



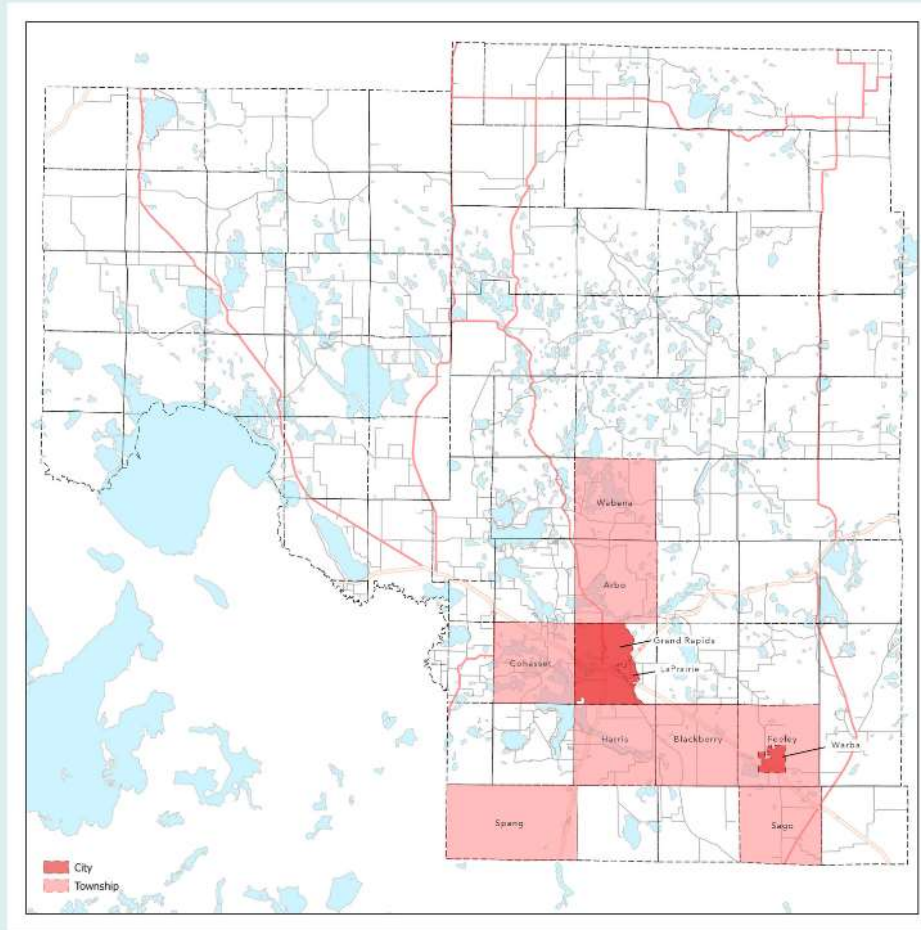
REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

- Grand Rapids Area Library (GRAL) is a free community resource supported by property taxes since 1895.
- GRAL is the busiest library in NE Minnesota outside of Duluth.
- There are six libraries in Itasca County, but 75% of library transactions in Itasca County occur at GRAL.
- GRAL is used by all of Itasca County. More than 50% of checkouts are from cardholders who live outside the City of Grand Rapids. This is a long-term pattern going back decades.
- Thank you, City Council, for funding 85% of GRAL's annual operations.

SERVICE AREA

The Library serves the following cities and townships:

- Arbo
- Blackberry
- Cohasset
- Feeley
- **Grand Rapids**
- Harris
- LaPrairie
- Sago
- Spang
- Wabana
- Warba



SERVICE AREA POPULATION: **21,005**



LIBRARY CARDHOLDERS: **9,026**



CIRCULATION: **160,723 items**
[20% are downloadable items]

2023

GRAL BEYOND BOOKS

Our wide reach meets community needs with unique in-person and online programs - and much more!



LEGO CLUB

GRAND RAPIDS AREA LIBRARY & *Healy* PRESENT

BookTime

GRAND RAPIDS AREA LIBRARY
YA NEED TO READ THESE

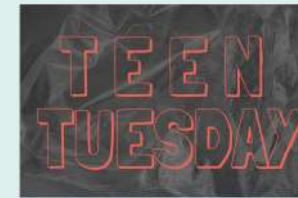
GRAND RAPIDS AREA LIBRARY
FRIENDS USED BOOK STORE



Active
Social
Media



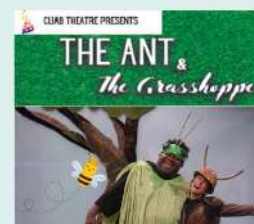
ARTASTIC
AT HOME!
WITH GRANDMA NANCY



**MYSTERY MONDAY
POP-UP BOOK SALE**



SUMMER READING
Scavenger Hunts!



2023 SUMMER READING

SUMMER CELEBRATION!



GRAND RAPIDS
AREALIBRARY



Partnerships:



McCarty Park



Public Art



Microfilm Machine



CHALLENGES

1 Maintaining Service Levels

The balance between public expectations of open hours and services, against available funding.

2 Building Maintenance

We are undergoing Phase I of the Façade Maintenance & Repair plan. Phase II includes necessary roof replacement.

3 Equitable Funding

Despite accounting for more than 50% of use, the County pays < 15% of our budget. We need to work together to change this structure.



THANK YOU

Providing essential day-to-day & emergency operational support:

- Public Works
- IT
- Facilities

Additional funding for programs & projects:

- Grand Rapids Area Library Foundation
- Grand Rapids Area Library Friends

Other community supporters:

- Arrowhead Library System:
 - \$50,000 in-kind IT
 - Monthly take-and-create programming
 - Quality in-person programming and promotions
- Minnesota Historical Society:
 - New microfilm machine
- Community Volunteers:
 - 76 people serve on boards and committees, at special events, and regularly inside the Library.
 - Through September, volunteers have given 2,351.25 hours of their time.

