



Vision
MPL is an anchor institution that helps build healthy families and vibrant neighborhoods – the foundation of a strong Milwaukee.

Mission
Inspiration starts here – we help people read, learn, and connect.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

4:00 p.m.

**Capitol Branch
Community Room
3969 N. 74th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53216**

WELCOME & ROLL CALL

4:00 – 4:05

PUBLIC COMMENT

4:05 – 4:15

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

4:15 – 4:30

1. **Budget Outlook**. Budget & Management Director Nik Kovac will provide an overview of the 2025 budget and the Board will discuss budget priorities.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

4:30 – 4:35

2. **Capitol Branch Introduction**. Chris Schabel, Library Services Manager, will share a brief introduction of Capitol branch.

CONSENT AGENDA

4:35 – 4:40

Attachment A, page 3

3. **Regular Board Meeting Minutes, March 26, 2024.**
4. **Committee Reports**
 - a. Innovation & Strategy Committee – April 2, 2024
 - b. Building & Development Committee – April 4, 2024
5. **Administrative Reports.**
 - a. Financial Report
 - b. Library Director's Report
 - c. Statistics

REPORTS

4:40 – 5:20

6. **MPL Board Nominating Committee Meeting.** Committee Chair Michael Morgan will present the proposed slate of officers for consideration at the May 28, 2024 meeting.

Attachment B, page 20

7. **Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting.** Committee Chair Teresa Mercado will present action items from the April 23, 2023 meeting.
8. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board Meeting.** Trustee Kathleen Vincent will report on the April 15, 2024 meeting.
9. **Urban Libraries Council (ULC) Update.** Vice-President Michele Bria will present an update on the work of the ULC Executive Board.

CLOSING REMARKS

5:20 – 5:25

10. **Closing Remarks and Adjournment.**

REMINDER: Next scheduled meetings are:

May 1, 2024 Services & Programs Committee – Virtual Meeting, 1:00 p.m.

May 2, 2024 Building & Development Committee – Virtual Meeting, 8:00 a.m.

May 28, 2024 Board Meeting – Capitol Branch Community Room – 4:00 p.m.

Trustees

Mark Sain, *President*, Michele Bria, *Vice-President*, Teresa Mercado, *Financial Secretary*,
Ald. Milele Coggs, Matthew Kowalski, Michael Morgan, Felicia Saffold, Erika Siemsen,
Ald. Scott Spiker, Ald. Larresa Taylor, Sup. Kathleen Vincent, Venice Williams,
Joan Johnson, *Secretary*, Rebecca Schweisberger, *Secretary's Assistant* (414) 286-3021

The Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees is an informed, dedicated group of citizens who represent a cross-section of the city of Milwaukee and are committed to supporting, developing, and advancing the library for the benefit of all residents of Milwaukee and others throughout Milwaukee County, the State of Wisconsin, and beyond. In their role as advocates and advisors, they serve the library's many patrons, its staff, the common good of the community, and this critical and enduring institution.

Persons engaged in lobbying as defined in s. 305-43-4 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances are required to register with the City Clerk's Office License Division. More information is available at www.milwaukee.gov/lobby or by calling (414) 286-2238.

Please be advised that members of the Milwaukee Common Council who are also members of this body will be in attendance at this meeting. In addition, Common Council members who are not members of this body may attend this meeting to participate or to gather information. A quorum of the Common Council or any of its standing committees may be present, but no formal Common Council action will be taken at this meeting.

PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities. Make requests to the Library Director's Office at (414)286-3021, 286-2794 (FAX) or Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53233 Attn: Accommodation Request.

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

**Central Library –
Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
814 W. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53233**

PRESENT: Michele Bria, Teresa Mercado, Ald. Milele Coggs, Michael Morgan, Erika Siemsen, Ald. Scott Spiker, Ald. Larresa Taylor, Sup. Kathleen Vincent, Joan Johnson

EXCUSED: Matthew Kowalski, Mark Sain, Felicia Saffold, Venice Williams

STAFF: Tammy Mays, Joey McMahon, Jennifer Meyer-Stearns, Joe Moretz, Karli Pederson, Victoria Robertson, Marian Royal, Rebecca Schweisberger, Kirsten Thompson, Kelly Wochinske

OTHERS

PRESENT: Milwaukee County Federated Library System: Steve Heser

Vice-President Michele Bria called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:12 p.m. on March 26, 2024; a quorum was reached at 4:40. Trustees Coggs, Siemsen, and Vincent participated by conference phone. Agenda items were taken out of order but are presented here in numerical sequence.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Library Director Joan Johnson introduced Joey McMahon, Research and Policy Coordinator. Mr. McMahon gave a brief overview of his professional experience in public health policy administration and how it informs his role at MPL.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

1. **MPL Department Spotlight.** Library Services Manager Kirsten Thompson reported on the work of the MPL Arts and Humanities Department. Each year, Ms. Thompson prepares an annual ‘holiday letter’ to the Arts and Humanities staff highlighting special projects and accomplishments. The 2023 letter and an overview of collections work are attached at the end of these minutes. Many of the department’s public-facing services and programs are supported by extensive internal work, ensuring the physical, digital, and special collections are properly indexed and accessible. Arts and Humanities staff engage in professional development and offer remote reference assistance. The department also regularly partners with the Milwaukee County Genealogical Society and local history librarian Dan Lee has contributed several articles to their publication. In addition to the services offered at Central Library, items from various collections are available during special programs at branch libraries. In 2023, MPL was awarded the Governor’s Archives Award for Archival Innovation from the Wisconsin Historical Society for work with the socialist geocache program and the socialist documentary video *Remembering Milwaukee’s Socialist History*. The Board thanked Ms. Thompson and the Arts and Humanities teams for their extensive work and great service. Informational item.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. **Regular Board Meeting Minutes January 23, 2024**
3. **Committee Reports**
 - a. Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes – January 23, 2024
4. **Administrative Reports**
 - a. Financial Report
 - b. Library Director's Reports
 - c. Statistics

Chair Bria asked the Board if any items should be removed from the Consent Agenda presented as attachment A, pages 4-20 of the agenda. Hearing no objection, the Consent Agenda was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

5. **Board of Trustees Oversight of Foundation Gifts.** Deputy Library Director Jennifer Meyer-Stearns presented a memo, listed as Attachment B of the agenda, related to disposition of gifts from the estate of Mary A. Klug. The final gift amount and expenditure recommendations for use of the funds will be presented at upcoming meetings. Trustee Morgan moved to authorize Library Director Joan Johnson and her designee, Deputy Library Director Jennifer Meyer-Stearns, to complete the necessary legal forms to receive the funds from probate and various held annuity accounts for the Mary A Klug estate. Trustee Mercado seconded. Motion passed. The MPL Board offered thanks to decedent Mary A. Klug, her family, and estate for this very generous gift.

OLD BUSINESS

6. **State Annual Report.** MPL prepared and submitted the annual report, listed as Attachment C of the agenda, to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). President Sain viewed and approved the report and Chair Bria entertained a motion for the Board to ratify his approval. Trustee Spiker moved to approve; Trustee Taylor seconded. Motion passed.

REPORTS

7. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board Meeting.** MCFLS System Director Steve Heser reported on the January, February, and March 2024 meetings. The MCFLS Board is in the process of creating a strategic plan for 2025-2028. Visioning sessions were held in January and February to help inform and focus the plan. The new strategic plan will be presented to the MCFLS Board in May 2024. The plan will assist MCFLS in making any necessary changes to contracts with member libraries which expire at the end of 2024. MCFLS is partnering with member libraries and community literacy services to offer collaborative spaces and resources to promote adult literacy. Additional information and resources are available at www.mkereading.com. On March 19th, staff from MCFLS and member libraries toured the Community Reintegration Center in Franklin and discussed possibilities for collaboration and access to resources. Marian Royal, MPL Public Services Area Manager (Central Library), presented the 2023 Resource Library Report to the MCFLS Board. Mr. Heser thanked Director Johnson and the MPL staff for being exceptional, collaborative partners. Informational item.
8. **Library Services & Programs Committee Meeting.** Trustee Morgan presented the action items from the March 6, 2024 meeting.

- MPL Policy Update. MPL regularly reviews its policies and procedures for salience and accuracy. More recently, the review process includes assessment for equity and inclusion purposes to ensure a welcoming environment for all, regardless of race, age, religion, ethnicity, economic status, physical and mental abilities, gender identity, etc.

Chantel Clark, Associate Library Director - Strategic Initiatives and Public Services, presented a request to remove the phrase “wearing hoods” from the MPL Code of Conduct. Asking patrons to remove a hood (to comply with the Code of Conduct) can lead to negative interactions, particularly if there is no other violation of rules. MPL staff conducted thorough research on the policies of peer institutions and possible security implications of rescinding the rule. The MPL Race, Equity, and Inclusion (REI) Committee also discussed revising the rule to be more in line with MPL’s REI goals. It was noted that in the event of a security incident, staff may still ask patrons to remove their hood for identification purposes.

Trustee Morgan moved to approve the change as recommended; Trustee Bria seconded. Motion passed.

- Foundation Request for Program Support. On behalf of Library Director Joan Johnson, Deputy Library Director Jennifer Meyer-Stearns presented a request for approval to allocate funding from the MPL Foundation. A copy of the memo is attached at the end of these minutes.

City funding covers the costs of infrastructure and staffing, and MPL sought approval to use funding from the MPL Foundation to cover various costs for programming, LibraryCorps, materials, and the Director’s Fund. Trustee Morgan moved to approve the request to allocate a total of \$860,000 for the recommended priorities outlined in the memo; Trustee Mercado seconded. Motion passed.

9. **Building & Development Committee Meeting.** Chair Morgan presented the action item from the March 7, 2024 meeting.

- Capital Projects Foundation Funding Request. On behalf of Library Director Joan Johnson, Deputy Library Director Jennifer Meyer-Stearns presented a request for approval to allocate funding from the MPL Foundation. A copy of the memo is attached at the end of these minutes.

MPL sought approval to use funding from the MPL Foundation to help cover the cost of special features at the new Martin Luther King, Jr. branch. Projects include the makerspace and artistic and architectural features. Trustee Morgan moved to approve the request to allocate \$300,000 for the recommended priorities outlined in the memo; Trustee Taylor seconded. Motion passed.

- Martin Luther King Branch Redevelopment. Chair Morgan invited Library Construction Projects Manager Yves LaPierre to present a request for an extension of the Martin Luther King branch construction timeline. There is an array of agreements that cover the construction of the library development. One of the agreements pertains to the developer creating a core and shell for the library space; MPL will complete the buildout. The original date of transfer of the core and shell was March 31, 2024. The library is seeking approval to negotiate an extension on the shell completion date. The delay is not expected to

impact the library opening timeline. Trustee Morgan moved to authorize MPL staff to work with the City Attorney's Office to negotiate an extension on the shell completion date, up to 90 days. Trustee Spiker seconded. Motion passed.

10. **Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting.** Chair Mercado presented the action item from the March 22, 2024 meeting.

- **Disciplinary Appeal Hearing.** On March 22, 2024, the Committee met to conduct a hearing on the appeal of Joseph Payne regarding discharge from employment at MPL.

After both parties stated and rested their cases, the Committee moved into closed session to deliberate. The Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law regarding the discharge hearing was approved by the Committee. A copy of the document is attached at the end of these minutes.

Trustee Mercado moved to sustain Library Administration's decision to discharge Joseph Payne; Trustee Morgan seconded. Motion passed.

11. **Closing Remarks.** Vice-President Bria congratulated Trustee Mercado on the creation and publication of the book *Mexican Fiesta Milwaukee: Building Community Through A Celebration of Culture*. Trustee Mercado gifted a copy of the book to MPL. Vice-President Bria also congratulated Library Director Johnson for being selected to participate in the Marquette Law School's Lubar Center for Public Policy Research and Civic Education: "Get to Know" series with Lubar Center Director Derek Mosley. All Trustees are invited to attend the interview session on April 3rd.

With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of March 26, 2024 was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INNOVATION & STRATEGY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, April 2, 2024**

Video Conference Call via GoToMeeting

PRESENT: Matt Kowalski, Erika Siemsen, Ald. Scott Spiker, Ald. Larresa Taylor, Joan Johnson

EXCUSED: Venice Williams

OTHERS: MPL: Chantel Clark, Melissa Howard, Tammy Mays, Jennifer Meyer-Stearns, Karli Pederson, Rebecca Schweisberger

Committee Chair Matt Kowalski called the MPL Board of Trustees Innovation and Strategy Committee meeting to order at 9:21 a.m. on April 2, 2024 with a quorum present. All Trustees and presenters participated by video conference.

1. **Committee Meeting Minutes Review.** The Committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the January 9, 2024 meeting, listed as Attachment A of the agenda. Trustee Taylor moved to approve; Trustee Spiker seconded. Motion passed.
2. **Broadband Access Update.** Library Director Joan Johnson presented an update on the broadband access work. The City Attorney's Office has reviewed and approved MPL's request to work with attorney Anita Gallucci on the broadband access project. Attorney Gallucci, of Boardman Clark, specializes in telecommunications and is offering her services to MPL pro bono. On February 28th, the broadband access workgroup was reconvened and began clarifying project goals in order to begin the request for proposal (RFP) process. The group developed a list of criteria, which will continue to be refined, and is developing an RFP with the goal of increasing access to affordable high-speed internet service. A draft RFP will be shared with the Innovation & Strategy Committee before it is issued. The workgroup is partnering with David Henke, Chief Information Officer for the City, to apply for a federal grant for digital connectivity and navigation programs. Informational item.
3. **Community Engagement Campaign Follow-up.** Library Director Joan Johnson shared a brief overview and timeline of the community engagement work done in 2023. The final report was shared with the Mayor, Common Council, MPL staff, survey participants, and general public. MPL staff have been given direction on how to use the report to be responsive to community needs and requests. Each MPL branch team is creating individualized service plans that address the feedback from communities in their service area. The survey yielded significant insights and highlighted opportunities for future engagement and outreach. MPL will use this information to develop strategies for continuing engagement work. In alignment with our Race, Equity, and Inclusion (REI) workplan, MPL is focusing on increasing awareness about library services in historically under-represented communities. The INPOWER team invited MPL to participate in a neighbor-to-neighbor awareness campaign, spearheaded by the United Way of Greater Milwaukee. Workers hired by United Way will make door-to-door visits to meet with the community and offer information about financial strain, home conditions, and access to resources and support. As part of the campaign, 50,000 bags with various pieces of literature will be delivered to homes across 10 Milwaukee zip codes. A copy of MPL's contribution to the bag is attached at the end of these minutes. Informational item.

4. **Next Meeting.** Agenda items for the June 4, 2024 meeting include the broadband access progress report and a demonstration of the software application Placer AI.

The meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board's Innovation & Strategy Committee was adjourned at 9:57 a.m. on April 2, 2024.

Opening Doors to Opportunity



**READ
LEARN
CONNECT**

Every service is FREE.



Your First Step to Community Resources

Whether you're
looking to
build new skills
find a favorite story
or need a place to
connect and belong,
we're here for you.

Milwaukee Public Libraries Provide

- * Free access to computers, laptops and hotspots
- * Educational workshops
- * Language learning and computer skills
- * Mobile clinics for legal aid and health screenings
- * Homework help for youth after school
- * Study spaces and community rooms

Visit your local Milwaukee Public Library

Atkinson 1960 W. Atkinson Ave. | Bay View 2566 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. | Capitol 3969 N. 74th St.
Center Street 2727 W. Fond du Lac Ave. | Central 814 W. Wisconsin Ave. | East 2320 N. Cramor St.
Good Hope 7715 W. Good Hope Rd. | M.L. King (temporary) 2767 N. Martin Luther King Dr.
Mitchell Street 906 W. Historic Mitchell St. | Tippecanoe 3912 S. Howell Ave.
Villard Square 5190 N. 35th St. | Washington Park 2121 N. Sherman Blvd.
Zablocki 3501 W. Oklahoma Ave.

mpl.org | 414.286.3000



**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BUILDING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Thursday, April 4, 2024**

Video Conference Call by GoToMeeting

PRESENT: Michael Morgan, Matt Kowalski, Teresa Mercado, Mark Sain, Larresa Taylor, Joan Johnson

OTHERS

PRESENT: MPL: Chantel Clark, Melissa Howard, Yves LaPierre, Jennifer Meyer-Stearns, Rebecca Schweisberger

Chair Michael Morgan called the MPL Board of Trustees Building and Development Committee meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. on April 4, 2024 with a quorum present. All Trustees and presenters participated by video conference.

1. **Approval of the Minutes.** Chair Sain entertained a motion to accept the minutes from the March 7, 2024 meeting, listed as Attachment A of the agenda. Trustee Sain moved approval of the minutes and Trustee Mercado seconded. Motion passed.
2. **Major Gift Campaign Priorities.** Library Director Joan Johnson shared a draft memo with proposed MPL priorities for the MPL Foundation (MPLF) major gifts campaign. In late 2023, the MPLF Board of Directors approved a new strategic plan, which included a commitment to launching a major gifts campaign. The campaign will allow MPL to pursue projects that are not funded by the City's capital budget. If approved, several of the projects could create new revenue streams for MPL to help offset other operational costs. Director Johnson is presenting the list of potential projects to the MPL Board before submitting a final version to the MPLF Board. Director Johnson proposed the list of projects, which will begin in 2025 and continue over the next 5 years. Following Committee discussion, it was agreed that Director Johnson will revise the memo as follows: remove Capital branch redevelopment from the list of projects; add information about the projected scope, costs, and alternate funding options for the projects. Informational item.

The meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board's Building & Development Committee was adjourned at 9:01 a.m. on April 4, 2024.

**Milwaukee Public Library
Financial Report
March 31, 2024**

2024

2023

City Revenues

	Budget	Received to date	% Received
<i>Additional City Appropriation</i>	\$ 28,574,827	\$ 7,238,535	25.3%
<i>Fines</i>	\$ 114,500	\$ 21,627	18.9%
<i>Lost Materials, etc.</i>	\$ 66,500	\$ 12,879	19.4%
<i>MCFLS Contracts</i>	\$ 819,000	\$ 8,074	1.0%
Total City Appropriation	\$ 29,574,827	\$ 7,281,115	24.6%

	Budget	Received to date	% Received
	\$ 26,436,877	\$ 6,879,375	26.0%
	\$ 128,000	\$ 16,013	12.5%
	\$ 60,000	\$ 7,153	11.9%
	\$ 802,414	\$ 212,665	26.5%
	\$ 27,427,291	\$ 7,115,206	25.9%

City Expenses

Salaries & Benefits

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Salaries</i>	\$ 5,973,002	\$ 1,647,294	27.6%
<i>Fringe Benefits</i>	\$ 2,687,851	\$ 678,456	25.2%
Total	\$ 8,660,853	\$ 2,325,750	26.9%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 14,013,643	\$ 3,662,366	26.1%
	\$ 6,306,139	\$ 1,572,187	24.9%
	\$ 20,319,782	\$ 5,234,553	25.8%

Supplies & Services

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>General Office Expense</i>	\$ 121,803	\$ 9,378	7.7%
<i>Tools & Machinery Parts</i>	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
<i>Construction Supplies</i>	\$ 16,500	\$ 7,733	46.9%
<i>Energy</i>	\$ 847,800	\$ 202,073	23.8%
<i>Other Operating Supplies</i>	\$ 252,947	\$ 51,254	20.3%
<i>Vehicle Rental</i>	\$ 8,800	\$ 1,059	12.0%
<i>Non-Vehicle Equipment Rental</i>	\$ 14,700	\$ 4,211	28.6%
<i>Professional Services</i>	\$ 146,600	\$ 79,520	54.2%
<i>Information Technology Services</i>	\$ 442,552	\$ 302,245	68.3%
<i>Property Services</i>	\$ 1,418,038	\$ 455,053	32.1%
<i>Infrastructure Services</i>	\$ 38,500	\$ 111,415	289.4%
<i>Vehicle Repair Services</i>	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
<i>Other Operating Services</i>	\$ 146,239	\$ 30,767	21.0%
<i>Reimburse Other Departments</i>	\$ 108,600	\$ (1,145)	-1.1%
Total	\$ 3,563,079	\$ 1,253,563	35.2%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 111,700	\$ 11,330	10.1%
	\$ 19,000	\$ 3,503	18.4%
	\$ 26,000	\$ 4,463	17.2%
	\$ 687,800	\$ 171,714	25.0%
	\$ 248,019	\$ 62,020	25.0%
	\$ 9,000	\$ 3,180	35.3%
	\$ 22,000	\$ 5,581	25.4%
	\$ 180,751	\$ 82,868	45.8%
	\$ 417,642	\$ 192,624	46.1%
	\$ 1,273,520	\$ 428,482	33.6%
	\$ 33,000	\$ 63,140	191.3%
	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
	\$ 157,100	\$ 26,620	16.9%
	\$ 105,000	\$ (2,307)	-2.2%
	\$ 3,290,532	\$ 1,053,218	32.0%

Equipment

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Library Materials</i>	\$ 1,827,000	\$ 521,780	28.6%
<i>IT Equipment</i>	\$ 522,032	\$ 150,065	28.7%
<i>Other</i>	\$ 86,563	\$ 8,137	9.4%
Total	\$ 2,435,595	\$ 679,982	27.9%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 1,757,000	\$ 409,173	23.3%
	\$ 358,187	\$ 33,444	9.3%
	\$ 83,202	\$ 881	1.1%
	\$ 2,198,389	\$ 443,498	20.2%

Other Departmental Appropriation

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Villard Square Property Payment</i>	\$ 9,800	\$ -	0.0%
<i>East Property Payment</i>	\$ 5,300	\$ 5,300	100.0%
<i>Mitchell Street Property Payment</i>	\$ 74,000	\$ 13,500	18.2%
<i>Good Hope Property Payment</i>	\$ 45,000	\$ -	0.0%
<i>Contingent Energy Financing</i>	\$ 136,200	\$ 68,076	50.0%
Total	\$ 270,300	\$ 86,876	32.1%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 8,300	\$ 500	0.0%
	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	0.0%
	\$ 72,000	\$ 13,500	18.8%
	\$ 45,000	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 133,500	\$ 66,742	50.0%
	\$ 262,800	\$ 84,742	32.2%

ARPA Revenue Replacement

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Operating Expenses</i>	\$ 14,645,000	\$ 2,934,944	20.0%
Total	\$ 14,645,000	\$ 2,934,944	20.0%
Total City Expenses	\$ 29,574,827	\$ 7,281,115	24.6%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 1,355,788	\$ 299,195	22.1%
	\$ 1,355,788	\$ 299,195	22.1%
	\$ 27,427,291	\$ 7,115,206	25.9%

**Milwaukee Public Library
Financial Report
March 31, 2024**

2024

2023

Additional Funding Sources

Grants

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>WTBBL Jul '23 - Jun '24</i>	\$ 1,004,300	\$ 659,434	65.7%
<i>ILS Jul '23 - Jun '24</i>	\$ 223,350	\$ 74,121	33.2%
Total	\$ 1,227,650	\$ 733,555	59.8%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 1,136,100	\$ 694,840	61.2%
	\$ 108,650	\$ 83,208	76.6%
	\$ 1,244,750	\$ 778,048	62.5%

Trust Funds

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Materials</i>	\$ 134,000	\$ 68,801	51.3%
<i>Programming</i>	\$ 42,000	\$ 2,026	4.8%
<i>Training</i>	\$ 20,000	\$ 553	2.8%
<i>Marketing</i>	\$ 35,000	\$ -	0.0%
<i>Contingency</i>	\$ 4,000	\$ -	0.0%
<i>Board Development</i>	\$ 4,000	\$ 384	9.6%
<i>Strehlow 50+</i>	\$ 29,756	\$ 965	3.2%
<i>Staffing Study</i>	\$ 28,000	\$ -	0.0%
Total	\$ 296,756	\$ 72,729	24.5%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 124,000	\$ 63,353	51.1%
	\$ 38,000	\$ 7,114	18.7%
	\$ 18,000	\$ 1,262	7.0%
	\$ 32,000	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 4,000	\$ 287	7.2%
	\$ 4,000	\$ 476	11.9%
	\$ 37,319	\$ 81	0.2%
	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
	\$ 257,319	\$ 72,573	28.2%

Foundation Contributions

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Materials</i>	\$ 225,817	\$ 15,506	6.9%
<i>Programming</i>	\$ 1,437,821	\$ 87,540	6.1%
Total	\$ 1,663,638	\$ 103,046	6.2%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 419,572	\$ 7,666	1.8%
	\$ 1,052,485	\$ 175,648	16.7%
	\$ 1,472,057	\$ 183,314	12.5%

Investments

U.S. Bank National Assoc. Commercial Paper (rated A1) confirmation #327154184 dated 03/20/24 and maturing 04/19/24 at a rate of 2.00%...\$300,000

Director's Report

April Activities

Johnson accepted an invitation from Derek Mosley to participate in the "Get to Know" series as part of the Marquette University's Lubar Center for Public Policy Research and Civic Education program. The series uses the late-night talk show model and highlights people in the community doing important work to share more about themselves and what drives them each day. As the featured guest, Johnson was very well received by an audience of over 125 attendees, a high bar, according to Mosley.

Work on the Milwaukee Broadband Partnership's feasibility study continues as the team contemplates next steps upon its release, which is anticipated in the coming weeks. The group also discussed a new grant opportunity that Johnson is already reviewing with others to support improved access to broadband, devices and training support. The Digital Connectivity and Navigators Grant was issued as part of the U.S. Department of Treasury's Capital Projects Fund and is being administered by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin. If MPL's project is deemed eligible for funding, the MPL will work with City and community partners to apply.

Johnson and other team members are continuing work with other City departments as partners on Mayoral priorities, including Vision Zero, staffed through the Mayor's Office and the Cities Forward Civic Literacy grant project with the Election Commission. The MPL team also worked with partner EmployMKE on completing phase II of the grant application for a digital inclusion project funded by the Talent for Tomorrow Digital Equity Challenge, sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Comcast and Project Up.

Johnson continues to do outreach and serve the community through her involvement with partners and various organizations including meetings and events with the Westown Association Board, Milwaukee Broadband Partnership, the Rotary Club of Milwaukee, and the Friends of the MPL Annual Spring Literary Luncheon. Johnson's attendance at the Milwaukee County Federated Library System's monthly Board meetings is ongoing. She met with new potential partners from the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra. A former partner reached out to include MPL's Central Library as a featured host site in Sculpture Milwaukee 2024.

Summary of **VIRTUAL and IN-PERSON PROGRAMS:**

March 2024

MPL HELPS PEOPLE READ

Book Chat With Special Guest Piper Huguley. Need something to read? Join librarians from the Milwaukee Public Library and special guest author Piper Huguley as they share a list of curated book recommendations guaranteed to fill up your to-be-read pile. Piper Huguley is the author of *By Her Own Design* as well as the *Home to Milford College* and the *Migrations of the Heart* series. She is a multiple-time Golden Heart finalist. Piper blogs about the history behind her novels on her website. She lives in Atlanta, Georgia, with her husband and son. Virtual Attendance: 7

MPL HELPS PEOPLE LEARN

The History of Black Milwaukee. Presented by award-winning historian and author John Gurda; introduction and Q&A facilitated by Clayborn Benson of the Wisconsin Black Historical Society and Museum. Mr. Gurda presented the history of African American's in Milwaukee. Mr. Gurda described the city's early days as a fur trading post which grew into an industrial powerhouse which grew during the 20th Century. There have been Black Milwaukeeans for as long as there's been a Milwaukee. African Americans were here when the future metropolis was just a fur-trading post, and they grew with the city during its rise as a hotbed of abolitionist activity, an industrial powerhouse, and a haven for immigrants. The group's numbers soared during the Great Migration of the twentieth century, and Black Milwaukeeans are the city's largest single cultural group today. Unfolding over nearly two centuries, their story is an inspiring chronicle of struggle, resilience, and pride. Attendance at Washington Park Branch Library: 54

Snack Hack: 2.0. Snack Hack: 2.0 is a food and nutrition literacy adult program offered as weekly sessions designed to teach all aspects of food: nutritional elements, food groups, cooking principles, history of food, how food is grown,

cultural connections to what we eat, how food works in our bodies and methods on how to prepare meals at home. Sessions include a cooking demonstration and a snack for attendees. This month ended the “fan favorite” snack selections – which were provided per the survey at the end of the 2023 series. Total attendance for 3 sessions: 29

How to Select Rain Garden Plants with Melinda Myers. Selecting the right plant for the growing conditions is always an important step when planning and planting a garden. It is even more critical when it comes to rain gardens. Melinda will cover a variety of native rain garden plants from short to tall, those for the sun, a few for the shade, and a few non-native plants you may want to include. She will help you plan for color and interest throughout the year as well as suggest plants that will attract pollinators and support songbirds. Virtual Attendance: 98

Treasures of the Rare Books Room: Art of Japan. Did you know that Milwaukee Public Library has a sizable collection of Japanese prints and books? Patrons were invited to visit the Richard E. and Lucile Krug Rare Books Room to view a display of rare Japanese works showcasing a variety of time periods, topics, and wondrous things to behold. Librarians were present to answer questions and talk about the collection. Total attendance for two sessions: 216

MPL HELPS PEOPLE CONNECT

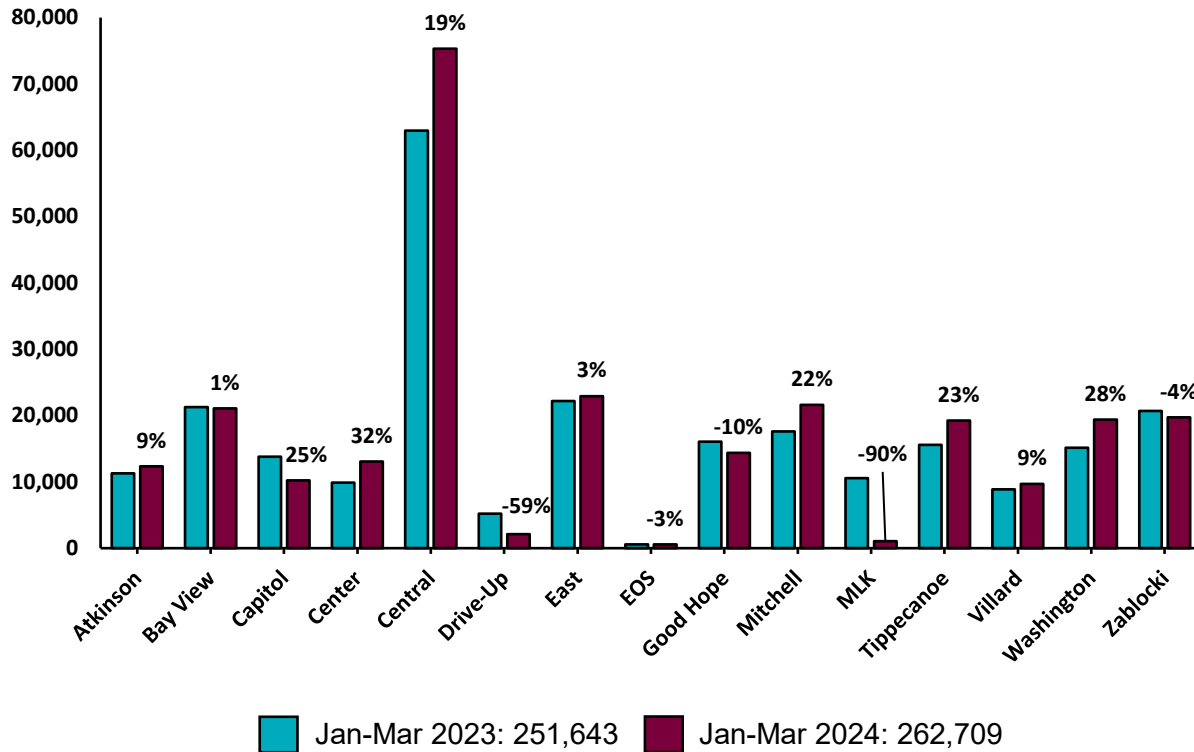
Star Quality: Kia Rap Princess. Local musician and entrepreneur Kia Rap Princess presented on her rap career in the Milwaukee music scene. Kia is an amazing storyteller and her passion for her art was palpable. She went into detail about ensuring you are registered with BMI or ASCAP so artists can get paid for their performance even if they are playing a show for free (or mainly for exposure). Everyone who had a question had it answered with honesty and understanding. I know I left the program inspired. I truly hope to work with Kia again by having her sit on a panel that discusses the business side of the music industry along with other previous presenters both from Star Quality as well as Small Business Success Story. Attendance: 6

Illustration Workshop with Rachel Duggan. In these engaging and interactive workshops, participants created many drawings in a short period of time. Through drawing games and unexpected prompts, attendees were shown unique ways to think outside the box when creating drawings. All skill levels were welcomed. Rachal Duggan is a Milwaukee based Illustrator, and author of the body positive book, "*All Butts are Good Butts*". Known for her highly coveted booty portraits, Rachal travels for pop-up events where she draws on the spot. When she's not creating illustrations, Rachal teaches drawing workshops for all skill levels. Total attendance at 2 sessions: 45

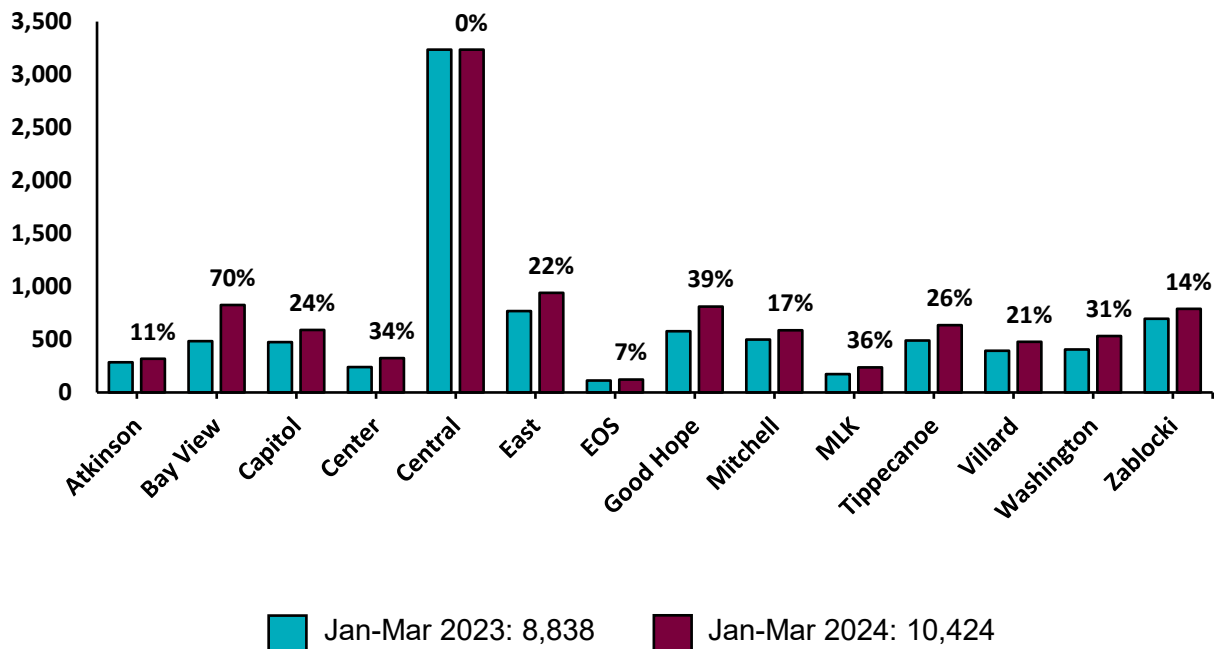
Tippecanoe Community Craft Supply Swap. Tippecanoe Branch Library patrons brought their unused yarn, drawing/painting, scrapbooking, jewelry-making, wreath making, and other supplies and swap them with fellow crafters. The day of the event, attendees eagerly filled their library-supplied bags full of craft supplies. This program was a great showcase for community interest in MPL’s craft program series, as well as a great way to promote upcycling and sustainably reusing craft supplies. Attendance: 98

Total attendance for 104 programs: 1,312

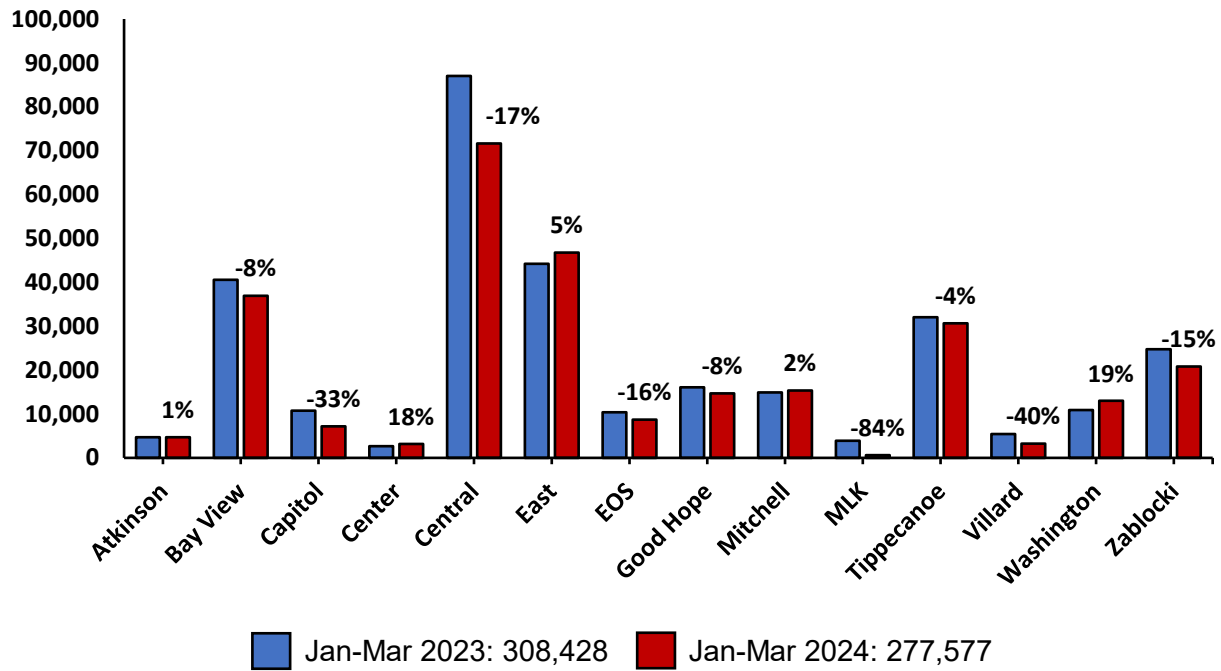
Patron Visits



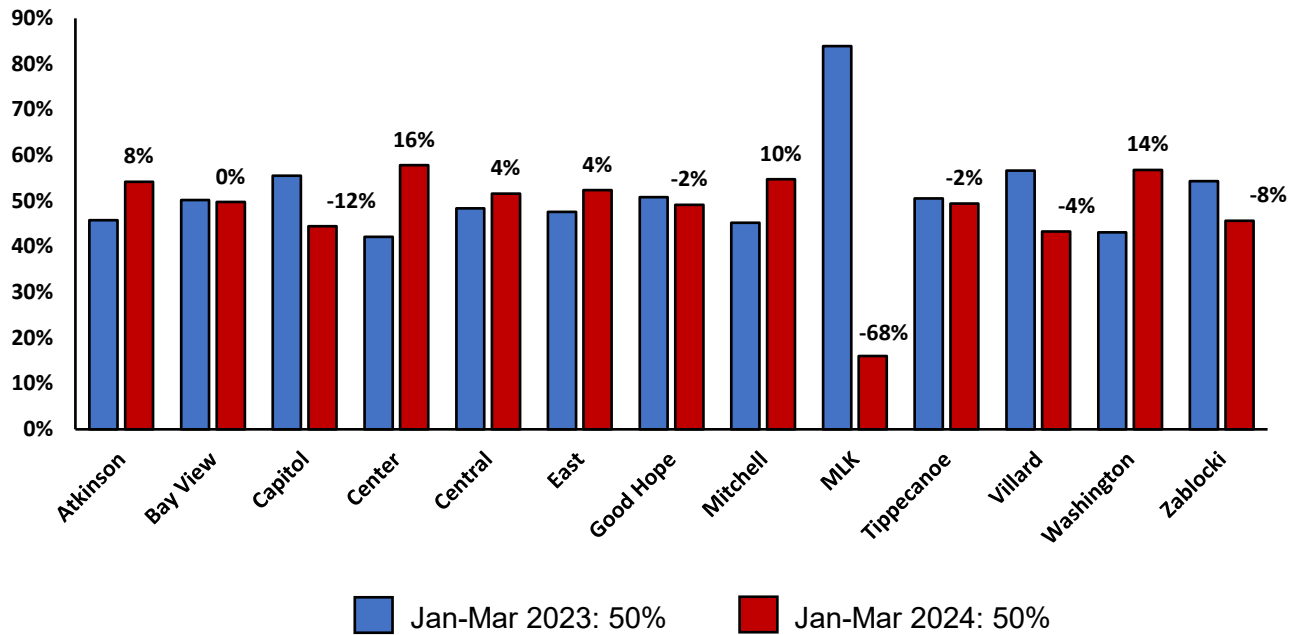
Registration



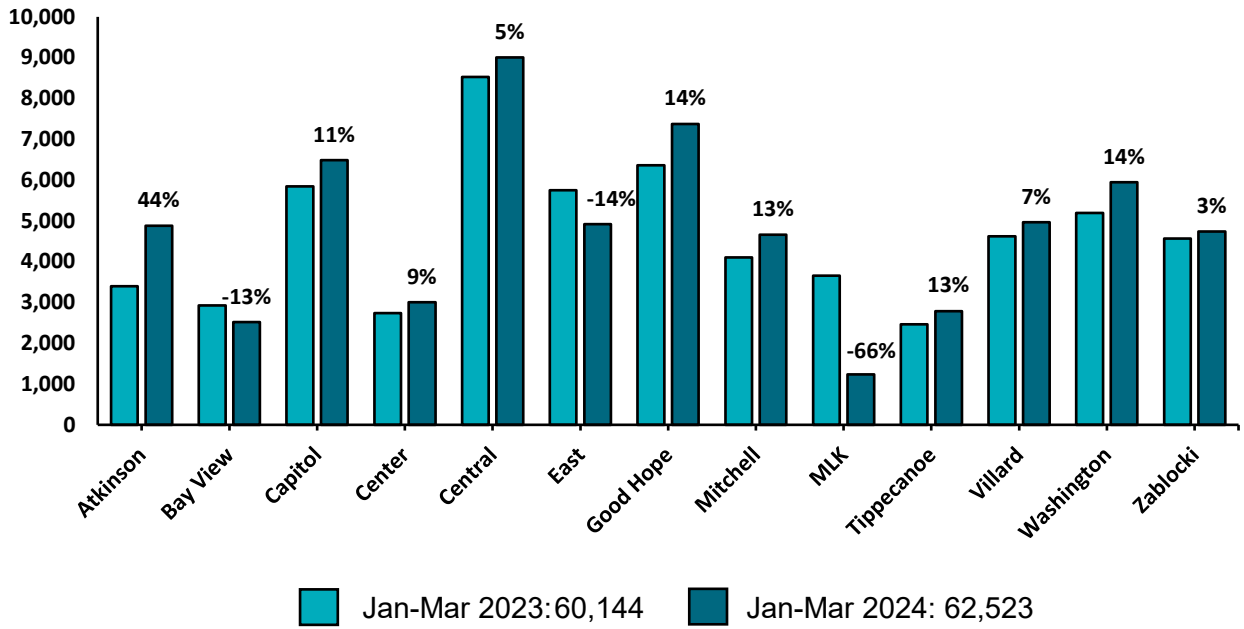
Traditional Circulation



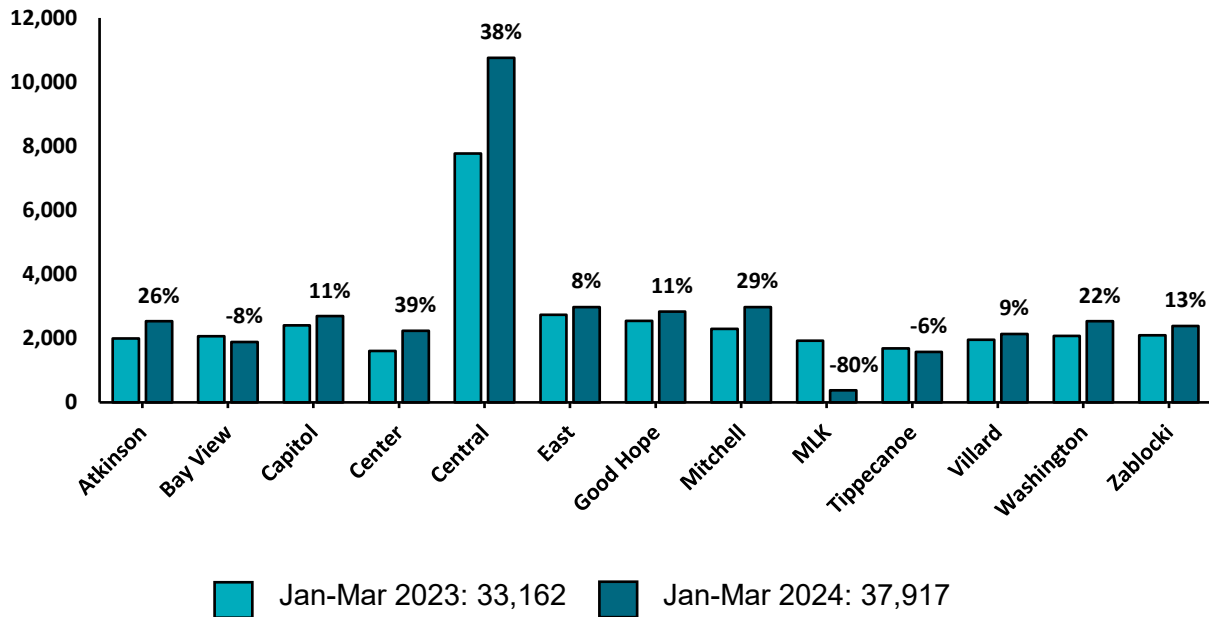
Self-Checkout



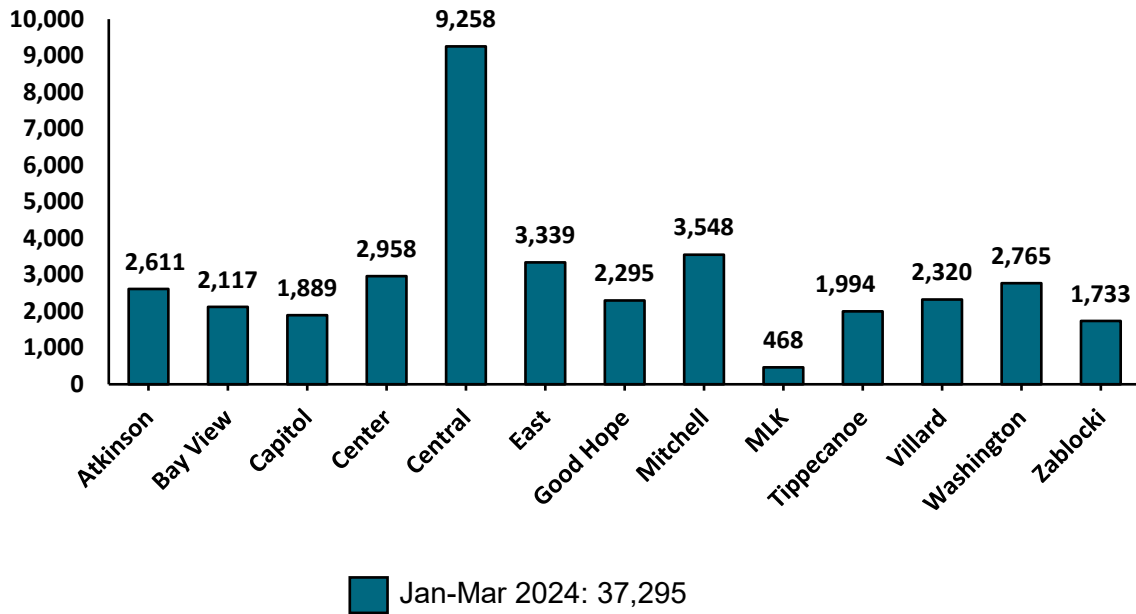
Print/Copy/Fax/Scan Jobs



Public Computer Sessions



Wi-Fi Unique Users



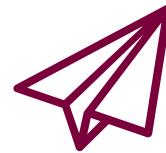
Ready Reference



12,307
Call Sessions
Last Year: 12,590



441
Chat Sessions
Last Year: 667

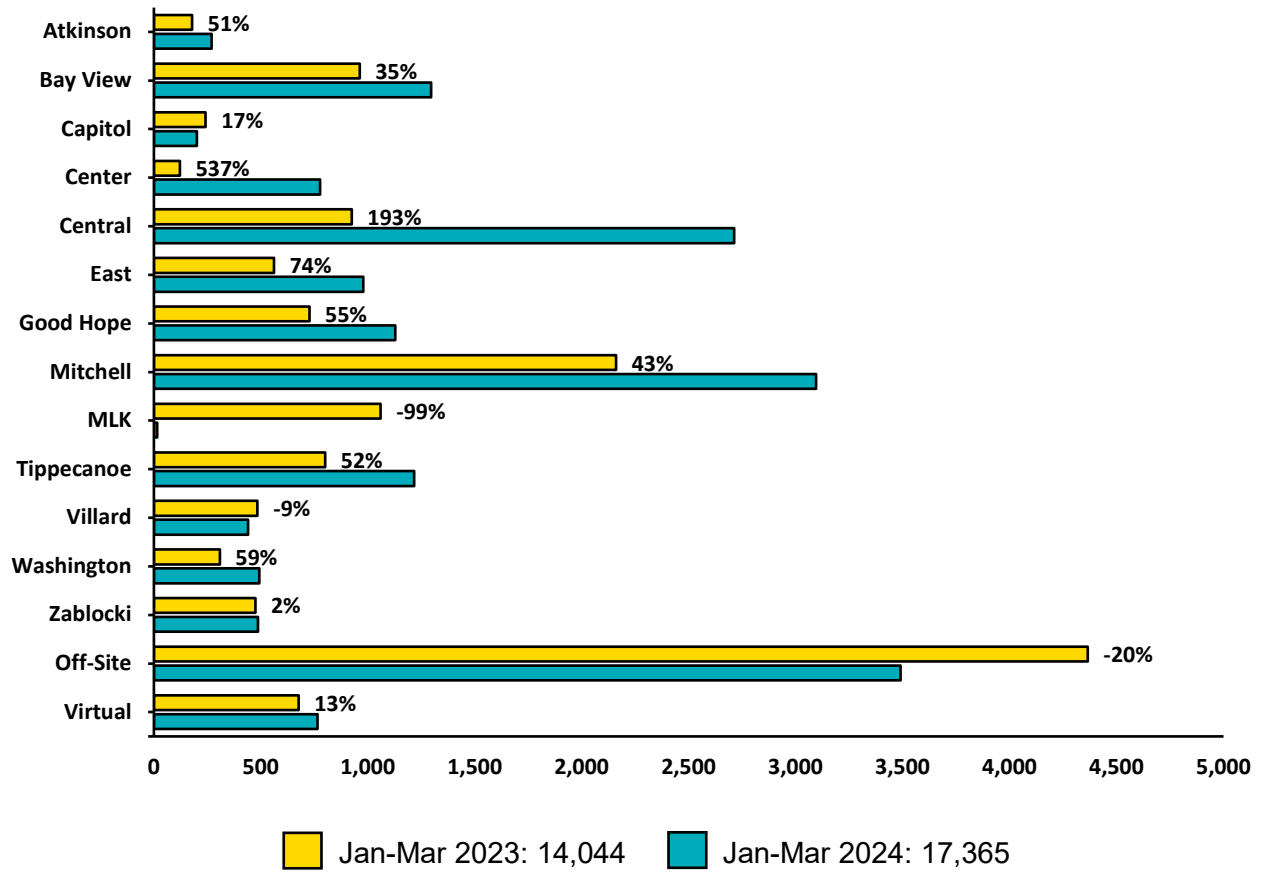


580
Email Sessions
Last Year: 425

eCirculation

Platform	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Change
Freegal Music	46,709	34,266	-26.6%
Hoopla Digital	15,509	20,496	+32.2%
Kanopy	4,087	7,253	+77.5%
OverDrive	96,420	117,564	+21.9%
Total	162,725	179,579	+10.4%

Program Attendance



**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NOMINATING COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Monday, March 18, 2024

Video Conference Call via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT: Matt Kowalski, Michael Morgan, Felicia Saffold, Erika Siemsen, Joan Johnson

EXCUSED: Milele Coggs

OTHERS: MPL: Rebecca Schweisberger

Committee Chair Michael Morgan called the MPL Board of Trustees Nominating Committee meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. on March 18, 2024 with a quorum present. All Trustees and presenters participated by video conference.

1. **MPL Board Officers Nomination Slate.** Library Director Joan Johnson shared a brief overview of the MPL Board by-laws and nomination process. The Committee reviewed the outstanding work of the current Officers and reached a unanimous decision to recommend their re-election. The Committee noted the great leadership, experience, and diverse community connections of the current Officers. In addition, re-election will aid continuity of Board operations. Trustee Kowalski moved to recommend Mark Sain as President, Michele Bria as Vice-President, and Teresa Mercado as Financial Secretary. Trustee Saffold seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board's Nominating Committee was adjourned at 2:19 p.m. on March 18, 2024.



Proposed Slate of Officers for MPL Board

2024 – 2026

President: Mark Sain
Vice-President: Michele Bria
Financial Secretary: Teresa Mercado
Past President: Vacant