



**Mission -**

To provide modern library resources and services necessary to the evolving educational, recreational, and informational needs of the community.

**Library Information**

In 1886 at a special election, the citizens of Newton made a commitment that continues to benefit people in the community - to establish and support the Newton Free Library. The Library's name was changed to Newton Public Library with the move to the current location at 720 N Oak in 1973.

The Library was expanded with a wing for children in 1980, with the donation of Miss Florence Bessmer. A locally developed automated circulation system was initiated in 1981, and the catalog added in 1984. The Adult Services and office areas were remodeled in 1995 for implementation of a new integrated library system and to provide additional staff work area. Because of service demand and space constraints, in 1998 the lower level was remodeled to serve as the joint Youth Services area and the Bessmer Addition was divided to provide a larger meeting room and storage area. The library continued to expand beyond its walls when the library catalog and other databases became accessible through the library website in 1999.

**Library 2011 Primary Goals**

- Maintain a high level of personalized customer service for every patron and guest at Newton Public Library.
- Develop and implement a comprehensive marketing plan.
- Improve community awareness of Library collections, services and programs.
  - Improve facility patron comforts and make the Library an inviting environment using current best practices for community libraries.

- Expand digital delivery of services and awareness of Web-based programs.
- Increase internal ability to manage information technology.
- Promote plan for future services and facility needs.
- Celebrate NPL 125th anniversary.

**Highlights of 2010**

New Patrons	1,580
AVG. Attendance per Week	3,397
Items Checked Out	169,508
Program Attendance	18,950
Programs & Classes	719
Computer Usage	24,180
Wireless Network Usage	3,330
Website requests	486,459

**Library Collections:** Kept up-to-date with 4,876 new books, CDs, DVDs, toys, and software, plus 278 magazine subscriptions and online databases available 24/7. 93,660 total library materials for patrons to use.

**Library Card Holders:** Totaled 16,183 patrons of all ages.

**Adult Services:** Provided information and reference services including employment and business assistance; 3,739 items via Interlibrary Loan services; Volunteer Income Tax Assistance for 1,003 people; delivery to 219 homebound seniors; Talking Books services for 61 users and 9 institutions; 212 programs and classes, some via video conferencing and 68 hands-on mobile laptop lab classes; computer, Internet and wireless access.

**Youth Services:** Provided 5 Preschool and Toddler StoryTime weekly sessions for the public and 11 Preschool StoryTime sessions for 18 childcare agencies attended by 12,558; Summer Reading Programs with 1,623 enrolled; 507 activity programs for youth and families attended by 4,445 patrons, including weekly Gaming & More Mondays and Thursdays for teens; 990 Reading Is Fundamental books given to 300 children; electronic educational software.

### Major Challenges

- Continuing reductions in funds received from annual grants and investments and for collaborative resources with the State Library of Kansas places services valued by patrons in jeopardy.
- Keeping up with technology and finding the expertise to maintain servers and other technology to meet ongoing demands.
- Finding effective ways to communicate with the greater Newton community.
- Library services and programs are offered in cramped space limiting patron participation and without space to provide services to meet the community needs.
- The current facility has issues with the condition of the building envelope and systems that require significant improvements and cost. The following are some of the issues cited by GLMV and HB+M architects and their engineer consultants:
  - Much of the pre-cast concrete has open joints and exposed, rusted reinforcing
  - Windows have deteriorated with cracked or broken seals
  - Walls and roof are poorly insulated
  - Much of the mechanical systems are original equipment and have reached the end of their useful lives
  - Stair and mechanical room enclosures are not code compliant

- Plumbing systems are showing signs of deterioration
- Electrical service is inadequate for further expansion of needed circuits
- Potential water ponding issue on the roof could result in roof failure
- Water infiltration through walls, windows, doors.
- The existing building does not meet ADA requirements in the following areas:
  - Elevator - size, controls, signals, age
  - Stairs - handrails, risers, rescue assistance area
  - Restrooms - clearances, fixtures
  - Building Access - entrance sidewalk grade, loading ramp incline.

### 2012 Plan of Action

Provide a variety of quality Library resources, programs and services for the benefit of people of all ages in the Community:

### Library Facility Planning

Because money must be spent on the aging physical plant, the Library Board of Trustees strongly recommends a new facility based on the concept design developed with the community in 2010 rather than continuing to patch the existing facility together. As the Library consultants pointed out during the concept design phase, a new facility is a more economical investment than a remodel of the present building. The Board will work in partnership with the City of Newton to continue the Library planning process

DEPARTMENT EXPENDITURES	2008	ACTUAL 2009	2010	ADOPTED 2011	ADOPTED 2012
PERSONAL SERVICES					
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES				\$ 10,000	\$ -
COMMODITIES & SUPPLIES					
VEHICLE OPERATING					
CAPITAL OUTLAY					
TRANSFERS	\$ 655,618	\$ 673,829	\$ 675,960	\$ 703,880	\$ 703,880
	<b>\$ 655,618</b>	<b>\$ 673,829</b>	<b>\$ 675,960</b>	<b>\$ 713,880</b>	<b>\$ 703,880</b>

This Budget reflects the City's direct contribution to the Library and may not reflect additional resources received by the Library

summer reading fun  
puppetshows  
books  
VITA tax assistance  
Free online practice tests & manuals for GED, ACT, etc.  
Monday Knight Knitters  
Free library card  
Free online magazine & encyclopedia articles  
free online practice tests & manuals for GED, ACT, etc.  
NEWTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
720 North Oak, Newton, KS 67114  
Phone: 316.283.2890; Fax: 316.283.2916  
www.newtonplks.org  
teen gaming  
free computer classes  
artwork  
newspapers  
ENLITE homebound delivery to Seniors  
Fourth Tuesday digital photography meetings  
free computer use  
Chilton's auto repair free from your computer  
storytimes  
videos  
free programs  
Annual Flower & Garden Tour  
free Homework Kansas online tutoring