

Lynnwood Community Library



The Lynnwood Library (left) is part of the city's current civic center. All sizes of customers are accommodated (below).

Recommendation

Maintain the current facility until conditions change requiring a different library facility as part of a new civic campus.

Reasoning

The Lynnwood Library meets current needs. However, growth is converging on Lynnwood. The City of Lynnwood is considering a new civic center which includes the potential for a new and larger library. Sno-Isle Libraries will work with city officials to ensure the library continues to serve the community and commuter populations as significant population growth, economic expansion, and transportation improvements occur.

Factors considered for this recommendation include:

- Significant residential, commercial and commuter population growth is expected in Lynnwood by 2025.
- More than 1,000 multi-family housing units are currently under construction or permitted for the area.
- Lynnwood serves as a regional transit hub.
- Link Light Rail is expected to open in 2023.



Current Library

The Lynnwood Library is located in a heavily trafficked transitional area between commercial and residential uses. The library has a Creative Tech Center providing hardware, software and other technology to aid creativity, collaboration and multimedia projects. The library provides targeted services for diverse populations, including American Sign Language, English as a Second Language and U.S. citizenship classes.

- **Use:** In 2014, the library circulated a total of 734,309 materials and averaged 136 visitors per hour.
- **Access:** On average, current customers travel 3.7 miles to reach the Lynnwood Library and 15 percent of customers live more than five miles away from the library.
- **Size:** The Lynnwood Library is 25,920 square feet. It was built in 1971 and renovated in 1999. The library currently serves 2.3 people per square foot.

Growth Impacts

The Lynnwood area population is expected to be 63,347, with a population density of 57 people per 10 acres by 2025.

Over the next 10 years, Lynnwood will become a regional transportation hub with state and interstate highways, local, commuter and bus rapid transit lines, and a new Sound Transit Link Light Rail station scheduled to open in 2023. Urban planners expect enhanced transportation access to Lynnwood to increase regional travel to Lynnwood for work, school, shopping, and other purposes, including to access library services.

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 library provides an important service to the community and is busy at all hours.
- Current location is convenient with public transit options.
- More parking, especially for disabled customers, is needed.
- Create separate and larger areas for children, teens, and for quiet study.
- More meeting and study rooms are needed.
- The library will need to expand to accommodate population growth.
- Concerns noted about where a new, larger facility would be located.

Key Theme

The current facility is appropriate to meet today's needs but may not be adequate for expected growth and demand. Community interest was expressed for continued partnership between Sno-Isle Libraries and the City to address future needs.