

**Columbia Heights Public Library
Project: Self-Check Kiosk Upgrade
September 22, 2026**

Background

In 2015, the Columbia Heights Public Library, in conjunction with the Anoka County Libraries, implemented a program to tag the entire physical collection with Radio-Frequency Identification. RFID tagging enabled CHPL to continue cooperation with their ACL partner and the acquisition of three self-check kiosks and a security gate for the new Central Avenue facility when it opened in May 2016. The tags, security gates, and three 8400 desktop self-check kiosks were provided by 3M Library Systems.

The three kiosks have been in continual use since 2016. Currently, those self-checks are 10 years old; their component parts have been repaired/replaced as needed through an annual software and hardware maintenance contract. The self-check kiosks, including the integrated barcode scanners, receipt printers, and RFID antenna pads, are reaching the end of life and failing more frequently; their Windows 10 operating system is also reaching end of support by Microsoft in October 2026.

Process

Bids for self-check kiosks were requested from Bibliotheca and TechLogic. 3M Library Systems division was acquired by Bibliotheca in October of 2015; their United States office is in Lake Elmo. Bibliotheca provides technology for over 30,000 libraries in 21 countries and has 55 years of library technology experience. TechLogic provided and maintains the automated materials handling system in place at the library; it has been in business since 1997 and located in Oakdale.

Bibliotheca Proposal

Equipment Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Extended Price
selfCheck 3000 Desktop with Windows 11	2	\$8,500.00	\$17,000.00
libraryConnect Link Central management Software (cloud-based remote health status, remote configurations, set-up custom reports, key features ("remember me" patron preferences) – 1 license per device/annual subscription	2	\$100.00	\$200.00
Bibliotheca Academy Training Subscription	1	\$249.00	249.00
Onsite Setup and Configuration		Included	Included
One year Warranty		Included	Included
Estimated Shipping		\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00
			\$19,699.00

*Bibliotheca will credit remaining months of current service agreement on 2 3M 8400 kiosks with purchase of new selfCheck 3000 kiosks. *Library can pick-up order from Bibliotheca warehouse in Lake Elmo, MN to save shipping costs.

Comprehensive Support Plan in year 2. (Includes on-site visits with certified, local technicians, parts and parts shipping, and remote software support)	\$3,449.
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TechLogic Proposal

Equipment Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Extended Price
selfCIRC Prime S-pad RFID Desktop	2	\$8,250.00	\$16,500.00
circIT SUITE software	2	\$0	\$0
Onsite Installation and Training		\$725.00	\$725.00
One year Warranty		Included	Included
Estimated Shipping			\$2,100.00
Total			\$19,325.00

Requires Annual Software Licensing beginning in year 2:	\$800.00
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Extended Hardware Warranty beginning in year 2:	
2	\$1,152.42
2-3	\$2,189.59
2-4	\$3,215.24
2-5	\$4,194.79
2-6	\$5,185.87

Staff Recommendation

Purchase two Bibliotheca selfCheck 3000 desktops, at cost detailed above, based on the following:

- CHPL patrons are familiar with Bibliotheca software and hardware. The selfCheck 3000 units will be a significant upgrade over current kiosks.
- Bibliotheca is the system used by Anoka County, Hennepin County and Ramsey County, the home systems of most CHPL's reciprocal (non-resident) borrowers.
- Bibliotheca integrates with Springshare's LibCal, the events management software used by ACL and CHPL, allowing the library to advertise programming.
- Kiosks are more user-friendly, utilizing video-based patron instruction, freeing staff from the need for individual instruction and assistance.
- New kiosks will allow patrons to set "remember me" preferences including text size on display, language, receipt delivery, and event categories of promotional messages.
- Units are modular and adaptable with potential future additions such as height-adjustable bases, materials shelves, cash and card payment terminals, and integrated return bins.
- Accessible features include anti-glare screens and potential adjustability enhancements mentioned above.
- Kiosks include health-status indication lighting (barcode reader, receipt paper) to assist staff in keeping the equipment in operation.
- CHPL has had outstanding relationships with both vendors for the past 10 years. Service has been excellent and timely.