



# CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION DEPARTMENT REPORT

**TO:** Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA - City Manager  
**FROM:** Laura Blaker  
**DATE OF MEETING:** Sept 3, 2024  
**ITEM TITLE:** Department Report – Library

## June and July – By the Numbers

881	Summer Reading Participants (babies, children, teens, & adults)
749,343	Summer Reading Minutes Read
11,415	Visits in June and July
14,925	Physical Checkouts
3,950	Bridges (Virtual Checkouts)
60	Programs
2257	Program attendees



## We Promote Literacy and a Love of Reading!

Literacy rates and educational levels are closely connected with the ability to participate in the workforce and engage as citizens.

*How does IPL promote literacy and reading?*

Programs provide exposure, motivation, and a love of reading:

- Summer Reading Program
- Story Times
- 1000 Books Before Kindergarten
- Early Literacy Stations

Programs provide exposure, motivation, and a love of reading: *(cont.)*

- Author Visits
- One Book Indee
- Book Discussions

A variety of formats provides reading accessibility for those of differing reading levels, interests, and abilities:

- Books
- Downloadable ebooks and audiobooks
- Board Books
- Large Print Books
- Just Right Books
- Audiobooks
- Vox Books
- Graphic Novels (similar to comic books)
- Periodicals (Newspapers and Magazines)

### **Building Maintenance**

The library has had two compressors in our largest geothermal units/zones go out this summer. They have been replaced, and the building is cooling much better now. The steel shingles will be installed on the roof in September. We are thankful for the maintenance of the facility.

### **Tree Sculpture**

Funds from several groups are being combined to allow the trunk of the oak tree that was removed last summer from the park north of the library to be turned into a sculpture. Chainsaw artist, Clint Henick, plans to create this sculpture in early October. This has been discussed with various people and groups, including the City Manager, Parks and Recreation, and the Historical Society.