

Dorothy Alling Memorial Library

Williston, VT



Strategic Plan 2024-2027

Approved by DAML Board of Trustees October 21, 2024



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Williston Public Library
was established as the
result of a vote at
Town Meeting in 1905.

"Our deepest thanks for
finding creative ways to keep
the village patrons connected,
safe, and imaginations filled
and informed!...We look
forward to a lifetime of
reading and learning alongside
you all."

DAML Patron
J. Pardini

Background



Strategic Plan 2024-2027

This is an opportune time for Dorothy Alling Memorial Library (DAML) to generate the next iteration of its strategic plan, building on earlier planning. Not only has the previous plan come to the end of its planning horizon (2019-2023), but the recent Scoping and Feasibility Study for a Community Center and Library Spaces (Scoping Study), as facilitated by Black River Design, Architects, has laid important groundwork for DAML space planning as well as overall library strategic planning. While strategic planning and library design and construction often occur as separate projects on discrete timelines, DAML used the opportunity to link the two processes explicitly to create the blueprint of Williston's future library.

The Library is a valued center of the community, providing collections, programs and services in a space which is at its limits to meet the needs of the growing community. FY23 Vermont Public Library Survey statistics from the Department of Libraries show that while the Library serves the 13th largest population in the State, it ranks 24th in the State for square footage, lagging behind Vermont Libraries serving comparable service populations. Williston's population has increased steadily over the decades since the last Library renovation in 1998, as have patron visits, which were 31,928 in 1998 and rose to 60,470 in FY24, a 90% increase.

The Scoping Study process which looked at the future of community spaces in Williston, included an assessment of the Library, concluded in October 2023. A clear message was expressed during the community engagement phases of the study in which respondents expressed a desire for an expanded library space. In October 2023, the Selectboard endorsed the Scoping Study report's recommendation to undertake schematic design of a renovated and expanded Library on the current site. The design work is in progress and will conclude in fall 2024, with a final design and cost estimate to be presented to the Selectboard. Planning is underway for funding the project, with a capital campaign feasibility study planned for early 2025. A public bond vote for a portion of the funding is anticipated in the future.

Background (cont.)



Town of Williston

The Town of Williston is a thriving community which serves as a commercial and industrial hub of suburban Chittenden County (pop 169,000). While around 10,100 people reside here, the daytime population approaches 20,000 as the Town fills up with commuters, shoppers, and students.

Williston's Town slogan, "Old town charm, new town spirit," reflects its commitment to a unique blend of tradition and growth. Due to its location at the intersection of two heavily traveled road systems, it has become a hub with a broad mix of residential, commercial and industrial development. Williston is the largest retail center in the state with nearly 3,000 jobs in the retail sector. Top employers cover a range of businesses such as Global Foundries (formerly IBM), Home Depot, Walmart, SD Ireland, and EastRise. With steady growth of about 100 new residents per year over the past decade, the Town's growth is projected to continue, particularly in the vibrant Taft Corners area, where a form-based code was adopted in 2022 to guide future development. Williston Planning and Zoning estimates that there will be roughly 11,700 to 12,200 people living in Williston by 2033.

Williston is in the process of creating the 2025 Town Plan, which must be adopted before the current plan expires in August 2025. The Town of Williston Planning & Zoning Department spearheaded a community engagement process in 2023 through early 2024, in which Community members shared their ideas, values, and dreams for Williston's future. The input was analyzed, summarized, and will be used to create a new Comprehensive Plan for the Town. The values Williston's Planning Commission focused on were: "Liveable, Resilient, Equitable." Community members were asked what they valued about Williston's homes and people. The number one value identified was Community, a theme which appeared throughout the Engagement Insights Report.

Background (cont.)

Library Background

Dorothy Alling Memorial Library is a department of the Town of Williston with a seven-member elected Board of Trustees overseeing the Library's general policies. The Library currently houses 45,000 volumes with an annual circulation of approximately 134,000. The Library serves the Town of Williston and the neighboring community of St. George, and is the home of the Williston Historical Society.

The Library provides quality programs, resources and services to the community which compare favorably with other libraries in the State. In FY24, the Library offered 762 programs which were attended by 2,410 adults and 9,060 youth. In recent years, the Library has expanded offerings for working families with more programs in the evenings and on weekends. The outreach program has also expanded in recent years to serve homebound patrons and a growing senior community with year-round visits and on-site programs. Dottie the bookmobile operates year-round, visiting childcare centers, special community events like Touch a Truck and Dragon Days and visiting neighborhoods in the summer.

Vermont Public Library Survey statistics for FY2023 from the Department of Libraries show that DAML serves the 13th largest population in the State, and ranks high among its peers in several key metrics: 4th in the State for attendance at programs and 5th in the State for circulation. Looking at trends over the last 5 years, patron visits have rebounded to pre-pandemic levels and circulation has increased to its highest level in 10 years. Electronic resource circulation in FY24 was 21% of all circulation, a trend of steadily increasing circulation of electronic items as a percentage of total circulation.



Mission & Vision Statements

Mission Statement

Dorothy Alling Memorial Library provides a safe and welcoming environment for our dynamic community to connect with each other and explore the world.

Vision Statement

Together we will create a sustainable library that meets the needs of the growing community and where all are empowered to thrive.

Guiding Principles

The Library's mission, vision, and goals are guided by principles identified with input from the Library staff and the community during brainstorming sessions and interviews. The principles of **Accessibility** and **Diversity, Safety** and **Privacy, Customer Service, Sustainability**, and **Community** help steer the Library and staff in decision-making and goal-setting.

These principles are supported by Town policies, state and national library organizations (such as the Vermont Department of Libraries and the American Library Association), the ALA Bill of Rights, and values identified within our community in recent years.

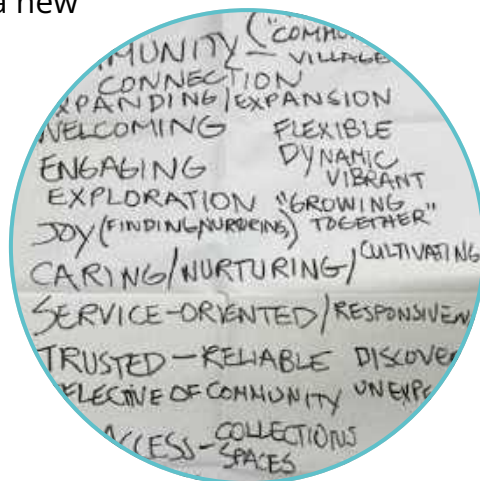
The goals in this strategic plan were developed using these guiding principles to plan how the Library will serve the community into the future, and include sample strategies for each goal and objective. Some principles, such as customer service, are included in multiple goals.

Planning Methodology

The strategic planning process started in March 2024, with the Board of Trustee's selection of a library consultant, Mara Saule, to facilitate the process of developing the Library's new strategic plan. Mara also consulted on the Scoping Study and Library Assessment in 2022-2023 and the current schematic design process, giving her a good understanding of the Library and the parallel processes underway.

At the first planning meeting with the staff, the process used to draft the current Strategic Plan 2019-2023 was discussed to determine what worked and what did not work. Staff looked at the Williston Town Plan (includes Energy Plan and Village Master Plan), and Planning & Zoning's Williston 2050 Engagement Insights Report which summarizes the community input gathered as part of development of the new Town Plan. Community survey results from both phases of the Scoping Study, and the results of the brainstorming sessions with Trustees and Staff which were also part of the Scoping Study, were considered. To ensure alignment of strategic planning with the schematic design process, the goals of the current schematic design effort were considered throughout the planning process.

An analysis of the Library's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) was conducted with Library staff, the Library Board of Trustees and the Friends of the Library, providing the foundation for staff to brainstorm language for a Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and to develop guiding principles. At subsequent meetings over the summer, the facilitator led staff through the process of identifying measurable goals, and brainstorming a new Vision and Mission statement. Drafts were shared during the process with the Board of Trustees and their input was incorporated. In the next stage, staff further developed the goals with objectives and strategies for final presentation to the Board of Trustees.



User Needs Assessment

The 2022-23 Scoping Study design process gathered needs assessment information through community engagement, and library staff experience, as well as benchmarking against national standards and other Vermont libraries. The Scoping Study featured two community engagement initiatives. For Community Survey Phase I, 184 in-person interviews were conducted in spring 2023. In summer 2023, Community Survey Phase II used online surveys which gathered 757 responses.

The needs identified during the community engagement phases, and feedback gathered during brainstorming sessions with the Board of Trustees, and staff, fell into themes: atmosphere, collections, programs, technology, and spaces. These same themes emerged in the SWOT exercises done in spring 2024 with the staff, Friends of the Library and the Library Trustees during strategic planning.

Atmosphere: The community values the cozy and welcoming atmosphere of the current Library and prioritizes maintaining that atmosphere in any renovation or expansion. The staff's customer service was also credited with the current positive and supportive atmosphere.

Collections: Access to collections across all abilities and age spans is important to the community. Dedicated collection space for young adults, and accessible expanded collections, both traditional and non-traditional (Library of Things) were identified as priorities.

Programs: The community was asked about their interest in programs and events in phase 2 of the survey. The responses reinforced many of the Library's current program offerings. A desire was expressed for more programs offered across the age-span.

Technology: The community wants access to use and learn about technology in the Library.

Accessible Spaces (created, improved, or expanded): The community values the current location in the Village, adjacent to the Town Green and Williston Central School. Space needs identified included: teen space, toddler space, mother space, quiet spaces, meeting spaces, event space with after-hours access, and a space for STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) activities.

Goals

Goal 1.

The Library will provide diverse and accessible spaces, collections, programs, and resources.



Goal 2.

The Library strives to provide a safe space and respects the privacy of our Library community.

Goal 3.

The Library adapts to meet the needs of our growing community in a sustainable manner.

Sustainable:
Environmentally
and Operationally

Goal 4.

The Library fosters and builds community engagement and connections.

Goal 1: Diversity & Accessibility

Diversity & Accessibility

Diversity includes, but is not limited to, persons of all age, race, color, religion, place of birth, political affiliation, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identity, or ability.



The Williston community is 94.5% white. Although efforts are being made to bring about open discussion on diversity, equity, and inclusion, the Library wants to do more to offer resources and space to safely speak about these issues we face as a town.

Accessibility practices in libraries ensure that all community members are able to access resources equitably. These resources include space, physical items, services, and electronic resources alike.

Objective: Provide diverse collections and programs to meet community needs.

Sample Strategies:

- Conduct diversity audits of collections to inform collection management and growth.
- Assess in-house and outreach programs to understand program impact and diversity.

Outcome:

- An accurate assessment of our collections and programs offerings is defined, informing development of future collections and programs which reflect the whole community.

Diversity & Accessibility (cont.)

Objective: Improve physical space to enhance welcoming environment and patron experience.

Sample Strategies:

- Assess patron needs for the space.
- Explore the feasibility of a privacy pod.
- Increase the WiFi capacity to extend further into the Town Green and parking lot.
- Evaluate the efficiency of operations and space.
- Improve the discoverability of physical resources.
- Engage with renovation and/or expansion planning.

Outcome:

- Services, technology and physical spaces meet the needs of all patrons now and in planned expansion.

“Love the warm
welcoming place”

Scoping Study Interview
Comment, April 2023



Diversity & Accessibility (cont.)

Objective: Improve online discoverability and accessibility of resources, services, and collections.

Sample Strategies:

- Assess the usability and accessibility of the website and catalog.
- Monitor and assess online metrics.
- Create a style manual for staff to follow for website and marketing materials.
- Market Library resources to the community and provide regular training.

Outcome:

- Website and catalog are accessible to all patrons and, online spaces and marketing materials have a cohesive accessible design.



Staff providing a patron with tech help

Goal 2: Safety & Privacy

"All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information."

Library Bill of Rights, American Library Association, 2019.

Privacy

The Board of Trustees policies recognize the rights of all patrons to have free access to the widest diversity of views and expressions as are guaranteed under the First Amendment to the Constitution. With the increase in challenges to library materials and programs nationwide, focusing and educating the community about their rights is crucial.

Objective: Educate staff and patrons on the Library Bill of Rights, privacy rights, laws, and legislation related to library operations.

Sample Strategies:



Provide regular staff training and professional development opportunities.



Disseminate information on these topics to library users.

Outcome:



Patrons are informed consumers of information. Staff are informed information professionals.

Safety & Privacy (cont.)



Near Williston-Essex Town Line
July 2023

Safety

Vermont has seen an increased number of “once-in-a-lifetime” events, including storms and flooding. The Library serves as a destination to plug in, connect or shelter during the increasingly frequent power outages, floods and heatwaves. Disaster planning establishes procedures to follow in the event the Library or the Town are affected by disasters. The Vermont Department of Libraries provides some guidelines, but each individual library has different needs and risks.

Objective: Evaluate and enhance safety and security procedures.

Sample Strategies:

- Offer staff security and safety training regularly.
- Ensure all staff are prepared to handle a First Amendment audit.
- Revise and update the Disaster Plan and Safety Procedures manuals.
- Communicate respective plans with the Library Trustees and other Town entities (WCS, Town Hall, Police and Fire).

Outcome:

- Staff and other stakeholders are confident in taking action when faced with a safety or privacy issue.

Goal 3: Sustainability

Sustainability



The Library needs to plan for the future with environmental and operational sustainability awareness. As the community expands, especially our senior population, we need to look at the sustainability of the outreach program and how that program can mitigate the challenges faced by current space constraints. As we navigate the planning process for a renovated and expanded space, collections and services to the growing community have to be considered in the context of the present space and future potential space which an expansion would bring.

Objective: Implement sustainable practices where practicable.

Sample Strategies:



Search for grant opportunities to update the current lighting to LED.



Become a member of the Sustainable Libraries Initiative.

Outcome:





The Library has a plan to implement sustainable practices and to secure funding to support the plan.


Sustainability (cont.)

Objective: Align Library's sustainable practices with other Town entities where practicable.

Sample Strategies:

-  Connect with Planning & Zoning, and Williston Energy Committee.
-  Connect with community groups such as Sustainable Williston.

Outcome:




-  Library uses the knowledge and resources available through the Town and community to support sustainable practices.

"To create a community powered by renewable, locally produced and owned energy, fed by town farms, housed in efficient homes with an environmentally responsible transportation system, all sustained by a vibrant, local economy and social network. We believe our resources are finite; and that we are an integral part of nature."


Town of Williston Energy Plan Vision
September 2020

Objective: Assess operations to ensure efficiencies in staffing, administration, and facility maintenance.

Sample Strategies:

-  Review and update library staff position descriptions.
-  Coordinate with the Town to optimize administrative processes.
-  Establish clear facility maintenance responsibilities with vendors, Public Works Department and the School.

Outcome:

-  Operational efficiencies are realized by clearly defining staff functions, administrative functions and facility responsibilities.

Sustainability (cont.)

Objective: Ensure plans for facility renovation and expansion, maintenance and repair consider environmental sustainability aspects.

Sample Strategies:



Stay informed about current sustainability trends in libraries and communicate these trends with vendors and contractors.

Outcome:



Sustainable choices prioritized in planned maintenance, renovation and expansion.

Objective: Provide sustainable outreach services and outreach programs to meet community growth.

Sample Strategies:



Assess outreach services and programs to inform decisions and ensure the sustainability of programs.



Monitor community demographics to assess the impact of changes on outreach operation.



Plan for a bookmobile replacement and permanent shelter to improve year-round service.

Outcome:



3-year plan outlined for outreach services. Funding plan for bookmobile shelter and bookmobile replacement established.

Goal 4: Community

Community



Annual Friends of the Library Booksale

Understanding our community is essential to building strong collections and programs which fill the needs and enrich the lives of all in the community. Community engagement conducted during the Scoping Study revealed a community that cares about the future of its shared spaces and that the Library is a vital community space in Williston. A variety of events and activities was identified in the surveys, reflecting a diversity of interests and priorities. Considering the changing demographics, and connecting with the Town, schools and community groups will be essential in the planning of the physical space and services.

Objective: Understand demographics of how the Town is growing and changing.

Sample Strategies:

- Connect with community stakeholders regularly to understand town demographics and dynamics.

Outcome:

- Data and reports which inform demographic profile of current and potential patrons collected and analyzed.

"I thank you for all you and your staff do to enrich our community. We are so lucky to have such an outstanding library!"

DAML Patron
T. Reed

Community (cont.)

Objective: Engage with non-library users to encourage library use.

Sample Strategies:

- ▶ Investigate identifying new Williston/St. George residents for outreach about Library services.
- ▶ Table at local events to reach residents outside the library.

Outcome:

- ▶ Understand who non-users are to inform development of services and programs.

"I have found the most valuable thing in my wallet is my library card."

Laura Bush



Library Table at Williston Green Up Day, May 2023

Community (cont.)

Objective: Collaborate with Town departments and community groups to grow connections.

Sample Strategies:

- Offer quarterly programs with Town entities and community groups.
- Grow individual community and inter-departmental connections.

Outcome:

- Communications and relationships within and outside of the organization strengthened to the advantage of the community served.



Plan Assessment

The previous strategic plan laid the groundwork for development of this plan, including outlining the limitations of the Library's current space and the impact on the operation. With a suggestion that the Library expansion process begin in 2019 with completion within 10 years, this new plan is on track to move that goal forward, most notably with the completion of the Scoping Study Report in 2023.

The goals outlined in this plan provide a map for the Library to assess and improve diversity and accessibility, provide a safe space, adapt to the growing community and foster community connections. It was important with the four goals identified in this plan that progress could be achieved over the 2024-2027 timeline, regardless of the status of the renovation and expansion. The inherent flexibility in the four goals will enable implementation of strategies which lead to improvements in the present space and can be adjusted as plans for a future space progress.

The implementation of the current strategic plan, including regular assessment to further the strategic goals, will be adjusted as needed to move the strategic plan forward. An action plan will be used to evaluate progress, with timelines for each objective's strategy, assigned responsibilities and quantitative or qualitative measures. This will provide the data needed to assess the progress of the plan regularly, and to revise strategies when indicated. It will also provide the information needed for progress updates to the Board of Trustees and, give staff a focus for setting annual goals and pursuing professional development opportunities which align with the Strategic Plan.

"Thanks for all you do
for the community.
Continue to thrive and
grow!"

DAML Outreach Patron
J. Ryan



"Thank-you for
supporting
programming which
has touched so many
people"

DAML Patron
J. Bowker

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For more information

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Acknowledgements

Cover page watercolor painting of Dorothy Alling Memorial Library by Williston resident Deb Runge.



Dorothy Alling Memorial Library is grateful to our Williston and St. George patrons, Library Trustees, staff, and volunteers for their on-going support during the planning for the future of the Library during the scoping study and strategic planning processes. In particular, we'd like to thank:

Library Board of Trustees

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Gerry Ortego
Ann Park
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Town of Williston

Erik Wells, Town Manager

Library Consultant

Mara Saule

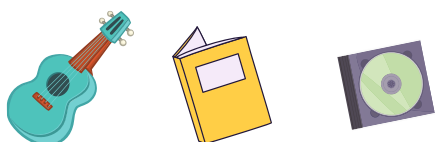


"Nothing is
pleasanter than
exploring a
library."

Walter Savage Landor

Appendix A: Library Services Snapshot

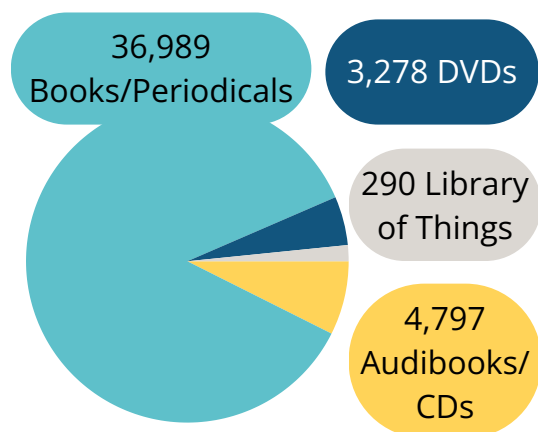
DAML had **60,470 visitors** between July 2023 and June 2024.
What brought them to the Library?



The Library **loaned...**

134,979 physical items
28,391 electronic items
1,545 interlibrary loan items

The physical **collection**
included...



Technology Access

Patron computers were used
1,538 times.

Library Public WiFi was used 8,012
times.

2,725 patrons went aboard
the bookmobile in addition to
311 outreach Visits.

The Library answered **4,187**
questions.

How can I
learn more
about...?

What should I
read next?

There were **143 community**
room bookings with over
1,600 community members
using the space.

Book
Clubs

762 programs were
attended by **2,410**
adults and **9,060**
youth.

Language
Groups

Crafts

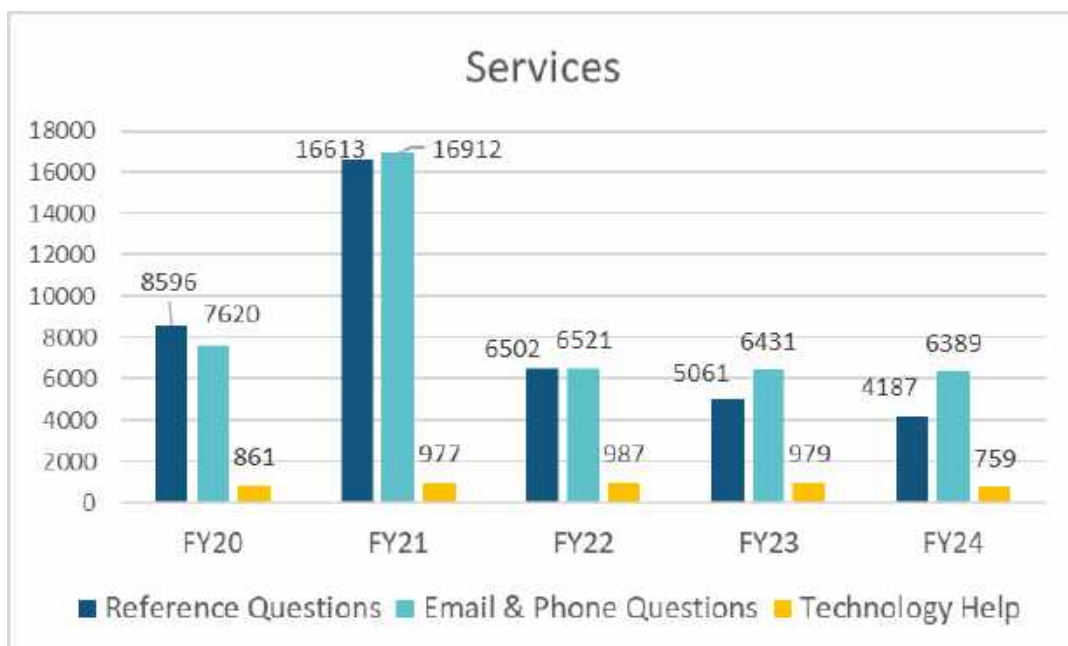
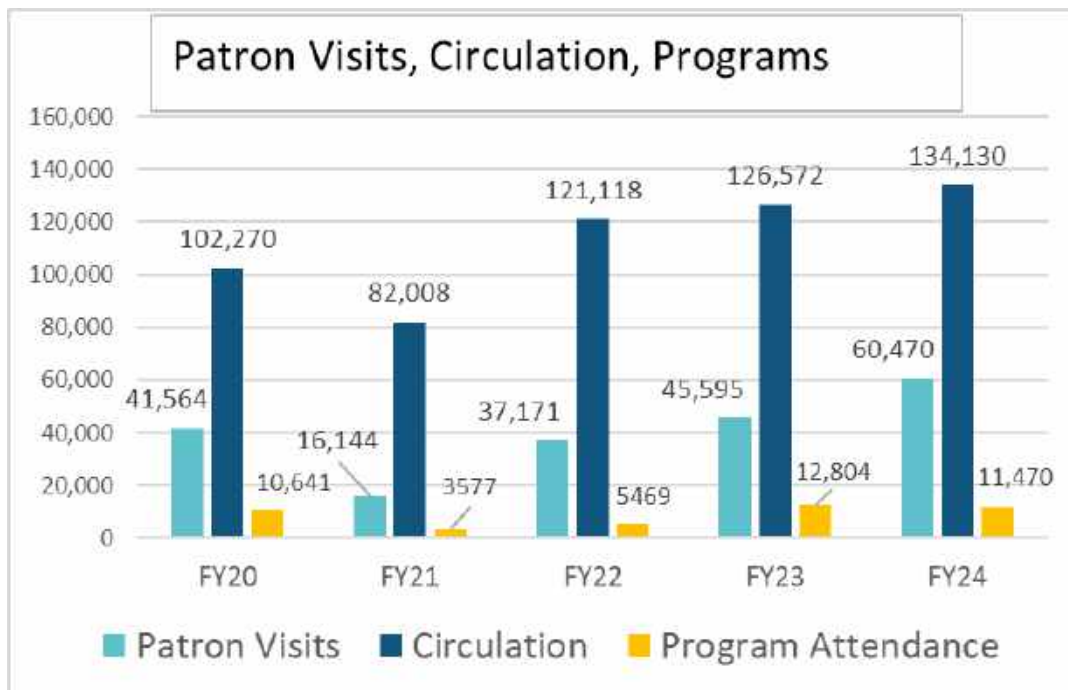
Presentations

and More!

Appendix A (cont.)

DAML 5-Year Key Indicators

FY21 statistics reflect the impact of the pandemic on operations. The Library was fortunate to have outdoor space and combined with online programs, was able to offer a basic level of programming.



Appendix B: SWOT Analysis Summary

In June of 2024 a SWOT analysis was conducted with the Board of Trustees, Friends of the Library and Library staff. The summary below aggregates the responses from each group into themes which emerged and which were similar across each of the groups. “Warm and cozy” was a response given by each of the groups in the SWOT analysis and in the community engagement conducted as part of the Scoping Study when asked what they liked about the Library.

What do you like about the Library? What works? Strengths?	What do you wish was different? Weaknesses?	What do you wish for the future? What do you see as opportunities ?	What might stand in the way of achieving a desired future?
<p>Community Outreach program to homebound, Bookmobile neighborhood visits, making community connections, information about community and support available.</p> <p>Staff Responsiveness, visibility, welcoming, knowledgeable, customer service oriented, professionalism.</p> <p>Programs Variety and strength of offerings, programs across age span, innovative.</p> <p>Collections Strong & balanced collections, available in multiple formats, inter-library loan service.</p> <p>Other Warm and cozy feel, Volunteer Opportunities, safe, comfortable, location in Village, outdoor space, near school, a place to “be”.</p>	<p>Space More space for patrons, staff, collections, <u>more light</u>. Accessible spaces.</p> <p>Other Lack of public transportation to get to Library, reaching library non-users, service hours, lack of cell service in immediate area, inadequate parking, lack of lactation space, building & grounds maintenance.</p>	<p>Space Building expansion. More spaces to meet, private, medium and large. More space for staff, displays and café area. Discrete spaces for different age groups especially young adult. Soft and comfortable seating.</p> <p>Connections Collaborating with other departments, businesses and community partners.</p> <p>Service Expanded opening hours and staffing. More programs. New patrons. More marketing – social media,</p> <p>Programs Expanded off-site programming. Program collaborations. Year-round bookmobile service.</p> <p>Parking More parking.</p> <p>Collections Larger collection. More visible collections. Increased electronic collection.</p>	<p>Budget Budget constraints.</p> <p>Space Failure to expand.</p> <p>Connections Failure to reach everyone in community with services and resources. Overlapping functions with other Town entities.</p> <p>Community Growth Growth area vs Historic Village challenges. Unresolved Transportation issues. Failure to keep up with community growth.</p> <p>Collections Changing publisher cost and access models for electronic resources. Censorship and book challenges. Uncertainty of future formats (audio and video).</p> <p>Other What we haven’t foreseen. Perception of future of Libraries.</p>

Appendix C: Community Survey Results

Phase I

Community Survey Phase I interviews about community space needs were conducted between March and April 2023 and for the Library portion of the survey asked the questions: “Do you visit the Library more than once a month?”, “How do you spend your time at the Library?” and, “What would you like to see offered in the Library in the future?”. The 184 interviews for phase I were conducted by members of the Scoping Study Committee which consisted of a variety community members, including a Library trustee, conducting one-on-one interviews at multiple locations around Williston. General feedback from the interviewees was that they appreciated being asked for their opinion about the future of community spaces in Williston.

What would you like to see offered in the Library in the Future?

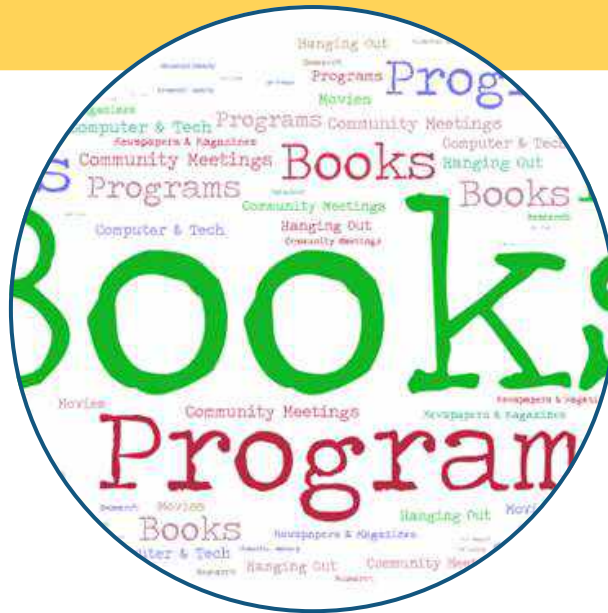


Interviewees expressed desire for more space, expanded collections, and more programs



Appendix C: Community Survey Results (cont.)

Phase I (cont.)



Do you visit the Library more than once a month? If not at all, why?

76% of respondents reported visiting the Library more than once a month. For the 34% who answered no, comments included: "No need, I use the bookmobile or outreach services", "transport to Library not available", "too busy to visit Library" and "Library not friendly for disabled persons".

How do you or your family spend your time at the Library?

Most respondents said they come to the Library for books and/or programs. Other comments included: "afterschool place for homework", "activity with grandkids", "community meetings", "volunteering", "computers for research", "library of things", and "community connections".

Appendix C: Community Survey Results (cont.)

Phase II

From July 2023 Presentation to Scoping Committee by Assistant Town Manager, Erin Dickinson

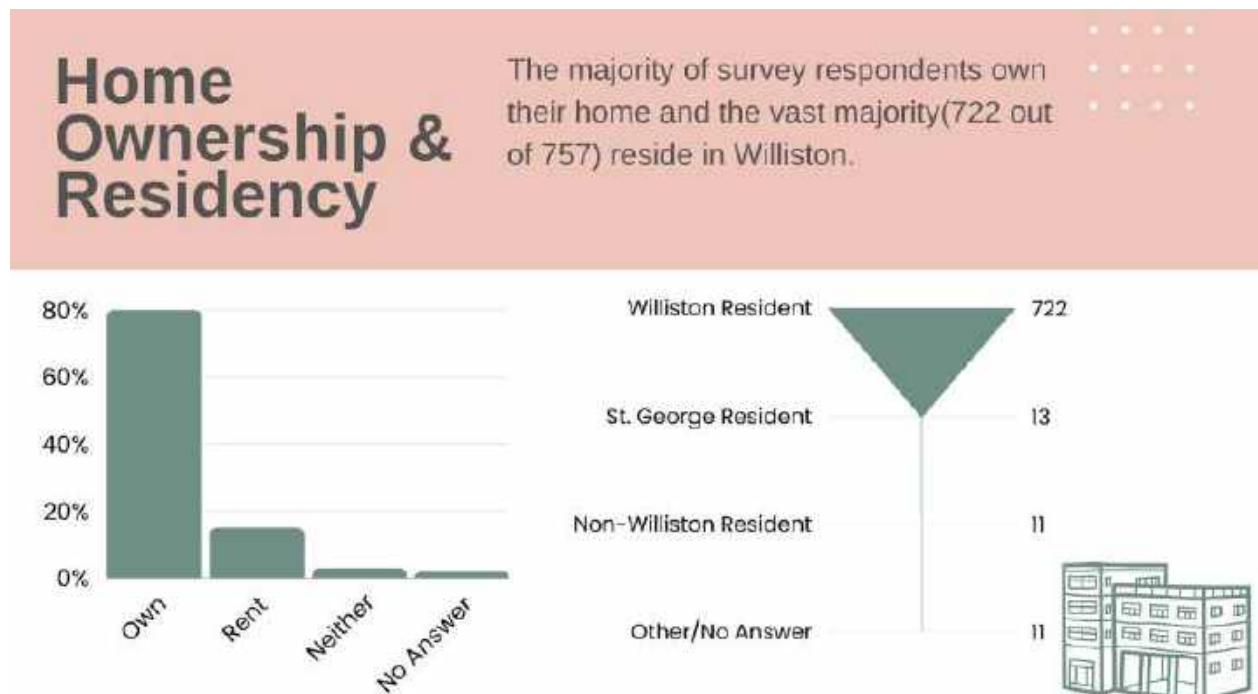


Overview

The Phase II survey launched on June 9, 2023, and closed on July 5, 2023. In that time, a total of **757** surveys were completed.



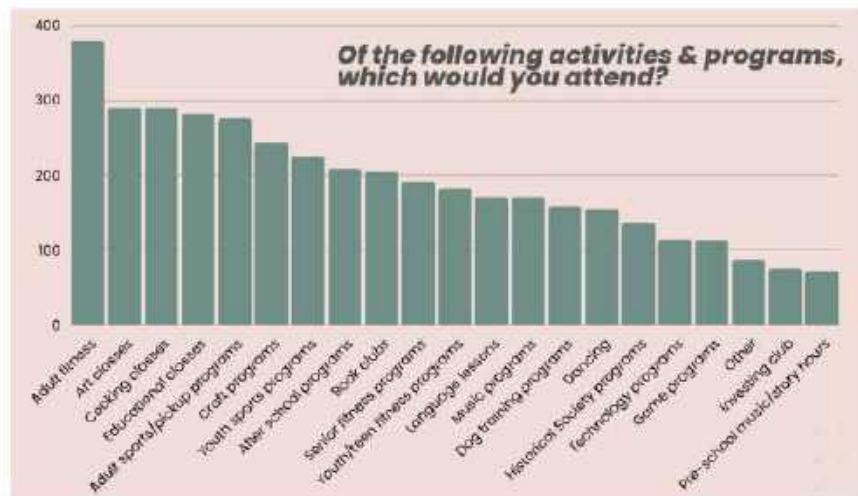
Phase II (cont.)



Phase II (cont.)

DAML offers some of these activities & programs currently

- Educational classes
- Craft & art programs
- After school programs
- Book clubs
- Language programs
- Music programs
- Technology programs
- Story hours
- And more.....



Of the following activities & programs, which would you attend?

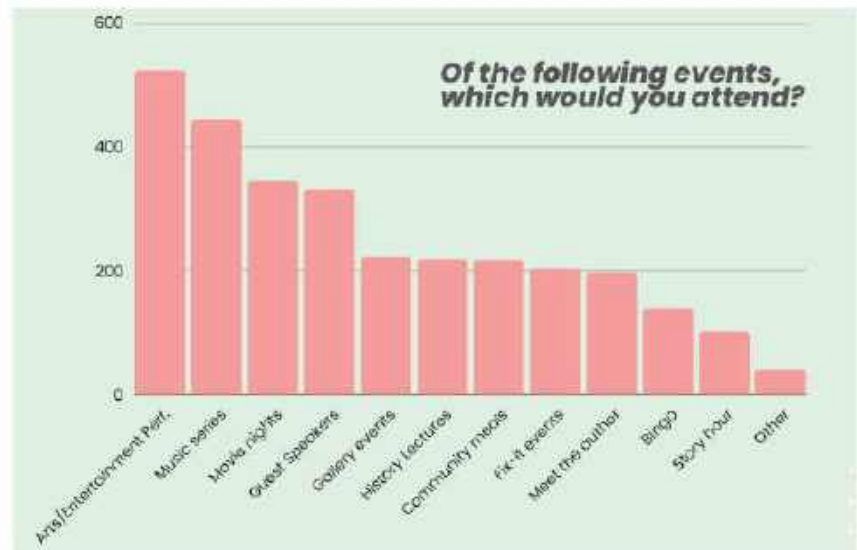
Rank by age group

Rank	0-24	25-44	45-64	65+
1	Craft programs	After school programs	Adult fitness programs	Senior fitness programs
2	Art classes	Youth sports programs	Adult sports/pickup programs	Adult fitness programs
3	Cooking classes	Adult fitness programs	Cooking classes	Educational classes
4	Youth/teen fitness programs	Art classes	Educational classes	Cooking classes
5	Youth sports programs	Adult sports / pickup programs	Art classes	Craft programs

Phase II (cont.)

DAML offers many of these events currently

- Arts/Entertainment performances
- Movie nights
- Guest speakers
- Gallery events
- Lectures
- Author events
- Story hour

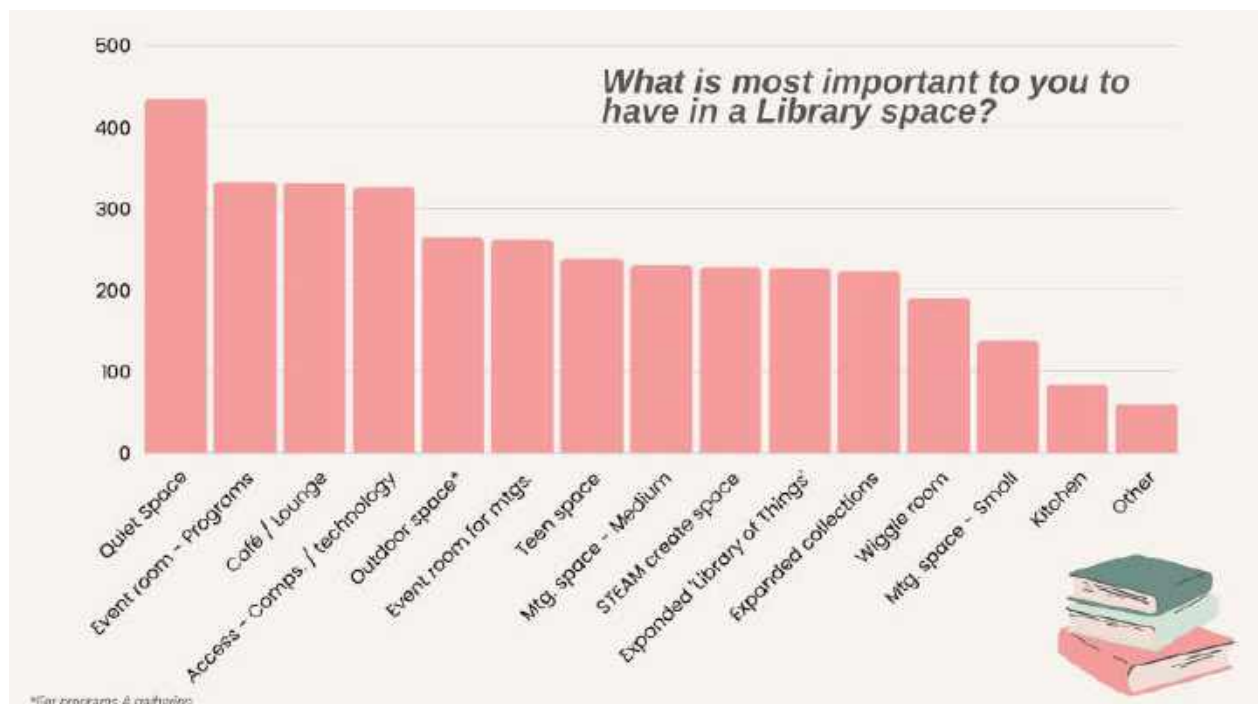
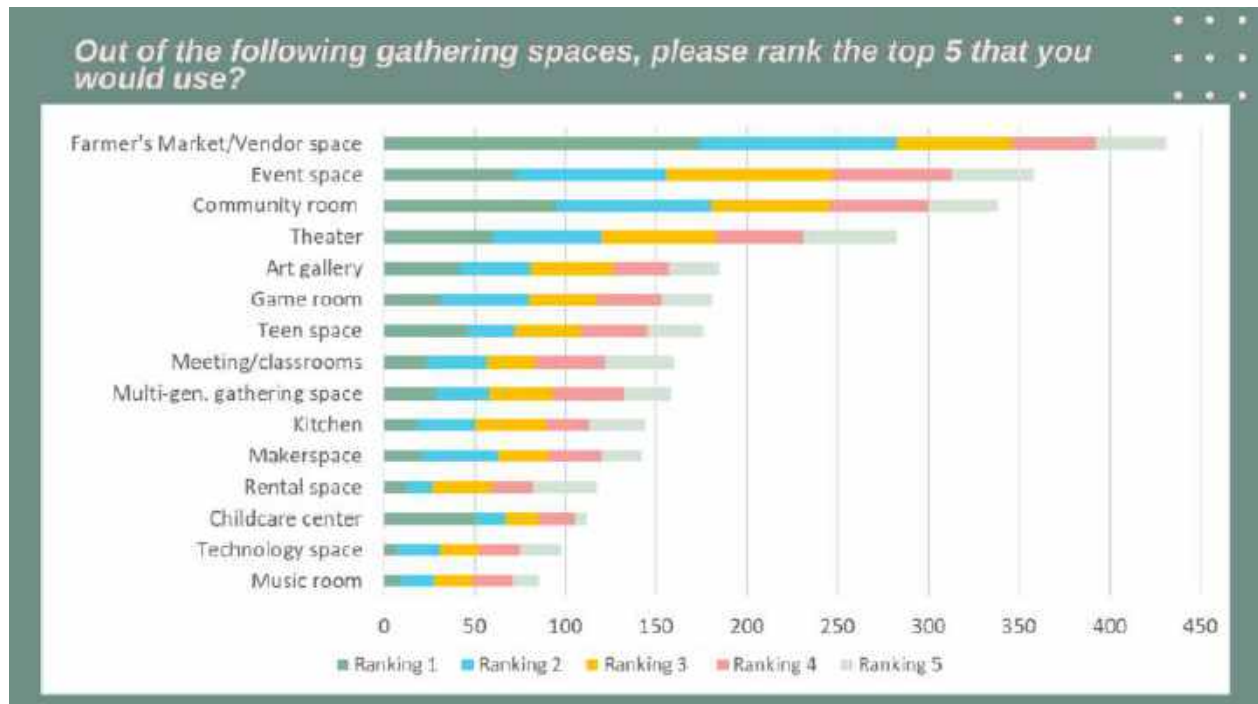


Of the following events, which would you attend?

Rank by age group

Rank	0-24	25-44	45-64	65+
1	Movie nights	Music series	Arts/entertainment performances	Arts/entertainment performances
2	Arts/entertainment performances	Arts/entertainment performances	Music series	Guest speaker
3	Meet the author events	Movie nights	Guest speaker	Music series
4	Community meals	Guest speaker	Movie nights	History lecture series
5	Music series	Story hour	Gallery events	Community meals

Phase II (cont.)



Phase II (cont.)

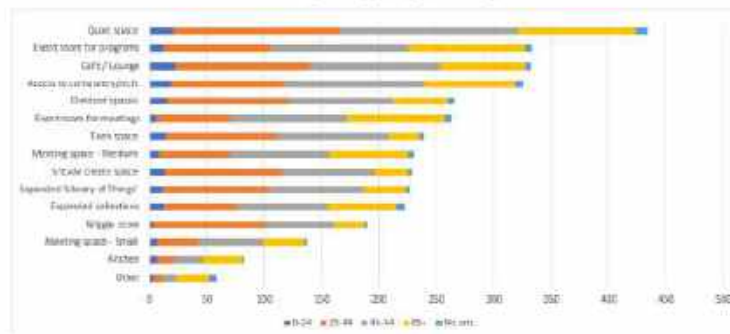
What is most important to you to have in a Library space?

Rank by age group

Rank	0-24	25-44	45-64	65+
1	Café / Lounge	Quiet space	Quiet space	Quiet space
2	Quiet space	Café / Lounge	Access to computers/tech.	Event room for programs
3	Access to computers/tech.	Outdoor spaces	Event room for programs	Event room for meetings
4	Outdoor spaces	STEAM create space	Café / Lounge	Access to computers/tech.
5	Teen space	Wiggle room	Event room for meetings	Café / Lounge

What is most important to you to have in a Library space?

Rank by age group



Phase II (cont.)

What is most important to you to have in a Library space?

This word cloud represents 59 respondent entries for "other".



What is most important to you to have in a Library space?



Respondents emphasized several key elements as important for library space such as quiet spaces, an event room for programs, a café/lounge, and access to computers and technology. Multi-purpose outdoor space, an event room for meetings, and teen space were also identified as important features. Respondents expressed similar interest in a medium meeting space, STEAM create spaces, expanded collections (including 'Library of Things'), and a wiggle room for toddlers (this ranked higher for families.) Small meeting rooms and a kitchen space ranked as lower priorities for a library space.

The "other" category responses reflected very strong support for outreach services and advocated for more books and newspaper options, large print options, space for kids, expanded digital resources, movie nights, work areas, a bookstore and more.

Overall, the data highlights that respondents support a well-rounded library experience that caters to individual needs, promotes community engagement, and accommodates various activities and age groups.

Please provide any comments you would like to share.

The word cloud in the next slide reflects a diverse range of interests and priorities as reflected by the 240 additional respondent comments. The most prominent area of interest is the presence of a pool, which received the highest frequency of mentions. Transportation and accessibility were also important considerations for the community. Other notable topics include cost, taxes, and the desire for specific amenities such as a senior space, dog park and sustainability features. The survey reflects a desire for an expanded library & collections, various recreational options like an ice rink & fitness facilities, and desire for work space. The data suggests that the community values a well-rounded and inclusive approach to community spaces, with an emphasis on creating a healthy and engaging environment for residents of all ages.

