



2022
**COMMUNITY
REPORT**

Creating Connections

SNO-ISLE LIBRARIES



OUR VISION

Everyone in our community is connected to their library.

OUR MISSION

We engage and inspire our communities through equitable access to knowledge and resources.



LOIS LANGER THOMPSON

Executive Director,
Sno-Isle Libraries

In 2022, we celebrated 60 years of connecting people through ideas and community. Over the last 60 years, Sno-Isle Libraries has remained true to the role of a public library while evolving with the world we live in to embrace new opportunities. You can check out a physical book or an eBook, a Discover Pass to visit state parks, a laptop and Wi-Fi hotspot, and access newspapers online — all with your library card. We will continue to find new ways to bring you the library you love.

You have a place at your library. Whether you choose to connect online or in person, we have made it easier to use essential library services by removing barriers to getting a library card, added 100 open hours each week, and

launched an equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) page on our website. It is essential everyone sees themselves in the materials and programs to be connected to their library. Our talented and committed staff are available to help you discover something new and provide one-on-one help.

In 2023, Sno-Isle Libraries will continue to invest in you and our communities through materials, capital improvement projects, and expanding access to technology and services. We are grateful for the generous support from our Friends of the Libraries groups and the Sno-Isle Libraries Foundation.

We look forward to what the next 60 years will bring.

Lois Langer Thompson
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

“ *The Board of Trustees is honored and proud to represent our library system which serves our many and varied communities so well. Our libraries are spaces where everyone is welcome. Come as you are!* ”

— SUSAN KOSTICK, 2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRESIDENT

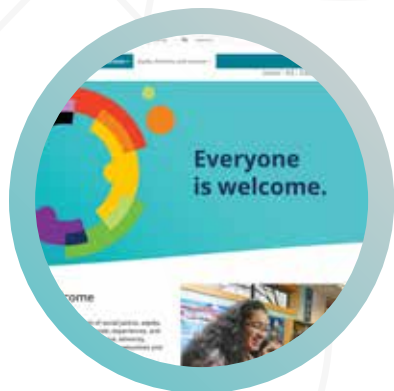
Everyone is welcome.

Libraries are for everyone. Sno-Isle Libraries will continue to prioritize our commitment to being an equitable, inclusive, and anti-racist organization by embedding these principles within all our work, including our budget.



Celebrate the Freedom to Read

Sno-Isle Libraries recognizes and advocates for the freedom to choose books for you and your family. In September, we launched “Celebrate the Freedom to Read” to bring our community together around the right to choose what you read. Throughout the year, staff create [booklists](#) to support your interests and discover something new.



Website Experience

A [new EDI section](#) was added to [sno-isle.org](#) to celebrate and explore three areas: accessibility, citizenship, and EDI programs and services.

Customers can browse the website in seven languages: English, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese. In 2022, we enhanced the in-language browsing capabilities for a better search experience.



Juneteenth

We honored Juneteenth with our community by engaging in events, including Change the Narrative’s Juneteenth Kickoff and Bridging the Gap: A Community Conversation on Juneteenth. The Sno-Isle Libraries Board of Trustees added Juneteenth as an official observed holiday.



Investing in Staff

Sno-Isle Libraries continued to invest in equity and inclusion by adding two new positions: EDI Manager and Bilingual Spanish Outreach Specialist. Our Workforce Diversity Advisory Group is moving us towards our goals of recruiting, supporting, and sustaining a diverse workforce.



Inclusive Programming

We offered 108 language programs with native speakers, and launched Online Spanish Storytimes and a new Spanish poetry series. Sno-Isle Libraries has also partnered with local organizations to provide Tails and Tales where children can boost their confidence and reading skills by reading aloud to a trained therapy dog.

“ *The library has always been my happy place. Thank you!* ”

— DINNIE B.

Built for you, inspired by you.

Sno-Isle Libraries is committed to creating inspiring spaces which are welcoming, inclusive, and easy to use. Each community is unique, and our goal is to reimagine our libraries to reflect and align with each community.

Our capital projects are a direct investment in our communities. We optimized funding through a combination of sources, including grants and other budget funds.

In 2022, we engaged our communities and moved plans forward for six capital projects to create inviting libraries which support needs now and for years to come.



Darrington Library concept design.



*Edmonds Library
flood damage.*



Arlington Library

In September 2022, we invited our community to provide ideas and feedback about their library. Their inspiration led to the remodel plans including an extension to the building, which adds approximately 4,500 square feet. The remodel kicked off in April 2022 with the replacement of the roof.

Darrington Library

With Whitehorse Mountain as inspiration, conceptual designs were completed, and pre-construction work began. Our community will enjoy an outdoor space, a welcoming entry, quiet reading places, and a designated children's area. Construction will begin in Spring 2023.

Edmonds Library

In June 2022, a pipe ruptured, flooding the library with 60,000 gallons of water. Sno-Isle Libraries opened a pop-up library to provide access to essential library services. In collaboration with the City of Edmonds, Sno-Isle Libraries will reimagine the 17,566-square-foot space to provide a special place for our community. We will welcome our community back into the library in Summer 2023.

The Future Lake Stevens Library

The project continued to move forward with site preparations, including a wetland survey at the Chapel Hill property site and the architect firm BuildingWork was hired. Sno-Isle Libraries continued to engage our neighbors, community members, and partners in conversations about the project.

Langley Library

Sno-Isle Libraries met with our community, partners, and the City of Langley to ensure plans for the renovated space honored the historical building. With their help, we finalized the proposed design concepts. Our community will enjoy a meeting room, study spaces, and expanded reading areas.

Mariner Library and Community Campus

A project manager was hired to continue momentum for this collaborative project. Sno-Isle Libraries is working with partners to create a community campus within the heart of the Mariner neighborhood in south Everett. In 2022, we started our property search for the new Mariner Community Campus.



*I judge a community by the size of its library.
The more libraries they have, or the larger the library, shows me
that community has its priorities in the right place.*

— CARL P.



Creating Connections

We have something for everyone. Sno-Isle Libraries staff are available to help you connect with services, discover something new, and make recommendations.



Check Out a Discover Pass

In 2022, we connected you with the great outdoors. Discover Passes can be checked out from the library to visit Washington's state parks or wildlife areas.



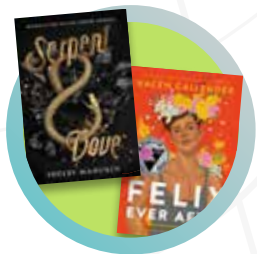
Added 100 Hours

Sno-Isle Libraries added 100 open hours each week across its 23 library locations to provide flexibility for our customers. You can visit your library, use meeting rooms and study areas, and connect to the internet later into the day.



75 Years of the Bookmobile

The Bookmobile celebrated 75 years of bringing the library to you. Library on Wheels removes barriers to using the library and meets our community where they are through outreach, visiting childcare centers and senior living communities, and books by mail.



Instant Access

We recognize sometimes you do not want to wait for your next read. Customers continued to enjoy instant access to eBook and digital audiobook titles with 9,774 checkouts over the course of 2022.



New Online Author Talks

More than 4,600 customers connected with a diverse lineup of bestselling fiction and nonfiction authors through a partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium.



Your Community Meeting Place

We brought our community together with our reservable meeting rooms and study spaces. Beginning in September 2022, customers could easily book meeting and study spaces online resulting in 2,787 bookings for the remainder of the year.



Picture Books that Talk

To support our younger customers in their reading journey, we added a new read-along audiobook format, Easy MP3s. Listening to stories helps children build their vocabulary and understanding before they are ready to read on their own.



New Library Cards

Whether it's your first library card or a needed replacement for a well-loved card, we added new fun designs for all ages. Pick a card that speaks to you!

I love the library because whenever my kids have a question on a topic, I take them to the library to help them find a book to get the answer. They are learning so much and the library encourages their curiosity. Our family appreciates you so much!

— KELSEY B.

Meet Leadership and Board of Trustees

The Sno-Isle Libraries Board of Trustees is a volunteer board of seven trustees representing Snohomish and Island counties. Sno-Isle Libraries Board of Trustees reaffirmed our commitment to capital projects and EDI.

Leadership



Lois Langer Thompson
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



David Durante
DEPUTY DIRECTOR



Barb Adams
HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR



Nick Fuchs
TECHNICAL SERVICES DIRECTOR



Alisha Hendren
FINANCE DIRECTOR



Diane Lai
COMMUNITY LIBRARIES DIRECTOR



Rebecca Loney
PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTOR

Board of Trustees



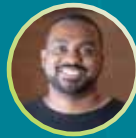
Susan Kostick
PRESIDENT



Kelli Smith
VICE PRESIDENT



Rose Olson
SECRETARY



Michael Adams



Jennifer DePrey



Martin Munguia



Paul Ryan



Get to know them better!

Check out what our Leadership and Board of Trustees favorite reads were in 2022.

By the Numbers

2 counties | 800K+ residents | 23 libraries | 462 employees



305,577 Wi-Fi connections from libraries

12,272 Laptop and Wi-Fi hotspot checkouts

5,537 Summer Reading Finishers – that's 2.3 million minutes read!

56,736 Attendees at 2,187 online and in-person events



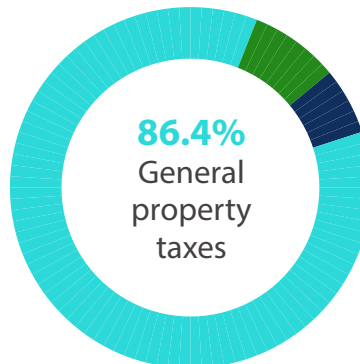
\$7,621,929 Invested in books, audiobooks, eBooks, and DVDs for you



\$74.9 million revenue

\$77.1 million expenditures

36 years clean audits



8.2% Grants (State, Federal)

5.4% Other (Investments, E-rate, Board Approved Bonds, Sno-Isle Libraries Foundation, Friends Groups, Other)

Connect with us.



SNO-ISLE LIBRARIES



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sno-isle.org/contact-us



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