

WORTHINGTON LIBRARIES
WORTHINGTON, OHIO

Popular Annual Financial Report

FOR THE YEAR ENDED **DECEMBER 31, 2023**



**WORTHINGTON
LIBRARIES**

OUR MISSION: **WORTHINGTON LIBRARIES CONNECT PEOPLE TO A WORLD OF IDEAS AND EACH OTHER.**

We are pleased to present the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the year ended December 31, 2023.

THE PAFR IS AN UNAUDITED REPORT that summarizes the library's general government financial and operating activities in a way that is easily understood by the reader. The summarized information includes 2023 calendar year revenues, expenses, cash position, and current projects/building updates.

In 2023, we saw a slight increase in overall revenue compared to the prior year. This is primarily attributed to an increase in investment income and intergovernmental revenue from the State of Ohio through the Public Library Fund (PLF). Overall expenses were under budget and increased 7.6 percent over the prior year. The increase in general fund spending is due to increased salaries and benefits, supplies, and purchased and contracted services. The majority of the increase in spending was due to capital outlay expenditures needed to maintain the library facilities.



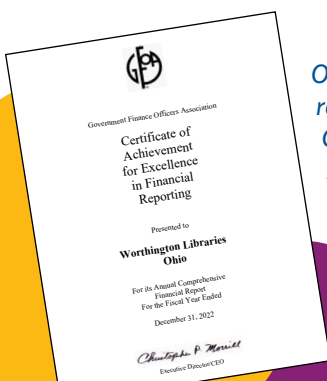
In 2023, we welcomed Lauren Robinson as our new Director/CEO and introduced her to the Worthington community. 2023 also marked a new normal following the global pandemic. As we continued to distribute free COVID-19 test kits, patrons

returned to in-person programs in pre-pandemic numbers and made greater use of the library's amenities and services. While physical books continue to dominate library circulation, digital materials are steadily increasing in popularity.

2023 library accomplishments include signing our first labor union agreement, completion of many building maintenance projects, crafting a five-year strategic plan, and developing and deploying Recommendation Stations in all locations. Together with the Friends Foundation of Worthington Libraries, we initiated the purchase of a custom Pop-Up Library vehicle which will be used to increase our community presence and enhance all outreach services.

In 2024, we will begin implementing our five-year strategic plan, which focuses on storytelling, human connection, social justice and sustainability. We are grateful that Worthington Libraries is currently in a strong financial position due to the support provided by residents of the Worthington School District. We will continue to plan and forecast for what comes next while being fiscally transparent and accountable to the community we serve.

In addition to the PAFR, the Library also published an Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the year ended December 31, 2023. The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report is an audited report and is prepared on a Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) basis, which requires greater disclosure than the Popular Annual Financial Report. Both the PAFR and ACFR are available on the library's website (worthingtonlibraries.org/about/reports-plans). Copies can also be requested from the library's finance department by calling 614-807-2600.



Our 2022 report has earned recognition from the Government Finance Officers Association for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

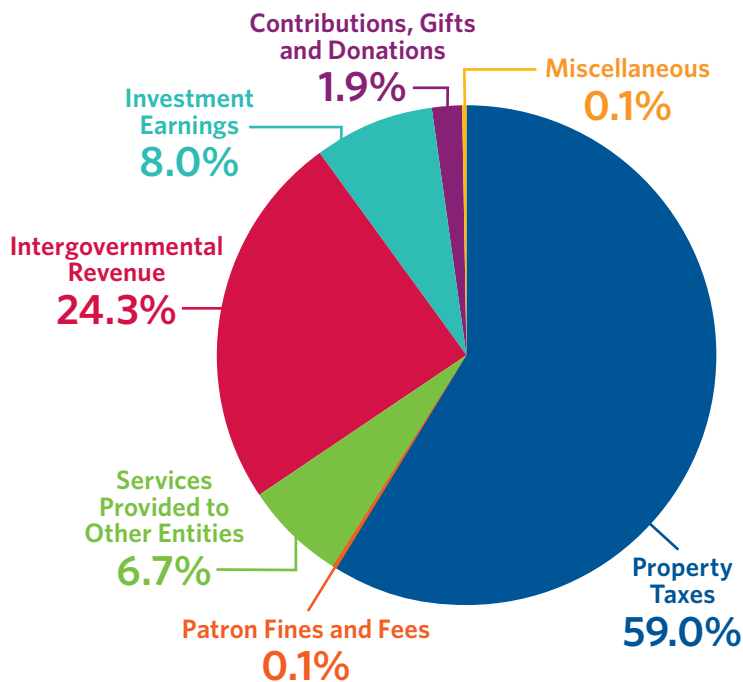
- JEREMIE STEVENS
Chief Fiscal Officer



Library Revenues and Resources

TOTAL REVENUES 2023

Total Revenues: \$14.2 million



Property taxes are the main source of revenue for Worthington Libraries, making up 59 percent of total revenues in 2023. Voters in the Worthington School District passed a permanent 2.6 mill property tax levy in 2005 and a 2.2 mill permanent replacement levy in 2013.

Intergovernmental revenue is primarily composed of Public Library Fund (PLF) revenue and Ohio's homestead and rollback tax credit revenue. In 2023, PLF revenues were based on 1.7 percent of the State's General Revenue Fund. Intergovernmental revenues were 24.3 percent of total revenues at Worthington Libraries.

Other sources of library revenue: patron fines and fees, earnings on investment, services provided to other entities, contributions, gifts, donations and miscellaneous.

Property Taxes	\$8,372,308
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$3,443,679
Patron Fines and Fees	\$19,983
Services Provided to Other Entities	\$947,722
Contributions, Gifts and Donations	\$262,695
Investment Earnings	\$1,137,352
Miscellaneous	\$12,513
Total Revenues	\$14,196,252

TOTAL REVENUES 2019-2023 (in thousands)

Revenues (in thousands)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Property Taxes	\$7,872	\$8,031	\$7,945	\$8,196	\$8,372
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$3,044	\$2,965	\$3,243	\$3,437	\$3,444
Patron Fines and Fees	\$142	\$39	\$37	\$31	\$20
Services Provided to Other Entities	\$907	\$910	\$909	\$931	\$948
Contributions, Gifts and Donations	\$42	\$26	\$19	\$28	\$263
Investment Earnings	\$673	\$369	(\$51)	(\$96)	\$1,137
Miscellaneous	\$50	\$94	\$36	\$26	\$13
Total Revenues	\$12,730	\$12,434	\$12,138	\$12,553	\$14,196

Total revenues have remained relatively consistent over the last five years. In 2023, total revenue increased slightly compared to the prior year. The overall increase was due to a minimal increase in property tax revenue and Public Library Fund revenue, and relatively significant increases in gifts from the Friends Foundation and investment earnings.

The Friends Foundation gift of \$203,770.98 in 2023 funded the purchase of a new Pop-Up Library vehicle. Investment earnings increased significantly in 2023 due to the implementation of an investment manager. Our goal is to make this revenue last as long as possible through investing and conservative budgeting.

Library Services and Expenses

LIBRARY SERVICES:

Public Services and Programs

Includes public service staff (circulation, adult/youth services and library managers), termination benefits, and Friends Foundation expenditures.

Collection Development and Processing

Includes materials selectors and technical services staff, the purchase of all books, and the processing costs associated with those purchases.

SUPPORT SERVICES:

Facilities Operation and Maintenance

Includes facilities management staff, utilities, groundskeeping, property insurance, and materials and supplies necessary to maintain the three separate library locations.

Information Services Support

Includes technology and IT staff, technology related professional services, rent/leased software, and minor technology furniture and equipment.

Business Administration

Includes library administration, finance, board of trustees, and community relations staff as well as liability insurance, tax collection fees, and professional services.

Capital Outlay

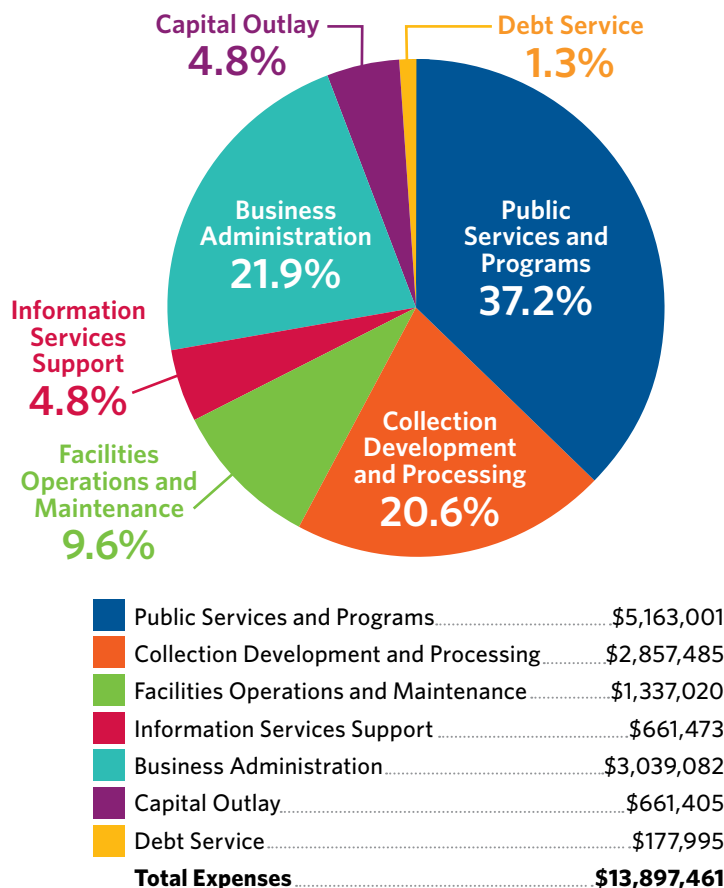
Includes construction, major repairs, and renovations to library facilities and equipment.

Debt Service

Includes the Worthington Park Library lease agreement.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES 2023

\$13.9 million



TOTAL EXPENSES 2019-2023 (in thousands)

Total expenses were \$13.9 million for 2023. Overall expenditures increased 7.5 percent over 2022. The largest increase in expenses was due to capital projects to maintain the library buildings.

Expenses (in thousands)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Public Services and Programs	\$5,020	\$5,085	\$4,902	\$5,434	\$5,163
Collection Development and Processing	\$2,255	\$2,134	\$2,318	\$2,215	\$2,857
Facilities Operation and Maintenance	\$1,198	\$1,159	\$1,012	\$1,168	\$1,337
Information Services Support	\$967	\$673	\$641	\$655	\$661
Business Administration	\$2,092	\$2,507	\$2,654	\$2,905	\$3,039
Capital Outlay	\$1,248	\$960	\$700	\$369	\$661
Debt Service	\$0	\$0	\$176	\$176	\$178
Total Expenses	\$12,780	\$12,518	\$12,403	\$12,922	\$13,897

Cash Position - Five Year Forecast

The chart below illustrates the impact to the library's actual cash position in 2023 and the forecasted cash position through calendar year 2028. Note, all other financial information in this report is prepared on a GAAP basis. The 2024-2028 estimated revenues consist of the Public Library Fund, property taxes and other revenue. Estimated revenues gradually decline due to a decrease in the homestead rollback tax. The 2024-2028 estimated expenses are

based on the Worthington Libraries Board of Trustees approved 2024 permanent appropriations and estimated increases in salaries, benefits, supplies, purchased services and goods, library materials and programming, as well as the continued maintenance of the current three buildings. We will endeavor to make revenue from both the PLF and our two property tax levies last as long as possible, but must plan for an eventuality where expenses outpace revenue.

FIVE YEAR FORECAST (in thousands)

	2023 ACTUAL	2024 ESTIMATED	2025 ESTIMATED	2026 ESTIMATED	2027 ESTIMATED	2028 ESTIMATED
Beginning Cash Balance	\$24,199	\$24,055	\$19,460	\$15,298	\$10,462	\$4,912
Revenues	\$13,733	\$13,126	\$13,203	\$13,072	\$12,920	\$12,748
Expenses	\$13,876	\$17,721	\$17,365	\$17,908	\$18,470	\$19,051
Ending Cash Balance	\$24,055	\$19,460	\$15,298	\$10,462	\$4,912	(\$1,391)

OUR mission

Worthington Libraries connect people to a world of ideas and each other.



We help people.

service

We create a dynamic environment for learning and discovery.

innovation

We share our talents and build partnerships to strengthen the community.

collaboration

We inspire our community and the library profession to excel.

leadership

We engage people in experiences that surprise and delight.

fun

our core values

2023 in the books

CIRCULATION

3,030,430

Total circulation

2,316,048

Physical



714,382

Digital

PATRONS

102,598

Registered borrowers



PROGRAMS

1,526

Number of programs



43,597

Program attendance



12,508

Outreach program attendance



7,880

Summer Reading participation



WEB TRAFFIC



1,014,549

Website sessions

PATRON SERVICES



14,982

Number of scanning transactions



4,141

Number of faxes



260,120

Free print jobs



1,112

Notary appointments



13,005

Study room reservations



503

Meeting room reservations

Library Facilities Update

OLD WORTHINGTON LIBRARY

820 High Street, Worthington OH 43085

Old Worthington Library is located in the heart of downtown Worthington. This location houses our largest collection of materials and is the largest by square footage. Updates to the building in 2023 included working with a native plant specialist to revitalize and maintain the Reading with Friends sculpture garden and building landscape, adding flat panel TV screens in the study rooms, reconfiguration of several staff spaces, removal and replacement of dead and dying trees and continued LED conversion of can lights and replacement of VAV boxes as part of the ongoing Energy Conservation, Lighting and Building Automation Project.



NORTHWEST LIBRARY

2280 Hard Road, Columbus OH 43235

Northwest Library is located on Hard Road close to the major intersection of 270 and Sawmill Road. This location serves both Worthington and Columbus Metropolitan Library patrons as it sits on the border between our two library jurisdictions. The drive-up window continues to be a popular service point. Updates to the building in 2023 included working with a native plant specialist to revitalize and maintain the building landscape, added flat panel TV screens in the study rooms, removal and replacement of dead and dying trees, continued LED conversion of lighting fixtures as part of the ongoing Energy Conservation, Lighting and Building Automation Project.



WORTHINGTON PARK LIBRARY

1389 Worthington Centre Drive, Worthington OH 43085

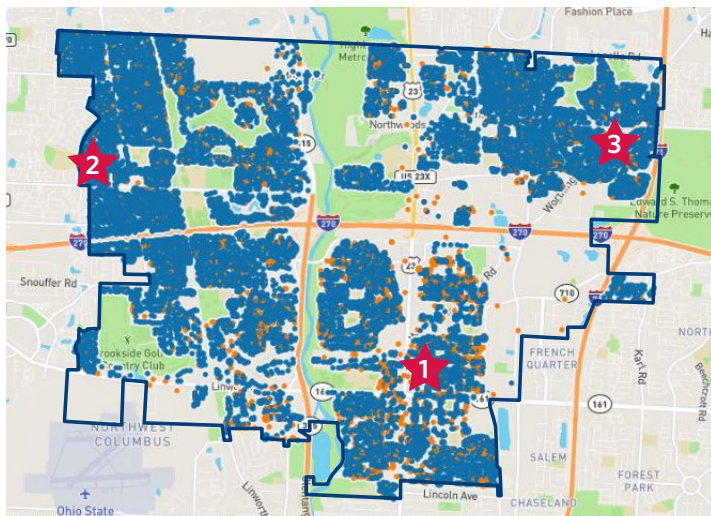
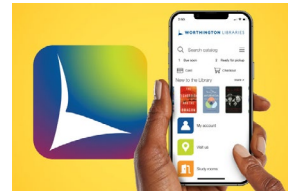
Worthington Park Library is located in the Worthington Park Shopping Center and primarily serves the northeast part of the library's service district. The building and services were regularly maintained in 2023.



DIGITAL LIBRARY

worthingtonlibraries.org

Our website, worthingtonlibraries.org, serves as our digital portal, providing access to library information and materials and a wide array of online services. In 2023, we launched a new mobile app and began work to upgrade Worthington Memory (worthingtonmemory.org). We also began work with our community partners to make our website available in Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic and Somali. In addition to English, these are the top languages spoken by students in Worthington Schools.



LIBRARY USERS within Worthington Libraries' service area, 2023

- Library user
- Worthington Libraries' service area
- ★ 1 Old Worthington Library
- ★ 2 Northwest Library
- ★ 3 Worthington Park Library