



BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY

MAYOR: Lauren McLean | DIRECTOR: Jessica Dorr

BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES Regular Meeting Minutes January 14, 2026

The Boise Public Library Board of Trustees met at the Library! at Bown Crossing in the Martie Brennan Room for their regular meeting at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 14, 2026

City Staff and Partners Present

- Jessica Dorr, Library Director
- Emily Johnson, Chief Administrative Officer
- Kathy Stalder, Acquisitions & Technical Services Sr Manager
- Heid Lewis, Public Services Sr Manager
- Sarah Kelley-Chase, Public Services Sr Manager
- Shivaun Korfanta, Library Marketing Manager
- Kari Davis, Library Administrative Manager
- Megan McIntosh, Library Administrative Specialist
- Ed Jewell, Boise City Legal Counsel
- Zac Clarke, Deputy Chief of Staff, Community Programs
- Joni Hansen, Library Branch Manager
- Maggie Smith, Senior Budget Analyst
- Lindsay Erb, Public Works Senior Project Manager
- Meredith Turner, Chair of the Boise Public Library Foundation (Remote)
- Kirsten Ocker, Friends of the Boise Public Library President (Remote)

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 11:31 a.m., and a roll call was conducted.

Present: Ron Pisaneschi, President; Nicole Trammel Pantera, Vice President (Remote); Brian Klene.

Absent: Evelyn Johnson; Reshma Kamal.

Dorr introduced the Library! at Bown Crossing's Branch Manager Joni Hansen to the Board.

2. Communications

None

3. Minutes-Action Item

a. December 10, 2025 Regular Meeting

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

MOTION to approve the December 10, 2025 regular meeting minutes.

Motion: Klene

Second: Pantera

Result: Motion carried on a roll call vote of Klene, yes; Pantera, yes; Pisaneschi, yes.

4. Consent Agenda-Action Item

a. Payment of Bills and Payroll

b. Financial Reports

MOTION to approve the December bills and payroll, the expenditure/revenue reports for the period ending November 30, 2025, and the gift fund activity report for November 2025.

Motion: Klene

Second: Pisaneschi

Result: Motion carried on a roll call vote of Klene, yes; Pantera, yes; Pisaneschi, yes.

5. Reports

a. Friends of the Boise Public Library

Ocker reported the Friends have established their 2026 book sale schedule with a fiction only sale on Saturday, February 7th. Their spring book sale will be Thursday, April 16th to Sunday, April 19th. The fall sale is scheduled for November, and the Friends expect to hold small pop-up sales throughout the year, dependent on inventory.

Trustees inquired about the election of officers for the Friends. Ocker confirmed that she was reelected as president with the Friends finalizing the other leadership roles in their next meeting.

b. Boise Public Library Foundation

Turner announced the Foundation held leadership elections on Thursday, January 8th with Turner elected as the new Chair. The new leadership includes Celynda Roach as vice chair; Brian Manship as treasurer; and Lisa Rodriguez as secretary. The Board requested Turner convey their appreciation to Camille Franks and Doug Achtemeier for their leadership and great work.

Turner shared the Foundation will be tabling at the branches during Library events; and has also engaged a new donation prize platform. Several round up partnerships with local businesses have been planned for 2026 starting with Lost Grove Brewing in January.

c. Library Director's Report including Administration and Management

Dorr reported that the 2026 Idaho Legislative Session has begun with no potential legislation impacting libraries at this time. She will keep the Board posted of any changes. In 2025, the Library revised its Advocacy Toolkit to make the resource more evergreen and help people advocate for the



Library. The revisions include an insert with a contact list page which will be updated for the 2026 session.

Dorr thanked Pantera and Johnson for joining staff at the end of December for a tour of the First Floor of the Downtown Library. Pantera appreciated the opportunity to see the work in progress and highlighted how the new layout flexibility improves the overall function of the building.

The city launched the America250 website in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. Dorr shared the Library will be involved in the year-long celebration leading up to the 4th of July.

Dorr shared Klene's five-year term will conclude on Tuesday, June 30th and Library staff will work with the Mayor's Office to post the opening for the Board. Dorr thanked Klene for his service on the Board. Trustees discussed creating a template to determine potential skillsets the Board may need going forward.

Dorr invited the Board to the Ultimate Book Nerd Party on Saturday, January 24th and to the 4th annual Taylor Swift Dance Party on Friday, January 30th at the Hillcrest Front Porch.

6. Requests for Reconsideration

None

7. Educational Item

a. Marketing Update

Korfanta provided an overview of Library marketing activities and results over the last year. Korfanta noted the Library's newsletter is the best marketing tool the Library has with 60% open rates. 2025 marketing highlights included the new social media strategy focusing on reels and engaging content; the Library! at Cole and Ustick ribbon cutting; new community resources rack cards; e-versions of the seasonal program guides; free billboard advertising with LAMAR; teen input for the community listening sessions; as well as consistent web updates. Korfanta detailed the Library's 2026 marketing focus featuring continued high-value content on social media; Library program marketing; updated brand guidelines, signage, and new webpages; and further press outreach.

Trustees agreed the unveiling of the newly renovated First Floor would be an exceptional marketing opportunity and discussed possible outreach ideas. It was noted TikTok is an excellent resource to reach teens and younger Library users. Korfanta shared that the city recently started a new TikTok campaign

8. Old Business

a. Boise Public Library Policy Review: Section 3.00, Services



Kelley-Chase reviewed section 3.00 of the Boise Public Library Policy Manual with the Trustees, specifically subsections 3.04-3.05. The staff recommended no changes to this section of the policy manual. Kelley-Chase discussed with Trustees the impacts of the changes made to policy 3.04 in 2025.

This continued the Library Board of Trustees annual policy review for Fiscal Year 2026 as stipulated by the Board's bylaws.

a. Library Facility Plan Discussion

Dorr and Erb continued the Library Facilities Plan discussions with the Board. The focuses for the discussion were the draft service goals, site selection criteria, and consideration to update the Library's proximity goal. Dorr noted the draft service goals were created focusing on the outward facing strategic priority areas of expanding access and increasing impact. The goals build off the strategic goals and connect them to programs and services the Library has been focused on. Targets will be determined to establish and identify a baseline to help with growth and planning. Trustees discussed outreach opportunities in forums complementary to the Library's purpose and goals.

Dorr compared the original 2000 Master Plan and Group 4's recommendations on site selection criteria. Both documents include accessibility, visibility, demographic patterns, neighborhood compatibility, legal matters/zoning, utilities available, and physiography. However, Group 4's recommendations increase the site size recommendations and add compatibility with city development plans and potential for high-value partnerships within the community.

Regarding proximity, Dorr noted the Library's existing service goal is a three mile radius for Boise residents. Currently, 87% of the Boise population lives within a three mile radius of a Boise Public Library branch. With the Lynx Library Consortium libraries included the percentage increases to 97.3%. Trustees discussed population proximity in relation to both Boise Public Library branches and Consortium libraries. It was noted that growth and expansion is anticipated in areas that could impact services. Dorr requested Trustee input on determining the proximity target for the Library Facilities Plan. Other factors such as driving time and road conditions will be considered going forward as data shows most users drive to the Library. Dorr stated the proximity discussion will be brought back with additional data during the February meeting to help determine a service goal radius.

9. New Business

None

10. Selection of Trustee to Review Payment Vouchers

Trustee review for vouchers by Kamal.

11. Selection of Meeting Date



Next regular meeting on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at the Library! at Cole & Ustick.

12. Adjourn

MOTION to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Klene

Second: Pisaneschi

Result: Motion carried.

The meeting ended at 1:03 p.m.

Approved

Jessica Dorr, Director

Ron Pisaneschi, President





BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Advocacy Toolkit

BoisePublicLibrary.org



Library!

AN AVERAGE WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY

5,100

PEOPLE USED THE LIBRARY'S WI-FI WITH THEIR PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY

59

PROGRAMS OFFERED

1,200

PEOPLE ATTENDED

31,400

BOOKS AND OTHER MATERIALS CHECKED OUT

Library!

13,700

PEOPLE VISITED A BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY LOCATION

24

EARLY LITERACY PROGRAMS OFFERED

1,600

PEOPLE USED THE LIBRARY'S COMPUTERS AND LAPTOPS

18,000+

DIGITAL MATERIALS CHECKED OUT

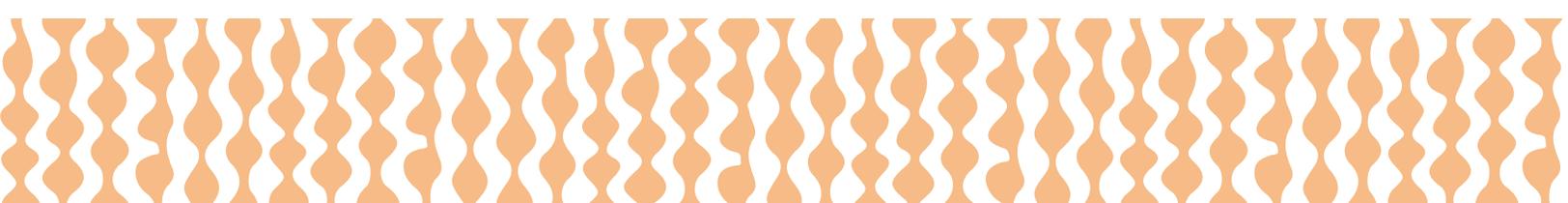


TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	4
WHY ADVOCACY MATTERS	5
ABOUT THE BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY	6
ADVOCACY CALENDAR	8
PROCESS FOR IDEAS TO BECOME A LAW	10
TOP TEN QUICK ADVOCACY TIPS	12
BOOK BANNING TALKING POINTS	13
HOW TO TALK TO PEOPLE WHO DISAGREE WITH YOU	15
ADVOCACY CONTACT LIST AND KEY STATISTICS	16



INTRODUCTION TO ADVOCACY FOR THE BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY



Thank you for your interest in advocating on behalf of the Boise Public Library. This toolkit will help you promote the importance and value of the Boise Public Library to our community, including lawmakers. No matter what time of year or political climate, it is always the right time to advocate for your libraries and access to the materials, programs, and services to improve peoples' lives. We appreciate your support!

This toolkit has been adapted from a number of similar resources from the American Library Association, the Iowa Library Association, the Idaho Library Association, PEN America, United for Libraries, and the Cedar Rapids Public Library.



WHAT IS ADVOCACY?

ADVOCACY:

- Informs people about library services and their value to our community
- Demonstrates how public library services improve the lives of people in our community
- Speaks to the vision, mission, and values of the Boise Public Library
- Ensures libraries have resources to continue to offer materials, programs, and services
- Secures a place at the table for library leaders where important funding and policy decisions are made

WHY IS ADVOCACY IMPORTANT?

Library advocacy ensures the Boise Public Library continues to have funding and governance to serve as a vital community resource for everyone in Boise. Regular and consistent advocacy with elected officials means there is a great chance of being top of mind when important decisions are being made.

Who should you advocate with?

The most important people to advocate with are the legislators who determine the funding and support that libraries receive and the laws under which they operate. This results in the opportunity to advocate for libraries at all levels of government:

- **At the national level**, you can advocate for laws that support fair digital content pricing and access and funding for support organizations such as the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
- **At the state level**, you can advocate for laws that protect intellectual freedom and funding for the Idaho Commission for Libraries.
- **At the local level**, you can advocate for additional funding for the Boise Public Library.

Some of the examples of the messages we hope you will share are:

- “The Boise Public Library is a vital community resource which provides access and opportunity to everyone in Boise.”
- “The Boise Public Library offers free resources, programs, and services that support education, economic development, and personal growth.”
- “The Boise Public Library serves our growing and diverse community and investing in the Library enhances our quality of life and builds community.”

ABOUT THE BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY

VISION

- Boise Public Library is where everyone in Boise goes to grow.

MISSION

- Our mission is to provide access and opportunity for everyone by connecting people to ideas, information, and community.

VALUES

- We welcome and serve everyone.
- We provide information, services, and programs that are free and open to all.
- We create respectful, safe, and inspiring spaces for the entire community.
- We uphold the right to privacy and the freedom to read, seek, and hold different points of view.
- We adapt to emerging needs in our community.

Boise Public Library is a city department governed by a Board of Trustees which sets strategy and policy for the operations of the Library. The members of the Board are appointed by the mayor and approved by the City Council. Boise Public Library is one of sixteen departments in the City of Boise and is primarily funded by tax dollars through the City of Boise's General Fund.



BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

ALEX



“I moved back to Boise as an adult with my husband and our young son a few years ago. At the time I was struggling to find community and make friends and all the kids’ programs at the Library at Hillcrest were such a boon to us. Now we know most of the librarians there by name and we love going there every week to check out new books or attend different events. Thank you, Hillcrest librarians, for helping me and my family to build community and friendships!”

KYLIE

“My toddler has been attending Family Storytime at Hillcrest with some regularity over the last year. As she has started to explore letter sounds and words, I have caught her using a Miss Katie trick. When she wants to pronounce something carefully, or figure out a letter, she will tap her chin as she says the letter sound to identify if it fits the word. It has been so exciting to see how something so small from storytime is making such a big impact on her learning!”



MARY ANN



“Our independent living facility has a sizeable library, but it’s top-heavy with James Patterson, Nora Roberts and cat stories. Since my reading is more eclectic, I live for our monthly visit from Tiffany and her homebound library collection. She introduced me to the Ultimate Book Nerd program two years ago, and now there are half a dozen of us reading and talking about books we never dreamed we’d ever read.”

ADVOCACY CALENDAR

Use this calendar as a general guide to engage with stakeholders throughout the year.

JANUARY

Mark important state legislative dates on your calendar, many of which you can find at legislature.idaho.gov/calendar/ including when the Governor will be delivering the State of the State Address. Watch for bills being introduced and notice any library-specific initiatives proposed. Bills will get hearings as early as week two of the session so expect that discussions will move quickly.

Welcome new members of the Boise City Council via email, phone or at a City Council meeting. Look out for library-specific topics for City Council meetings. That calendar can be found at cityofboise.org/departments/public-meetings

FEBRUARY

This is an important time to continue to check in on bills that are being introduced in committee. Make plans to submit testimony or testify in person. Watch for bills that have made it out of committee as well.

MAY

Thank your elected officials for their support during the legislative session. Encourage them to visit one of the Boise Public Library branches during the summer to see it in action. There are dozens of programs to enjoy!

Primary elections are also held in May. Be sure you are registered to vote and make a plan to vote. Contact your candidates and ask them about their support of libraries or stance on censorship. Let them know that libraries are important to you.

JUNE

Summer is the busiest time of year at the Library! Register for the Summer Reading Program at boisepubliclibrary.org/summer and share Boise Public Library social media posts to help spread the word about events happening all summer long.

SEPTEMBER

It's National Library Card Sign Up Month! Tag local and state elected officials in social media posts encouraging people to sign up for a library card. Share your favorite library memories and stories on your own social media accounts.

OCTOBER

The third week of October is National Friends of Libraries Week, so it is a great time to contact your candidates and ask them about their support of libraries or stance on censorship. Let them know that libraries are important to you.

MARCH

As we get near the end of session, keep a close eye on the legislature as bills may be introduced and passed out of committee very quickly and with little notice. The target date for the legislature to adjourn is usually mid-March. In addition, every March 2nd is Read Across America Day, and every March 16th is Freedom of Information Day. Both days are the perfect time to reach out to a legislator and tell them how much you value reading, access to information, and your libraries.

APRIL

Celebrate National Library Week in April! Share your library story with friends and family during this annual celebration and encourage others to do the same.

JULY

Connect with City Council members about the next fiscal year's budget and how they can support the library. Send them a note to thank them for their support. Ask them to reach out to their Library Director if they'd like a tour or to speak in person about the library.

AUGUST

Get ready for back-to-school season and turn in your Summer Reading Program trackers!

NOVEMBER

Get out and vote! Cast your ballot for candidates who support libraries and oppose censorship, and encourage others to do the same.

DECEMBER

The end of the calendar year means the next legislative session is coming soon. Reach out to elected officials to invite them to events, thank them for their support, and encourage them to connect with their library.

PROCESS FOR IDEAS TO BECOME A LAW

- 1. IDEA** – A legislator decides, or a group of legislators decide, to sponsor a bill. Ideas may come from legislators, constituents, special interest groups, or government agencies.
- 2. BILL DRAFTED** – The idea is drafted into a bill by the Legislative Services Research & Legislation Division. It will be assigned a routing slip, or “RS” number.
- 3. BILL INTRODUCED** – A bill may be introduced in either the House or Senate by a member, a group of members, or a standing committee. When the RS is approved after a short committee hearing, it is assigned a bill number and referred to committee.
- 4. COMMITTEE HEARING** – The committee conducts a study of information about the proposed law. This may include research, public hearings, expert testimony, and statements of interested parties. A bill may be reported out of committee with the following recommendations:
 - Do pass
 - Without recommendation
 - To be placed on General Orders for amendment
 - Do not pass
 - Withdrawn with the privilege of introducing another bill (Senate only)
 - Referred to the Clerk’s office for referral by the Speaker to another standing committeeMany bills are not reported out and “die in committee” at the discretion of the committee chair
- 5. SECOND READING** – When a bill is reported out of committee, it is placed on the Second Reading Calendar and read again. The following legislative day, the bill is automatically placed on the Third Reading Calendar unless other action is taken.
- 6. THIRD READING** – It is at the Third Reading that the bill is ready for debate and the final vote on the passage of the bill is taken. If a bill passes one house it is transmitted to the other house where it will follow a similar path, starting with a committee hearing and relevant floor vote.
- 7. GOVERNOR** – If a bill passes both houses, it advances to the Governor. The Governor may take one of three actions:
 - Approve the bill by signing it (within 5 days after receipt or within 10 days of the close of session)
 - Allow the bill to become law without his approval by not signing it within the five days allowed
 - Veto the bill within 5 days of receipt and return it to the house of origin

If a bill is vetoed by the Governor, the bill returns to the floor where it can be overridden (become law) with the support of 2/3 of House members and 2/3 of Senate members.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

One way to participate in the legislative process is to provide public testimony. Information regarding accessibility and public testimony, including how to provide remote testimony, can be found at the following link: legislature.idaho.gov/resources/leg-accessibility-pub-testimony

IDAHO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Idaho Library Association (ILA) advocates on behalf of Idaho's libraries and promotes the right to read and free expression for all Idahoans. Join ILA to receive regular legislative updates and support Idaho libraries: idaholibraries.org

DID YOU KNOW?

You could also consider making a tax-deductible donation through the Boise Public Library Foundation at boisepubliclibrary.org/about-us/library-foundation. Funds raised through the Foundation are used exclusively for the benefit of the Boise Public Library and are not part of the Boise City budget.



TOP TEN QUICK ADVOCACY TIPS

When library issues arise in public policy debates, library advocates should be ready to reach out to their public officials and share your expectation they will protect our libraries and our rights!

1. **Get to know your state and local elected officials.** Do not wait until you need something to connect. Idaho officials are very accessible and want to meet with their local constituents to better understand their needs and concerns.
2. **Do your homework.** Reach out to the Boise Public Library or the Idaho Library Association for background on the specific issue and how best to frame your message.
3. **Know your audience.** Research positions of elected officials in advance. Understand what they care about and consider how your request aligns with these.
4. **Contact elected officials personally if possible.** A meeting is better than a phone call, a phone call is better than an email, and an email is better than not connecting.
5. **Always start with a thank you.** Find something the elected official has recently supported which has a positive community impact and thank them for that.
6. **Keep it brief.** Share the most important facts and the few best arguments.
7. **Make it personal.** Explain how the issue impacts you and your family/friends.
8. **Make a clear request.** Ask them to specifically SUPPORT or OPPOSE legislation, for help to change the legislation, or invite them to attend an event to learn more about a particular issue.
9. **Be polite, but direct,** and try to get a commitment to support the Library and your position.
10. **Follow up.** Once the issue is resolved, make sure to thank those who supported the Library, and commit to reconnecting with those who did not.

BOOK BANNING

Efforts to censor material in libraries are on the rise in Idaho and around the country. These efforts seek to limit the viewpoints available to minors by suppressing and erasing already marginalized voices. They are not supported by the majority of voters.

The Boise Public Library does not carry porn and independent studies show that children do not access porn in libraries. Censorship laws are generally not intended to address an actual problem that exists in our libraries but are intended to create a chilling effect that will cause libraries to remove materials that some find objectionable in order to avoid the threat of costly litigation.

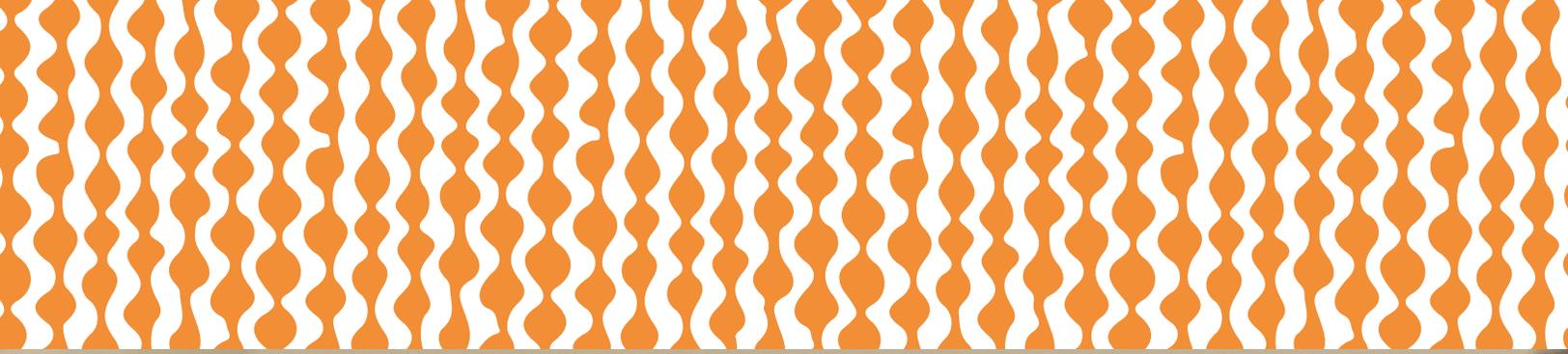
Most of the materials targeted for censorship are authored by or contain characters that are LGBTQ+ or people of color. Proponents of censorship know that they cannot succeed in having these materials removed on this basis, so they attempt to label the materials as "pornography," "obscenity," or "material harmful to minors."

Many of these proposed laws are designed to suppress and erase already marginalized voices, particularly LGBTQ+ and people of color.

TALKING POINTS

- Parents have the right and responsibility to guide their children's reading, but individuals should not be making decisions for other readers or other parents' children.
- The First Amendment protects access to information and the right to read.
- The legislature cannot prohibit or restrict access to information just because they don't like the message conveyed.
- The legislature cannot dictate what people can or cannot read.
- Libraries include materials in their collections that meet the needs of ALL people in their community. What is right for some may not be appropriate for others.
- Books are tools for understanding complex issues. Books on controversial or challenging topics create opportunities for growth and learning and help youth critically navigate their world.
- Librarians are professionals who take their job and responsibilities seriously. They are trained to not impose their own thoughts and opinions on which ideas are right, but to make knowledge and ideas available so that everyone has the freedom to choose what to read and the ability to form their own opinions.





HOW TO TALK TO PEOPLE WHO DISAGREE WITH YOU

It can be challenging to talk to people who disagree with you. The Center for Media Engagement interviewed people who live in communities with a mix of political beliefs to identify their best strategies for talking to people with whom they disagree. Their findings offer five main approaches for talking across political differences.

1. FOCUS ON THE PEOPLE, NOT THE POLITICS

- Build a relationship before talking politics
- Don't take comments personally
- Share your own relevant experiences
- Give a relatable hypothetical situation

2. FIND COMMON GROUND

- Bond over less polarized issues
- Be open to listening and understanding
- Ask questions to understand a different viewpoint
- Focus on shared beliefs

3. STICK TO THE FACTS AND AVOID CONFRONTATION

- Stick to information that can be verified
- Back up your opinions with evidence
- Limit emotion in discussion
- Avoid confrontational language

4. BE AN ADVOCATE RATHER THAN AN OPPONENT

- Adapt conversational style to audience
- Avoid words that might upset people

5. PICK YOUR BATTLES

- Focus on policy instead of party
- Avoid hot-button issues

ADVOCACY CONTACT LIST 2025

FEDERAL

Representative Russ Fulcher fulcher.house.gov

Representative Mike Simpson simpson.house.gov

Senator Mike Crapo crapo.senate.gov

Senator Jim Risch risch.senate.gov

STATE

STATE SENATORS

District 15: **Codi Galloway**

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District 16: **Alison "Ali" Rabe** arabe@senate.idaho.gov

District 17: **Carrie Semmelroth**

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District 18: **Janie Ward-Engelking**

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District 19: **Melissa Wintrow**

mwintrow@senate.idaho.gov

District 20: **Josh Keyser** jkeyser@senate.idaho.gov

District 21: **Treg Bernt** tbernt@senate.idaho.gov

District 22: **Lori Den Hartog**

ldenhartog@senate.idaho.gov

STATE HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES

District 15: **Steve Berch** sberch@house.idaho.gov

District 15: **Dori Healey** dhealey@house.idaho.gov

District 16: **Annie Henderson Haws**

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District 16: **Soñia Galaviz** sgalaviz@house.idaho.gov

District 17: **John Gannon** jgannon@house.idaho.gov

District 17: **Megan Egbert** megbert@house.idaho.gov

District 18: **Brooke Green** bgreen@house.idaho.gov

District 18: **Ilana Rubel** irubel@house.idaho.gov

District 19: **Chris Mathias** cmathias@house.idaho.gov

District 19: **Monica Church** mchurch@house.idaho.gov

District 20: **James Holtzclaw** jholtzclaw@house.idaho.gov

District 20: **Joe Palmer** jpalmer@house.idaho.gov

District 21: **James Petzke** jpetzke@house.idaho.gov

District 21: **Jeff Ehlers** jehlers@house.idaho.gov

District 22: **Jason Monks** jmonks@house.idaho.gov

District 22: **John Vander Woude**

jvanderwoude@house.idaho.gov

COUNTY

ADA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

District 1: **Ryan Davidson**

District 2: **Rod Beck** (Chair)

District 3: **Tom Dayley**

bocc1@adacounty.id.gov

CITY

MAYOR OF BOISE

Lauren McLean

mayormclean@cityofboise.org

BOISE CITY COUNCIL

District 1: **Lucy Willits**

District 2: **Colin Nash**

District 3: **Kathy Corless**

District 4: **Jordan Morales**

District 5: **Meredith Stead**

District 6: **Jimmy Hallyburton**

citycouncil@cityofboise.org

BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ron Pisaneschi, President

Nicole Trammel Pantera, Vice President

Brian Klene, Trustee

Reshma Kamal, Trustee

Evelyn Johnson, Trustee

bplboardtrustee@cityofboise.org

LIBRARY

Jessica Dorr, Director

librarydirector@cityofboise.org



KEY STATISTICS FY24



712,345

total visitors to
all five locations



1.64 million

physical books
circulated in Boise



16,779

rooms booked at
all five locations



971,718

digital/audio
books circulated



119,513

requests for
information answered



11,070

new library
cards issued



3,408

total programs



106,088

people attended
library programs



\$2,000,551

contributed in economic
value to entrepreneurs
and businesses in Boise

IDAHO LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP INFORMATION 2024-2025

SENATE

President Pro Tempore: **Kelly Anthon**, D27

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Majority Leader: **Lori Den Hartog**, D22

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Assistant Majority Leader: **Mark Harris**, D35

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Majority Caucus Chair: **Ben Toews**, D4

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Minority Leader: **Melissa Wintrow**, D19

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Assistant Minority Leader: **James Ruchti**, D29

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Minority Caucus Chair: **Janie Ward-Engelking**, D18

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HOUSE

Speaker: **Mike Moyle**, D10

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Majority Caucus Chair: **Jaron Crane**, D12

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Minority Leader: **Ilana Rubel**, D18

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Assistant Minority Leader: **Steve Berch**, D15

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Minority Caucus Chair: **Theodore Achilles**, D16

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Library!

To learn more about the Boise Public Library, including how to support the Library, please visit our website boisepubliclibrary.org

2025 MARKETING HIGHLIGHTS



Shivaun Korfanta
Library Marketing Manager
Jan 14, 2026

2025 MARKETING HIGHLIGHTS

Monthly Newsletter

- Best marketing tool we have
- 14,368 monthly email subscribers, up from 8,453
- Welcome email campaign launched in April
- 60% Open Rates (industry average 50%, double since 2024*)
- Click-through rates consistently above industry average of 2.24%*



BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY
December Newsletter

LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS

Hoopla Hallmark+ BingePass for the Holidays!

Fuzzy socks 🧦
Unlimited Hallmark movies? 🎬🎬🎬
With your Boise Public Library card and Hoopla, you can get a free Hallmark+ Christmas Countdown BingePass for seven full days of festive feels and merry mysteries. Happy (Hallmark) Holidays!

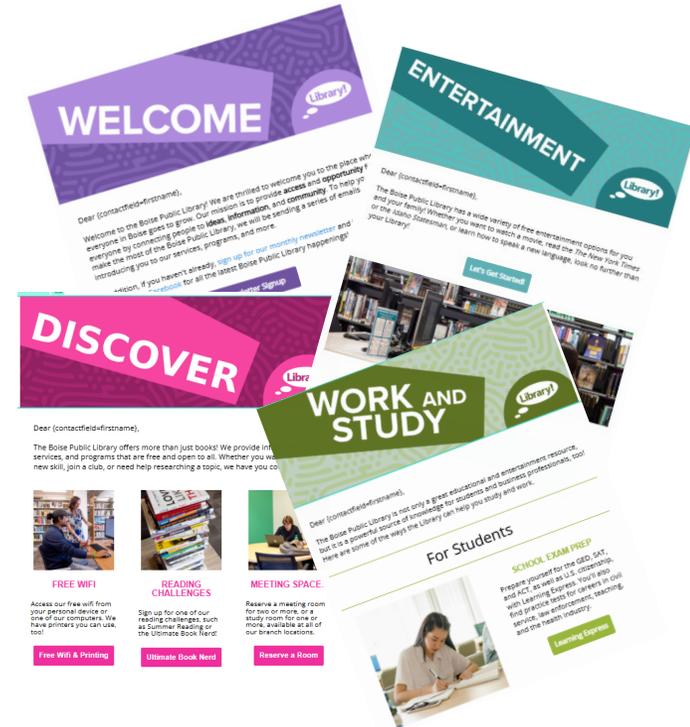
Hoopla Access for Hallmark



Library Improvements to Better Serve You

The Library! at Cole & Ustick has a new automatic book sorter—and it's already hard at work! This upgraded system speeds up the check-in process, gets materials back on the shelves faster, and frees staff to spend more time helping you. It's a behind-the-scenes improvement that will make your library visits smoother, quicker, and even more enjoyable! See it in action on Instagram and give us a follow!

Book Sorter Instagram Video

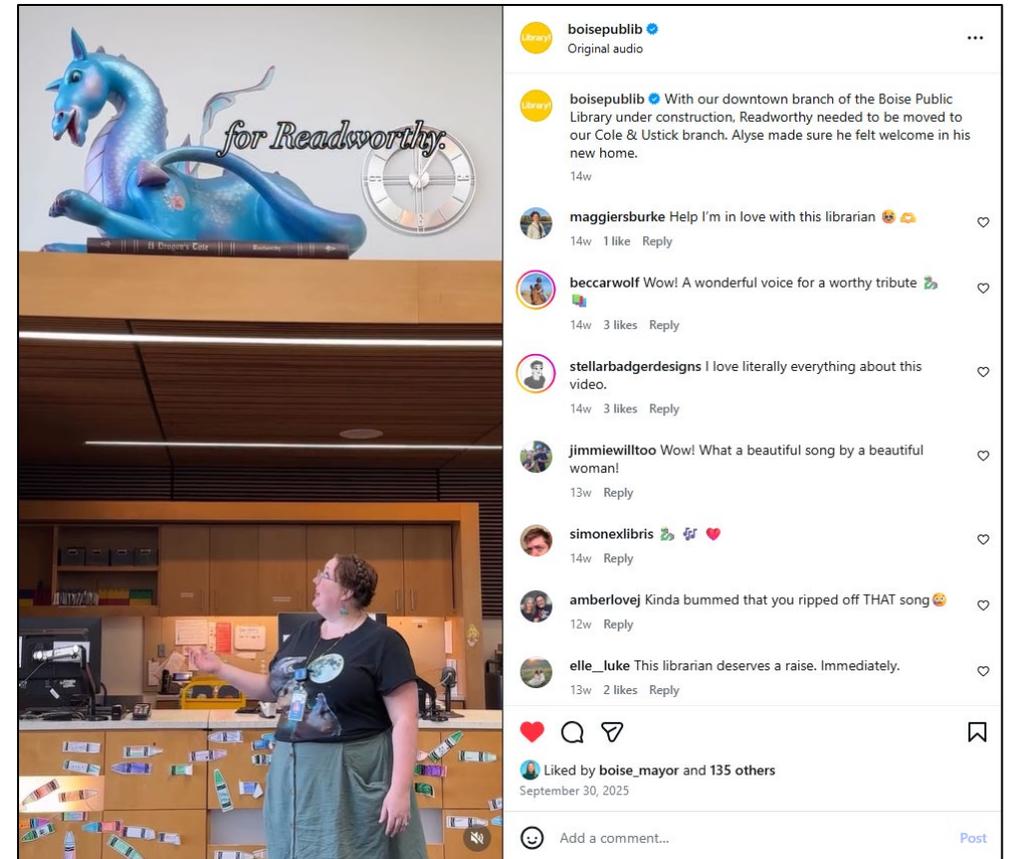


*LibraryAware Library Email Marketing Benchmarks Annual Report 2025

2025 MARKETING HIGHLIGHTS

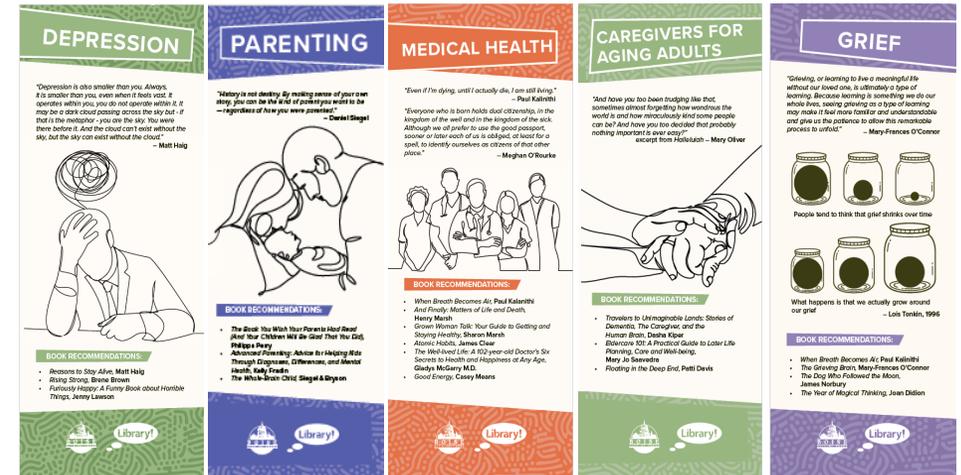
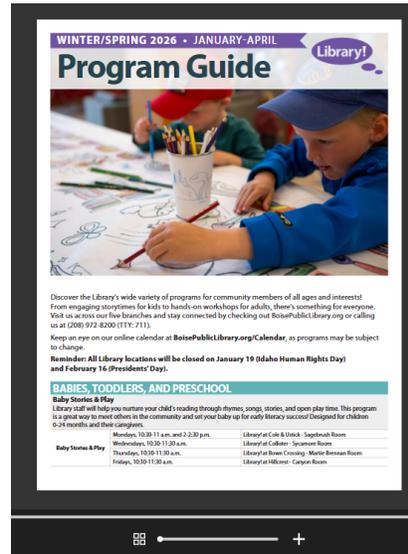
Social

- New focus on reels and more engaging content
- 17.9% increase in Instagram followers (7,404 up from 6,896)
- 2.2% increase in Facebook followers (17,534 up from 17,153)



2025 MARKETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Library! at Cole and Ustick ribbon cutting with great press
- New community resources rack cards
- New, eversions of the program guides
- Free billboard advertising with LAMAR
- Teen input on the Community Listening sessions
- Consistent web updates, including banners



FOCUS FOR 2026

- Summer Reading marketing
- Continue high-value content on social, more consistency with posts
- Updated brand guidelines to support new construction look and feel
- New web pages for early literacy, reading challenges and accessibility
- Support of AM250, other City initiatives
- Signage for Downtown Library
- Press outreach
- Run of business – newsletters, collateral updates, web updates, event and program support/comms





Library!



BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Facilities Discussion | January 14, 2026



MISSION

The mission of the Boise Public Library is to provide access and opportunity for everyone by connecting people to ideas, information, and community.



FACILITIES PLANNING

- A Facilities Plan will help us ensure that our Libraries are:
 - Welcoming
 - Accessible
 - Attractive
 - Comfortable spaces for the entire community
- The plan will recommend how to improve the Library's buildings over the next 10-20 years.

NEXT STEPS

December 16, 2025: Council Work Session:
Downtown Library

February 24, 2026: Joint Work Session: Library Site
Location Criteria and Service Goals

Council Work Session: Options for Site Location
Criteria and Service Goals (April 2026)

Joint Work Session: Capital Plan (June 2026)

JOINT WORK SESSION: UPDATED LOCATION CRITERIA AND SERVICE GOALS

- Goals:
 - Consider potential updates to the site selection criteria for Library facilities
 - Consider potential service goals for the Library
- Timing:
 - Discussed with the Library board during the January 2026 and February 2026 board meetings
 - Joint Work Session with council and Library board February 24, 2026
 - Exact time to be confirmed

GOALS FOR DISCUSSION

- Drafts for discussion
 - Service goals
 - Site selection criteria
 - Proximity goal
- Identify additional questions/areas for consideration prior to February Board of Trustee Meeting and February Joint Work Session with Council

SERVICE GOALS

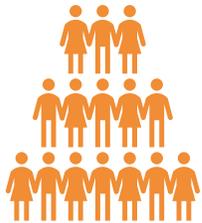


LIBRARY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



EXPAND ACCESS

Make our collections, programs, and services available when, where, and how people want them.



INCREASE IMPACT

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



OPTIMIZE RESOURCES

Modernize, strengthen, and streamline our operational capabilities.



MEASURE VALUE

Establish impact and performance metrics and use data for decision making.

Strategic Priorities	Strategic Goals	Draft Service Goals
<p>Expand Access: Make our collections, programs, and services available, when, where, and how people want them.</p>	<p>Ensure that every community member has access to library materials in a format that works for them.</p>	<p>On average, each Boise cardholder checks out [number] items annually.</p> <p>Average Boise cardholder saves \$x annually through use of the Library.</p>
	<p>Create library spaces that are accessible and welcoming to all.</p>	<p>Every facility is 100% compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.</p> <p>All Boise residents live within x miles of a Library.</p>
	<p>Increase the number of people who are aware of and benefit from the variety of services the Library provides</p>	<p>On average each resident of Boise visits/uses the Library [frequency].</p>
		<p>X% of Boise residents attend or participate in a Library program.</p>
		<p>X% of the residents of Boise have an active Library card.</p>
	<p>Increase Impact: Create valuable experiences for every resident and meet their needs at every stage of life.</p>	<p>Elevate literacy and lifelong learning for Boise residents.</p>
<p>Strengthen connections with community organizations.</p>		<p>Library partnerships lead to more than x# of connections to services.</p>
		<p>Boise job seekers and the business community receives more than \$xm in support annually.</p>

SITE SELECTION



COMPARING 2000 MASTER PLAN AND GROUP 4 RECOMMENDATIONS

What is similar:

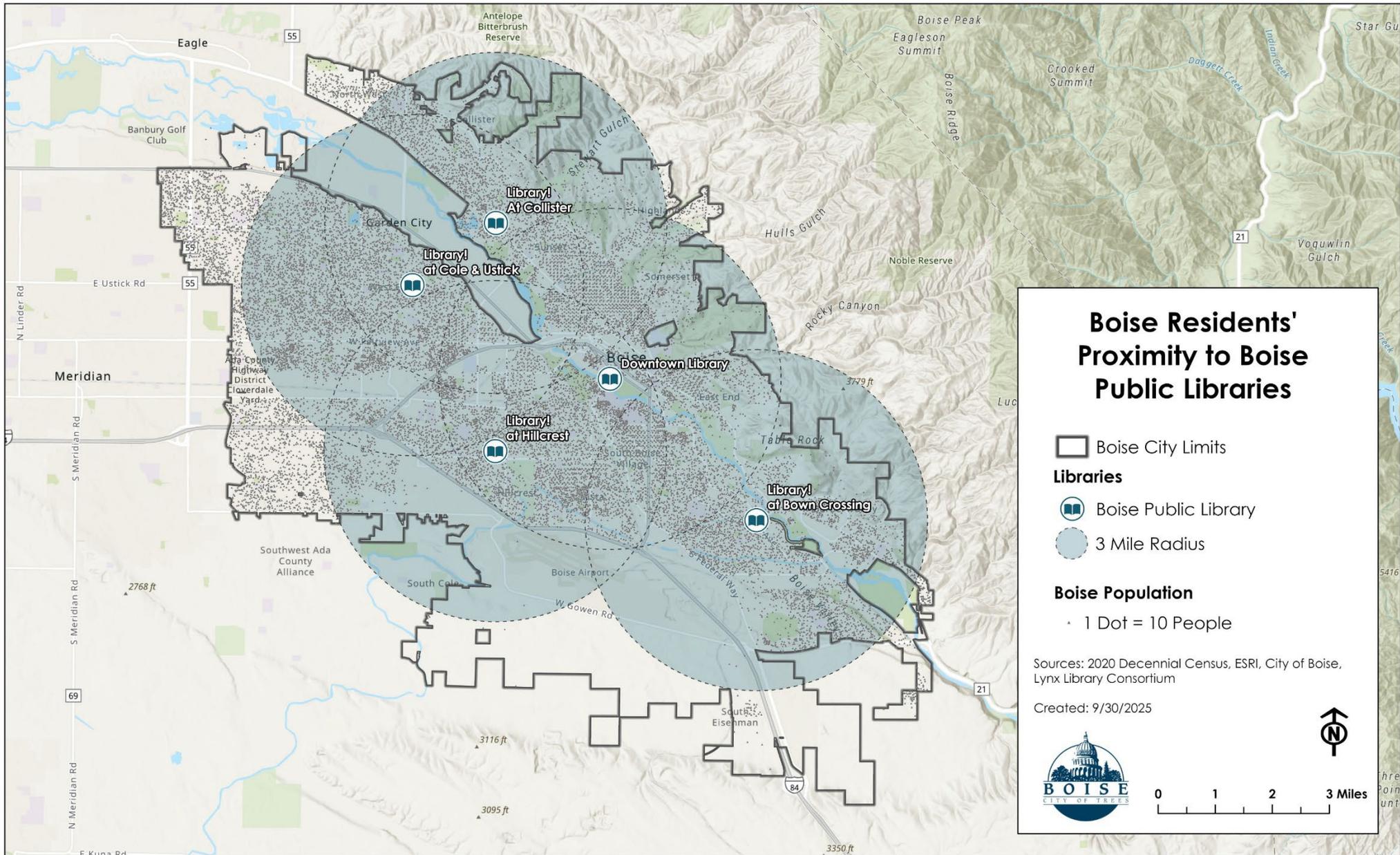
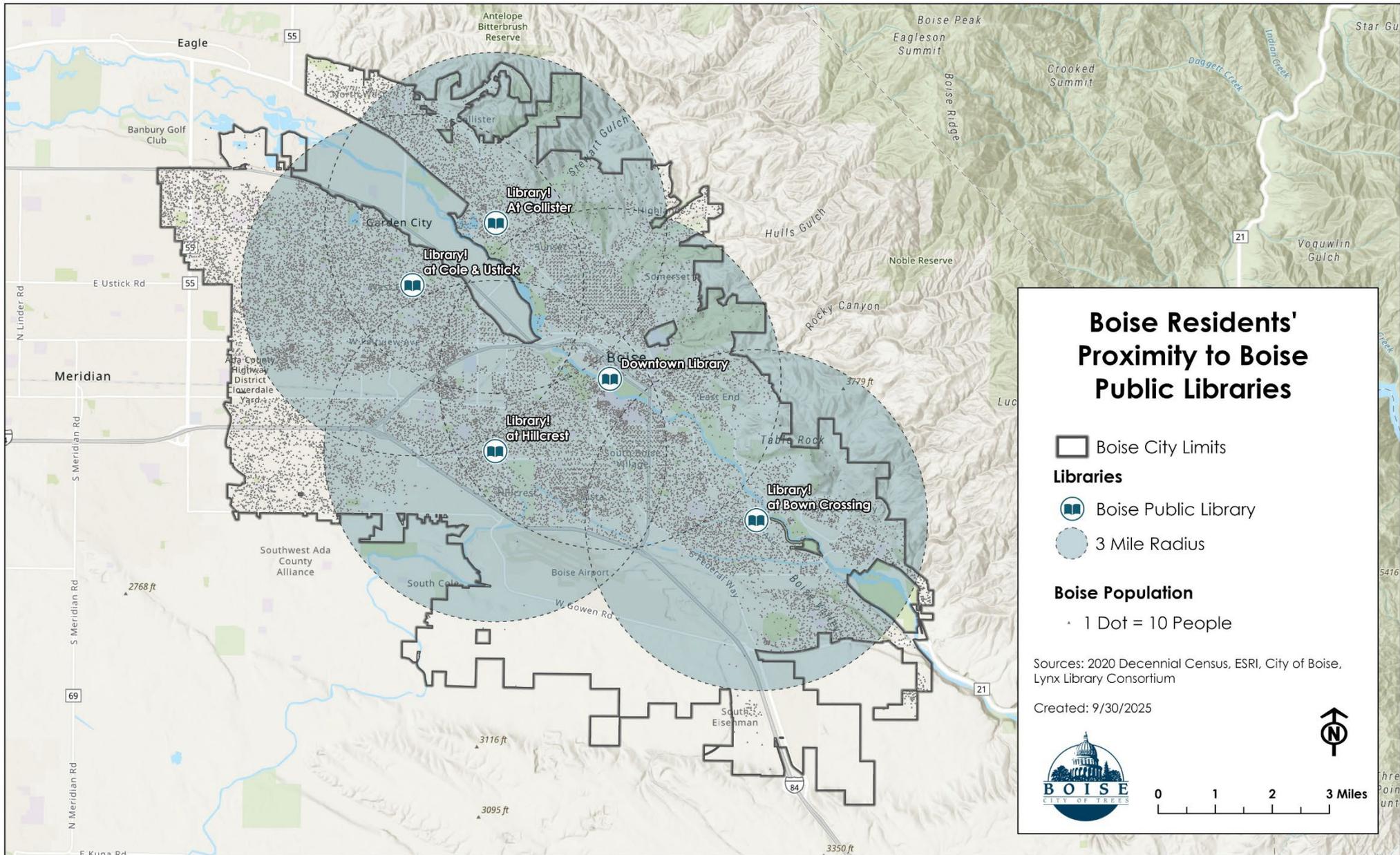
- Accessibility
- Visibility
- Demographic Patterns
- Neighborhood Compatibility
- Legal Matters/Zoning
- Utilities Availability
- Physiography

What is different:

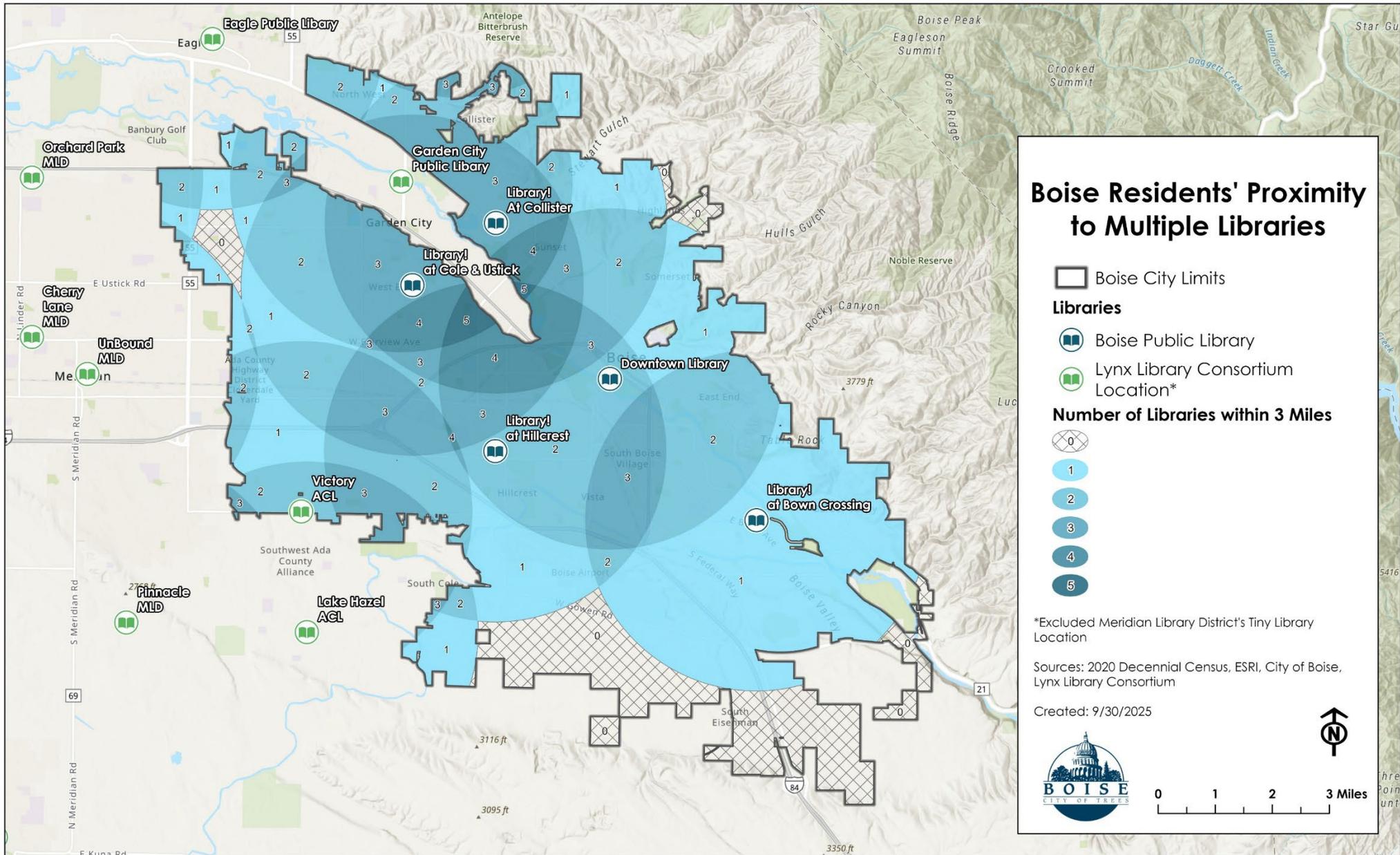
- Site size recommendations
 - 2000 Master Plan: 1.4 acres for single-story 15k square foot library
 - Group 4: 1.5 acres for single-story 25-30k square foot library (parking not included)
- Compatibility with city development plans
- Potential for high-value partnerships

PROXIMITY





Boise Residents Living Within Three Mile Radius of Boise Public Library and Lynx Libraries		
Library	2025 Population	% of 2025 Population
Boise Public Library	211,308	87.1%
Boise Public and Lynx Libraries	236,069	97.3%
Boise Residents Living within Three Mile Radius by Library		
Library	System	2025 Total Population within three-mile radius
Library! at Cole & Ustick	Boise Public Library	100,181
Downtown Library	Boise Public Library	99,950
Library! at Hillcrest	Boise Public Library	84,376
Library! at Collister	Boise Public Library	70,326
Library! at Bown Crossing	Boise Public Library	57,038
Garden City Public Library	Garden City Public Library	64,732
Victory Branch	Ada Community Library	30,815
Lake Hazel Branch	Ada Community Library	8,259
Eagle Public Library	Eagle Public Library	7,335
unBound	Meridian District Library	4,525
Orchard Park	Meridian District Library	3,689
Pinnacle Public Library	Meridian District Library	352
Hidden Springs Branch	Ada Community Library	175
Boise City Limits Population	242,544	2025 Population from ESRI Data



Eagle Public Library

Orchard Park MLD

Cherry Lane MLD

UnBound MLD

Pinnacle MLD

Lake Hazel ACL

Victory ACL

Garden City Public Library

Library! At Collister

Library! at Cole & Ustick

Library! at Hillcrest

Downtown Library

Library! at Bown Crossing

Boise Residents' Proximity to Multiple Libraries

Boise City Limits

Libraries

- Boise Public Library
- Lynx Library Consortium Location*

Number of Libraries within 3 Miles

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

*Excluded Meridian Library District's Tiny Library Location

Sources: 2020 Decennial Census, ESRI, City of Boise, Lynx Library Consortium

Created: 9/30/2025



0 1 2 3 Miles



NEXT STEPS

- Updated drafts to be discussed in the February Library Board of Trustee meeting on Wednesday, February 11th
- Joint Work Session with the Boise City Council on Tuesday, February 24th

COUNCIL WORK SESSION: OPTIONS TO MEET UPDATED LOCATION CRITERIA AND SERVICE GOALS WORK SESSION

Goals:

- Provide council with potential models to meet new service goals for discussion
- Provide council with potential options for expanded reach through innovative services and partnerships
- Provide council with Library project options in the \$10-\$15 million range

Timing:

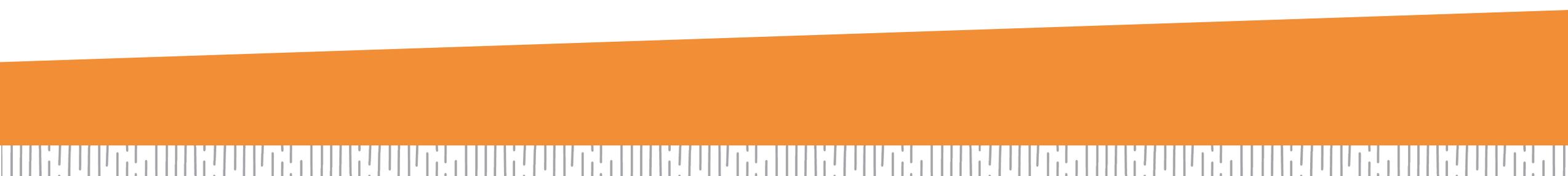
- Discussed with the Library board during the March and April 2026 board meetings
- Work Session with council in April 2026

JOINT WORK SESSION: CAPITAL PLAN

Goals:

- Library board and council discuss sequencing for the Capital Investment Plan of Library investments

Timing:

- Discussed with the Library board during May 2026 meeting
 - Joint Work Session with council and Library board in June 2026
- 

Library Strategic Framework for Impact

Approved by the Library Board of Trustee

Strategic Priorities	Strategic Goals
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
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.
Optimize Resources: Modernize, strengthen, and streamline our operational capabilities.	Modernize operations to serve the community more effectively.
	Invest in a highly trained and well-supported workforce.
Measure Value: Measure and communicate the impact of the Library on the Boise community.	Establish impact and performance metrics and use data for decision making.
	Collect, evaluate, and utilize community feedback.

Draft Service Goals for Discussion

Library Board of Trustee Discussion January 14, 2026

Strategic Priorities	Strategic Goals	Draft Service Goals	
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.	On average, each Boise cardholder checks out [number] items annually.	
		Average Boise cardholder saves \$x annually through use of the Library.	
	Create library spaces that are accessible and welcoming to all.	Every facility is 100% compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.	
	Increase the number of people who are aware of and benefit from the variety of services the Library provides		All Boise residents live within x miles of a Library.
			On average each resident of Boise visits/uses the Library [frequency].
			X% of Boise residents attend or participate in a Library program.
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.	X% of the residents of Boise have an active Library card.	
		Every child in Boise who starts kindergarten is ready to read.	
	Strengthen connections with community organizations.		Every second grader in Boise has their own Library card.
			Library partnerships lead to more than x# of connections to services.
		Boise job seekers and the business community receives more than \$xm in support annually.	

SELECTING SITES

Acquiring appropriate sites can be one of the most challenging steps in developing new libraries. As the city evaluates potential new sites for the relocated and expanded Collister and Hillcrest libraries, considerations and criteria may include those listed below.

- The site is large enough for the building and site program.
 - » A minimum of 1.5 acres is recommended to comfortably accommodate a single-story building of 25,000-30,000 square feet plus usable outdoor spaces, hardscape (e.g., sidewalks, entry plaza, delivery area, staff parking), and landscaping.
 - » For on-site patron parking, an additional 0.6 to 1.0 acres is recommended for up to 100 surface parking spaces. Locations near transit, shared parking, and other strategies could mitigate this additional site space need.
- The site is prominent, highly visible, and well-located within the community it is intended to serve.
- The site is located along major transportation routes (current or planned), including public transit and bicycle as well as vehicles. Doing so can support climate action efforts to reduce vehicle trips.
- Site proportions can accommodate a building floor plate that supports modern library service and efficient operations. Generally speaking, libraries smaller than 30,000 square feet should be single story, if possible, given site development opportunities and constraints. Multi-story libraries should strive for as few floors as possible.
- Site topography supports universal access and an inclusive experience for all visitors.
- The site is zoned (or can be re-zoned) for development as a library.
- Adjacent uses are compatible and complementary with a library.
- A library is compatible with the community's development plans and expectations for the site.
- Cost to acquire the site.
- Costs to improve/expand utilities and infrastructure (e.g., water, power, sewer, access) as needed.
- Costs to remediate poor soil, hazardous materials, or other unique conditions, if applicable.
- Availability of existing structure(s) on the site that can be adapted for reuse as a library (see Alternatives to All-New Construction below).
- Potential for high-value partnership for acquisition, development, and/or ongoing operations.



ALTERNATIVES TO ALL-NEW CONSTRUCTION

It should be noted that “ground-up” all-new construction on a clean site is not the only way to build new libraries. Existing facilities with large, flexible, and open floor plates – such as grocery stores, drug stores, retail bank branches, and even commercial offices – can be relatively simple to convert into welcoming, flexible, and beautiful libraries. Retail and commercial facilities often also have the additional benefit of high-profile locations with good parking and transit access. And all other things being equal, reusing an existing structure is a fundamentally more sustainable strategy than starting from scratch.

That said, not every building can be easily or appropriately converted for modern library service. There have been many less-than-successful attempts to convert unsuitable buildings into public library facilities – older civic and school buildings, historic homes, and other cherished community assets, to name just a few. Making older buildings accessible and welcoming for all visitors can be a difficult and expensive challenge, as can redesigning them to support modern library service and operations.

For relocating BPL’s systemwide support functions (such as technical services), it would be important to find a relatively central location with excellent access to major transportation corridors. Other library systems have had success in acquiring and converting existing facilities such as warehouses, distribution centers, manufacturing buildings, etc. into operations centers. These kinds of facilities tend to have good access to transportation corridors as well as loading docks to support frequent shipping and delivery functions.

The city and BPL should evaluate all adaptive reuse opportunities carefully to confirm that they support Boise’s vision of library service, space, operations, and patron experience.

BRANCH LIBRARY SITE SELECTION CRITERIA

It is critical to approach the site selection process for a new public library with care. The ultimate success of any new library facility, if success is measured in terms of usage of library services, will be determined to a large degree by where it is located. Public libraries are similar to other institutions which need to be used to be effective, where they are located is of prime importance.

As a successful private developer would say, the three most important ingredients of any project are location, location, and location. A bank that is poorly located will not prosper, nor a food store or an apparel shop. Neither will a public library. Acquiring anything less than a good site will prove a false economy in terms of the life-cycle costs of the library. Anything less than a good site will also hinder public use of this important community resource.

Selection Criteria

The selection criteria for a new library should closely correspond to the criteria for locating an effective site for a retail business. We recommend nine criteria. They are:

- ◆ Site Capacity;
- ◆ Accessibility;
- ◆ Image and Visual Quality;
- ◆ Visibility;
- ◆ Demographic Patterns;
- ◆ Neighborhood Compatibility;
- ◆ Legal Matters;
- ◆ Utilities Availability; and
- ◆ Physiography.

If several sites for a library are ranked equally in all of the above criteria, PROVIDENCE recommends only then should site-related costs serve as a tiebreaker to finalize the selection of a library site. This kind of approach is recommended since site cost differences will be dwarfed by the operational cost effectiveness during the life of a library facility. This applies to a free site as well. The cost of construction and operations will be far greater than the cost of the land. Therefore, the temptation to utilize a piece of property because it is a gift, or already owned by the city, should be resisted unless the site ranks high in comparison with sites that carry a price tag.

With these factors, it is crucial to continually focus the site selection issue on the basis of what location will consistently reinforce the most extensive use of the library. Most of the factors are simply ways of measuring different aspects of this key issue. A brief description of the site selection criteria is as follows.

Site Capacity - The site should be large enough to provide a sufficient square or rectangular library footprint, the required parking for users, staff, and volunteers, future expansion, and the necessary allowances for setbacks, zoning requirements, and suitable landscaping. The resulting building should look like it belongs on the site, not forced on a plot of ground that is too small. For general planning purposes, the size of the site should be approximately four times larger than the proposed library facility. A 15,000 building gross square foot (BGSF), single-level library requires a site that is about 60,000 square feet in size, or approximately 1.4 acres.

Accessibility - The site should be easily accessible by automobile and mass transit, and within walking distance of some potential users. However, pedestrian access will always be secondary. Adequate parking is a key element of automobile accessibility.

Image and Visual Quality - The quality of the existing neighborhood surrounding the library needs to complement rather than detract from the library. The library site should be located in an area with a strong positive identity and image. Placing the library at the site should also be compatible with surrounding land uses, both existing and proposed.

Visibility - A prominent location is required to attract the largest number of people to the library. A highly visible site, along a major street, with easy accessibility is ideal. If the site involves other buildings, the library should be able to be oriented in a portion of the site with high visibility.

Demographic Patterns - A library should be located where people can easily reach it and conduct other activities during the same trip. This means a place where people naturally converge. The site should be where the largest percentage of all people to be served will have access to the library frequently in the normal pursuit of their activities.

Neighborhood Compatibility - Will the library be a good neighbor? Is the neighborhood fully developed? If so, how will the library fit into the neighborhood? If there is development in the future, will it be compatible with the mission and goals of the library?

Legal Matters - The existence of easements or other restrictions can serve to minimize the buildable area of a site. A site owned by several persons and/or entities can be difficult to acquire. Zoning restrictions can hamper development, including parking and/or entrance and egress to and from the site.

Utility Availability - To avoid extra costs, the presence of electrical, water, gas, sewer, and other services should be in place now, or by the time construction is scheduled to start.

Physiography - The suitability of the soil, the topography of the site, and solar orientation are important considerations in construction and operational costs. Orientation

considerations include the avoidance of west sun on the books, or north entrances that may offer little winter sunlight and exposure to the cold northern winds.

Ranking the Sites

Once the site selection criteria have been agreed upon, the next step in the process is to assign a point value to each of the nine factors. The sum total of the nine should be 100. Within each major factor, points can be assigned to the sub-factors. The sub-factor points should equal the sum of the major factor point total.

As an example, a library site study might conclude that Site Capacity, followed by Accessibility, Image/Visual Quality, Visibility, and Demographic Patterns were the five most important factors, worth 20, 15, 12, 12 and 12 points respectively. Within Site Capacity, the two most important sub-factors are Usable Site Area and Expansion Capacity, worth seven and five points in order. Therefore, if the usable site area of Site A was considered to be near perfect, it would receive a ranking of six or seven points. Conversely, if Site B was considered poor in this area the ranking might be zero, one, or two.

Each factor and sub-factor should be given a point value. The site that receives the most points is determined to be the best site. If two or more sites were within eight to 10 points of each other, then cost effectiveness needs to be taken into consideration.

Tie-Breaking Factors

If several sites are ranked equally, or nearly so in all of the criteria, then site-related costs should serve as a tie-breaker to finalize the selection of a library site. Site-related costs should be compared on the basis of the following factors:

- ◆ The dollar value of the site, including the potential revenue loss if income producing property is replaced by a non-taxable structure;
- ◆ Demolition costs of any existing facilities on the site;
- ◆ Relocation costs of any existing business or residential units currently on the site;
- ◆ Any unusual site development costs that may occur, such as from a site with underground utilities and/or water;
- ◆ The cost of providing sufficient utility service to the site; and
- ◆ Any extra construction costs that will occur due to such things as poor soil conditions, limitations of the site, such as underground versus above grade parking, or site configuration resulting in a more expensive building solution.

PROVIDENCE cannot over-emphasize the importance of an objective site selection process. There is nothing, aside from the informational content within a library building, that will have a greater impact upon the overall success of a library than where it is located. Since success of a library building is measured by usage, the more a building is used, the more cost effective it is. A good site will go a long way toward ensuring the operational success of a library facility for community residents.