

Langley Community Library



The Langley Library (left) is on the historic register and part of the town's popular downtown area. Library customers take advantage of public computers, printers and free Internet (below).

Recommendation

Maintain the current facility.

Reasoning

The Langley Library serves the south Whidbey Island area along with facilities in Clinton and Freeland. This plan recommends the Langley, Freeland, and Clinton libraries be considered collectively to serve residents of the combined areas.

The following factors were considered:

- The current library is difficult to expand due to site and space restrictions.
- The building is on the historic register, so expanding or renovating the existing structure would require significant resources.



Current Library

The Langley Library was built in 1923 and is one of three community-based libraries serving south Whidbey Island.

- **Use:** In 2014, the library circulated a total of 101,076 materials and averaged 31 visitors per hour.
- **Access:** On average, current customers travel 5.7 miles to reach the Langley Library. Almost half (44 percent) of current customers live more than five miles away from the library.
- **Size:** The Langley Library was built in 1923 and expanded in 1994. The facility is 3,541 square feet and currently serves 0.7 people per square foot.

Growth Impacts

Sno-Isle Libraries serves south Whidbey Island with three community-based libraries in Langley, Clinton and Freeland. Library data shows significant cross-use by people who live in one community and borrow from another. It is appropriate to consider library service to the south Whidbey Island communities as a group.

South Whidbey Island is anticipated to have a population of 19,750 and a population density of three people per 10 acres by 2025. This reflects an anticipated population growth of 3 percent.

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 atmosphere of the library is warm, friendly and inviting.
- Easy access to the library is appreciated.
- The library is a benefit to the community.
- The library needs a meeting room.

Key Theme

The current library is appropriate to meet the needs of the community, with interest expressed for a meeting room. However, making changes could be difficult and/or expensive because of the historic status of the building.