

June 6, 2008

Dear Mr. Mayor and Members of the City Council,

First, let me thank you for submitting your 49 questions to us in such a timely manner. We too have worked hard to respond to each and every question in the fullest way possible. We look forward to meeting with you at the June 10, 2008 City Council meeting to discuss the issues raised by your present questions and to answer any additional questions you may have.

The Library Board is sincere in its desire to resolve any outstanding issues so that we can move forward on creating a reinvigorated public library for the citizens of Peoria. We truly believe that all of our work to date has been realistic and responsive both to the financial challenges of the city and the needs of our citizens. We also know that you share those objectives and have the very best interests of the future of Peoria in your hearts.

Respectfully,

Michael McKenzie

President

Peoria Public Library Board of Trustees

Questions from the Peoria City Council to the Peoria Public Library Board of Trustees

June 6, 2008

1. Has the historical significance of Lincoln been fully vetted? Will the addition comply with historical standards for materials, design etc?

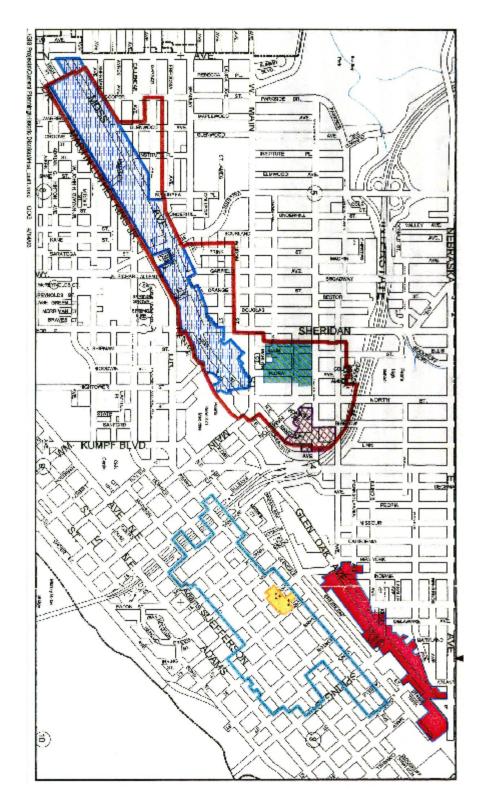
Lincoln Branch Library is not a designated historic site and is not in a historic district; however the Peoria Public Library places high value on the significance of this gem. We are well aware of the history of not only the building but the very land it resides on, the home of the first American woman in Peoria.

Lincoln Branch Library was opened in 1911. Financed with a gift of \$20,000 from Andrew Carnegie, it was built in Lincoln Park, formerly the City Cemetery and before that the site of the Eads Farm, purchased by Abner Eads in 1821 and one of the earliest American farms in the area. A boulder placed in memory of Rebecca Eads, the first American woman in Peoria still sits in the park. The "Old Public Graveyard," later called City Cemetery, was opened in 1841 although the first verifiable mention is when the city asked for bids to construct a fence around it in 1845. City Cemetery operated until about 1875. In 1886 the City issued orders for the removal of all remains. Injunctions halted the removals. Springdale Cemetery had opened in 1857 and remains were reinterred at Springdale, although many gravestones were not claimed and at least one house in the area has basement flooring made of old tombstones.

The last Carnegie libraries in the country were built in 1917. In 1927 the branch was remodeled. The front window was made larger and one reading room was enlarged. Shelves were put in the attic for stacks. The Lincoln Branch was updated and remodeled in 1993 with a \$500,000 gift from the Pleiades Foundation through the generosity of Henry Slane, grandson of Henry Pindell who spearheaded the original efforts to obtain a Carnegie Library. The elevator and handicapped accessible restrooms were added as part of that renovation.

After funding is received and a point has been reached when we create requests for proposals, all specifications for the Lincoln Branch Project will be written to reflect the appropriate historic restoration standards. We also have no objection to working with the appropriate local organization to design an addition that will be a complement to this historic Carnegie Library.

Mike McKenzie, President Board of Trustees and Ed Szynaka, Library Director have scheduled a meeting with the Landmark Foundation at Les Kenyon's office on Monday, June 9, 2008 to start the dialogue on this project.



2. Farnsworth is a leader in LEED design. Has sustainability and "green" design been considered for any location and if so to what extent? (Looking for detail here.)

Farnsworth Group was only engaged to identify possible North Branch sites. After the bonds are approved and the library has money to do so, we plan, based on the recommendations in the BCA programming information, to issue a call to all local and regional architects to submit sustainable and green designs for each site. Farnsworth has discussed the sustainable design issue with the Library Building Committee and incorporated some of this into our report. While LEED Design will take place once you have selected a site, the following "Green Navigation" are considered:

- 1. Criteria No. 10: Is the project an adaptive reuse of an existing facility? Anytime you can use an existing facility you reduce the amount of building materials needed to be produced and transported to that particular project. In addition you have the chance to rebuild and modernize facilities in older neighborhoods.
- 2. While not specifically called out in the Matrix, one of the interesting points to the Süd's site is the close proximity to the Rock Island Trail. A library development in this area would provide direct access to the Rock Island Trail for pedestrians and bicyclists, and all the future trails and walkways planned for the north side in future developments.

3. What is the resistance to considering a consolidated northern branch?

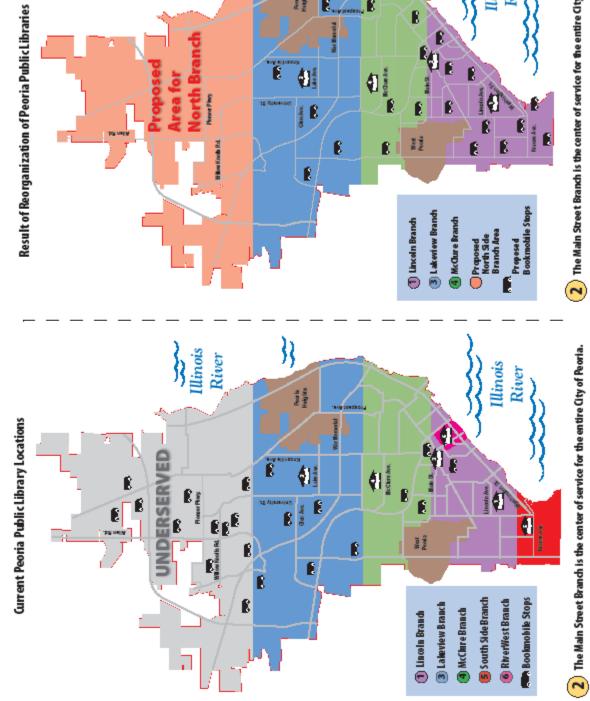
Resistance perhaps is the wrong word to choose. There is a desire to achieve the goals arrived at after extensive study by expert consultants and input from the Peoria public, including over 45 public meetings, and web, in-house and mail comments. However, since building a consolidated branch at Exposition Gardens does not address those goals, we set aside this idea after applying the same tests we did to all other sites. One of the main goals of our building program is to be sure that we are not just doing a temporary fix on our libraries but building for the future. The Strategic Plan is a plan that addresses the needs of the entire city for the next generation, a directive given to the Library Board by the City Council. The Library Board, through long discussion needed to be centrally located between the growth areas to the north and north-west. The best way to articulate this point was to use the intersection of Allen Road and Pioneer Parkway as a marker.

To help us accomplish this site selection task, we hired Farnsworth Group who were charged with:

- 1. Locate sites or building for sale as close to the intersection of Allen Road and Pioneer Parkway as possible to house a new north branch location.
- 2. The sites or existing buildings should be able to accommodate a proposed library space of 35, 000 40,000 s.f. along with the proper site development pertaining to the City of Peoria Municipal Code.
- 3. The site or building should have a significant presence to a major street so the public may easily find the new facility.
- 4. The new facility should have good public access so that the users may easily access the site.
- 5. The Library Board will consider remodeling an existing building or building new on a Greenfield site.

Additionally, the proposal presented to and approved by the voters did not include the option of a consolidated branch at Expo Gardens and we feel we would not be acting in good faith with the members of the public if we were to introduce such a material change at this point.

The locations and square footage of the Lakeview Branch and the North Branch are reflective of the predicted changes and future growth in the city.



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Peorls Heights

Illinois River

The Main Street Branch is the center of service for the entire City of Peorla.

Illinois

4. You are adding 15k+ square feet to Lakeview (approximately 126% increase in total sq ft), adding no headcount (12.6 FTE) and reducing your operating expenses by 100k per year (-11+%). How is that possible?

The reduction in question is a direct result of the reallocation of the Book/Nonprint Budget.

The Book/Nonprint budget was increased this year at all locations in order to better meet demand. Lakeview has the highest circulation and highest demand for popular reading materials and nonprint (DVDs, CDs, Books on CD) and as a result received a significant increase in its book/non print budget for 2008. The Operating Budget before the addition of a north branch includes this increase. When the Book/Nonprint Budget is reallocated to include a north branch, Main Street, Lakeview and McClure Branches' book/nonprint budgets will be adjusted back down. Most of the South Side and RiverWest book budgets will be absorbed into the expanded Lincoln Branch book budget. We anticipate reallocating \$100,000 from Lakeview to the north branch book budget. This is the \$100,000 reduction reflected in the Operating Budget that includes a north branch. In addition, the current Lakeview Branch is operating with inefficient furnaces and air conditioning units, as well as an outdated lighting system. The expanded Lakeview Branch will have a new HVAC system and lighting system that will serve a larger area more efficiently and economically.

5. Can you provide a 5 year look at operating expenses at Lakeview?

Please refer to the chart provided for Question 8.

6. Has the Lakeview Museum location been considered and if not feasible, why? Next door 37k+sq ft. Cooling, heating, windows would need to be replaced; other obstacles?

Yes, Lakeview Museum has been considered and discussed in public for years as an alternative site. In the early stage of planning, on Thursday, October 4, 2007, Ed Szynaka, Library Director and Leann Johnson, Assistant Director met with Bonnie Noble, Park District Director. Ms. Noble stated that the Park District planned to eventually use the vacated Lakeview Museum building as a senior center and that an expanded Lakeview Branch would be a wonderful complement to that. Mr. Szynaka currently has a call in to Ms. Noble to determine if circumstances have changed, however, the Park District has not notified the Library Board that their plans have changed.

The building is not feasible because it is two stories and it is very linear which would require much more staff.

It was reported verbally by PSA Dewberry and Clarke Engineering that the present structural integrity of the Lakeview Museum was not designed to handle the dead weight of library book stacks and therefore would have to be substantially reinforced and perhaps even rebuilt.

7. What is the objection to doing a phased in approach (ex. Lincoln)...rather than

14k immediately, build out in sections of 5k as conditions and usage warrant further investment?

Using a phased approach would require a more expensive bonding measure with costs increasing at each delay. In addition, in order to fulfill our pledge not to add staff, the work at the Main Street Branch and the new North Branch are linked and inseparable.

8. Can we secure historical and forward pro formas for operating expenses by branch and rolled up?

Statements	
Financial	
Pro-Forma	
009-2015	
and 2	
Budget,	
2008	
Actual,	
2007	

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	Actual	Budget	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated
Revenue @ 4% EAV Increase	6,495,107	6,832,974	7,182,869	7,747,568	8,047,632	8,359,651	8,684,100	9,021,478	9,372,301
Revenue @ 4.5% EAV Increae		6,832,974	7,216,058	7,855,776	8,198,042	8,555,655	8,929,303	9,319,709	
Expenditures									
Total Personnel	4,488,224	4,894,408	5,188,760	5,413,340	5,647,924	5,892,975	6,148,976	6,416,434	6,695,881
Books, Periodicals, Ect	600,586	736,776	618,604	793,854	851,067	962,835	991,720	1,021,472	1,052,116
Technical Services	37,523	77,332	79,652	82,042	84,503	87,038	89,649	92,338	95,109
Automation Services	62,552	72,647	74,826	77,071	79,383	81,765	84,218		89,347
Building Insurance	81,486	75,683	83,705	100,518	106,581	117,650	121,179	124,815	-
Utilities (Gas, Elec, Tel)	244,221	295,300	251,548	314,794	282,875	298,888	307,855	317,091	326,603
Equipment Service	19,001	27,675	19,571	25,116	26,926	30,462	31,375		33,286
Building Services	148,113	170,682	166,788	196,954	207,220	226,594		240,394	247,606
Bld Mainten & Rep	18,087	45,431	18,630	23,907	25,630	28,996	29,866	30,762	
Other Contractual	121,968	94,119	153,473	162,769	179,766	185,159	190,714	196,436	202,329
Supplies & Materials	339,021	333,458	360,804	445,963	475,186	530,352	546,263	562,651	579,530
Total Expenditures	6,160,782	6,823,511	7,016,360	7,636,328	7,967,062	8,442,716	8,775,209	9,121,454	9,482,051
Revenue @ 4% EAV Less Expenditures	334,326	9,463	166,509	111,239	80,570	-83,065	-91,109	976,99-	-109,750
Revenue @4.5% Less Expenditures		9,463	199,697	219,448	230,980	112,939	154,094	198,255	245,575
			E	stimated Ex	Estimated Expenditures By Branch (I)	By Branch (1	6		
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	Actual	Budget	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated		Estimated Estimated	Estimated
Main	4,521,920	5,008,353	5,149,902	5,604,949	4,835,600	5,124,298	5,326,104	5,536,257	5,755,121
Lakeview	842,843	933,510	959,893	1,044,709	1,089,956	1,155,029	1,200,517	1,247,886	1,297,219
Lincoln	307,705	340,805	350,437	381,402	692,036	733,352	762,233	792,309	823,631
McClure	234,123	259,308	266,637	290,197	302,766	320,842	333,477	346,635	360,339
Southside	153,852	170,403	175,219	190,701	0	0	0	0	0
Riverwest	100,338	111,132	114,273	124,370	0	0	0	0	0
Northside	0	0	0	0	1,046,704	1,109,195	1,152,878	1,198,367	1,245,742
Total Evnanditures	6 160 782	6.823.511	7.016.360	7,636,328	7,967,062	8,442,716	8.775,209	9.121.454	0 482 051

(1) While the library tracks some expenses by branch, it does not track all expenses. The allocation shown is pro-rata based on FTE at each branch.

9. Can you explain the process for determining that we will be able to hold millage for 5 years and provide backup financial data to support this position?

To determine future revenues, the library took the 2007 EAV and increased it at 4% and 4.5% each year during the forecast period, keeping the millage rate the same (\$.33671). During the past ten years the average EAV increase has been 6% with the lowest EAV increase being 3.6% (2004) and the next lowest at 5.2% (2005).

Property taxes represent approximately 90% of our revenue. The other 10% is derived from the replacement tax, per capita grant, and service charges (fines and fees). We assumed 0% increase in the per capita grant and assumed a replacement tax rate of 6.73%. Lastly, we assumed service charges would increase at 0.5% per year.

In estimating expenses, we assigned each expense to an "allocation category" which, we believe, would be the best predictor of future expense. The allocation categories used were inflation, hours open and building size. As examples, payroll was estimated to increase at an inflation rate, utility costs on hours open, and books and periodicals on square footage.

By using utility expense as an example, we are going to explain how hours opened and square footage were used. We divided 2007 total utility expense by the number of hours the library (all branches) is open during the year. This provides a cost per hour open. For each year of the analysis, we multiplied the forecasted number of hours open by the cost/hour rate, increasing the cost/hour rate at the baseline inflation rate.

We used 3% as our baseline inflation with the exception of salaries (4%) and healthcare (6%).

10. How does the choice of Northern locations make our city more walkable or pedestrian friendly?

One green field site under consideration backs up to the Rock Island Trail and many people could access this by walking or by bicycle. The northern part of the city has limited walkability in general, but this particular green field site is easily driveable for many north Peoria residents with its location just off Route 6.

11. Has the HOPC had any input or provided any opinion on the designs and or locations?

There are no library designs, only a building program with square footage requirements. No designs will be created until after bonds are issued. We will certainly be more than willing to consult with them when we prepare specifications for the bidding process. The HOPC is not involved with the only site selection as the only new site involved lies in the northern area of Peoria and not in the Heart of Peoria impact area.

12. What are the specific technological upgrades and/or additions that are planned?

The updated buildings with the added square footage described in the building program will enable Peoria Public Library to provide more technology than is currently available to the public. The services listed below expand upon the services already offered by Peoria Public Library:

Computer Workstations:

Additional public access computers that can be used for one-hour sessions Express email stations: stand-up stations for quick 15-minute access to email Wireless printing on the Wi-Fi connection at all locations

Color laser printers for public use

Computer workstation with digital scanner, camera card reader, premium suite of software, color laser printer and photo printer to provide a one-stop production/print center for the public.

Catalog search

RFID Tag System:

RFID at all locations (Radio Frequency Identification System) tag system that enables Self Check-out, Automated Check-in, Security, and the ability to do inventory with a wand scanner.

Self-Service Stations:

Self Check-out

Print/Pay for printouts

Pay fines

Sign up to use computer

Public Computer Labs:

The public labs would provide areas specifically designed for group training and/or individual use and would include state of the art PCs, color laser printer, digital projector, digital blackboard, conference call capability, web cams, and scanner. The labs will be versatile to allow for upgrades to new technologies.

E-Pay:

Pay fines online with credit/debit card via a safe and secure electronic payment program available 24 hours a day.

Digitized Collections:

Expanded access via the website to unique, local collections. Example: Springdale Cemetery monuments, local Architecture collection, Peoria Veterans

Virtual Storytimes:

Provide a virtual storytime in the form of podcasts on PPL's website.

Currently Peoria Public Library provides:

Public Wi-Fi at all locations

Public computers with black and white printing. Currently Public computers include:

CD/DVD-ROM+RW drives

USB capabilities for opening and saving documents

Microsoft Office Pro

Filtering (to protect minors)

Software that protects a patron's personal information from being seen by the next patron Floppy disk support

Ability to watch online videos and tutorials

Ability to listen to music on CD and online

Ability to download, create, and save multiple document formats

Enhanced access to fee-based databases, including full-text access to the Peoria Journal Star.

24-hour access to My Account on the online catalog. Patrons are able to:

Renew their items

Place holds on items they want to check out

Change their personal information (i.e. address)

Virtual reference services, including:

Email-based responses

"Live Homework Help" service -- Live web-based interaction with professional tutors throughout the country who answer homework questions on any subject. Students ask their questions in a chat session, and tutors use websites and a drawing space on the screen to give guidance.

Ask Away Reference Service -- Live chat online service with a librarian. Patrons can ask for information 24 hours a day. Ask Away is staffed by librarians throughout the country.

Access to unique local collections (i.e. The Art of Springdale Cemetery website) Downloadable and online books:

My Media Mall - Download best selling digital books 24/7 to your PC and PDA at home, in the office or from anywhere in the world.

Tumblebooks - a collection of animated books, games, and puzzles for children.

The following databases are currently available on the library website at www.peoriapubliclibrary.org

Remote Access – Currently available from home via the Internet.

SIRS

A general reference database containing thousands of full-text articles exploring social, scientific, health, historic, business, economic, political and global issues.

INFOTRAC

Included are:

Business and Company Resource Center

General Reference Center Health and Wellness Resource Center Testing and Education Reference Center Biography and Genealogy Master Index Gale's Ready Reference Shelf

Mergent Online

An Internet-based suite of information resources that enables in-depth business and financial research.

Newsbank Infoweb

NewsBank InfoWeb is a unique, Web-based collection of primary source information. The resources provide fast, intuitive access to information from a wide variety of sources. You can access the Peoria Journal Star, The LA Times, The Washington Post and The Chicago Tribune.

ReferenceUSA

From finding old friends and planning vacations to conducting market research and choosing a health care provider, this extensive database offers the information you need in a fast, convenient format. Included are 12 million businesses, 120 million US households, 650 thousand physicians and dentists.

FirstSearch -- The World's Information at Your Fingertips

OCLC's FirstSearch provides a tremendous number of databases using one type of searching. A selected subset of these databases is available free of charge courtesy of the Office of the Illinois Secretary of State.

The following are the databases you may access:

General Databases

WorldCat - Books and other materials in libraries worldwide.

Article1st - Index of articles from nearly 12,500 journals.

Specialized Databases

Clase Periodica - Index of Latin American journals in science and humanities.

Ebooks - Catalog of online electronic books available through libraries worldwide.

ECO - A collection of scholarly journals.

ERIC - Journal articles and reports in education.

GPO - U.S. Government publications.

MEDLINE - Abstracted articles from medical journals.

PapersFirst - An index of papers presented at conferences.

PerAbs - Periodical Abstracts with full text.

Proceedings - An index of conference publications.

WilsonSelect - Full text articles in science, humanities, education and business.

WorldAlmanac - The World Almanacs.

No Remote Access – Available from public access library computers only.

Consumer Reports

Consumer Reports offers full product ratings containing buying advice, key features information and reliability from the experts at Consumer Reports Magazine and Consumers Union. This database is only available in the library.

NoveList

An online reader's advisory tool that helps readers find fiction.

SAMS Photofacts

Repair manual schematics for TVs, VCRs, Radios, etc. Check the index from any location, home or office.

Ancestry Plus

Genealogy information including images of census records.

13. Given the dramatic economic changes since the referendum, will you consider one branch for the northern section of the City?

This is exactly what the Library Board has done. Lakeview Branch is in the center of the city and serves that population. One north branch would serve the northern section of the city.

14. What ever happened to the library at Main and University?

The "West Bluff Branch" at Main and University as well as the "Prospect Branch" were closed on August 31, 1973 and the collections removed and relabeled for use at the new Lakeview Branch Library which opened September 30, 1974. Both branches were located in rented spaces and were closed because of the excessive cost of staffing when the Lakeview Branch and Main Branch could serve these patrons.

Prospect, West Bluff Libraries To Close Aug. 31

Closing of the Prospect and West Bioff branch libraries of Aug. 21 was approved by the Peoria Public Library Board of Birectors yeslenday.

The narty clustings will allient sufficient time for body from the tradities to be consolutated and relabeled for circulation from the Lakeyless Beach Library, may mader constitution.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR WISions Bryan moted that August was a slow mouth for service, facilitating a wanting up of operations at the dosing beauties."

Mrg. Pealine-Glackin, based of the library's branches and extensions, presented a plan for -correctificating books for the Lakeview collection, estirating all 8 members are 77 days to exemptes the task. ent including films of estating a red and uncertainfile a red suggest. The board approved the plan, with dissert by fruite Joe B. McDade, who list the meeting cruper to a float vole.

The appointment of Machew Kahlak as head of rething a local services was confirmed unanimentally. by the board-following a discussing fulfall edge of the McDade extremely pracedures for approved of presonnel 195,00% meets.

He said presented should be confirmed by the beard before starting work, unting that people are hired by the board, not the director."

Although no scheduler's ware made to clarify the confirmation procedure. Bryan indicated be intuid reger! ap-

pointments at each bimouldy meeting.

The group approved a 22% installation of the Orders Teephane Service, which will become effective in Pearlain approximately 18 months, and the law meeting, Group self-marted that was at this system would result in a 2500 yearly salary second.

TRESTELLS STEET 47 minutes discussing the color and surface of the new Likeater-Branch Library's exterior, coloring rejection of the material's other by the Promaterial's other by the Promaterial's other by the Promaterial Buard Meditectory, perk agend, and purpose control stand under terms of the library's Styles projectly lease.

Architects Guy Johnston, and Kugenv Morganisef Philhos exager Associates rec-

onthrended the use of concrate block with the same exterior design and simps as the 3 by 8 inch bevoted brick preclaimly improved, but in a highle failer.

THE CONCRETE block, dension world, would be available in two or three wies a whereas the benefit weds would take eight weeks to arrive.

Trustee Bohert Buthans deceated disgust with the baris and fairth approval procedures, and time debys created.

A consult agentative of carpeting under book stands to the your branch was approved off a \$2,100 eqst. Taking linearly walls with graphe contrations was crossed as an alternative to will concring. The board re-

jected metallicibit of a trench drain for runot outside the new building.

IN OTHER francial basiness the board approved bills for fune, \$15.50; Bord and interest Find, \$350; Lakting Branch Reserve Find, \$50; and tea payous totaling \$47.90.

They they decided to invest \$100 to \$1540 in opening of the main sever the at the main library. Its bissonent has been plagued by blickings crabbs.

for other actions,

-BRYAN reported that revenue from the library's frat groups sale model \$1.27 which will be used for blok-purchases. Burham said the sale "wat a way of hamming." Ilbrary services, and suggested that sales be

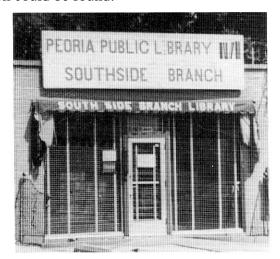
conducted several times yearly in accommodate the anrual distarding of 11,939 to 17,000 rotates.

they K. Howsey, Circuite of the Illinois Valley Library System soid, "There are a me signs so counting from administration as our cess in Washington that the proposed spield of feeleral library funds may be too about." Her incomposed ing board to generate their congressment and urge them to include specific come for Elevaries in any liestite, Education, and Welters bill that comes before them.

Eryan suid that the Poona Scincepal Band will return to Lakeview Center Yor its practices, after causing no trouble at all? to the 2brary during the period it used the auditorium.

15. What ever happened to the library on Griswold?

The original South Side Branch located at 630 Griswold Street, now numbered 1812 S. Griswold, opened in 1954 in rented space. By the early 90s patronage had fallen off and the crowds of children who gathered there during the 50s and 60s were no more. The building was in great need of repair with a leaky roof and a liquor store next store was a constant source of problems. Buckets were everywhere around the branch when it rained. The landlord made some repairs but during a rainstorm water came pouring in and in an emergency move to save what was left of the collection and equipment, everything was packed up and moved out. The landlord was given 30 days notice on May 1, 1993 but the building had already been emptied because of the leaks until a new suitable location could be found.



South Side Branch Library 1812 South Griswold Street

During budget cuts in 1994 and after looking at low usage of the branch it was decided to permanently close the branch to trim the budget. The Lincoln Branch had just been reopened and remodeled and was again offering service on the south side of the city. The City Development Office approached the Library Board about putting a new branch in the old Miracle Mart building. The City was unable to make progress with this planned redevelopment and no new branch was opened. There was no South Side Branch for five years.

As Peoria Housing Authority was preparing to apply for a HOPE VI grant to revitalize the run down 700-apartment complex known as Harrison Homes, they offered to gut, and donate rent-free for three years, an empty apartment building. Plans were to rebuild a model community on the site similar to RiverWest, which replaced Warner Homes. The library would provide a strong anchor for this development. The new South Side Branch opened on Krause on September 8, 1999. Peoria Public Library contributed \$250,000 for renovations and received rent-free space for three years. There was no space for additional computers, storytimes or crafts so in 2002 the second floor was remodeled.

Before a HOPE VI grant could be obtained the federal government cut the program. Peoria Housing Authority allowed the complex to empty through attrition and began to tear down buildings with their own funding. Soon the South Side Branch was sitting in the middle of an empty field. The land on which this branch sits has just been sold by PHA to District 150 for their new school so this branch automatically disappears from the map. It has been our intention, in order to save money, that we build only one new facility and renovate other existing structures.

16. Who was the councilman that put more money in the budget for more computers in the libraries?

In December of 2001, Council Member Spears suggested redirecting funds that had been earmarked for a downtown parking lot near the ballpark to libraries. The parking lot received state funding. It was suggested that needed funds were: \$175,000 to open the downtown library on Sundays during the school year; \$130,000 to remodel the Lakeview Branch entryway; \$160,000 to upgrade computers; and \$200,000 to install an elevator at the South Side Branch an open the second floor. At the end of the process, Peoria Public Library was granted \$32,000 for the Lakeview Branch renovation and \$158,000 for the South Side work for a total of \$190,000. After work was under contract and begun and in August of 2002, the city withdrew funding from both projects and the library returned \$119,000, paying for the remainder of the work by using the library capital development fund.

17. Why were the libraries closed the weekend that the high schools had finals?

Peoria Public Library has, for many years, followed a regular schedule of closing for the Memorial Day holiday weekend and then beginning summer hours which end after the library closes for the Labor Day holiday weekend. During the summer, all branches are closed on Sunday and only Lakeview Branch is open on Saturday. These closures are one way the Peoria Public Library lives within the operating budget. Three year union contracts are negotiated and holidays are set so the Memorial Day closings are

determined three years in advance. The District 150 calendar is set yearly and the closing date of school relies on the number of emergency days used. There is no way to predict three years in advance when District 150 finals will occur. This year school finals were in the week just after Memorial Day. Looking ahead at the 2008-2009 school calendar on the District 150 website, school will end a week later meaning the library would be open on Saturday before finals. Students currently may use the many online resources at www.peoriapubliclibrary.org with their library card to find answers and we have just added both Live Homework Help and AskAway which are 24/7 Internet based library services students will find helpful. In addition, as part of the strategic plan, once the buildings are made more efficient, requiring fewer staff to open the doors, the library has pledged it will institute Sunday hours.

18. Why do all other libraries districts locate next to a school (Dunlap, Peoria Heights, Bartonville.....)?

The following information was provided by Phil Lenzini:

The public library in Bartonville, the Alpha Park Public Library, is not next to a school. The nearest school, Limestone High School, is not within walking distance and the road between the school and library is a highway.

School location was not a priority and was not on the list during the site selection process for the current Alpha Park Public Library. They bought land across the road from their previous library building. They looked out the old library's window, saw the land across the road, and said "let's build there!"

The Peoria Heights Public Library is not next to a school. Both Peoria Heights Middle School and Peoria Heights High School are down the street, across a gorge and past some houses. The middle school was not there when the library was built and neither was the sidewalk.

Once again, school location was nowhere on their list during their site selection process. When they did their bond issue, they planned to expand their old building. There was not much land available in the Heights at that time. One month before the election, they bought an option on one of the Peoria Production Shop buildings. This was a fantastic location and the ideal situation for them. School location was totally irrelevant.

Dunlap Public Library is the furthest of these three libraries from any schools. It is across a highway from the nearest school, Dunlap Middle School.

Again, site selection had nothing to do with school location, but everything to do with the land owned. The new library building will be about two feet from the current building on land they already own.

Other local public libraries:

Brimfield Public Library is nowhere near a school and was built where the old library sat.

Morton Public Library was built on land they owned and school location was not part of their site decision.

Lillie M. Evans Library in Princeville is nowhere near a school.

Bloomington Public Library is nowhere near a school.

Chillicothe Public Library was in an old, not ADA accessible building downtown. They bought a cornfield across from a school.

Washington District Library worked on a new building for a long time. They bought land nowhere near a school across from the Cherry Tree Shopping Center. They ended up selling this land for three times what they paid for it. The city leaders designed Five Points. The new Library sits across the football field and the track from the school. School location was a small factor in site selection.

From Burnidge Cassell Associates:

Although some libraries in the Peoria area are located next to schools, it is not commonly a primary goal for a library to be located next to a school. The BCA library team looked at data from nearly 50 past library clients and found that few of them were adjacent to a school.

Previous BCA library clients not located adjacent to schools;

Addison Public Library, Algonquin Area Public Library District, Batavia Public Library, Broadview Public Library, Brookfield Library, Byron Public Library, Casper WY Public Library, Charleston Carnegie Public Library, Dekalb Public Library, Dundee Public Library, Children's Library, Elgin Gail Borden Public Library, Flossmoor Library, Geneva Public Library, Glenwood Public Library, Hampshire Public Library, Highland Park Public Library, Huntley Public Library, Itasca Public Library, Jamestown ND Public Library, LaGrange Public Library, Lemont Library, Lombard Helen Plum Library, Markham Public Library, McFarland Wisconsin Public Library, Mokena Public Library, Mt. Morris Public Library, Morton Grove Library, New Lenox Public Library, Rockford Library, Schaumburg Library District (Hoffman Estates Branch), Salem Wisconsin Library, Seneca Public Library, Somonauk Library, Toulon Public Library, Watseka Public Library, Wheaton Public Library, Whitewater Public Library,

Previous BCA library clients that are located adjacent to schools; Yorkville Public Library, Cross Plains Wisconsin Public Library

Locating a library within a reasonable walking or biking distance from a school can be a plus but many libraries have service areas that include a number of different schools. When libraries serve areas that include more than one school, a centralized location is often a better choice.

19. If 70% want the new library system and 30% do not, what would you cut out if the council only approve 70% of the money? (what are your priorities and why?)

This is a very difficult and theoretical question. However, if the City Council would only bond for 72% of the 35 million dollar capital project as reflected in the April 17, 2007 non-binding referendum results, that would amount to 25 million dollars. With that limitation we would not be able to meet the plan as fully approved by 72% of the voting population on April 17, 2007. We could eliminate one or more of the projects to the 28% level which would not meet the goal of equal service throughout the city but could probably be accomplished. The Library Board has worked very hard to balance costs and services to provide an equal level for all citizens. The Library Board has tried to follow its mandate to provide equal service across the city.

20. Why did you not let the public talk at the public hearing?

We are unclear exactly which of the many public meetings this question is in relation to as there were a total of 45 meetings held to explain the strategic plan, during the campaign and since we began our building program and site selection research. We will assume it refers to the large public meeting held at Expo, which ran the same way all of the public meetings did. We are also unsure why this question is being asked as we did invite the public to ask questions and we answered them. It has been our experience that we get more questions and more honest questions when the audience is allowed to write a question down on a card and hand it in anonymously rather than having to stand and speak. All questions were answered, although very similar questions were grouped and answered as one. In addition, members of the consultant's teams, the Library Board and the Library Director did answer individual questions verbally after the meeting held at Expo as well as all other public meetings.

21. What percent of the 70% of people that voted for the new library system understand your full plan?

The Library Board used qualified library experts to work with an extensive number of the public and community leaders to develop a draft plan, held 70 days of public comment with extensive notification through public relations and advertising as well as public meetings, offered a draft revised after those public comments were received, passed a referendum by 72% that the entire City Council endorsed putting on the ballot, and have spent a year with additional well qualified library experts defining the exact cost of this plan. During this time copies of the original Strategic Plan have been available at every branch library as have the building program plan and site selection plan since we received them. Based on the level of the positive vote and the amount of public disclosure, we believe this was a very enlightened election. Common wisdom suggests that voting "no" is usually a good indicator of absence of knowledge as well as reasoned opposition. This is particularly true when tax dollars are at stake.

22. After closing two libraries and adding on to one Lincoln library do you think more children will be using the Lincoln library?

Currently, the RiverWest and South Side branch libraries are open just 36 and 35 hours per week respectively. Neither branch is open during any evenings or Saturdays or Sundays. These two branches just have four computers each for public use. Combined, these two branches own fewer materials than McClure Branch and their total materials are equal to about one-quarter of the collection size of Lakeview Branch.

The library building plan proposes a 14,000 square foot addition to the Lincoln branch library. Staff members from the River West and South Side branch libraries would join the current staff of the Lincoln branch to serve the public at this full service facility. This expanded Lincoln branch would be open evening and weekend hours, when students work on homework assignments and class projects. Group study rooms would allow students to work together on projects without disturbing others using the library. A program room would serve as a place for groups of children and families from neighborhood agencies such as Common Place to meet for fun and educational activities, once again, not disturbing others using the library. Consolidation is a good management strategy. For the same dollars we can provide a bigger and better library, or "more bang for the buck."

The expanded Lincoln branch will have more computers than now available at the three libraries in Peoria's south side combined. This will, of course, allow more students to use computers. The presence of a larger library staff will also mean that they will have time to provide instruction to students and adults attempting to improve their computer skills.

A larger facility and more staff members will facilitate more cooperation between the library and the schools and social service agencies on Peoria's south side. Having more staff members located at the Lincoln branch will mean there will be time for librarians to present programs at schools and agencies as well as in the library building. To get more children and adults into a library, the librarians must go out to where the children and adults gather, introduce the great materials and resources of the library to them, and then entice them to visit the library and see what there is to offer.

Yes, more children will use the expanded Lincoln branch library. There will be more school visits, more programs for families in cooperation with agencies on Peoria's south side, and more exciting materials, programs and services to attract children and families from the south side neighborhoods in Peoria to their full-service branch library.

23. The South Side library has children waiting in line to use the computers. What will happen when you close down the South Side branch?

South Side Branch has four public computers. However, this is a moot point as District 150 will be removing the current building as they place a new school on that land.

Part of our plan has always been to increase bookmobile service to the South Side and the bookmobile now has internet access. In addition we are committed to working with District 150 to create a docking station so that the bookmobile can pull up to the school and children will not even have to go outside to enter it. There is some thought that the new school, which is to serve as a neighborhood center, may provide many more computers than are currently available in the area. However the bookmobile will bring service not only to the school, but to neighborhood street corners.

We are also currently exploring with City Link the possibility of finding a way that children can use their library card as a bus pass as is done in other cities. That would allow them to get to Lincoln Branch library, if they can not walk or ride a bicycle there. The greatly expanded Lincoln Branch will offer more public computers than currently available at the three branches combined as well as evening and weekend hours, something no South Side library currently does.

24. The bookmobile is going to take the place of the libraries in the south side that you are closing down. How will this give the children more time in a library and more computer time?

This question is very similar to question number 23. We are not replacing all the libraries in the South Side, but rather combining and expanding Lincoln Branch. In addition to that expanded service at Lincoln Branch, the bookmobile will bring both books and internet service directly to children in the neighborhoods and to the new school. In addition, we have made the offer to have a deposit collection at RiverWest, like the deposit collections we currently maintain at 14 area nursing homes, and to find a way to keep the computer lab available by turning its management over to the Peoria Housing Authority or the RiverWest management.

25. If you do not locate the new northern branch in a neighborhood what is the difference driving 5 or 10 minutes?

For many years, libraries struggled with providing maximum service for minimum money, yet small neighborhood libraries are very expensive to operate. Libraries all over the nation have begun following the retail strategy of locating conveniently for patrons and all of our branches and proposed branches, except for McClure, now follow that philosophy. This is certainly in keeping with our plans and those of the City Council.

26. Are there any other studies you're aware of that use the 5 minute drive time criteria for libraries? If so, please provide.

The 5 minute drive time used in the Farnsworth Report was simply a rough way to input information into a GIS System and get a snap shot of potential coverage areas and overlaps. It was not an in-depth study like they use for life saving studies for fire or police locations. It should be noted the same drive time was applied to each site for a uniform comparison.

27. Why worry about location? Shouldn't we be looking at what we can do to make the library building the best possible that it can be and a place that it will be highest and best use?

Best and highest use in this case means location and hours of service and in its entirety this question answers itself. One of our board members would like you compare this to buying a home. Would you not be concerned about location, particularly if you

had children? The library board was very clear in its report, planning and campaign that it would be unwise to build a branch in a spot that would quickly lead to demands for yet another branch. We don't want to build a branch that is too far east, too far west or not far enough north. We are building to meet the present, and future, needs of Peorians.

28. What interest rate are you using for an assumption on the bonds?

Attached to this document please find the Speer Financial memo dated May 23, 2008.

29. RE: Matrix Regarding Greenfield sights. Why were the following questions criteria not asked?

utilities at site extensiveness of earthmoving for site availability of fiber optic to site or cost to get it there request for donation of property from property owner

Utilities: All utilities are subject to negotiation in our discussions, however, in our discussions with the Building Committee it was decided that Greenfield Sites should have all utilities available at the property line and ready for extension into the proposed library site. In the case of the Süd's Site the developer still needs to complete the road and utility extensions to the proposed site and it is our understanding that will be part of the negotiation for that site. Seeing that this issue should be equal for all sites, we did not include it in our final matrix.

Earth Work: Similar to the utilities discussion above, it was our recommendation that Greenfield Sites should have had preliminary rough grading completed. In the case of the Süd's Site the developer is in the process of completing the road extension, utility installation, and rough grading to deliver the developed site as he has advertised. Donations: Our direction was to indentify sites, and provide a ranking system to allow the Library Board the opportunity to seek and negotiate the best deal and location for the proposed North Branch. Through our discussions with the developers we stated if they want to provide any type of donation they should put that in writing for submittal to the Library Board.

30. RE: Question #4 Medina Plains Matrix (pg. 66).

- a. Direct visual line from Rt.6 in both directions????
- b. Site has a controlled intersection at Allen and Townline. Report says it doesn't have a signalized light.

a. At the time we investigated the Medina Plains Development we requested a 5 acre site that bordered Route 6 (Lots 10 - 13). We were told they were under option to someone else and not available. Attached is the email we received from the developers of Medina Plains and the interior sites they had available. In our opinion since there would be buildings between the interior lots where a potential library could be located and Route 6, there was no direct visual line of site available. As we have been recently informed by the developer Lots 9 and 10 would be available for a potential Library Site. We would agree that the direct visual line of site from both directions is not the same. Obviously driving from the west towards the site offers a better visual to Lots 9 and 10,

than driving from the east, due to its close location to Menards and the interchange. It should also be noted that at the time of our investigation into Medina Plains the developer indicated the primary use of the development would be light industrial. This was discussed with the Library Building Committed and we all agreed it didn't seem like the best mix of land use around a library.

b. This was an error in our report and will be corrected and resubmitted to the Library Board.

31. RE: Question #9. Site does have current stormwater utilities.

We assume this refers to the Medina Plains Site. This is an error in our report and will be corrected and resubmitted to the Library Board.

32. Cost over runs are a problem nationwide. Your time line shows by the end of 2009, 3 of the libraries will be under construction. If you miss your estimates and overrun your projects, how will you make up the shortfall?

The conceptual cost estimates were produced by an independent cost estimator with a significant amount of experience in library work. We typically obtain several estimates during the course of a project to monitor the budget status. These estimates are often initiated during schematic design and updated during the design development phase and again midway through the construction documents phase. In our experience, this process nearly always eliminates budget surprises at bid time.

In addition to expert estimating, we have another tool that we customarily utilize to control costs: alternate bids. We always build in a series of alternate bids to allow us to continue to control the project budget after bid day. "Alternates" are items that are bid but may be accepted or rejected at the owner's discretion depending upon where the overall bid comes in. Typical alternates may be items like upgraded floor materials, a mechanical system with a higher than normal efficiency, vinyl wall coverings in lieu of paint, other upgraded finishes or even an expanded floor plan. By accepting or rejecting alternates, we can usually find a combination of alternates that can be added to the base bid to ensure that the overall project cost stays in budget.

Accurate estimating and an appropriate selection of alternates form the foundation for project cost control. Another important tool is the project contingency. For each of our projects, we set aside a contingency to account for unknown and unforeseeable costs. This is especially important for remodeling projects. The amount of contingency set aside varies according to the character of each project; generally the greater the number of unknowns, the more contingency we set aside.

We feel confident that appropriate use of all of the above tools will enable us to stay within the established budget. The average bid during the last two years of library projects came in 1.6% below Burnidge Cassell Associate estimates

During the construction phase, the design team will monitor the contractor's progress as well as review all change orders to ensure the change order is indeed necessary and that the costs are both fair and appropriate.

In the unlikely event that none of the above techniques keeps us within our budget, the project will be re-drawn and re-bid. We understand that there will be a fixed amount of funding and that the projects must stay within that limit.

33. As of the council meeting on 5/27, how many board members had actually visited all of the proposed sites?

At that time, the entire building committee plus several other Board members had walked each site, however plenty of maps, aerial photos as well as previous knowledge of the area gave us full confidence that we were intimately familiar with proposed properties.

34. Identify your processes and procedures to prevent cost over-runs and staying on budget.

Please see the answer to question 32.

35. How will users of Harrison branch get to Lincoln Branch almost 2 miles away?

Again, we did approach City Link about developing a system of allowing library cards to be used as bus passes to get to and from the library as is done in some other cities. Residents of that area have no grocery store, no post office and no other type of community resources but do find ways to get to services much farther away than Lincoln Branch. Providing an expanded Lincoln Branch that is open evenings and weekends will provide stronger and more accessible library service. The school district now owns the land South Side Branch sits on and plans to build a school there.

36. Is there a bus route to Sud's sight? Festival Foods? Medina?

According to the City Link Mapping the No.1 University Route does service up to the new Walmart on Allen Road. The Knoxville Route No. 4 services the North Point Shopping Center. There is no City Link Service north of Route 6 in this area. See attached City Link Mapping for exact route information.

37. Was any consideration given to a possible sight at ICC North?

No. This location does not fit the criteria established by the Library Board for a North Branch. In addition, I.C.C. reserves the right of using the land around the present buildings for future expansion.

38. Your own statistics are showing a decline in over all numbers of people who use libraries. Do you believe this trend will change? Explain.

Recognizing that circulation figures and door count represent part of library service, but only a part, during the second half of 2007 a library task force of five staff members representing various areas and levels of responsibilities and one board member

developed an alternative method of expressing library service. To ensure the mathematical process was correctly developed, we engaged the assistance of an ICC math teacher. The method we chose is equivalent to the Consumer Price Index and measures a variety of services offered by the library. Each of these services had the potential for being expressed in a numerical expression. The preliminary figures indicate that although use in some areas has declined, overall use when the broader picture is considered has increased. Each of these areas was given an appropriate weight reflecting relevant importance.

Definitions – Library Use Index

Materials

Materials Used/ Circulated = Items used in house by patrons, like magazines or books, but not checked out, items used by staff in assisting patrons, and all items checked out to patrons

Weight 35%

Electronics

Computer Usage = Number of patrons using internet computers within the library Database Usage = Number of times specified subscription databases are accessed including remote access

Web Page Visits = Number of times http://www.peoriapubliclibrary.org page has been accessed

Weight 30%

Patron Interaction

ILL/Intralibrary Loans/In House Holds = Materials sent or obtained through interlibrary loan not using WorkFlows, materials sent or obtained within RSA libraries using WorkFlows, and holds placed on Peoria Public Library materials to be picked up at Peoria branches

New Cards = New borrower cards issued

Reference Questions/Assistance = Patron questions answered or assistance offered patrons in the use of our materials or electronic resources

Correspondence = Questions answered by regular mail

E-mail Reference = Questions answered by e-mail

Weight 20%

Services & Materials Offered

Door Count = Number of persons walking through the doors

Presentation at Community Events = Programs and story hours led by staff outside of the library

Media/Press Relations = Services offered through the Public Relations

Department such as newsletters, television programs and press

Releases

Tours = Visits to Library by groups like classrooms or Scout Troops led by

Library staff who introduce materials and services offered Weight 15%

To establish a reliable base, figures from 2005 and forward were collected. The base figure was established for 2005, using monthly averages to calculate the yearly index. This was expressed as 100.0, and yearly figures were likewise calculated for 2006 and 2007. As of January 2008, we began publishing monthly figures. No attempt to do a seasonal adjustment has been made, although a preliminary perusal indicates there may be a seasonal swing. Following is a summary of the index to date showing a definite increase over the last three+ years.

PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY USE INDEX

2005=100

April 2008	March 2008	February	2008 January 2008	2007	2006	2005
123.0	104.1	92.3	94.7	102.2	101.5	100.0

First Quarter Average 2008=103.5

We are well aware that this trend will change. Good examples are the libraries in Kankakee and Kokomo-Howard County which are typical of libraries around the country.

Kankakee Public Library (Illinois) moved from a small, cramped facility to new quarters in January 2004. Since that time use has increased dramatically. Circulation in 2007 was up 62% over 2003, and the number of people visiting the library has increased 43% in the same time period.

In January of 2007, The Kokomo Tribune reported that library circulation at the Kokomo-Howard County Public Library (Indiana) had increased in five years from 650,000 to over one million, most of it at the South Branch which moved into its current home five years ago.

39. Have you considered a virtual library where all functions and resources would be done on-line? Was the board aware that this year Amazon introduced a wireless system where you can access and listen to over 100,000 different book titles?

We are aware of the Amazon Kindle. Each of these units costs \$395.00, and each New York Times bestseller and new release download costs \$9.99. Other e-book options, like NetLibrary or Sony also exist and have been examined and the selectors keep current of these trends and educate the Board about the possibilities, while weighing the cost benefit as well as the legal and practical issues of circulating non-traditional media. Most of the options involve proprietary software or hardware, not unlike the

battles between differing video medias, like VHS and Beta video recording formats, or Blue Ray and HD DVDs, so that different manufacturers may have incompatible formats.

Although at this time we do not circulate e-books, we do offer a number of online services to Peoria Library patrons including access to subscription databases, virtual reference and virtual homework assistance.

Our databases provide a wide range of information in a current, timely manner. By accessing our e-library through our home page, patrons obtain dependable information on health, business, consumer, social, genealogical and educational issues or needs, as well as access to *Peoria Journal Star* articles from 1991 forward at no cost. All of these databases are available at any branch, and most of them are available to Peoria Library cardholders at any time or any day from any computer.

While a wide variety of information is published on the Internet, it is not always authoritative, accurate or up to date. The databases subscribed to by the Library are produced by reliable sources and kept current. This material is copyrighted and licensed by the producers. By subscribing to the database, access to this information is legally granted, and includes material that is not available through the internet, is only available to individuals through purchase, or is only available in abstract verses full-text form. For example *Consumer Reports* is available online only through subscription, a subscription that provides added value above and beyond the print edition. The licensing agreement with *Consumer Reports* does require using it in the library only, but with a quick phone call the reference staff is happy to search and provide answers to save a busy consumer a trip to the library.

Other database producers provide more generous access. You may not be aware that through Infotrac, Peoria Library cardholders have access at anytime to practice GED tests, as well as ACT and SAT tests.

Databases the Peoria Public Library subscribes to include:

SIRS (Social Issues)

INFOTRAC

Business and Company Resource Center General Reference Center Health and Wellness Resource Center Testing and Education Resource Center Biography and Genealogy Master Index Gale's Ready Reference Shelf

Consumer Reports

Mergent Online (Business and Financial Research)

Novelist (What to Read Next)

SAMS Photo facts (Repair Schematics)

NewsBank Infoweb (Peoria Journal Star and Chicago Tribune)

ReferenceUSA (Business, Health and Residential Listings)

Ancestry Plus (Genealogical Research)

FirstSearch (Books and Library materials available nationwide)

Other virtual services provided by Peoria Public Library include virtual reference. Through our home page, a form is provided to submit questions. The reference staff

monitors the inbox throughout the day and responds quickly during open hours. Our ability to provide virtual reference will be enhanced by our upcoming participation in AskAway, a 24/7/365 reference initiative administered in our state through the Illinois State Library. Libraries throughout the country cooperate to monitor a reference chat line at all times. The responding librarian provides immediate help and refers the question to a local library when appropriate.

Another exciting new service is Live Homework Help. Using a home or library computer students can get on-demand homework assistance in a one-to-one session with real tutors through an instant messaging style program. Help is available in Spanish as well as English.

40. What is the relationship with libraries in Peoria Heights, Bartonville, Dunlap and other neighboring communities? Are we able to check out books from their libraries with a Peoria card and vice-versa?

Peoria Public Library, along with the public libraries in Peoria Heights, Bartonville, and Dunlap, are members of the Alliance Library System. (See Alliance Library System brochure at the end of the answer.) The mission of the Alliance Library System "is to facilitate resource sharing, interlibrary loan, continuing education and library consulting within its diverse multitype membership." The Alliance Library System includes 19 academic libraries, 100 school districts, 21 special libraries and 112 public libraries.

Through reciprocal borrowing, Illinois public library cardholders can visit other public libraries throughout Illinois and check out materials on their home library card. Every public library that is a member of an Illinois Regional Library System must agree to participate in reciprocal borrowing. The Alliance Library System is one of nine such library systems in Illinois.

Here is a comparison of the number of items owned by our Peoria Public Library and our neighboring public libraries:

Library	Total items owned	Children's items owned
Peoria Public Library	570,303	144,698
Alpha Park (Bartonville) Public Library	106,534	31,506
Dunlap Public Library District	32,410	16,420
Fondulac (East Peoria) District Library	73,426	26,296
Peoria Heights Public Library	38,792	12,250

Note that our local academic libraries, the Cullom-Davis Library at Bradley University and the Illinois Central College Library are also members of the Alliance Library System. Their collections are devoted to the curriculum of their institution and are capable of being shared.

ALLIANCE LIBRARY SYSTEM

MEMBERSHIP

Alliance Library System has 252 member libraries

Academic Libraries 18 School Districts 10 Special Libraries 27 Public Libraries 17

27.50

LOCATION

Alliance Library System 600 High Point Lane East Peoria, IL 61611 From Interstate 74, take Exit 98 (Pinecrest Road). High Point Lane is the southern frontage road parallel to Interstate 74.

CONTACT US

www.alliancelibrarysystem.com Phone: (800) 700-4857

(309) 694-9200 (309) 694-9230

Fа :: Alliance Library System is one of nine multitype library systems cooperating

to provide vital services to the citizens of Illinois.

Illiance Library System
Sea

Cooperating to provide vital services to the citizens of Illinois

VISION

cellent multitype library service and promoting a world of Alliance Library System is committed to supporting exinformation and training within reach of every member. Alliance Library System provides effective communitybased library services that facilitate resource sharing.

Mission

resource sharing, interlibrary loan, continuing education The mission of Alliance Library System is to facilitate and library consulting within its diverse multitype membership.

save members time and money. In return, members take pride of ownership in the cooperative spirit and service multitype library services that promote excellence and The results of this vision are innovative, cost effective excellence that is the Alliance Library System.

VALUES

The Alliance Library System board, staff, and members collectively value:

- Listening to the membership
- Excellence in customer service
 - Accountability
- Leadership and integrity
- Collaboration

Innovation

- Knowledge and learning
 - Accessibility
- Diversity

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Communication

- opportunities for children's' librarians, marketing staff, ALS offers a wide range of meeting and educational and library directors.
- www.alliancelbrarysystem.com is a powerful website that provides new blogs and access to primary resources and links.

Professional Consulting Services

A team of five consultants guides librarians through library management, grant applications, building projects, referenda, and budgeting.

Training for Librarians

ALS access to high-tech tools, such as web casting and computer labs, provides over 200 hands-on training opportunities to more than 1,275 library workers and 1,685 library trustees.

Resource Sharing (RSA)

- RSA maintains a 4-million-record online catalog for all member libraries.
- Alliance delivers more than 400,000 resources to local libraries annually.

Mid-Illinois Talking Book Center (MITBC)

- MITBC provides free library service for anyone with a visual, physical, or reading disability. Patrons borrow books and magazines on cassette, as well as the cassette players to listen!
 - More than 250,000 talking books are loaned annually across Central Illinois to our 5,000 customers.

41. Were the librarians and high school teachers polled to determine what their needs were now and what they anticipated in the future?

Librarians and high school teachers were represented on the Strategic Planning committee by an assistant superintendant from District 150 and several librarians from teaching institutions. As a point of information, there are 10,010 library card holders in Peoria who were born in 1991 or later, or rather, who are 17 and under. This represents 36% of Peorians age 17 and under.

The Peoria Public Library Strategic Planning Committee

Paula Bryant – Library Board

Dr. Frank Gold - Library Board

Greg Johnston – Library Board

Michael J. McKenzie - Library Board

David Vance - Library Board, Chair of the Planning Committee

Robert E. Black – former Library Director

Leann Johnson – Assistant Library Director/Acting Library Director

Joe Fitzanko – Library Staff

Roberta Koscielski – Library Staff

Alma Brown – Public Information Officer – City of Peoria

Jo Dorsch – Director – University of Illinois College of Medicine Library

Barbara Galik – Director – Bradley University Cullom Davis Library

Herschel Hannah – Associate Superintendent – Peoria Public Schools

Janice Kinsinger - Director of Instruction, Innovation, and Facility Development -

Illinois Central College

Pat Landes – Planning and Growth Management – City of Peoria

John Morris – Peoria City Councilman – Council Liaison to the Library

Roger John – Director – Peoria Public Housing Authority

Roberta Parks - Vice President & Chief Operating Officer -

Heartland Partnership – Director – Peoria Chamber of Commerce

Kitty Pope – Executive Director – Alliance Library System

Bill Reaugh – Friends of the Peoria Public Library

Deb Ritschel – General Manager – Peoria Civic Center

Amy Volz – Caterpillar Incorporated Employee

42. Statement: A final site selection needs to be completed before any bond issuance. A preferred site should be secured with a contract contingent upon the Council's issuance of bonds.

Taking the second statement first, it is understood that the City Council has directed the Library to have a preferred site secured with a contract contingent upon the Council's issuance of bonds.

Regarding the first statement, we are confused as to its meaning. If the term "completed" means that the City Council expects the real estate purchase contract for the site to be "closed" (i.e. all legal and title transfer documents exchanged and money paid)

then that will not be done before the issuance of the bonds. It will not be done because the Library cannot close the contract until it has the money to do so which, as I understand it, will not be until after the bonds are issued.

43. Under our current library configuration, the Lakeview branch is the most frequently used library in Peoria. The construction of a new northern branch will undoubtedly change the current traffic and usage patterns at Lakeview. Please justify the proposed 15,000 sf expansion at Lakeview at a cost of \$7M. Library officials have cited research showing no changes will occur in the usage characteristics at Lakeview following the construction of the northern branch. Please make this research available to the Council.

The research from the original reports is in the form of usage maps in Strategic Plan Volume II.

Peoria Public Library Usage Maps (from the Strategic Plan)

A sample of library usage was extracted from the Alliance Library System's integrated automated library system. To preserve privacy, individuals' names and the materials that they checked out were not included in the records that were provided to the consultants. What remained was a listing of the addresses of households with library circulation activity during a four week sample period in December 2005.

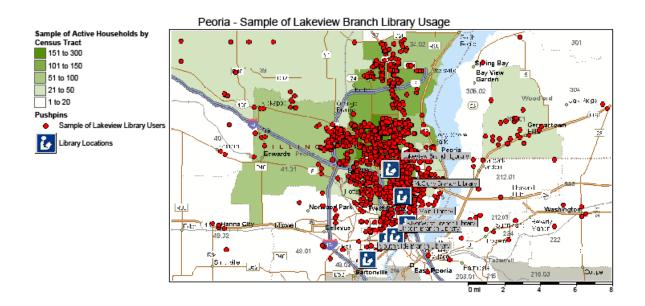
The records were processed in a manner that allowed the consultants to examine activity at the branch/location level. In other words, the consultants were able to determine the approximate location of households that had checked out materials from a specific library facility.

The address records were processed using a geo-coding program that created the usage maps that follow. Each dot on the map represents a household that checked out one or more items from the library identified during the four week sample period. The dots do not show the intensity of use. That is, a single dot does not give any indication of how many items were checked out by a person or persons in a given household. A household in which one person checked out one item is shown in the same manner as a household in which four family members each took ten books or other library materials. In other words, the maps show the geographic distribution of users, not the intensity of use.

The maps reveal that both the Lakeview Library and the Main library receive use from throughout the City of Peoria. The primary use of the balance of the libraries (Lincoln, McClure, RiverWest, and South Side) can be characterized as "neighborhood" use.

The regional nature of the usage of the Lakeview Library is quite exceptional given the library's relatively modest size. This facility is clearly operating well beyond the design capacity of the building.

The usage of the Main Library tends to dispel the notion that people "don't go downtown." It is clear that the Main Library is a significant magnet for people from throughout the City of Peoria and beyond.



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From Burnidge Cassell Associates:

Regarding usage patterns at Lakeview, we anticipate that some activity will shift from the Lakeview facility to the new north facility as some patrons who have previously used Lakeview will start using the North branch. But there are broader patterns at work as well.

The question assumes this will be a zero-sum game, which is not the case. An underlying assumption of the question seems to be that the activity at the Lakeview branch will simply be divided between Lakeview and North, that 100,000 circulations at Lakeview will be apportioned somehow between the two facilities (60,000 to one and 40,000 to the other, for purposes of illustration). Actually, what the library can expect is that the addition of the North branch will produce a substantial increase in total use in that part of the city. The addition of the North branch will likely generate NEW USE by individuals who do not presently use the Lakeview branch because of its distance and/or relative inconvenience. 100,000 circs at Lakeview will increase by some larger measure

-- 180,000 perhaps -- as new users take advantage of the greater convenience of the new north branch. Obviously these numbers are just an example to illustrate the point, but the library should expect a pretty dramatic increase in overall use as the new branch comes on line.

Use levels at Lakeview and all of the library's facilities are also conditioned by the fact that each facility has developed unique features and collections. At Lakeview, the library has developed a paperback collection that is unlike any other anywhere in the system. Patrons who are especially drawn to that collection will continue to go to the Lakeview Branch. At Lincoln Branch, there's the homework center on the lower level that creates a unique draw there. This is true of each library location.

The expansion at Lakeview is also driven by an interest in providing features and services that are not presently available in the branch. There are, for example, notable improvements planned in the branch's meeting facilities and children's storytime facilities. An expanded computer inventory will be provided for patron access to electronic information resources.

The expansion is also driven in no small part by the fact that conditions are overcrowded. The shelving is filled beyond its working capacity. Additional space is needed just to house what the branch currently houses, and -- this is a key -- do it in a manner that improves access, makes the collection more inviting to use. An example is the library in Marengo. During a presentation to the board references were made to the conventional allocation that 10 volumes can be housed per square foot. The library board chair stated that he had just measured and the library was storing TWENTY volumes per square foot! The branch was getting that many volumes per square foot by filling each shelf to the full three foot length, then jimmying additional books between the top of the volumes and the bottom of the shelf above. They had an aisle that was too narrow to meet access requirements. Some of the shelves were 8' tall and unreachable. Books were stacked on windowsills. It was crowded to the point of interfering with the use of the collection.

To house the collections at Lakeview in a manner that is convenient, accessible, and inviting will require an additional measure of space.

44. Could the proposed Lakeview expansion be considered a Second Phase and not included within this bond issuance?

We do not believe this would be in the best interest of library users in our community and do not recommend this. Of course, such an approach is possible.

45. If the downtown museum is successful, could Lakeview Library relocate to Lakeview Museum if an expansion is still necessary after the new northern branch is constructed? Please provide engineering data that describes the issues related to moving the library into the museum facility. (similar to #6)

This question is very similar to question six. Again, the library board has not done a detailed analysis of the costs involved in retrofitting this building. We believe in the Lakeview Branch we have a well-functioning library that gets the highest use in the city and it would appear that it would be much more cost-effective to improve the existing

building rather than retrofit the unsuitable Lakeview Museum building.

46. If the downtown museum is successful, would it be possible to position the downtown library at that location? It seems the synergy with the museum components would lend itself to increased usage and avail the current downtown library for other potential users.

At the end of the March 7, 2001 Library Board meeting there was a consensus that if there was a chance to relocate to the Sears museum block the library should take it. The Library Board was involved in the planning with the riverfront and museum groups early in the process. The downtown library has 100,000 square feet and it was eventually decided that it would be prohibitively expensive to move the facility. Former Director Bob Black revisited this idea and was again told that the library would not be a welcome addition.

47. Please provide drive-time data between the various northern branch sites, including Süd's, Northpoint, Expo Gardens/Richwoods, and the current Lakeview Museum.

Drive time from Lakeview Branch to Süds is 12 minutes.

Drive time from Lakeview Branch to Northpoint is 11 minutes.

Drive time from Lakeview Branch to Expo Gardens/Richwoods is 5 minutes.

48. Recognizing that the City's goal for fire service response is 4 minutes, please indicate to the Council the importance of having 5 minute drive-times to and from libraries. How was the number arrived at? (similar to # 26)

The 5 minute drive time used in the Farnsworth Report was simply a rough way to input information into a GIS System and get a snapshot of potential coverage areas and overlaps. It was not an in-depth study like they use for life saving studies for fire or police locations. Instead, it is an analysis of distance using the posted speed limits but not taking into account stop lights, stop signs, traffic, time of day, etc. It should be noted the same drive time was applied to each site for a uniform comparison. Again, this number was only used as a leveler for comparison sake.

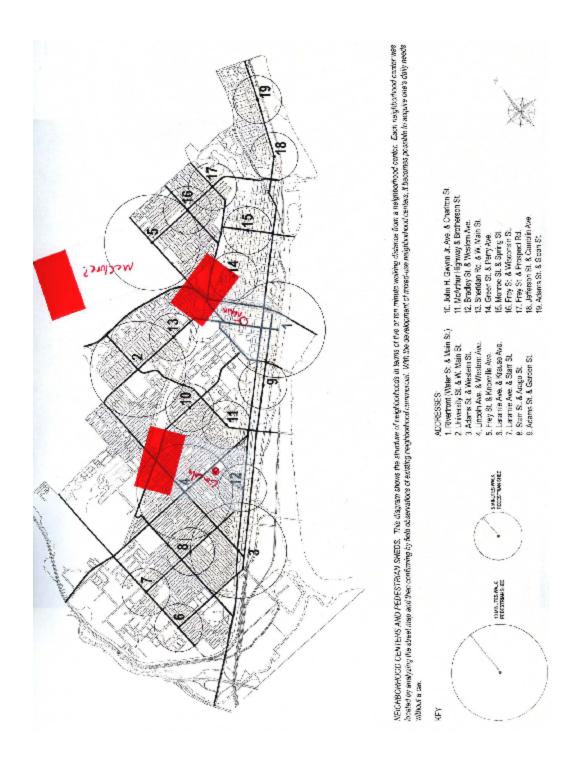
49. Please describe the incorporation of new urbanism principles within the libraries located within the Heart of Peoria – particularly the Main branch because of its downtown location.

Note: Before we consider the principles of new urbanism, please remember that we are dealing with economies of scale in this plan. To be true to new urbanism, there would be a branch library within walking distance of each citizen of Peoria. However, we can say that three of the library branches in the plan do meet the principles of new urbanism.

Peoria Public Libraries such as the Main Branch, Lincoln Branch and McClure Branch were all built at a time when walking, buses and bicycles were in frequent use and looking at them today, their history serves them well when we discuss the new urbanism. Each has stood through an era when walking became a thing of the past and urban sprawl dictated the cities' planning. Now as we realize the wisdom of years gone by and the importance of neighborhoods, the three branches that lie in the Heart of Peoria area stand as ready-made pieces of the Heart of Peoria plan.

All three branches can be found within walking circles in the Heart of Peoria neighborhood center map. In addition, the Main Branch lies just at the end of the Hospital Campus and Civic Center expansion projects. The Main Branch can easily be reached on foot from anywhere in the downtown center and provides a welcome stopping spot for downtown workers, residents and visitors alike. Open from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday (closed on Saturday from Memorial Day to Labor Day) the Main Street branch provides extensive library resources as well as a place to use free Wi-Fi or public computers, copy machines, a pay phone, a free drink of water or even the restroom. It offers free public meeting spaces, newspapers, maps, bus schedules, bike parking, cultural programming exhibits and many more of the features listed as important for cities trying to lure citizens back to the core of the city.

Lincoln Branch, once expanded and providing more extensive and convenient hours will provide many of the same services as well as more intensive services to students and adult learners. McClure Branch has never moved from its position as a small, neighborhood library. It too has architecture compatible with the neighborhood and is walkable, but does not provide the extensive services of the other two branches.



Although this question was not asked, we would like you to have the following attached article on how libraries are impacted during difficult economic times. "Economic Hard Times and Public Library Use Revisited" by Mary Jo Lynch. *American Libraries*, August 2002.

Economic Hard Times and Public Library Use Revisited

NEW STUDY SUPPORTS CONNECTION BETWEEN RECESSION
AND INCREASED CIRCULATION

By Mary Jo Lynch

n November 27, 2001, the New York Times carried a story headlined "Economists Make It Official: U.S. Is in Recession." The first paragraph noted that "The group of economists that tracks business cycles made official today what has been apparent to laid-off workers and struggling businesses for months: the longest economic expansion on record gave way earlier this year to the first recession in a decade. . . ."

The downturn, which began in March 2001, was also apparent to public librarians, who noticed that circulation was increasing, while their budgets were being cut. Those librarians began calling ALA, asking for evidence of what Stephen E. James once called "the Librarians' Axiom" that "public libraries prosper whenever the country is experiencing economic stringency."

According to an article by James in the fall/winter 1986 Public Library Quarterly, the relationship between library use and economic conditions had been discussed for over 100 years. He notes that one of the first references to the link is a statement by William Poole in the 1880 Annual Report of the Chicago Public Library and mentions a later reference to the same idea in Bernard Berelson's classic 1949 volume on The Library's Public. James asserts that there is "ample evidence" from the time of the Great Depression to substantiate the link between business cycles and public library use. But his own research, a study of economic conditions and library use in 20 large cities from 1960–1979, did not establish "the Librarians' Axiom" as true. According to James, "overall the investigation suggests that when one uses the most rigorous statistical standards no relationship can be shown between local economic conditions and the use of public libraries."

The article by James was the only literature ALA could suggest to those who asked questions on this matter. As those questions increased and National Library Week 2002 approached, ALA's Office for Research and Statistics and the Public Information Office decided that the time was right for another study. Given budget constraints and the need to finish the work in early April 2002, we could not do anything as elaborate as James had done. Instead, we worked with staff at the Library Research Center (LRC) of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois/Urbana-Champaign to design a small study that

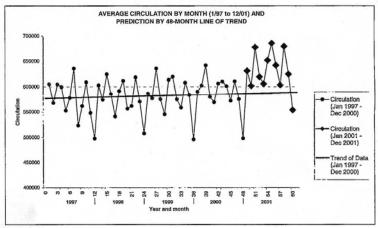


Figure 1

MARY JO LYNCH is director of ALA's Office for Research and Statistics. would take a contemporary look at an old belief.

Because the LRC manages the Public Library Data Service under contract to ALA's Public Library Association, the staff at LRC is in touch with the people responsible for statistics at many public libraries. LRC staff contacted those people at the 25 public libraries in the U.S. serving populations of one million or more and asked them to provide monthly data on circulation and visits for the last five years. Twenty-three of the 25 agreed to cooperate and sent data. The visits data were not robust enough for statistical analysis. However, circulation

data from 18 libraries were exactly what was needed.

Using that data and the standard methodology of time series regression analysis, LRC found that circulation has increased significantly in all the months since March 2001, when the National Bureau of Economic Research pegged the beginning of the latest recession. To do that analysis, LRC first combined the monthly circulation data from all 18 libraries and computed the average for each month. Those averages were plotted on a graph for the 48 months between January 1997 and December 2000. A trend line was established and extrapolated into the 12 months of 2001. Actual averages for 2001 are well above the trend line as shown in Figure 1.

But additional analysis makes this conclusion even more impressive. Statisticians have determined that variation of data values in any time series is the result of four types of change:

- Normal growth or decline over a long period of time
 - 2. Seasonal variations
- 3. Cyclical movement in the economy
 - 4. Residual or random factors

Mathematical formulas have been established to remove the effects of the first two types of change. LRC applied those formulas to the data and developed Figure 2, which shows cyclical variation alone (plus possible random variation). Circulation is 8% above trend in March 2001, the date when the recession officially began. It stayed well above trends, an average of 9.1% above, for the rest of the year. Technical details of that analysis are explained in a report

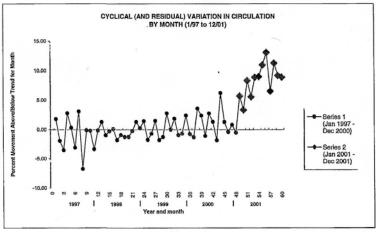


Figure 2

from LRC posted at www.ala.org/pio/presskits/nlw2002kit/lrc data.pdf.

Does this prove that "the Librarians' Axiom" is true? It certainly seems true for those 18 libraries in this period of economic stringency. It would take much more research to establish that those results apply to other libraries and to other points in time. But the more interesting question is "Why?" A couple of obvious possibilities come to mind: People who are unemployed check out books to help themselves qualify for new jobs, and people with less money to spend get books at the library rather than buy them. To really answer the "Why?" question we need to know a lot more than is known now about how and why people use public libraries. In any case, there is some satisfaction in having statistics to document what librarians have accepted as true for over a century.

Transforming, collaborating, creating . . .

The E-ssential Library

Creating and Sustaining Our Leading Edge LAMA 2nd National Institute

November 14-16, 2002

Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club, Naples, Florida

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Robert Martin, Director, Institute for Museum and Library Services

Major sponsor: 3M Library Systems • Contributing sponsors: SIRSI, Sun Microsystems

For more information and registration, please visit www.ala.org/lama/essential, or e-mail dthorn@ala.org
Library Administration and Management Association

New Issue

Date of Sale:

June 24, 2008

Between 10:00 and 10:15 A.M., C.D.T.

(Open Auction Internet Sale)

Draft 5/23/2008

Ratings: Moody's Investors Service ... Standard & Poor's ... (Outstanding-Reviews Requested)

Official Statement

Subject to compliance by the City with certain covenants, in the opinion of Chapman and Cutter LLP, Bond Counsel, under present law, interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income of the owners thereof for federal income tax proposes and is not included as an item of tax preference in computing the federal alternative minimum tax for individuals and corporations. But such interest is taken into account in computing an adjustment used in determining the federal alternative minimum tax for certain corporations. See "TAX EXEMPTION" herein for a more complete discussion.



\$35,000,000 CITY OF PEORIA

Peoria County, Illinois General Obligation Library Bonds, Series 2008A

Dated July 1, 2008

Due Serially January 1, 2011-2028

The \$35,000,000 General Obligation Library Bonds, Series 2008A (the "Bonds") are being issued by the City of Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois (the "City"). Interest is payable semiannually on January 1 and July 1 of each year, commencing July 1, 2009. The Bonds will be issued using a book-entry system. The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York, will act as securities depository for the Bonds. The ownership of one fully registered Bond for each maturity will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC and no physical delivery of Bonds will be made to purchasers. The Bonds will mature on January 1 in the following years and amounts.

AMOUNTS*, MATURITY DATES, INTEREST RATES AND PRICES OR VIELDS

Principal	Due	Interest	Yield or	Principal	Due	Interest	Yield or
Amount*	Jan. 1	Rate	Price	Amount*	Jan. 1	Rate	Price
\$ 745,000	2011	9		\$1,935,000	2020	9	9
895,000	2012			2,075,000	2021		
1,050,000	2013			2,225,000	2022		
1,225,000	2014			2,385,000	2023		
1,325,000	2015			2,550,000	2024		
1,435,000	2016	,		2,750,000	2025	,	,
1,550,000	2017			2,925,000	2026		
1,675,000	2018			3,125,000	2027	,	
1,800,000	2019		,	3,330,000	2028		

Any consecutive maturities may be aggregated into no more than five term bonds at the option of the bidder, in which case the mandatory redemption provisions shall be on the same schedule as above.

OPTIONAL REDEMPTION

Bonds due January 1, 2011-2018, inclusive, are non-callable. Bonds due January 1, 2019-2028, inclusive, are callable in whole or in part on any date on or after January 1, 2018, at a price of par and accrued interest. If less than all the Bonds are called, they shall be redeemed in such principal amounts and from such maturities as determined by the City and within any maturity by lot. See "OPTIONAL REDEMPTION" herein.

PURPOSE, LEGALITY AND SECURITY

Bond proceeds will be used to pay the costs of expanding the Lincoln and Lakeview library branch facilities, to reconfigure and restore the McClure Branch library facility, to build a new north side branch facility, to renovate the interior of the Main Street library and to pay the costs of issuing the Bonds. See the "THE PROJECT" herein.

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, Chapman and Cutler LLP, Chicago, Illinois, the Bonds will constitute valid and legally binding obligations of the City payable as to principal and interest from ad valorem taxes levied against all taxable property within the City without limitation as to rate or amount, except that the rights of the owners of the Bonds and the enforceability of the Bonds may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, moratorium, reorganization and other similar laws affecting creditors' rights and by equitable principles, whether considered at law or in equity, including the exercise of judicial discretion.

The City does not intend to designate the Bonds as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" pursuant to the small issuer exception provided by Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

This Official Statement is dated June ___, 2008, and has been prepared under the authority of the City. An electronic copy of this Official Statement is available from the www.speerfinancial.com web site under "Debt Auction Center/Competitive Sales Calendar". Additional copies may be obtained from Mr. James R. Scroggins, Finance Director/Comptroller, City of Peoria, 419 Fulton Street, Peoria, Illinois 61602, or from the Independent Public Finance Consultants to the City:

Established 1954

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Telephone: (312) 346-3700; Facsimile: (312) 346-8833

*Subject to movement between maturities.

www.speerfinancial.com



Client Name: <u>City of Peoria, Illinois</u> Name of Bonds: General Obligation Library Bonds, Series 2008A (**Library Project**)

Preliminary Bond Sale Timetable May 23, 2008

- □ Wednesday, May 21, 2008 Parameters Ordinance to City for Board Packet
- □ Tuesday, May 27, 2008 Parameters Ordinance Considered by City Counsel
- □ Wednesday, May 21, 2008 Preliminary 2007 Financials to Speer Financial for Inclusion in Draft Official Statement
- □ Friday, May 23, 2008 Official Statement to Client/Bond Counsel/City Attorney
- □ Friday, May 30, 2008 Comments returned to Speer Financial
- □ Thursday, June 5, 2008 Mail to Rating Agencies
- □ Tuesday, June 10, 2008 Print Official Statement
- □ Tuesday, June 24, 2008 Bond Sale
- □ Tuesday, July 15, 2008 Closing

Meeting Dates: 2nd and 4th Tuesday

Tuesday, May 13, 2008	Tuesday, September 23, 2008
Tuesday, May 27, 2008	Tuesday, October 14, 2008
Tuesday, June 10, 2008	Tuesday, October 21, 2008
Tuesday, June 24, 2008	Tuesday, November 11, 2008
Tuesday, July 8, 2008	Tuesday, November 25, 2008
Tuesday, July12, 2008	Tuesday, December 9, 2008
Tuesday, August 26, 2008	Tuesday, December, 23,2008
Tuesday, September 9, 2008	