

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
LIBRARY BOARD**

Chairperson – Georgia Knazovich - Wasilla	Karen Crandall – Big Lake	Sally Pollen - Palmer
Vice Chair – Kathy Kysar - Sutton	Mary Fischer - Talkeetna	Virginia Robson – Trapper Creek
Secretary – Chad Scott – At Large 1	Mark Spohn - Willow	Martha Kincaid – At Large 2



AGENDA

**Big Lake Public Library and Teams
Meeting ID: 289 421 144 590 Passcode: Zw9Cj63Y**

REGULAR MEETING

1:00 PM

AUGUST 12, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

A. May 13, 2025

VI. STAFF REPORTS

- A. Hugh Leslie – Recreation & Library Services Manager
- B. Librarians

VII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – (3 Minutes Per Person)

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Letter of Support for LCAC

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Library Collection Development Policy
- B. MSB Library Strategic Plan FY2026-2030
- C. AI in Libraries

LIBRARY BOARD
Regular Meeting Agenda

AUGUST 12, 2025

X. ADVOCACY

XI. CORRESPONDANCE

XII. MEMBER COMMENTS

XIII. NEXT MEETING

A. September 9, 2025 Talkeetna Library

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
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Meeting Minutes

**REGULAR MEETING
Trapper Creek Public Library and Teams**

**May 13th, 2025
1:00 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. The Meeting on May 13th, 2025 was called to order at 1:00 PM by Chairperson Georgia Knazovich at the Trapper Creek Public Library.

II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

- A. Present were Georgia Knazovich, Kathy Kysar, Karen Crandall, Mary Fischer, Virginia Robson, Mark Spohn, Sally Pollen and Marty Kincaid. A quorum was present.

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

- A. Chad Scott moved to amend the agenda to include a discussion on drafting a letter to the Assembly commending them and staff for work with the LCAC book reviews and upcoming Library Board book previews, and it was passed. Chad Scott moved to accept the amended agenda; seconded by Kathy Kysar. The amended agenda was approved.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- A. The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

V. MINUTES OF THE PRECEDING MEETING

- A. Mary Fischer moved to correct the Librarian's report line F to be corrected to reflect recent staff changes: one new hire (Christina) and one volunteer position (Jaren); seconded by Virginia Robson and passed. Mary Fischer moved to accept the corrected minutes, seconded by Virginia Robson. The corrected minutes were accepted unanimously.

VI. BOROUGH STAFF REPORTS

- A. Jillian Morrissey — Community Development Director: Addressed opportunities to improve Mat-Su Library's through recent and upcoming changes based on

community input and engagement. Shared the results of recent surveys conducted through in-person and social media engagement (92 respondents). Introduced an initial phase of the creation of a new process for the procurement of Library materials: Starting in the new fiscal year, the Library Board will begin Batch Reviews of the proposed Library procurement material. Many questions were asked and will be addressed through ongoing discussions between Staff and Librarians as well as input garnered from the public as the process unfolds.

Hugh Leslie – Recreation & Library Services Manager: Addressed Director Morrissey's comments and the process of coordinating relevant questions to be answered in time. Mentioned concerns with comments made of a personal nature, not germane to the subjects at hand and encouraged discussions and comments not to become a "he said/she said" debate.

- B. Zane Treesh - Wasilla: Discussed progress and process for library expansion and RFID funding. Gave updates on events: concerts, fundraisers, and a summer reading program.
- C. Geri Denkwalter - Talkeetna: Talkeetna has two new hires, Christina and Geron. They are continuing the summer reading program, volunteers tutoring, refurbishing the community herb garden, rock painting, fairy rocks and doors, a Wild Bird Rehab event, Fire Fighter Olympics, and the 10th Anniversary of the Library.
- D. Juli Buzby - Sutton: Gave updates on end-of-school-year ice cream celebration. Summer reading and teen programs weekly. They have a community movie night and community garden programs, as well as home school events.
- E. Julie Mitchell - Willow: Discussed the Willow Trails Challenge program and the 9th annual 5K run.
- F. Cassidy Drake - Big Lake Library: Discussed story time programs, crafting, Literature and Lattes, and a silent auction raising money for kids, Susitna Rotary working on flower beds, and Kids Don't Float and Firewise programs.
- G. Marita Crosby - Trapper Creek: Gave updates on Summer reading and lunch programs, Sunshine Transit providing transportation assistance, Friends of the Library planting plants and flowers.

VII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – 3 minutes per person

- A. Jackie Goforth: Expressed concerns with the American Library Association and School Libraries promoting explicit content for minors under 16, as well as library systems promoting LGBTQ and DEI initiatives.

Sandra Eldridge: Talked about the importance of the Library and great memories made there.

- B. Karen Lewis: Praised the Library for the wonderful things that they do. Then expressed concerns with obscene content still on the shelves, and shared excerpts from the book *Identical* by Ellen Hopkins, pleading to Librarians to do something.
- C. Corinne Smith: Came to tell the board how much she loves the Libraries and trusts the Librarians to choose materials based on their education, training, and career choice. She went on to emphasize the importance of Libraries as a crucial meeting place that provides important resources to those who otherwise would go without.
- D. Sue Deyoe: Spoke in support of Librarians and all they do.
- E. Kathleen Trump: Spoke about her excitement for library programs and the passion of the Librarians. Questioned the Library Board's inclusion in material procurement as undermining the Librarian's expertise.
- F. Sandra Porter: Spoke about how proud she is of the Libraries, the work they do and the special place they hold in the community.
- G. Kathy Ernst: Talked about early days in support for Trapper Creeks Library, loves what is happening with the Libraries and the healthy community they create.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Borough Presentation – report: The report was well received and plans are to have another report on the Schedule for September.
- B. Positive comments on libraries
- C. Budget Comments: Hugh Leslie mentioned February would be appropriate if the Board had any concerns they would like to address. Went over the FY26 budget that was handed out.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Board member attendance: Chairperson Knazovich discussed the importance of getting the participation of the members to maintain a quorum.
- B. Discussion on LCAC score cards
- C. Letter to the Assembly: Chad Scott made a motion to write a letter to the Assembly expressing support for the LCAC, thanking them for their efforts to enhance the Library collection, making it a safer and more welcoming place for children and families. Seconded by Mark Spohn. The Motion passed 5-4.

Mary Fischer made a motion asking Chad Scott to draft a letter for consideration a

the August meeting, seconded by Kathy Kysar. Motioned passed.

- D. Master calendar for libraries: Kathy Kysar discussed with staff about the process of improving updates and creating a master calendar. Marty Kincaid suggested providing the calendar or newsletter to the People's Paper and other outlets. Hugh Leslie commented that it was a good idea but had to be fleshed out suggesting to pick it back up in August. The Chairperson agreed to table discussion.
- E. Public welcome in libraries: No discussion was made. Kathy Kysar and Mary Fischer commented that according to the survey it was not a concern.

X. ADVOCACY

- A. None

XI. CORRESPONDENCE

- A. None

XII. MEMBER COMMENTS

- A. Karen Crandall: Commented that if we were to write an article or newsletter update in the Peoples Paper that maybe a drop off could be made to provide copies to the libraries or key central locations for the public.
- B. Mary Fischer: Expressed concerns put on the Library Board by the Assembly and Staff to take on the Herculean task of reviewing 400-600 books a month, without adequate time to read them. She said it is dishonest to have the Library Board review books that instead should be reviewed by a team of five experts, educated and trained to implement state policy.
- C. Kathy Kysar: Stated none of our libraries have pornography in them. She claimed that there are members of the LCAC who do not have library cards, and that there are no agendas in the libraries to promote LGBTQ materials; instead, there is a trend creating more demand for those kinds of books. And that there is no research that shows reading disturbing books causes disturbing behaviors.
- D. Chad Scott: Corrected the false statement earlier in the meeting that Meadow Lakes does not represent District 7 when in fact the vast majority of the community is in District 7. Stated that opposition to inappropriate books is not an attack on libraries, but rather an effort to restore support to libraries. And in referencing the Library Boards Batch Review of proposed Library procurement

material he said, its strange to imagine hundreds of books being deemed innaproprate when, at best, a very small percentage of books may even garner a discussion on their merits and will be dispatched very quickly.

- E. Marty Kincaid: Made comments in support of further promotion of the Libraries and expressed concerns about the dangers of AI and sexually explicit materials for minors.
- F. Mark Spohn: Commented in support of the representation in his district as a member of District 7 on the LCAC board.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

- A. August 12, 2025 Big Lake Library

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Meeting adjourned at 3:01PM

Dear Mayor Edna DeVries and Assembly,

We would like to express gratitude through the Mayor and Assembly for all efforts, including staff and legal, for the work being done with the Library Citizen Advisory Committee. Your leadership and steady hands have begun to turn the tide and restore support for our great Libraries by reshelving inappropriate books.

The community, though often not vocal, has spoken clearly at the ballot box and supported you for the values you hold. We look forward as the Library Board to continuing to bring necessary changes and improvements to help better our Libraries.

We are thankful for all your efforts to enhance the Library collection, making it a safer and more welcoming place for the children and families of the Matanuska Susitna Borough.

Respectfully,
Matanuska Susitna Borough Library Board
Chairperson, Georgia Knazovich



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

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Matanuska-Susitna Borough Libraries Collection Development Policy

1. Purpose of Policy

This policy informs and guides library staff, patrons, Borough administrators, and public officials regarding the mission, environment, selection and weeding criteria, reconsideration process, and priorities for collection development within Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) Libraries. The policy is reviewed at least every five years by Borough library administrators.

2. Community Description

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough is in Southcentral Alaska and spans over 24,000 square miles of diverse terrain including lowlands, mountains, lakes, rivers, and streams. It encompasses parts of the Alaska Range, Chugach Mountains, and the Talkeetna and Clearwater Ranges. Since its incorporation in 1964, the Borough's population has grown steadily. The 2020 U.S. Census recorded 107,081 residents, with projections estimating a population of 130,000 by 2027. The Borough provides library services in the unincorporated areas of Big Lake, Sutton, Talkeetna, Trapper Creek, and Willow, outside the cities of Palmer and Wasilla. Each community reflects Alaska's value of independence, and each library maintains a unique identity.

3. Mission and Library Goals

The MSB Libraries support the educational, civic, and cultural activities of their communities, as well as the intellectual, creative, and inspirational pursuits of individuals.

To meet community needs, MSB Libraries focus on the following priority areas:

- **Popular Materials Centers:** Offer current materials in various formats to support recreation, education, and remote living.
- **Reference & Community Resource Centers:** Maintain basic reference collections, local/state/federal documents, online resources, and interlibrary loan services.
- **Preschoolers' Doorway to Learning:** Provide early literacy resources including books and multimedia.
- **Support for K–12 Education:** Align collections with school curricula to assist students.
- **Non-Print Materials:** Collect audiovisual and other non-print items aligned with the library mission.
- **Electronic Resources Access:** Provide free filtered internet access, public computers, and links to trusted online databases and government information via the library website.

4. Interlibrary Loans

MSB Libraries are members of the Alaska Library Catalog (ALC), allowing material sharing among libraries using a statewide courier and mail system. Patrons can request materials from home or any participating library and choose where to receive them. Libraries also participate in interlibrary loan networks beyond the ALC and are members of the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) network, giving access to nationwide bibliographic resources.

5. Material Selection Guidance

The goal of material selection is to acquire resources of current and lasting value. Selection is the responsibility of each library's designated librarian, guided by the following criteria. Materials must demonstrate at least one of the following:

- Relevance to identified community needs
- Suitable subject, format, and reading level
- Timely or historically significant content
- Credibility of author, publisher, or producer
- Favorable professional reviews
- Documented patron or staff interest
- Enhancement of the existing collection
- Strengthening of a targeted collection area
- Limited availability through other lending sources
- Filling gaps in subject coverage
- Local authorship or illustration
- Recognized literary or artistic quality
- Factual accuracy
- Demonstrated or anticipated demand

6. Specific Collection Guidelines

- **Adult Collection**
Includes materials on current and enduring topics, instructional resources, and recreational content that reflect a range of viewpoints.
- **Media Collections (Audio/Video)**
Provides access to topical and popular materials in various non-print formats, such as DVDs and CDs.
- **Youth Collection (Ages 15 and under)**
Supports recreational interests and formal education with content appropriate for young users.
- **Young Adult Collection (Ages 16 and up)**
Offers resources tailored to older teens, supporting both leisure reading and educational needs.
- **Reference Collection**
Comprises essential print and electronic reference tools. May include high-use items and local history titles to ensure access.
- **Alaskana Collection**
Focus on items of local significance or relevance. Selection is based on community interest, local authorship, and demand.
- **Periodicals**
Includes both print and electronic subscriptions designed to provide current information that complements general collections.

7. Gifts, Donations, and Memorials

Library Material gifts are subject to administrative approval and may require Borough Administration approval. Donated materials must meet the same criteria as purchased materials. Items not meeting selection standards may be sold or discarded. Monetary donations must be formally accepted by the Borough Assembly prior to expenditure.

8. Collection Evaluation and Maintenance

Regular evaluation ensures collections remain current and relevant. Weeding removes outdated, worn, or unused materials using data from the library automation system.

MSB Libraries apply the CREW (Continuous Review, Evaluation, and Weeding) method and the **MUSTIE** criteria:

- **M**isleading or inaccurate
- **U**gly (physically damaged)
- **S**uperseded by better sources
- **T**rivial or lacking merit
- **I**rrelevant to the community
- **E**lsewhere available through loans

Interlibrary loans remain available for items no longer held locally. Usage statistics help identify future collection areas.

9. Material Selection Approval

The nine-member MSB Library Board serves as an advisory body to the Borough Manager and Assembly. The Board evaluates proposed library materials and offers input to enhance transparency and community representation regarding the procurement of new library material.

Approval Process:

1. **Submission:** Each library submits a list of proposed acquisitions 10 days before the monthly Board meeting.
2. **Review:** Board members review lists in preparation for discussion.
3. **Discussion:** Materials not flagged by Board members proceed through standard purchasing.
4. **Reconsideration:** Flagged materials are discussed at the following Board meeting. The requesting member must present a rationale for reconsideration, citing criteria unmet.
5. **Advisory Vote:** The Board will vote on each flagged title with one of the following outcomes:
 - Approve
 - Request Staff Reconsideration
 - Reject

A simple majority determines the final recommendation.

10. Procedure for Reconsideration of Library Materials

MSB Libraries serve residents of all ages by providing access to a wide range of information and viewpoints. Only MSB library cardholders and residents may request reconsideration.

Process:

1. Patron submits a [Library Material Reconsideration Request](#) form.
2. The Community Development Department notifies the LCAC Chair and adds the item to the next agenda.

3. If accepted, the item enters the Library Citizens' Advisory Committee (LCAC) review queue per OR 24-039.
4. After LCAC provides its recommendation, the Community Development Director makes a final decision.
5. The decision is valid for three years. The patron is notified in writing.

11. Conclusion

MSB library staff are entrusted with the selection and procurement of materials in alignment with this policy. Final authority rests with designated personnel, guided by community needs and professional standards.

Adopted as policy: _____ **2025**

Jillian Morrissey, Community Development Director

	Example			
	Title	Author	Collection	Library
1.	The bismark	T. Kaiser	Adult Non Fiction	Big Lake
2.	Trump vs. Biden	Fauci	Adult Non Fiction	Big Lake
3.	Whos in Grant's Tomb	Berry Plotter	Adult Non Fiction	Big Lake
4.	John Waynes bean receipes	R. Cogburn	Adult Non Fiction	Big Lake
5.	Golfing for dummies	In Therough	Adult Non Fiction	Willow
6.	Lincoln's toothbrush	Mary Lincoln	Adult Non Fiction	Willow
7.	Washington's Wig	Mary Washington	Adult Non Fiction	Willow
8.	Roosevelts favorite cigar	Havana Cuban	Adult Non Fiction	Willow
9.	Oranges are fruit	Tangerine Dream	Adult Non Fiction	Willow
10.	Tomatoes are bad at being fruit	Granny Beffstake	Adult Non Fiction	Trapper Creek
11.	bread pudding	Coyne, Amy	Adult Non Fiction	Trapper Creek
12.	Impossible Fiction	Osman, Richard	Adult Non Fiction	Sutton
13.	Persian pumpkins	McCall Smith, Alexander	Adult Non Fiction	Sutton
14.	Some apples are red	johnny appleseed	Adult Non Fiction	Talkeetna
15.	Some apples are green	Granny Smith	Adult Non Fiction	Talkeetna

16.	Jaws	P. Benchely	Adult Fiction	Big Lake
17.	Fury in the Jury	A. Crump	Adult Fiction	Big Lake
18.	out of time	B. Seger	Adult Fiction	Big Lake
19.	drinking with monkeys	D. baldaci	Adult Fiction	Big Lake
20.	I wear black	Colour Blinde	Adult Fiction	Willow
21.	Star Warz	G. Lucas	Adult Fiction	Willow
22.	Conan the Destroyer	some one	Adult Fiction	Willow
23.	Court of swallow	bob sagat	Adult Fiction	Willow
24.	Time stood still	D. balding	Adult Fiction	Trapper Creek
25.	White isnt for weddings	jilted partner	Adult Fiction	Trapper Creek
26.	Some kind of Wonder tradgety	Hurricane williams	Adult Fiction	Trapper Creek
27.	Bears of fury	G. Bear	Adult Fiction	Trapper Creek
28.	Silmarilion	Too Long	Adult Fiction	Sutton
29.	Watership Up	B. Unny	Adult Fiction	Sutton
30.	Rad Roadtrip	Uni Royale	Adult Fiction	Talkeetna
31.	A werewolf in London	Lycan Throupe	Adult Fiction	Talkeetna

32.	Homesteading Petersvile	Jance, JA	Alaskana	Big Lake
33.	Alaska Roadhouse	Sheep, Jonas	Alaskana	Willow
34.	Seals taste like chicken	Jance, JA	Alaskana	Trapper Creek
35.	Caribou tastes like chicken	Lamb, Jonas	Alaskana	Sutton
36.	Talkeetna Whistlestops	C. Chew	Alaskana	Sutton
37.	That old brown house	Needs Paint	Alaskana	Talkeetna

38.	Why are we here	Sense B	Young Adult Non Fiction	Big Lake
39.	Kiss the band the legend	G. Simmons	Young Adult Non Fiction	Big Lake
40.	Picking out your first car	H. Ford	Young Adult Non Fiction	Big Lake
41.	Lonely teens	Most Are	Young Adult Non Fiction	Willow
42.	Can you canoe	A. Paddler	Young Adult Non Fiction	Willow

43.	Presidential toothpaste 1900-2000	B. White	Young Adult Non Fiction	Willow
44.	Drake, the man	D. pond	Young Adult Non Fiction	Trapper Creek
45.	dressing for success	Brown, Dan	Young Adult Non Fiction	Trapper Creek
46.	Whiz kid	Fodors	Young Adult Non Fiction	Sutton
47.	Book of Lost socks	cotton gin	Young Adult Non Fiction	Sutton
48.	How to find lost socks	S. Holmes	Young Adult Non Fiction	Talkeetna
49.	Secret of sock Secrets	Brown, Dan	Young Adult Non Fiction	Talkeetna

50.	My first kiss	R. Juliet	Young Adult Fiction	Big Lake
51.	Green worms	Yard Dude	Young Adult Fiction	Big Lake
52.	Seated and ready	onwarding trav	Young Adult Fiction	Willow
53.	Salty taffy lovers	Sweet Tooth	Young Adult Fiction	Willow
54.	Dancing with my friend	Michaels Jackson	Young Adult Fiction	Trapper Creek
55.	Dancing with my self	B. Idol	Young Adult Fiction	Trapper Creek
56.	How to kiss	B. Smooching	Young Adult Fiction	Trapper Creek
57.	Sally sells sea shells	Beachy Sunday	Young Adult Fiction	Sutton
58.	Smuggler's socks	Michaels, Ferndale	Young Adult Fiction	Sutton
59.	Tarzan's brother Uzan	Burroughs	Young Adult Fiction	Talkeetna
60.	My jeep saved xmas	H. Mason	Young Adult Fiction	Talkeetna
61.	Finding Utiopia at an affordable price	McEwan, Ian	Young Adult Fiction	Talkeetna

62.	One fish, two fish	Dr. Suess	Childrens	Big Lake
63.	enough about ducklings	E. fudd	Childrens	Big Lake
64.	frogs and toads	A. Phibian	Childrens	Willow
65.	Horton hears a Who	Dr. Suess	Childrens	Willow
66.	good morning duckling	wakeing upyoubird	Childrens	Trapper Creek
67.	Are you lost my duckling	Buya Map	Childrens	Trapper Creek
68.	Hop on Pop	Dr. Suess	Childrens	Sutton
69.	good night moon	sleep well	Childrens	Talkeetna
70.	Are you my duckling	D. Duck	Childrens	Talkeetna

71.	Spring Break		DVD Rated PG	Big Lake
72.	the Godfather		DVD Rated R	Willow
73.	Tangled		DVD Rated G	Willow
74.	First of Us		DVD Rated PG	Trapper Creek
75.	Streets of Water		DVD Rated R	Trapper Creek
76.	Cinderella sister Dinderealla		DVD Rated G	Sutton
77.	Last of Us		DVD Rated PG	Sutton
78.	Streets of Fire		DVD Rated R	Talkeetna
79.	Cinderella		DVD Rated G	Talkeetna



Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Strategic Plan

FY 2026–2030

Introduction

Public libraries across the Matanuska-Susitna Borough are foundational to informed communities, educational development, and civic engagement. The Borough libraries are managed by dedicated staff that seek to optimize the collection, programs and events. They serve as support centers for parents, safe havens for youth, community hubs, and catalysts for job readiness and personal growth. This plan honors the legacy of elected officials, community members and library advocates that have prioritized library investment over the decades. It celebrates community involvement and outlines a forward-looking strategy to guide library operations through 2030.

SWOT Analysis Summary

The following is a high-level summary of the collective strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats identified from the Big Lake, Sutton, Talkeetna, Trapper Creek, and Willow Public Libraries.

Strengths

- Friendly, welcoming, and resourceful staff
- Strong sense of community ownership and support
- Free Wi-Fi and access to books, DVDs, and interlibrary loans
- Engaged volunteers and Friends of the Library groups and advocates
- Programs and events for all age groups

Weaknesses

- Space constraints: limited seating, shelving, and staff areas
- Limited open hours, especially during peak demand times
- Two of the libraries have aging infrastructure
- Low teen engagement and lack of designated spaces for young adults
- Conflicts or limitations due to shared facility management

Opportunities

- Expand community learning: adult education, homesteading, crafts, home skills and health programs
- Create a “Library of Things” (tools, puzzles, outdoor gear) and learning kits
- Use rotating programming and shared resources across the library network
- Add digital subscriptions, more AV tools, and improved public computers
- Update the Library Collection Development Policy to align with community values, including parent choice, intellectual freedom, and youth protection
- Promote library card registration and the benefits

- Cooperative programming with other organizations and businesses in the community.
- Partner with Alaska's Joint Library Network to provide family notifications when minors check out materials and to support direct communication to cardholders about library events, programs and news
- Enhance discovery and access to Artificial Intelligence including reimagining service delivery, streamlining operations and enriching patron experience.

Threats

- Funding reductions or unstable grant funding limiting services and staffing
- Security concerns for staff due to limited law enforcement presence or aggressive patrons
- Maintenance issues left unresolved due to facility ownership or shared space limitations
- Differences in community values may lead to conflicts over whether the library's collections appropriately represent the diversity of perspectives and interests within the community.

Goal 1: Increase Library Patronage

Objectives

1. Strengthen Community Engagement
 - Host speaker series, book clubs, teen activities, music events, and culturally relevant programs.
 - Enhance outreach to homeschool families with curriculum-aligned resources and programming.
2. Enhance Accessibility
 - Extend operating hours, particularly on weekends and during summer months.
 - Address transportation-related barriers through partnerships for mobile or delivery services, especially in Talkeetna and Trapper Creek.
3. Modernize Communication
 - Implement email newsletters, social media updates, and interactive websites.

- Post calendars and announcements online, on social media, and in physical community spaces.
4. Deepen Community Partnerships
 - Strengthen connections with schools, senior centers, youth organizations, and local businesses.
 - Invite volunteers to lead storytimes, workshops, and skill-sharing sessions.

Goal 2: Ensure Physical Safety of Patrons and Staff

Objectives

1. Improve Interior and Exterior Security
 - Install security cameras and train staff on monitoring and review.
 - Design clearer emergency exits and establish visible protocols.
2. Establish a Borough-Wide Safety Standard
 - Develop and implement consistent emergency and intruder response protocols.
 - Provide regular staff training on safety, crisis response, and de-escalation techniques.
3. Address Site-Specific Concerns
 - Evaluate and improve outdoor areas, such as shaded seating in Sutton, pedestrian path in Talkeetna and parking arrangements in Trapper Creek.
4. Improve Shared-Space Coordination
 - Address and resolve conflicts arising from shared facility usage.

Goal 3: Provide Expanded Services and Programming

Objectives

1. Expand Programs for All Ages
 - Offer adult education in digital literacy, genealogy, wellness, homesteading, and crafts.
 - Increase the number of teen and young adult offerings with structured social and learning opportunities.

2. Create Specialized Lending Services

- Launch “Library of Things” collections (e.g., tools, tech devices, outdoor gear, crafting supplies).
- Provide lending kits for STEAM learning, gardening, and home-based education.

3. Enrich Youth Services

- Expand early literacy and sensory-friendly materials.
- Increase after-school programming, including mobile and digital delivery in remote areas.

4. Maximize Use of Physical Spaces

- Explore enclosing the Sutton patio.
- Add outdoor storage at Big Lake to free up interior space.
- Organize indoor storage at Willow for more efficiency.
- Evaluate and reconfigure training room in Trapper Creek to provide more program space including addressing storage space.

Goal 4: Keep Pace with Technological Needs and Advancements

Objectives

1. Improve Public Access to Technology

- Increase public computer availability in high-use libraries like Talkeetna and Big Lake by adding additional laptops or tablets.
- Provide tablets for children and adaptive devices for individuals to create better equal access.

2. Adopt Innovative Library Tools

- Subscribe to digital platforms for eBooks, audiobooks, and streaming.
- Explore AI-powered systems for process improvement and patron engagement.

3. Enhance Digital Offerings

- Maintain and enhance free public Wi-Fi, particularly in underserved areas like Trapper Creek.
- Explore lending mobile hotspots and outdoor Wi-Fi extensions.

4. Collaborate Across Libraries

- Use cloud-based platforms to develop shared programming kits, coordinate grant efforts, and manage regional learning tools.

Strategic Results

1. Increased community awareness, engagement, and use of library services
2. Safe, welcoming environments for all patrons and staff
3. Robust and relevant programming that reflects community interests and needs
4. Expanded digital services and access to technology