

Greater Mill Creek Area



Construction of multi-family and single-family housing developments (left) are filling in southeast Snohomish County (below).

Recommendation

Locate a new library in the greater Mill Creek area.

Reasoning

The Mill Creek Library is located near the Town Center core of the city. The current facility is too small to adequately serve the existing customer base and the significant population growth projected in the areas east and south of the current Mill Creek Library. Strong community feedback from the greater Mill Creek area indicates that residents want the existing Mill Creek Library to remain at its current location in addition to a new library in the area. These factors contribute to a dual recommendation:

- Renovate the Mill Creek Library at the existing location.
- Locate a new facility east and south of the current Mill Creek Library to serve existing area residents and accommodate projected population growth.

Growth Impacts

The greater Mill Creek area is forecast to become one of the most heavily-populated areas in the library district, with a projected population of 182,853 people by 2025. New growth is expected to spread southeast of the Mill Creek city limits. The Mill Creek Library is already inadequately-sized at current use levels.



Customer travel times are expected to increase and negatively impact accessibility to the library.

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 need for more library services in southeast Snohomish County is acknowledged.
- Adequate parking and convenient access are high priorities.
- Access to public transportation should be considered when siting a new library.
- Welcoming, open interior spaces that don't feel cramped are needed.
- Recognition that new schools are under construction which will increase student use of a new facility.

Key Themes

General community acknowledgment was received that this area needs increased library services and access. A new facility should include ample parking, convenient public transit access, and a suitable size to meet a diverse range of service needs, including meeting/event space, study and quiet areas, a large browsing collection in all formats, designated spaces for children and teens, and comfortable seating.