

**WE NEED YOU FOR THIS!**

# DEFINE THE FUTURE OF THE LIBRARY **TAKE OUR CITYWIDE COMMUNITY SURVEY**

**What do you want  
your future library  
experience  
to be?**



**Lawrence Public Library is re-imagining what our library can be, and **we need your voice to shape it!****

Lawrence Public Library has partnered with Margaret Sullivan Studio to better understand and serve the needs of our community. Your insights will directly influence how we design spaces, expand services, and show up for Lawrence now and in the future. This is your chance to help define what the Library becomes. *Let's build it together!*

## **SECTION 1** **YOU AND THE LIBRARY**

**1. In the past 12 months, what has brought you to visit Lawrence Public Library?**  
*(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ To check out materials
- ☐ To access digital materials (e.g., ebooks, databases, and streaming)
- ☐ For computer use/Wi-Fi access
- ☐ To use a printer or scanner
- ☐ To attend programs & events; what program and/or event(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ To use meeting rooms (for working, studying, tutoring, etc.)
- ☐ To create in the SOUND & VISION Studio
- ☐ To use the Local History Room
- ☐ To gather in youth spaces
- ☐ To hangout in the Teen Zone
- ☐ For services and resources; what services and/or resources:  
\_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ To have a comfortable, safe place to be
- ☐ To read quietly
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

2.

**How would you describe yourself and your interest in Lawrence Public Library?***(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ **Adult** seeking enrichment.
- ☐ **Adult** seeking community and social gatherings.
- ☐ **Adult** looking for help with my literacy, language learning, or GED.
- ☐ **Artist** looking to share my creativity with the community.
- ☐ **Caregiver** looking for books, technologies, and programs for my kids, grandkids, or others in my care.
- ☐ **Community member** looking for help accessing social services or basic needs assistance (ex. housing, food, healthcare).
- ☐ **Community member** looking for meeting space.
- ☐ **Community member** looking for internet and/or computer access.
- ☐ **Creative** seeking a community and resources.
- ☐ **Entrepreneur or small business owner** looking for business services and/or networking opportunities.
- ☐ **Family or individual** looking for free educational/cultural activities.
- ☐ **Job seeker** looking for a place to apply for jobs, conduct a Zoom interview, or receive help with resume writing or skill-building.
- ☐ **Maker or creative** looking for access to crafting, laser cutting, and/or 3D Lab tools; design or engineering software; and/or studio space.
- ☐ **Neurodiverse community member or community member with a disability (or family member)** looking for assistive technologies, support, and/or inclusive public spaces.
- ☐ **New American, refugee, or immigrant** seeking citizenship services, ESL classes, or other information.
- ☐ **Professional** looking for a place to network and/or work remotely.
- ☐ **Reader** looking for reading recommendations.
- ☐ **Researcher or family history enthusiast** looking to access the library's extensive archival or genealogical collections.
- ☐ **Student** looking for homework help or a place to study.
- ☐ **Senior Citizen** looking for classes and programs to enrich my general knowledge.
- ☐ **Technology learner** of any age looking for access to innovative programs, from basic computing to coding and 3D printing.
- ☐ **Teenager** looking for teen programs and/or a place to study or hang out.
- ☐ **Volunteer** looking for opportunities with Lawrence Public Library and/or other community organizations.
- ☐ **University Professor** seeking a venue to share expertise with the public through lectures, panel discussions, short courses, or lifelong learning programs.
- ☐ **University Student** looking for research support including access to academic databases, archival materials, or data resources.
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ seeking \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blanks).

3.

**What types of programs, services, or events are you most interested in?**

*(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Arts & Crafts Programs
- ☐ Author Visits & Events
- ☐ Book Clubs
- ☐ Career, Resume, and Job Search Support
- ☐ Community Events (e.g., movie/ game nights, festivals)
- ☐ Community Gardening
- ☐ Community History Programs
- ☐ Continuing Education & Lecture Programs
- ☐ Culinary Programs
- ☐ Dottie Stops (Bookmobile)
- ☐ English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Classes
- ☐ Entrepreneur & Business Support
- ☐ Family & Youth Programs
- ☐ Financial Literacy Programs
- ☐ Film Screenings
- ☐ Games & Gaming
- ☐ Health & Community Resources
- ☐ High-tech Equipment (e.g., 3D printer, VR, AI, A/V)
- ☐ Homeschooling & Tutoring
- ☐ Intergenerational Programs
- ☐ Library of Things (items for checkout beyond books)
- ☐ One-on-one Assistance (for tech, research, homework, etc.)
- ☐ Parenting and Family Counseling
- ☐ Notary Services
- ☐ Reading Recommendations & Book-related Programs
- ☐ Recreation Programs
- ☐ Seed Library & Programs
- ☐ Senior Support Services
- ☐ Social Services
- ☐ SOUND + VISION programs & services (recording, editing)
- ☐ STEAM Programs
- ☐ Storytime (intergenerational, sing-a-long, toddler, etc.)
- ☐ Support and Recovery Groups
- ☐ Teen Programs
- ☐ Testing & Academic Support (e.g., SAT/ACT prep)
- ☐ Volunteer opportunities
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION 2

### YOUR SENSE OF PLACE, IDENTITY, AND COMMUNITY

**4. What are some of Lawrence's greatest strengths?**

*(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Access to education and lifelong learning opportunities
- ☐ Access to healthcare and social services
- ☐ Access to parks and community events
- ☐ Welcoming to people of all backgrounds and ages
- ☐ Places that encourage gathering and interaction
- ☐ Aesthetically unique neighborhoods
- ☐ Sense of shared identity and pride
- ☐ Safe, walkable, and accessible public spaces
- ☐ Opportunities for residents to be heard
- ☐ Support for local businesses and entrepreneurs
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**5. What challenges do you, your neighbors, and community face?**

*(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Job loss or job insecurity
- ☐ Business closures
- ☐ Limited access to current technology
- ☐ Lack of access to reliable information
- ☐ Struggles with mental health
- ☐ Struggles with addiction and recovery
- ☐ Lack of affordable housing choices
- ☐ Lack of quality, affordable childcare
- ☐ Limited access to reliable transportation
- ☐ Loss of connection with friends & family
- ☐ Lack of educational opportunities
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

6. *A 'third place' is a comfortable spot—outside of home and work—where you like to spend time, meet people, and feel connected to your community.*

**What are some of your favorite third places in Lawrence and why?**

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7. **What neighborhood do you live in?**

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8. **How would you describe your neighborhood to someone who's never been there?**

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**9. What are some of the most valuable community spaces and resources in Lawrence?**

*(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ **Arts & Culture** (e.g., Lawrence Arts Center, Liberty Hall, Public Art Exhibition, etc.)
- ☐ **Historical District** ("Mass Street")
- ☐ **Lawrence Public Schools** (K-12 – USD 497)
- ☐ **Museums** (e.g., Spencer Museum of Art, Watkins Museum of History, etc.)
- ☐ **Outdoor Recreation** (e.g., Prairie Park Nature Center, Clinton State Park, etc.)
- ☐ **Public Transit**
- ☐ **Restaurants & Nightlife** (e.g., Breweries, wineries, clubs, etc.)
- ☐ **KU Campus**
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. As the Library thinks about expanding services outside the main building, what places in Lawrence would benefit from expanded library services?**

*(Check all that apply)*

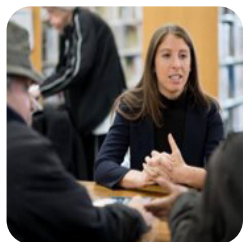
- ☐ Community Centers
- ☐ My Neighborhood
- ☐ Parks & Trails
- ☐ Public Schools
- ☐ Senior Centers
- ☐ Shopping Areas
- ☐ Transit Stations/Stops
- ☐ Workplaces



## SECTION 3

### IMAGINING THE FUTURE OF THE LIBRARY

11. In the future, what are some of the public amenities that your friends and family would enjoy? (Check all that apply)



☐ Adult Services Space



☐ Art Gallery & Studio



☐ Art Park



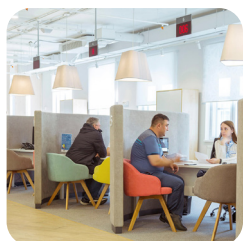
☐ Auditorium/Community Stage



☐ Beer Garden



☐ Business Center



☐ Career Counseling Center



☐ Center for Happiness



☐ Childcare Center



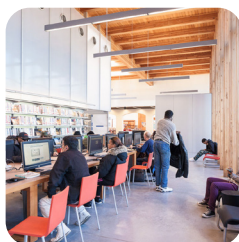
☐ Classrooms



☐ Children's Playground



☐ Community Garden



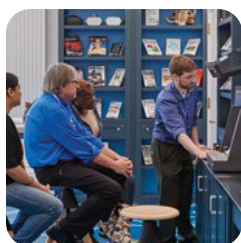
☐ Computer/Tech Lab



☐ Co-Working Center



☐ Dance & Music Rehearsal Studio



☐ Digital Demo Lab



☐ Digital Equity Studio



☐ Early Literacy Lab



☐ English Conversation



☐ Family Messy Play Studio





○ Flexible Sport Courts



○ Gaming Lab



○ Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center



○ Inter-Generational Living Room



○ Large Community Meeting Room



○ Messy Makerspace



○ Nature Trails/Center



○ New Immigrant Center



○ Outdoor Living Room



○ Pickleball Courts



○ Pilates/Yoga Studio



○ Quiet Study Room



○ Reading Garden



○ Sensory Storytelling Studio



○ Small Meeting Spaces



○ Social Services



○ Splash Pad



○ Storytime Space



○ Teen/Tween Center



○ Tinker Garage Center



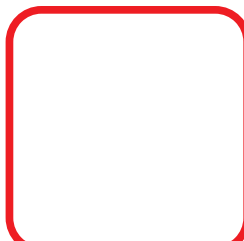
○ Tutor Lab



○ Wellness Center



○ Youth Development Space



○ Anything we missed?



**12. My Library experience of the future would be most like:**

*(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ **Adventure Treehouse** (playful, exploratory, discovery around every corner)
- ☐ **Art Classroom** (hands-on creation, learning new skills, making together)
- ☐ **Bustling Marketplace** (vibrant, diverse, dynamic energy and exchange)
- ☐ **Campfire** (gathering to share stories, warmth, and community connection)
- ☐ **Coffee Shop** (casual, comfortable, a place to linger and connect)
- ☐ **Dinner Party** (curated conversations, diverse perspectives, intimate gatherings)
- ☐ **Immersive Museum** (interactive discovery, experiential learning, wonder)
- ☐ **Independent Bookstore** (browsing freely, serendipitous finds, thoughtfully curated)
- ☐ **Jazz Bar** (creative, improvisational, cultural experience, sophisticated)
- ☐ **Sensory Garden** (calm, restorative, nurturing growth and reflection)
- ☐ **Speakeasy** (hidden gem, exclusive feel, intimate conversations)
- ☐ **The Metaverse** (cutting-edge technology, virtual exploration, boundless possibility)
- ☐ **Zen Oasis** (peaceful sanctuary, contemplation, escape from the everyday)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**13. In the future, our libraries will foster a more \_\_\_\_\_ Lawrence.**

*(Check all that apply)*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> All of the following options | <input type="radio"/> Green                       |
| <input type="radio"/> Accessible                   | <input type="radio"/> Healthy                     |
| <input type="radio"/> Civically engaged            | <input type="radio"/> Innovative                  |
| <input type="radio"/> Curious                      | <input type="radio"/> Literate                    |
| <input type="radio"/> Empathetic                   | <input type="radio"/> Prosperous                  |
| <input type="radio"/> Entrepreneurial              | <input type="radio"/> Sustainable                 |
| <input type="radio"/> Equitable and inclusive      | <input type="radio"/> Walkable                    |
| <input type="radio"/> Fun                          | <input type="radio"/> Did we miss anything? _____ |

## SECTION 4

### DEMOGRAPHICS

14. What is your age?

- |                                  |                             |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> 9 or Under | <input type="radio"/> 25–34 | <input type="radio"/> 65–74       |
| <input type="radio"/> 10–12      | <input type="radio"/> 35–44 | <input type="radio"/> 75 or Older |
| <input type="radio"/> 13–17      | <input type="radio"/> 45–54 |                                   |
| <input type="radio"/> 18–24      | <input type="radio"/> 55–64 |                                   |

15. Which neighborhood (zip code) do you live in?

- ☐ 66044
- ☐ 66045
- ☐ 66046
- ☐ 66047
- ☐ 66049
- ☐ Other:

16. Is there anything else that we forgot to ask you about your neighborhood, library, your interests, or your community? What else do you want us to know?

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17. Would you like to be entered to win one of five \$50 Downtown Lawrence gift cards? If yes, please provide your email address:

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**Returning this completed survey:**

To submit this survey, please hand to a local librarian at the library.

**Thank you so much for your response!**

Please encourage your friends and neighbors to participate as well.

**WE WANT TO SAY...**  
**THANK YOU FOR**  
**YOUR VOICE!**

**YOUR FEEDBACK**  
**WILL BE USED FOR**  
**EXCITING CHANGES**  
**TO COME!**