MAINTENANCE = SUSTAINABILITY

We promised to maintain buildings for the next generation

2017 HIGHLIGHT

Refurbished Beacon Hill, Greenwood and High Point branches and initiated plans for Lake City and South Park branch projects

More 2017 accomplishments

- Completed 12,000+ work orders to keep the buildings clean, efficient and in good working order
- Performed carpet cleaning, high dusting, window washing and upholstery cleaning at all locations
- Completed exterior repairs at Fremont Branch and safety improvements at Central Library

The levy provided 24% of the total Library budget in 2017

OUR MISSION

The Seattle Public Library brings people, information and ideas together to enrich lives and build community.

2017 LEVY AT A GLANCE

Overall spending:
$20.6 million,
includes $4.7 million to preserve existing core service levels and $204,000 for levy administration

For more information, visit the Library website at www.spl.org/levy

2017 levy spending: $6.7 million

LEVERAGING LEVY INVESTMENTS

Began construction on Central Library Level 3 floor replacement and restroom additions with real estate excise tax funds

Library Levy Oversight

2017 Board of Trustees
Kristi England, president
Jay Reich, vice president
Vaughnetta J. Barton
Ron Chew
Theresa Fujiwara

Chief Librarian
Marcellus Turner

INVESTING IN EXPERIENCES

LIBRARY LEVY: A REPORT TO THE PUBLIC

In 2012, Seattle voters improved access to critical educational and literacy resources for every resident by passing a seven-year, $123 million Library levy. The levy is helping restore core services drastically cut during the prolonged recession. The levy supports better Library hours, books, technology and building maintenance, and allows us to access and leverage investments from other sources to respond to the evolving needs of patrons.

It also protects a bold vision approved by Seattle voters in 1998 called “Libraries for All,” which resulted in new and remodeled branch libraries across the city.

We are proud to report our progress after five years of levy funding.

Kristi England, Library Board President

The Seattle Public Library
HOURS = ACCESS

We promised to keep libraries open when patrons need them

2017 HIGHLIGHT

1,500+ outreach events to bring Library services to every Seattle community

More 2017 accomplishments

- Retained 6,000+ new open hours systemwide
  - Open 52 weeks a year
  - All locations open Sunday
  - 7-day service at Columbia and Northgate
  - Added Friday hours at High Point, International District/Chinatown, South Park and University branches

2017 levy spending: $4.2 million

LEVERAGING LEVY INVESTMENTS

Hosted solar eclipse viewing parties and gave out more than 7,500 free eclipse glasses with donations from The Seattle Public Library Foundation

COLLECTIONS = QUALITY

We promised to provide a robust collection of books and materials

2017 HIGHLIGHT

Launched Peak Picks, no hold, no wait collection of popular books systemwide

More 2017 accomplishments

- Added Kanopy streaming movie service
- Added 66,000+ new titles in the physical and digital collections and 31,000+ more copies of popular materials to shorten wait times
- Implemented ‘floating collections’ for DVDs, CDs and most books to reduce transit time and improve collection variety at branches

2017 levy spending: $3.1 million

LEVERAGING LEVY INVESTMENTS

Created and produced a children’s alphabet book in Somali with local families, Seattle Public Schools, Seattle Housing Authority and the Somali Family Safety Task Force funded in part by The Seattle Public Library Foundation

TECHNOLOGY = OPPORTUNITY

We promised to improve computer and online services

2017 HIGHLIGHT

Completed design and testing of new website for public use in early 2018

More 2017 accomplishments

- Offered 300+ technology classes to teach patrons how to use email, the internet and spot fake news
- Replaced 353 public computers with new models
- Installed new scanning, printing and copying equipment in all branches

2017 levy spending: $1.7 million

LEVERAGING LEVY INVESTMENTS

Added 72 laptops and 18 iPads at nine branches for in-building use with grants provided by Google through The Seattle Public Library Foundation