



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, July 22, 2025

4:00 p.m.

Central Library

Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room

814 W. Wisconsin Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53233

WELCOME & ROLL CALL

4:00 – 4:05

PUBLIC COMMENT

4:05 – 4:15

BOARD EDUCATION

4:15 – 4:30

1. **Databases and Electronic Resources.** Beth Henika, Library Services Manager – Acquisitions & Serials, and Karli Pederson, Associate Library Director - Library Information Technology & Technical Services, will share an overview of MPL's databases and electronic resources, including business resources.

CONSENT AGENDA

4:30 – 4:35

Attachment A, page 3

2. **Regular Board Meeting Minutes, June 24, 2025.**
3. **Committee Reports**
 - a. Building & Development Committee – July 10, 2025
4. **Administrative Reports.**
 - a. Financial Report
 - b. Library Director's Report
 - c. Statistics
5. **Revised MPL Board Meeting Schedule.**

REPORTS

4:35 – 5:25

6. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board Meeting.** Trustee Vincent will report on the July 14, 2025 meeting.

7. **MPL Foundation Report.** MPL Foundation Executive Director Ryan Daniels will present an update on fundraising and events.
8. **Services & Programs Committee.** Chair Coggs will present the action item from the July 9, 2025 meeting.

Attachment B, page 51

9. **Finance & Personnel Committee.** Chair Mercado will present the action item from the July 22, 2025 meeting.

CLOSING REMARKS

5:25 – 5:30

10. **Closing Remarks and Adjournment.**

REMINDER: Next scheduled meetings are:

September 4, 2025 Building & Development Committee – Virtual Meeting, 8:00 a.m

September 23, 2025 Board Meeting – Central Library, 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,
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, June 24, 2025

East Branch
2320 N. Cramer Street
Milwaukee, WI 53211
Community Room, Gift of Lucile Krug

PRESENT: Mark Sain, Michele Bria, Ald. Milele Coggs, Matthew Kowalski, Michael Morgan, Felicia Saffold, Ald. Scott Spiker, Ald. Larresa Taylor, Sup. Kathleen Vincent, Venice Williams, Joan Johnson

EXCUSED: Teresa Mercado, Michael Morgan

STAFF: Chantel Clark, Kristina Gomez, Melissa Howard, Dan Keeley, Yves LaPierre, Sarah Leszczynski, Tammy Mays Wilder, Jennifer Meyer-Stearns, Amelia Osterud, Karli Pederson, Rebecca Schweisberger, Tiffany Thornton, Kelly Wochinske, Jessica Wolf

OTHER: Budget & Management Division: Nathaniel Haack
MPS Board: Darryl Jackson

Vice-President Michele Bria called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:07 p.m. on June 24, 2025. Trustees Coggs, Sain, Vincent, and Williams participated by phone/virtual conference.

Vice-President Bria acknowledged MPS Board appointee Darryl Jackson.

Chantel Clark, Associate Library Director - Strategic Initiatives and Public Services, introduced staff members Kristina Gómez and Tiffany Thornton. They each gave brief overviews of their professional background and goals at MPL. Ms. Gómez is currently serving as the temporary Public Services Manager for Central Library. She has served in several positions with MPL, most recently as Manager of Business, Technology, Science, and Periodicals. Ms. Thornton is the new Library Services Manager of Martin Luther King branch. As a teen, she worked at Marin Luther King branch, which inspired her to pursue a career in librarianship. Informational item.

BOARD EDUCATION

1. **East Branch Introduction.** Library Services Manager Amelia Osterud presented a brief introduction of East branch. The presentation is attached at the end of these minutes. East branch was redeveloped and reopened in 2012. Most of East branch patrons live within three zip codes that, combined, hold 16% of all library cards in Milwaukee County. East is also the branch with the highest traditional circulation, which totaled 77,628 in 2024 and is on pace to exceed those numbers in 2025. It is also the only MPL location with materials pick-up locker service. The long-running Romance Readers Book Club introduces readers to the romance genre and subgenres with a focus on diverse voices. Donations are accepted for the seed library, which allows patrons to “borrow” seeds in spring and return seeds during harvest season. East branch also has a large selection of puzzles, cards, and board games for use in the building. Informational item.

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MPL CONSENT AGENDA

2. Regular Board Meeting Minutes - 06/24/2025

P. 3

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

2. **Budget Outlook.** Budget & Management Special Assistant Nathaniel Haack presented an overview of the 2026 requested budget. The presentation is attached at the end of these minutes. As part of the operating budget, City departments requested a total of nearly \$840M, with the majority of funding used for staff salaries. For 2026, the operating budget gap is over \$100M. Use of city reserves is considered a stop-gap measure and there are restrictions for its use. All City departments have been asked to submit budget requests with at least 5% cuts. Informational item.

CONSENT AGENDA

3. **Regular Board Meeting Minutes May 27, 2025**
4. **Special Board Meeting Minutes, June 5, 2025**
5. **Committee Reports**
 - a. Building & Development Committee Meeting Minutes – June 5, 2025
6. **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 3-21 of the agenda. Hearing no objection, the Consent Agenda was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

7. **Annual Report.** Library Director Joan Johnson presented the 2024 annual report, which is attached at the end of these minutes. The report highlights MPL's mission and goals and will be used to share information about the library's impact in the community. Going forward, the report will acknowledge the library's generous donors. Director Johnson thanked Melissa Howard, Communications and Community Engagement Director, and all MPL staff who contributed to the report.
8. **Funding for the MPL Hotspot Lending Program.** Library Director Joan Johnson presented a request to use money from the MPL trust fund to sustain the hotspot lending program for the remainder of 2025. The request was detailed in the memo listed as Attachment B of the agenda. MPL has not received the anticipated amount of private funding needed to sustain the program. Director Johnson reviewed the annual trust fund request process and shared examples of additional requests that have been made to fund special projects as needed. She also gave a brief overview of ongoing efforts to provide broadband access to underserved populations. MPL will continue to explore alternative funding sources to sustain the hotspot program in the future. Hotspots are a funding priority, but the program will likely be terminated if a reliable funding source is not identified. Trustee Spiker moved to authorize MPL to expend up to \$295,000 from the Milwaukee Public Library Trust and Gift Funds to support the hotspots program through December 31, 2025. Trustee Saffold seconded. Motion passed.

REPORTS

9. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board Meeting.** Library Director Joan Johnson reported on the June 9, 2025 meeting.
- MCFLS Executive Director Steve Hesel shared an update on the statewide library advocacy campaign to support the Institute of Museums and Library Services (IMLS) and the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding. Nationwide, the library community is mobilizing to lobby elected officials to vote against a budget that eliminates IMLS funding. Wisconsin libraries are participating in a postcard campaign to support library funding. MCFLS will collect and mail the postcards this week in an effort to reach elected officials before the congressional subcommittee meeting to discuss IMLS. Postcard collection will continue through July.
 - Hoopla: MCFLS is no longer funding the digital resource Hoopla. Director Hesel presented year-to-date data on usage and cost which showed usage is robust. Hoopla operates on a pay-per-use model and libraries are charged a fee each time a user borrows an item. As such, the resource is not sustainable for some member libraries who are paying for the service. MPL currently offers Hoopla but has reduced the check-out limits.
 - The MCFLS annual member retreat will be held in mid-July. MPL will send three administrators.
10. **MPL Board Executive Committee.** Vice-President Bria presented the action item from the June 11, 2025 meeting. Director Johnson requested authorization to conduct a fundraising feasibility study for the MPL Foundation major gifts campaign. Trustee Saffold moved to authorize Director Johnson to proceed with a fundraising feasibility study. Trustee Kowalski seconded. Motion passed.
11. **Closing Remarks.** Library Director Joan Johnson invited Trustees to view the Black Arts Movement Project at Central Library. This art exhibit highlights pieces from the MPL collection that were created by Black artists in Milwaukee. A webpage has been developed to share the collection digitally. MPL staff members who created the exhibit will present to the Board at a future meeting.

With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of June 24, 2025 was adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

A photograph of the exterior sign for the Milwaukee Public Library East Branch. The sign is mounted on a copper-colored metal plate. The words "MILWAUKEE" and "PUBLIC LIBRARY" are on the top line, and "EAST BRANCH" is on the bottom line. The letters are dark, three-dimensional, and in a serif font. The background of the image shows a reflection of a cloudy sky on the metal surface.

MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC LIBRARY

EAST BRANCH

EAST BRANCH

2025

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MPL CONSENT AGENDA

2. Regular Board Meeting Minutes - 06/24/2025

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Opened in 2012.

Majority of
patrons live in zip
codes 53202,
53211 & 53212.



Consistently has the highest traditional circulation of all the branches.



Only MPL location with
a holds pickup locker.

Average of 6% of
circulation.

Average 30-40 items
daily are waiting to go
into the lockers.



East has the highest use of all the MCFLS locations with a locker.

Jan-May 2025	
MCFLS Locations with Lockers	Locker Circ as percentage of total in-building circ
East	6.6%
Whitefish Bay	3.4%
Cudahy	2.8%
Shorewood	2.6%
Franklin	1.3%
Greenfield	0.9%
Oak Creek	0.2%

Most popularly used
adult collections are:

Fiction

Non-Fiction

DVDs

Graphic Novels



Most popularly used
children's collections
are:

Picture Books

Graphic Novels

Non Fiction

Paperbacks



Unique programs and collections

Romance Readers Book Club

Craft and Chat

Russian language collection

Seed Library

Puzzles

Board Games



Thank you!



A wide-angle photograph of the Milwaukee skyline across a body of water. The skyline includes several prominent skyscrapers, the Whitefish Bay Bridge, and the Milwaukee Public Library building. The water is calm, and the sky is blue with light clouds.

City of Milwaukee

2026 Requested Budget Overview

For the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Directors

Milwaukee Public Library Board Meeting, June 24, 2025 - Prepared By: Nathaniel Haack, Budget & Fiscal Policy Analyst

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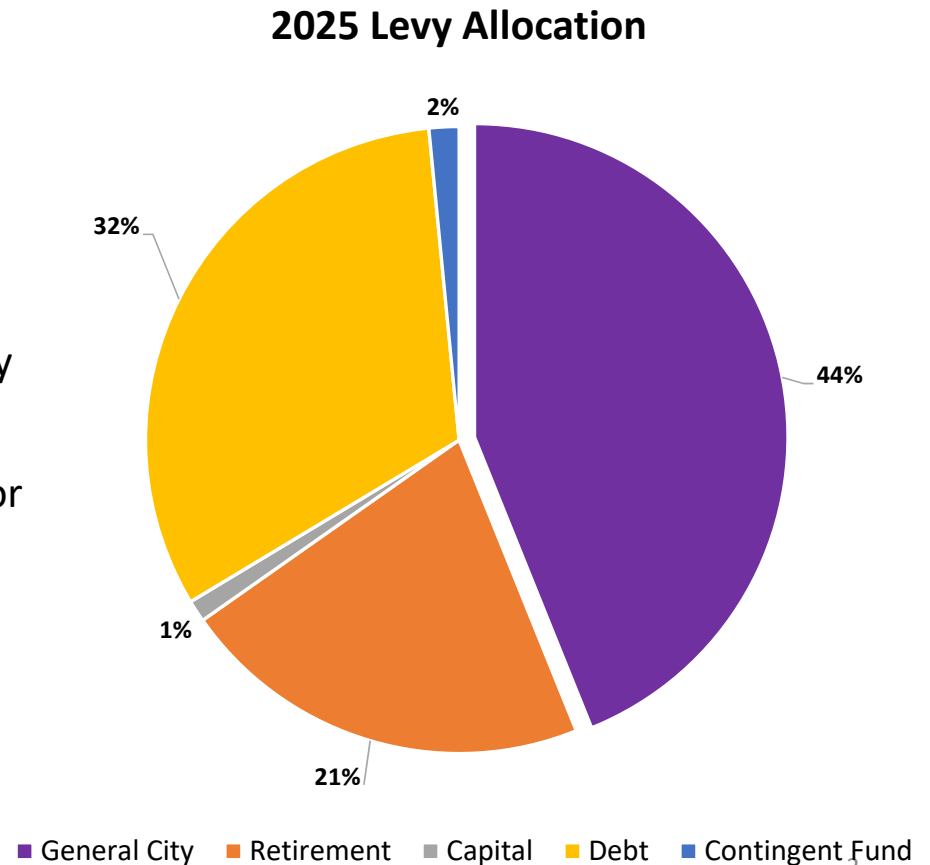
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2026 City of Milwaukee Requested Operating Budget

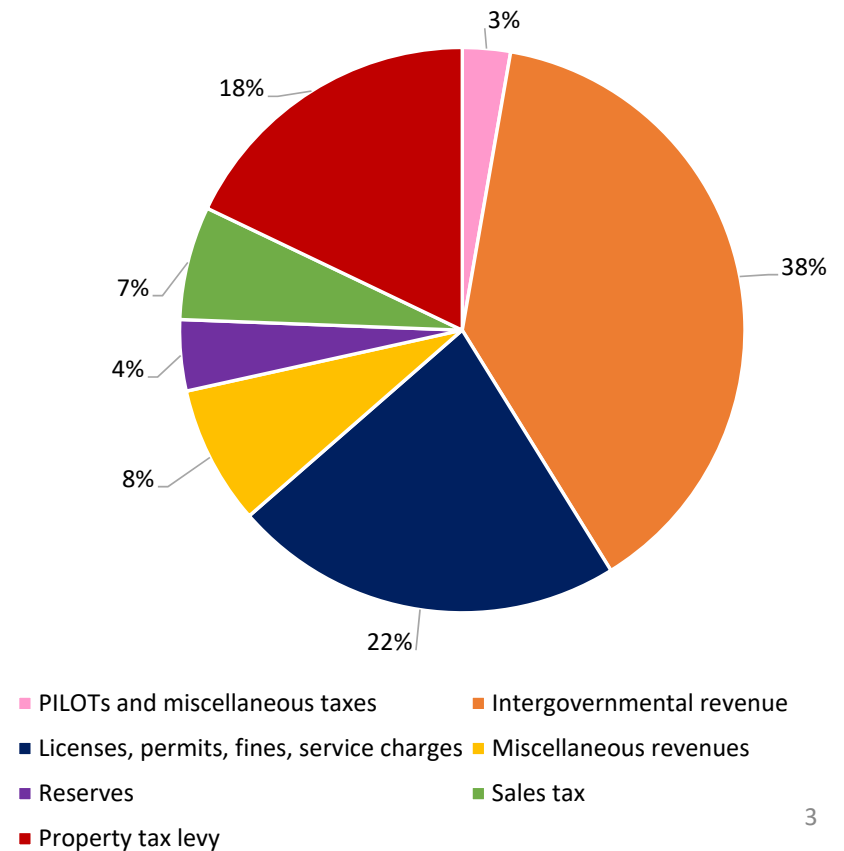
- Departments requested \$839M for general city purposes
 - Increase of \$44M, 6% over 2025
 - \$496M (59%) of general city requests are for salary, not including benefits
- \$222M in requested tax levy expenses for general city
 - Increase of \$79M from 2025, 56%
 - In addition to public services, the tax must pay for retirement benefits and debt service
- Initial 2026 operating budget gap of over \$88M
 - New pension actuarial valuations raised the budget gap to over \$100M



2026 City of Milwaukee Revenue Constraints

- The City is subject to state restrictions on raising the tax levy based on net new construction
- In addition to restrictions on property tax revenue, the City's revenues are limited by:
 - Limited growth in state aid
 - Permit and fee limits
 - Federal and state grant uncertainty
 - Limited reserves
 - The Expenditure Restraint Incentive Program, which restrains year to year expenditure growth
 - If we don't reduce expenditures by over \$22M from the requested budget, we stand to lose \$10M in state funding

2025 revenues for general city purposes

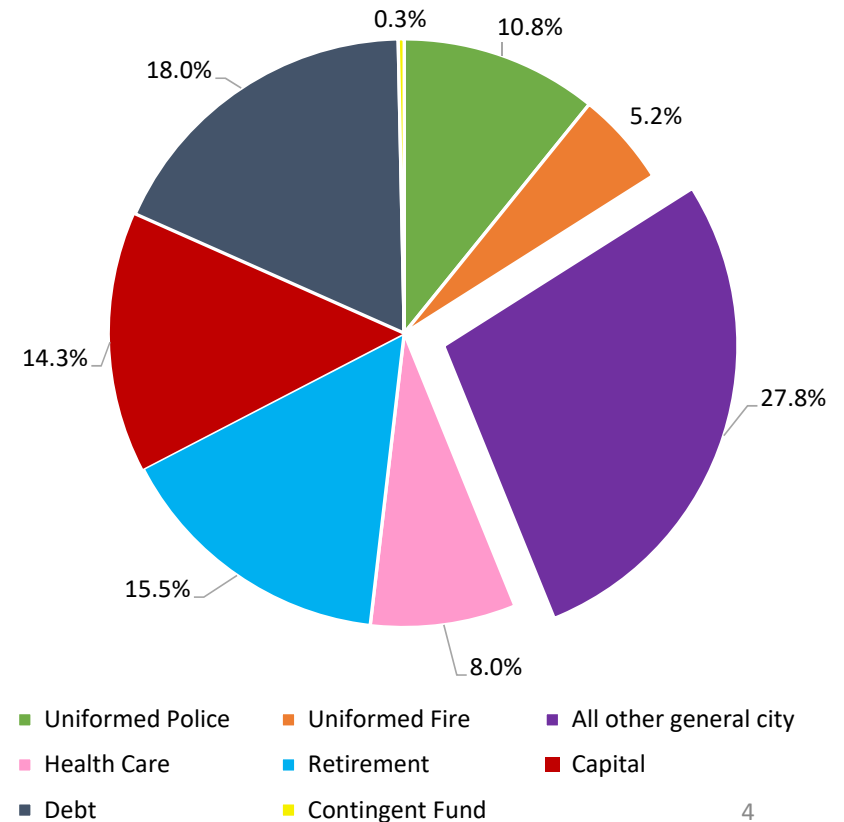


3

2026 MPL Budget Request

- Requested \$34.1M for 2026
 - Increase of \$8.3M over the 2023 adopted budget, mostly due to city-wide market studies
 - Requested budget is over 10% of the City's total likely levy amount
- MPL is now the largest non-revenue generating department without state-mandated staffing levels
- Anticipated that Mayor will ask all general city departments to identify significant cuts

2025 general city expenses for all funding sources

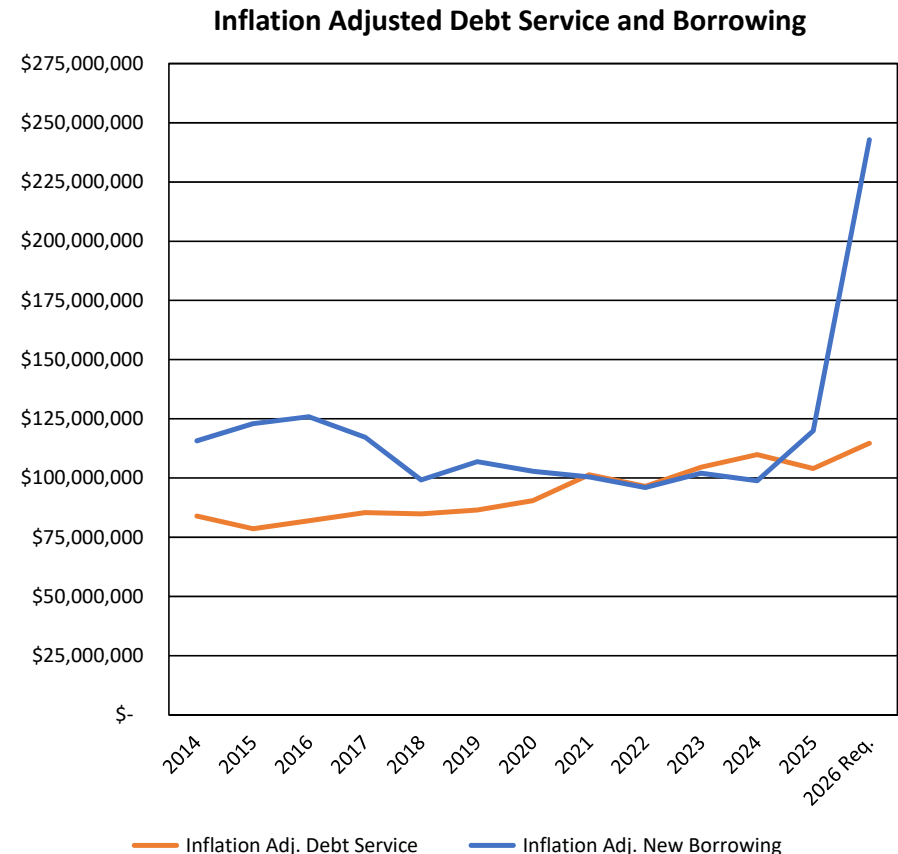


2026 City of Milwaukee Requested Capital Budget

- Departments requested \$328.7M in capital expenditures
 - \$110M increase from the 2025 adopted budget (50%)
 - Includes \$122.9M more in borrowing (102% increase)

2026 City of Milwaukee Capital Budget Constraints

- Debt service continues to increase year over year
- Major unmet capital needs citywide
- The 2021 federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will provide up to \$57M in grant support in 2026 for road reconstruction and safety projects but requires city matching
 - Unlikely that grants of this size will be offered again in the foreseeable future
 - Maximizing grant funding in support of Vision Zero is a mayoral priority



2026 Capital Budget Impacts to MPL

- MPL requested \$9,025,000 in capital borrowing; \$6,390,000 more than 2025
- All departments will need to prioritize capital projects to be on a more sustainable fiscal path



MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC LIBRARY



Where Journeys Begin - Annual Report 2024



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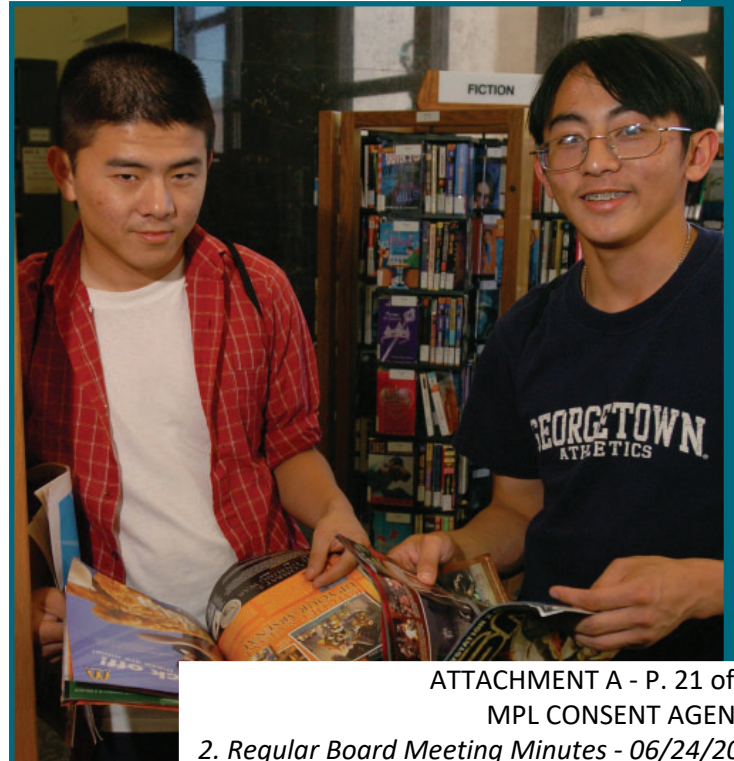
A Message from the Library Director Joan Johnson

As a neighborhood anchor in our city, the Milwaukee Public Library remains a trusted place where people come to grow. In 2024, we focused on being a partner in that growth - offering not just access to information, but access to opportunity.

This year, more than one million people walked through our doors — a milestone that represents far more than numbers. After the challenges of the pandemic, libraries everywhere have worked to reconnect with their communities. At MPL, we made that a priority - and Milwaukee responded.

From a teen trying a new technology in our makerspaces, to a job seeker preparing for their next interview, to a family attending their very first story time, patrons returned to the library ready to read, learn, and connect.

Whether someone visited for the first time or the fiftieth, we aimed to meet them where they were and help them take the next step. As we look ahead, I'm excited to continue this momentum. We'll deepen our impact, expand our partnerships, and invite even more Milwaukeeans to see the library as the place where their next chapter begins.



A Message from the Mayor Cavalier Johnson



Our libraries are a fantastic resource for so many Milwaukee residents. With collections and programming, libraries advance knowledge, grow skills, and make connections. They inform, entertain, and satisfy curiosity. All of this is available at no cost to everyone who lives here.

Across the city, libraries are neighborhood assets. For young people, the library can be an afternoon oasis. For a job-seeker, the library is an onramp to apply for work. For those who love reading, their library is a paradise of books.

Milwaukee is investing in our libraries. This year construction advanced at the new Martin Luther King branch, and my administration is looking into additional opportunities to modernize Milwaukee Public Library facilities.

Perhaps more importantly, libraries thrive because dedicated staff people are there to provide expert advice and to lend a hand to library visitors. I appreciate their work and the work of everyone who is part of our libraries' success.

While growing up, I was a regular library visitor. That made a difference in my life, and I want libraries to make a difference in the lives of as many Milwaukee residents as possible.



Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees



Pictured above, l-r: Alderwoman Larresa Taylor, Michele Bria, Ph.D., Alderman Scott Spiker, Library Director Joan Johnson, Library Board President Mark Sain, Michael Morgan, Teresa Mercado, Supervisor Kathleen Vincent, and Venice Williams.
Not pictured: Alderwoman Milele Coggs, Matthew Kowalski, Felicia Saffold, Ed.D.

Our Vision

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

Our Mission

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



2024 By The Numbers



1,157,733
Library **Visits**

213,007
Library
Cardholders

1,079,165
Physical **Items**
Borrowed

241,958
Print/copy
fax/scan
jobs

159,908
Computer
sessions

178,022
WiFi
Users

41,572
Ready Reference
Questions

26,878
Meeting
Room
Reservations

403,321
Social media
followers

595,132
Electronic
Circulation

86,954
Program
Attendance

1,279,969
Website
page views

Where Lifelong Learning and Literacy Take Root

When young readers discover their first story or a teen learns to use a design program, something begins to grow. In 2024, MPL created more entry points for learning than ever before. From a 162% increase in class visits at Central Library Children's Room to a record 75,000 students accessing LibraryNow, we helped thousands of learners take their next step.

Story Time & Summer Reading Growth

At Central Library's Children's Room, we saw a 162% increase in class visits in 2024, hosting 63 visits and serving 2,840 students. Our Summer Reading kickoff brought together more than 400 families with activity stations hosted by Milwaukee's beloved cultural institutions. In total, more than 21,000 youth signed up for our Summer Reading Challenge.

Many, many thanks to you and your marvelous MPL team for all you did to, once again, provide outstanding reading and programming and resources for the youth in our summer programs. As usual, it was much loved by young people and much appreciated by summer program staff! We are truly grateful for your ongoing support and partnership. Here's to another successful summer in the books!
- Beth-Marie Kurtz, Milwaukee Recreation/MPS

LibraryCorps: Building Relationships and Supporting Youth

In fall of 2024, fifteen new LibraryCorps members were brought on board and provided After School at the Library programming at all MPL branches. From supporting homework help to introducing students to library resources, LibraryCorps members helped children gain confidence as readers, digital learners, and explorers of their own potential.



Reaching Out, Connecting to Learners

LibraryNow: Reaching 75,000 Milwaukee Students

Through our LibraryNow initiative, MPL continues to break down barriers to library access by partnering directly with Milwaukee area schools. In 2024, we strengthened our support for student learning by growing our network of formal school partnerships - ensuring more students can connect with curated digital collections and academic tools right from the classroom with a digital library card.

New and growing partnerships this year included: Howard Fuller Collegiate Academy, Milwaukee Academy of Science, Milwaukee Math and Science Academy. These schools joined a growing list of LibraryNow collaborators, which includes: Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS), MPS Non-Instrumentality Charters, Seton Catholic Schools, St. Marcus Schools, Cristo Rey Jesuit Academy, St. Anthony Schools, Nativity Jesuit Academy

Connected Learning for Teens: Building Skills and Confidence

For many Milwaukee teens, the library is more than a place to hang out - it's a launchpad for creativity, mentorship, and real-world skill-building. Through Teen Connected Learning, MPL gives young people the tools, technology, and support they need to explore who they are and who they can become.

In 2024, Milwaukee Public Library hosted 700 teen programs, drawing more than 7,000 participants across open maker time, skill-building workshops, and class visits. We also welcomed a new cohort of 10 Teen Interns, including 4 returning participants, who contributed 3,400 hours helping their peers in the Makerspaces.

This internship was an amazing experience and I was pushed out of my comfort zone which allowed me to grow in many ways and I have come out of this better than I was a year ago.

– Teen Intern



Opening Doors to Healthier Lives

Sometimes the path to wellness begins in an unexpected place - like a library. In 2024, MPL expanded access to care, support, and community by bringing services into the heart of neighborhoods. From health screenings to shared meals and culinary education, we helped Milwaukeeans take meaningful steps toward healthier lives.

Blood Pressure Monitor Kits

Thanks to a partnership with the American Heart Association, every MPL location now offers Blood Pressure Monitor Kits for patrons to check out and use at home. This initiative supports proactive, accessible heart health management—one of many ways MPL helps Milwaukeeans take charge of their well-being.

Aurora Mobile Health Clinics

In partnership with Advocate Aurora Health, MPL hosted free health clinics at four locations - Central, Center Street, Mitchell Street, and Villard Square, bringing essential care directly into trusted neighborhood spaces. Services included wellness consultations, screenings for blood pressure, blood sugar, depression, and anxiety, one-on-one education, care navigation, and community referrals.

Culinary Literacy: 2,000+ Served

Led by Chef Sharrie Agee, MPL's culinary literacy programs saw a 462% increase in participation in 2024. Nearly 2,000 community members took part in cooking demonstrations, cultural food education, and shared meals that fed more than just appetites—they built relationships and sparked conversations around nutrition, creativity, and culture. At the "Fonzie Fun Community Meal: Meet & Greet with Christina Ward," MPL brought people together for a free meal, author event, and authentic community connection—underscoring how libraries can nourish both body and soul.



Fueling Dreams, Building Futures

Economic empowerment isn't a one-time event - it's a journey built on opportunity, access, and support. This year, Milwaukeeans came to the library ready to take the next step - whether launching a business, finding a new job, or learning digital skills to navigate an evolving workforce. When people have the tools to invest in themselves, they invest in their families, their neighborhoods, and their city.

Entrepreneur-in-Residence

MPL launched its first Entrepreneur-in-Residence (EIR) in summer 2024, offering free mentorship, one-on-one coaching, and weekly Entrepreneurship Labs at Central library. Local entrepreneur Eli Rivera guided 105 aspiring business owners, providing critical insight, peer support, and a bridge to local resources.

So excited that this was created and that I was able to attend. I really did learn so much and I feel like it connected me to so many more people and resources I wasn't even aware of in Milwaukee.

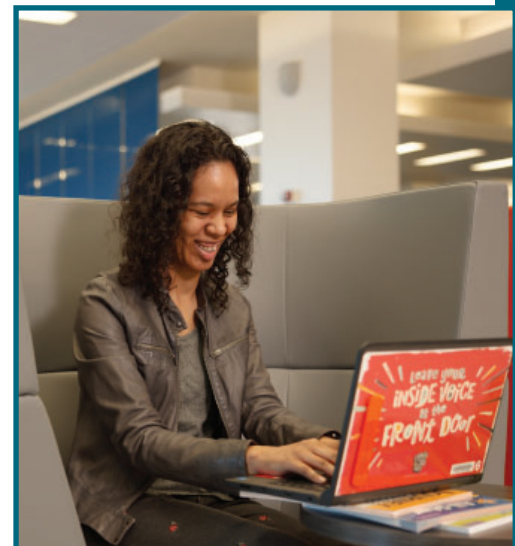
– Entrepreneur Attendee

Business Commons at Central Library

Entrepreneurs, freelancers, and job seekers made increasing use of MPL's Business Commons, a flexible resource and meeting space at Central library. In 2024, usage of the space jumped 330%, reflecting growing demand for collaborative environments and entrepreneurial support.

Closing the Tech Gap

Economic opportunity today requires digital access-and for thousands of residents, the library is one of the only reliable places to get online, complete paperwork, or use a computer. In 2024, patrons logged over 159,000 public computer sessions, a 15% increase over the previous year. We supported more than 241,000 print, copy, fax, and scan jobs, and 178,000 unique users accessed MPL's public Wi-Fi.



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MPL CONSENT AGENDA

2. Regular Board Meeting Minutes - 06/24/2025

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Strengthening the Fabric of Our City

In 2024, Milwaukee Public Library created joyful, inclusive spaces where people could gather, express themselves, and celebrate what makes our communities strong. From large-scale festivals to local author talks, MPL continued to serve as a cornerstone of connection and cultural life across the city.

Celebrating Community Across the System

From best-selling writers to local voices, MPL welcomed authors who sparked conversations and inspired curiosity. In 2024, we hosted a dynamic lineup including Amy Tan, Keke Palmer, Ben Westhoff, Charly Palmer, Jonathan Eig, and Hena Khan. In addition, Zinefest and other creative programs brought DIY publishing, art, and expression into the library space-demonstrating the many ways our community creates and connects.

Banned Book Wagon: Activating Our Public Voice

As part of Banned Books Week, Milwaukee Public Library welcomed the national Banned Wagon tour to Central Library - a traveling bookmobile stocked with frequently challenged titles. In partnership with Penguin Random House and Little Free Library, the event invited patrons to pick up a free book, enjoy food trucks, and take part in hands-on activities celebrating intellectual freedom. The event drew hundreds and underscored MPL's role as a defender of access and the right to read.



Our People Make the Difference

From welcome desks to makerspaces, classrooms to programs, the heart of Milwaukee Public Library is its people. In 2024, our staff showed what it means to work as One MPL - a unified team committed to serving Milwaukee with knowledge, compassion, and creativity. Whether connecting a teen to their first internship, helping a job seeker polish a resume, or preparing for a signature event, our staff worked together across locations and departments to make every success in this report possible.

The progress outlined in this report would not be possible without the generous support of the Milwaukee Public Library Foundation donors, our City partners, and community collaborators. Your investment ensures that MPL can remain a place of opportunity for all.

Thank you for helping Milwaukee write its next chapter - together.



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MPL CONSENT AGENDA

2. Regular Board Meeting Minutes - 06/24/2025

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What Will You Discover Next?



Every story in this report began with a question: **What if?**

What if I try a new recipe?

What if I launch my business?

What if I go back to school?

What if I just need a safe place to be?

At Milwaukee Public Library, these small questions lead to big beginnings-and in 2024, residents took the first step toward something new. Whether it was a child finding their first book, a teen exploring a 3D printer, or an adult getting a job with help from a librarian, every journey started with one simple act: walking through our doors.

In 2025, we'll build on this momentum with new Signature Events, expanded partnerships, and continued support for business owners, job seekers, and lifelong learners. The library is a starting point - for knowledge, for connection, for whatever comes next.



**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BUILDING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Thursday, July 10, 2025

Video Conference via Microsoft Teams

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

EXCUSED: Mark Sain

STAFF: MPL: Chantel Clark, Melissa Howard, Dan Keeley, Yves LaPierre, Tammy Mays Wilder, Karli Pederson, Rebecca Schweisberger, PJ Woboril

OTHERS: Budget and Policy Division: Nathaniel Haack
Thomas Daykin

Chair Michael Morgan called the MPL Board of Trustees Building and Development Committee meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. on July 10, 2025 with a quorum present. All Trustees and presenters participated by video conference.

1. **Approval of the Minutes.** Chair Morgan entertained a motion to accept the minutes from the June 5, 2025 meeting. Trustee Kowalski moved approval of the minutes and Trustee Mercado seconded. Motion passed.
2. **Project Inventory and Status Report.** Library Facilities Manager PJ Woboril provided an update of ongoing projects, listed as Attachment B of the agenda.
 - **MPL Central Fire Alarm Upgrade.** The project is out to bid and responses are due by July 25th.
 - **Central C. Cure 9000 Upgrade (Access Control).** C. Cure 9000 is a security and badge access system that will replace P2000, the software currently used by MPL. The system is being installed at the new Martin Luther King branch, which will be the first location to use the new system.
 - **Zablocki Roof Replacement.** The roof replacement is complete and MPL is working with the contractor on a few remaining punch list and warranty items.
 - **Systemwide Facilities Condition Assessment.** This was last done in 2017. MPL is working with an outside firm to review all MPL facilities, systems, and related equipment from base to roof. An included software package will list useful life of products and equipment will be tagged with codes to access maintenance manuals and logs.
 - **Capitol Branch Roof Replacement.** The Capitol branch roof needs repairs to correct ongoing leaks. The Zablocki roof replacement came in under cost and the remaining funds will be used for the Capitol branch. The project will go out to bid soon and bids are expected by the end of August.

MPL is currently taking bids for upcoming exterior projects at Central Library.

Informational item.

3. **Martin Luther King Branch Redevelopment.** Library Construction Projects Manager Yves LaPierre presented an update on the project, which is attached at the end of these minutes. The damaged canopy is under repair and completion is expected by August 8th. MPL has applied for temporary occupancy which will allow staff to begin preparations for grand opening. The grand opening is scheduled for September 6th. An invitation with additional details is forthcoming.

The Good Hope parking lot renovation is nearly complete and the final inspection will be done soon. Curbs, paving, rain guard, and bioswales have been installed and the parking lot is ready for use.

Informational item.

The meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board's Building & Development Committee was adjourned at 8:28 a.m. on July 10, 2025.

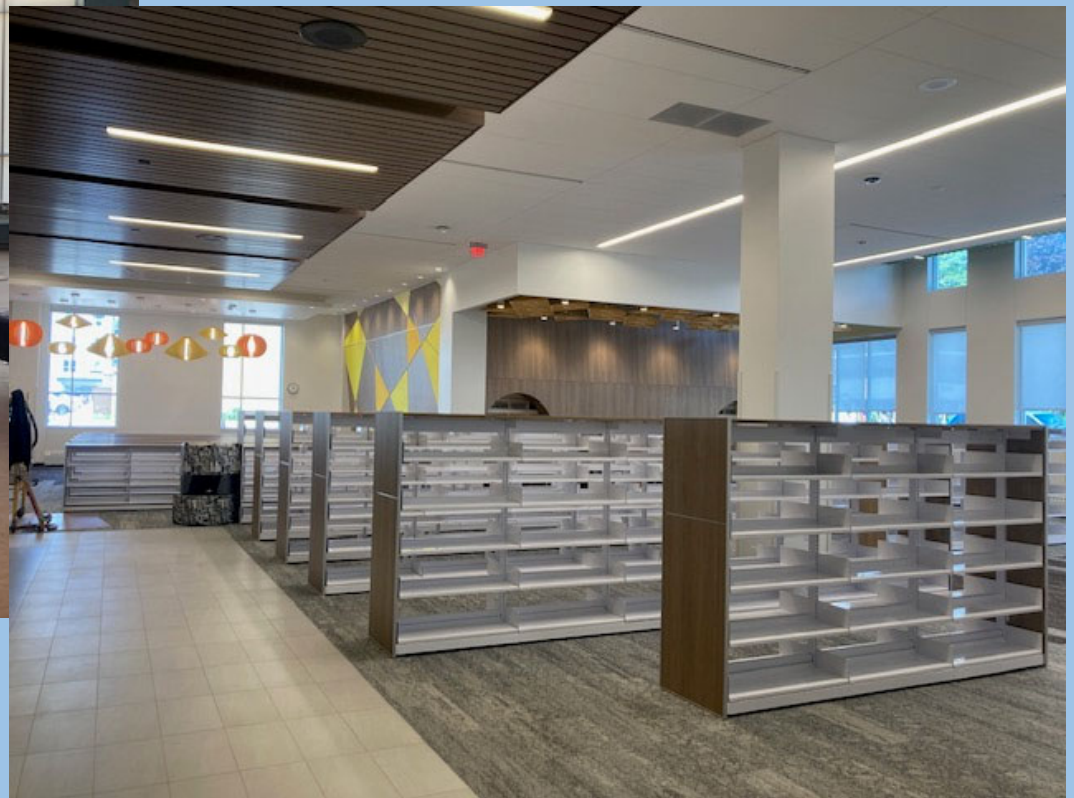
Building and Development Committee – July 10, 2025



Temp Occ. Staff work in two weeks, Entry completed 8/8/2025, GO, 9/6/2025



Building and Development Committee – July 10, 2025



**Milwaukee Public Library
Financial Report
June 30, 2025**

2025

2024

City Revenues

	Budget	Received to date	% Received
<i>Additional City Appropriation</i>	\$ 32,920,741	\$ 15,257,858	46.3%
<i>Fines</i>	\$ 94,000	\$ 35,157	37.4%
<i>Lost Materials, etc.</i>	\$ 50,000	\$ 27,973	55.9%
<i>MCFLS Contracts</i>	\$ 927,000	\$ 270,604	29.2%
Total City Appropriation	\$ 33,991,741	\$ 15,591,592	45.9%

	Budget	Received to date	% Received
	\$ 28,574,827	\$ 14,555,740	50.9%
	\$ 114,500	\$ 46,625	40.7%
	\$ 66,500	\$ 24,444	36.8%
	\$ 819,000	\$ 447,948	54.7%
	\$ 29,574,827	\$ 15,074,757	51.0%

City Expenses

Salaries & Benefits

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Salaries</i>	\$ 19,539,425	\$ 9,137,022	46.8%
<i>Fringe Benefits</i>	\$ 8,792,742	\$ 3,503,433	39.8%
Total	\$ 28,332,167	\$ 12,640,455	44.6%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 5,973,002	\$ 2,669,113	44.7%
	\$ 2,687,851	\$ 1,170,916	43.6%
	\$ 8,660,853	\$ 3,840,029	44.3%

Supplies & Services

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>General Office Expense</i>	\$ 115,700	\$ 39,741	34.3%
<i>Tools & Machinery Parts</i>	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
<i>Construction Supplies</i>	\$ 18,000	\$ 9,498	52.8%
<i>Energy</i>	\$ 886,500	\$ 363,073	41.0%
<i>Other Operating Supplies</i>	\$ 278,956	\$ 99,403	35.6%
<i>Vehicle Rental</i>	\$ 9,200	\$ 1,939	21.1%
<i>Non-Vehicle Equipment Rental</i>	\$ 13,200	\$ 1,580	12.0%
<i>Professional Services</i>	\$ 86,600	\$ 64,904	74.9%
<i>Information Technology Services</i>	\$ 357,920	\$ 256,772	71.7%
<i>Property Services</i>	\$ 861,520	\$ 913,658	106.1%
<i>Infrastructure Services</i>	\$ 46,000	\$ 100,634	218.8%
<i>Vehicle Repair Services</i>	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
<i>Other Operating Services</i>	\$ 152,112	\$ 39,143	25.7%
<i>Reimburse Other Departments</i>	\$ 111,900	\$ (384)	-0.3%
Total	\$ 2,937,608	\$ 1,889,961	64.3%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 121,803	\$ 36,383	29.9%
	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
	\$ 16,500	\$ 15,804	95.8%
	\$ 847,800	\$ 311,740	36.8%
	\$ 252,947	\$ 119,339	47.2%
	\$ 8,800	\$ 2,924	33.2%
	\$ 14,700	\$ 7,915	53.8%
	\$ 146,600	\$ 91,144	62.2%
	\$ 442,552	\$ 325,648	73.6%
	\$ 1,418,038	\$ 879,916	62.1%
	\$ 38,500	\$ 126,821	329.4%
	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
	\$ 146,239	\$ 50,260	34.4%
	\$ 108,600	\$ 4,813	4.4%
	\$ 3,563,079	\$ 1,972,707	55.4%

Equipment

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Library Materials</i>	\$ 1,885,500	\$ 768,067	40.7%
<i>IT Equipment</i>	\$ 220,824	\$ 67,184	30.4%
<i>Other</i>	\$ 337,042	\$ 120,354	35.7%
Total	\$ 2,443,366	\$ 955,605	39.1%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 1,827,000	\$ 778,082	42.6%
	\$ 522,032	\$ 162,598	31.1%
	\$ 86,563	\$ 52,089	60.2%
	\$ 2,435,595	\$ 992,769	40.8%

Other Departmental Appropriation

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Villard Square Property Payment</i>	\$ 11,600	\$ -	0.0%
<i>East Property Payment</i>	\$ 9,133	\$ 9,133	100.0%
<i>Mitchell Street Property Payment</i>	\$ 76,000	\$ 27,000	35.5%
<i>Good Hope Property Payment</i>	\$ 42,967	\$ -	0.0%
<i>Contingent Energy Financing</i>	\$ 138,900	\$ 69,438	50.0%
Total	\$ 278,600	\$ 105,571	37.9%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 9,800	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 5,300	\$ 5,300	0.0%
	\$ 74,000	\$ 27,000	36.5%
	\$ 45,000	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 136,200	\$ 68,076	50.0%
	\$ 270,300	\$ 100,376	37.1%

ARPA Revenue Replacement

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Operating Expenses</i>	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
Total	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
Total City Expenses	\$ 33,991,741	\$ 15,591,592	45.9%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 14,645,000	\$ 8,168,876	55.8%
	\$ 14,645,000	\$ 8,168,876	55.8%
	\$ 29,574,827	\$ 15,074,757	51.0%

**Milwaukee Public Library
Financial Report
June 30, 2025**

2025

Additional Funding Sources

Grants

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
WTBBL Jul '24 - Jun '25	\$ 1,033,100	\$ 1,004,123	97.2%
ILL Jul '24 - Jun '25	\$ 233,550	\$ 157,804	67.6%
Total	\$ 1,266,650	\$ 1,161,927	91.7%

Trust Funds

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
Materials	\$ 167,000	\$ 121,941	73.0%
Programming	\$ 53,000	\$ 16,047	30.3%
Training	\$ 26,000	\$ 11,539	44.4%
Marketing	\$ 45,000	\$ 434	1.0%
Contingency	\$ 5,000	\$ -	0.0%
Board Development	\$ 5,000	\$ 384	7.7%
Strehlow 50+	\$ 8,000	\$ 1,312	16.4%
Staffing Study	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
Hot Spots	\$ 295,000	\$ -	0.0%
4T Renovation	\$ 689,773	\$ -	0.0%
Total	\$ 1,293,773	\$ 151,657	11.7%

Foundation Contributions

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
Materials	\$ 279,497	\$ 15,437	5.5%
Programming	\$ 1,661,809	\$ 475,185	28.6%
Total	\$ 1,941,306	\$ 490,622	25.3%

2024

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 1,004,300	\$ 913,054	90.9%
	\$ 223,350	\$ 117,903	52.8%
	\$ 1,227,650	\$ 1,030,957	84.0%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 134,000	\$ 73,031	54.5%
	\$ 42,000	\$ 16,822	40.1%
	\$ 20,000	\$ 5,165	25.8%
	\$ 35,000	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 4,000	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 4,000	\$ 384	9.6%
	\$ 29,756	\$ 4,094	13.8%
	\$ 28,000	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
	\$ 296,756	\$ 99,496	33.5%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 225,817	\$ 19,987	8.9%
	\$ 1,437,759	\$ 324,289	22.6%
	\$ 1,663,576	\$ 344,276	20.7%

Investments

U.S. Bank National Assoc. Commercial Paper (rated A1) confirmation #327156013 dated 06/20/25 and maturing 07/21/25 at a rate of 1.75%...\$275,000

Director's Report

July 2025

Director Johnson attended the first of several reading lounge programs, "Book Explorers with First Lady Dominique Johnson." The First Lady is working side-by-side with MPL staff to promote reading to a broader audience during the "Summer with Milwaukee Public Library: 2025 Summer Challenge – For All Ages." From the Villard Branch, Johnson continued on to the Washington Park Branch to support staff at its program featuring author and local historian Reggie Jackson. He presented a profoundly compelling talk on the history of segregation and its ongoing impact on housing, education, and equity.

Johnson met with the Executive Director of Children's Outing Association (COA) Youth & Family Centers to discuss how our organizations could work together more collaboratively. This is part of a broader effort to expand the library's reach in the community, especially in areas we identify as having the greatest market potential.

Johnson attended the Memorial Service for fallen MPD Officer Kendall Corder along with hundreds of other City employees and community members. It served as a very somber and sobering reminder of what it means to be a civil servant, and hearing about his life and commitment to his work was profoundly inspiring.

Director Johnson was contacted by Goodwill Industries about accepting an award and the organizers asked for a preliminary meeting, which Johnson recently attended.

Johnson and team had meetings with peers to discuss how the library can be supportive to other city departments in the area of disaster recovery and potential development projects currently being explored.

In an effort to be accessible and supportive to the MPL teams, Director Johnson is attending programs, visiting branches, conducting pin ceremonies and speaking at staff events, such as the LibraryCorps End of Year Celebration.

Johnson's work in the community included attendance at the Westtown Association Board meeting and the Milwaukee Academy of Science fundraiser golf outing. She continues to attend the Milwaukee County Federated Library System's (MCFLS) monthly Board meetings and the Rotary Club of Milwaukee programs and Board meetings. Her attendance at the online Urban Libraries Council Director meetings and the Schools, Health and Library Broadband Coalition (SHLB) meetings are ongoing.

June 2025

Summary of VIRTUAL and IN-PERSON PROGRAMS:

MPL HELPS PEOPLE READ

Midwest Nice Apartheid with Reggie Jackson. Milwaukee Public Library and America's Black Holocaust Museum (ABHM) partnered on a 6-part series with award-winning local historian Reggie Jackson, author of the upcoming book *Midwest Nice Apartheid*, for a lecture series on Milwaukee's history of segregation and its ongoing impact on housing, education, and equity. The kickoff event was at ABHM on June 7th and saw over 30 attendees. Total attendance at 3 sessions: 51

MPL HELPS PEOPLE LEARN

A Look Back: 1950s Milwaukee. Milwaukee's history is a popular topic among Milwaukee Public Library patrons. Arts and Humanities librarians Jennifer Heidel and Beth Blaesing curated an open-house program showcasing the City's arts, civic life, education, industry, sports, and transportation in the 1950s. Yearbooks, maps, photos, pamphlets, and more were on display in Central Library for patrons to explore. Attendees also viewed clips from a promotional film, *Your Library and You*, that Milwaukee Public Library produced around 1953. Attendance: 63

Snack Hack 2.0. Snack Hack: 2.0 is a food and nutrition adult literacy 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. June wraps up Block 2 - the second section of the 4-block system used to structure the program's curriculum. Week 1 kicked off 'essential nutrients' - a miniseries defining necessary substances that our bodies cannot manufacture or produce themselves, so they require outside sources for consumption. The difference between vitamins and minerals was taught and how they are absorbed in the body. Week 2 covered the rest of the material from Week 1, including what deficiencies can develop if one under consumes vitamins and minerals as well as health conditions stemming from over consumption. Week 3 focused on the mineral - salt...and how our bodies require the right amount to balance various functions. Week 4 started Part 1 on Carbohydrates, highlighting sugar. Attendees learned about natural sugars, such as: fructose (fruit sugar), lactose (milk sugar) and glucose (plant sugar); as well as natural sweeteners (ie. raw honey, pure maple syrup, agave). The difference between beet sugar and cane sugar was taught. Total attendance at 4 sessions: 55

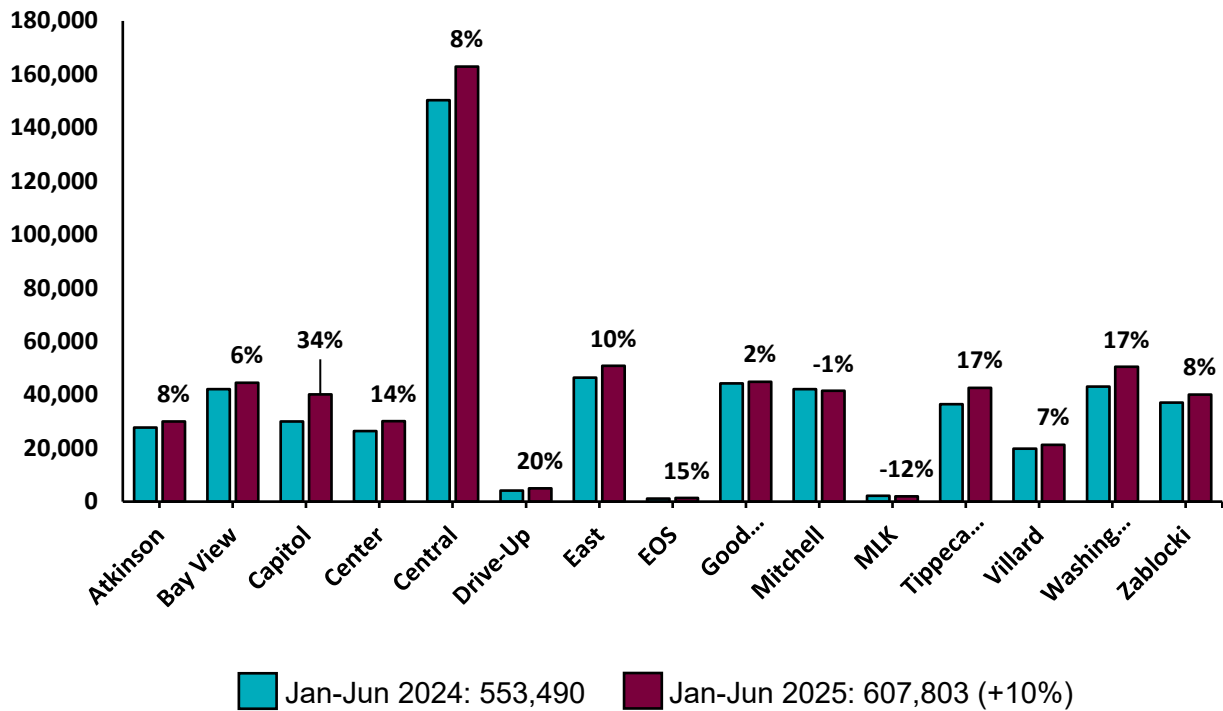
Attracting Hummingbirds to Your Yard [virtual]. Presented by Melinda Myers. Invite these beautiful pollinators to your landscape by growing a few of their favorite flowers. Add one or more feeders and don't forget the water. Gardening expert and author Melinda Myers will cover a variety of hummingbird-favorite shrubs and flowers to include in your gardens and containers. Plus, we'll discuss tips for filling, cleaning, and placing feeders in the landscape to support and keep them safe. Sponsored by We Energies. Attendance: 300

MPL HELPS PEOPLE CONNECT

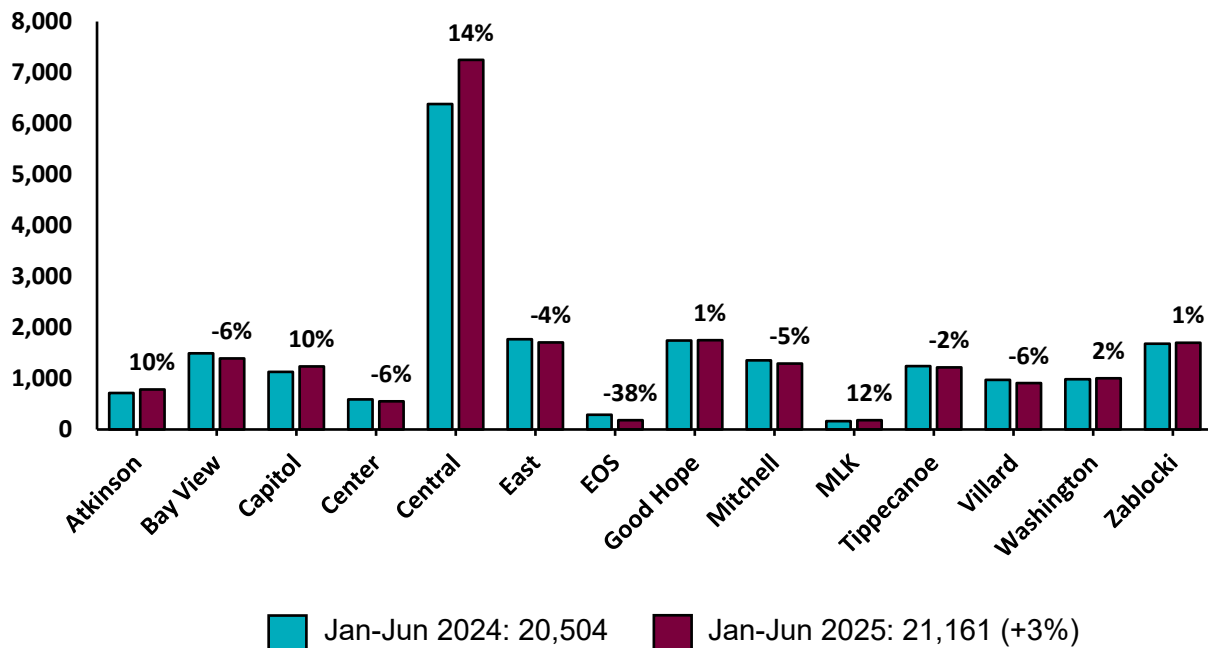
Summer Job Fair. On Wednesday, June 4, Atkinson Library partnered with Goodwill's Workforce Connection Centers to present the Summer Job Fair. Representatives from Outpost, Clean Power, Millipore Sigma, Center for Independence and Saz's talked with job seekers. Many participants applied for jobs with our laptops and computers. Hermoine Bell-Henderson and her Goodwill team ran a successful event. Attendance: 127 Job seekers, 8 Representatives from employers & 4 Goodwill staffers

Total attendance for 142 programs: 1,795

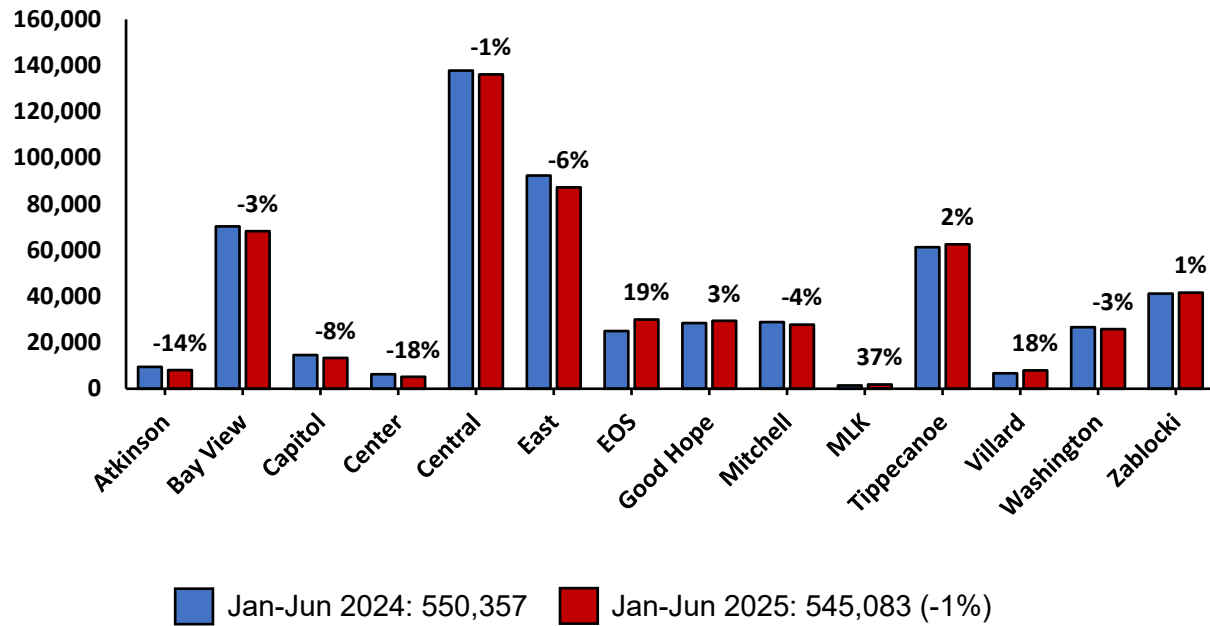
Patron Visits



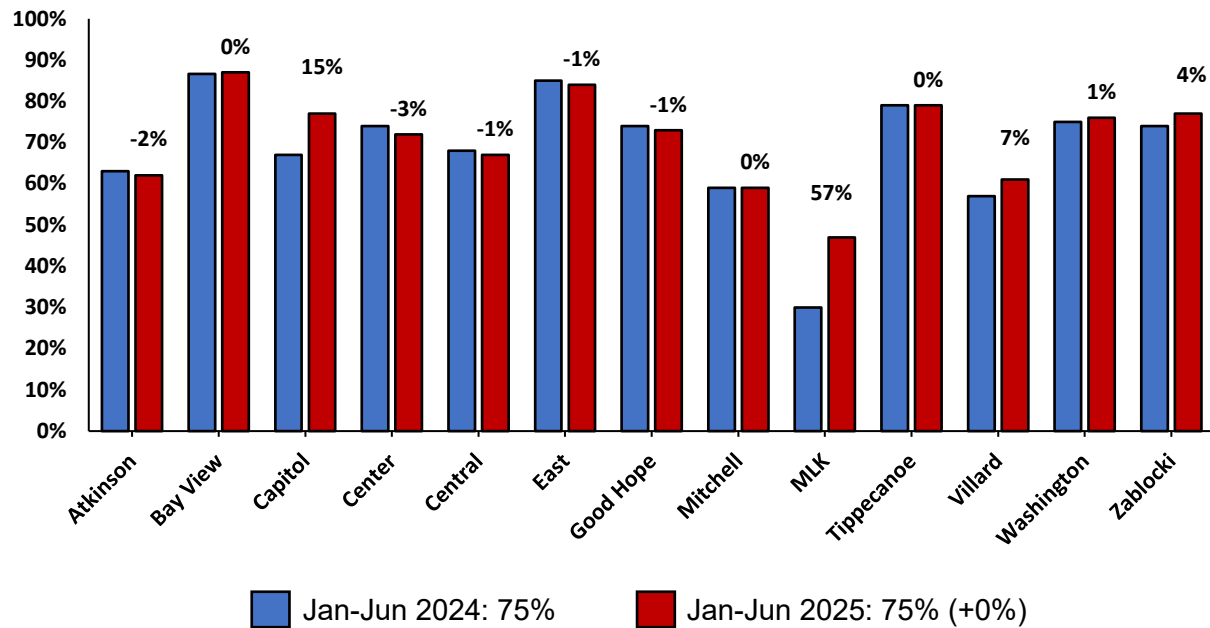
Registration



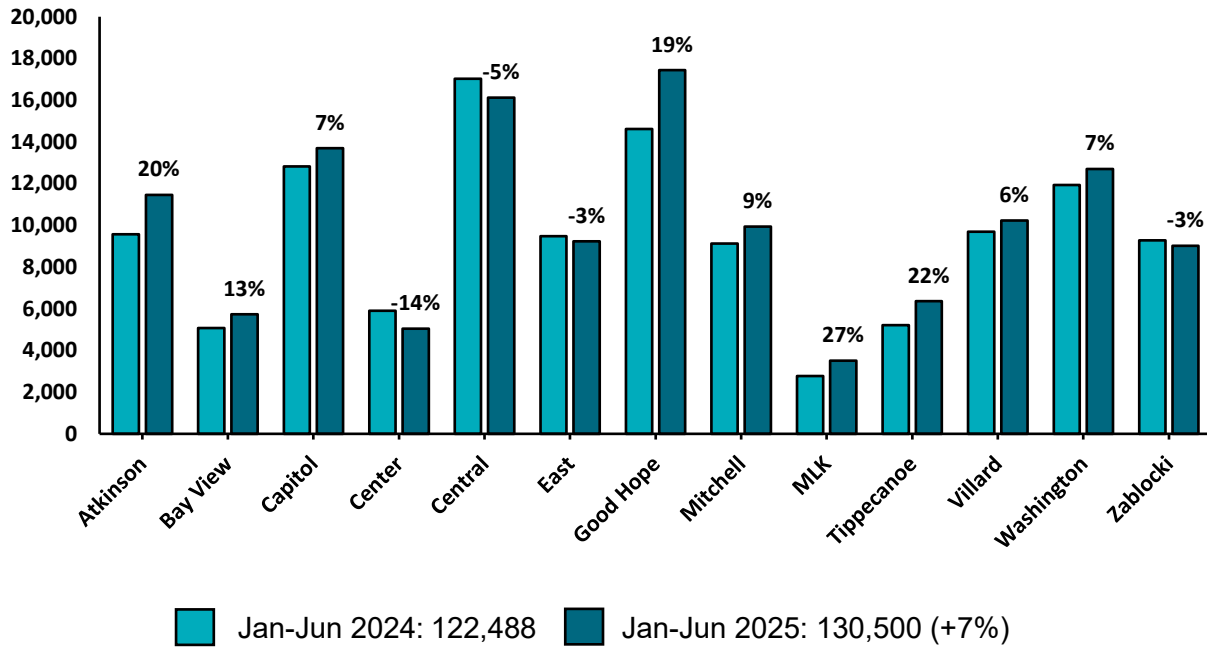
Traditional Circulation



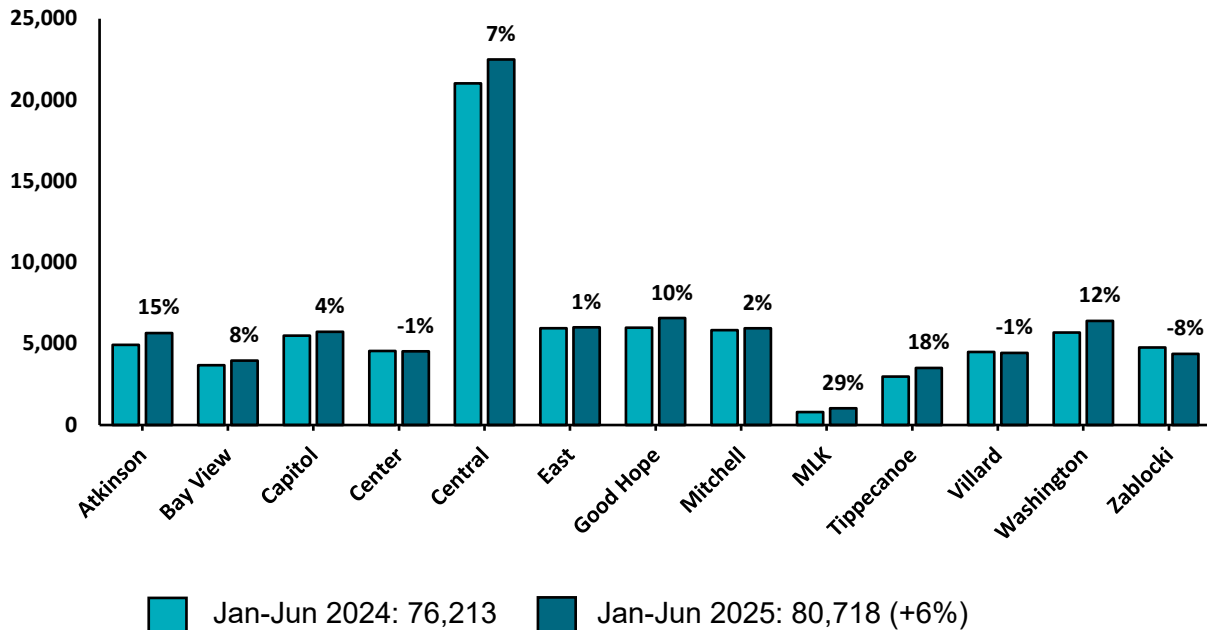
Self-Checkout



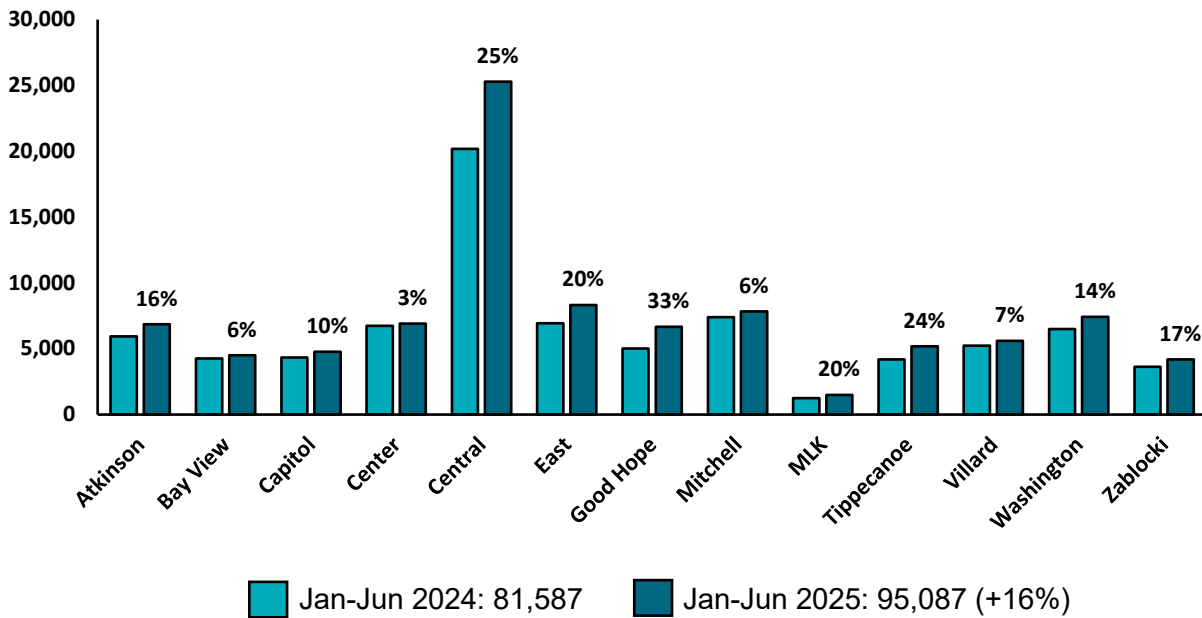
Print/Copy/Fax/Scan Jobs



Public Computer Sessions



Wi-Fi Unique Users



Ready Reference



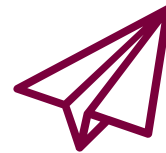
18,678

Call Sessions
Last Year: 21,988



836

Chat Sessions
Last Year: 776



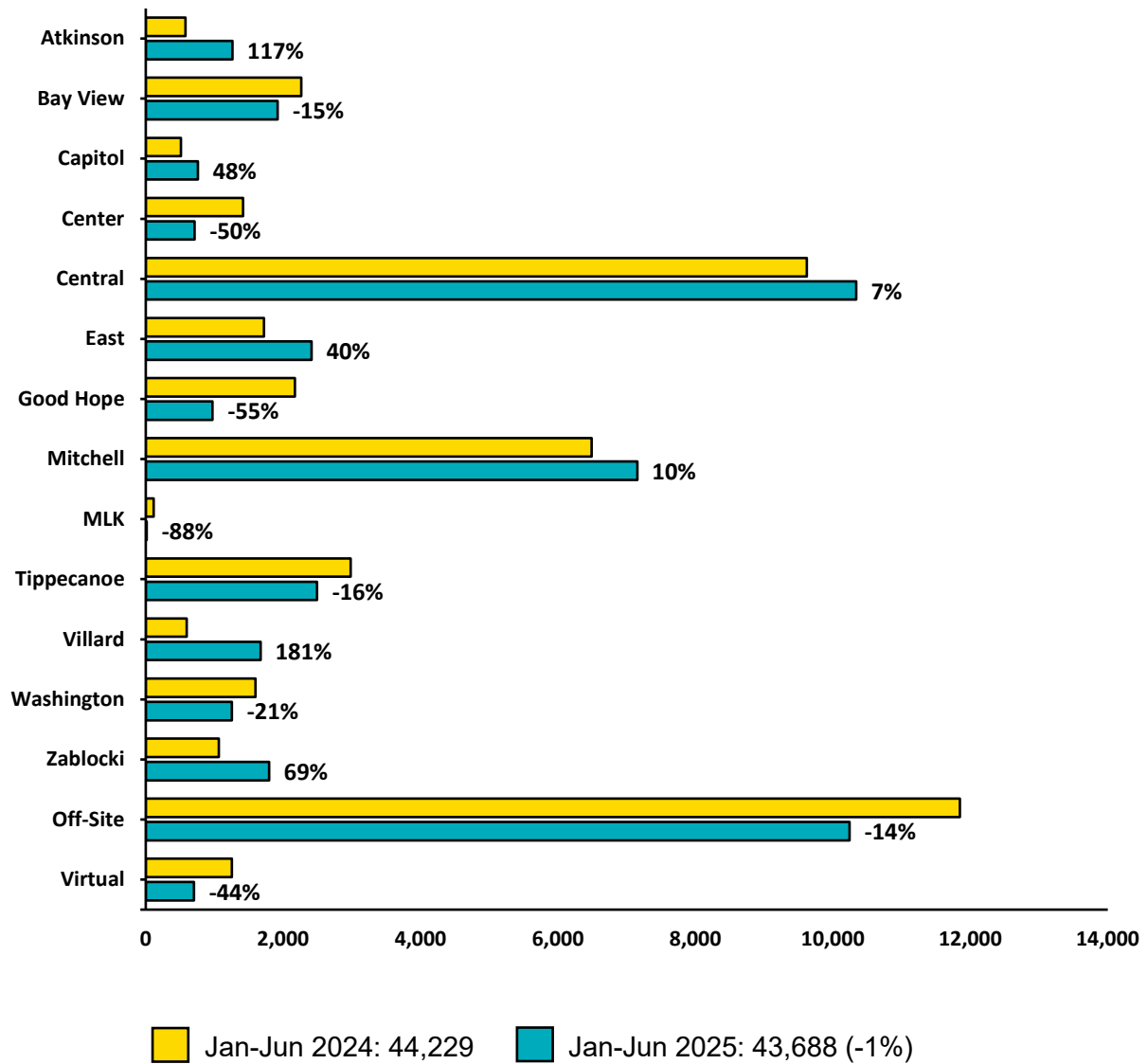
129

Email Sessions
Last Year: 945

eCirculation

Platform	Jan-Jun 2024	Jan-Jun 2025	Change
Freegal Music	62,525	86,769	+39%
Hoopla Digital	40,654	33,415	-18%
Kanopy	13,315	18,401	+38%
OverDrive	230,632	256,091	+11%
Total	347,126	394,676	+14%

Program Attendance





**Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees
2025 Schedule of Meetings (by Committee)**

RECESS: February, August, December

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD

4th Tuesday of the month, except recess months

Date	Day	Time	Location
January 28, 2025	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
March 25, 2025	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Atkinson Branch Community Room
April 22, 2025	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
May 27, 2025	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
June 24, 2025	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	East Branch Community Room
July 22, 2025	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
September 23, 2025	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
October 28, 2025	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Martin Luther King Community Room
November 25, 2025	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room

LIBRARY BUILDING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1st Thursday of the month, except January (New Year holiday), July (4th of July holiday), and recess months

Date	Day	Time	Location
January 9, 2025	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
March 6, 2025	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
April 3, 2025	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
May 1, 2025	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
June 5, 2025	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
July 10, 2025	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
September 4, 2025	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
October 2, 2025	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
November 6, 2025	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2nd Wednesday of the month in June and November

Date	Day	Time	Location
June 11, 2025	Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
November 12, 2025	Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting

**Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees
2025 Schedule of Meetings (by Committee)**

FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Quarterly – 4th Tuesday of the month in January, April, July, and October

Date	Day	Time	Location
January 28, 2025	Tuesday	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
April 22, 2025	Tuesday	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
July 22, 2025	Tuesday	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
October 28, 2025	Tuesday	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting

INNOVATION & STRATEGY COMMITTEE

Quarterly – 2nd Tuesday of the month in January, April, June, October

Date	Day	Time	Location
January 14, 2025	Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
April 8, 2025	Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
June 10, 2025	Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
October 14, 2025	Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting

LIBRARY SERVICES & PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Quarterly – 1st Wednesday of the month March, May, July, November, except July (4th of July holiday)

Date	Day	Time	Location
March 5, 2025	Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
May 7, 2025	Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
July 9, 2025	Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
November 5, 2025	Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting

**Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees
2025 Schedule of Meetings (by date)**

January 2025			
January 9	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
January 14	Innovation & Strategy Committee	9:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
January 28	Finance & Personnel Committee	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
January 28	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room

March 2025			
March 5	Library Services & Programs Committee	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
March 6	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
March 25	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Atkinson Branch Community Room

April 2025			
April 3	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
April 8	Innovation & Strategy Committee	9:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
April 22	Finance & Personnel Committee	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
April 22	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room

May 2025			
May 1	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
May 7	Library Services & Programs Committee	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
May 27	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room

June 2025			
June 5	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
June 10	Innovation & Strategy Committee	9:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
June 11	Executive Committee	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
June 24	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	East Branch Community Room

**Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees
2025 Schedule of Meetings (by date)**

July 2025			
July 9	Library Services & Programs Committee	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
July 10	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
July 22	Finance & Personnel Committee	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
July 22	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room

September 2025			
September 4	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
September 23	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room

October 2025			
October 2	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
October 14	Innovation & Strategy Committee	9:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
October 28	Finance & Personnel Committee	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
October 28	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Martin Luther King Branch Community Room

November 2025			
November 5	Library Services & Programs Committee	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
November 6	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
November 12	Executive Committee	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
November 25	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room

**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SERVICES & PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Wednesday, July 9, 2025

Video Conference via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT: Milele Coggs, Michael Morgan, Felicia Saffold, Kathleen Vincent, Joan Johnson

STAFF: MPL: Chantel Clark, Kristina Gomez, Melissa Howard, Dan Keeley, Carlos Lopez,
Tammy Mays Wilder, Joey McMahon, Jennifer Meyer-Stearns, Karli Pederson,
Rebecca Schweisberger

Chair Coggs called the MPL Board of Trustees Services and Programs Committee meeting to order at 4:17 p.m. on Wednesday, July 9, 2025 with a quorum present. All Trustees and presenters participated by video conference.

1. **Committee Meeting Minutes Review.** Chair Coggs entertained a motion to accept the minutes from the May 7, 2025 meeting, listed as Attachment A of the agenda. Trustee Morgan moved to approve the minutes. Motion passed by unanimous consent.
2. **Safety Report.** Library Security Manager Carlos Lopez reported on security incidents in quarter 2 of 2025. Overall, incidents have increased by 11% over the same time period in 2024. The majority of increased incidents were related to alcohol/drugs, loitering, verbal altercations, trespassing and miscellaneous disruptions. Mr. Lopez noted that the incidents recorded between midnight and 7:00 a.m. were recorded in error. Informational item.
3. **Welcome Card Pilot Project.** Associate Library Director Karli Pederson presented a request for approval to implement the new Welcome Card Pilot Project. The memo was listed as Attachment B of the agenda. This pilot project will allow MPL to assess the feasibility of reducing barriers to library services by relaxing documentation requirements for card registration. Data gathered from the pilot will be used to inform a decision about replacing the Temporary Residence Card with the Welcome Card. The Committee received information about various categories of library cards and their associated access levels. The Welcome Card offers patrons the ability to check out more items than the Temporary Resident Card and would include some restrictions on Interlibrary Loan Services. Staff also shared statistics related to card registration and renewals. Trustee Morgan moved to approve implementation of the Welcome Card Pilot Project. Motion passed by unanimous consent.

The meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board's Services & Programs Committee was adjourned at 4:33 p.m. on July 9, 2025.
