



AGENDA
WATAUGA LIBRARY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER, 7105 WHITLEY ROAD
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2025
6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT This is an opportunity for citizens to address the Council on items not posted on the current meeting agenda. Only those who have submitted a proper "Request to Speak Form" shall be permitted to speak. Citizens should provide their name and address for the record and will have no more than 3 minutes to speak. If representing an organization or group, the speaker should identify who they represent. Those wishing to speak are reminded 1) All comments are to be directed to the Council. 2) Be respectful of others. 3) No profanity permitted. 4) Violators will be removed from the premises. No discussion by the Council or Staff is allowed except to correct factual inaccuracies or request that the item be placed on a future agenda.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS This is an opportunity for citizens to address the Council on current agenda action items (excludes presentations and reports). Only those persons who have submitted a proper "Request to Speak Form" will be allowed to speak. Citizens will be required to state their name and address for the record. They have up to 3 minutes to speak, and their comments must be germane to the item. If speaking for an organization or group, the speaker should identify the group represented. Council members may ask questions or discuss the item with the citizens directly.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

1. Library Director's Report
Lana Ewell, Director of Library Services
2. Report from Librarian, Trina Nosenzo on updates to Study Room Policy.
Lana Ewell, Director of Library Services

CONSENT AGENDA All of the items on the consent agenda are considered to be self-explanatory by the Council and will be enacted with one motion, one second, and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. Any council member wishing to pull an item may do so.

1. Consider action on approval of the July 8, 2025, Library Board meeting minutes
Linda Proskey, City Secretary

ACTION ITEMS

1. Consider approval of "Watauga Public Library Long Range Plan 2026-2031."
Lana Ewell, Director of Library Services

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE

THIS FACILITY IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE AND ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES ARE AVAILABLE. REQUESTS FOR ACCOMMODATIONS OR INTERPRETIVE SERVICES MUST BE MADE 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THIS MEETING. PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT (817) 514-5825 OR FAX (817) 514-3625 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

I, Linda Proskey, City Secretary for the City of Watauga, hereby certify that this agenda was posted on the bulletin boards at City Hall, 7105 Whitley Road, Watauga, Texas, on November 4, 2025, before 5:00 p.m., in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

/S/ Linda Proskey
City Secretary





AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 17, 2025
TO: Library Board Members
FROM: Lana Ewell, Director of Library Services
SUBJECT: Library Director's Report

BACKGROUND/INFORMATION:

To communicate information about activities at the public library.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

NA

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION DESIRED:

NA

ATTACHMENTS/ SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

1. 2025 July Library Board Report (2)
2. 2025 August Library Board Report
3. 2025 September Library Board Report
4. Library Policies and dates

REVIEWED BY:

Lana Ewell, Director of Library Services
Sandra Gibson, City Manager
Linda Proskey, City Secretary
Approved as to form for inclusion on Agenda

Approved - 10/29/2025
Approved - 11/4/2025
Final Approval - 11/4/2025

Watauga Public Library C.A.R.E.S.

July 2025



Theater Camp



Lyle Blackburn

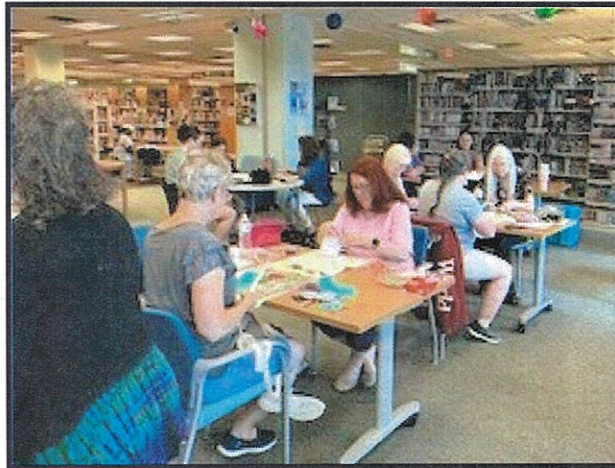
Civic / Community Engagement / Cultivating Community/ Digital Inclusion / Economic Development / Job Skills

- ◆ Curbside Service continues.
- ◆ The Circulation Staff receives and processes print jobs sent from patrons' home or library computers.

Adult Services Librarian Dana Harper & staff have created the following online classes & events to reach out to our public:

Adult Events Attendance:

- ◆ Well-Read Book Club 15
- ◆ Any-Book Book Club 1
- ◆ Lyle Blackburn 38
- ◆ Slow Stitch with Alicia 16
- ◆ Meditation (1 class) 9
- ◆ Knitting /Crochet(4 sessions) 33
- ◆ Book Club Morbidly Curious 5
- ◆ Harp Essence 99
- ◆ Pickle Tasting Class 17
- ◆ Mr. Novey Art Class 20
- ◆ Color Me Calm 10
- ◆ Harry Potter Lego Night 7
- ◆ Silent Reading Hour (3 sessions) 6



Slow Stitch Class



Steve Novy Art Class



Medicare



Watauga Seed Library

Early Childhood Literacy / Family Development & Enrichment

Regular Youth Events:

- ◆ Mother Goose: (3) 59
- ◆ Music & Movement:(4) 127
- ◆ Storytime: (20) 751
- ◆ Sensory Storytime: (1) 15
- ◆ Bilingual Storytime: (0) 0

Special Programs (in person):

- ◆ Pokémon Club: (4) 70
- ◆ End of Summer Reading Party: 208
- ◆ Tween Theater Camp : (5) 65
- ◆ Family Book Night: (1) 15
- ◆ B. Roberts Magic Show: 268
- ◆ Pokémon Crafts Family Night: (1) 8
- ◆ Reading with Teagan: (1) 32
- ◆ Art Camp with Mr. Novy: (5) 101
- ◆ Texas A&M Chemistry Road Show(1) 80
- ◆ Texas Wildlife: (2) 28
- ◆ Toshoccon: 179



Tutu School



Youth Sewing Class



ToshoCon

Harp Essence



WATAUGA PUBLIC LIBRARY-REPORT SUMMARY
Monthly Report - July 2025

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Circulation Total	20,129	20,092	166,564	156,629
Total in Collection	N/A	N/A	117,759	117,788
Programs	93	78	768	663
Program Attendance	2,302	3,328	22,782	24,041
Cards Issued	155	189	1,430	1,274
Library Visits	10,927	10,107	78,625	72,630
Notary Service	N/A	N/A	N/A	167
Reference & Directional Transactions	1,468	1,213	12,590	11,896
Study Room Usage (hours)	733	722	6,475	6,085
Volunteer Hours	677	751	3691	2032
Webpage Views	2,557	2,580	22,180	21,747
CIRCULATION SERVICES	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Adult Books	1,284	1,328	12,041	11,276
Youth Books	5,836	5,665	44,647	43,683
Adult Books on CD	79	89	787	957
Youth Books on CD	68	49	546	334
Adult DVDs	601	983	6,185	7,315
Youth DVDs	448	569	3,603	4,788
Adult Kits	1	0	8	17
Youth Kits	41	29	352	285
Music CDs	24	36	395	403
Periodicals	39	12	293	249
Playaways - Youth	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Video Games	133	55	888	133
Digital Circulation	1,499	841	13,185	8,927
Checked out to MetroShare Libraries	2,133	2,135	18,929	16,731
Renewals	7,943	8,301	64,705	61,531
TOTAL CIRCULATION	20,129	20,092	166,564	156,629
Holds/Requested Items Processed	2,885	2,765	24,824	22,080
Interlibrary Loan Requests (TexShare)	67	141	871	752
Curbside checkout transactions	0	1	12	29
Curbside-Misc. services	128	132	1,803	1,344
Self-Check Out-Items Checked Out	5,574	5,458	45,268	41,900
Revenue Collected	\$ 1,414.37	\$ 1,454.43	\$ 14,016.77	\$ 13,364.27
ADULT SERVICES	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Number of Programs	32	25	305	249
Program Attendance	339	372	3,744	3,992
Volunteer Hours	38	15	389	242
Internet Users	962	891	7,171	4,372
YOUTH SERVICES	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Number of Programs	61	53	463	414
Program Attendance	1,963	2,956	19,038	20,049
School Visits	0	N/A	2	5
Volunteer Hours	639	736	3,302	1,790
Youth Computer Users	872	791	5,216	6,368
TECHNICAL SERVICES	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Material Items Received	1,156	1,419	5,278	5,175
Materials Added	747	631	5,802	4,899
Materials Withdrawn	258	563	5,929	8,560

Watauga Public Library C.A.R.E.S.

August 2025



Metal Embossing



Family Place

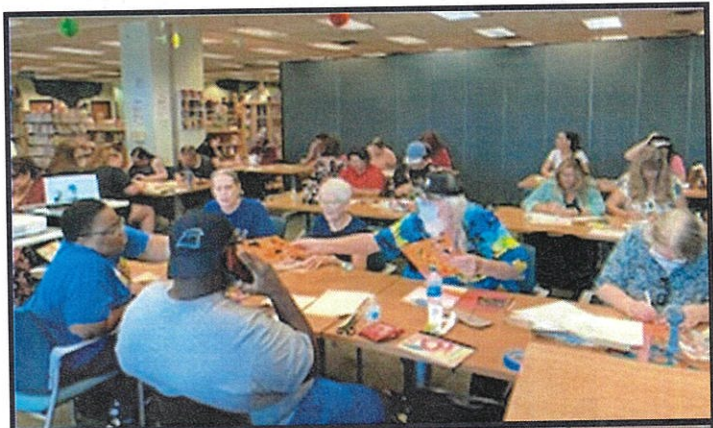
Civic / Community Engagement / Cultivating Community/ Digital Inclusion / Economic Development / Job Skills

- ◆ Curbside Service continues.
- ◆ The Circulation Staff receives and processes print jobs sent from patrons' home or library computers.

Adult Services Librarian Dana Harper & staff have created the following online classes & events to reach out to our public:

Adult Events Attendance:

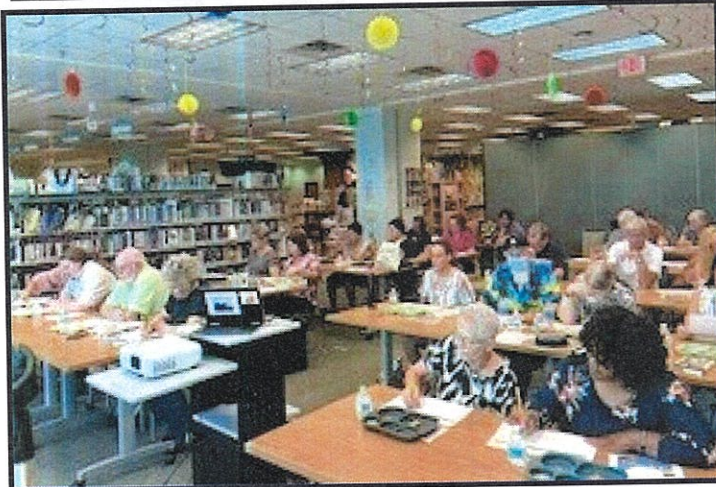
- ◆ Well-Read Book Club 14
- ◆ Any-Book Book Club 5
- ◆ Metla Embossing Class 29
- ◆ Medicare Education Class 1
- ◆ Art Opening 35
- ◆ Knitting /Crochet(4 sessions) 35
- ◆ Book Club Morbidly Curious 7
- ◆ Cookie Tasting Class 41
- ◆ Art Class for Adults/ Novy 20
- ◆ All about Zines 17
- ◆ Color Me Calm 7
- ◆ ESL Class (8) 33



Embossing Workshop



Art Show Opening



Cookie Tasting Class

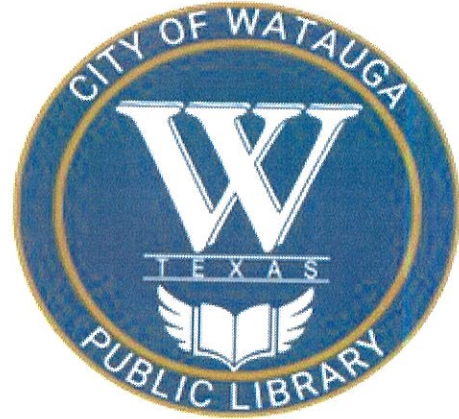


All about Zines

Early Childhood Literacy / Family Development & Enrichment

Special Programs (in person):

- ◆ Pokémon Club: (4) 69
- ◆ Lego Challenge Club (1): 4
- ◆ August Scavenger Hunt : 95
- ◆ Texas Grandparents Workshop (3) 0
- ◆ Family Place Speech (2): 2
- ◆ Family Place Child Care (2) 20
- ◆ Family Place Motor Development: (2) 42
- ◆ Family Place Nutrition (2) 28
- ◆ Family Place Early Literacy (2): 28



Family Place

WATAUGA PUBLIC LIBRARY-REPORT SUMMARY
Monthly Report - August 2025

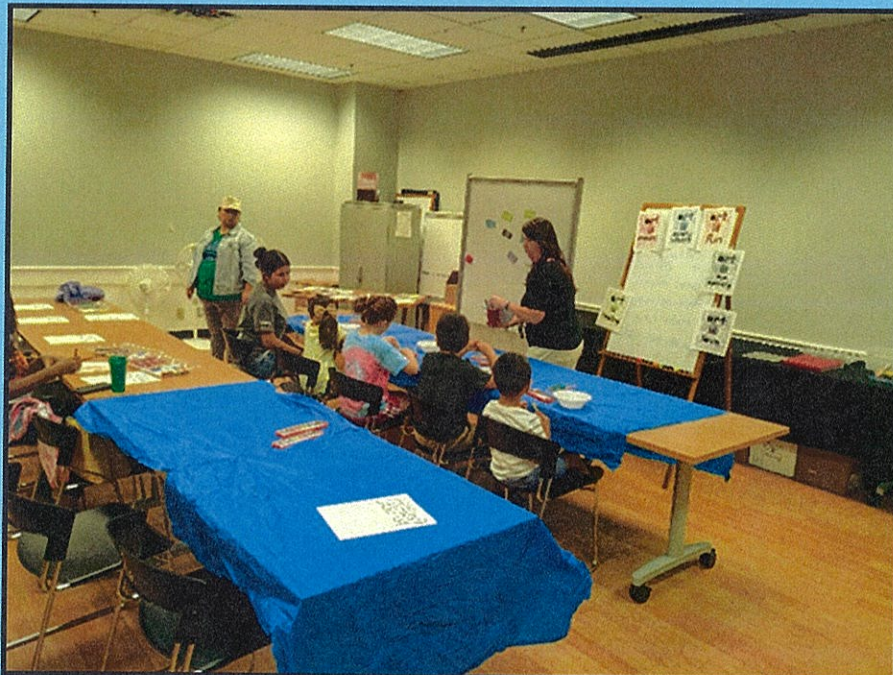
DEPARTMENT TOTALS	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Circulation Total	18,225	16,850	184,789	173,478
Total in Collection	N/A	N/A	117,759	117,788
Programs	44	49	812	712
Program Attendance	537	797	23,319	24,838
Cards Issued	138	172	1,568	1,446
Library Visits	7,468	10,107	86,093	72,630
Notary Service	N/A	N/A	N/A	167
Reference & Directional Transactions	1,156	1,147	13,746	13,043
Study Room Usage (hours)	502	756	6,977	6,841
Volunteer Hours	51	28	3742	2060
Webpage Views	2,200	2,580	24,380	21,747
CIRCULATION SERVICES	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Adult Books	1,304	1,209	13,345	12,485
Youth Books	4,563	4,512	49,210	48,195
Adult Books on CD	99	56	886	1,013
Youth Books on CD	53	31	599	365
Adult DVDs	787	614	6,972	7,929
Youth DVDs	342	463	3,945	5,251
Adult Kits	1	1	9	18
Youth Kits	42	43	394	328
Music CDs	40	75	435	478
Periodicals	57	57	350	306
Playaways - Youth	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Video Games	123	51	1,011	184
Digital Circulation	1,559	790	14,744	9,716
Checked out to MetroShare Libraries	2,089	2,234	21,018	18,965
Renewals	7,166	6,714	71,871	68,245
TOTAL CIRCULATION	18,225	16,850	184,789	173,478
Hold/Requested Items Processed	138	2,927	24,962	25,007
Interlibrary Loan Requests (TexShare)	121	49	992	801
Curbside checkout transactions	3	1	15	30
Curbside-Misc. services	167	171	1,970	1,515
Self-Check Out-Items Checked Out	4,758	4,556	50,026	46,456
Revenue Collected	\$ 1,740.78	\$ 1,665.88	\$ 15,757.55	\$ 15,032.15
ADULT SERVICES	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Number of Programs	25	32	330	281
Program Attendance	249	517	3,993	4,509
Volunteer Hours	32	23	421	265
Internet Users	856	633	8,027	5,005
YOUTH SERVICES	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Number of Programs	19	17	482	431
Program Attendance	288	280	19,326	20,329
School Visits	0	N/A	2	5
Volunteer Hours	19	5	3,321	1,795
Youth Computer Users	456	475	5,672	6,843
TECHNICAL SERVICES	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Material Items Received	482	699	5,760	5,874
Materials Added	796	652	6,598	5,551
Materials Withdrawn	278	561	6,207	9,121

Watauga Public Library C.A.R.E.S.

September 2025



Mahjong Class 101



Art Club for Homeschoolers

Civic / Community Engagement / Cultivating Community/ Digital Inclusion / Economic Development / Job Skills

- ◆ Curbside Service continues.
- ◆ The Circulation Staff receives and processes print jobs sent from patrons' home or library computers.

Adult Services Librarian Dana Harper & staff have created the following online classes & events to reach out to our public:

Adult Events Attendance:

- ◆ All about Texas Birds 24
- ◆ Any-Book Book Club 9
- ◆ Aromatherapy 20
- ◆ Art Class for Adults/ Novy 37
- ◆ Book Club Morbidly Curious 5
- ◆ Color Me Calm 8
- ◆ Friends Meeting 7
- ◆ Furgos Jazz Concert 39
- ◆ Knitting /Crochet(4 sessions) 40
- ◆ Mahjong 101 17
- ◆ Medicare Education Class 7
- ◆ Mexican Snack Tasting Class 40
- ◆ Plant and Seed Exchange 31
- ◆ Well-Read Book Club 11



Furgos Jazz



Birding in North Texas



Plant Exchange



Tasting Event

Early Childhood Literacy / Family Development & Enrichment

Youth Programs (in person):

- ◆ Mother Goose: (3) 39
- ◆ Music & Movement: (4) 116
- ◆ Sensory Play time: (1) 10
- ◆ Storytime: (17) 549

Youth Programs (in person):

- ◆ Manga & Munchies: (1) 6
- ◆ Teen Fiber Arts Club: (4) 2
- ◆ Teen Hojalata Craft: (1) 10

Special Programs (in person):

- ◆ Crafter Exploration: (1) 5
- ◆ Easy Readers Book Club: (1) 8
- ◆ Encanto Movie & Crafts: (1) 52
- ◆ Family Fiesta: (1) 421
- ◆ Homeschool Art Club: (1) 13
- ◆ Homework Help: (4) 10
- ◆ Lego Challenge Club: (1) 6
- ◆ Loteria: (1) 56
- ◆ Ms. Frida Therapy Dog: (1) 13
- ◆ Pokémon Club: (4) 73
- ◆ Tummy Time Crafts: (1) 34



Bubbles with Brett Roberts



Sensory Club



Betty King's 31st Anniversary



**Friends of the Watauga
Public Library Meeting**

WATAUGA PUBLIC LIBRARY-REPORT SUMMARY
Monthly Report - September, 2025

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Circulation Total	17,050	16,558	201,839	190,036
Total in Collection	N/A	N/A	117,148	117,896
Programs	85	72	897	784
Program Attendance	2,275	2,221	25,594	27,059
Cards Issued	158	132	1,726	1,578
Library Visits	8,441	7,016	94,534	87,007
Notary Service	N/A	N/A	N/A	167
Reference & Directional Transactions	993	1,252	14,739	14,295
Study Room Usage (hours)	539	596	7,516	7,437
Volunteer Hours	122	27	3864	2087
Webpage Views	2,106	2,097	26,486	26,298
CIRCULATION SERVICES	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Adult Books	1,215	1,166	14,560	13,651
Youth Books	4,490	4,472	53,700	52,667
Adult Books on CD	68	73	954	1,086
Youth Books on CD	49	34	648	399
Adult DVDs	649	577	7,621	8,506
Youth DVDs	328	445	4,273	5,696
Adult Kits	2	0	11	18
Youth Kits	68	27	462	355
Music CDs	83	41	518	519
Periodicals	17	36	367	342
Playaways - Youth	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Video Games	120	42	1,131	226
Digital Circulation	1,541	1,083	16,285	10,799
Checked out to MetroShare Libraries	2,077	1,918	23,095	20,883
Renewals	6,343	6,644	78,214	74,889
TOTAL CIRCULATION	17,050	16,558	201,839	190,036
Holds/Requested Items Processed	2,838	2,410	27,800	27,417
Interlibrary Loan Requests (TexShare)	115	46	1,107	847
Curbside checkout transactions	2	2	17	32
Curbside-Misc. services	208	138	2,178	1,653
Self-Check Out-Items Checked Out	4,603	4,294	54,629	50,750
Revenue Collected	\$ 1,464.77	\$ 1,361.85	\$ 17,222.32	\$ 16,392.00
ADULT SERVICES	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Number of Programs	33	29	363	310
Program Attendance	355	319	4,348	4,828
Volunteer Hours	46	15	467	280
Internet Users	994	601	9,021	5,606
YOUTH SERVICES	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Number of Programs	52	43	534	474
Program Attendance	1,920	1,902	21,246	22,231
School Visits	0	N/A	2	5
Volunteer Hours	76	12	3,397	1,807
Youth Computer Users	487	742	6,159	7,585
TECHNICAL SERVICES	Current Month	This Month Last Year	Year to Date 2024-25	Year to Date 2023-24
Material Items Received	196	264	5,956	6,138
Materials Added	608	731	7,206	6,282
Materials Withdrawn	1,219	714	7,426	9,835

Library Policies

The Watauga Public Library will not restrict the circulation of items from the library collection to any of its cardholders in good standing, whether resident or non-resident, based upon the cardholder's race, creed, national origin, age, place of residence, or other personal criteria. The following policies have been adopted to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of all patrons:

Policies

Circulation Policy (07/08/2025)	Meeting Room Policy (03/13/2023)
Exhibits, Displays, Bulletin Boards Policy (04/28/2014)	Patron Behavior Policy (10/22/2018)
Filming and Photography Policy (10/22/2012)	Reference Services Policy (10/24/2011)
Insect Infestation Policy (10/14/2024)	Social Media Policy (10/22/2012)
Interlibrary Loan Policy (10/14/2024)	Study Room Policy (10/24/2011)
Internet Policy (02/22/2016)	Unattended or Disruptive Children Policy (08/11/2025)
Library Confidentiality Policy (10/14/2024)	
Material Selection Policy (06/12/2023)	



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 17, 2025
TO: Library Board Members
FROM: Lana Ewell, Director of Library Services
SUBJECT: Report from Librarian, Trina Nosenzo on updates to Study Room Policy.

BACKGROUND/INFORMATION:

The staff review policies and update them when it is appropriate to do so.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

NA.

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION DESIRED:

To inform the Board of alterations in the policy.

ATTACHMENTS/ SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

1. 1. Current Study Room Policy
2. 2. Proposed Draft Study Room Policy
3. 3. Clean Proposed Draft Study Room Policy

REVIEWED BY:

Lana Ewell, Director of Library Services
Sandra Gibson, City Manager
Linda Proskey, City Secretary

Approved as to form for inclusion on Agenda

Approved - 10/29/2025

Approved - 11/4/2025

Final Approval - 11/4/2025

CURRENT

Study Room Policy

The Watauga Public Library offers six study rooms for patron use. Four of the rooms will accommodate a maximum of two persons. The remaining two rooms seats four individuals.

Study rooms are available when not reserved for library activities (ESL Tutors, etc.). These rooms are available on a first come, first serve basis.

A valid Watauga Public Library (WPL) or MetrOPAC card is required to use a study room. Specific room assignments will be made at the discretion of Library staff. If a Watauga resident does not already have a library card, they may request a Library card at the check-out desk upon presenting a current picture I.D. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

Study rooms may be used Monday thru Saturday for three (3) hours during the library's operational hours. The length of these sessions may be extended if no other patrons are waiting to use the room.

Requests for study rooms should be conducted in person at the Reference Desk.

The following uses are expressly prohibited of the Library study rooms: buying, selling, advertising, or trading products or services (other than education services or a paid tutor) for cash or other consideration (except in support of the Library).

Individuals requesting a study room must be at least 14 years of age and possess a valid WPL or MetrOPAC card. The person initiating the request must be present during the period of usage.

REGULATIONS

- Room keys are barcoded and may be checked out to a patron's library account at the Reference desk. There is a non-refundable \$35.00 replacement fee if the key is LOST.
- After using the study rooms, patrons are required to restore the room to the state prior to usage, turn off the lights, lock the door, and return the key to the Reference Desk.
- A late fee of \$1.00 per day (up to \$35) will be charged if the key is not returned on the same day that it was checked out. Study room keys may not be duplicated.
- Do not use this room to store your personal belongings. If you need to use the public computers, or leave the room for an extended period of time, remove your possessions, and return your key to the Reference Desk. The library is not responsible for the loss of or damage to any equipment or materials owned or rented by an individual or group using the study rooms.
- Users of the Group Study Rooms must clean up after themselves and leave the room in good condition for the next users, including erasing the white board.
- The Library's Behavior Policy applies to study room use.

CURRENT

- The Library reserves the right to refuse use of the rooms to individuals who do not comply with this policy.

BEHAVIOR

- Users of the study rooms are responsible for leaving the rooms in a neat and orderly condition. Failure to do so may result in the denial of future requests to use a study room.
- Adults only will be issued whiteboard erasable markers if requested at the Reference Desk. Any damage caused by not using the proper marker will be the responsibility of the person checking out the room. Avoid marking the walls and furniture, and clean the whiteboard thoroughly with the wipes provided. These supplies must be returned to the Reference Desk.
- Individuals may be asked to leave if they disturb others or engage in destructive behavior. Rooms are not soundproof. Please be considerate.
- Users may not move tables and chairs into or remove them from a study room. No items shall be taped or tacked to any walls or windows.
- Windows or glass doors in the rooms may not be covered at any time.
- Rooms shall remain unlocked during use.
- No alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or food may be used in any room. Only bottled water is allowed.
- Please return your key directly to a Reference staff member to ensure its prompt return.

Approved by the Watauga Library Board 9/29/2011

Approved by City Council 10/24/2011

Study Room Policy

The Watauga Public Library offers six study rooms for patron use. ~~Four of the rooms will accommodate a maximum of two persons. The remaining two rooms seats four individuals.~~ Study rooms are **available on a first-come, first-served basis**. Study rooms are available when not reserved for library activities (ESL tutors, **events, classes**, etc.)

~~A valid Watauga Public Library (WPL) or MetrOPAC card is required to use a study room. Specific Requests for study rooms should be room assignments will be made at the discretion of made at the Reference Desk with the Library staff. If a Watauga resident does not already have a library card, they may request a Library card at the check-out desk upon presenting a current picture I.D. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.~~

Study rooms may be used Monday through Saturday for three (3) hours during the library's operational hours. The length of these sessions may be extended if no other patrons are waiting to use the room. **Four of the rooms will accommodate a maximum of two people. The remaining two rooms comfortably seat four individuals and may accommodate up to six people. If an individual is using one of the larger study rooms, they may be asked to move to a smaller room to accommodate a group.**

The library is not responsible for the loss of or damage to any equipment or materials owned or rented by an individual or group using the study rooms.

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~~Individuals requesting a study room must be at least 14 years of age and possess a valid WPL or MetrOPAC card. The person initiating the request must be present during the period of usage.~~

REGULATIONS— Requirement for Use

- Upon request at the Reference Desk, patrons will be asked to provide their name in exchange for a key. Room keys are ~~barcoded and may be checked out to a patron's library account at the Reference desk. There is a non-refundable \$35.00 replacement fee if the key is LOST.~~ tagged, and an alarm will set off the security gate if taken out of the building. If keys are lost, a fee of \$5 will be charged or study room privileges will be revoked until the fee is paid.
- After using the study rooms, patrons are required to restore the room to the state prior to usage, turn off the lights, lock the door, and return the key to the Reference Desk.
- ~~A late fee of \$1.00 per day (up to \$35) will be charged if the key is not returned on the same day that it was checked out. Study room keys may not be duplicated.~~
- ~~Do not use this room~~ The room may not be used to store your personal belongings. If you need to use the public computers, or leave If you leave the room for an extended period of time, remove your all possessions, and return you're the key to the Reference Desk. The library is not responsible for the loss of or damage to any equipment or materials owned or rented by an individual or group using the study rooms.
- ~~Users of the Group Study Rooms must clean up after themselves and leave the room in good condition for the next users, including erasing the white board.~~
- The Library's Behavior Policy applies to study room use.
- ~~The Library reserves the right to refuse use of the rooms to individuals who do not comply with this policy.~~

BEHAVIOR

Proposed Draft

- Users of the study rooms are responsible for leaving the rooms in a neat and orderly condition. Failure to do so may result in the denial of future requests to use a study room.
- Adults only will be issued whiteboard erasable markers if requested at the Reference Desk. Any damage caused by not using the proper marker will be the responsibility of the person checking out the room. Avoid marking the walls and furniture, and clean the whiteboard thoroughly with the wipes provided. These supplies must be returned to the Reference Desk.
- Individuals may be asked to leave if they disturb others or engage in destructive behavior. Rooms are not soundproof. ~~Please be considerate.~~
- Users may not move tables and chairs into or remove them from a study room **as long as they return the room back to the way they found it.**
- No items shall be taped or tacked to any walls or windows.
 - ~~Windows or glass doors in the rooms may not be covered at any time.~~
 - Rooms shall remain unlocked during use. ??
 - No alcoholic beverages, tobacco products **are allowed.**
- **Covered drinks and packaged snacks are allowed. See Patron Behavior Policy for more details.** ~~or food may be used in any room. Only bottled water is allowed.~~
 - Please return ~~your~~ **the** key directly to a Reference staff member to ensure its prompt return.

The Library reserves the right to refuse use of the rooms to individuals who do not comply with this policy.

Proposed Draft

Approved by the Watauga Library Board 9/29/2011

Approved by City Council 10/24/2011

Revised by Staff 2025

Study Room Policy

The Watauga Public Library offers six study rooms for patron use available on a first-come, first-served basis. Study rooms are available when not reserved for library activities (ESL tutors, events, classes, etc.) Requests for a study room are made at the central desk with library staff.

Study rooms may be used Monday through Saturday for three (3) hours during the library's operational hours. The length of these sessions may be extended if no other patrons are waiting to use the room. Four of the rooms will accommodate a maximum of two people. The remaining two rooms comfortably seat four individuals and may accommodate up to six people. If an individual is using one of the larger study rooms, they may be asked to move to a smaller room to accommodate a group.

The library is not responsible for the loss of or damage to any equipment or materials owned or rented by an individual or group using the study rooms.

Requirement for Use

- Upon request at the Reference Desk, patrons will be asked to provide their name in exchange for a key. Room keys are tagged, and an alarm will set off the security gate if taken out of the building. If keys are lost, a fee of \$5 will be charged or study room privileges will be revoked until the fee is paid.
- After using the study rooms, patrons are required to restore the room to the state prior to usage, turn off the lights, lock the door, and return the key to the Reference Desk.
- The room may not be used to store personal belongings. If you leave the room for an extended period, remove all possessions, and return the key to the Reference Desk. The library is not responsible for the loss of or damage to any equipment or materials owned or rented by an individual or group using the study rooms.
- The Library's Behavior Policy applies to study room use.

Proposed Draft

- Users of the study rooms are responsible for leaving the rooms in a neat and orderly condition. Failure to do so may result in the denial of future requests to use a study room.
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- Rooms shall remain unlocked during use.
- No alcoholic beverages, or tobacco products are allowed.
- Covered drinks and packaged snacks are allowed. See Patron Behavior Policy for more details.
- Please return the key directly to a Reference staff member to ensure its prompt return.

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Approved by the Watauga Library Board 9/29/2011

Approved by City Council 10/24/2011

Revised by Staff 2025



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 18, 2025
TO: Library Board Members
FROM: Linda Proskey, City Secretary
SUBJECT: Consider action on approval of the July 8, 2025, Library Board meeting minutes

BACKGROUND/INFORMATION:

Meeting minutes from the July 8, 2025, Library Board meeting: **Unattended or Disruptive Child Policy**

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION DESIRED:

Respectfully recommend the board review and take action on the item presented.

ATTACHMENTS/ SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

1. Jul 8, 2025-Library Draft Minutes

REVIEWED BY:

Sandra Gibson, City Manager

Linda Proskey, City Secretary

Approved as to form for inclusion on Agenda

Approved - 8/29/2025

Final Approval - 8/29/2025



MINUTES

WATAUGA LIBRARY BOARD REGULAR MEETING WATAUGA CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS TUESDAY, JULY 8, 2025 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairperson Neal called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

ROLL CALL

The meeting convened with the following members present:

Kip Woodruff
Lindsey Neal
Kristen Chapman
Samantha Ostendorp
Sian Brannon
Vacant
Whitney Isbell

Chairperson/Place 7 (Absent with notice)
Vice-Chairperson/Place 1
Secretary/Place 6 (Absent with notice)
Place 2
Place 3
Place 4
Place 5

and

Andrew Neal
Lisa Benavidez
Lana Ewell
Arthur Miner
Jan Hill

City Council Liaison
Assistant to the City Secretary
Director of Library Services
Mayor
Councilmember, Place 7

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No requests for public comment were received.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS

No requests for public testimony were received.

REPORTS

Jul 8, 2025, Library Board Minutes-page 1

1. **Library Director's Report**

Director Ewell reported statistics from the Library's April and May 2025 reports. Then Director Ewell shared the draft Watauga Public Library Long Range Plan 2026-2031. She informed the Board about proposed revisions to the Circulation Policy.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Consider action on May 13, 2025, Library Board Meeting Minutes Consider**

Member Brannon made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Member Ostendorp seconded the motion.

Motion passed 4-0-0-2.

Ayes: Neal, Isbell, Brannon, Ostendorp

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Woodruff and Chapman

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Consider approval of the revision version of the "Unattended or Disruptive Child Policy"**

Member Brannon made a motion to approve the policy as presented. Member Isbell seconded the motion.

Motion passed 4-0-0-2.

Ayes: Neal, Isbell, Brannon, Ostendorp

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Woodruff and Chapman

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items for future agendas

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chairperson Neal adjourned the meeting at 6:17 pm.

Approved: this _____ day of _____, 2025

Signed: this _____ day of _____, 2025

APPROVED:

Kip Woodruff, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Kristen Chapman, Secretary

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Watauga Public Library Long Range Plan 2026 - 2031

Introduction

A Long-Range Plan is required by the Texas State Library for each Public Library in the state. It is designed to set forth goals and objectives for the library's future growth, and service.

Mission Statement

The Watauga Public Library enriches the live of the community by providing free educational experiences. We celebrate ideas, promote creativity, connect with people, enrich lives, and respond to the ever-changing needs of our community.

Vision

The Watauga Public Library shares a vision with the nation's founders that liberty and learning are inseparable and that a democratic people must have free, open, and equal access to information.

Values

Open Access:

The Library values free, open, and unrestricted access to its collections and services. We are committed to connecting our patrons to the ideas, information and materials they wish to explore in a friendly, nonjudgmental manner. We strive to offer materials, programs and services that represent the needs of our diverse population.

Customer Focus:

The Library values all patrons and is responsive to their service needs. The customer's opinion and input is welcomed in all initiatives and undertakings. We consider the impact on the customer in all decisions.

Excellence:

The Library values excellence, individually and collectively. We offer quality service to all customers by displaying a positive attitude, valuing the diversity of people and perspectives, and expecting integrity and competence in our personal and professional actions. We strive to earn the trust and confidence of all customers.

Growth and Innovation:

The Library values continuous learning and innovation in the pursuit of excellence. We respond to present situations and anticipate future needs.

Good Stewardship:

The Library values responsible stewardship of all the resources with which we have been entrusted. We are accountable for ensuring the proper use of public funds. We take seriously our responsibility to maximize the efficiency of staff time and talent by making the best use of all our resources in the delivery of quality library service.

About the Watauga Public Library

The Watauga Public Library (WPL) began service to the public in October of 1983. The Library was in a 676 square foot room in the Municipal Complex. It opened with a collection of 1,826 books. During the seven years that the Library was housed in the Municipal Complex, it was able to circulate only 30% of its growing collection due to a shortage of shelving space. The remaining 70% of the collection was kept in storage.

On September 24, 1990, the Library moved to its current facility, located north of the Municipal Complex. Expansion of the library was completed in 2007. This brings the library to a total of 20,413 square feet. There are two large and four small study rooms and a meeting room to provide quiet areas for study or meetings. A feature of the library is a woodland mural painted by nationally known local muralist and children’s book illustrator Liz Bonham.

According to the 2023 Public Library Data from the Texas State Library the library houses 113,180 physical items, has access to 25,824 E-books, and 13,889 E-Audio books. WPL also had 8 local-licensed databases. For the fiscal year ending September 2023, the Library’s door count showed a total of 79,813 visits, and total circulation of 166,086 items were checked out to users. During this same fiscal year, 809 programs were offered to youth and adults, with a total program attendance of 22,048 people. Library programs include pre-walker, toddler and pre-school story times, after-school programs, book discussions and lectures, educational classes and a variety of musical and entertainment programs. The Library’s Summer Reading Club is one of the more successful programs in this area. In addition to standard reference, readers’ advisory, and research assistance. Since the disruption of Covid we have had difficulty restarting our language literacy tutoring, and homework help center. The Library provides notary public and fax transmission services. The Library also provides a separate Spanish language collection for both children and adults. There is a Virtual Library at the Senior Center. It is our hope to reach underserved areas of the community. The Library is open to the public six days a week, for a total of 44 hours.

The Watauga Public Library participates in the MetroShare Consortium, which shares an integrated library catalog with other area libraries. The Library also has reciprocal agreements with ten other Northeast Tarrant County libraries. The consortium and reciprocal agreements allow our users to take advantage of collections and programs in most Tarrant County libraries free of charge.

About Watauga

Watauga occupies a 4.1 square mile area in the northwest quadrant of the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Legend has it that the name “Watauga” is Cherokee, meaning “land of many springs”. Historians say the Cherokee and other Native Americans lived for a time in the area. The outlaw Sam Bass is supposed to have buried treasure in Big Fossil Creek. The area supposedly contains Comanche burial grounds and a rumored lost Spanish gold mine.

The first permanent residents arrived from Tennessee in 1843. After the Civil War the settlement grew and developed as a loosely organized area of large farms and ranches. It developed into an established community in the early 1880s thanks to the extension of tracks of the Texas and Pacific Railway. Watauga had a population of sixty-five in the middle

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1930s. It had an identical population ten years later. It emerged from a period of decline during the post-World War II in part due to the development of defense plants in the area. The town of Watauga was incorporated in 1958.

The following data is based on the United States Census QuickFacts Fact Finder 2024 Population Estimates for Watauga, Texas. The estimated population listed for Watauga on July 1, 2023, was 22,934.

The median age of a Watauga citizen is 33.6 years old. The breakdown of Citizens ages are:

- Persons under the age of 5 years - 5.8%
- Persons under 18 years - 22.8 %
- Persons 65 years and over - 13.6%

The basic ethnic breakdown of the City of Watauga according to the Census data is:

- White - 60.9%
- Black alone - 10.2%
- Asian alone - 4.9%
- Native American and Alaskan Native alone - 0.6%
- Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone - 0.1%
- Two or more races - 16.4%
- Hispanic or Latino - 26.8%
- White Alone, not Hispanic or Latino - 54.6%

Housing

- Housing Units, July 1, 2023 - X
- Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2019-2023 - 80.4%
- Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2019-2-23 - \$233,400
- Median selected monthly owner costs – with a mortgage, 2019-2023 - \$1,714
- Median selected monthly owner costs – without a mortgage, 2019-2023 - \$756
- Median gross rent, 2019-2023 - \$1,826
- Building permits - X

Families & Living Arrangements

- Households, 2019-2023
- 7,903
- Persons per household, 2019-2023
- 2.94
- Living in the same house 1 year ago, percent of persons age 1 year +, 2019-2023
- 87.9%

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- Language other than English spoken at home, percent of persons age 5 years+, 2019-2023
-21.2%

Computer and Internet Use:

- Households with a computer, percent, 2019-2023 - 98.5%
- Households with a broadband Internet subscription, percent, 2019-2023 - 96.5%

Education

- High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25 years + - 89.3%
- Bachelor's degree or higher, percent of persons age 25 years + - 25.9%

Health

- With a disability, under age 65 years, percent, 2019-2023 -
8.8%
- Persons without health insurance, under age 65, percent - 20.3%

Economy

- In civilian labor force, total, percent of population age 16 years+, 2019-2023 -
70.5%
- In civilian labor force, female, total, percent of population age 16 years+, 2019-2023 - 60.8%
- Total accommodation and food services sales, 2022 (\$1,000) -82,114
- Total health care and social assistance receipts/revenue, 2022 (\$1,000) -24,329
- Total transportation and warehousing receipts/revenue, 2022 (\$1,000) - 3,010
- Total retail sales, 2022 (\$1,000) -359,727
- Total retail sales per capita, 2022 - \$15,597

Transportation

- Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16 years+, 2019-2023 -29.2

Income & Poverty

- Median households' income (in 2023 dollars), 2019-2023 -\$91,669
- Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2023 dollars), 2019-2023 - \$33,940
- Persons in poverty, percent - 10.1%

Business

- Total employer establishments, 2022 - X

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- Total employment, 2022 - X
- Total Annual payroll, 2022 (\$1,000) - X
- Total employment, percentage change, 2021-2022 - X
- Total nonemployer establishments, 2022 - X
- All employer firms, Reference year 2022 - 323
- Men-owned employer firms, Reference year 2022 -146
- Women-owned employer firms, Reference year 2022 - 59
- Minority-owned employer firms, Reference year 2022 -119
- Nonminority-owned employer firms, Reference year 2022 -111
- Veteran-owned employer firms, Reference year 2022 - 2
- Nonveteran-owned employer firms, Reference year 2022 -252

Geography

- Population per square mile, 2020 - 5,686.5
- Population per square mile, 2010 - 5,646.1
- Land area in square miles, 2020 - 4.16
- Land area in square miles, 2010 - 4.16
- FIPS Code - 4876672

Education Sources

The Birdville and Keller Independent School Districts provide elementary and secondary education services within the City. There are four elementary campuses in the area that serve the youth of the City. All four are Title 1 schools. Four middle schools and four high schools serve Watauga citizens throughout the county.

- Grace E Hardeman Elementary School (BISD) 6100 Whispering Ln, Watauga, Texas
- John D Spicer Elementary School (BISD) 4300 Estes Park Rd, Haltom City, Texas
- Watauga Elementary (BISD) 5937 Whitley Rd, Watauga, Texas
- Whitley Road Elementary School (KISD) 7600 Whitley Rd, Watauga, Texas

There are also numerous Colleges, Universities, and training institutes within the region.

- Remington College- Fort Worth (6.1 miles)
- Tarrant County College District- Fort Worth (8.7 miles)
- Texas Wesleyan University- Fort Worth (8.8 miles)
- Westwood College Of Technology- Euless (9.4 miles)
- University Of North Texas-Health Science Center At Fort Worth (10.0 miles)
- JPS Institute For Health Career Development (11.5 miles)

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- Texas Christian University- Fort Worth (11.8 miles)
- The University Of Texas- Arlington (12.1 miles)
- DeVry University- Irving (15.0 miles)
- Court Reporting Institute- Wheeler Institute Of Texas at Dallas (21.7 miles)
- University Of Texas Southwestern Medical Center At Dallas (24.4 miles)
- Dallas County Community College District (26.6 miles)
- University Of North Texas- Denton (25.7 miles)
- Texas Woman's University- Denton (26.7 miles)

Library Needs Assessment Information

In FY 2018/2019 the Watauga City Council approved a "Library Needs Assessment" Study. The study was presented to the City Council on September 21, 2019 by Bill Hidell of Hidell Associates Architects. It was agreed to present the question of a new library building before the citizens in an upcoming bond election, at a date yet to be determined.

Library Survey 2019

As part of the "Library Needs Assessment" the Library conducted a Library Survey. The survey ran from May to October 2019. The survey will be presented to the City Council in 2020.

Goals and Objectives for 2020 to 2025

Strategic Priority 1:

Provide access to library resources and services in an environment that is convenient, user-friendly, and welcoming to all.

Initiatives

- Continue and improve upon, the tradition of friendly and knowledgeable personal service.
- Optimize and facilitate ease of use of library services through effective policies and procedures.
- Integrate public opinion into library services as expressed on surveys.

Actions

- Revise and expand staff training manual.
- Encourage participation in continuing education opportunities (when available in reasonable proximity and free of charge, as scheduling allows).
- Revise and expand comprehensive procedures manual.
- Develop Adult and Youth Services programming manual.
- Work on strategies to reduce ambient noise in current building.
- Assess, prioritize and implement feasible suggestions from focus groups, surveys, and ongoing public feedback.

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Strategic Priority 2:

Serve the community as a cultural community center.

Initiatives

- Increase year-round programming for children, tweens, teens and families.
- Search for low-cost programming.
- Continue to present regularly scheduled, quality art exhibits.
- Pursue grants for special programs.

Actions

- Utilize community expertise.
- Plan diverse roster of programs for a range of ages.
- Publicize art exhibits in local media.
- Publicize exhibition opportunities.
- Investigate feasibility of online summer reading log.
- Continue to provide public meeting space as schedule of library events allows.

Strategic Priority 3:

Continue to develop and maintain a dynamic collection which meets the recreational, informational, and educational needs of the community.

Initiatives

- Present a collection that is appealing and well organized.
- Publicize and promote digital collection of downloadable e-books, e-audiobooks and databases.
- Showcase current collection.
- Advocate for increased materials budget.

Actions

- Perform annual weeding assessments to determine areas of need.
- Create eye-catching slides/links on website.
- Create a series of library information videos to educate the public on searching options.
- Optimize end-cap book display space.

Strategic Priority 4:

Maintain and improve library technology and provide easy access to information and resources.

Initiatives

- Maintain the current number of public access computers.
- Publicize online reference database offerings.

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- Review website for ease-of-use.

Actions

- Work with City IT department regarding hardware needs.
- Distribute database information to schools.
- Publicize database information via Library website, social media, and signage at computers.

Strategic Priority 5:

Watauga Public Library will increase awareness of the Library's resources and services.

Initiatives

- Market programs and services in every **media**, including print, Internet, and the Library's bulletin board.

Actions

- Increase information and ease of use of the library's website.
- Promote the Teen Advisory Board.
- Collaborate with the Friends of the Library.
- Increase and expand visibility and awareness of the Friends of the Library.
- Promote and advertise Wi-Fi in the Library.
- Better utilize **word** of mouth for programs and services.
- Promote and advertise:
 - * Live Homework Help
 - * Research Databases

Strategic Priority 6:

Watauga Public Library will train, encourage, reward, and celebrate a knowledgeable and dedicated staff, generous volunteers and vital support organizations.

Initiatives

- Create and maintain an atmosphere that recognizes, rewards, and empowers all staff.
- Establish library leadership meetings that address management/library philosophy and feedback.

Actions

- Improve internal communications and operational policies.
- Staff attends professional conferences, and all-day staff training. Individual needs for professional development are encouraged and financially supported whenever possible.
- Focus on improving staff workspaces to make their work easier to accomplish, resulting in increased **morale** and dedication to service.
- Utilize skilled volunteers who can help the library to improve its services without incurring increased burdens on library staff.



Watauga Public Library

Long Range Plan 2026 - 2031



Introduction

The Watauga Public Library's Long-Range Plan 2026-2031 sets out the overall mission, vision, and values to guide the development and delivery of library services to the community for the next five years.


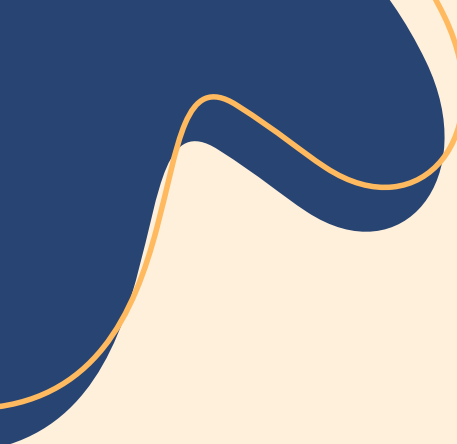
The plan reflects the contributions of a diverse group of representatives including the library staff, the library board, and the community itself. The previous long-term plan was reviewed and supplemental sources (library and city reports, US Census data, and general citizen input).

History and Present

About the City of Watauga

Watauga occupies a 4.1 square mile area in the northwest quadrant of the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Legend has it that the name "Watauga" is Cherokee, meaning "land of many springs". Historians say the Cherokee and other Native Americans lived for a time in the area. The outlaw Sam Bass is supposed to have buried treasure in Big Fossil Creek. The area supposedly contains Comanche burial grounds and a rumored lost Spanish gold mine.

The first permanent residents arrived from Tennessee in 1843. After the Civil War the settlement grew and developed as a loosely organized area of large farms and ranches. It developed into an established community in the early 1880s thanks to the extension of tracks of the Texas and Pacific Railway. Watauga had a population of sixty-five in the middle 1930s. It had an identical population ten years later. It emerged from a period of decline during the post-World War II period in part due to the development of defense plants in the area. The town of Watauga was incorporated in 1958.



US Census Data

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- Households, 2019-2023 - 7,903
- Persons per household, 2019-2023 - 2.94
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- Language other than English spoken at home,
 - Percent of persons aged 5 years+, 2019-2023 - 21.2%

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- Bachelor's degree or higher, percent of persons aged 25 years + - 25.9%

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- With a disability, under age 65 years, percent, 2019-2023 - 8.8%
- Persons without health insurance, under age 65, percent - 20.3%

Economy

- In civilian labor force, total,
 - Percent of population age 16 years+, 2019-2023 - 70.5%
- In civilian labor force, female, total,
 - Percent of population age 16 years+, 2019-2023 - 60.8%
- Total accommodation and food services sales, 2022 (\$1,000) - 82,114
- Total health care and social assistance receipts/revenue, 2022 (\$1,000) - 24,329
- Total transportation and warehousing receipts/revenue, 2022 (\$1,000) - 3,010
- Total retail sales, 2022 (\$1,000) - 359,727


Total retail sales per capita, 2022 - \$15,597

Transportation

- Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers aged 16 years+, 2019-2023 - 29.2

Income & Poverty

- Median households' income (in 2023 dollars), 2019-2023 - \$91,669
- Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2023 dollars), 2019-2023 - \$33,940
- People in poverty, percent - 10.1%



Business

- Total employer establishments, 2022 - X
- Total employment, 2022 - X
- Total Annual payroll, 2022 (\$1,000) - X
- Total employment, percentage change, 2021-2022 - X
- Total nonemployer establishments, 2022 - X
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- Men-owned employer firms, Reference year 2022 - 146
- Women-owned employer firms, Reference year 2022 - 59
- Minority-owned employer firms, Reference year 2022 - 119
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Education Sources

The Birdville and Keller Independent School Districts provide elementary and secondary education services within the city. There are four elementary campuses in the area that serve the youth of the city. All four are Title 1 schools. Four middle schools and four high schools serve Watauga citizens throughout the county. The public schools in Watauga are listed below:

Grace E Hardeman Elementary School (BISD)



6100 Whispering Ln, Watauga, Texas

Whitley Road Elementary School (KISD)



7600 Whitley Rd, Watauga, Texas

Watauga Middle School (BISD)



6300 Maurie Dr, Watauga, Texas

Watauga Elementary (BISD)



5937 Whitley Rd, Watauga, Texas



Education Sources, cont.

There are also numerous Colleges, Universities, and training institutes within the region.

Located within 10 miles:

- Remington College @ Fort Worth (6.1 miles)
- Tarrant County College District @ Fort Worth (8.7 miles)
- Texas Wesleyan University @ Fort Worth (8.8 miles)
- University of North Texas-Health Science Center at Fort Worth (10.0 miles)

Located within 30 miles:

- JPS Institute For Health Career Development (11.5 miles)
- Texas Christian University @ Fort Worth (11.8 miles)
- The University Of Texas @ Arlington (12.1 miles)
- DeVry University @ Irving (15.0 miles)
- University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center At Dallas (24.4 miles)
- Dallas County Community College District (26.6 miles)
- University of North Texas @ Denton (25.7 miles)
- Texas Woman's University @ Denton (26.7 miles)



About the Watauga Public Library

The Watauga Public Library (WPL) began service to the public in October of 1983. The library was in a 676 square foot room in the Municipal Complex. It opened with a collection of 1,826 books. During the seven years that the library was housed in the Municipal Complex, it was able to circulate only 30% of its growing collection due to a shortage of shelving space. The remaining 70% of the collection was kept in storage.

On September 24, 1990, the Library moved to its current facility, located north of the Municipal Complex. Expansion of the library was completed in 2007. This brings the library to a total of 20,413 square feet. There are two large and four small study rooms and a meeting room to provide quiet areas for study or meetings. A feature of the library is a woodland mural painted by nationally known local muralist and children's book illustrator Liz Bonham.

According to the 2023 Public Library Data from the Texas State Library the library houses 113,180 physical items, has access to 25,824 E-books, and 13,889 E-Audio books. WPL also had 8 local-licensed databases. For the fiscal year ending September 2023, the Library's door count showed a total of 79,813 visits, and total circulation of 166,086 items were checked out to users. During this same fiscal year, 809 programs were offered to youth and adults, with a total program attendance of 22,048 people.

Library programs include pre-walker, toddler and pre-school story times, after-school programs, book discussions and lectures, educational classes and a variety of musical and entertainment programs. The Library's Summer Reading Club is one of the more successful programs in this area. In addition to standard reference, readers' advisory, and research assistance, the library provides notary public and fax transmission services. The library also provides a separate Spanish language collection for both children and adults.



About, cont.

Since the disruption of Covid we have had difficulty restarting our language literacy tutoring, and homework help center. With some restructuring of a part-time position we plan on addressing the homework help issue next school year.

There is a Virtual Library at the Senior Center, which was established by a grant. Library staff routinely circulate titles at this location.

It is our hope to reach underserved areas of the community. The library is open to the public six days a week, for a total of 44 hours.

The Watauga Public Library participates in the MetroShare Consortium, which shares an integrated open-source library catalog with other area libraries. The library also has reciprocal agreements with three other Northeast Tarrant County libraries. The consortium and reciprocal agreements allow our users to take advantage of collections and programs in most Tarrant County libraries free of charge.

Library Needs Assessment Information

In FY 2018/2019 the Watauga City Council approved a “Library Needs Assessment” Study. The study was presented to the City Council on September 21, 2019, by Bill Hidell of Hidell Associates Architects. It was agreed to present the question of a new library building before the citizens in an upcoming bond election. Then the Covid pandemic occurred, and the study was tabled for the time being.

There has been renewed interest in exploring the possibility of a new library building in 2025. The original architectural company is updating the recommendations at this time, and it is possible the question will come before the citizens in an upcoming bond election.

Library Survey's 2019 and 2024

As part of the "Library Needs Assessment" the Library conducted a Library Survey. The survey ran from May to October in 2019. The survey was presented to the City Council in 2019.

As part of ongoing communication with the public a survey was conducted (an Input Opportunity Survey) from May 2024 to September 2024. Most participants reported coming in to read or browse the collection. They also reported using computers, printers, copier or scanner. The library users liked the customer service, followed by the collection. They valued the materials, youth classes and events, and online access the most. 47% reported downloading eAudiobooks, eBooks, and eMagazines. 29% were not aware that we offer eMaterials, though we make a concerted effort to share that information. 41% of the respondents shared that they "often" shop, dine, or frequent Watauga businesses when they visit the library, and 48% noted they "sometimes" do so.



June 2024, Snake Encounters performance for Summer Reading



Path to the Future

Mission Statement

The Watauga Public Library enriches the lives of the community by providing free educational experiences. We celebrate ideas, promote creativity, connect with people, enrich lives, and respond to the ever-changing needs of our community.

Vision

The Watauga Public Library shares a vision with the nation's founders that liberty and learning are inseparable and that a democratic people must have free, open, and equal access to information.

Values

Open Access: The library values free, open, and unrestricted access to its collections and services. We are committed to connecting our patrons to the ideas, information and materials they wish to explore in a friendly, nonjudgmental manner. We strive to offer materials, programs and services that represent the needs of our diverse population.

Customer Focus: The library values all patrons and is responsive to their service needs. The customer's opinion and input are welcomed in all initiatives and undertakings. We consider the impact on the customer in all decisions.

Excellence: The library values excellence, individually and collectively. We offer quality service to all customers by displaying a positive attitude, valuing the diversity of people and perspectives, and expecting integrity and competence in our personal and professional actions. We strive to earn the trust and confidence of all customers.

Values, cont.

Growth and Innovation: The library values continuous learning and innovation in the pursuit of excellence. We respond to present situations and anticipate future needs.



January 2025, first library-wide staff development day. Included presentations from Human Resources, Police, and the Fire Department as well as various supervisors within the library. Trainings discussed professional development and safety topics.

Good Stewardship: The library values responsible stewardship of all the resources with which we have been entrusted. We are accountable for ensuring the proper use of public funds. We take seriously our responsibility to maximize the efficiency of staff time and talent by making the best use of all our resources in the delivery of quality library service.

Strategic Priority #1

Provide high quality resources and services for lifelong learning in an environment that is convenient, user-friendly, and welcoming to all.

Initiatives

- Continue and improve upon the tradition of friendly and knowledgeable personal service.
- Optimize and facilitate ease of use of library services through effective policies and procedures.
- Add the option of lockers located outside the building to provide library material requested by patrons when we are closed.
- Integrate public opinion into library services as expressed in surveys.
- Take further suggestions from the public and lessons learned during the pandemic to improve service in our current building.

Actions

- Revise and expand staff training manual.
- Encourage participation in continuing education opportunities (when available in reasonable proximity and for reasonable cost, as scheduling allows).
- Revise and expand comprehensive procedures manual.
- Develop Adult and Youth Services programming manual.
- Work on strategies to reduce ambient noise in current building.
- Request funding for the lockers.
- Assess, prioritize and implement feasible suggestions from focus groups, surveys, and ongoing public feedback.
- With the support of the City Council, and the Advisory Library Board present the option of a new library building before the public in a bond election.

Strategic Priority #2

The library will provide a well-maintained, organized and inviting facility that will serve as a community hub.

Initiatives

- Offering a space which facilitates learning, creating, building relationships and citizen engagement.
- Remain respectful of individual's needs.
- Maintain a clean and welcoming space for all ages and abilities.
- Evaluate safety measures, accessibility and optimal functionality during space planning or reorganizational planning.

Actions

- Utilize community expertise.
- Plan a diverse roster of programs for a range of ages.
- Publicize art exhibits in local media.
- Publicize exhibition opportunities.
- Continue to provide public meeting space as schedule of library events allows.
- Increase year-round programming for children, tweens, teens and families.
- Search for low-cost programming.
- Continue to present regularly scheduled, quality art exhibits.
- Pursue grants for special programs.



August 2023 & 2024, annual art show and for adults and art show opening.

Goals & Objectives for 2026 to 2031

Strategic Priority #3

Continue to develop and maintain a dynamic collection which meets the recreational, informational, and educational needs of the community.

Initiatives

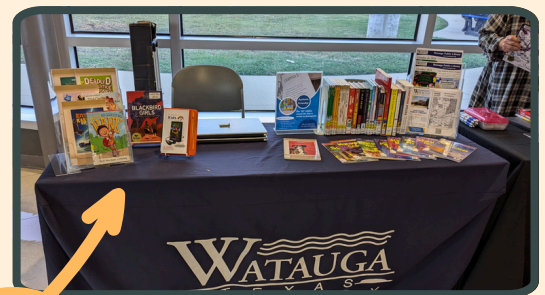
- Present a collection that is appealing and well organized.
- Publicize and promote digital collection of downloadable e-books, e-audiobooks, e-magazines, and databases.
- Showcase current collection.
- Advocate for increased materials budget.

Actions

- Perform annual weeding assessments to determine areas of need.
- Create eye-catching slides/links on website.
- Create a series of library information videos to educate the public on searching options.
- Optimize end-cap book display space.



February 2025,
Youth Services
librarian uses
Easy Reader Book
Club to promote
the collection and
general literacy.



October 2024, outreach promoting
Dyslexic-friendly font books and
resources @ a BISD parent night

Goals & Objectives for 2026 to 2031

Strategic Priority #4

Increase and improve library technology and provide easy access to information and resources.

Initiatives

- Maintain the current number of public access computers.
- Explore and promote advances in technology for staff and library users.
- Publicize online reference database offerings.
- Review website for ease-of-use.

Actions

- Work with the City IT department regarding hardware needs.
- Distribute database information to schools.
- Publicize database information via Library website, social media, and signage at computers.



September 2024, pre-loaded learning technology for checkout.



October 2023, staff member-led class on iPhones.

Goals & Objectives for 2026 to 2031

Strategic Priority #6

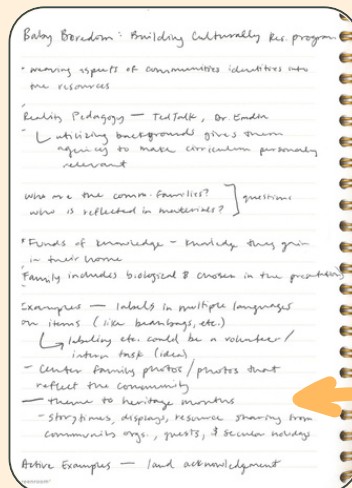
Watauga Public Library will train, encourage, reward, and celebrate knowledgeable and dedicated staff, generous volunteers and vital support organizations.

Initiatives

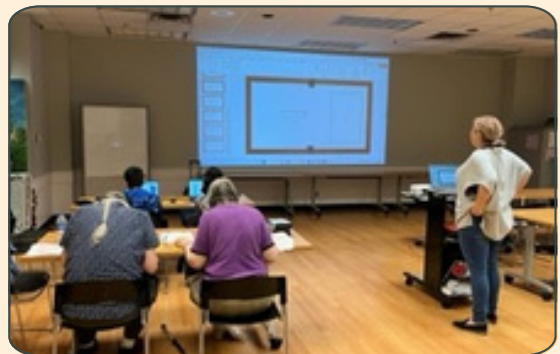
- Create and maintain an atmosphere that recognizes, rewards, and empowers all staff.
- Establish library leadership meetings that address management/library philosophy and feedback.

Actions

- Improve internal communications and operational policies.
- Staff attend professional conferences, and all-day staff training. Individual needs for professional development are encouraged and financially supported whenever possible.
- Focus on improving staff workspaces to make their work easier to accomplish, resulting in increased morale and dedication to service.
- Utilize skilled volunteers who can help the library to improve its services without incurring increased burdens on library staff.



April 2024, Youth Librarian's notes from Public Library Association conference @ Columbus, OH



March 2023, computer classes with Goodwill