Darrington Community Library

The Darrington Library (left) shares space with City Hall. Customers in the rural area often spend time at the library (below).

Recommendation

Maintain the current facility.

Reasoning

The Darrington Library is co-located with Darrington City Hall. The library is well-sized for the community and can accommodate projected population growth. The following factors were also considered:

- The library is close to multiple schools and early learning centers.
- The library is in a rural area where high-speed, wireless Internet access is limited outside town limits.
- The library acts as a hub in this remote community.
- The library includes a community meeting room, program space for children and teens, as well as a reading area.

Current Library

The Darrington Library was built in 1990 and expanded to its current size in 2008.

- **Use:** In 2014, the library circulated a total of 55,448 materials and averaged 24 visitors per hour.

- **Access:** On average, current customers travel 7.3 miles to reach the Darrington Library. More than one third (34 percent) of customers live more than five miles away from the library.
- **Size:** The Darrington Library is 5,000 square feet. The library currently serves 0.6 people per square foot and is forecast to serve 0.8 people per square foot by 2025.

Growth Impacts

Over the next 10 years, the population surrounding the Darrington Library is anticipated to grow by 30 percent. However, the area's population density is expected to remain at less than one person per 10 acres. Sno-Isle Libraries expects that the current library can accommodate this population growth.

Community Response

The final recommendation reflects the consideration of input, comments and feedback received from community members and leaders during initial and later outreach phases. Sno-Isle Libraries heard the following general themes from this community:

- The computers and Internet access offered through the library are appreciated.
- Respondents support the recommendation. If anything changed, they would like the library to have more space for computers and technology.
- Respondents appreciate that the library offers meeting room space for community events.

Key Theme

The current library facility is appropriate to meet the needs of the community.