

Washington County Library
Strategic Plan: 2004-2009

Our Mission

Read, Learn, Enjoy!

The Mission of the Washington County Library is to enrich both the individual and the community by assisting people in their search for information, ideas, education and recreation.

Our Vision

- The Library has become the community's central gathering place for sharing ideas and conversation, a place for both quiet personal reflection and animated discussions of the day's current events. Friendly, informative and helpful staff are there to assist people in finding the information they are looking for.
- The future includes revitalizing reading and learning as a part of people's lives.
- Information in various forms is available to those who access the library. People and librarians assemble information from a variety of sources into customized and individualized formats. Librarians have become information assemblers, facilitators and educators.
- Community members access information from the location most convenient to them as well as through technology and outreach. Public awareness of library resources has been greatly enhanced by a rich network of word-of-mouth endorsement by an ever growing population of all ages.
- The library building is both a place to be and a place to connect people with the rest of the world.
- There are varied forms of library facilities and services which are specifically designed for ease of use and self-service. All resources are easily accessible regardless of individual abilities.
- The Library board is known as a public body with the personal courage and willingness to act on behalf of a diverse community, taking risks when necessary.

Our Strategic Goals & Objectives

2004-2009

I. FACILITIES

We will maintain facilities that are accessible to all users seven days a week, at convenient hours and available throughout the greater Washington County community

- A. Locate library buildings in convenient locations for residents
- B. Maintain a network of different types of facilities from small community libraries with limited or special services to large libraries with a broader array of services
- C. Develop a capital improvement plan that is approved by the County Board as a part of the County's Capital Improvement Plan

II. PUBLIC SERVICE & COLLECTIONS

We will offer a collection of popular materials and services to adults and children that reflect community interests as well as the growing diversity of the community at large.

- A. Purchase materials in a timely fashion that are used by customers of the Library
- B. Provide programming and services that offer customers a chance to explore the world of reading and ideas as well as a greater awareness of the Washington County Community.
- C. Improve customer service

III. TECHNOLOGY

We will use information technology to best advantage in providing public service and in managing internal processes.

- A. Use technology to improve efficiency of materials handling, from purchasing to cataloging
- B. Work in partnership with other libraries and library organizations to identify and evaluate technology advances
- C. Enhance security on library network with the advice of the County Information Services (IS) Department

IV. COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Strategic Issues

We will work closely with community organizations and community members to enhance the quality of life and service in Washington County.

- A. Develop or enhance relationships with community organizations, including the school systems, fraternal organizations and businesses.
- B. Develop library foundation to provide customers with an avenue to contribute to the work of the library.
- C. Develop a communications plan to enhance the public's awareness of the role of the Library within the greater Washington County community.