



## Staff Report

November 7, 2022 Council Workshop Meeting

Library Strategic Planning, Part I

Presenter: Connie Urquhart, Library Director

Time Estimate: 20 minutes

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**SUMMARY:** In preparation for creating the Library's 2023-2026 strategic plan, staff engaged with the community to discover needs and attitudes regarding both the Library and the community at large. This information helps guide the formulation of strategic priorities and goals for the next four years.

General themes that surfaced most often throughout respondent answers were:

- Programs, events, and activities.
- Learning.
- Nature.
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Connection.

The top five specific Library improvements requested by respondents were:

1. Longer hours or open on Sunday.
2. Better or more marketing for events.
3. An improved children's space.
4. More books (both print and digital).
5. More of everything (specific details in slide deck presentation).

When queried about their ideal communities, respondents listed the following adjectives in order as their top picks: *friendly*, *safe*, *supportive*, *inclusive*, and *green*. Concerns about their community ranged from *growth* as number one, to *divisiveness* and *racism*, which tied for second and third, to *housing* and *safety*, which tied for fourth and fifth.

Staff engaged residents throughout May and June via an online survey, one-on-one conversations at community events, and during listening sessions, with a total of 802 unique participants contributing to the results. Further details are available in the attached slides, *Library Strategic Planning Part 1 - slides*.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** Staff time only; no consultants used.

**RECOMMENDATION:** For information only. Part 2 will be presented at the December 5, 2022 City Council Workshop.