

CITY OF COOS BAY CITY COUNCIL
Agenda Staff Report

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
March 5, 2013	

TO: Mayor Shoji and City Councilors

FROM: Sami Pierson, Library Director
Through: Rodger Craddock, City Manager

ISSUE Relevance and Status of the Library

BACKGROUND

During the City Council goal setting session, a question was raised regarding the relevancy of the library today. This presentation was prepared as an update for the City Council as to the status of the library.

ADVANTAGES

Reports keep the Council up-to-date on activities and programs provided at the Coos Bay Public Library.

DISADVANTAGES

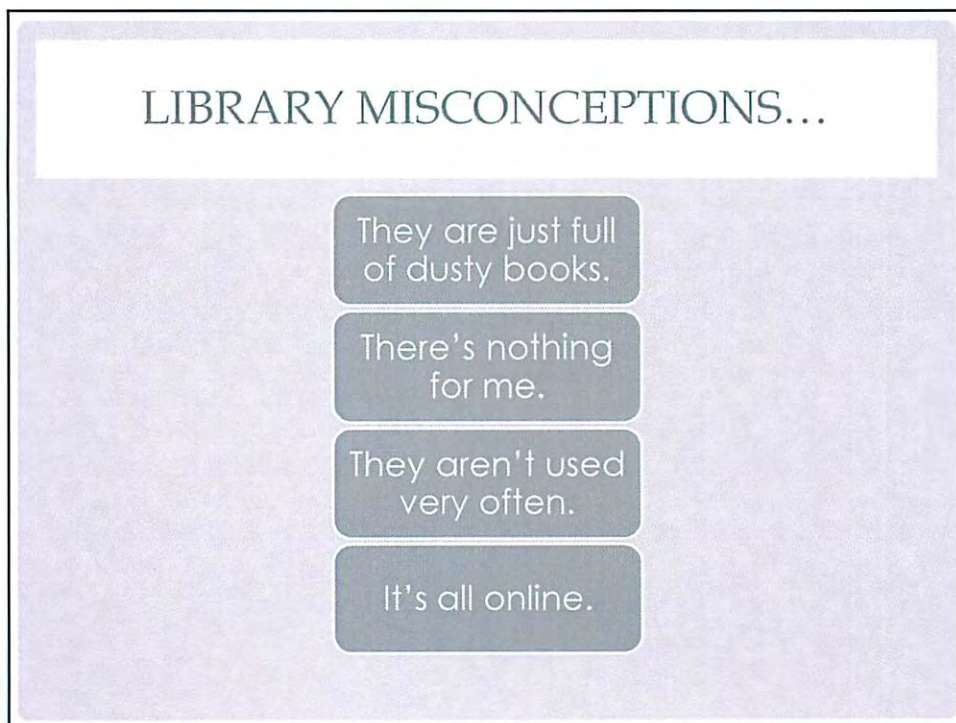
N/A

BUDGET

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

No action is required.



NOW FOR THE TRUTH ABOUT LIBRARIES

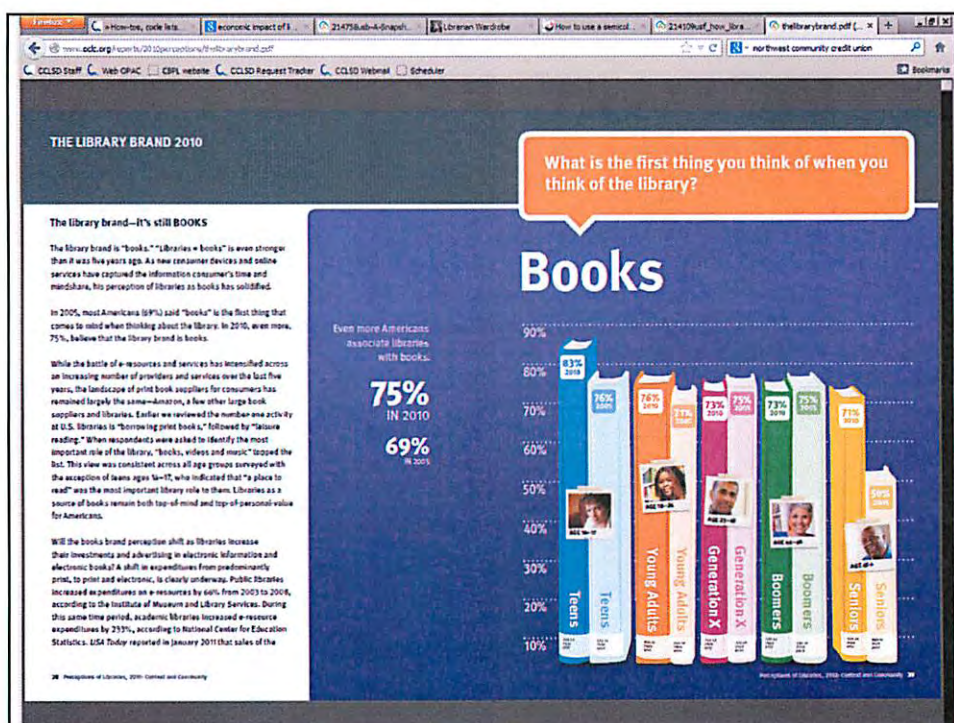
- Enhance the sense of community
- Provide life-long learning
- Promote the love of reading and the imagination
- The great equalizer
- Positive economic impact
- Social services

ENHANCE THE SENSE OF COMMUNITY

- Programming
- Formal and informal gatherings
- Maintain local history collection
- Sharing of knowledge
- Staple of a vibrant community

FY 2011 - 2012

- 183,661 visitors = 80 people an hour
- Even more used the meeting rooms, and online resources
- 8,272 people attended the 185 programs that were held – local history, authors, crafts, and many more
- 209,591 items circulated = 91 items an hour



“Even though I have to drive quite a bit further to the CB library, it is worth it to me.”

– *Anonymous Patron*

Second only to my own home, the library is absolutely my favorite place to be! I feel warm, welcome, comfortable and relaxed there. The library offers anything I might wish to read, view or listen to.

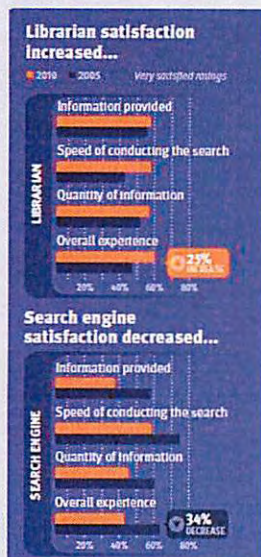
- Darlene, patron

The library is one of the community's most valuable resources.

- Anonymous patron

LIFE-LONG LEARNING

- Teach information literacy
- Ability to browse for ideas and information
- Changing technology



“Google can bring you back 100,000 answers, a librarian can bring you back the right one.”

— Neil Gaiman

FY 2011 - 2012

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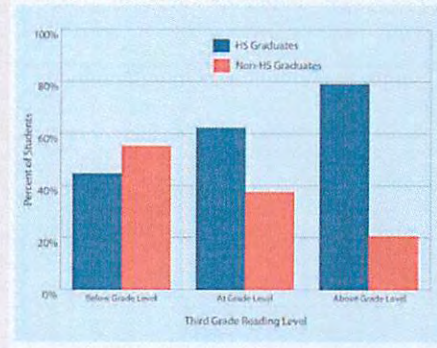
Thank you for teaching the Facebook class at the library. We were able to determine for ourselves what Facebook was all about and what it would mean in our lives.

- Margaret and Brad

PROMOTE LOVE OF READING AND THE IMAGINATION

- Children's programming
- Seasonal reading challenges
- Arts and crafts
- Author talks
- Summer Reading

Students At and Above Grade Level for Reading in Grade 3 Graduate from High School at Higher Rates Than Students Below Grade Level



Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, 2010 study

GREAT EQUALIZER

- Access for all
- Something for everyone

Thank you for all you do and
for being here for everyone,
even the poor who utilize the
library in so many ways.

- Clayton, a patron

"Librarians are essential players in
the information revolution because
they level that field. They enable
those without money or education
to read and learn the same things
as the billionaire and the PhD."

— Marilyn Johnson

TYPES OF MATERIALS

- Books
- DVD
- Books on CD and MP3
- VHS
- Cassette
- Downloadable materials – book, audio, video
- Magazines and newspapers
- Databases
- Maps
- Historical files
- Microfilm

POSITIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Local employer
- Improve skills through technology classes
- Job search assistance
- Investment databases
- Personal finance materials

I am travelling through but
stayed longer because I
was able to use your
internet several times today.
-Anonymous patron

We are thinking about
moving here, but we
had to see what the
library was like.
- Anonymous

You are a money-saver and I thank you for that.

- Lorraine, patron

SOCIAL SERVICES

- Information
- Connections

The people that wait on me are always cheerful and sometime that is the only smile or pleasant word I get all day.

- Marianne, patron

“Librarians are the coolest people out there doing the hardest job out there on the frontlines. And every time I get to encounter or work with librarians, I'm always impressed by their sheer awesomeness.”

— Neil Gaiman