



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, September 22, 2026

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

CONSENT AGENDA

4:15 – 4:20

Attachment A, page 3

1. **Regular Board Meeting Minutes, July 28, 2026.**
2. **Committee Reports.**
 - a. Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting – July 28, 2026
 - b. Building & Development Committee Meeting – September 3, 2026
3. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board Meeting, July 7, 2026.**
4. **Administrative Reports.**
 - a. Financial Report
 - b. Programs Report
 - c. Statistics
5. **Revised MPL Board Roster and Meeting Schedule.** Secretary entry (roster) and October meeting location (schedule) updated.

OLD BUSINESS

4:20 – 4:40

6. **2026 YTD Budget Update.** Library Business Manager Sarah Leszczynski will share an update on the 2026 budget to date.
7. **2027 Budget.** Library Director Jennifer Meyer-Stearns will provide a status report regarding the Library's 2027 budget.

REPORTS

4:40 – 5:00

8. **Library Director's Report.** Library Director Jennifer Meyer-Stearns will provide a report on Director's activities.
9. **System and Resource Library Administrators' Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) Update.** Library Director Jennifer Meyer-Stearns will share an update on SRLAAW activity.
10. **2026 Summer Reading Program Update.** Library Public Services Area Manager (EOS &CLCR) Kelly Wochinske will present a report on the 2026 Summer Reading Program.

CLOSING REMARKS

5:00 – 5:05

11. **Closing Remarks and Adjournment.**

REMINDER: Next scheduled meetings are:

October 1, 2026 Building & Development Committee – Virtual Meeting, 8:00 a.m.

October 8, 2026 Innovation & Strategy Committee – Virtual Meeting, 8:00 a.m.

October 27, 2026 Finance & Personnel Committee – Virtual Meeting, 8:30 a.m.

October 27, 2026 Board Meeting – Central Library, 4:00 p.m.

Trustees

Michele Bria, *President*, Teresa Mercado, *Vice-President*, Michael Morgan, *Financial Secretary*, Neil Albrecht, Ald. Milele Coggs, Matthew Kowalski, Ald. Andrea Pratt, Ald. Larresa Taylor, Mary Urbina-McCarthy, Sup. Kathleen Vincent, Missy Zombor, Jennifer Meyer-Stearns, *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 may attend 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.

Reasonable accommodations provided upon request. Contact the ADA Coordinator at: 414-286-3475 or adacoordinator@milwaukee.gov.

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

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

- PRESENT:** Michele Bria, Teresa Mercado, Michael Morgan, Neil Albrecht, Ald. Milele Coggs, Matthew Kowalski, Ald. Larresa Taylor, Mary Urbina-McCarthy, Sup. Kathleen Vincent, Missy Zombor, Joan Johnson
- EXCUSED:** Ald. Andrea Pratt
- STAFF:** Heather Berg, Maria Burke, Amanda McGillivray, Tim Fluhr, Ha Hoang, Christin Johnstone-Buer, Yves LaPierre, Kimberly Luedke, Mary Lopez, Tammy Mays Wilder, Jennifer Meyer-Stearns, Rebecca Schweisberger, Fawn Siensen-Fuchs, Ben Tiedge, PJ Woboril, Kelly Wochinske, Jessica Wolf
- OTHER:** Graef Engineering: Tim Einwalter
Concord Group: Sareena Daniel

President Bria called the meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees to order at 4:03 p.m. on July 28, 2026 with a quorum present. Trustees Coggs, Mercado, and Taylor attended virtually.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Heather Berg, MPL Office Assistant IV, introduced Ben Tiedge, the Earn and Learn Summer Youth Intern assigned to MPL Administration.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

1. **Introduction of New Trustee.** President Bria introduced new Trustee Mary Urbina-McCarthy. Trustee Urbina-McCarthy shared a brief overview of her professional background and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the MPL Board. Informational item.
2. **Retirement of Library Director Joan Johnson.** President Bria announced that Library Director Joan Johnson is retiring from MPL after more than 19 years of service. President Bria presented a retirement resolution and gift; a copy of the resolution is attached at these minutes. The Board thanked Director Johnson for her dedication and leadership. Director Johnson said she considers her work at MPL to be the pinnacle of her career. She appreciates the care, commitment, and spirit of the MPL staff and Board. Trustees shared congratulations and thanks for Director Johnson's contributions to the City of Milwaukee. Informational item.

CONSENT AGENDA

3. **Regular Board Meeting Minutes June 23, 2026**
4. **Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board Meeting. Julv 7. 2026.**

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MPL CONSENT AGENDA

2. Regular Board Meeting Minutes - 07/28/2026

P. 3

5. **Administrative Reports**

- a. Financial Report
- b. Library Director's Reports
- c. Statistics

6. **Revised MPL Board Committee Assignments.**

Chair Bria asked the Board if any items should be removed from the Consent Agenda, presented as attachment A, pages 3-36 of the agenda. Hearing no objection, the Consent Agenda was approved.

REPORTS

7. **Services & Programs Committee.** Committee Vice-Chair Kathleen Vincent presented action items from the July 1, 2026 meeting. The meeting minutes were approved and the Committee received the safety report.

Revised MPL Policy Approval Request. Communications and Community Engagement Director Melissa Howard shared a revised policy related to public posting of community flyers. MPL has an existing procedure that outlines the process for posting flyers to community boards. This policy will compliment that procedure and provides clarity about submission criteria, posting priorities, guidance for processing requests, and confirms posting does not imply endorsement. Posting guidelines list the types of materials that are acceptable and prioritization when space is limited. The policy also states that distribution of literature and petition circulation are not permitted inside the library or on library property, but are admissible on adjacent sidewalks. Trustee Vincent moved to approve the policy as presented. Trustee Kowalski seconded. Motion passed.

8. **Urban Libraries Council (ULC) Update.** President Bria shared an update from the Urban Libraries Council Executive Board. The Executive Board recently met in Seattle, where there is currently a surplus budget, which highlighted how different funding structures and budgets can vary significantly among member libraries. ULC hired a lobbyist group to advocate for E-Rate funding and communicating how loss of this funding would impact libraries nationwide. The Executive Board discussed the impacts and challenges of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how libraries can support this evolving digital literacy. Informational item.

NEW BUSINESS

9. **FCC-Proposed Rulemaking for the E-Rate Program.** Library Director Joan Johnson shared a summary of proposed regulatory changes to E-Rate funding and recommended a response from MPL. The E-Rate program provides funding toward the cost of broadband, internet, and internal network services for schools and libraries. On June 25th, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) posted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to ensure "E-Rate funded networks and services are being used responsibly and for an educational purpose, as statutorily required." Additional language in the NPRM proposes terminating or restricting the E-Rate program. Despite opposition from the Schools, Health, and Libraries Broadband Coalition (SHLB), the language remains in the NPRM. A public comment period will open after the NPRM is published in the Federal Register; however, comments can be submitted now and SHLB is facilitating participation by posting resources at [Save Our E-Rate - Schools Health & Libraries Broadband Coalition](#). Director Johnson recommended MPL submit a comment focusing on the value and return on investment E-rate funding brings to the patrons, staff, and larger communities served by MPL's high-speed broadband resources, and the negative impacts that would result from termination of the program. Comments can be filed by individuals and organizations; Director Johnson encouraged the Board to comment and share SHLB's

advocacy website with others. Director Johnson will draft a comment for Board review, approval, and submission. Informational item.

9. **Contract Award Recommendation – Central Library Masonry Repair.** Deputy Library Director Jennifer Meyer-Stearns shared information about the masonry restoration at Central Library and requested a contract award for the first phase. This phase includes restoration of parapet section as well as removal and restoration of the eagle statues flanking the dome. In June, MPL issued a Request for Proposals for Phase 1 and three proposals were received. Library Administration recommends awarding the contract to the lowest bidder, Building Restoration Corporation of Wisconsin. Library Facilities Manager PJ Woboril introduced Tim Einwalter of Graef Engineering and Sareena Daniel of Concord Group, who shared information about the structure of the eagles, damaged areas, and plan for restoration. Trustee Albrecht moved to award the Central Library Masonry Restoration Phase 1 contract to Building Restoration Corporation of Wisconsin for a total of \$439,292.00 and to authorize MPL to negotiate the contract. Trustee Vincent seconded. Motion passed.

With no further business, the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees meeting of July 28, 2026 was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

WHEREAS,

Joan Johnson

Will be retiring from the Milwaukee Public Library System on August 14, 2026 after more than 19 years of service; and

WHEREAS, Joan Johnson has served in the capacity of Central Library & Special Projects Director, Neighborhood Library & Communication Partnerships Director, Deputy Library Director; and has served as Library Director since 2020; and

WHEREAS, Joan is the first African American woman to be named Milwaukee Public Library Director; and

WHEREAS, Joan championed the transformation of Milwaukee Public Libraries; she participated in the design and redevelopment of the Villard Square, East, Tippecanoe, Mitchell Street, and Good Hope Branches; she also participated in additional updates and renovations of and innovations within the historic Central Library; and as Library Director, Joan oversaw redevelopment of the Martin Luther King Branch; and

WHEREAS, Joan remained steadfastly focused on providing exceptional service and ensuring the MPL mission to help people read, learn, and connect is at the forefront of all decisions; and

WHEREAS, Joan's genuine care for MPL staff led to the creation of the MPL Staff Scholarship program and Staff Town Hall initiative; and

WHEREAS, Joan has been the recipient of several awards for her outstanding contributions to the City of Milwaukee, including: the Milwaukee Business Journal Women of Influence Award, the 2025 Black Excellence Award, and the Westtown Association Debra Usinger Community Partner Award; and

WHEREAS, Joan will be remembered for her thoughtful, innovative, and strategic leadership, her sincere dedication to the library and staff, her commitment to providing excellent service to the community, and her iconic social media cameos;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that members of the Board of Trustees of the Milwaukee Public Library express their deepest appreciation to Joan Johnson for her many valuable contributions to the staff and patrons of the Milwaukee Public Library; and

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, suitably inscribed, be presented to Joan Johnson on the occasion of her retirement, as approved by the Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees.







**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

Video Conference via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT: Michael Morgan, Ald. Milele Coggs Neil Albrecht, Larresa Taylor, Joan Johnson

EXCUSED: Ald. Andrea Pratt

OTHERS

PRESENT: MPL: Tim Fluhr, Ha Hoang, Sarah Leszczynski, Tammy Mays-Wilder, Jennifer Meyer-Stearns, Rebecca Schweisberger, Jessica Wolf
PFM Asset Management: Wayne Sattler

Chair Michael Morgan called the meeting of the Board of Trustees Finance & Personnel Committee to order at 8:42 a.m. on Tuesday, July 28, 2026. All Trustees and presenters participated by video or audio conference. Quorum was lost at 9:06 a.m.

1. **Committee Meeting Minutes Review.** Due to loss of quorum, this item was held for the October 27th meeting.
2. **Quarterly Review of Fund Investments.** On behalf of U.S. Bank, Vice President and Senior Relationship Manager Richard Romero thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as the investment manager. Wayne Sattler, Senior Vice President & Managing Director with PFM Asset Management LLC (a subsidiary of U.S. Bancorp Asset Management / U.S. Bank N.A.) presented an update on the quarterly investment reports. MPL investments remain strong in light of current geopolitical situations and concerns about inflation. At this time, no changes are recommended to the current asset allocation. Informational item.
3. **Quarterly Library Report of the Internal Control of the MPL Trust and Gift Funds.** Due to loss of quorum, this item was held for the October 27th meeting.
4. **2026 Operating Budget Progress Report.** Due to loss of quorum, this item was held for the October 27th meeting.
5. **Check Signature Policy Review.** Due to loss of quorum, this item was held for the October 27th meeting.

The meeting of the Library Board's Finance & Personnel Committee was adjourned at 9:09 a.m. on Tuesday, July 28, 2026.

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

Thursday, September 3, 2026

Video Conference via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT: Michael Morgan, Teresa Mercado, Jennifer Meyer-Stearns

EXCUSED: Ald. Larresa Taylor, Matt Kowalski

STAFF: Tim Fluhr, Ha Hoang, Melissa Howard, Dan Keeley, Yves LaPierre, Rebecca Schweisberger, Jessica Wolf

OTHERS: Budget and Policy Division: Nathaniel Haack

Chair Michael Morgan called the MPL Board of Trustees Building and Development Committee meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. on September 3, 2026 without a quorum present.

1. **Approval of the Minutes.** Chair Morgan entertained a motion to accept the minutes from the May 7, 2026 meeting. Trustee Taylor moved approval of the minutes and Trustee Mercado seconded. Motion passed.
2. **Current Projects Update.** Library Facilities Manager PJ Woboril presented and update on the fire alarm system and masonry projects. The fire alarm system at Central Library is progressing well and work has been completed on the Tiers 1-3 and Floors 3-4. Work is ongoing in the remaining areas and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The contract award for Phase 1 of the masonry project was awarded to Building Restoration Corporation. The scope of Phase 1 includes repairs to a parapet wall around the outside of the original building and two eagle statues that flank the rotunda. The eagles will be removed from the building and restored in a workshop. Photos of the areas are attached to these minutes. Informational item.
3. **Midtown Update.** Library Construction Projects Manager Yves LaPierre shared an update on the Midtown project. MPL is working with Engberg Anderson architects to evaluate the building and develop preliminary plans for the space. The Department of Public Works is performing an assessment of the current building and identifying potential tenants. Community engagement and stakeholder outreach will begin in fall 2026. Informational item.
4. **2027 Budget Capital Request.** Library Director Jennifer Meyer-Stearns reviewed the 2027 City budget capital request. Capital projects for 2027 include: repairs to the Central Library Wells Street deck infrastructure and tiers and planning for the Midtown project. Results from the fundraising feasibility study will be shared at an upcoming Board meeting. MPL will request approximately \$3M in capital funding for these projects. Informational item.

The meeting of the Milwaukee Public Library Board's Building & Development Committee was adjourned at 8:32 a.m. on September 3, 2026.



MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Eagles on exterior of MPL Central Library

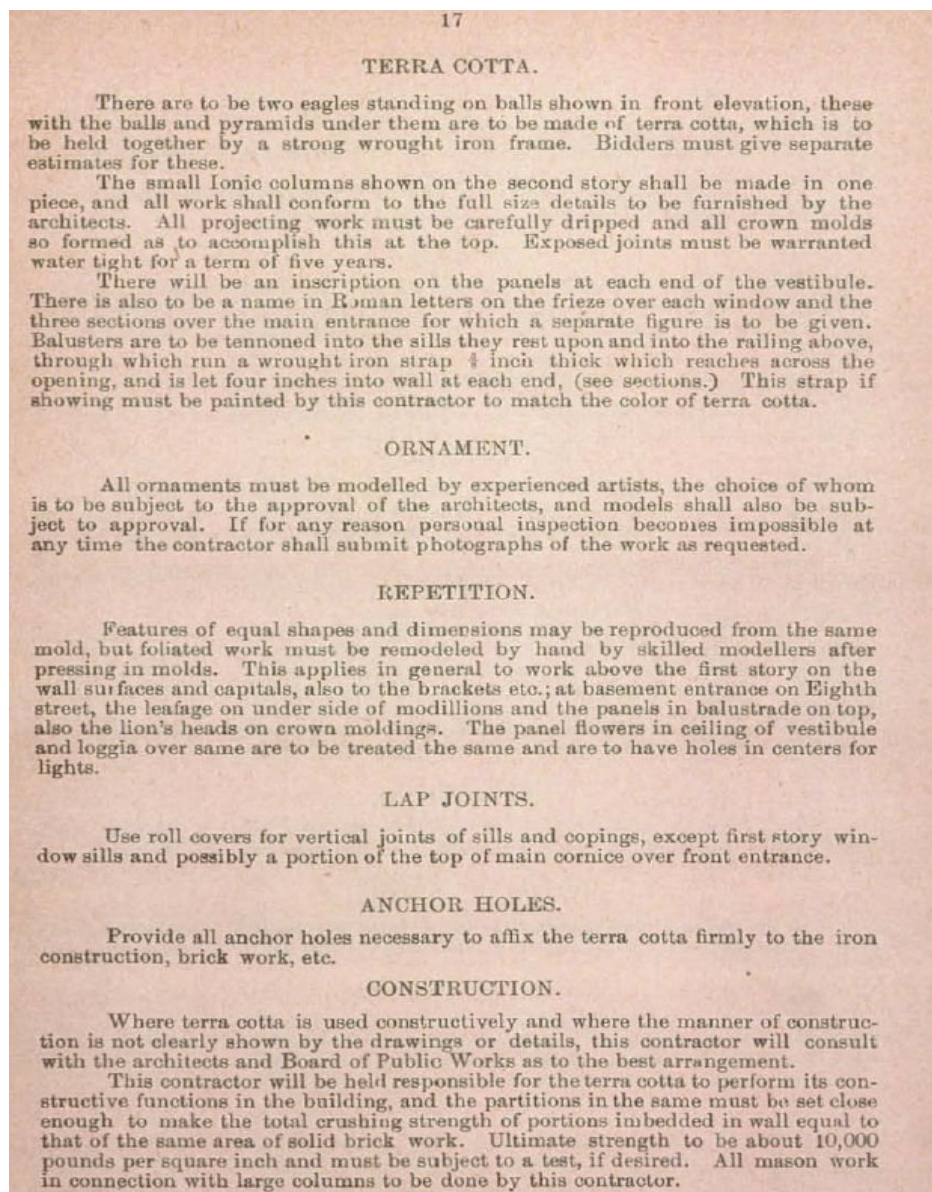
From the MPL Wiki:

"The only exceptions to the stone carving were the two gigantic eagles flanking the dome at the roofline. Their bodies were modeled in terra cotta and their wings were cast in bronze."

Source: Zimmermann, H. Russell, *Magnificent Milwaukee: architectural treasures, 1850-1920*, 720.977595 Z74, p. 258

The reference to terra cotta is confirmed in:

Source: Ferry & Clas, architects, *Specifications for the building of the public library and public museum for the city of Milwaukee*, 022.3 F39, p. 17



From a list of contractors in the Historic American Building Survey (HABS) for this building:
<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/WI0088/> we find on page 3 that Northwestern Terra Cotta Company of Chicago was the firm that supplied the eagles. On page 4 of this same document, Frank Steven is listed as one of the stone carvers for the building but not in connection with the eagles.

However, thanks to research done by Brian Jacobson (local writer and photographer) we have learned that the terra cotta eagles were sculpted by artisan Frank Stevens.

Source: *Doings in Grain at Milwaukee*, 381 C438, Volume VI, Number 4 (May 1917) p. 8



DOINGS IN GRAIN at MILWAUKEE.



Patriotic Emblem Adorning Milwaukee Public Library

Milwaukee is proud of her Public Library Building, and its extreme beauty of architecture is admired by visitors from all parts of the world.

Its crowning adornment is the great globe and American eagle which surmount the roof, lending an imposed appearance to the structure.

The eagle has a spread of the wings of 11 feet, and the distance from the base of the globe to the Eagle's head is 15 feet.

The sculptor is Frank Stevens.

CHAMBER OFFICERS TO CO-OPERATE

The Board of Directors of the Milwaukee Chamber of Commerce held a special meeting on April 23rd, and unanimously adopted the following resolution:—

"WHEREAS, We are now face to face with the perils and uncertainties of war, a situation demanding the entire and undivided loyalty of our people—not only a loyalty of sentiment, but a constructive and practical loyalty as well, and

"WHEREAS, the men who handle the grain and grain products of America have a high duty to perform in aligning themselves with the forces now working in various ways for the adequate protection of American interests, a duty which is supremely important because it concerns the food supply of the nation, and its proper conservation and distribution.

"THEREFORE RESOLVED, That it be the sense of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Milwaukee, in special meeting assembled this twenty-third day of April, 1917, that in this critical time the hands of our Government should be upheld, and the people should come forward with such aid as they may be able to render, so that the United States may find itself thoroughly organized and equipped, and every industry prepared to co-operate with the Government; and that this Chamber of Commerce offers its services in this behalf, and pledges its support to any measures that may be proposed having in view the proper and necessary care in safeguarding our food supply—equitably distributing it, and wisely conserving it against the future."

Copies of this resolution have been sent to the President of the United States, to the Secretary of Agriculture, the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Council for National Defense.

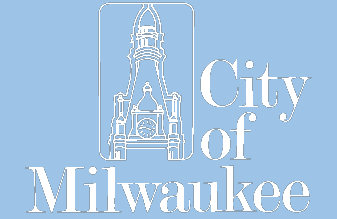
A Patriotic Cow

There is one cow in Wisconsin that we know of, that ought to receive a pension from the United States Government.

She is owned by Louis Mierow, of Brookfield.

Note: The HABS said "Frank Steven" and the *Grain Doings* page said "Frank Stevens." The 1897 City Directory says Frank Steven.

Future of the Capitol Library Branch



Building and Development Committee – September 3, 2026

- Engberg Anderson Architects
 - Create Workplan
 - Building evaluation and schematic designs
- DPW Building Condition Assessment – Oct. 2026
- Community Engagement Fall 2026:
 - Outreach to Stakeholders
 - Listening Sessions
 - Workshops
 - Focus Groups
- Developer Housing Construction Fall 2026
- Winter/Spring 2027 Final Library Plans and Construction Pricing
- Summer/Fall 2027 – Construction bidding and groundbreaking

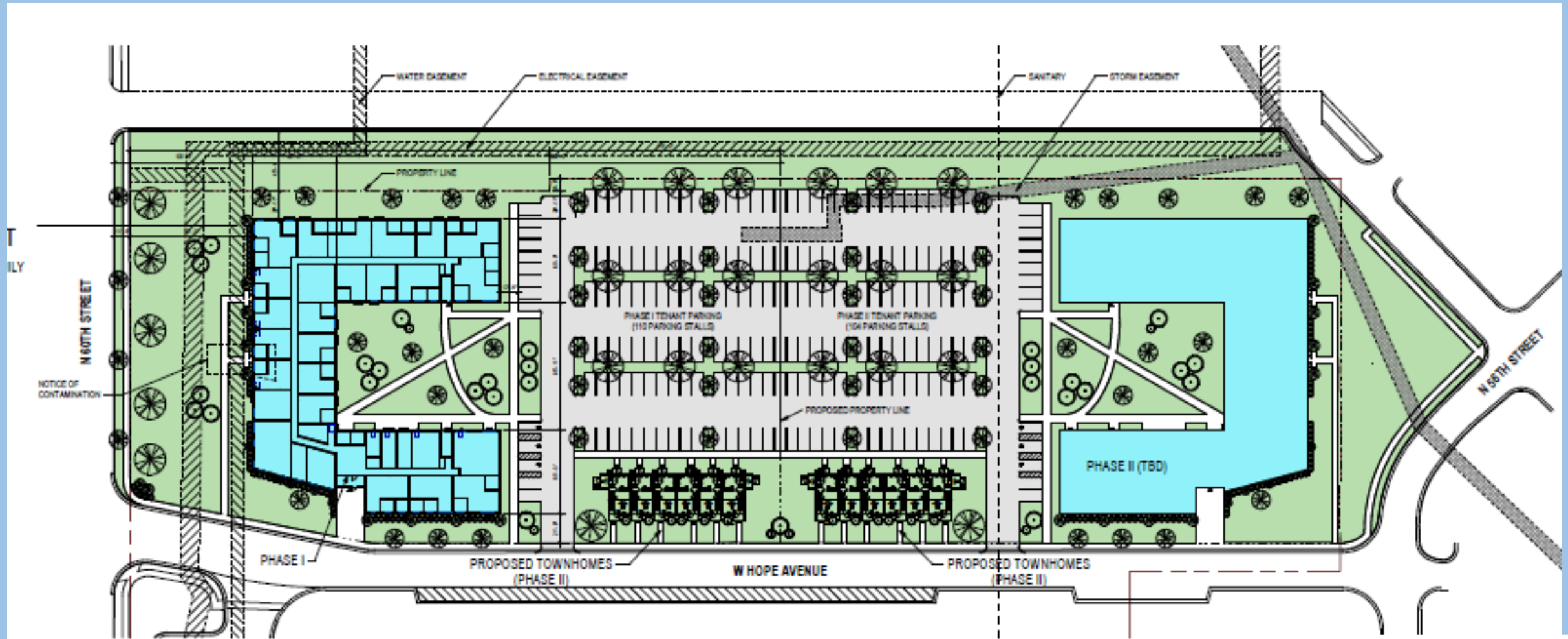


CAPITOL/MIDTOWN BRANCH REDEVELOPMENT

Building and Development Committee – September 3, 2026



Building and Development Committee – September 3, 2026



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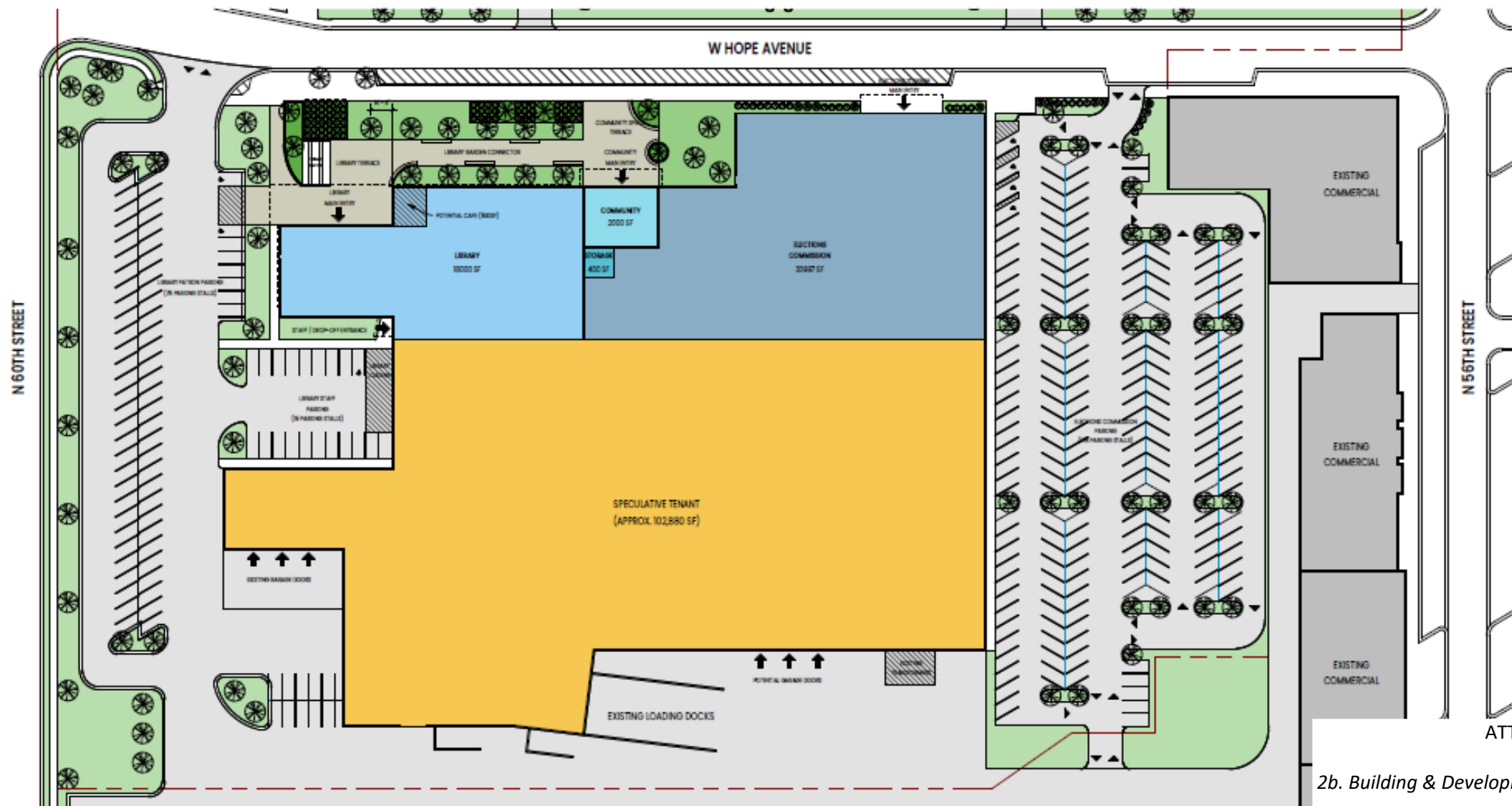
MPL CONSENT AGENDA

2b. Building & Development Committee Meeting

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Building and Development Committee – September 3, 2026



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MPL CONSENT AGENDA
Development Committee Meeting
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Building and Development Committee – September 3, 2026



Building and Development Committee – September 3, 2026

Midtown Info Sheet – July 15, 2026

The Capitol branch was built in 1964 and renovated in 1995. It is the third oldest branch in the MPL system and one of the smallest branches. Two RFPs for the redevelopment of the Capitol branch were issued in 2018 and 2019 with no actionable proposals. The Capitol site's redevelopment is challenged by the small lot size of the current location and no acceptable sites in its service area for a mixed-use development similar to the new MLK branch.

The Midtown site offers an opportunity for a new library similar to MPL's recently redeveloped branches. This is also an opportunity to revitalize Midtown Center. A new MPL Midtown branch would be co-located in the former Walmart building with another municipal use with frontage on Hope Avenue (50,000 SF Total). A large, self-storage retail tenant would be located at the back of the former Walmart building (Total 100,000 SF). Across Hope Avenue the Gorman Company will be developing 100 apartments in 2026 with another 100 apartments in a second phase.

Midtown Location

1.3 miles east of Capitol Branch. 2.6 miles west of Atkinson Branch
Midtown = 17,000 to 18,000 SF branch with space for large community
room, early voting and makerspace. 90+ parking spaces. 11 million
estimated cost for new library at Midtown.

Capitol = 12,777 SF branch and 30 parking spots. Renovation costs estimated at 6 million (7.5 million with a 2000SF addition on west side of current building)

Midtown has similar walk scores and bus access to Capitol branch

Aldermanic Representation

Atkinson Capitol Neighborhood **District 1 – Andrea Pratt** **Rufus King Neighborhood**
District 10 – Sharlen Moore **Dineen Park**

Midtown District 2 – Mark Chambers Capitol Heights Neighborhood

Next Steps

Assessment of former Walmart building by the Department of Public Works

Engberg Anderson has been recruited for Architectural and Engineering services at Midtown

Community Engagement

Summary of MCFLS Board of Trustees Meeting

Date: September 1, 2026 | **Time:** 2:01 PM – 2:48 PM

Location: Martin Luther King Branch, Milwaukee Public Library

Presiding: Elizabeth Suelzer, President | **System Director:** Steve Heser

1. Administrative & Procedural Actions

- **October Meeting Rescheduled:** The October Board meeting was moved to **Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 2:00 PM** to resolve a scheduling conflict with a SRLAAW meeting.

2. Committee Reports & Key Highlights

- **Library Directors Advisory Council (LDAC):**
 - **Mentorship Program:** Agreed to establish a mentorship initiative matching new library directors with experienced MCFLS directors to provide hands-on assistance.
 - **Mobile App & Accessibility:** Shared three cost-saving options for the mobile app evaluation (online survey upcoming) and discussed an accessibility grant with Northwoods Digital.

3. 2028–2029 State Budget Planning

- **System Aid Request:** System directors agreed on requesting an additional **\$2,000,000 in Year 1** and **\$3,000,000 in Year 2**. This information will be shared with WLA and DPI for further discussion.
- **Formula Protections:** Discussions focused on updating the state aid formula (frozen since 1998) to ensure no library system loses funding if aid meets or exceeds 11.25% of local support.
- **State Delivery & Capital Requests:** Proposed funding State Delivery via a \$2,000,000 direct state contract (+5% in Year 2), alongside requests for **\$20M for Facilities Improvements** and **\$1M total for Job Pods**.

4. Director's Report & System Updates

- **Operations:** Vel R. Phillips school materials were delivered, and a fiber site visit was completed with MPL and City of Milwaukee staff. If all goes as planned, MCFLS could receive a connection directly to the city's fiber backbone rather than relying on a TEACH connection.

5. Board Transitions & Next Meeting

- **Trustee Departure:** Trustee Howard Snyder was thanked for his dedication and service during his final Board meeting. An appointment to replace Trustee Snyder is being discussed with the County Executive's office.
- **Next Meeting:** Scheduled online for **Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 2:00 PM via Zoom.**

**Milwaukee Public Library
Financial Report
July 31, 2026**

2026

2025

City Revenues

	Budget	Received to date	% Received
<i>Additional City Appropriation</i>	\$ 32,698,143	\$ 18,835,320	57.6%
<i>Fines</i>	\$ 92,000	\$ 52,019	56.5%
<i>Lost Materials, etc.</i>	\$ 46,000	\$ 31,085	67.6%
<i>MCFLS Contracts</i>	\$ 1,028,000	\$ 563,447	54.8%
Total City Appropriation	\$ 33,864,143	\$ 19,481,871	57.5%

	Budget	Received to date	% Received
	\$ 32,920,741	\$ 17,209,755	52.3%
	\$ 94,000	\$ 42,796	45.5%
	\$ 50,000	\$ 32,217	64.4%
	\$ 927,000	\$ 521,811	56.3%
	\$ 33,991,741	\$ 17,806,579	52.4%

City Expenses

Salaries & Benefits

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Salaries</i>	\$ 19,412,775	\$ 11,290,453	58.2%
<i>Fringe Benefits</i>	\$ 8,735,750	\$ 4,841,969	55.4%
Total	\$ 28,148,525	\$ 16,132,421	57.3%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 19,539,425	\$ 10,534,408	53.9%
	\$ 8,792,742	\$ 4,048,399	46.0%
	\$ 28,332,167	\$ 14,582,807	51.5%

Supplies & Services

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>General Office Expense</i>	\$ 116,550	\$ 48,744	41.8%
<i>Construction Supplies</i>	\$ 27,133	\$ 17,509	64.5%
<i>Energy</i>	\$ 913,744	\$ 609,343	66.7%
<i>Other Operating Supplies</i>	\$ 348,084	\$ 154,378	44.4%
<i>Vehicle Rental</i>	\$ 9,530	\$ 7,208	75.6%
<i>Non-Vehicle Equipment Rental</i>	\$ 13,200	\$ 6,720	50.9%
<i>Professional Services</i>	\$ 119,342	\$ 45,385	38.0%
<i>Information Technology Services</i>	\$ 394,200	\$ 367,830	93.3%
<i>Property Services</i>	\$ 688,500	\$ 526,013	76.4%
<i>Infrastructure Services</i>	\$ 125,000	\$ 146,491	117.2%
<i>Other Operating Services</i>	\$ 151,874	\$ 77,132	50.8%
<i>Reimburse Other Departments</i>	\$ 120,916	\$ 75,583	62.5%
Total	\$ 3,028,073	\$ 2,082,336	68.8%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 115,700	\$ 45,446	39.3%
	\$ 18,000	\$ 9,909	55.1%
	\$ 886,500	\$ 425,852	48.0%
	\$ 278,956	\$ 103,498	37.1%
	\$ 9,200	\$ 2,899	31.5%
	\$ 13,200	\$ 1,580	12.0%
	\$ 86,600	\$ 64,904	74.9%
	\$ 357,920	\$ 262,644	73.4%
	\$ 861,520	\$ 1,040,475	120.8%
	\$ 46,000	\$ 100,634	218.8%
	\$ 152,112	\$ 43,768	28.8%
	\$ 111,900	\$ (423)	-0.4%
	\$ 2,937,608	\$ 2,101,186	71.5%

Equipment

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Library Materials</i>	\$ 1,946,000	\$ 1,058,283	54.4%
<i>IT Equipment</i>	\$ 359,534	\$ 92,298	25.7%
<i>Other</i>	\$ 148,311	\$ 25,935	17.5%
Total	\$ 2,453,845	\$ 1,176,516	47.9%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 1,885,500	\$ 828,603	43.9%
	\$ 220,824	\$ 67,424	30.5%
	\$ 337,042	\$ 120,988	35.9%
	\$ 2,443,366	\$ 1,017,015	41.6%

Other Departmental Appropriation

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Villard Square Property Payment</i>	\$ 12,000	\$ -	0.0%
<i>East Property Payment</i>	\$ 11,000	\$ 9,504	86.4%
<i>Mitchell Street Property Payment</i>	\$ 23,000	\$ -	0.0%
<i>MLK Property Payment</i>	\$ 23,000	\$ 10,267	44.6%
<i>Good Hope Property Payment</i>	\$ 23,000	\$ -	0.0%
<i>Contingent Energy Financing</i>	\$ 141,700	\$ 70,827	50.0%
Total	\$ 233,700	\$ 90,598	38.8%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 11,600	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 9,133	\$ 9,133	0.0%
	\$ 76,000	\$ 27,000	35.5%
	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 42,967	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 138,900	\$ 69,438	50.0%
	\$ 278,600	\$ 105,571	37.9%

Total City Expenses	\$ 33,864,143	\$ 19,481,871	57.5%
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	\$ 33,991,741	\$ 17,806,579	52.4%
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**Milwaukee Public Library
Financial Report
July 31, 2026**

2026

2025

Additional Funding Sources

Grants

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent		Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
WTBBL Jul '26 - Jun '27	\$ 1,214,000	\$ 126,512	10.4%		\$ 1,178,700	\$ 60,711	5.2%
ILL Jul '26 - Jun '27	\$ 271,050	\$ 13,180	4.9%		\$ 263,150	\$ 7,698	2.9%
Total	\$ 1,485,050	\$ 139,692	9.4%		\$ 1,441,850	\$ 68,409	4.7%

Trust Funds

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent		Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
Materials	\$ 172,000	\$ 112,619	65.5%		\$ 167,000	\$ 143,612	86.0%
Programming	\$ 75,000	\$ 22,003	29.3%		\$ 53,000	\$ 14,969	28.2%
Training	\$ 27,000	\$ 6,233	23.1%		\$ 26,000	\$ 13,390	51.5%
Marketing*	\$ 91,000	\$ 11,611	12.8%		\$ 45,000	\$ 434	1.0%
Contingency	\$ 4,000	\$ 37	0.9%		\$ 5,000	\$ -	0.0%
Board Development	\$ 3,000	\$ -	0.0%		\$ 5,000	\$ 384	7.7%
Strehlow 50+	\$ 8,000	\$ 584	7.3%		\$ 8,000	\$ 1,362	17.0%
Fundraising Feasibility Study**	\$ 86,000	\$ 40,000	46.5%		\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
Hot Spots	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%		\$ 295,000	\$ -	0.0%
4T Renovation	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%		\$ 689,773	\$ -	0.0%
Total	\$ 466,000	\$ 193,087	41.4%		\$ 1,293,773	\$ 174,151	13.5%

*2026 Trust - Marketing budget includes \$45,000 in carryover

**Funded by proceeds from sale of former Forest Home Branch Library

Foundation Contributions

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent		Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
Materials	\$ 358,716	\$ 92,062	25.7%		\$ 279,497	\$ 17,326	6.2%
Programming	\$ 1,315,914	\$ 337,665	25.7%		\$ 1,674,809	\$ 533,112	31.8%
Total	\$ 1,674,630	\$ 429,727	25.7%		\$ 1,954,306	\$ 550,438	28.2%

Investments

U.S. Bank National Assoc. Commercial Paper (rated A1) confirmation #327157413 dated 07/07/26 and maturing 08/06/26 at a rate of 1.40%...\$280,000

**Milwaukee Public Library
Financial Report
August 31, 2026**

2026

2025

City Revenues

	Budget	Received to date	% Received
<i>Additional City Appropriation</i>	\$ 32,698,143	\$ 22,529,340	68.9%
<i>Fines</i>	\$ 92,000	\$ 54,646	59.4%
<i>Lost Materials, etc.</i>	\$ 46,000	\$ 33,433	72.7%
<i>MCFLS Contracts</i>	\$ 1,028,000	\$ 563,447	54.8%
Total City Appropriation	\$ 33,864,143	\$ 23,180,866	68.5%

	Budget	Received to date	% Received
	\$ 32,920,741	\$ 20,364,285	61.9%
	\$ 94,000	\$ 48,534	51.6%
	\$ 50,000	\$ 34,729	69.5%
	\$ 927,000	\$ 521,811	56.3%
	\$ 33,991,741	\$ 20,969,359	61.7%

City Expenses

Salaries & Benefits

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Salaries</i>	\$ 19,412,775	\$ 13,619,612	70.2%
<i>Fringe Benefits</i>	\$ 8,735,750	\$ 5,861,502	67.1%
Total	\$ 28,148,525	\$ 19,481,114	69.2%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 19,539,425	\$ 12,593,311	64.5%
	\$ 8,792,742	\$ 4,891,615	55.6%
	\$ 28,332,167	\$ 17,484,926	61.7%

Supplies & Services

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>General Office Expense</i>	\$ 116,550	\$ 53,835	46.2%
<i>Construction Supplies</i>	\$ 27,133	\$ 19,171	70.7%
<i>Energy</i>	\$ 913,744	\$ 678,235	74.2%
<i>Other Operating Supplies</i>	\$ 348,084	\$ 178,583	51.3%
<i>Vehicle Rental</i>	\$ 9,530	\$ 8,621	90.5%
<i>Non-Vehicle Equipment Rental</i>	\$ 13,200	\$ 6,720	50.9%
<i>Professional Services</i>	\$ 119,342	\$ 46,870	39.3%
<i>Information Technology Services</i>	\$ 394,200	\$ 371,475	94.2%
<i>Property Services</i>	\$ 688,500	\$ 606,057	88.0%
<i>Infrastructure Services</i>	\$ 125,000	\$ 146,491	117.2%
<i>Other Operating Services</i>	\$ 151,874	\$ 88,882	58.5%
<i>Reimburse Other Departments</i>	\$ 120,916	\$ 75,592	62.5%
Total	\$ 3,028,073	\$ 2,280,532	75.3%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 115,700	\$ 52,240	45.2%
	\$ 18,000	\$ 12,290	68.3%
	\$ 886,500	\$ 425,852	48.0%
	\$ 278,956	\$ 118,794	42.6%
	\$ 9,200	\$ 3,517	38.2%
	\$ 13,200	\$ 1,580	12.0%
	\$ 86,600	\$ 66,662	77.0%
	\$ 357,920	\$ 298,424	83.4%
	\$ 861,520	\$ 1,099,092	127.6%
	\$ 46,000	\$ 100,634	218.8%
	\$ 152,112	\$ 57,260	37.6%
	\$ 111,900	\$ (512)	-0.5%
	\$ 2,937,608	\$ 2,235,833	76.1%

Equipment

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Library Materials</i>	\$ 1,946,000	\$ 1,206,759	62.0%
<i>IT Equipment</i>	\$ 359,534	\$ 92,358	25.7%
<i>Other</i>	\$ 148,311	\$ 29,505	19.9%
Total	\$ 2,453,845	\$ 1,328,622	54.1%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 1,885,500	\$ 921,835	48.9%
	\$ 220,824	\$ 70,987	32.1%
	\$ 337,042	\$ 121,549	36.1%
	\$ 2,443,366	\$ 1,114,371	45.6%

Other Departmental Appropriation

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
<i>Villard Square Property Payment</i>	\$ 12,000	\$ -	0.0%
<i>East Property Payment</i>	\$ 11,000	\$ 9,504	86.4%
<i>Mitchell Street Property Payment</i>	\$ 23,000	\$ -	0.0%
<i>MLK Property Payment</i>	\$ 23,000	\$ 10,267	44.6%
<i>Good Hope Property Payment</i>	\$ 23,000	\$ -	0.0%
<i>Contingent Energy Financing</i>	\$ 141,700	\$ 70,827	50.0%
Total	\$ 233,700	\$ 90,598	38.8%

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
	\$ 11,600	\$ 9,216	0.0%
	\$ 9,133	\$ 9,133	0.0%
	\$ 76,000	\$ 46,442	61.1%
	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 42,967	\$ 69,438	0.0%
	\$ 138,900	\$ -	0.0%
	\$ 278,600	\$ 134,229	48.2%

Total City Expenses	\$ 33,864,143	\$ 23,180,866	68.5%
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	\$ 33,991,741	\$ 20,969,359	61.7%
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**Milwaukee Public Library
Financial Report
August 31, 2026**

2026

2025

Additional Funding Sources

Grants

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent		Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
WTBBL Jul '26 - Jun '27	\$ 1,214,000	\$ 252,713	20.8%		\$ 1,178,700	\$ 175,175	14.9%
ILL Jul '26 - Jun '27	\$ 271,050	\$ 44,029	16.2%		\$ 263,150	\$ 26,101	9.9%
Total	\$ 1,485,050	\$ 296,742	20.0%		\$ 1,441,850	\$ 201,276	14.0%

Trust Funds

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent		Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
Materials	\$ 172,000	\$ 116,338	67.6%		\$ 167,000	\$ 143,612	86.0%
Programming	\$ 75,000	\$ 26,507	35.3%		\$ 53,000	\$ 19,270	36.4%
Training	\$ 27,000	\$ 6,233	23.1%		\$ 26,000	\$ 21,567	83.0%
Marketing*	\$ 91,000	\$ 14,134	15.5%		\$ 45,000	\$ 454	1.0%
Contingency	\$ 4,000	\$ 37	0.9%		\$ 5,000	\$ -	0.0%
Board Development	\$ 3,000	\$ -	0.0%		\$ 5,000	\$ 384	7.7%
Strehlow 50+	\$ 8,000	\$ 669	8.4%		\$ 8,000	\$ 1,805	22.6%
Fundraising Feasibility Study**	\$ 86,000	\$ 40,000	46.5%		\$ -	\$ -	100.0%
Hot Spots	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%		\$ 295,000	\$ -	0.0%
4T Renovation	\$ -	\$ -	100.0%		\$ 689,773	\$ -	0.0%
Total	\$ 466,000	\$ 203,918	43.8%		\$ 1,293,773	\$ 187,092	14.5%

*2026 Trust - Marketing budget includes \$45,000 in carryover

**Funded by proceeds from sale of former Forest Home Branch Library

Foundation Contributions

	Budget	Spent to date	% Spent		Budget	Spent to date	% Spent
Materials	\$ 358,716	\$ 95,297	26.6%		\$ 279,497	\$ 20,546	7.4%
Programming	\$ 1,315,914	\$ 392,057	29.8%		\$ 1,674,809	\$ 913,570	54.5%
Total	\$ 1,674,630	\$ 487,354	29.1%		\$ 1,954,306	\$ 934,116	47.8%

Investments

U.S. Bank National Assoc. Commercial Paper (rated A1) confirmation #327157560 dated 08/06/26 and maturing 09/04/26 at a rate of 1.40%...\$275,000

Summary of Virtual and In-person Programs

July 2026

MPL HELPS PEOPLE READ

ESL Book Club [Virtual]. This long-running series continues to draw participants from around the world. ESL Book Club is for adult English language learners. Attendees practice their English reading, speaking, and listening skills. Total attendance for two sessions: 13

MPL HELPS PEOPLE LEARN

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. July falls in Block 3 - the third section of the 4 block system used to structure the program's curriculum. This month continued the mini-series: Essential Nutrients. Week 1 taught attendees the different types of carbohydrates with a focus on sugar. A comparison of beet sugar and cane sugar was detailed. A recommendation of choosing natural sweeteners was given, such as: raw honey, agave, molasses and pure maple syrup. Week 2 discussed fiber as a gut health nutrient in how the body needs it to aid in processing food and moving waste out of the body. Week 3 reviewed all 7 essential nutrients. Attendees engaged in a quiz that tied in 1 fact about each nutrient highlighted in the past six weeks. The majority of the group answered correctly. Week 4 started a new miniseries topic - Cooking Principles. This week kicked off with the 'saute' technique. Attendees learned how to transform food using the method of high heat and minimal fat to create texture and flavor over a short amount of cooking time. Total attendance at four sessions: 36

In a Pickle! With Christina Ward. Christina Ward is a Wisconsin-based writer and founder of Feral House Publishing. She specializes in food preservation, recipe, and culinary history books, such as Preservation, American Advertising Cookbooks, and Holy Food. In this hands-on demonstration, attendees explored the basics of safely making pickles with fresh vegetables. All attendees received the State of Wisconsin-Extension publication Homemade Pickles & Relishes, which includes how-to information and recipes. Attendance: 12

Using ChatGPT for Health? Finding Reliable Health Info. Learn about the do's and don'ts of using ChatGPT and other generative AI tools for health information. We'll talk about safe strategies and things to avoid when using the tool. Join us and learn where to find reliable health info online. Bring your curiosity and join the conversation! Part of ALA's Digital Pathways Online Health Literacy Programming for Adults. Attendance: 10

MPL HELPS PEOPLE CONNECT

Ayuda con tu currículum gratis - con Goodwill Workforce Connection Center. Come to Mitchell Street Branch library for free help with your resume on the third Wednesday of the month. A representative from Goodwill Workforce Connection Center will be available to provide one-on-

one resume assistance, using the library computers. Please bring the details of your work history such as your job titles, job duties, company names, and dates you were employed. If you are not able to type independently, please bring a companion to assist you. Registration is recommended. Attendance: 7

Gentle Stretch and Movement. Bay View Branch has been hosting this well attended program for several years. It is a mainstay at the Branch, and supports MPL's commitment to health and wellness in our community. Attendees increase flexibility while decreasing stress through a guided gentle sequence of stretches. The program focuses on range of motion, balance and body awareness. Total attendance at three sessions: 30

Total attendance for 131 programs: 974

August 2026

MPL HELPS PEOPLE READ

Hidden Chapter Book Club. The Hidden Chapter Book Club gathers monthly to read, sip, and discover. We'll discuss *Across the Great Lake* by Lee Zacharias, view Great Lakes artifacts, and see the city from the Green Roof. We'll discuss a new book each month and explore historic library spaces and collections overlooked by the everyday visitor. August meeting will discuss *Across the Great Lake* by Lee Zacharias and view artifacts from The Great Lakes Marine Collection. Weather permitting, we'll view the city from Central Library's Green Roof and learn how green infrastructure protects our shared waterways. Attendance: 7

MPL HELPS PEOPLE LEARN

Composting 102. Presented by gardening expert and horticulturist Melinda Myers, and Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful. Melinda shared insights and strategies attendees can use to dig a little deeper into the world of compost and take your pile to the next level. There was also a raffle for attendants to win some gardening goodies! Attendance: 18

Badger Talk: Are Algal Blooms Getting Worse? [Virtual]. In honor of National Water Quality Month. Severe algal blooms threaten both ecosystem and human health. With climate change and other disturbances intensifying, it's reasonable to assume that algal blooms are getting worse. Dr. Grace Wilkinson discussed the surprising trends in algal blooms from lakes around the Midwest and what's driving that change—both for the worse and for the better. Attendance: 19

Nutrition Label Literacy. Presented by Cargill Community Kitchen Consultant, Chef Sharrie Agee. Part of ALA's Digital Pathways Online Health Literacy Programming for Adults. Learn helpful strategies to better understand nutrition labels on food packaging. Chef Sharrie will lead participants in this new health literacy series, and will create a tasty, health-conscious snack for attendees. Total attendance at two sessions: 18

Know Your Mind 2.0: What Makes Us Human in the Age of AI? A community conversation on wellness, human potential, and the future of work. Artificial intelligence is transforming how we work, communicate, learn, and make decisions. As technology becomes more powerful, one question becomes more important than ever: What makes us uniquely human? Join the Wisconsin Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Milwaukee Public Library, and Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield for a meaningful experience designed to help attendees better understand themselves, strengthen well-being, build connections, and thrive in a rapidly changing world. Attendance: 68

MPL HELPS PEOPLE CONNECT

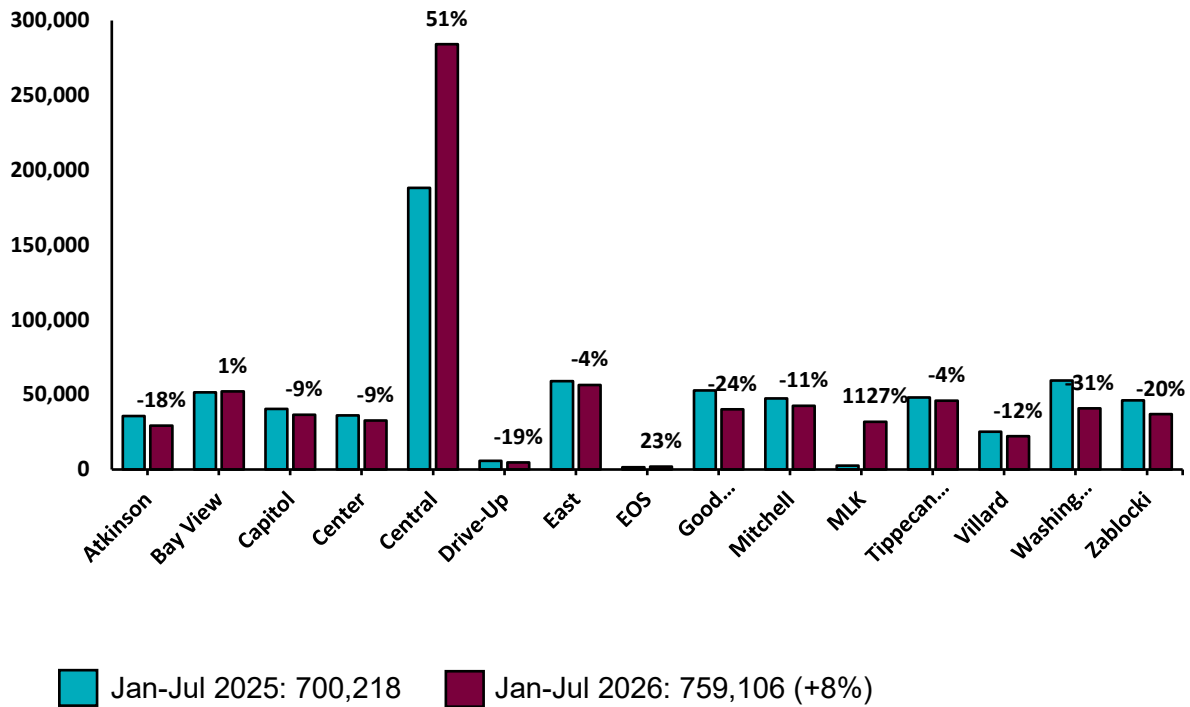
Bücherwurm Beer Launch Party. Join the Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library at Dead Bird Brewing Company for a frothy fun time as we celebrate the release of Bücherwurm, a limited-edition German fest bier! The festivities kick off at 12PM, and will last until 4PM. All day activities include button making and bookmark making stations; photographs and other "Billy the Bookworm" items from our Special Collections; and a very special "Beer + Bite" session with Chef Sharrie Agee from 1-3PM. All are welcome! Attendance: 300

Civic Bites: Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission. What is the role of the Fire and Police Commission (FPC), and how has it changed? Get to know one of America's longest standing fire and police oversight bodies with its head, Leon Todd. Together we'll hear Executive Director Todd's path to his role, his role day-to-day, how you can get involved, all while eating his favorite snack. Bring your questions. Bring your appetite. Milwaukee Civic Bites is a monthly series from the Milwaukee Public Library, through the One MKE project, designed to bring you closer to the people who keep our city running Attendance: 16

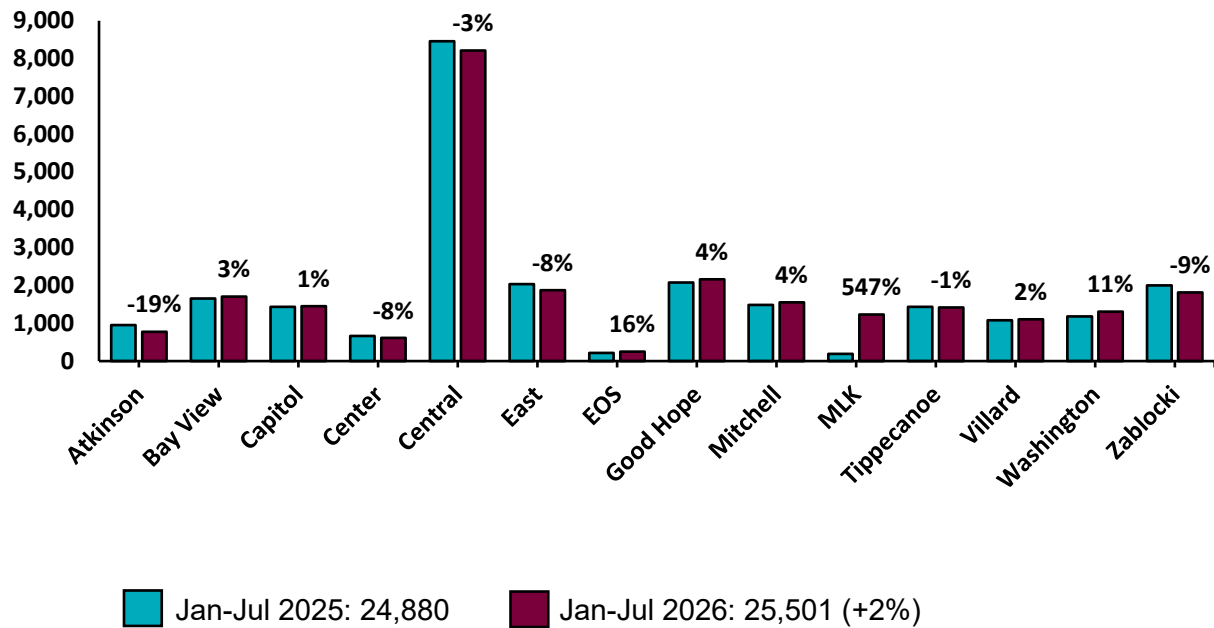
Fresh Start Founders: Reinvention & Reintroduction. Your next chapter could be your strongest one yet! This two-part entrepreneurship series is for veterans, justice-impacted individuals, retirees, career changers, and adults ready to turn life experience into new opportunities. While participants are encouraged to attend both sessions, each workshop may also be attended separately depending on where you are in your journey. Part 1: Reinvention - Learn how to reinvent yourself as an entrepreneur by recognizing your skills, strengths, work experience, and life experience while rebuilding confidence for your next chapter. Part 2: Reintroduction - Learn how to reposition yourself for new opportunities by showcasing your credibility, building your visibility, and reconnecting your experience to entrepreneurship and community. Total Attendance at two sessions: 39

Total attendance for 141 programs: 1,419

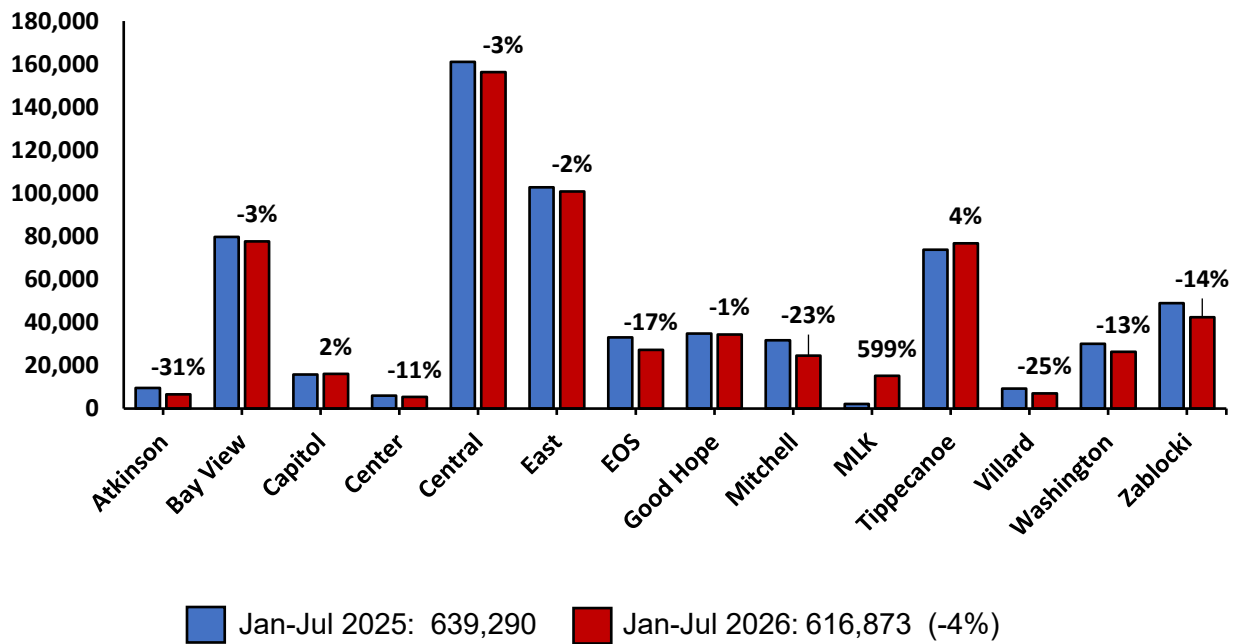
Patron Visits



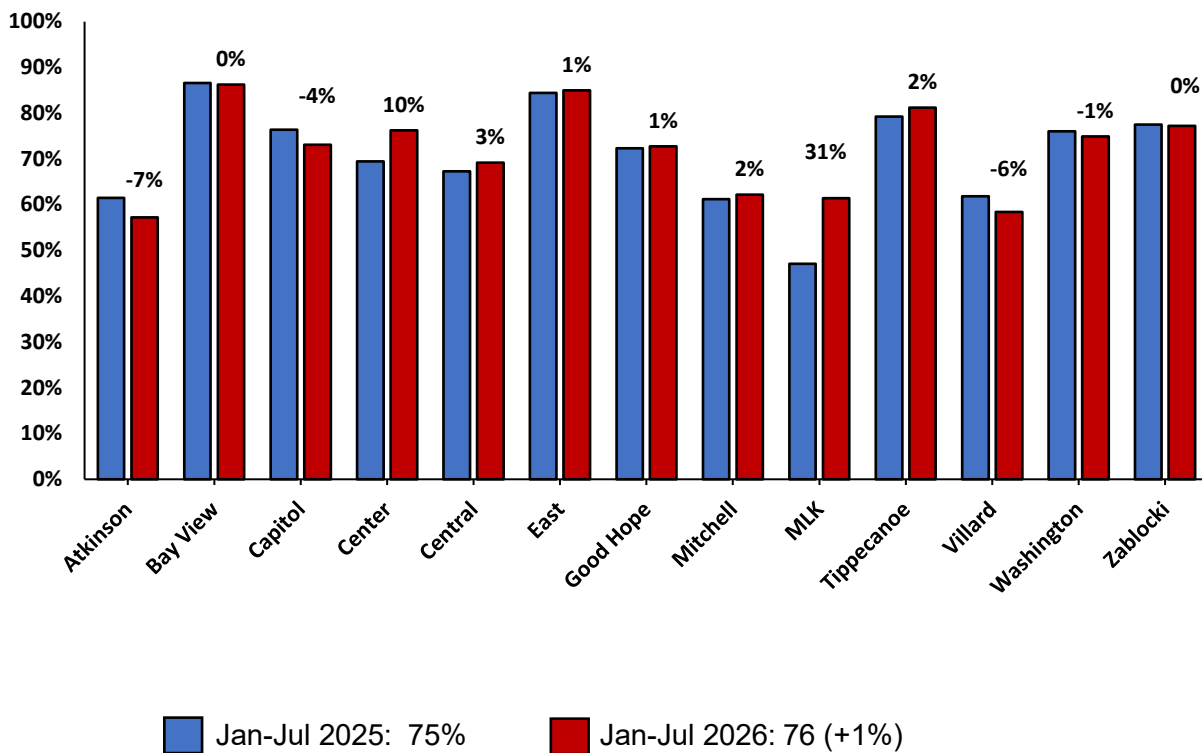
Registrations



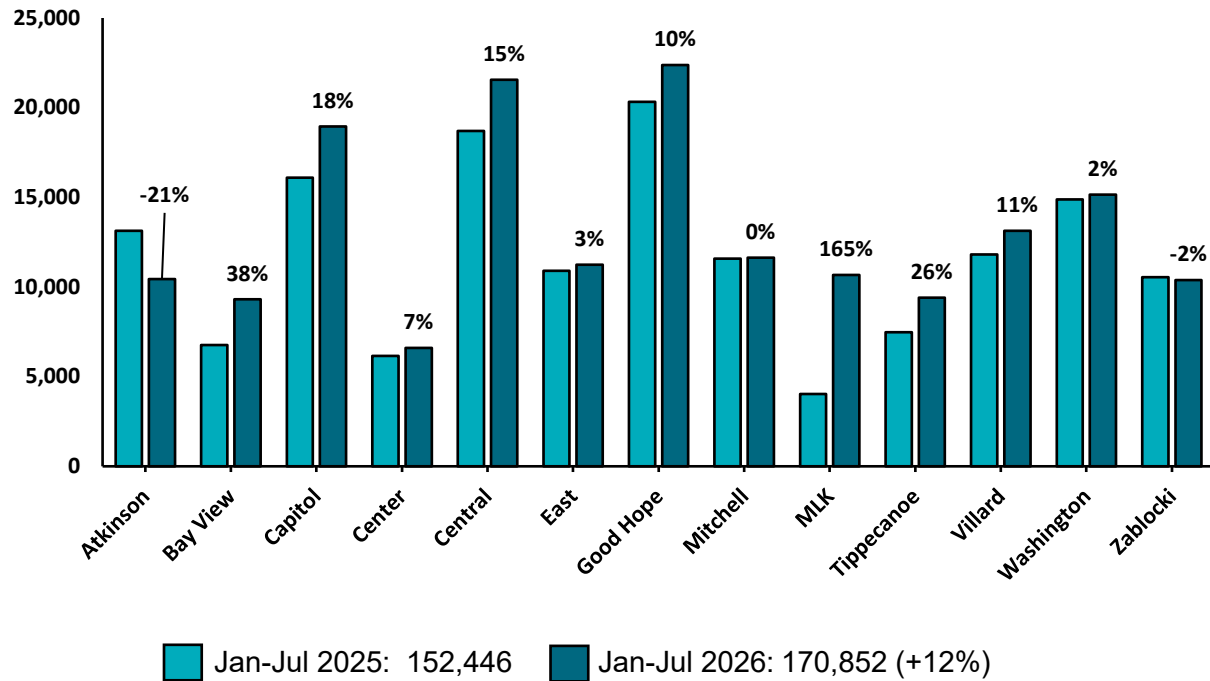
Traditional Circulation



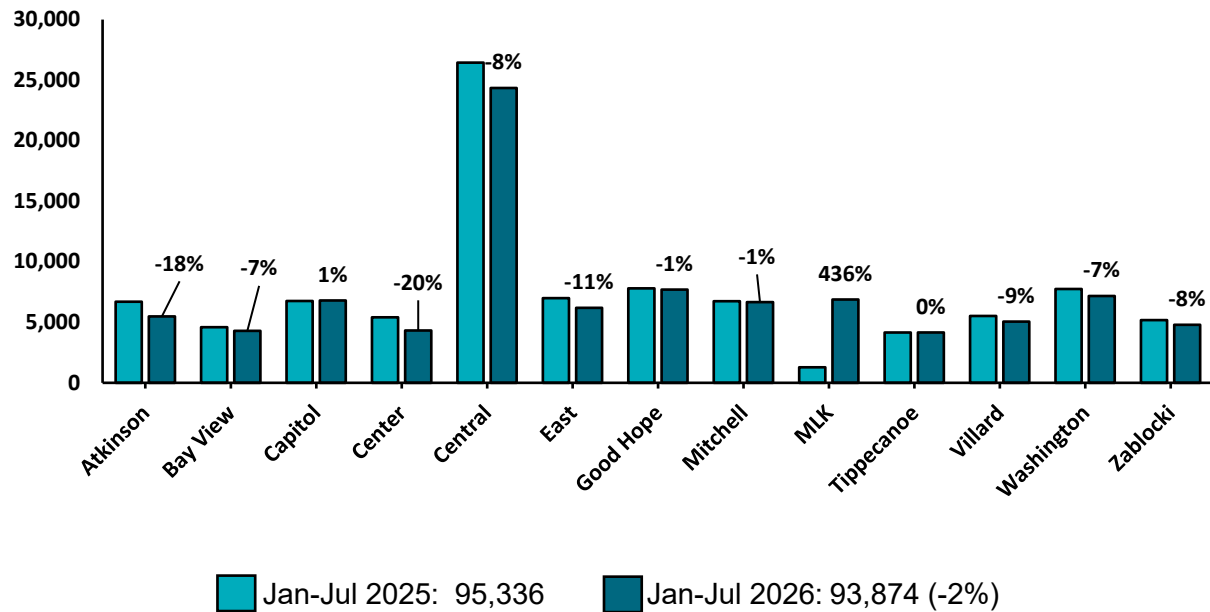
Self-Checkout



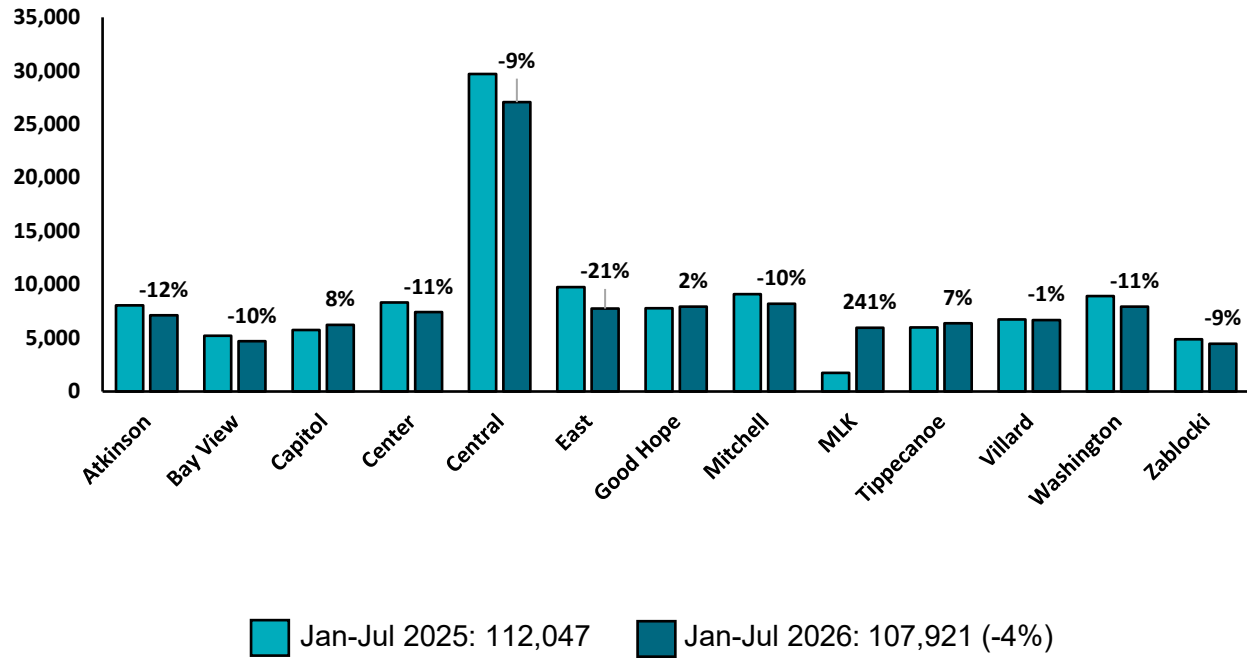
Print/Copy/Fax/Scan Jobs



Public Computer Sessions



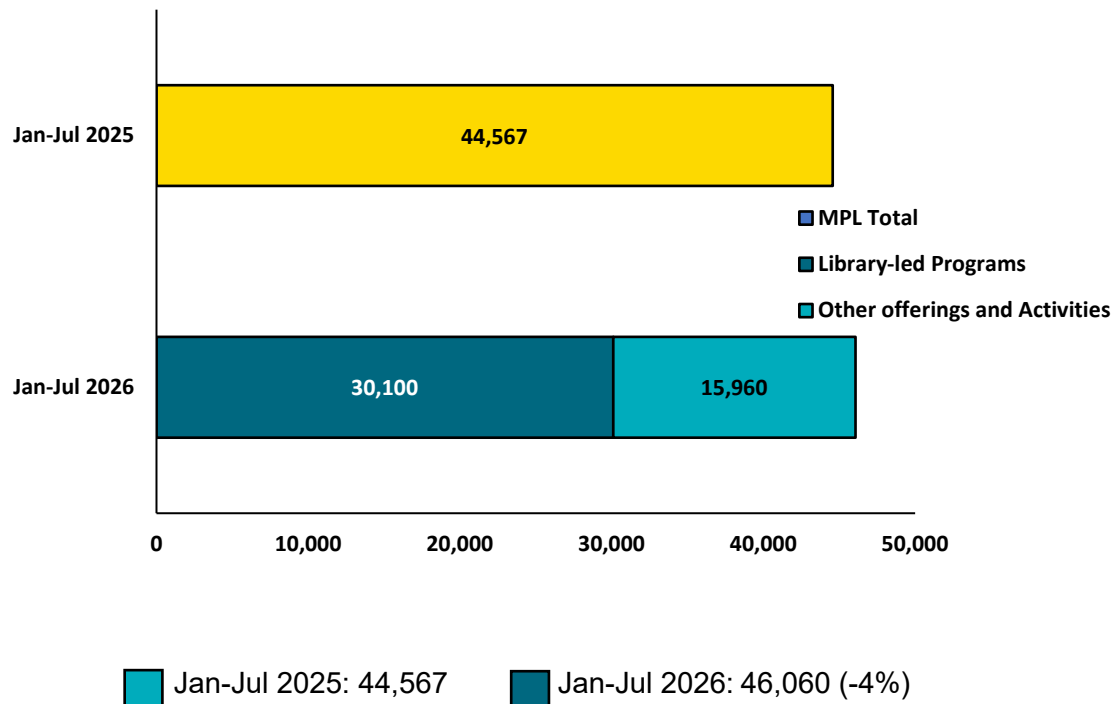
Wi-Fi Unique Users



eCirculation

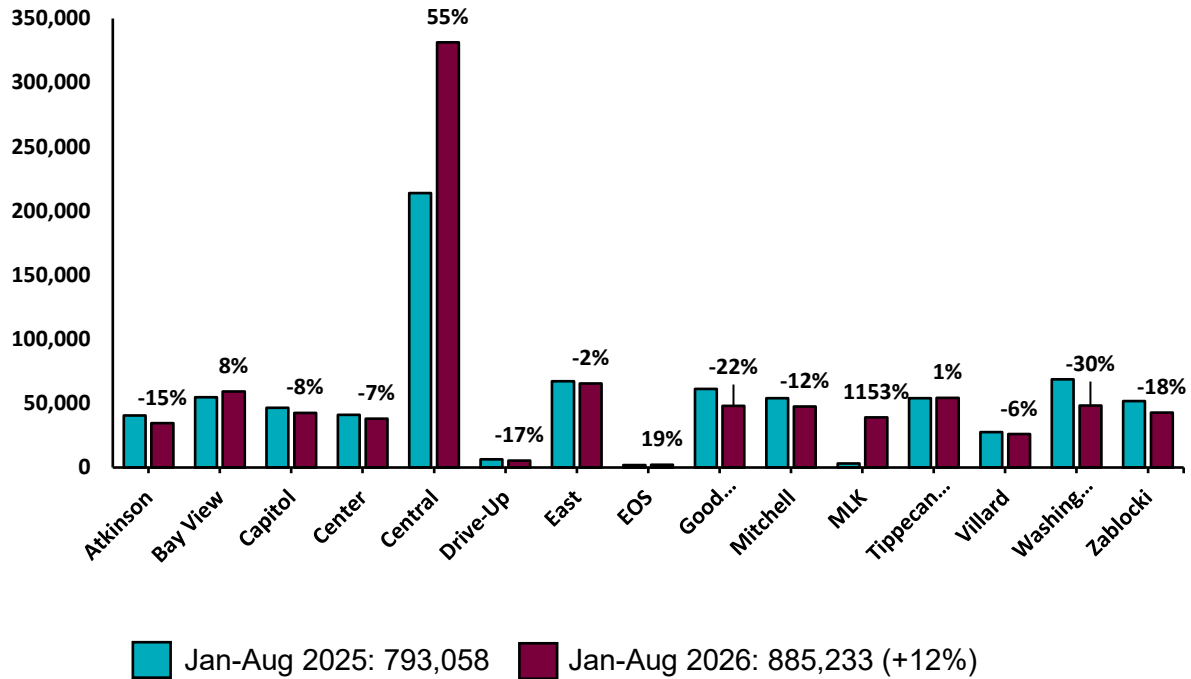
Platform	Jan-Jul 2025	Jan-Jul 2026	Change
Freegal Music	97,066	388,476	+300%
Hoopla Digital	38,476	41,513	+8%
Kanopy	21,697	23,467	+8%
OverDrive	298,755	336,688	+13%
Total	455,994	790,144	+73%

Program Attendance*

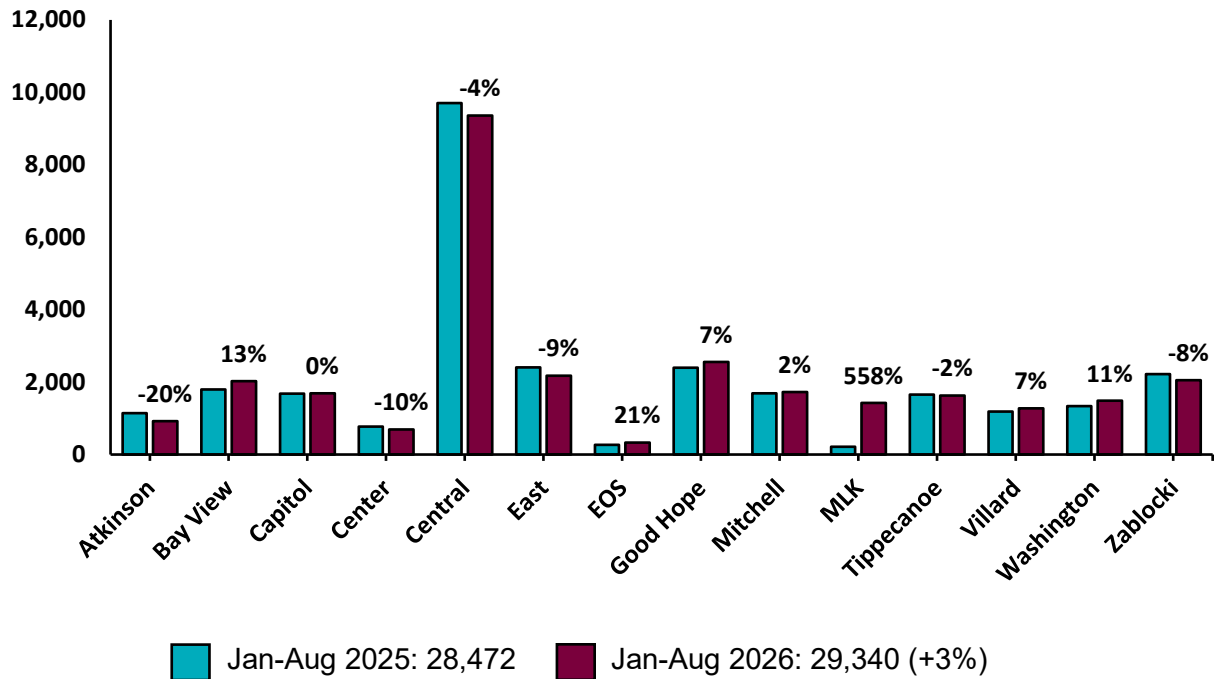


*On January 1st, 2026, MPL changed how programs are reported and counted to closer match definitions provided by the WI Department of Public Instruction. Due to this change, comparative statistics will be different as we continue to collect updated and accurate statistics throughout the remainder of the year.

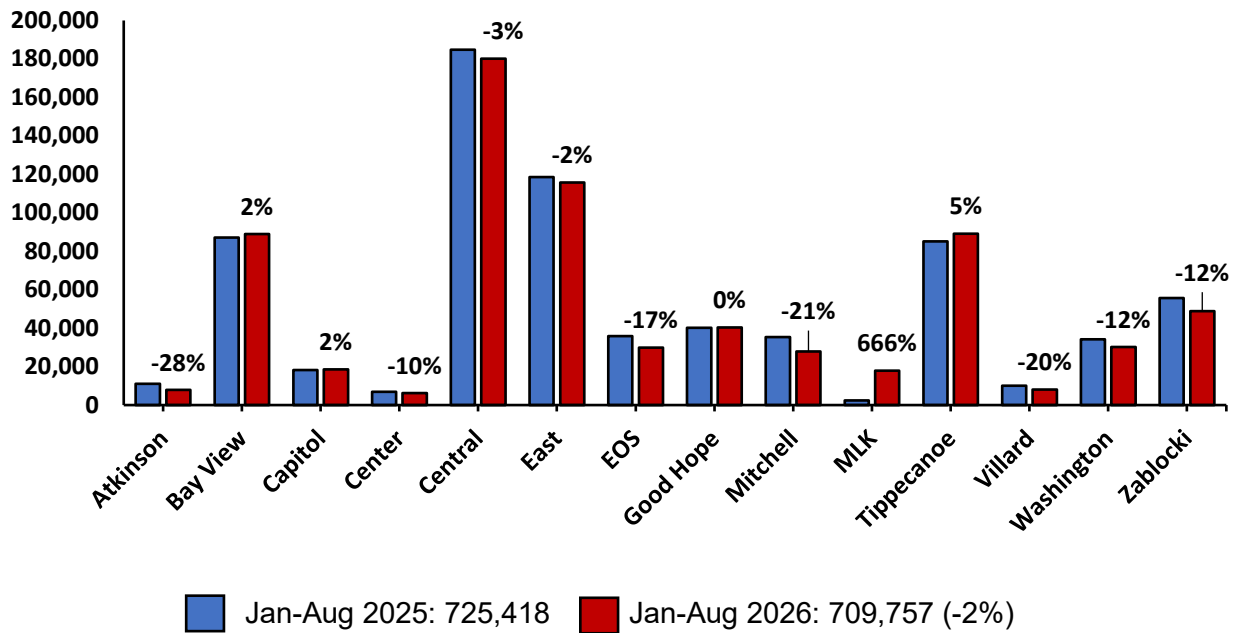
Patron Visits



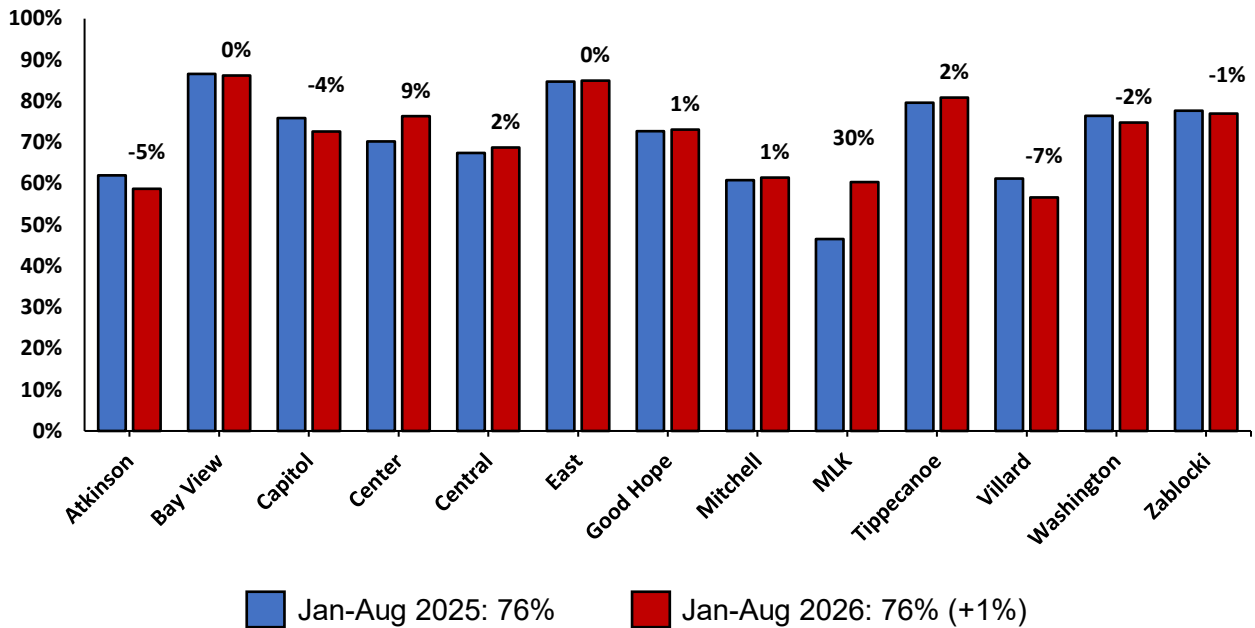
Registration



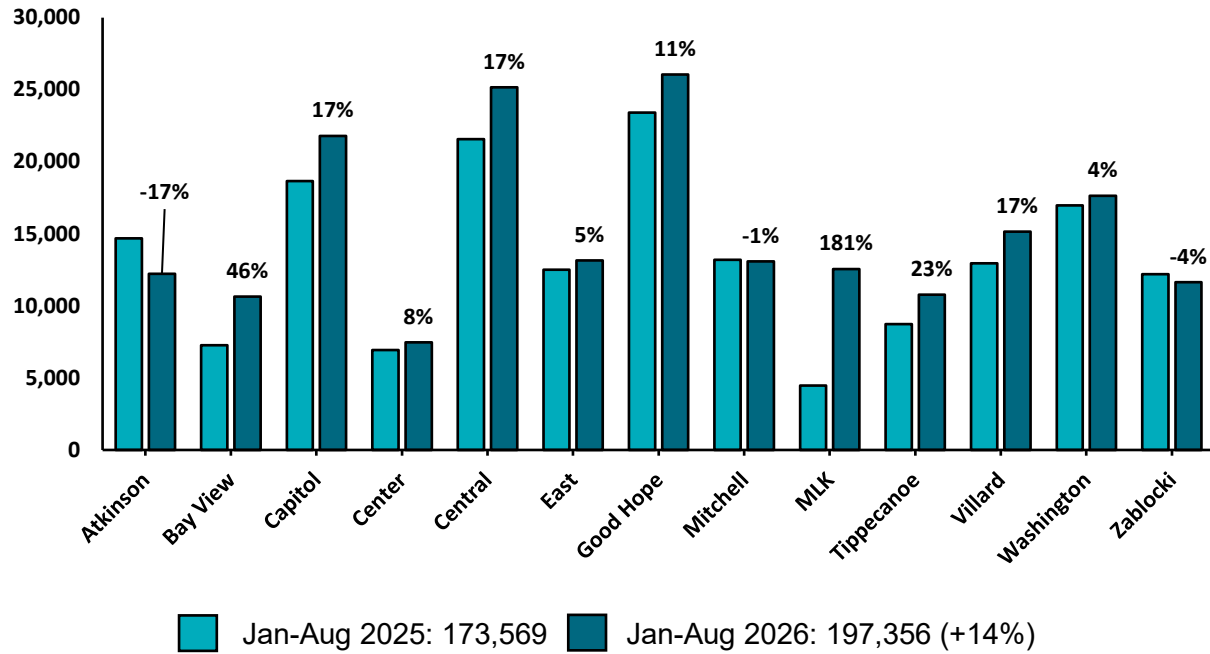
Traditional Circulation



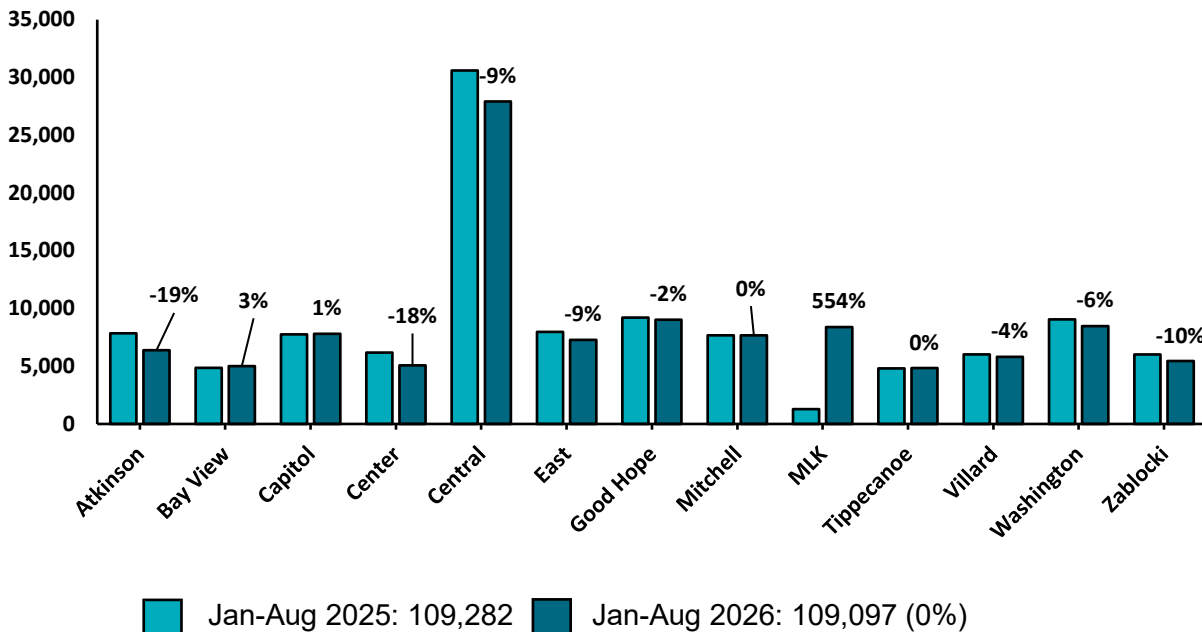
Self-Checkout



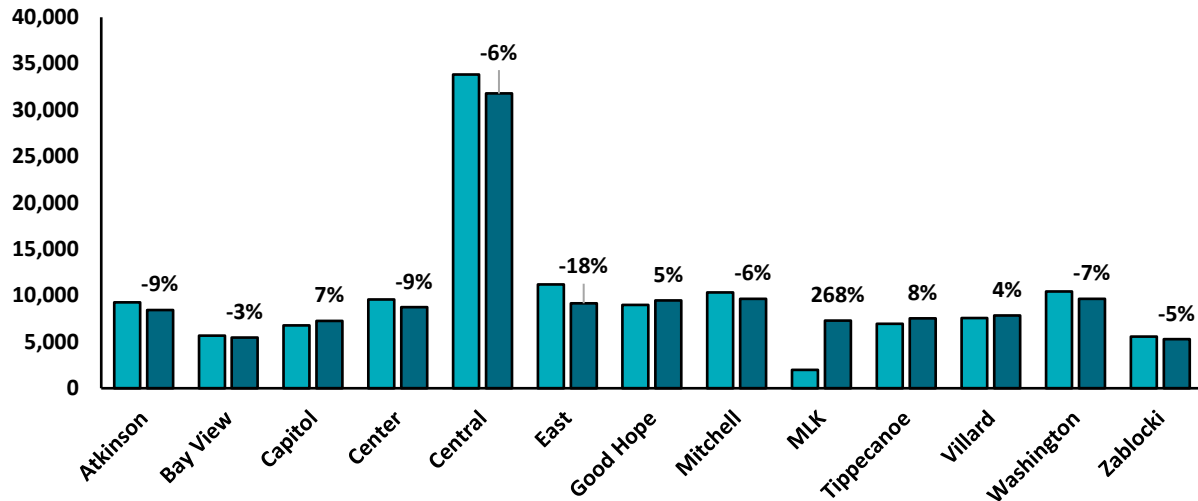
Print/Copy/Fax/Scan Jobs



Public Computer Sessions



Wi-Fi Unique Users

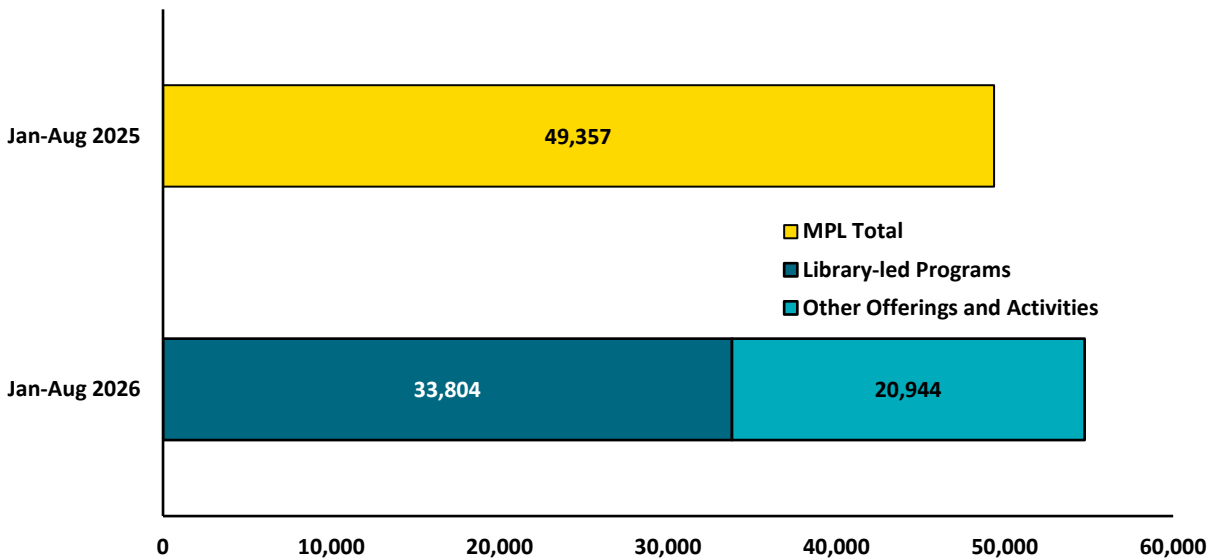


Jan-Aug 2025: 128,113 Jan-Aug 2026: 127,615 (-3%)

eCirculation

Platform	Jan-Aug 2025	Jan-Aug 2026	Change
Freegal Music	104,816	400,402	+282%
Hoopla Digital	43,533	46,904	+8%
Kanopy	24,531	26,874	+10%
OverDrive	342,028	386,729	+13%
Total	514,908	860,939	+67%

Program Attendance*



Jan-Aug 2025: 49,357 Jan-Aug 2026: 54,748 (+4%)

*On January 1st, 2026, MPL changed how programs are reported and counted to closer match definitions provided by the WI Department of Public Instruction. Due to this change, comparative statistics will be different as we continue to collect updated and accurate statistics throughout the remainder of the year.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 2026

(updated August 2026)

Michele Bria

President

Beginning of Term: May 2013

Expiration of Term: April 2029

Citizen Member (Mayor)

Teresa Mercado

Vice-President

Beginning of Term: November 2020

Expiration of Term: April 2028

Citizen Member (Common Council President)

Michael Morgan

Financial Secretary

Beginning of Term: April 2021

Expiration of Term: April 2030

Citizen Member (Mayor – Mayor's Representative)

Jennifer Meyer-Stearns

Secretary, Library Director

Ex Officio Non-Voting Member

Neil Albrecht

Beginning of Term: January 2026

Expiration of Term: April 2027

Citizen Member (Mayor)

Alderwoman Milele Coggs

Beginning of Term: May 2008

Expiration of Term: April 2028

Aldermanic Member (Mayor)

Matthew Kowalski

Beginning of Term: November 2018

Expiration of Term: April 2030

Citizen Member (Mayor)



Aldermanic Member (Mayor)
Alderwoman Andrea Pratt
Beginning of Term: January 2026
Expiration of Term: April 2028

Aldermanic Member (Mayor)
Alderwoman Larresa Taylor
Beginning of Term: October 2023
Expiration of Term: April 2028

Designee of Milwaukee Public Schools Superintendent
Ex Officio
Mary Urbina-McCarthy
Beginning of Term: July 2026

Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, Designee of County Executive
Expiration of Term: April 2028
Beginning of Term: September 2022
Supervisor Kathleen Vincent

Milwaukee School Board President
Ex Officio
Missy Zombor
Beginning of Term: May 2026

Citizen Member (Mayor)
Expiration of Term:
Beginning of Term:
VACANT



Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees
2026 Schedule of Meetings (by Committee)
 (updated 09/17/26)

RECESS: February, August, December

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD

4th Tuesday of the month, except recess months

Date	Day	Time	Location
January 27, 2026	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
March 24, 2026	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Mitchell Street Branch Community Room
April 28, 2026	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
May 26, 2026	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
June 23, 2026	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Washington Park Branch Community Room
July 28, 2026	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
September 22, 2026	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
October 27, 2026	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
November 24, 2026	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) and recess months

Date	Day	Time	Location
January 8, 2026	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
March 5, 2026	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
April 2, 2026	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
May 7, 2026	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
June 4, 2026	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
July 2, 2026	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
September 3, 2026	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
October 1, 2026	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
November 5, 2026	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting



**Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees
2026 Schedule of Meetings (by Committee)**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2nd Wednesday of the month in June and November

Date	Day	Time	Location
June 10, 2026	Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
November 18, 2026	Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting

FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

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

Date	Day	Time	Location
January 27, 2026	Tuesday	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
April 28, 2026	Tuesday	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
July 28, 2026	Tuesday	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
October 27, 2026	Tuesday	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting

INNOVATION & STRATEGY COMMITTEE

Quarterly – 2nd Thursday of the month, except January (due to conflict with B&D Committee), April, June, October

Date	Day	Time	Location
January 15, 2026	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
April 9, 2026	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
June 11, 2026	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
October 8, 2026	Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting

LIBRARY SERVICES & PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Quarterly – 1st Wednesday of the month March, May, July, November

Date	Day	Time	Location
March 4, 2026	Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
May 6, 2026	Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
July 1, 2026	Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
November 4, 2026	Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



**Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees
2026 Schedule of Meetings (by date)**

January 2026			
January 8	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
January 15	Innovation & Strategy Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
January 27	Finance & Personnel Committee	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
January 27	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room

March 2026			
March 4	Library Services & Programs Committee	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
March 5	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room
March 24	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Mitchell Street Branch Community Room

April 2026			
April 2	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
April 9	Innovation & Strategy Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
April 28	Finance & Personnel Committee	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
April 28	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room

May 2026			
May 6	Library Services & Programs Committee	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
May 7	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
May 26	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room

June 2026			
June 4	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
June 10	Executive Committee	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
June 11	Innovation & Strategy Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
June 23	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Washington Park Branch Community Room

July 2026			
July 1	Library Services & Programs Committee	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
July 2	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
July 28	Finance & Personnel Committee	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
July 28	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room



**Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees
2026 Schedule of Meetings (by date)**

September 2026			
September 3	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
September 22	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room

October 2026			
October 1	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
October 8	Innovation & Strategy Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
October 27	Finance & Personnel Committee	8:30 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
October 27	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room

November 2026			
November 4	Library Services & Programs Committee	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
November 5	Building & Development Committee	8:00 a.m.	Virtual Meeting
November 18	Executive Committee	4:00 p.m.	Virtual Meeting
November 24	Board Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Central Library, Rotary Club of Milwaukee Community Room