

2021 Q2  
The Seattle Public Library  
**LEVY REPORT**



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Road to Reopening

### Levy background

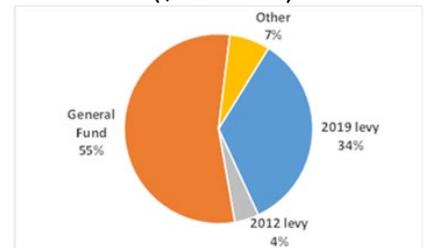
In August 2019, Seattle voters overwhelmingly approved (76%) a seven-year, \$219.1 million property tax levy to maintain and enhance Library services from 2020 through 2026, renewing a seven-year \$122.6 million levy that expired at the end of 2019.

In 2021, the 2019 Levy accounts for \$35.8 million (34%) and the 2012 Levy accounts for \$4.3 million (4%)—representing a combined 38% of the Library’s revised \$104.7 million budget. The City General Fund provides \$57.3 million (55%), and other sources, including The Seattle Public Library Foundation, fund the remainder. The 2019 Levy funds a larger share of the Library’s total budget in 2021 compared to 2020 (28%), due in part to a 10% reduction (\$5.8 million) in the General Fund to the Library.

As part of its proposal to voters, the Library laid out a clear framework for how 2019 Levy proceeds would be used to maintain services that had been funded by the 2012 Levy and provide additional services and programs over the seven-year levy period. This report, which covers levy activities and spending for the second quarter (Q2) of 2021, continues the series of quarterly levy updates the Library has provided for the Board of Trustees and the public since 2013.

Beyond renewing 2012 levy commitments, the 2019 Levy provides support for additional Library hours (which have been delayed through 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and budget cuts); elimination of overdue fines; improved collections and technology; safer, cleaner buildings; specialized programming and services for children; and development of a plan for the future of Library service. As noted in this report, the Library also uses levy resources to leverage funding from other sources, in particular The Seattle Public Library Foundation, to achieve levy objectives and stay connected and nimble in service to the residents of Seattle.

2021 Revised Library Budget  
(\$104.7 M)



## Q2 2021 highlights: 17 libraries reopen their doors

Since March 2020, when a global pandemic shuttered Library buildings, the Library has redirected levy resources to where they are needed most in the levy investment areas of Hours and Access, Collections, Technology and Online Services, Children's Programming, and Maintenance.

As you'll read in this report, from April to June of 2021, we continued to expand and restore Library services for Seattle residents, most notably by reopening 17 of the Library's 27 locations for in-building services. Being able to serve patrons inside our buildings proved essential as the region faced a record-setting heat wave at the end of June. Our air-conditioned branches provided much-needed cooling for Seattle.

We also secured federal funds to work toward offering pre-pandemic operating hours by the end of the year. In late June, Mayor Durkan signed legislation for the Seattle Rescue Plan, which includes \$1.1 million in funding to restore Library hours cut in the 2021 General Fund budget reductions. These American Rescue Plan Act dollars will enable the Library to hire around 40-50 staff members to support reopening more locations and expanding open hours throughout the summer. Our goal is to be fully reopened by September and able to expand hours as planned with the Levy in 2022.



“It has been so gratifying to see people of all ages and backgrounds in our libraries again, checking out armfuls of books, using computers to fill out job applications and write emails, and taking refuge from the heat.”

Tom Fay, Interim Chief Librarian

## LEVY ACCOMPLISHMENTS: HOURS & ACCESS

### Increasing access and equity during COVID-19

The Hours and Access category of the 2019 Levy supports operating hours in neighborhood branches and the Central Library; providing access to Library programs and services in the community; and outreach and engagement services throughout the city. Many elements of this levy category relate to increasing access to Library services through measures such as eliminating late fees and adding open hours. In 2021, the levy provides \$11.9 million to support the Hours and Access category.

We started 2020 by eliminating overdue fines and opening our branches one hour earlier on

Sundays, the first step in what was intended to be more than 10,000 new Library hours each year funded by the levy. With the closure of all Library facilities to the public beginning in March 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Library has had to defer our promise of providing additional open hours.

During Q2 2021, we reopened 17 Library locations for in-building services, the result of months of planning. Three branches reopened in April, one branch reopened in May and 12 branches and the Central Library (Levels 1, 3 and 5) reopened in June. Staff and patrons alike were delighted to return to their libraries. Patrons cheered, cried tears of joy, renewed Library cards and checked out stacks of materials on their first day back. There was even a report of a patron dancing in the stacks. Patrons were excited to browse books, read with their children, find comfortable spaces to sit and read, catch up on work, and chat with Library staff. Computer access proved essential for many patrons, who were able to access the internet on something other than their phones for the first time since the pandemic began. Staff welcomed patrons back with creative Welcome Back displays and big smiles behind the masks. The kindness, helpfulness and enthusiasm of staff was visible everywhere, from security officers and ambassadors greeting patrons to Library staff assisting with computers, printing, finding books and more.

As the Library reopens more locations, our operations continue to be affected by staffing levels and health and safety restrictions. We are currently operating on modified schedules with reduced hours and days. Masks and physical distancing are required and some Library resources are still not available to patrons, such as meeting rooms and in-person programming. We hope to expand service hours in Q3. If the Library's General Fund support is permanently restored, we intend to fulfill the levy promise of 10,000 additional hours in 2022.

## Critical community resource in intense heat

In late June, our region experienced an unprecedented heat event, with temperatures soaring to triple digits over three days. The Library played a critical role in providing cooling centers for our community. Warnings of the heat wave started during a week we were reopening 10 Library locations, including three levels of the Central Library. As predictions pointed to an extreme heat event, the Library worked closely with the city to communicate which reopened libraries had air-conditioning (13 out of the 17 open at that point) and their hours and days of operation. Front line staff began thinking creatively about how we could increase Library hours in air-conditioned locations. On Sunday, June 27, and Monday, June 28, when the heat wave was predicted to peak, many of our air-conditioned branches were not scheduled to be open. By redeploying staff across the system, we were able to open five additional locations on June 27, for a total of 10 air-conditioned locations; and we opened six additional locations on June 28, for a total of nine air-conditioned locations.

We served nearly 1,700 patrons on June 27 and 2,100 patrons on June 28, with our busiest branches being Greenwood and Ballard. Our efforts received extensive coverage in local,



“Coming back into the library for the first time yesterday was an emotional experience for me.”

- Library patron

“Thank you for opening the Lake City branch on Sunday and Monday during the heatwave. The few hours of air conditioning really made a huge difference for me.”

- Library patron

national and even international media, including in the [New York Times](#), the [Washington Post](#), the [Guardian](#) and the [Independent](#). This was truly an all-hands-on-deck situation, and we are proud of how Library staff stepped up and delivered for our city. It was also a learning opportunity. As interim chief librarian Tom Fay said in a follow-up message to staff: “We have learned a lot from this experience as a system, and we look forward to implementing improvements to our processes in response to weather and environmental events.”

## Increasing access: Virtual programs and services

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As the Library restored access to our physical spaces, we continued to expand virtual programming and services. In Q2, we hosted nearly 400 virtual programs, from career and entrepreneurial help to author programs and story times. One notable highlight was the Bullitt Lecture in American History featuring Michelle Duster, the author of “Ida B. the Queen.” Another was the South Park Branch celebration of the 25th anniversary of Dia, Children’s Day/Book Day on April 30. We offered virtual and low-contact programs for the whole family, in partnership with King County Library System, Sno-Isle Libraries, and the Washington state chapter of REFORMA.

In Q2, we also launched [Book Bingo](#), our summer reading program for adults, and [Summer of Learning](#), our annual summer program for children.

### In Focus: Your Next Job

[Your Next Job](#) is an example of a virtual service we started during the pandemic to help our community during unprecedented times and an example of how the Library leverages its resources to increase access to Library programs and services. In March 2020, Library staff started thinking about how to help our community navigate job loss in the face of the COVID-related economic crisis. In June 2020, with financial support from The Seattle Public Library Foundation and US Bank, we launched Your Next Job, a partnership with King County Library System (KCLS), Sno-Isle Libraries, and Seattle Jobs Initiative (SJI), Puget Sound Welcome Back Center, Snohomish Goodwill, Building Our Bridge, and Korean Community Service Center.

Your Next Job offers free, one-on-one help with exploring a new career, navigating unemployment, and online learning. Patrons can use the service in multiple formats -- by phone, online or via text messaging. The program is focused on people who face language, literacy, or accessibility barriers. The service is offered in English, Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Oromo, Somali, Spanish, Russian, Tigrinya and Vietnamese.

During the first six months of 2021, 111 people attended more than 300 appointments, including 44 people with limited English proficiency. In follow-up surveys, program participants shared some of their reasons for using the service, from needing new job skills in response to COVID-19 work-related changes to a goal of transitioning from a service job to a more professional career. Participants said that one-on-one help felt like a compassionate source of support in a time of great need. Staff has used feedback to improve and shape the service over the course of the last year. The Library continues to offer many other job-related resources, including skills classes, online resources and Library to Business assistance.

# Providing resources to youth

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Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Library has relied on its strong relationships with many community partners to help youth and families who were thrust into the world of remote learning without adequate support. We expanded the Library Link partnership with Seattle Public Schools (SPS) in 2020, which provided all K-12 students and teachers with instant access to all digital Library resources. Since the expansion, we have seen an increase in SPS staff and student use across all age brackets, especially of resources like Hoopla and OverDrive/Libby; which provide access to e-books, music and streaming. Middle school students have also increased their Library Link use, doubling the previous school year's engagement numbers.

In October 2020, we launched Tutor.com, providing students with access to live tutoring and academic support in over 300 subjects, and in multiple languages. So far, students have engaged with this service more than 7,500 times. To build awareness of these online resources among youth and families furthest from educational justice, in December 2020, we partnered with [Salaxley TV](#) to provide information about Tutor.com and other Library services to parents in Somali. We also partnered with Seattle Housing Authority teen residents to develop Tutor.com videos in [English](#), [Amharic](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#) and [Vietnamese](#) to share with Seattle Housing Authority community. These efforts have already resulted in more than 500 views each.

## Partnering with community partners for greatest impact

The COVID-19 pandemic has provided us with an opportunity to reflect and reimagine programming that addresses the distinct needs of Seattle youth and families. Our K-5 program manager, funded through 2021 with levy savings from program deferrals, has been spearheading this effort. With intentional community listening and power sharing efforts to meaningfully engage K-5 youth and families from marginalized and underserved communities, the Library partnered with Team Read, Seattle Housing Authority, WA-BLOC Freedom School and Refugee Women's Alliance for summer 2021 programming. More information about youth served through this program in Q2 and Q3 will be shared in next quarter's levy report. All of our youth engagement and program efforts are designed in collaboration with community for greatest impacts. Our key objective is to create meaningful learning experiences that center joy, youth voice and intentionally affirm student cultures, identities and experiences.



“SPL's focus on student-interest driven discussion and reading has excited our young people who were delighted to receive their own copies and find characters with the same names and cultures as them in the books”.

*Hannah Reilly, Elementary Program Teacher, Refugee Women's Alliance*

## Building robust collections in print and digital formats

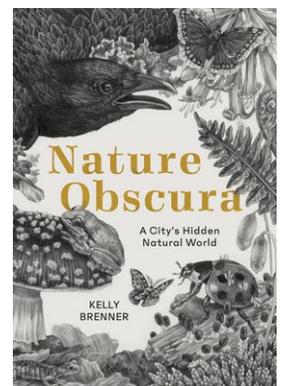
The 2019 Levy commits resources to maintaining and expanding the Library's collection of physical and digital materials. The levy includes additional funding for e-books, e-audiobooks and streaming services; money to continue and improve the Peak Picks collection; and funds to support the acquisition and digitization of local history items. To offset General Fund budget cuts in 2021, a portion of levy funds – originally allocated to expand levy hours and programming – was redirected to the collections. In 2021, the 2019 Levy, which provides almost \$6 million toward the Collections category, will fund half of the Library's total spending for books and materials.

### Demand for digital collections remains strong

Our patrons' use of digital Library materials, such as e-books and e-audiobooks declined slightly in Q2 2021, as they gained more access to our libraries and physical collections. Almost across the board, from digital books to streaming movies and music, digital circulation declined from the record highs of Q2 2020: Total digital circulation declined 3.5% from the first quarter of 2021 and 4% from Q2 2020. Still, digital usage statistics remain impressive. More than 90,000 patrons downloaded e-books or e-audiobooks in Q2 2021, and almost 13,000 streamed movies and music. Digital circulation accounted for 63% of total circulation in Q2.

To keep up with sustained high demand, we added over 9,400 titles and 23,000 copies to the digital collection in Q2 2021. Our digital collection now includes over 308,000 titles and 744,000 copies. We recently added 75 new titles to our popular "Always Available" e-audiobook collections; ranging from classics, such as Jane Austen's "Sense and Sensibility" to works produced by local authors such as "Nature Obscura" by Seattle-based naturalist Kelly Brenner. Funds from the Gustave Snelling Estate allowed us to purchase dozens of new maritime titles in digital formats that are sure to appeal to seafaring Seattleites. We also added e-books for adults and children in multiple languages, purchasing over 200 adult and 100 children's titles in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Korean, Russian, Spanish and Vietnamese. And we added eight titles to Flipster, our popular digital magazine service. Titles were selected to round out the collection and fill in some subject areas. We now offer 98 magazines for digital checkout.

Our Selection Services librarians are actively involved in helping patrons discover available content. At any given time, a half dozen curated lists are prominently featured on the Library's [OverDrive](#) webpage and the Libby app, and are customized to both pique patron interest and drive patrons towards available titles. In Q2, curated lists were viewed over 28,000 times and generated more than 7,500 checkouts; lists that promote fiction for adults are especially popular.



New "Always Available" audiobook

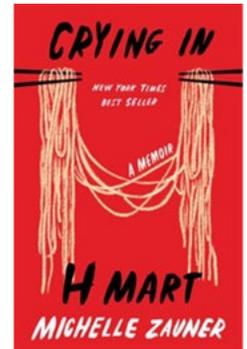


New Flipster title

## Physical circulation begins to rebound

As the Library expanded Curbside locations and reopened libraries for in-building services in Q2, patrons increasingly sought out physical materials. Overall physical circulation increased 9% from Q1. At Curbside locations, Grab and Go bags of paperback books for all ages remained popular, and we began to offer bags featuring children's books in world languages. Patrons were very happy to discover children's books in Amharic, Chinese, Tigrinya, Oromo, Somali, and Vietnamese at several locations.

Demand for Peak Picks – the Library's popular no-holds, no-wait collection of high-interest titles –also rebounded. Patrons checked out over 26,000 Peak Picks books in Q2 2021, up 8% as compared to Q1. Greenwood Branch patrons alone checked out more than 3,750 Peak Picks in the second quarter; on average, checking out more than 100 Peak Picks titles every day the branch is open. We added 28 titles to the Peak Picks collection in Q2, including national bestsellers such as "The Premonition" by Michael Lewis and "Crying in H Mart" by Michelle Zauner, along with titles by local authors such as "We Hereby Refuse: Japanese American Resistance to Wartime Incarceration" by Frank Abe, Tamiko F. Nimura and Matt Sasaki, and "Homewaters: A Human and Natural History of Puget Sound" by David B. Williams. Other new Peak Picks included "The Other Black Girl," Zakiya Dalila Harris' breakout hit about a Black woman in the publishing industry, "While Justice Sleeps," Stacey Abrams' legal thriller; and "Malibu Rising," Taylor Jenkins Reid's 1980s surf culture throwback.



New Peak Picks title

## Adding to local history collections

During Q2 we launched our new [Earshot Jazz digital collection](#). Created in collaboration with Earshot Jazz and with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the collection includes the full archives of Earshot Jazz magazines in digital form from 1984 to present. The magazine tells the history of Seattle's vibrant jazz scene, including feature profiles of musicians, articles highlighting local festivals, concerts and album releases as well as venue listings for jazz events. The collection includes 421 issues and 9,000 pages of content, and offers full-text searching and browsing along with a [searchable index of over 21,000 terms](#). It will continue to grow as new issues of the magazine are added.

In May, The Seattle Public Library joined the [Northwest Digital Heritage](#) hub, which allows us to contribute over [11,000 items](#) from Special Collections Online to the [Digital Public Library of America \(DPLA\)](#). The Northwest Digital Heritage Hub comprises over 70 institutions in Oregon and Washington, including both state libraries. Our contribution to DPLA allows our historic materials to be discovered by a wider audience and explored with millions of items from other libraries, museums and cultural heritage institutions across the United States.

In June, we also completed work on our Washington State Digital Heritage Grant, which supported the digitization of 500 photographs from our [Northwest Photograph Collection](#). These photographs feature images of Washington, Oregon and Alaska from the late 1800s to the 1970s and include prominent local photographers such as Asahel Curtis, Webster & Stevens and Frank Jacobs.

The curator of the Seattle Collection continued to add material documenting Black history in our region, including an 1855 Report that accompanied the U.S. House of Representatives bill granting Black pioneer George Washington Bush ownership of his land. Bush arrived in the Puget Sound area in 1845 with the Simpson Party, the first group to settle north of the Columbia River. The Oregon Treaty was signed a year later and denied settlement rights to Blacks, preventing Bush from legally claiming the land he had cultivated. Fortunately, when Washington Territory was founded in 1853, territorial legislators, many who were friends and neighbors of Bush, successfully petitioned the U.S. Congress to grant Bush ownership of his 640 acres in 1855. The curator also acquired a rare ribbon badge of the Puget Sound Lodge No. 109 of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World (I.B.P.O.E.W), an early Black fraternal organization, and a cabinet card photograph from Globe Studio, a Black-owned photography studio established in Seattle in the late 19th century.



Ribbon badge of IBPOEW, an early Black fraternal organization

## LEVY ACCOMPLISHMENTS: TECHNOLOGY

### Keeping our technology up to date

The 2019 Levy commitments for technology include dedicated funding for digital equity offerings; replacement infrastructure for public internet access; replacement outdated technology for acquisition and circulation; and maintenance and upgrades of public technologies and the spl.org website. While our buildings have remained closed, our presence online has grown.

#### Digital equity and the HotSpot circulation program

Internet access is a critical need for everything from job-seeking help to social connection to remote learning. The pandemic cut off internet access for many due to long-term closures and changes to services Seattle residents had depended on. The 2019 Levy is the primary funding source for the SPL [HotSpot program](#), and we have been able to leverage levy funding with Seattle Public Library Foundation and federal funds to offer more hot spots in the community.

“Thank you so much for this life-changing access!!!”

SPL HotSpot user

In Q2 2021, we continued to support Seattle residents with mobile internet access through hot spots we lend to cardholders for a three week loan period and “outreach hotspots” we provide to communities who need longer term access. Almost all our 775 three-week loan period hot spots, and all 380 outreach hot spots, have been upgraded to a new model to ensure better functionality and updated features.

In Q2, we continued to work with community organizations such as API Chaya, Casa Latina, Sacred Heart Shelter (Catholic Community Services), FEEST, and the Low Income Housing Institute to provide long-term outreach hot spots to communities disproportionately impacted by the digital divide. These inequities have been amplified by the current public health crisis. New partners in Q2 included Community Passageways, El Centro de la Raza, and the African American Health Board. We also continued to provide hot spots for students at the Seattle World School and at City sites providing childcare and remote learning support. We loaned 35 additional hot spots to Seattle Parks and Recreation for youth programs at community centers. In Q2, we loaned 132 outreach hotspots for long-term access.

## **Improving our technology for patrons and staff**

In Q2, our technology team supported Library reopening by making a limited number of computers available in reopened locations. To protect the health and safety of patrons and staff, computer stations were physically distant from each other, and we introduced cleaning protocols for public computers between each use. We also deployed a virtual assistance tool that allowed Library staff to view a patron's screen from their own computer, providing computer help from a distance. Through Q2, we continued to offer free printing of up to 10 pages per day per patron.

We also completed the rollout of new Wi-Fi technology for all branches, which provided faster Wi-Fi performance for patrons. Our technology team continues to monitor usage and make adjustments as needed.

To improve productivity, we continued to upgrade staff computers at the Central Library to the Windows 10 operating system. As of the end of Q2, a small number of PCs remained to be upgraded. Over 95% of staff have completed training on how to spot phishing email attacks to ensure a secure computing environment. In order to leverage levy funding for our Integrated Library System (ILS) replacement that manages procurement and patron access to our physical and digital collections, we are engaging with consultants with deep experience in library technology and the ILS market to help create a five-year technology roadmap. The roadmap project is expected to start in Q3 and conclude in mid-2022.

## **LEVY ACCOMPLISHMENTS: SUPPORTING CHILDREN**

### **Expanding early learning options for children**

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#### **Planned programs delayed, virtual programs launched**

The 2019 Levy promised additional support for Library early learning programs for children ages 0 to 5. Our goal was to add up to six additional Play and Learn programs each week at Library locations, but efforts have been delayed due to building closures and ongoing concerns about congregating in groups. Savings from this program have been used to offset reductions in General Fund and to support staffing in our student success program (see p. 4). In Q2, we offered over 30 different story times, Play and Learn programs, Early Learning at Home programs, and children's activities online through our [Kids' YouTube channel](#). These programs were viewed more than 2,200 times. We anticipate being able to add in-person early learning programming when it is safe to do so.

The Library continued to support current Play and Learn partners through Q2 by promoting Play and Learn virtual programs on our website. We also supported partners with customized book recommendations (special topic/language booklists) and early learning extension activities for families. As the Library prepares for restoring in-person programming, we are engaging with partners to plan future programs. We are excited to have these high-quality early learning opportunities for young children and caregivers return to our branches and look forward to being able to expand these opportunities in the months ahead.

With support from The Seattle Public Library Foundation, we also distributed over 600 books to local community-based organizations serving youth and families during Q2. As we promote Summer of Learning to families, children and communities, we will continue to partner with these community-based organizations and many others to provide access to Library resources, physical materials and virtual programming opportunities.

## LEVY ACCOMPLISHMENTS: MAINTENANCE

### Protecting our investments

The 2019 Levy promised to maintain Library buildings, preserve funding for major maintenance and add resources to undertake earthquake retrofits for the [historic Columbia, Green Lake and University branches](#).

#### **Routine maintenance: Keeping our facilities clean and safe**

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented unique challenges and opportunities for keeping the Library clean, safe, and accessible, another important levy priority. Our maintenance staff have been busy during Q2 readying buildings for reopening by reconfiguring public furniture to allow for social distancing and putting up and taking down protective plexiglass shields in addition to keeping up with their preventative maintenance work. Our custodial staff deep-cleaned 20 branches and three floors of the Central Library in preparation for reopening while continuing to provide custodial service every day our facilities are open. Custodial staff also deployed about 50 computer cleaning stations that are stocked with odor-free cleaning wipes made in house. Staff created their own product to reduce waste and ensure the wipes would be safe for users and all of our electronic devices.

#### **Major maintenance: Preserving libraries for the next generation**

The 2019 Levy provides \$6.8 million in 2021 budget authority and \$3.6 million in carryforward authority for major maintenance. The 2012 levy provides an additional \$3.2 million in carryforward authority.

During Q2 2021, the Library continued to make progress on several larger projects. The Green Lake Branch seismic retrofit entered the architectural construction documents phase, working toward Landmarks Board approval before submitting the permit to the City. The roof replacement project at the Queen Anne Branch, which has already received preliminary approval from the Landmarks Board, is also in the construction documents phase. Modifications to the Library's newly acquired Maintenance and Operations Center is on schedule to meet the move-in deadline

of Sept. 30. The Library is advertising for a bid for exterior access improvements at the Douglass-Truth Branch. Architects working on replacing the Capitol Hill Branch roof and mechanical systems are completing construction documents in preparation for a public bid.

A multi-site ADA restroom compliance project will be publicly bid a second time (the Library received no responses the first time). A construction bond has been issued for a Montlake Branch parking lot accessibility project; we are awaiting legal approval before the bid award and construction.

In addition to planned projects, the Library has addressed many unexpected and emergent issues. The southwest corner of the Central Library (near Fourth Avenue and Madison Street) was damaged several months ago by a wayward vehicle; we are waiting on a prototype glass replacement panel for review, expected in early Q3. The Central Library also experienced a sewer leak earlier this year; the repair is now complete but the related Madison Street repair/upgrade is still outstanding. We are working with Seattle Public Utilities to be refunded for all work related to the sewer leak. The Rainier Beach Branch has been completely repaired after being hit by stray gunfire earlier this year. Finally, as the summer heat continues, we are working toward securing near-term funding to replace failing HVAC equipment at the Broadview Branch.

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## **Risks, opportunities and the path ahead:**

The Library is grateful for the additional support we received from the Seattle Rescue Plan/American Rescue Plan Act to allow us to hire staff to support pre-pandemic levels of open hours for the remainder of 2021. To deliver on our levy promises in 2022 and beyond, we must advocate for the full restoration of the 2021 General Fund cuts in future budgets. At the same time, the unprecedented events since March 2020 have changed what Seattle residents want and expect from the Library and how they use our programs and services. Some of these changes, such as increased reliance on virtual services, are likely to be permanent. In the year ahead, we will assess how we can best use levy dollars to deliver on priorities and meet emerging needs, but restoration of city budget support remains essential.

As you'll read in our 2021 3Q report, our staff continue to adapt, enhance, and launch services and programs to help our community respond to the COVID-19 crisis and beyond. Here's a quick preview:

- Hiring staff to support 2019 baseline hours
- Assessing in-person programming
- Surveying patron priorities

## 2021 Financials

The 2019 Levy accounts for \$35.8 million (34%) of the Library's total revised 2021 budget of \$104.7 million. The City General Fund provides \$54.3 million (55%), and other sources, including The Seattle Public Library Foundation, fund the remainder. Due to a steep decline of City revenues and a sharp increase in spending related to the pandemic, as part of the 2021 budget process, the City reduced the Library's general fund resources by \$5.8 million (10%). The 2021 budget was built on the assumption that the Library will not return to pre-pandemic operations before July 2021. In Q2, the City Council approved an allocation of \$1.1 million in American Rescue Act funds to support re-opening library facilities for the remainder of 2021. The Library remains committed to fulfilling levy promises related to expanded hours and programming in 2022 and beyond, although this is dependent on the restoration of General Fund resources at levels that support 2019 operating hours.

Spending tables below show the 2021 adopted budget plus encumbrances and unspent budget authority from 2020 in the revised budget columns. \$4.6 million of unspent funds from the 2019 levy and \$4.2 million from the 2012 levy are available for spending in 2021. The Library will request additional spending authority from levy fund balances through legislation later in the year.

2019 Levy	2021 Revised			
	Budget*	Exp Thru Q2	Available	% Spent
Hours & Access	11,787,118	5,131,075	6,656,043	44%
Providing Books & Materials	5,958,677	3,140,279	2,818,398	53%
Technology & Online Services	2,734,188	784,332	1,949,856	29%
Building & Facility Support	2,056,713	664,038	1,392,675	32%
Administration	526,335	118,516	407,819	23%
CIP **	12,443,723	645,977	11,797,746	5%
Children's Programming	277,323	66,409	210,913	24%
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,784,076</b>	<b>10,550,626</b>	<b>25,233,450</b>	<b>29%</b>

\*\$4,604,076 in total carry-forward authority

\*\*includes Major Maintenance and Information Technology capital projects

2012 Levy	2021 Revised			
	Budget	Exp Thru Q2	Available	% Spent
Providing Books & Materials	138,000	-	138,000	0%
Technology & Online Services	479,999	10,283	469,716	2%
Buildings & Facilities Support	501,000	-	501,000	0%
Administration	-	-	-	N/A
CIP	3,225,203	69,453	3,155,750	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,344,202</b>	<b>79,735</b>	<b>4,264,467</b>	<b>2%</b>

\*\$4,206,202 in total carry-forward authority

**Table 1. Service restoration by location since COVID-19 closure**

	Restroom Service	Book Return	Curbside Pickup	In-Building
Ballard Branch	April 2020	July 2020	Aug. 2020	June 2021
Beacon Hill Branch	April 2020	July 2020	Nov. 2020	April 2021
Broadview Branch		July 2020	Aug. 2020	May 2021
Capitol Hill Branch	April 2020	March 2021	March 2021	
Central Library	April 2020	July 2120	Aug. 2020	June 2021
Columbia Branch		July2020		June 2021
Delridge Branch				June 2021
Douglass-Truth Branch		July 2020	Aug. 2020	June 2021
Fremont Branch				
Green Lake Branch		July 2020		
Greenwood Branch		Oct. 2020	Oct. 2020	June 2021
High Point Branch		July 2020	Aug. 2020	June 2021
International District Branch				June 2021
Lake City Branch		July 2020	Aug. 2020	April 2021
Madrona Sally Goldmark Branch				
Magnolia Branch		Jan. 2021	Jan. 2021	June 2021
Montlake Branch				
NewHolly Branch				
Northeast Branch		July 2020	Oct. 2020	
Northgate Branch		Jan. 2021	Jan. 2021	
Queen Anne Branch				June 2021
Rainier Beach Branch		Jul. 2020	Aug. 20	June 2021
South Park Branch		March 2021	March 2021	June 2021
Southwest Branch		Nov. 20	Nov. 2020	April. 2021
University Branch	April 2020			June 2021
Wallingford Branch				
West Seattle Branch			April. 2021	

Q2 expansion