between the cups isn't wet? Also, if the funnels were not there, even more rain would be missed. The use of the existing libraries doesn't accurately represent the need for a new library. There are people and children who are falling through the gaps because they can't or won't travel. Every missed droplet is a shame. Ideally, the cups would be so dense as to catch most all of the water without the need for funnels. There would be enough libraries so that no extensive travel would be required.

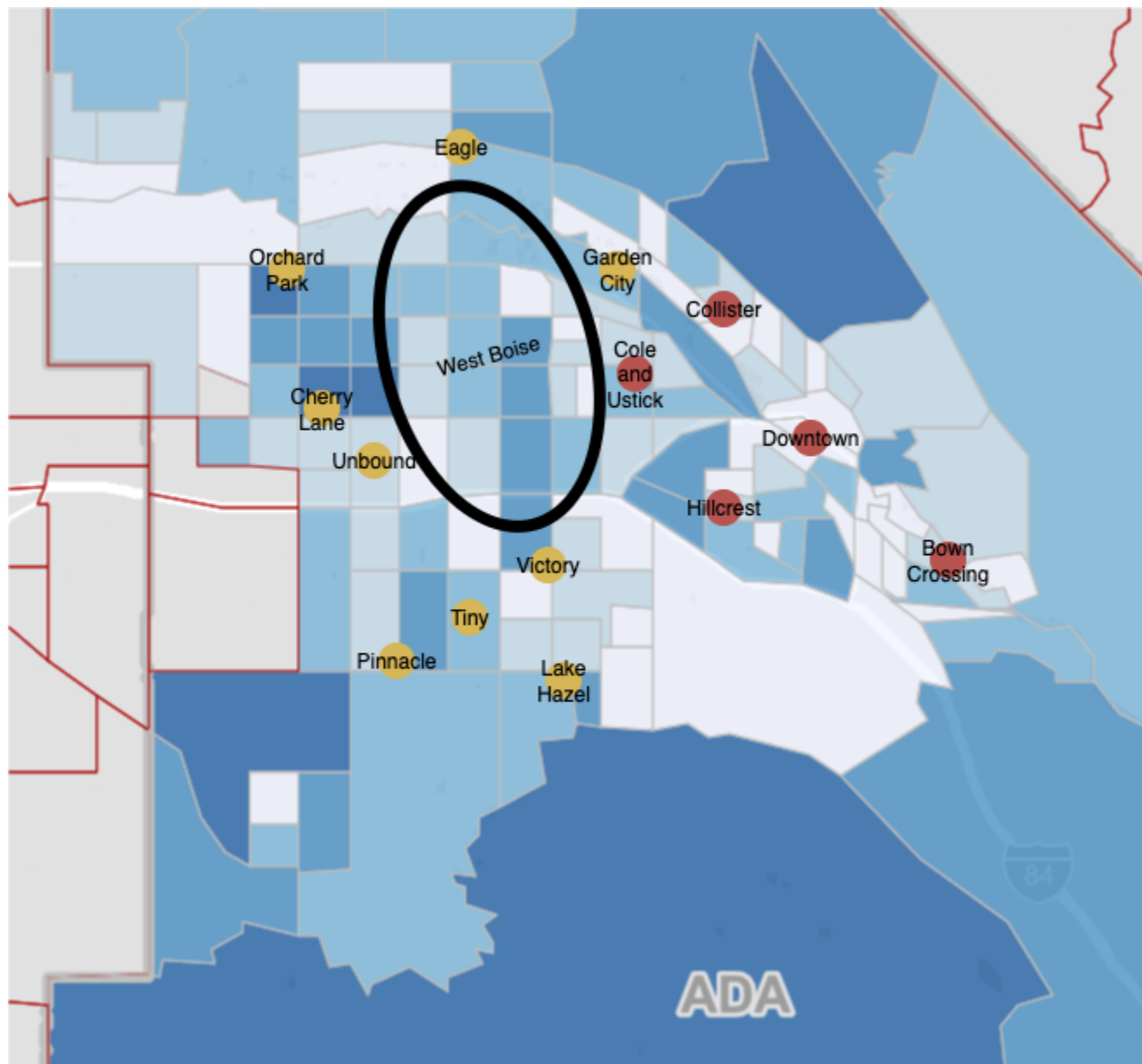
A far better way to measure the necessity of a library is by comparing the population density against the distance to the nearest library. I started looking into doing this analysis myself, then realized it was already done on this page <https://www.citizensforalibrary.org/west-boise/areas-with-poor-access/> That analysis clearly shows that there is a need in west Boise for a library so that we can drastically reduce the distance any person needs to travel to get to a library.

I have also included the image I generated from the 2021 census data. I have outlined the area that is clearly not covered by any libraries. I encourage the board to explore the 2021 census data here [https://data.census.gov/map/050XX00US16001,16001\\$1400000/ACSDT5YSPT2021/B01003?t=001:Population+Total&y=2021&layer=VT\\_2021\\_140\\_00\\_PY\\_D1&loc=43.6925,-116.3321,z9.3543](https://data.census.gov/map/050XX00US16001,16001$1400000/ACSDT5YSPT2021/B01003?t=001:Population+Total&y=2021&layer=VT_2021_140_00_PY_D1&loc=43.6925,-116.3321,z9.3543).

I believe libraries are particularly important for children who are still in school. Libraries not only provide places to study and congregate, but I have seen how libraries can be a refuge for children that come from broken homes. Libraries provide a safe environment for these children to complete their school work and pursue hobbies without being surrounded by the issues at home. These children often don't have access to the transportation required to get to a far away library. Restricting access to such a vital resource is unconscionable.

I implore the board to reconsider the data they are using to make their decision. Make sure what the data is saying truly represents the problem being addressed. Please don't measure how far people are currently willing to travel; instead measure how far people should be required to travel.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Bryan Neufeld



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**From:** Russell Johnston <rwj221@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 8:29 AM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] Library in West Boise

Caution: This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

I have been visiting the Cole library about twice a month, I live in west Boise and would very much like a branch closer  
Russell Johnston

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**From:** Rebekah Edwards <jimbekah1831@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 10:52 AM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] Need for a library in West Boise

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hello, my name is Rebekah Edwards,

I have lived in West Boise for the last 29 years. And before that, I grew up in West Boise and attended Summerwind Elementary and Lowell Scott Middle School. I heard that West Boise is once again being passed over in hopes of getting a Library. I have raised all of my children here, and I'm now beginning to raise my grandchildren without a library close by.

Forgive the analogy, but I can't help but compare this situation to a parent that has three teenagers. Two of the teenagers have each been given a vehicle to use and when the parents come into a little extra money instead of buying a vehicle for the third teenager, they decide to buy nicer, newer vehicles for the other two teenagers. They justify this by telling the third teenager that his siblings and friends will certainly give him rides from time to time when he needs to go somewhere so he isn't missing out.

If we love all of the kids in the community equally, let's let them all have access to a library close to their home. If we want to favor some children over another then let's go ahead with the plan to build nicer and bigger libraries for those children and let's ignore the children in West Boise who will not have a Library for another generation of children.

Speaking as one who grew up without a library, raised my children without a library and now look to a bleak future of raising my grandchildren without a library; please, please reconsider so that I don't have to wait until I have great-grandchildren to be able to have a library nearby.

Sincerely,

Rebekah Edwards

12553 W. Edna Dr.

Boise, ID 83713

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**From:** Karla Briggs <briggs.karla@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 12:51 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] West Boise Library Branch Needed and Wanted

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Boise Public Library Board of Trustees,

After 32 years of paying Boise City Taxes and watching West Boise grow considerably, I still feel like West Boise is forgotten. When I built my home and moved in, it was a major effort even to get a library card! They didn't want to believe that my home was actually in the city limits, even though it always has been. There still aren't any libraries very close to us. I was and still am grateful that I can pick up items at the Meridian, Garden City, and Ada Libraries. Garden City Library is the closest library to my home and the most convenient. I have access to a car and a bike and I live slightly closer (1-2 miles) than others who live in West Boise.

For many years, a very small bit of land filled an entire high school, Centennial High School. Finally, the Cole Library was built which was closer and easier access for the students of Capital High School and yes, closer to Centennial High School than the other libraries, but I still feel like it is too far away for many, many students. Currently, Lowell Scott Middle School and Centennial High School not only have many refugee students but also a higher number of low-income students. Five to six miles away seems a bit far for many students and families who have limited transportation. We do not have good bus service in our area either. It seems that East Boise grows and has roads in place and library options readily available, while we are forgotten. It would be so nice to have a library outlet in West Boise. Please consider a WEST BOISE LIBRARY. Libraries offer more than just books.

Thank you,  
*Karla Briggs*  
208 570-5904



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**From:** Tammy Rampton <tammyrampton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 26, 2025 3:13 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] No library in West Boise in facilities plan

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

I am very disappointed in Group4's analysis for the facilities plan for libraries in Boise. West Boise is further from a library than anywhere else in the city. We experience a lack of resources that deeply affects our quality of life. Libraries are essential to a community's well being and benefit patrons of every age. Before moving to West Boise 13 years ago, I took my children to a local library at least once a week, and oftentimes more. I lived in communities in Alaska and then in Garden City when we first moved to Idaho. Every place we lived had a library within a reasonable distance. Since moving to West Boise, our library use has plummeted as there are no libraries in my area. Please do not mistake, we still love and value libraries and go when we can, but the distance to different branches severely limits our ability to attend programs and even just check out books on a regular basis.

Being left out of the facilities plan for the next 25 years makes me feel like a second-class citizen in the city of Boise. West Boise is being neglected and a facility plan that does not address our lack of resources should be rejected. A facility plan should take all of Boise into account and address all citizens' needs.

I am directly asking the Boise Library Board of Trustees to reject this facilities plan in favor of one that serves all of Boise. West Boise deserves the same access to library facilities enjoyed by other communities within our city.

Thank you for time and attention,  
-Tammy Rampton

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**From:** Karen Schwarzhoff <karenschwarzhoff@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 26, 2025 3:54 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] Reject the current library plan

Caution: This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Boise city needs to start focusing on areas other than downtown Boise. Southwest Boise has no amenities. They deserve another library or better libraries.

Please consider changing the plan so that all of Boise can have access to elaborate in their neighborhood. Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Linda Simmons <lsimm83713@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 27, 2025 2:45 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] West Boise Library

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hello!

My AAUW Thursday Book Group uses Boise Libraries as well as Ada County Library.

We meet monthly wherever we can reserve a room for us ... Collister, Garden City, Cole & Ustick, Ada County, Hillcrest ... or, if necessary, at a member's home.

Several of our members, including myself, live in West Boise. It would be wonderful if we could meet closer to our residential area.

West Boise has always been neglected and underserved by Boise City in libraries, parks and events.

I urge you to make a library available in our area rather than spending money enlarging already existing libraries.

Thanks you for your consideration!

Linda and Ralph Simmons  
11535 Wildrose Court  
Boise, ID 83713

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**From:** Nancy Cowles <tncowles@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:15 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] We need a West Boise Library Branch!

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

August 27, 2025

Dear Boise Public Library Board of Trustees,

My name is Nancy Cowles, and I live in west Boise. I have lived in this area since 1994, and I am very aware of how library access has improved over the past three decades. However, West Boise still does not have a local branch to call its own. It is a densely populated region with families who currently use library services but must travel much further than other city residents to utilize a library in another area of town. I was very disappointed to hear the news that your planning report did not include adding a branch in our area! I am a former elementary school librarian and a mother of three grown children. We have all enjoyed the various services provided by your great library system. It would have been even better if our proximity to a library had been closer and we could have ridden our bikes to our local library in the nice weather. This is a scenario I would love to see happen for me and my neighbors.

I read all your bios before composing this letter. When explaining why you joined the board many of you expressed wanting to ensure equal access for all Boise's residents. I have pasted a few sentences from your bios below. I urge to you remember why you wanted to be a part of this board and withhold your endorsement of the current facilities plan; your board is planning to present to the Boise City Council. It does not accurately represent equal library access for the residents in West Boise. I very much appreciate your time and consideration, and I appreciate the time you give serving on the library board of trustees.

Sincerely,

Nancy Cowles

West Boise Resident and avid library supporter

*"She joined the board to bring awareness of the diversity of experience that is found in our community and is deeply committed to working collaboratively to ensure everyone in Boise can benefit from the Library."*

*"She joined the board to support equitable access to literacy and learning."*

*"...but also in strengthening the sense of community and equality among the residents of our city."*

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**From:** Deborah Eisinger <Deb@theeisingers.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 28, 2025 9:02 AM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] West Boise

Caution: This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

We struggle to find community in our fractured world.

Libraries enhance and create communities and they should be readily available to all.

Children's story hours and access to computers are two major services that are unavailable in my area. People throughout Boise have access to books and meeting spaces that require me to drive to.

The new Boise library plan should be providing access for the children and adults and seniors who live in West Boise.

It's only fair.

Deb Eisinger  
12877 West Grenadier Dr  
Boise

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**From:** Jeremy Rampton <jeremyrampton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 28, 2025 10:33 AM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] Request for a Library in West Boise

Caution: This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Boise Library Board of Trustees,

My name is Jeremy Rampton, and I live in West Boise. I am writing as a parent of four children and as a strong supporter of our public libraries.

I am deeply concerned about the recently presented facilities plan, which concludes that Boise's library system provides adequate coverage for our city. While I appreciate the investments proposed for Hillcrest and Collister, this plan does not address the fact that West Boise remains without a library. If approved, it will cement this inequity for decades to come.

For families like mine, the absence of a nearby library is more than an inconvenience. My children deserve the same opportunities that other Boise children have—to walk or bike a short distance to borrow books, attend story time, access technology, and discover the joy of learning in a safe and welcoming community space. At present, we must travel much farther than most Boise families to participate in library programs. This limits how often we can use the library and deprives my children of a cornerstone of civic life.

Boise has a vision of being "a city for everyone." A facilities plan that leaves out one of the largest and most populated parts of the city does not reflect that vision. I respectfully urge you to reject the current draft facilities plan and require that it be revised to include a new library in West Boise. Our community deserves equitable access to this essential city service.

Thank you for your leadership and for considering the needs of families like mine. I hope you will ensure that all Boise residents—including those in West Boise—have the opportunity to benefit fully from our public library system.

Sincerely,  
Jeremy Rampton  
West Boise

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"Freedom is nothing but a chance to be better."

-Albert Camus

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**From:** Derek Cleaver <derekgcleaver@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 28, 2025 8:21 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Cc:** info@citizensforalibrary.org  
**Subject:** [External] West Boise Library

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Can you make a public library closer to the west Boise area near Centennial high school? We are a family that regularly attends the library on: Cole and Ustick, however, due to its distance, we do not get to travel there as often as we would like. My kids have expressed interest in riding their bike to go to the library many times and I think that would be great but due to the distance, we cannot do it. Also, the community outreach programs that they have at the Cole and Ustick building we don't attend because of the distance. If there was a library in West Boise, it would be a gathering place for our part of the community. A place that we could bring together community members and have more outreach programs in this area. We enjoy these facilities in our community. Thank you for providing these opportunities for us to express our self in hopefully bringing more access to public libraries in the west Boise area.

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**From:** Lynn T <lynnth@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 28, 2025 11:37 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] Need for a library in far NW Boise to equalize services similar to other areas of Boise  
**Attachments:** Library email 8-22-2025.docx

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Attached is my opinion and disappointment that there is no plan in the foreseeable future for a library in my NW area of Boise. I would appreciate it if you would read and reconsider the lack of a plan for us.

Lynn Thayer  
13398 W Fig St  
Boise, ID 83713



Library Board,  
2025

September 26,

I am so dismayed, disappointed and actually shocked about your decision to ignore the far NW area of Boise that does not have easy access to a local library. For you to decide that our area doesn't deserve your attention while you plan to improve or build new libraries in places that already exist is demeaning.

I attended your community meeting at the Cole and Ustick branch and was very unhappy with the presentation. The person doing the meeting was not prepared at all for taking input from people attending that wanted a new library in a different location. Most of the attendees at this location were there because there wasn't a presentation in our area of the city. We weren't there because we are satisfied or unsatisfied with the Cole and Ustick location. Of course, it is a very good library and it is where I usually go, but I don't go there because it is convenient, I go there because it is the least out of the way location to my home near McMillan and Eagle Rd.

Most of the time at that meeting was taken up by a library employee (I don't remember the name or position) talking about the existing libraries. Then time consuming chat groups and charts were filled out per instructions that for us to mostly give our opinion on existing libraries.

As the meeting time was expiring without the presenter asking for attendees input and why we were at the meeting, a few of us interrupted to say we wanted a library in our neighborhood. Several of us did write that request on charts that were being filled out. It was obvious that the presenter or planners were not prepared to receive or consider a NW Boise location even though residents have been attending various meetings for the past year in an attempt to get a local library.

I felt ignored (or just tolerated) at the time because a new library wasn't on the agenda or consideration.

Your chart/map that shows NW Boise residents use other libraries doesn't give you any information other than we drive to existing libraries because we have NO other option. Is there a reason why we don't deserve equal consideration, or that it is okay for us to be paying taxes for less neighborhood services than other areas of Boise?

My feelings at the time of the meeting seem to be correct because it was decided that no new library coverage would be considered probably for 20-25 years. I will be dead by that time. Any current children in NW Boise will be grown and probably living elsewhere by then. Can you see how unfair it is to spend money to improve existing locations at the expense of residents that have no local option? And to let that status quo stand for another whole generation!

From my home, there is no good way to get to Cole and Ustick library without driving. It is a 5 mile walk to the Cole/Ustick location from my location. There is no reasonable way to get there by bus, and riding a bike on Ustick is not safe for me or any children.

This NW area of Boise is ignored in many ways. For instance: local media will describe something in 'west' Boise when talking about 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> Streets; Community Education Classes and City Kid Activities are seldom if ever scheduled in our area; and the obvious absence of a library. We pay our share of taxes but do not get our share of local services.

Please reconsider creating a library for NW Boise in the near future.

Lynn Thayer  
13398 W Fig St  
Boise, 83713

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**From:** Melissa Triplett <missylynn\_19@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 30, 2025 12:04 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] New library for West Boise area

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hello,

I am writing this email to encourage you to please consider a library for the West Boise area. It's great over here, but it'd be even better with one of our favorite places to visit nearby!

Thank you,  
Melissa

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**From:** Mark Salisbury <fmark.salisbury@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 1, 2025 9:59 AM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] West Boise needs to be included in the facilities plan too

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Boise Public Library Board of Trustees,

My name is Mark Salisbury. I have been a resident of Boise since 2002. Not long after I moved here, I saw Boise improve its library system to become a library system with branch libraries, bringing libraries closer to where people live. I have lived in the same area of Boise – West Boise, close to Eagle Road and McMillan, since I moved here. I love the schools that are nearby. There are also a few parks close by that we frequently enjoy too.

You know where I'm going next: there isn't a library close by. That's why I reached out to city council member Luci Willits in early 2022 to ask, can we do anything about this? I attended city meetings in 2022, and in 2023 I started a group, called Citizens for a Library in West Boise. Together we ran a petition to see if there was support in the community to petition for a library. The response impressed me. Nearly everyone we spoke with was supportive, willing to sign the petition, particularly when they viewed a map showing the placement of Boise and adjacent libraries. When we presented our petition to the City Council and Library Director Dorr, we were told that no decision would be made regarding a library branch in West Boise at that time, but instead a library facilities study would be conducted.

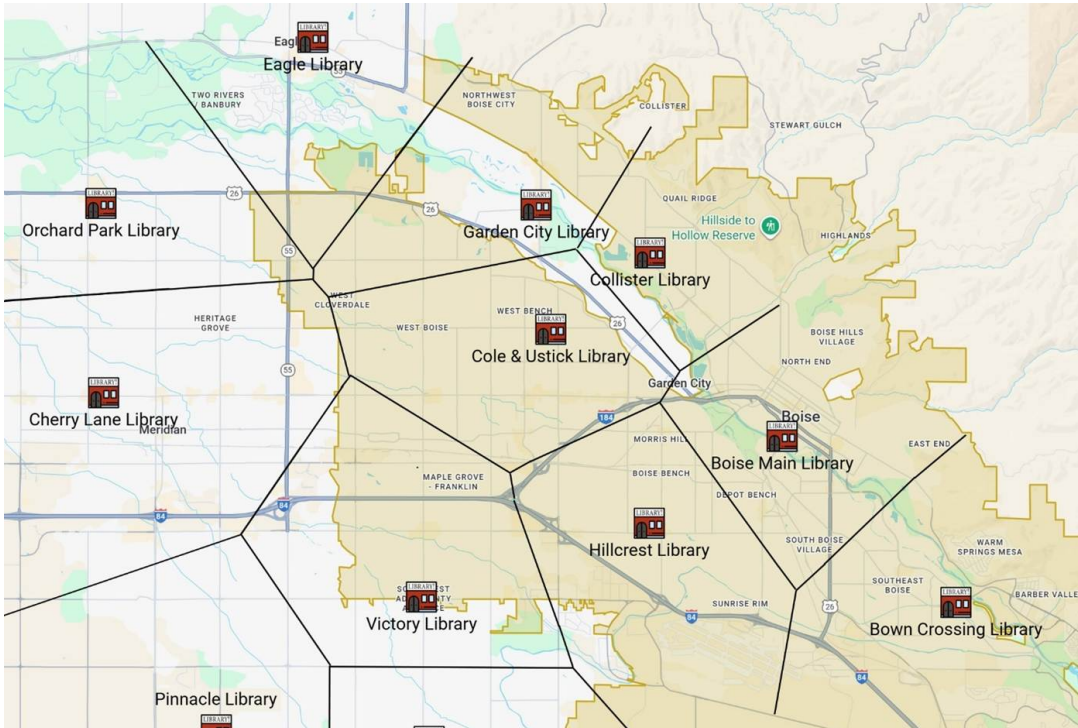
We've closely watched, and participated in, the facility study when opportunities for public feedback have been available. From the beginning, these studies have hinted that the library staff have been biased against the notion of a new library branch. The format of the questions and discussions has essentially been two questions: "what do you like about your library branch?", "what would you like to see done differently?".

Now that the draft plan of the facilities study has been made public through the monthly [Board of Trustees meeting on August 13<sup>th</sup>](#), we've learned definitively that no, the plan for library facilities in Boise for the next 20 years is only to improve existing locations. I do appreciate the questions that were raised at that meeting in recognition of our requests and participation.

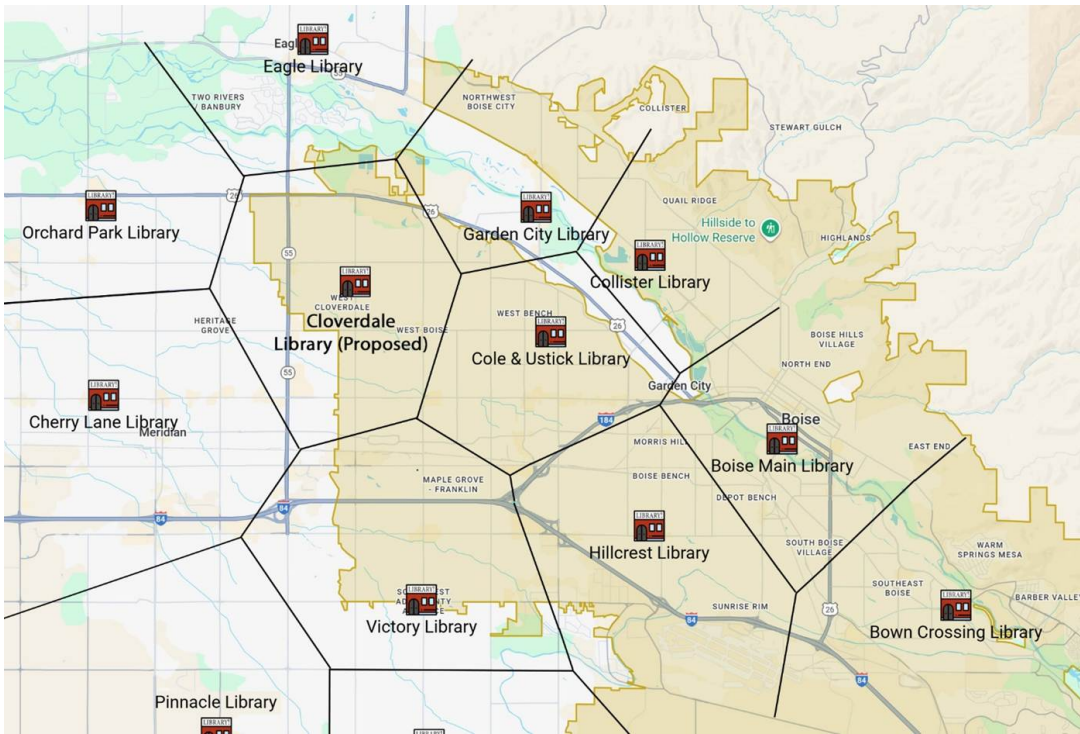
The analysis done in the study to determine if a new facility is necessary was surprising to me. As you know it is a map showing the rough home locations of library check outs for one week in April 2024. Even as it was presented it was recognized that data was incomplete, given that library users in Boise utilize branches outside Boise for which data is not available. The analysis had nothing to do with [how many people need to travel how far to reach a library](#), or even the relative use of the library in certain neighborhoods.

As the topic was raised again during the meeting about the request for a library branch in West Boise and the data, the response was that: we're not telling you that you can't build another library branch. It's wonderful if you do, but it would cost additional money. (Of course it would! It think it's a [very manageable amount](#) however.) However, based on our property tax assessment, we all pay equally to fund the city, even areas without good library coverage. This rejection, after years of engagement, and data that shows the clear need, really feels like Boise is saying: Boise *is* a city for everyone, as long as you don't live in West Boise.

This map I've created is different from ones I've shared previously that show a two-mile radius around each library. Instead, this simply shows boundary lines identifying the closest library:



I propose that in the next 20-year library facilities plan, we complete the library branch coverage idea initiated by the previous facilities plan 25 years ago. If a library branch were located along Cloverdale, between McMillan and Ustick, I believe it would provide optimal coverage of our underserved area. I would propose to call this the “Cloverdale” branch.



(Missing here is population density; if you are curious about population density a view of census data can be seen here: <https://maps.geo.census.gov/ddmv/map.html>. Please check back at <https://citizensforalibrary.org/west-boise/interactive>; I plan to make this an interactive map incorporating census data.)

The facilities plan had three different options, A, B, and C, with different trade-offs for timing, and C maximizing community engagement by announcing improvements at all locations at the same time.

I propose an option D that works like this:

3 new library facilities will be added: Cloverdale, Collister, and Hillcrest. Collister and Hillcrest, currently leased space, will be replaced by standalone facilities. Small updates will be made to Cole & Ustick and Bown Crossing, with updates being planned for the main library farther out.

Steps to execute plan D:

1. Obtain approval from City Council for a library facilities plan that includes additional staff for one new library branch, when that facility comes online.
2. Locations are identified in the right locations and land is acquired ASAP, using city capital funds.
  - a. It's important to acquire the land ASAP to proceed with the remaining steps in the plan, and because options are becoming scarcer and scarcer, at least that's what I've observed in my part of town.
  - b. I know there will be a battle to spend any capital funds, they are in demand for many project ideas!
3. With locations in hand and a vision for what the new buildings will be, work with the non-profits who support the library system, the Boise Public Library Foundation and Friends of the



Boise Public Library, to raise private money to help write the next chapter in the Boise Library System.

4. With a movement already underway to revitalize and enhance the branch library system, go to the voters for approval for a levy to fund the construction of the facilities. The message should include that private donations are helping to lower the cost of the new facilities but cannot completely cover the cost. (What this mix will be – we will have to see when we get closer to that time how much money can be raised through private contributions).
5. If the levy passes, bids go out and construction begins as soon as possible.
6. If the levy fails, I suspect that private contributions might be returned to donors, as they were in 2019 when the new main library project failed. Also, with the land in hand, it's not that the projects will never happen, but they will be delayed. We can't predict the future economy or even the future political climate that may be more (hopefully) supportive of education and investment in libraries.

Additionally, because we don't know if a levy will pass and when we might begin construction on new facilities, I would urge that we also look for a leased space option for West Boise. This space could likely be found in the Boise Research Center. I do not believe this is a good long term location; while it would be closer to where I live I do not think it would (a) be as visible as a location directly along Cloverdale Road and (b) be located well, like the proposed Cloverdale branch is in the map above, serving both citizens in the Centennial Neighborhood Association and West Valley Neighborhood association, which cover the west most side of Boise.

As members of the Library Board of Trustees, I urge you to request that the plan be amended to include a new library branch for West Boise also. If a library branch is included in the new facilities plan, I will support efforts, including a possible levy, to realize the plan.

On the other hand, if the plan continues as proposed currently, I would not be supportive of a future library levy. It would feel too much to me like 2018 - 2019, where a library project was planned that was not in sync with the community.

Sincerely,

Mark Salisbury

Founder, Citizens for a Library in West Boise

P.S. I have also posted this message as a blog post at [Citizens for a Library – This site is for people who believe that libraries matter, today.](#)

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**From:** Jennifer <jenniferp82@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 1, 2025 11:49 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] Library facilities plan

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Boise Library Board of Trustees,

I'm writing to request that you reject the new library facilities plan until it has a plan for a facility in West Boise included.

When I moved to Boise almost 20 years ago, I was impressed and excited by the library facilities and the agreements between the cities, making it easy to visit any library branch and share between all collections to expand the ability to check out materials. As I had children, we started to travel to the library to participate in children's programs as well. I have seen programs for children, teens, adults and seniors advertised as well. Informative classes on taxes or technology are often offered.

The last facilities plan was a brilliant move to create smaller satellite branches that could bring access closer to the residents of Boise, while keeping the larger downtown branch to house a more robust collection and the space to offer services a smaller branch may not be able to offer.

From what I heard in the meeting discussing the proposed facilities plan, the current vision is to make every branch as large as possible, and not really improve access for any residents. I don't understand why our newest branches are now determined to be insufficient in their size. Was this poor design when they were built? I believe Group4 did not sufficiently understand the original vision.

I am a resident of Boise, but live west of Eagle Road. It takes 15 minutes to drive to the closest Boise branch (Cole & Ustick) at a good traffic time and I can count on one hand the amount of times I have gone there. The library branches in other cities that I actually frequent take nearly as long. It takes 20 minutes to drive to the downtown branch. Group4 never analyzed that. They never asked if citizens are happy with the amount of time it takes to get to a library, or if it is possible to bike or walk to a library. There should be a library significantly closer to my house to provide equitable access across the city. The answer "people are finding there way to libraries" is a poor excuse to ignore my neighborhood.

I understand that the library has limited funds, but I have a hard time believing that areas that have a close branch are in more need of an upgrade (and in the case of Collister and Hillcrest, a new building) than the West Boise residents are in need of something, anything, which we have been begging the city to consider for over two years.

Please demand that West Boise be included in the new facilities plan. In 20 more years we will have lost our opportunity to create another amazing satellite branch to serve almost 30,000 citizens who would love to have a library as close as other Boise citizens.



Thank you,  
Jenny Froerer

14254 W Battenberg Dr  
Boise, ID 83713

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**From:** Mark Salisbury <fmark.salisbury@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 3, 2025 8:00 AM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] Concerns about proposed library facilities plan

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hello,

I received these messages from individuals requesting I pass their messages along to the Boise Public Library Board of Trustees:

**Alexa Sandidge** <[alexasandidge@gmail.com](mailto:alexasandidge@gmail.com)>

9255 W ZUNI DR, Boise

Received 8/17, 6:11 PM

I'm Alexa Sandidge and I live in west Boise off of Ustick and libraries are becoming increasingly important in our communities. I believe there is a gap in the West Boise community where a library could be. Sure people can and will travel to other libraries in the valley if they have the ability to do so. However this is very limiting to many groups in our community. Boise has a poor public transportation system and seems poor to assume that most people can easily travel to one of the other libraries consistently. Also is the importance of libraries and children of school age. There is a significant number of schools in west Boise but no library. I know of at least 8 schools and there may be more. To me this is a huge loss for learning for children in not having close access to the library near their school. These schools children attend are determined by where they live (which is nearby) and some may not spend a lot of time traveling far out of their community vicinity during the school week between going from home and school, and thus, not likely to travel out far to seek out a further library.

**Hope Ryan** [hopeinidaho@gmail.com](mailto:hopeinidaho@gmail.com)

11830 W VIOLET DR, Boise

Received 8/17, 7:15 PM

I live near the intersection of Cloverdale and McMillian - in the heart of West Boise. My children would love a library that is less than a 15 minute drive from our Boise home. We have used the libraries in Eagle and Boise (Cole & Ustick) for 20 years and adore what the library does for the community. As this community grows, the libraries should accommodate the arid areas of the city which have not easy library access. There are several improvement projects in West Boise including increasing bike

friendliness. But, bike to where? The clustering of schools in West Boise would make a library a logical, safe, and community friendly landing point for the citizens here. I respectfully ask the Board to reject the current plan and relook at the INCREDIBLE opportunity here in West Boise.

Most Sincerely,

Hope W Ryan

Lover of Boise and User of the Library.

[nancyljo@yahoo.com](mailto:nancyljo@yahoo.com)" [nancyljo@yahoo.com](mailto:nancyljo@yahoo.com)

6278 N BUCKLEY PL, Boise

Received 8/18, 8:34 AM

Thank you. I think the equity approach is a good idea and incorporating the city goals. I have gone to the Eagle library in the distant past and visited the new Meridian library on a tour. I have also been to the Hillcrest library for a class. But the main library I use is the Garden City library currently and that is infrequently. I certainly see that families with students at home or young children are disadvantaged by the distance to go to a library from our area. It's not walking distance- the closest library is four miles or more. Boise can do better. Also the increase in density of apartments recently added to the area adds to the service need. I will try to get an email ready to send in my support.

Nancy Jines

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**From:** Kricket Eichelberger <kricketnoel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 3, 2025 9:37 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] Request for a Library in West Boise

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Boise City Board,

I am writing to express the need for a public library in West Boise. Our area has become a “dead zone” for library access, with the nearest branches requiring a 10–15 minute drive. As a Boise native raising three children here, I feel strongly that this lack of access is a major gap in our community.

I personally drive my children to the Garden City Library, which is about 10 minutes away. We rely heavily on library services — using the Idalink app to place holds, attending children’s and adult programs, using the children’s play area, utilizing the printers and participating in book sales. The library is a vital part of our daily lives, but access should not require a car ride. Having a library within walking or biking distance would be life-changing for families like mine and for countless other residents in this part of the city.

While I appreciate the plans to expand existing libraries, that approach still leaves West Boise without one at all. I believe a new branch here would better serve the greater good of all Boise residents, ensuring that every neighborhood has equal access to the resources, education, and community opportunities that libraries uniquely provide.

As someone born and raised in Boise, I want to continue being proud of our city and see it thrive in ways that uplift every family. A library in West Boise would be a meaningful investment in that vision.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Kricket Eichelberger  
Big Sky Neighborhood (Goldenrod Ave)

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**From:** Larry Ice <iceworks@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 4, 2025 5:01 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Cc:** Mark Salisbury  
**Subject:** [External] Group 4's report and a Library in Far West Boise

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

My name is Larry Ice and I've lived in Far West Boise 83713 since 2009. I am a supporter of libraries and open access to all materials.

First, I fully and sincerely appreciate your service to Boise and to the Boise Library Department. I hope the Trustees and the library department realize that Mark Salisbury and Citizens for a Library are also volunteers working with the best interests of Boise and the Boise Library system at heart.

I am respectfully writing to encourage the Boise Library Board of Trustees to withhold approval of Group 4's strategic facilities plan in the current form because, while I believe the report has some value, I also believe it to be incomplete, faulty and irrelevant to the current and future situation in Boise for several reasons.

- First and most important, libraries have intrinsic value far beyond lending books, media and computer access. They provide a myriad of other services, many for our most vulnerable residents. Physical libraries become city meeting spaces, the cornerstone of neighborhoods, the fabric of communities, the common ground and experiences that work to blend age, cultural, ethnic, economic and educational differences. They create a city for everyone where all are welcome. We recognize areas in our city by names such as Collister, Hillcrest and Bown Crossing. These libraries build a sense of belonging, inclusion and unity. There are no city facilities, especially libraries, in Far West Boise. Where can we anchor our sense of community? Even in city communications, they refer to areas like the West End, North West Boise, the West Bench and West Valley without actually referring to or thinking about those of us in Far West Boise. In city government, only District 1 contains no city facilities for our city councilmember to meet with her constituents, and the Centennial Neighborhood Association has no place to meet. None of the Library listening sessions were held in Far West Boise.
- West Boise has both natural and manmade boundaries that separate us from the city center and restrict mobility. We have very limited public transportation. Only Eagle Rd. and Glenwood cross the river. Garden City separates us from North West Boise. Only Chinden and 184 connect us to the core of the city. While the Group 4 report may show we patronize Boise libraries outside our area, it doesn't show how often we do so, the efforts we must make or how often we go elsewhere.
- Finally, I am asking for this report to be amended and the trustees to reconsider a report that includes a Boise Library in Far West Boise because it's simply a no risk, no cost request that has no reason to be denied. The Boise Library Strategic Facilities Plan is not code nor

commitment. Inclusion in the plan does not mean a West Boise library will be realized, but exclusion in this report could be used in the future to stop any consideration without discussion or reason. We need a library in West Boise. Just add the words- Add a library in West Boise to fill the library desert. Ten to twenty years is a generation, way too long for an arbitrary 'NO' made now to hinder any effort in the future.

Thank you for your consideration,

Larry Ice

83713

A rejection of any possibility of a Boise Library in Far West Boise is in opposition to values the City of Boise and the Boise Library system states in city documents.

### **Strategic Priorities** (Strategic Framework for Impact)

#### **Expand Access**

Make our collections, programs, and services available when, **where**, and how people want them. Ensure that **every community member** has access to library materials in a format that works for them. **Create library spaces that are accessible and welcoming to all. Increase the number of people who** are aware of and **benefit** from the variety of services the library provides. "Where" people need and want Boise Library services is Far West Boise. The stated Strategic Priority is to Create library spaces. "Create" implies new creation, not just making existing facilities bigger. Proximity has to be a factor in "accessible." No one feels "welcome" when their community is excluded. People do not "benefit" from services that are not accessible.

#### **Increase Impact**

Create valuable experiences for **every resident** and meet their needs at every stage of life.

Elevate literacy and lifelong learning for Boise residents. **Strengthen connections with community organizations.** "Every resident" should include those in Far West Boise. "Community organizations" should include Citizens for a Library, the Neighborhood Associations of Far West Boise and City Council District 1.

#### **Optimize Resources**

Modernize, strengthen, and streamline our operational capabilities. Modernize operations to serve the community more efficiently. Invest in a highly trained and well-supported workforce.

#### **Measure Value**

Establish impact and performance metrics and **use data for decision-making.** Measure and communicate the impact of the Library on the Boise community.

**Collect, evaluate, and utilize community feedback.** Citizens for a Library provided data that clearly documents the library desert and the distance barrier to equitable access. The Boise Library Department collected community feedback, then failed to honestly evaluate it. The raw survey responses were never made public and the summary provided acknowledged that 83713, Far West Boise, had a 3 fold increase per capita of survey responders to previous surveys, but the summary failed to let the public know what 83713 said, "We need a library in West Boise." The Group 4 report includes a chart showing that the residents of West Boise will drive into Boise Libraries, but it fails to show that we often drive to the libraries of neighboring cities. 58% of the Garden City Library patrons hold Boise library cards. At opening, over 10% of the new Meridian Orchard Park Library patrons held Boise library cards. What about Ada Community and Eagle? This information is readily available to the Boise Library Department but excluded from the report and evaluation. More? Which area in Boise has the least access to Valley Ride or pathways? More? The survey and listening sessions brought up parking issues at some current libraries. How do we reconcile asking the residents of Far West Boise to drive into libraries that may have parking challenges? Are these parking

challenges, especially at Cole and Ustick, because this library attracts drivers from Far West Boise. More? City Council District 1 has the lowest Boise library card rate in the city. Is it because we're illiterate or uninterested or could it be because Boise Libraries are simply too far away for convenient access or impact on the community? Did Group 4 even look into this disparity? More? The 2023 Library Report lists \$1,665,831.90 contributed in economic value to entrepreneurs and businesses in Boise without substantiation. How is this benefit measured and how would it grow with library access in Far West Boise?

**The "Listening Sessions."** (Strategic Framework for Impact)

"The Boise Public Library held listening sessions, attended various community events, interviewed individuals and organizations, offered visioning activities in our libraries, and conducted an online survey that had over 2300 responses. We focused on listening to the community to address questions like:"

- **Do our programs and services reflect our community's needs and wants?** Citizens for a Library and the residents of Far West Boise were very vocal about the need for and the desire for a Boise Library in Far West Boise.
- **How can we create a welcoming environment for everyone?** How can we create a "welcoming environment" when exclude a large portion of Boise's residents?
- **Where can we make the biggest impact and set bold goals for the years ahead?** The biggest impact for growing resident access would be a Boise Library in Far West Boise. A bold goal would be a Boise Library in Far West Boise rather than a timid goal of making existing branches "bigger."

Trustee Bios talk about "remain true to core values of open access, the library is an important part of the community, support equitable access to literacy and learning, ensure everyone in Boise can benefit from the Library, and strengthening the sense of community and equality among the residents of our city." We've heard similar sentiments from the city administration. Even Blueprint Boise, the vision for our city's future, has a library proximity goal of three miles that has added branches, but only on the east side of town. I suggest that many of these sentiments can best be honored by keeping an open mind and removing barriers to the idea of an expanding Boise Library system, including a library in Far West Boise.

---

**From:** Amanda Salisbury <amandamariesalisbury@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 7, 2025 9:25 AM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] proposed facilities plan

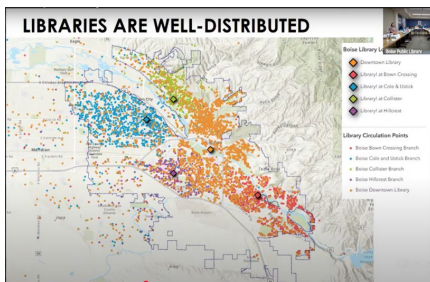
**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hello Boise Library Board of Trustees,

I am writing to you regarding my concerns with the library facilities plan draft.

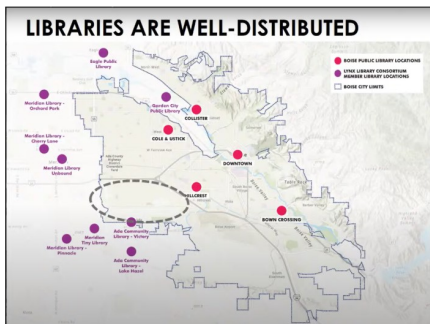
I have lived in the very north west corner of Boise (near Eagle and McMillan roads) for the past 16 years. As soon as I moved here I realized that we were missing an important community component nearby: A LIBRARY. In the NW corner of Boise we are significantly further from a library (Boise or other neighboring cities) than most of the rest of the city. I live 4 miles away from the closest library and 5 miles from a Boise library. Depending on traffic, it takes me 15-25 minutes to drive to a library. I think it would be great if nearly all Boise citizens had a library within 2 miles. This would allow people to reasonably get to a library without having to have a car. There are many people (teenagers, refugees, etc) that don't have access to a car. They cannot drive to the library. Those that don't have cars are often those that would benefit most from the many resources libraries offer.

The analysis by Group 4 that says "libraries are well-distributed" is flawed. My biggest issue is that they seemed to say that library usage is even across the city, even in well populated areas. It is not. Looking at the data that they shared, the further you get away from a library the fewer people visit the library. I don't think that this is because people that live further from libraries don't value them, it is because it is harder for them to get to a library. We should be providing access to all areas of Boise. This [link](#) shows an analysis of population density compared to distance from a library. It shows by far that the area of Boise most at a disadvantage for library ease of access is the far west edge of Boise.



Also, looking at the map that Group 4 shared showing all Boise and surrounding LYNX libraries clearly shows that there is not an even distribution of libraries. There is a large gap in the middle of the map.





The library's goals are:

- Ensure that every community member has access to library materials in a format that works for them.
- Create library spaces that are accessible and welcoming to all.
- Increase the number of people who are aware of and benefit from the variety of services the library provides.

I believe that one of the best ways to meet these goals is to have libraries that are geographically accessible to all of Boise. Everyone living in Boise pays equal taxes to support the library, everyone should have equitable benefit from that.

The west edge of Boise has shown you its desire to have a library in our area. We value and want all of the great things that having a library brings to a community. I ask you to NOT adopt the proposed facilities plan as it is. I ask you to look at the data (and maybe even ask for more data taking population density into consideration). I ask that you make all of Boise, especially the western side of Boise, included in having library access in the facilities plan. I urge you to make this change to the facilities plan before endorsing it and presenting it to City Council.

Regards,  
Amanda Salisbury

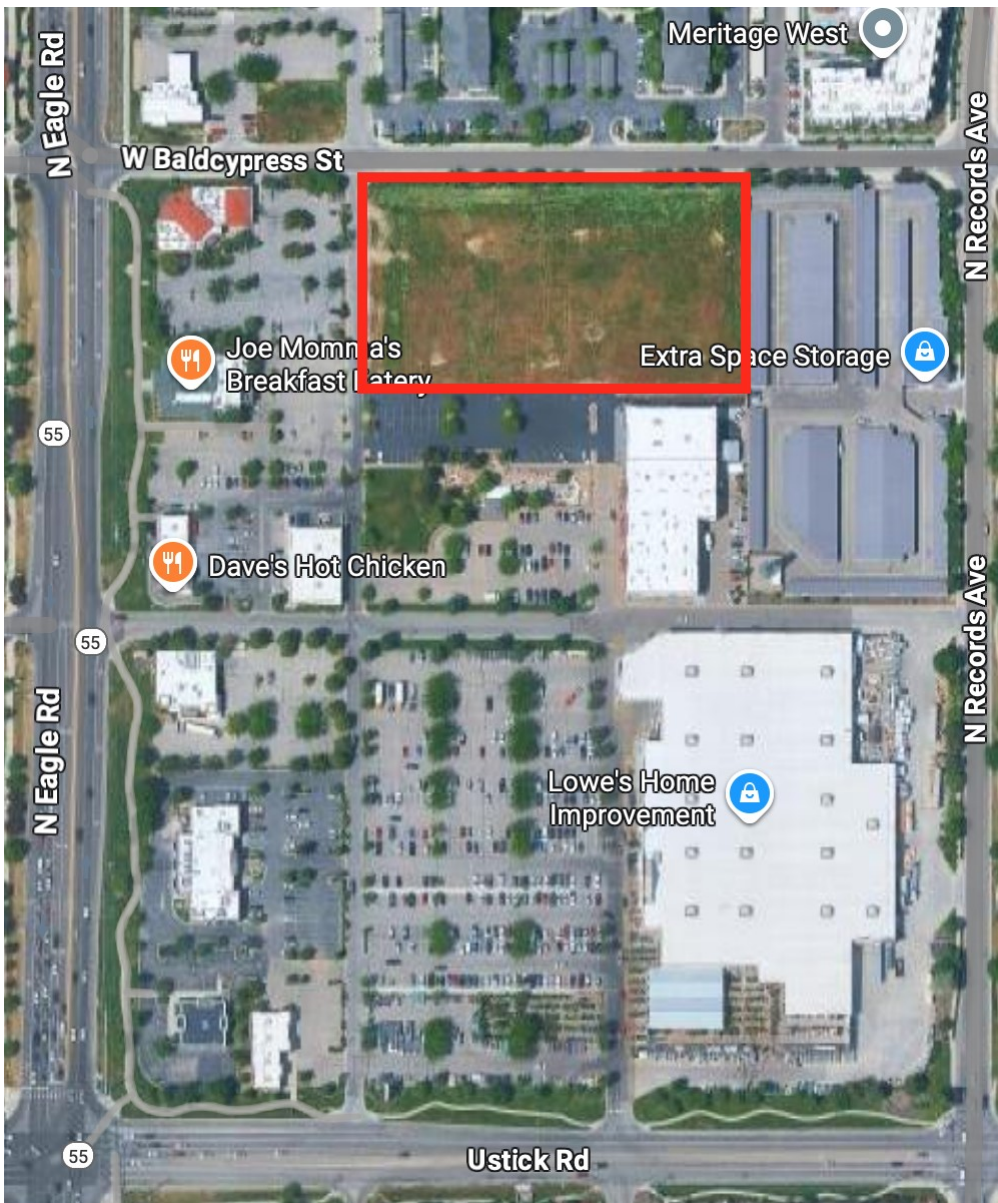
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**From:** Bryan Neufeld <bryanjneufeld@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 7, 2025 1:56 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Please reconsider the west Boise library

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Boise Public Library Board of Trustees,

I was thinking more on where a library could go for West Boise, I noticed this large empty lot that is for sale next to the Lowes at Ustick and Eagle. This location is right in the middle of the library desert, so it might be a perfect location to address the issue. It is easily accessible by both car and bicycle with the new “bike corridors” that go through the surrounding neighborhoods. Would the board consider building on this location?



Sincerely,  
Bryan Neufeld

On Aug 24, 2025, at 11:09 PM, Bryan Neufeld <[bryanjneufeld@gmail.com](mailto:bryanjneufeld@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear Boise Public Library Board of Trustees,

I have been following the efforts to get a library added to west Boise, and was extremely disappointed to hear that on August 13th, the board drafted a plan that said no library was needed for the next 20-25 years. My understanding of the decision, was that it was based on data saying that the existing libraries receive traffic from all over the city. Unfortunately, I think there is a major flaw in the logic used.

Let me use a metaphor. If I have three cups placed out in the rain, each cup will catch some water. If I add funnels larger than the cups, more water will be collected in each. In

this metaphor, the cups are libraries and the funnels are the extra distances people are willing to travel to get to the libraries. The logic used in the August 13th decision says, "look, all of the cups catch water". However, does this mean that the ground in the gaps between the cups isn't wet? Also, if the funnels were not there, even more rain would be missed. The use of the existing libraries doesn't accurately represent the need for a new library. There are people and children who are falling through the gaps because they can't or won't travel. Every missed droplet is a shame. Ideally, the cups would be so dense as to catch most all of the water without the need for funnels. There would be enough libraries so that no extensive travel would be required.

A far better way to measure the necessity of a library is by comparing the population density against the distance to the nearest library. I started looking into doing this analysis myself, then realized it was already done on this page <https://www.citizensforalibrary.org/west-boise/areas-with-poor-access/> That analysis clearly shows that there is a need in west Boise for a library so that we can drastically reduce the distance any person needs to travel to get to a library.

I have also included the image I generated from the 2021 census data. I have outlined an the area that is clearly not covered by any libraries. I encourage the board to explore the 2021 census data here [https://data.census.gov/map/050XX00US16001,16001\\$1400000/ACSDT5YSPT2021/B01003?t=001:Population+Total&y=2021&layer=VT\\_2021\\_140\\_00\\_PY\\_D1&loc=43.6925,-116.3321,z9.3543](https://data.census.gov/map/050XX00US16001,16001$1400000/ACSDT5YSPT2021/B01003?t=001:Population+Total&y=2021&layer=VT_2021_140_00_PY_D1&loc=43.6925,-116.3321,z9.3543).

I believe libraries are particularly important for children who are still in school. Libraries not only provide places to study and congregate, but I have seen how libraries can be a refuge for children that come from broken homes. Libraries provide a safe environment for these children to complete their school work and pursue hobbies without being surrounded by the issues at home. These children often don't have access to the transportation required to get to a far away library. Restricting access to such a vital resource is unconscionable.

I implore the board to reconsider the data they are using to make their decision. Make sure what the data is saying truly represents the problem being addressed. Please don't measure how far people are currently willing to travel; instead measure how far people should be required to travel.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Bryan Neufeld

<Boise\_Libraries\_vs\_Population.png>

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**From:** nancyljo@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 9, 2025 8:34 AM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] West Boise Library supporter

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

The population of Boise is growing and travel has become more burdensome with traffic congestion. Citizens of west Boise contribute our tax dollars to library services and our youth need easy access to libraries. There are many store front spaces in west Boise that could be economically converted to a library. Books are in abundance at libraries through donations.  
Nancy Jones

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

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**From:** Nancy Szofran <nszofran@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 10, 2025 2:41 PM  
**To:** BPLBOARDTRUSTEE  
**Subject:** [External] No Library in West Boise - inadequate plan

**Caution:** This email came from outside the city. Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Library Board Members,

In reviewing the consultant's plan and after attending a public meeting at Cole/Ustick public library, I encourage the Board to consider carefully the recommendations. It is most unfortunate that the 20-Year Plan does not include services for those of us who live in west Boise. Realizing I'm 78 years old and likely will not live long enough to see this deficiency addressed, I continue to be concerned for my neighbors with youngsters and for my friends' grandchildren who are denied the tremendous advantages of a local library.

My first public library was a one-room log cabin in Colorado, open every Saturday (unless snow prevented the librarian from getting there with boxes of books for us!). I cannot begin to tell you the importance or the impact that librarian and little library had on me. I eventually earned a BS in Ed, a MLS (information science) at Mizzou, and a PhD at U of Idaho. At times I have worked in public and university libraries, I have been a library director, and a college president. I am now retired but utilize and enjoy my library privileges daily. Libraries and library access are critical to a meaningful quality of life. I want my tax dollars to benefit all Boiseans, including my neighbors in west Boise.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Nancy C. Fair-Szofran, PhD  
Boise ID [District 15, Zone 3 (school district)]

# Proposition 1: 2019 Ballot Wording

November 5, 2019 election

“AN INITIATIVE REQUIRING VOTER APPROVAL OF THE COST, FINANCING, LOCATION, DESIGN, AND SIZE OF CERTAIN BOISE CITY LIBRARY FACILITY PROJECTS.

An initiative relating to Boise City development of library facilities by: prohibiting Boise City from appropriating or spending funds, or incurring debt for any aspect of a city library facility reasonably expected to exceed \$25,000,000.00 in total without prior voter approval of the qualified electors; requiring that Boise City provide in such election notice the "plan and design," which shall include the cost, financing method, location, design, and size of the proposed Boise library facility; providing that approval of a proposed library facility occurs by a majority vote in favor of the project at an election held on an official election date; defining the term "expenses" as actual monetary payments, in kind assistance, the value of employee time, the value of land exchanges, direct or indirect payments to third parties and any other consideration which in any way promotes or enhances the development of a Boise library facility; defining the term "major library project" as any library project reasonably expected to exceed \$25,000,000.00 in total costs and/or expenses; and defining the term "plan and design" as a proposal that includes any element of the cost, financing method, location, design, and size of a Boise City library facility.”

A Yes vote meant: “The City of Boise could not undertake any aspect of a library project with expected costs of \$25,000,000 or more without first obtaining approval by a majority of Boise voters in a future election.”

A No vote meant: “Current law would not change. The City of Boise could undertake any aspect of a library project without first obtaining voter approval.”

More information can be found in the [November 5, 2019 Voters Pamphlet](#).



# City Code Chapter 27 Library Projects

Adopted July 28, 2020

## 1-27-1: PURPOSE:

The people of the City Boise find that it is in the interest of the City of Boise and its residents to work together in pursuing major projects and that by having a public vote on major library projects there will be more public involvement, more public support, and a better result. (Ord. 58-19, 12-10-2019; amd. Ord. 22-20, 7-28-2020)

## 1-27-2: ELECTION APPROVAL REQUIRED:

The City of Boise shall not incur expenses as defined herein, for the construction or any additional aspect of any major library project unless the City Council of Boise has received the approval of the qualified electors of the City of Boise at a duly conducted election. (Ord. 58-19, 12-10-2019; amd. Ord. 22-20, 7-28-2020)

## 1-27-3: DISCLOSURE OF PLAN AND DESIGN PROPOSAL:

The proposed schematic design and funding strategy for any major library project shall be disclosed in the notice of election. (Ord. 58-19, 12-10-2019; amd. Ord. 22-20, 7-28-2020)

## 1-27-4: APPROVAL:

Approval of a major library project occurs when the majority of votes cast are cast in favor thereof at an election held on an official election date designated by State law. (Ord. 58-19, 12-10-2019; amd. Ord. 22-20, 7-28-2020)

## 1-27-5: DEFINITIONS:

Terms used in this section are defined as follows:

**EXPENSES:** Actual monetary payments, in-kind assistance, the value of land exchanges, direct or indirect payments to third parties, and any other consideration which promotes or enhances the development of a major library project. Expenses shall not include any City incurred costs for the development of a schematic design, as defined herein.

**FUNDING STRATEGY:** The planned method of any financing mechanisms that will be utilized to fund any major library project.

**MAJOR LIBRARY PROJECT:** Any library project reasonably expected to require expenses totaling not less than twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000).

**SCHEMATIC DESIGN:** The preparation of studies to ascertain the requirement of the project, consisting of drawings and other documents illustrating the scale and relationship of the project components for approval by the City. The SCHEMATIC DESIGN includes the architect's preliminary estimate of construction costs. (Ord. 58-19, 12-10-2019; amd. Ord. 22-20, 7-28-2020)





Library!

# Boise Public Library Facilities Plan Appendix

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES | 09 September 2025





GROUP 4

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## PROJECT TIMING SCENARIOS

Funding is essential for developing specific implementation timelines. Because funding strategies and availability have not yet been confirmed for the recommended projects, implementation timelines have not yet been developed.

In addition to funding availability, other considerations for future development of the sequence and timing of these projects may include:

- **Mitigating escalation.** Local, regional, and national construction markets have seen significant escalation in recent years, and sources suggest additional escalation ahead. It is doubtful that these capital projects will ever be less expensive than they are today. The sooner the city can move projects forward, the lower the impact that future escalation will likely have.
- **Addressing community needs.** Prioritizing replacement of the leased Collister and Hillcrest library spaces with expanded branches will significantly boost community access and service. They also can support new services and spaces that aren't provided in Boise's current library facilities.
- **Maintenance needs.** For Cole & Ustick and Bown Crossing, it may be logical to schedule service renovations to coincide with moderate to major life cycle maintenance improvements that may interrupt library service (as applicable), such as roof replacement, interior finish replacement, mechanical system upgrades, etc.
- **Managing operating expenditures.** Larger libraries typically require more operating resources than smaller branches. While larger Hillcrest and Collister libraries will eventually need more staff, collections, technology, etc. than the current small branches, the City may be able to phase projects so that they can be moved and shared until the entire capital program is complete. (For example, if a service remodel of Cole & Ustick is scheduled to begin just after the new Hillcrest opens, it may be possible to temporarily move Cole & Ustick's staff, collections, etc. to the new Hillcrest – thus delaying the need to hire staff and build up the opening day collection.)
- **Avoiding simultaneous closures.** Taking a library offline temporarily during construction will likely increase use and demand at the other BPL (and Lynx) locations. Coordinating library capital projects to manage shifting usage levels and ensure sufficient available service capacity will help customers and staff through the inevitable but ultimately rewarding disruptions.
- **City and BPL management capacity.** BPL, in collaboration with the Boise Public Works Department team, should consider the feasibility of managing multiple design and construction projects at the same time.
- **Voter approval.** In the November 2019 election, Boise voters passed Proposition 1: Boise Voter Approval Requirement for Library Development Initiative which requires "...voter approval of the cost, financing, location, design, and size of certain Boise City library facility projects."<sup>1</sup> For projects recommended in this plan that may be subject to this requirement, project timing-related factors include that the package put before the voters is required to include some level of design, and that the vote must be held on "an official election date."

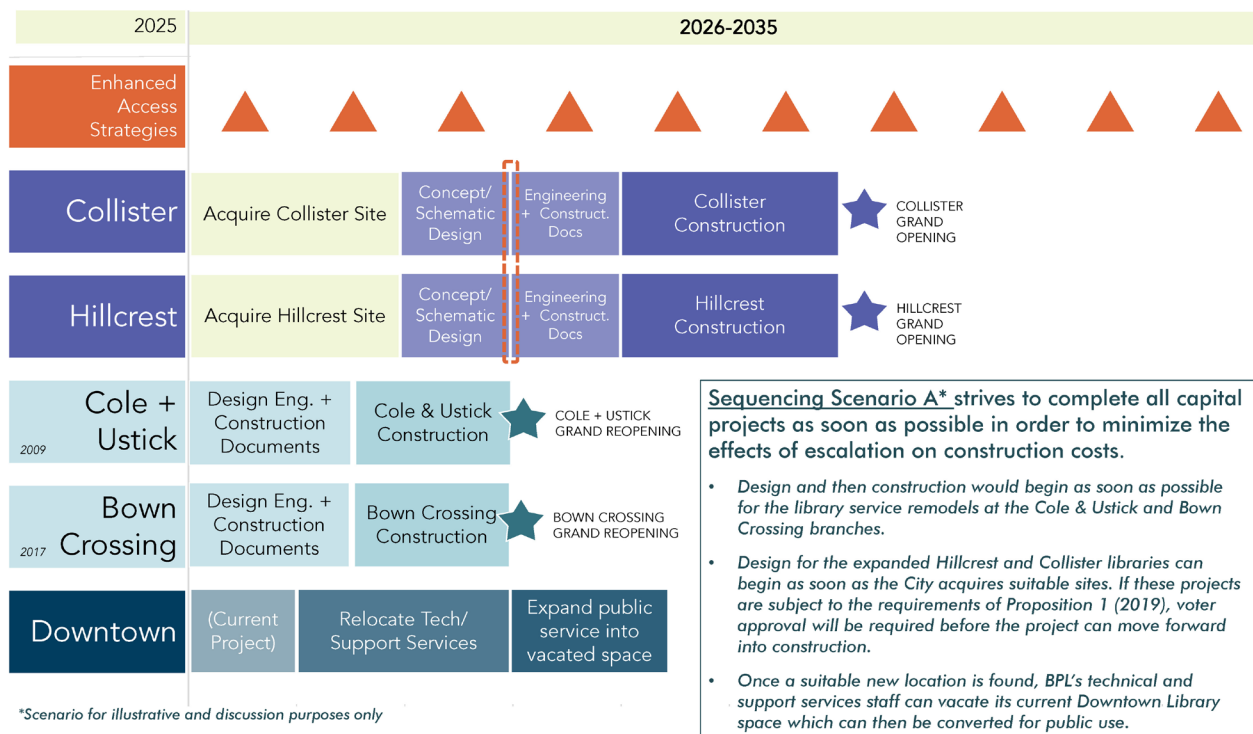
Other considerations include community support, timing and availability of funding, and taking advantage of well-aligned opportunities as they arise.

The sequencing scenarios shown on the following pages are meant to illustrate how certain factors (e.g., minimizing escalation and managing operating expenditures) could inform the development of a phasing plan once funding and implementation strategies are confirmed for the plan-recommended projects.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cityofboise.org/departments/city-clerk/city-elections/ballot-initiatives/proposition-1-2019/>

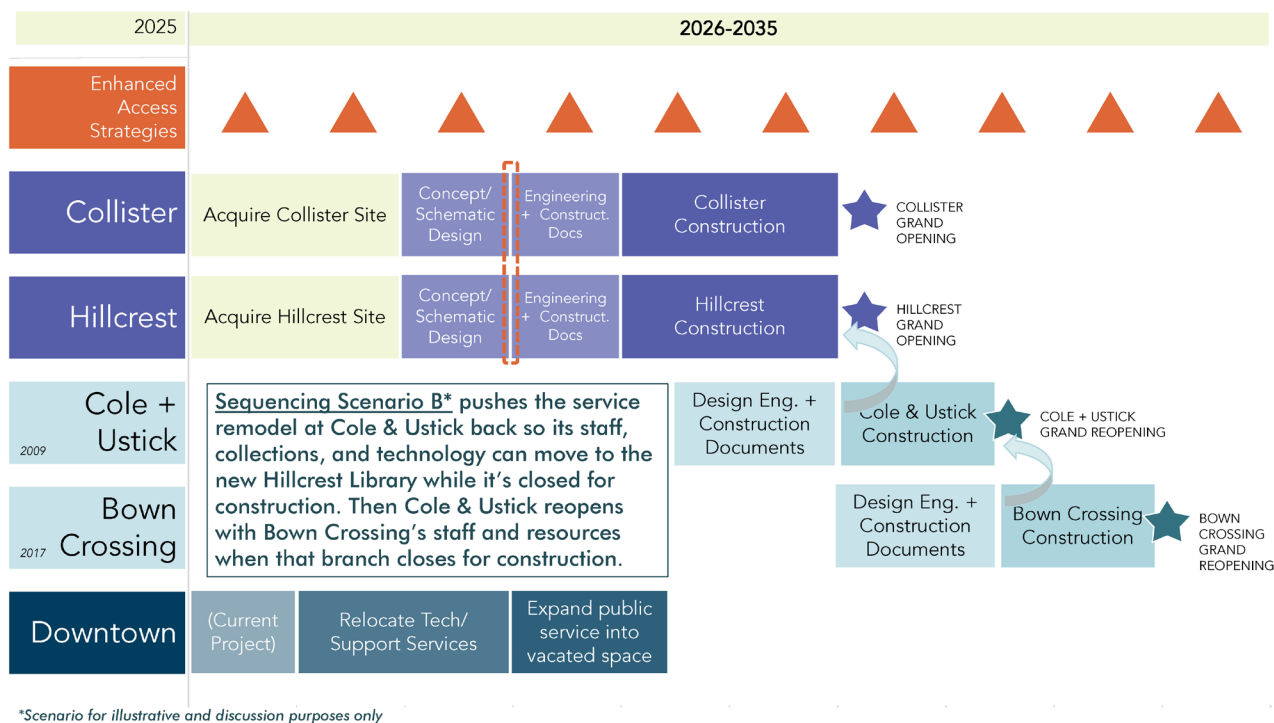
# SEQUENCING SCENARIO A\*

Minimize effects of escalation



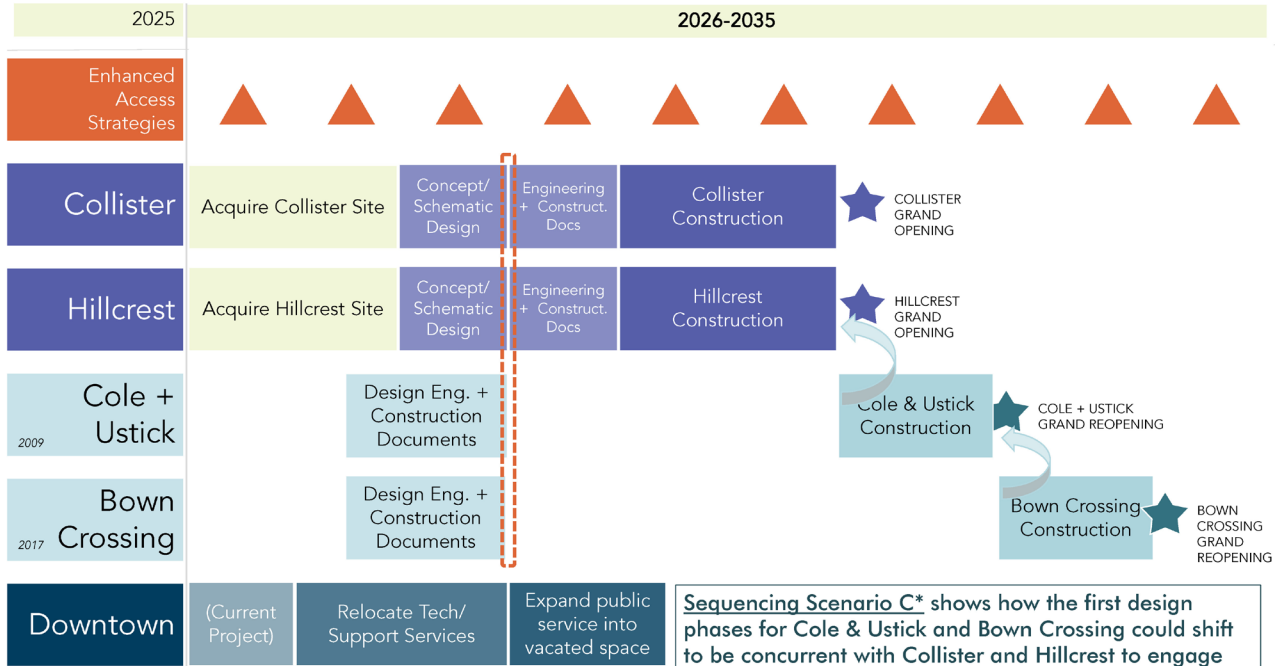
# SEQUENCING SCENARIO B\*

Manage growth in BPL operating costs



# SEQUENCING SCENARIO C\*

Community engagement  
+ support



\*Scenario for illustrative and discussion purposes only.

**Sequencing Scenario C\*** shows how the first design phases for Cole & Ustick and Bown Crossing could shift to be concurrent with Collister and Hillcrest to engage communities and prepare for a voter measure for all four projects.



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CAROLYN CARLBERG  
ARCHITECT

GARY CHING  
ARCHITECT

HARDING DOWELL  
ARCHITECT

NICOLE GHISELLI  
ARCHITECT

DANIEL LAROSSA  
ARCHITECT

WILLIAM LIM  
ARCHITECT

TERESA ROM  
ARCHITECT

05 June 2025

## PROJECT

BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

## TOPIC

PRELIMINARY CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR RECOMMENDED PROJECTS – **DRAFT**

## Introduction

This memorandum is a supplement to the main report document for the Facilities Master Plan (FMP) for Boise Public Library (BPL), which proposes improvement projects for library facilities in Boise over a 10-year timeframe.

This memorandum describes the budgeting methodology and “order of magnitude” capital budgets for the FMP-recommended projects. The budgets in this memo are in current dollars, without escalation. Note that these budgets are not a prediction or guarantee of the cost of any project. The City of Boise and BPL should review and update these budgets regularly to reflect changes in project scope, design refinements, anticipated construction timing, changing market conditions, and other variables.

## METHODOLOGY

The projects recommended in the FMP are aspirational and have not yet undergone any level of design. As such, capital budgets for the recommended projects are based on high-level assumptions about project scope, scale, and quality.

Construction cost inputs were provided by Portland, Oregon-based ACC Cost Consultants (<https://archcost.com/>) based on recent comparable projects in the region including libraries and other high-quality civic buildings. The inputs include per-square-foot costs and allowances that – when combined with general building and site area assumptions – form a budget range for construction. All cost inputs assume that the work is competitively bid and built with labor at local prevailing wage.

Site and building construction costs are only part of the overall cost of each capital project. The capital budgets developed for the FMP-recommended projects strive to be as inclusive as reasonably possible, considering the whole cost of each project. In addition to anticipated hard costs, the budgets also include allowances for fixtures, furnishings, and equipment, as well as building technology and signage. Budgets include allowances for owner costs such as design/engineering fees, permitting, etc.

Design, construction, soft cost, and project contingencies are included in these preliminary budgets to account for some of the “unknowns” of the proposed projects, such as market changes, unforeseen conditions, and new opportunities. The capital budgets proposed in this memo are not a prediction or guarantee of low bid or actual cost.

MEMORANDUM



05 May 2025

**DRAFT**

Memorandum Page 2 of 4

## **Exclusions**

The budgets exclude land acquisition costs (or land sale proceeds) that may be associated with relocations; temporary library facilities during construction; targeting higher levels of sustainable design than required by applicable codes and standards; registration and certification costs for opt-in programs such as LEED and WELL; hazardous materials assessment and abatement; and other associated and unknown costs. As projects are further defined and designed, the City and BPL will be able to refine the budgets to include or exclude relevant elements as appropriate.

The capital budgets also exclude library operational costs and expenses such as added staff, collection development, public and staff technology, automated materials handling systems and other specialty equipment, etc.

## **PRELIMINARY CAPITAL PROJECT BUDGETS**

All recommended capital budgets below are in Q2 2025 dollars without future escalation. Once the timeline for each project is confirmed, escalation should be applied – typically to the projected midpoint of construction.

### **New 25,000-30,000 Square Foot Branches – \$20 to \$25 Million Each<sup>1</sup>**

The FMP recommends that all new branches in Boise should be at least 25,000 square feet in order to provide the breadth, depth, and diversity of spaces and resources to serve community needs. Both Hillcrest and Collister branches are recommended for redevelopment at 25,000 square feet or larger. Any additional branches that the City may elect to build should be at least this size as well.

Construction costs for new branch facilities assume:

- all-new construction on uncomplicated sites;
- civic-quality structures with high-performance envelopes, efficient building systems, and durable materials;
- attractive architecture with dynamic and flexible interior spaces that can adapt over time to accommodate changing needs and services; and
- surface parking. (More intensive parking solutions such as multi-level garages and under-building parking will increase the cost of the project.)

In addition to options for all-new construction, the City can also explore and evaluate opportunities to acquire existing buildings that can be transformed into libraries. Whether this can offer the City any savings cannot be determined before the characteristics and conditions of a candidate site are known. Until that time, it is recommended that the City carry the budget for all-new construction.

<sup>1</sup> In Q2 2025 dollars; add escalation based on project schedule.



**Branch Updates – \$1.5 to 1.75 Million Each<sup>2</sup>**

Both the Bown Crossing and Cole + Ustick branches will be due for their first life-cycle refresh and update during the next 10 years. In addition to addressing life-cycle maintenance needs of the buildings and systems (such as roof replacement, mechanical equipment upgrades, etc.), the suggested construction budgets for these projects are intended to provide selected opportunities to update the interior spaces to reflect new community priorities and evolving library services. The community should be involved in the process of confirming and prioritizing these updates for each branch.

**Downtown Library; BPL Operations**

While the FMP finds that the current Downtown Library building is inadequate to support library needs in Boise, a major project to expand or replace it is not considered a priority within the next 10 years. Over the next decade the City should continue to address maintenance needs, keep interior spaces and furnishings fresh and welcoming, and make other strategic updates to services and operations at the Downtown Library. A renovation of the first floor is currently underway; updates of upper floors can be considered over time as well.

Some of BPL's operational divisions are significantly constrained in their current space in the Downtown Library. Within the next 10 years, the City can look for opportunities to move these functions to expanded space in a different location – which need not necessarily be centrally-located or highly visible as these functions are not public-facing. Relocating these functions to better space can not only improve their efficiency and effectiveness in supporting library service throughout Boise, but also free up space in the Downtown Library for public use.

Additional focused study will be needed to determine the appropriate amount of space for BPL operations and the scope of improvements for upper floors in the Downtown Library over the next 10 years. The City can develop appropriate associated budgets at that time as well.

**UPDATING BUDGETS OVER TIME**

The City and BPL are strongly encouraged to revisit these preliminary capital budgets regularly and to update them as needed to reflect changing conditions and opportunities. For example, some of the FMP-recommended projects may change and evolve over time, such as to reflect community input and priorities during the next phases of planning and design. New and different opportunities may also arise beyond what is anticipated in this FMP – for example, partnering with other City department(s) on a new shared facility, or acquiring a great building for adaptive reuse that happens to be a little bit larger than 30,000 square feet.

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<sup>2</sup> In Q2 2025 dollars; add escalation based on project schedule.



05 May 2025

**DRAFT**

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Market escalation is also important to track. Historically construction costs in the US in the 20<sup>th</sup> century doubled roughly every 20 to 25 years or so, on average (or about 3% per year). Since the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the rate of escalation has been somewhat higher than the historical average. M.A. Mortenson's Construction Cost Index<sup>3</sup> for selected cities suggests that costs increased approximately 33% in Portland, Oregon over just the past five years. Mortensen also shows that construction costs in Seattle have increased by 43% since 2020 – and have more than doubled over the past 15 years.

Construction costs have always been affected by a wide variety of factors that are mostly beyond our clients' control – such as labor costs, availability of materials and equipment, and the regional availability and capacity of contractors and subcontractors to do the work, to name a few. Within the past six months, the promise of tariffs has also brought new uncertainty and volatility to the construction market.

Market conditions and escalation over the next few years will likely continue to be difficult to forecast. ACC Cost Consultants recommends budgeting for at least the historical average of 3% annual escalation – which would increase the budgets in this memo by nearly 16% by 2030 and almost 35% by 2035.

Strategies for periodically updating these preliminary capital budgets include making adjustments based on an index such as that published by *Engineering News-Record* and/or commissioning an architectural team with a cost consultant.

### CONTACT US

We will be happy to work with the City of Boise and BPL over time to keep capital budgets up to date, evaluate new opportunities, and refine project schedules for FMP-recommended projects. Please do not hesitate to contact us any time we can be of assistance.

Jill Eyres, Principal  
Group 4 Architecture, Research + Planning, Inc.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.mortenson.com/cost-index>



## FACILITY INFORMATION

This section provides more information about current Boise Public Library facilities, their service capacity and condition, and high-level operating, staffing, and maintenance costs.

The City of Boise and BPL are strongly encouraged to revisit the capital, maintenance, and operating expense estimates regularly and to update them as needed to reflect changing conditions, opportunities, and market escalation rates.

Construction costs have always been affected by a wide variety of factors that are mostly beyond the city's control, such as labor costs, availability of materials and equipment, and the regional availability and capacity of contractors and subcontractors to do the work. Strategies for periodically updating preliminary capital cost estimates include making adjustments based on an index such as that published by Engineering News-Record and/or commissioning an architectural team with a cost consultant.



# LIBRARY! AT COLE & USTICK



**LOCATION:** 7557 WEST USTICK RD.

**SITE AREA:** 3.017 ACRES

**BUILDING SIZE:** 15,300 SQUARE FEET

**ZONE:** MX-1

**OPENED:** 2009 (NEW CONSTRUCTION)

**OWNERSHIP:** CITY-OWNED

**BUILDING + SYSTEMS DATA**

ADA	ROOF	MECHANICAL	ELECTRICAL	PLUMBING	FIRE SPRINKLERED
Yes	2009	2009	2009	2009	Yes

**LIBRARY SITE**



# BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITY LIFECYCLE COST ANALYSIS

LIBRARY! AT COLE & USTICK

7557 WEST USTICK RD.

FACILITY INFORMATION

ASSET	TAG	ACQUIRED	EXPECTED LIFECYCLE	PROJECTED REPLACEMENT YEAR	COST
Air handler	FTU1-3	2009	20	2029	
Air handler	FTU1-2	2009	20	2029	
Air handler	FTU1-5	2009	20	2029	
Air handler	FTU1-4	2018	20	2038	
Air handler	FTU1-1	2009	20	2029	
Air handler	FTU1-6	2009	20	2029	
Air handler	FTU2-1	2009	20	2029	
Air handler	FTU2-6	2009	20	2029	
Air handler	FTU2-5	2009	20	2029	
Air handler	FTU2-3	2009	20	2029	
Air handler	FTU2-2	2009	20	2029	
Condensing Unit	CU-1	2023	25	2048	
Fan	EF-1	2022	20	2042	
Fan	Supply Fan	2009	20	2029	
Fan	Exhaust Fan	2009	20	2029	
Fan	EF-2	2011	20	2031	
Fan	Supply Fan	2009	20	2029	
Fan	EF-3	2016	20	2036	
Fan	Exhaust Fan	2009	20	2029	
Package Unit	AC-1	2009	25	2034	
Package Unit	AC-2	2009	25	2034	
Evaporator		2022	20	2042	
Pump		2009	25	2034	
Pump		2009	25	2034	
Fire Alarm		2009	15	2024	
Fire Suppression		2009			
Roof		2009	20	2029	

A-10 BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY STRATEGIC FACILITIES PLAN – APPENDIX



# LIBRARY! AT BOWN CROSSING



**LOCATION:** 2153 EAST RIVERWALK DR.

**SITE AREA:** 3.006 ACRES

**BUILDING SIZE:** 15,900 SQUARE FEET

**ZONE:** MX-1

**OPENED:** 2017 (NEW CONSTRUCTION)

**OWNERSHIP:** CITY-OWNED

**BUILDING + SYSTEMS DATA**

ADA	ROOF	MECHANICAL	ELECTRICAL	PLUMBING	FIRE SPRINKLERED
Yes	2017	2017	2017	2017	Yes

**LIBRARY SITE**



# BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITY LIFECYCLE COST ANALYSIS

LIBRARY! AT BOWN CROSSING

2153 EAST RIVERWALK DR.

FACILITY INFORMATION

ASSET	TAG	ACQUIRED	EXPECTED LIFECYCLE	PROJECTED REPLACEMENT YEAR	COST
Air Handler	FTU 2-5	2016	20	2036	
Air Handler	FTU 2-3	2016	20	2036	
Air Handler	FTU 2-6	2016	20	2036	
Air Handler	FTU 2-1	2016	20	2036	
Air Handler	FTU 2-2	2016	20	2036	
Air Handler	FTU 2-4	2016	20	2036	
Air Handler	FTU 1-7	2016	20	2036	
Air Handler	FTU 1-3	2016	20	2036	
Air Handler	FTU 1-4	2016	20	2036	
Air Handler	FTU 1-1	2016	20	2036	
Air Handler	FTU 1-5	2016	20	2036	
Air Handler	FTU 1-2	2016	20	2036	
Air Handler	FTU 1-6	2016	20	2036	
Boiler	B-1	2016	23	2039	
Condensing Unit	CU-1	2017	25	2042	
Fan	Exhaust	2017	20	2037	
Fan	Supply	2017	20	2037	
Fan	EF-3	2017	20	2037	
Fan	EF-2	2016	20	2036	
Fan	Exhaust	2016	20	2036	
Fan	Supply	2016	20	2036	
Package Unit	AHU-1	2017	25	2042	
Package Unit	AHU-2	2017	25	2042	
Evaporator	FC-1	2017	20	2037	
Pump	CP-1	2017	25	2042	
Pump	CP-2	2017	25	2042	
Pump	1	2017	25	2042	
Pump	3	2017	25	2042	
Pump	2	2017	25	2042	
Fire Alarm		2017	15	2032	
Fire Suppression		2016	80	2096	
Fire Suppression		2017			
Fire Suppression		2016			
Fire Suppression		2016	80	2096	
Roof		2017	20	2037	

A-12 BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY STRATEGIC FACILITIES PLAN – APPENDIX



# LIBRARY! AT COLLISTER



LOCATION: 4724 WEST STATE ST.

SITE AREA: N/A

BUILDING SIZE: 12,200 SQUARE FEET

ZONE: MX-4

OPENED: 2009 (TENANT IMPROVEMENTS)

OWNERSHIP: LEASED

BUILDING + SYSTEMS DATA

ADA	ROOF	MECHANICAL	ELECTRICAL	PLUMBING	FIRE SPRINKLERED
Yes	2007*	2007*	2007*	2007*	Yes

\*Owner’s responsibility

LIBRARY SITE





# BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITY LIFECYCLE COST ANALYSIS

LIBRARY! AT COLLISTER

4724 WEST STATE ST.

ASSET	TAG	ACQUIRED	EXPECTED LIFECYCLE	PROJECTED REPLACEMENT YEAR	COST
Condensing Unit	ACU-01	2023	20	2043	
Condensing Unit	ACU-02	2023	20	2043	
Ductless Split	DSIDU-01	2023	20	2043	
Furnace	FUR-01	2023	15	2038	
Package Unit	RTU-01	2022	20	2042	
Package Unit	RTU-02	2022	20	2042	
Package Unit	RTU-03	2022	20	2042	
Package Unit	RTU-04	2022	20	2042	
Exhaust Fan	EF-01				
Exhaust Fan	EF-02				
Fire Alarm					
Roof					

# LIBRARY! AT HILLCREST



**LOCATION:** 5246 WEST OVERLAND RD.      **SITE AREA:** N/A

**BUILDING SIZE:** 8,400 SQUARE FEET      **ZONE:** MX-3

**OPENED:** 2008 (TENANT IMPROVEMENTS)      **OWNERSHIP:** LEASED

**BUILDING + SYSTEMS DATA**

ADA	ROOF	MECHANICAL	ELECTRICAL	PLUMBING	FIRE SPRINKLERED
Yes	2007*	2007*	2007*	2007*	Yes

*\*Owner’s responsibility*

**LIBRARY SITE**



## BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITY LIFECYCLE COST ANALYSIS

LIBRARY! AT HILLCREST

5246 WEST OVERLAND RD.

FACILITY INFORMATION

ASSET	TAG	ACQUIRED	EXPECTED LIFECYCLE	PROJECTED REPLACEMENT YEAR	COST
Package Unit	RTU-01	2022	20	2042	
Package Unit	RTU-02	2022	20	2042	
Package Unit	RTU-03	2022	20	2042	
Package Unit	RTU-04	2022	20	2042	
Package Unit	RTU-05	2022	20	2042	
Package Unit	RTU-06	2022	20	2042	
Package Unit	RTU-07	2022	20	2042	
Package Unit	RTU-08	2022	20	2042	
Package Unit	RTU-09	2022	20	2042	
Exhaust Fan	EF-01				
Exhaust Fan	EF-02				
Fire Alarm					
Roof					

A-16 BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY STRATEGIC FACILITIES PLAN – APPENDIX



# DOWNTOWN LIBRARY



**LOCATION:** 715 SOUTH CAPITOL BLVD.      **SITE AREA:** 2.03 ACRES

**BUILDING SIZE:** 79,400 SQUARE FEET      **ZONE:** MX-5/CD-O

**OPENED:** 1973 (INTERIOR RENOVATION)      **OWNERSHIP:** CITY-OWNED

**BUILDING + SYSTEMS DATA**

ADA	ROOF	MECHANICAL	ELECTRICAL	PLUMBING	FIRE SPRINKLERED
Yes	2023	2026*	2026*	2026*	Yes

*\*Replacement in progress*

**LIBRARY SITE**



# BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITY LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS

## DOWNTOWN LIBRARY

715 SOUTH CAPITOL BLVD..

ASSET	TAG	ACQUIRED	EXPECTED LIFECYCLE	PROJECTED REPLACEMENT YEAR	COST
Air Handler	ERV 3	2024	20	2044	
Air Handler		2015	20	2035	
Air Handler		2016	20	2036	
Boiler		1977	23	2000	
Condensing Unit	VRV 1A	2015	30	2045	
Condensing Unit	HRU-1B	2015	30	2045	
Condensing Unit	HRU-2B	2015	30	2045	
Condensing Unit	HRU-1A Master Unit	2015	30	2045	
Condensing Unit	HRU-2A Master Unit	2015	30	2045	
Condensing Unit		2020	30	2050	
Cooling Tower		2012	30	2042	
Fan		2014	20	2034	
Fan		2013	20	2033	
Fan		2014	20	2034	
Fan		2012	20	2032	
Fan		2012	20	2032	
Fan		2016	20	2036	
Fan		2010	20	2030	
Fan		2013	20	2033	
Fan		2013	20	2033	
Fan		2023	20	2043	
Fan		2002	20	2022	
Fan	RTU-1-1	2013	20	2033	
Fan	RTU-1-2	2013	20	2033	
Fan	RTU-2-1	2013	20	2033	
Fan	RTU-2-2	2013	20	2033	
Fan		1996	20	2016	
Fan		1996	20	2016	
Fan		1996	20	2016	
Fan		1996	20	2016	
Fan		1996	20	2016	
Filter		2021			
Heater Exchanger	HX-L1	1984	25	2009	
Package Unit	HP-3	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	HP-6	2014	20	2034	

## BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITY LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS

## DOWNTOWN LIBRARY

ASSET	TAG	ACQUIRED	EXPECTED LIFECYCLE	PROJECTED REPLACEMENT YEAR	COST
Package Unit	HP-6	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	HP-201	1996	20	2016	
Package Unit	HP-202	1996	20	2016	
Package Unit	104	2013	20	2033	
Package Unit	115	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	HP328	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit		2010	20	2030	
Package Unit		2014	20	2034	
Package Unit		2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	HP-3	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	HP-2	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	HP-2	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	HP-203	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	103	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	102	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	103	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	116	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	1H-12	2025	20	2045	
Package Unit	1H-35	2025	20	2045	
Package Unit		2012	20	2032	
Package Unit		2013	20	2033	
Package Unit	313	2013	20	2033	
Package Unit	311	2016	20	2036	
Package Unit	310	2013	20	2033	
Package Unit		2014	20	2034	
Package Unit		2003	20	2023	
Package Unit	326	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	325	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	324	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	1H-14	2025	20	2045	
Package Unit	1H-12	2025	20	2045	
Package Unit		2010	20	2030	
Package Unit	302	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	332	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	330	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	319	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	318	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	317	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	316	2012	20	2032	

# BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITY LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS

## DOWNTOWN LIBRARY

ASSET	TAG	ACQUIRED	EXPECTED LIFECYCLE	PROJECTED REPLACEMENT YEAR	COST
Package Unit	315	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit		1996	20	2016	
Package Unit	320	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	320	1996	20	2016	
Package Unit	327	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	406	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	407	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	105	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit		2013	20	2033	
Package Unit	404	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	403	2018	20	2038	
Package Unit	422	2010	20	2030	
Package Unit	323	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	321	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	314	2013	20	2033	
Package Unit	331	1993	20	2013	
Package Unit	409	2008	20	2028	
Package Unit	408	2008	20	2028	
Package Unit	401	2008	20	2028	
Package Unit	402	2008	20	2028	
Package Unit	305	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit		2010	20	2030	
Package Unit	411	2024	20	2044	
Package Unit	412	2024	20	2044	
Package Unit	413	2024	20	2044	
Package Unit	420	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	421	2014	20	2034	
Package Unit	425	2013	20	2033	
Package Unit	426	2016	20	2036	
Package Unit	427	2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	430	2007	20	2027	
Package Unit	431	2007	20	2027	
Package Unit	428	2007	20	2027	
Package Unit		2012	20	2032	
Package Unit	433	2010	20	2030	
Package Unit	432	2007	20	2027	
Package Unit	434	2007	20	2027	
Package Unit	414	2024	20	2044	
Package Unit	RTU-1	2013	25	2030	

## DOWNTOWN LIBRARY

ASSET	TAG	ACQUIRED	EXPECTED LIFECYCLE	PROJECTED REPLACEMENT YEAR	COST
Package Unit		2013	25	2038	
Package Unit	RTU-2	2013	25	2030	
Package Unit		2013	25	2038	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2015	20	2035	
Evaporator		2020	20	2040	
Evaporator		2018	20	2038	
Pump		2022	25	2047	
Pump	DISC - CIR. P #1	2003	25	2028	
Pump	DISC - CIR. P #2	2003	25	2028	
Pump		2012	25	2037	
Pump		2013	25	2038	
Pump		2023	25	2047	
Pump		2012	25	2037	
Unit Heater		1996	15	2011	
Unit Heater		2012	15	2027	
Unit Heater		1996	15	2011	
Unit Heater		1996	15	2011	
Fire Alarm		2014	15	2029	
Fire Suppression		2023	80	2103	
Fire Suppression		2013			
Roof		2013	20	2033	