



 PUEBLO CITY-COUNTY
Library District

2024

Annual Report

100 E. Abriendo Ave. | Pueblo, CO 81004 | (719) 562-5600 | www.pueblolibrary.org

District launches \$2 million capital campaign

The Pueblo City-County Library District and Pueblo Library Foundation launched a \$2 million capital campaign to fund renovations for two of the district's branch libraries.

"This is the beginning of a transformative chapter for our community as we launch the Building Community Together campaign to renovate and expand the Barkman and Patrick A. Lucero Libraries. This project is about more than just buildings; it's about ensuring everyone in Pueblo has access to the resources they need to learn, grow, and thrive," Nick Potter PCCLD's executive director of library foundation

and strategic initiatives said.

The Building Community Together Capital Campaign is an intensive fundraising effort needed to complete the expansion and renovation of Barkman and the Patrick A. Lucero libraries. Both facilities underwent improvement efforts to enhance each location's capacity to grow its services to meet the ever-changing needs of Pueblo's children, teens, families and adults.

Barkman Library's renovation and expansion improves the interior and exterior of the branch while adding an addi-

tional 2,643 square feet onto the building.

On Pueblo's East Side, the Lucero Library has welcomed more than a million visitors since opening in 2014. This small branch library is heavily used by the community and has quickly outgrown its footprint.

Overall cost of both renovations is more than \$8.9 million; the price tag includes design, construction, furniture, fixtures and equipment. Renovations will primarily focus on refurbishing, and expanding the interior of the buildings along with exterior

site work. At the time, more than \$525,000 has been raised through a combination of public and private funding.

"It is the goal that through the renovation of both Barkman and Lucero Libraries that patrons will have access to improved and expanded libraries. Through improved facilities, library programs, and a great selection of print and digital books, we aim to ensure that there is something for everyone at Pueblo's libraries. We are committed to continually improving library services and facilities in our community," Sherri Baca PCCLD's executive director said.

Barkman Library reopens after year-long renovation

Barkman Library reopened its doors to the public after a \$4.2 million renovation. Kicking off a week of grand opening festivities at the Belmont-area branch located at 1300 Jerry Murphy Rd.

"We are so excited to share this beautiful, refreshed library that will serve the community well for years to come," Sherri Baca, PCCLD executive director said.

Grand opening week events included: a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony; photos with Bluey and Bingo, members of the Pueblo Police Department handed out free bags; Angel Vigil and Colorado Humanities presented Diego Martin - el Vaquero Chautauqua; and the Barkman Backpack Giveaway. Minnequa Works Credit Union



Pueblo Library Board of Trustee members along with the City of Pueblo staff and Latino Chamber of Commerce cut the ribbon to officially open the renovated Barkman Library.

provided more than 1,200 free backpacks and school supplies for the Backpack Giveaway as well as supplies for the Pueblo Police Department bag giveaways.

The 12-month renovation project involved major improvements including an

expanded community meeting room; a bridge connecting the library to an outdoor green space; dedicated spaces for children, teens and adults; and updated security systems.

Named after Frank and Marie Barkman, Pueblo's first North side library has served the

Belmont neighborhood and northern Pueblo for more than 30 years. Expanding the public meeting room now adds an additional 2,643 square feet onto the building.

More than 1.6 million visitors have come through its doors during the past 11 years.

PCCLD awarded \$250,000 Mellon Foundation grant

Pueblo City-County Library District was awarded a \$250,000 grant from the Mellon Foundation to go toward preserving the history and culture of communities throughout South-eastern Colorado through a digital archiving project.

Funds go toward creating Regional Memory Labs, an archiving initiative that provides equipment and training free to users for do-it-yourself digitization of personal collections, allowing them to preserve recordings, documents, photos and video into a modern digital format.

A memory lab allows users to digitize:

- Photographs
- Photo and slide negatives
- Documents
- Outdated video media, including 16mm film, 8mm, Super 8mm, VHS, VHS-C, S-VHS and MiniDV
- Audio cassettes
- 3.5-inch floppy disks

Users have access to recording equipment to capture oral histories. Once collections are digitized, owners keep their physical items from their collections.

The five-year project allows for the creation of six permanent Satellite Memory Labs and five Mobile Memory Labs. The labs will be shared with partnering organizations within 16 counties, including: Alamosa, Baca, Bent, Conejos, Costilla, Crowley, Custer, Fremont, Huerfano, Kiowa, Las Animas, Otero, Prowers, Pueblo, Rio Grande and Saguache.

"History is made locally by ordinary people living in a place. One of our goals is to raise awareness of the principles of archiving and to help people understand that their personal and community histories are an important part of the cultural and historical landscape of Southeastern Colorado," Aaron Ramirez, PCCLD's manager of Local History and



Local History and Genealogy Manager Aaron Ramirez studies historical railway maps in the archive vault in the Local History and Genealogy Department at Rawlings Library.

Genealogy said.

A lack of equipment and training to digitize personal collections often results in the loss of history and culture of the persons living in historically underrepresented regions like southeastern Colorado. Recording the histories of marginalized communities like Hispanic/Latino/a, African American and rural residents fill in the historical record of

these missing voices.

Satellite Memory Labs will be equipped to digitize photos, floppy disks, documents, film — including 16mm, 8mm and Super 8 — in addition to VHS video formats, as well as capture audio and visual. Users of the visiting Mobile Memory Labs will be able to scan photos, documents, capture audio and video.

City of Pueblo, PCCLD partner during Lucero Library renovations

The City of Pueblo and the Pueblo City-County Library District partnered together during the renovation closure of the Patrick A. Lucero Branch Library, to offer a temporary library location at El Centro del Quinto Sol Community Recreation Center. Pueblo City Council approved a facility use agreement for use of certain Pueblo Parks

and Recreation premises which include the upstairs of El Centro del Quinto Sol, located at 609 E. 6th St.

"We are very appreciative of the City of Pueblo's partnership in hosting the Patrick A. Lucero Library at El Centro del Quinto Sol while the library building undergoes renovation. Providing library materials, services and programs while construction

happens ensures that the Lucero Library remains available to the community," PCCLD Executive Director Sherri Baca said.

Lucero Library's construction project began in August of 2024 and will be completed in the fall of 2025. The facility use agreement allows for use of the upstairs of El Centro del Quinto Sol which offers space of the upstairs for books,

DVDs and computers.

Additionally, Lucero Library staff will continue offering popular programs such as the after-school chess, arts, crafts and more within the multi-purpose room at El Centro del Quinto Sol. Lucero Library at El Centro del Quinto Sol will be open 3 to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and noon to 6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

Library district partners with Google to offer career certification

The Pueblo City-County Library District along with Google is offering students Google Career Certificates in cybersecurity, data analytics, digital marketing and e-commerce, IT support, project management, and user experience (UX) design.

No college degree or prior experience is needed, courses are available at no cost and can be completed online within three-six months of part-time study.

The Google Career Certificates prepare participants for entry-level roles in fast-growing, in-demand fields.

“Our team stands by to help adults achieve their learning goals and acquire new skills. The Google Career Certificates program allows learners to move

at their own pace, helps them stand out to employers, and provides a path to in demand jobs - all of this is now at the public library,” PCCLD’s Executive Director Sherri Baca said.

Nearly two-thirds of all new jobs created since 2010 require either high- or medium-level digital skills, but one in three American workers have very limited or no digital skills. To help bridge that gap, we’re offering the Google Career Certificates program to the Pueblo community.

“Economic development and workforce readiness are strategic goals of the library district - we are thrilled to partner with Google to bring high-value, on-demand training and professional development to the Pueblo community,” Baca continued.

Pueblo Library District launches telehealth service

Rye and Colorado City residents now have access to free telehealth services. Connect to Health at Your Library provides broadband connectivity, essential equipment and training, enabling community members to connect with health professionals and access various medical e-services.

This initiative is part of a larger effort to increase access to virtual health services for rural communities thanks to a \$125,000 grant from the Colorado Lt. Governor’s Office of eHealth Innovations. PCCLD is one of 15 rural libraries to receive funds to go towards the purchase of telehealth equipment.

Health Solutions Family Medicine, a Pueblo County healthcare provider, offers a wide range of medical services with a focus on comprehensive, patient-centered care, to meet the health needs of the community.

Services available through this telehealth initiative include:

- Initial Consultations: Discussing symptoms and medical history with Health Solutions Family Medicine professionals.
- Health Education and Counseling: Providing valuable health advice and preventive care information.
- Mental Health Support: Access to mental health assessments and counseling sessions.
- Chronic Disease Screening and Management Advice: Guidance for managing conditions like hypertension or diabetes.
- Minor Acute Care: Consultations for non-emergency medical issues such as colds or allergies.
- Family Planning and Contraceptive Counseling, Nutrition Counseling, Pediatric Care Advice, and more.

This initiative is supported by local partners, including Health Solutions in collaboration with the Colorado State Library, the National Library of Medicine and the American Health Association.

Key Results

MATERIALS CHECKED OUT

1,429,937

LIBRARY VISITS

614,031

DIGITAL USAGE

551,143

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

152,901

Summer Reading: Adventure Begins at Your Library

During Summer Reading 2024, more than 9,000 youth successfully completed PCCLD's annual program, making it the highest number of completions.

Summer Reading participants were able to earn weekly coupons and

prizes in addition to the chance to win a weekly grand prize package after turning in completed game boards.

An all-branch kickoff took place at Rawlings Library with more than 1,200 attending. This year's theme was Adventure Begins at Your Library.

New York Times bestselling author headlines All Pueblo Reads

Internationally bestselling author of the Jaipur Trilogy: "The Henna Artist," "The Secret Keeper of Jaipur" and "The Perfumist of Paris." Her debut novel, "The Henna Artist," immediately became a "New York Times" bestseller

and a Reese Witherspoon Pick. It has been translated into 29 languages and is currently in development at Netflix as a TV series. Alka was born in India and came to the U.S. with her family at the age of nine.

A public author talk featuring Joshi took place on Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Rawlings Library. The in-person Booklovers Ball, a fundraiser for the Pueblo Library Foundation, featured Joshi as its guest on Friday, Oct. 25.

Pueblo elementary students were treated to an in-person author talk featuring Meera Sriram, author of the APR children's book "A Garden in My Hands." More than 1,200 children attended the free author talks.

Sriram is an Indian American children's



Alka Joshi

writer who draws from her life straddling the East and West to tell stories. She is the author of several picture books including the multi-award winner, "A Gift for Amma," "Dumping Day," featured in "The New York Times," and "A Garden in My Hands," which received starred reviews from "Kirkus Reviews" and "Publishers Weekly." Her work has been selected as Best Book of the Year by "School Library Journal" and Bank Street College, and as American Library Association's Rise: A Feminist Book Project.

All Pueblo Reads is a literary project designed to get everyone in Pueblo County reading and discussing one book at the same time. The goal of the project is to promote dialogue across cultural, generational and socioeconomic lines. During the project, the Pueblo library district provides classroom sets of books to students in Pueblo schools, hosts six weeks of free activities at seven of the library district's branches as well as at CSU Pueblo and Pueblo Community College.



Meera Sriram

Leadership Teams

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Fredrick Quintana | President

Trisha Macias | Vice President

Iris Clark

Jeffrey DeHerrera

Stephanie Garcia

Doreen Martinez

Jessi Ones

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Sherri Baca | Executive Director

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of Public Service

Thomas DeFrates | Director of
Information Technology

Terri Daly | Director of Human Resources

Jill Kleven | Director of User Services

Nick Potter | Executive Director of Pueblo
Library Foundation & Strategic Initiatives

Alan Rocco | Facilities Superintendent

Bri Reyes | Chief Financial Officer

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Brandice Eslinger

Dr. Bruce Johnson

Jessi Ones

Antoinette Ramos

Teresa Therriault

Gala White

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

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Jan Hoover | Vice President

Jean Eskra, Jean Latka | Secretary

Jeffrey DeHerrera | Treasurer

Bret Holland

Randi Mohar

Melanie Phelps

Antoinette Ramos

Marisa Stoller

Teresa Therriault

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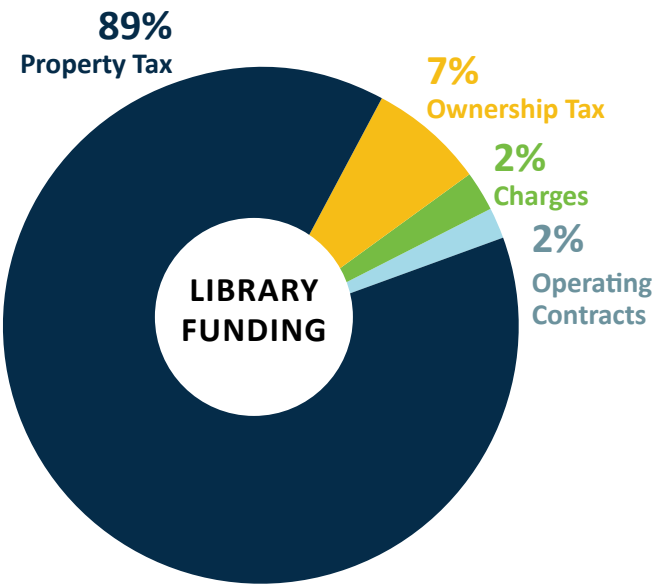
2024 LIBRARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

General Fund

HOW THE LIBRARY IS FUNDED

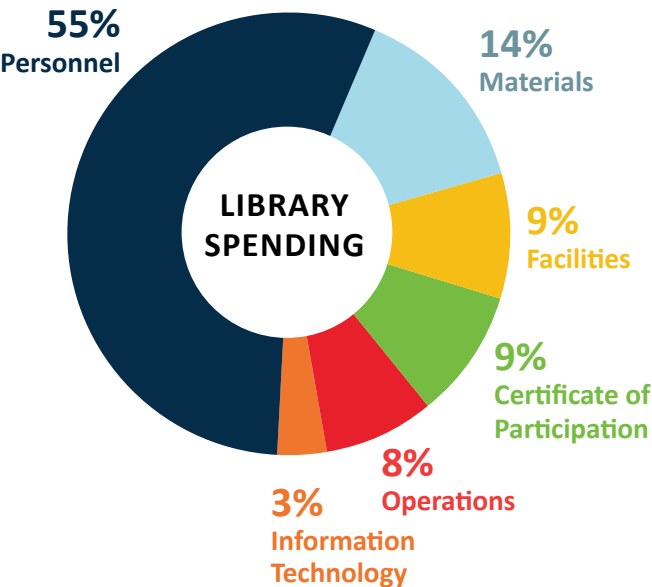
LOCAL PROPERTY TAX	\$15,884,412
Taxpayers of Pueblo City & County support a mill levy of 5.85	
SPECIFIC OWNERSHIP TAX	\$1,266,800
Specific ownership tax, which is the licensing tax on vehicles, boats, etc.	
CHARGES FOR SERVICES, SALES, FINES & INTEREST	\$438,432
Fines charged for overdue materials, photocopy charges, meeting room rental fees, sales of flash drives, ear buds, book bags, etc. and interest earnings on investments.	
OPERATING CONTRACTS, GIFTS	\$342,081
Rent received from Friends for the book store, as well as miscellaneous grants and gifts, including significant contributions from the Friends of the Library, are also included in this line.	

TOTAL REVENUE	\$17,931,725
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HOW THE LIBRARY DISTRIBUTES FUNDING

PERSONNEL: SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$7,601,485
Wages, insurance, PERA, training, and employment-related expenses (unemployment insurance, workers compensation, recruitment expense, employee recognition).	
MATERIALS & PROGRAMS: BOOKS, AV, SUBSCRIPTIONS, etc	\$1,947,272
Books, CDs, electronic databases, periodicals, subscriptions, processing costs and programs for the public.	
FACILITIES: UTILITIES, LEASES & MAINTENANCE	\$1,302,334
Everything to maintain the facilities—utilities, custodial service, building repair and maintenance, lease of space, insurance and vehicle maintenance.	
CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION: PAYMENT ON BUILDINGS	\$1,275,427
Semi-annual payment of principal and interest for the COP financing for three new libraries, refinance of Pueblo West Library and finance the renovation of Rawlings Library.	
OPERATIONS: CONTRACTS, ADMINISTRATION, etc.	\$1,116,945
General operating expenses such as library and office supplies, professional memberships, contracts, county treasurer’s fees, postage, couriers and photocopier expense.	
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: COMPUTERS, etc.	\$465,963
All technology expenses are reflected here—costs to maintain the Integrated Library System (catalog), telecommunications costs including Internet access, supplies and maintenance contracts to keep everything updated and functional.	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$13,680,911
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	\$4,250,814
TRANSFER TO CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	(\$2,410,000)
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	\$1,840,814

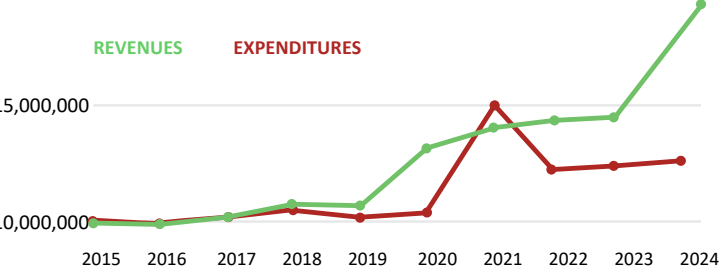


General Fund

SUMMARY OF NET POSITION

ASSETS	2023	2024
Cash and investments	\$8,653,583	\$8,835,480
Property tax and other receivables	\$15,142,669	\$14,307,767
Prepaid expenses and other assets	\$293,716	\$452,527
Capital assets, less depreciation	\$35,599,293	\$42,951,963
TOTAL ASSETS	\$64,540,771	\$66,547,737
Deferred outflows	\$3,417,822	\$2,553,974
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$580,497	\$559,839
Accrued liabilities	\$253,818	\$335,218
Compensated absences	\$388,797	\$798,986
Certificates of participation	\$12,410,000	\$11,265,641
Net pension liability	\$5,650,487	\$4,046,433
Net OPEB Liability	\$371,129	\$312,791
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$19,654,728	\$17,318,908
Deferred revenue: property tax	\$15,050,952	\$14,202,935
other deferred inflows	\$367,091	\$204,933
NET ASSETS		
Net investment in capital assets	\$26,662,463	\$30,989,262
Restricted	\$422,963	\$535,843
Unrestricted	\$4,511,833	\$4,749,352
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$31,597,259	\$36,274,457

10-YEAR HISTORY: TOTAL REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES



Note: Increase of expenditures are capital spending for renovating Rawlings Library in 2021.

2024 LIBRARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Capital Projects Fund

REVENUES

INTEREST INCOME	\$246,590
Earnings on investments — ColoTrust investments for the Library Replacement Plan, InfoZone and debt service reserve.	
GIFTS AND DONATIONS	\$291,940
Donations received from miscellaneous donors, including Friends of the Library and the Rawlings Foundation.	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$538,530

EXPENDITURES

PCCLD has a Library Replacement Plan to upgrade and replace capital assets on a defined schedule. The following areas hold expenses for those capital asset items.	
Capital Asset Repair and Maintenance	\$17,220
FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT	\$607,837
Capital assets worth over \$5,000, such as shelving, custom-built computer tables, copy machines, vehicles, etc.	
BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	\$3,661,411
Additions or improvements to the buildings.	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$4,286,468
REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(\$3,747,938)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	
TRANSFERS IN FROM GENERAL FUND	\$2,410,000
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	\$1,337,938



2024

Annual Report

Vision

Books & Beyond

Motto

Ideas,
Imagination
& Information

Mission

We serve as a foundation for our community by offering welcoming, well equipped and maintained facilities, outstanding collections, and well-trained employees who provide expert service encouraging the joy of reading, supporting lifelong learning and presenting access to information from around the world.

LOCATIONS

BARKMAN LIBRARY | 1300 Jerry Murphy Rd., Pueblo

GIODONE LIBRARY | 24655 U.S. Hwy 50 E., Pueblo

GREENHORN VALLEY LIBRARY | 4801 Cibola Dr., Colorado City

LAMB LIBRARY | 2525 S. Pueblo Blvd., Pueblo

LIBRARY @ THE Y | 3200 Spaulding Ave., Pueblo

LUCERO LIBRARY | 1315 E. 7th St., Pueblo

PUEBLO WEST LIBRARY | 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd., Pueblo West

RAWLINGS LIBRARY | 100 E. Abriendo Ave., Pueblo

AVONDALE ELEMENTARY | 213 Hwy. 50 E., Avondale

BEULAH SCHOOL | 8734 Schoolhouse Ln., Beulah

LIBRARY @ THE U | CSU-Pueblo, 2200 Bonforte Blvd., Pueblo

PCCLD at Pueblo Community College | Ste. 110, Pueblo