



The Monroe Library (left) is close to schools and other services. The dramatic wall of windows (below) creates a peaceful atmosphere.

Monroe Community Library

Recommendation

Maintain the current facility.

Reasoning

The Monroe Library is well-sized for the community. Projected population growth can be accommodated by the facility. Public comments collected for this plan indicate that the current facility meets the community's needs.

Current Library

The Monroe Library was built in 2002 and serves a large geographic area. The Monroe Library has a meeting room, study room, and the largest collection of Spanish books, DVDs and other materials in the library district. The library is located near multiple schools, parks, a senior center and City Hall.

- **Use:** In 2014, the library circulated a total of 291,476 materials and averaged 56 visitors per hour.



- **Access:** On average, current customers travel 5.2 miles to reach the Monroe Library. More than a third (36 percent) of Monroe’s customers live over five miles from the Library.
- **Size:** The Monroe Library is 20,000 square feet. The library currently serves 1.8 people per square foot. By 2025 the library is expected to serve 2.1 people per square foot.

Growth Impacts

The area surrounding the Monroe Library is expected to grow 13 percent by 2025. Monroe is anticipated to have a population density of 11 people per 10 acres in 2025. The majority of population growth is expected to occur within the City of Monroe.

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 current library facility is well-sized and well-sited with ample parking.
- Respondents appreciate the library’s large collection of materials.
- The library has a comfortable atmosphere, employs helpful staff and fosters a sense of community.
- Some respondents shared concerns over noise levels in the library, and expressed a desire for more quiet spaces for reading and study.

Key Theme

The current facility is considered appropriate to meet the needs of the community, with interest expressed regarding concerns over periodic high noise levels.