

**LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**JUNE 1, 2024 - MAY 31, 2025**



# REPORT

## ANNUAL REPORT

### LIBRARY READING GARDEN CONCEPT



**FROM SEED TO SANCTUARY**  
**LEARN, GROW, BLOOM**

# MESSAGE FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR

## PAM HARRISON

It is my privilege to present this year's Annual Report, which reflects a period of meaningful growth, renewal, and deeper community connection for our library.

Our spaces have evolved significantly this year, with key renovations, infrastructure upgrades, and the exciting development of an outdoor reading garden—designed to extend our welcoming environment beyond our walls and provide new opportunities for learning, reflection, and community gathering.

We are proud to report that our community engagement efforts are making a difference. Through expanded outreach initiatives, we connected with new neighborhoods, built stronger partnerships, and brought library services to where they were most needed.



Access remained a central focus of our work. We broadened library card eligibility to include more children, ensuring early and equitable access to our resources and encouraging a love of reading and lifelong learning. We also invested in assistive technologies to make our services more inclusive for patrons with varying needs and abilities.



Communication has also been a top priority. We held several opportunities for community feedback and dialogue, helping shape our services to better reflect the voices we serve. And internally, our Staff Day provided time for professional development, cross-departmental collaboration, team building, and organizational growth.

These accomplishments were made possible by your continued support and belief in the value of libraries. Thank you for helping us grow in ways that matter to the Apache Junction community.

# AJPL 2022-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

---

What is a strategic plan?

A strategic plan is a comprehensive document that outlines the library's long-term goals, objectives and strategies for meeting the needs of its community effectively. It serves as a roadmap for guiding decision-making and resource allocation over a specified period, typically ranging from 3-5 years. A strategic plan serves as a dynamic tool for guiding organizational growth, enhancing service delivery and maximizing impact within the community it serves.

## MISSION

The Apache Junction Public Library is a welcoming destination providing education, technology, information and entertainment, enriching lives of individuals and families in our diverse community.

## VISION

The Apache Junction Public Library strives to be a leader in connecting people, fostering creativity, providing cutting edge technology, and inspiring personal growth.

## GOALS



The community will enjoy convenient access to Library resources.

**Strategic Focus: ACCESS**



Patrons and staff will easily obtain the information they need about Library resources, services and programs.

**Strategic Focus: COMMUNICATION**



Library resources and services will reflect the wants and needs of the community.

**Strategic Focus: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**



Uphold high standards for spaces that are welcoming, comfortable, well-maintained and valued by the community.

**Strategic Focus: SPACES**



# ACCESS

## Empowering Patrons

### Library Card Eligibility Expanded for Children

Access to children's library cards was expanded by unanimous vote of the Library Board. Children are now eligible for a free library card even if their parent or guardian has outstanding fees under \$50. This change supports greater access to library resources for all families in our community.



### Assistive Technology

As part of the library's ongoing commitment to accessibility and inclusion, the introduction of the UbiDuo communication device will enhance service to patrons who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities. The UbiDuo enables real-time, two-way typed communication between staff and patrons, allowing for seamless, face-to-face interaction without the need for an interpreter. This technology empowers patrons by promoting independence and privacy in their interactions with staff, eliminating communication barriers when accessing services, resources, and technology, and facilitating equal participation in programs, reference services, and library card registration.

## AJPL STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2025



The community will enjoy convenient access to Library resources



ACCESS



COMMUNICATION



COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT



SPACES

# COMMUNICATION

## Connect & Conquer

### Community Feedback and Engagement

As part of the library's comprehensive communication plan, multiple channels were implemented to actively gather feedback from the community including surveys, focus groups, and an open house event to gather input on the design of the upcoming Library Garden. These efforts are designed to ensure the library remains responsive to community needs, encourages open dialogue, and continuously improves services based on patron suggestions.



### Staff Development & Organizational Growth

Library staff participated in a dedicated Staff Day, funded by a Library Services and Technology Act grant, focused on professional development and organizational well-being. The day included training sessions on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) as well as workplace resiliency, equipping staff with tools to better support both their colleagues and the community. A team-building session was also held during which staff collaborated to identify and define the library's core organizational values. This effort fostered a shared sense of purpose and strengthened workplace culture. The library continues to enhance internal communications, ensuring staff remain informed, connected, and engaged in ongoing initiatives.

#### FOCUS GROUPS



#### SURVEYS



#### FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNITY



Patrons and staff will easily obtain the information they need about Library resources, services and programs.

## AJPL STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2025



ACCESS



COMMUNICATION



COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT



SPACES

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Library Services beyond the Building

### Outreach Initiatives and Impact

The Library's Outreach Services staff reached a total of 11,984 community members with the Mobile Library and a variety of outreach programs and services. Notable among this year's initiatives were two major events: the Blue Heeler Bash, held in collaboration with the Parks and Recreation Department at Lost Dutchman Dog Park, and the grand opening of Painted Sky Park. Together, these events attracted and engaged over 1,000 attendees. Additionally, the Library introduced a Home Delivery service to provide access to library materials for individuals facing transportation or health-related barriers that prevent them from visiting the library. The Mobile Library route remains intentionally flexible, enabling Outreach Services to expand access to mobile home parks, senior living facilities, educational institutions, and the growing residential areas of South Apache Junction.



Library resources and services will reflect the wants and needs of the community.

## AJPL STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2025



ACCESS



COMMUNICATION



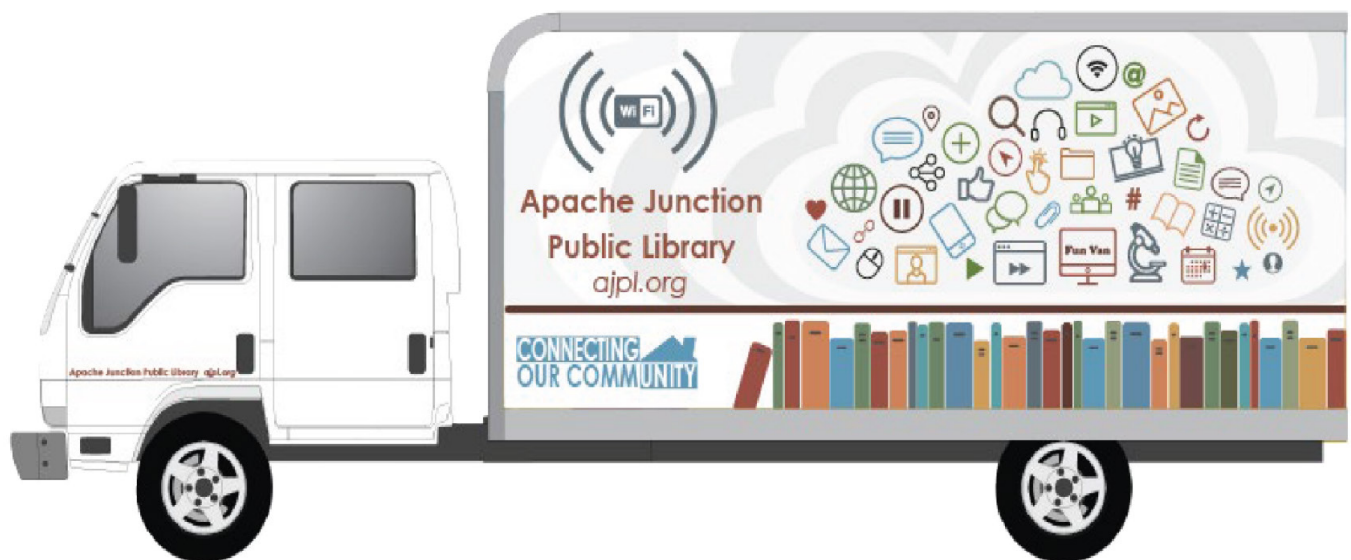
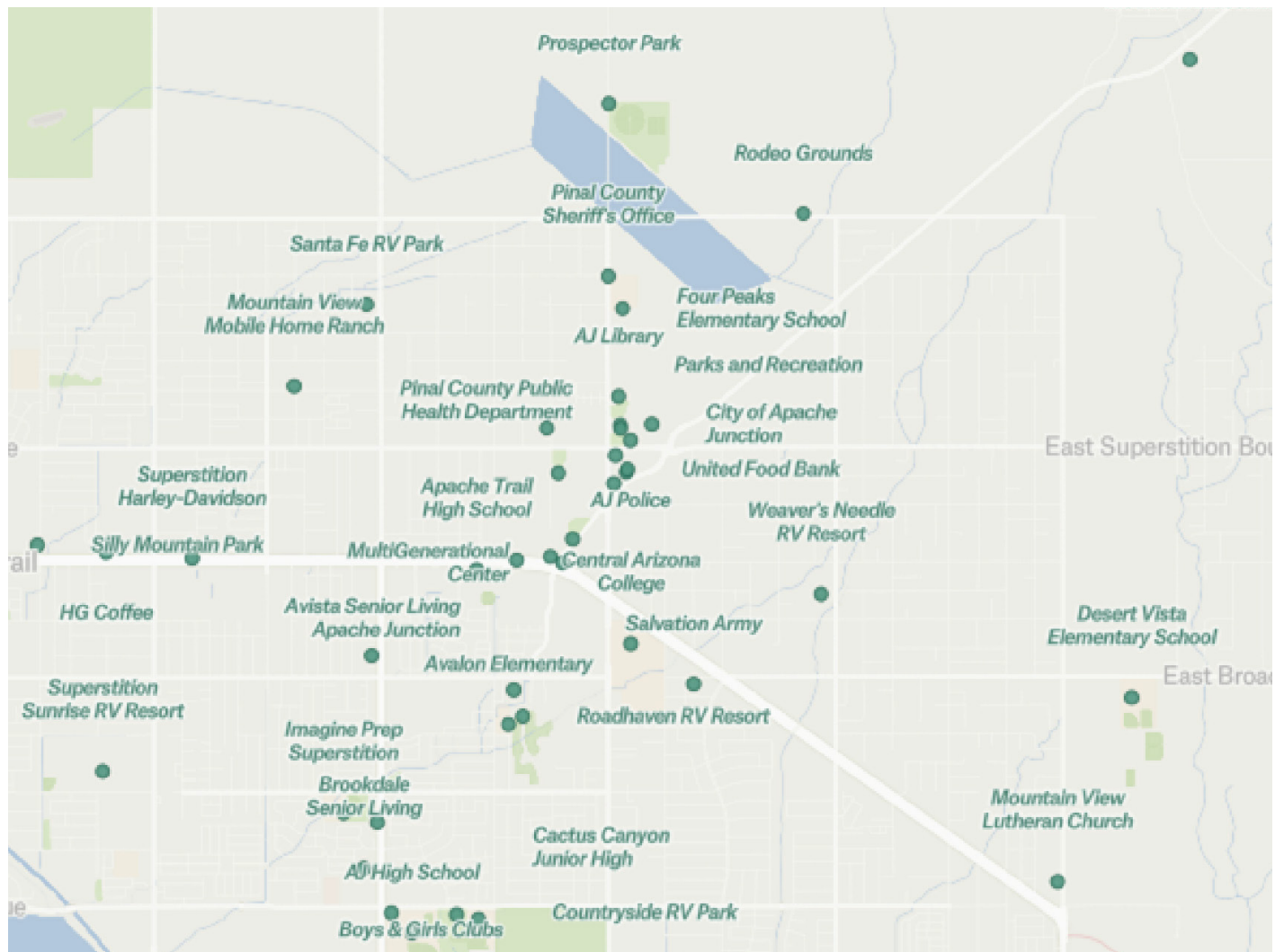
COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT



SPACES



# Community Partner Map



# SPACES

## Enhancing the Visitor Experience

### Outdoor Reading Garden Development

The Library has partnered with a landscape architect to design and develop plans for the revitalization of its patio into a new outdoor reading garden. The project will transform approximately 5,000 square feet of surrounding outdoor area into a vibrant, multifunctional garden space. The vision for this enhancement is to inspire, educate, and enrich the community through a seed library demonstration garden, shaded and comfortable areas for quiet reading, study, and reflection, and an amphitheater for library programs—all with direct, unobstructed views of the Superstition Mountains. Construction is slated to begin later this year.

### Restroom Renovations

The Library completed a full renovation of its public men's and women's restrooms, original to the 1986 facility. The project included floor-to-ceiling upgrades to improve cleanliness, functionality, and the overall user experience for patrons. In addition, the children's restrooms received targeted upgrades to enhance safety and accessibility.



Uphold high standards for spaces that are welcoming, comfortable, well-maintained and valued by the community.

## AJPL STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2025



ACCESS



COMMUNICATION



COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT



SPACES



# STATISTICS

---



Library Visits  
229,301



Adult Programming and Attendance  
385/5,013



Outreach  
11,984



Active Card Holders  
23,541



Children Programming and Attendance  
486/16,996



Wi-Fi Use  
15,761



Computer Sessions  
22,183



Added to the collection  
9,621



Family Programs and Attendance  
959/19,175



New Registrations  
6,136



Volunteer Hours  
4,650.5



Website Visits  
431,116



Physical Collection  
81,452



E-Content Circulation  
172,355



Physical Circulation  
366,362

## CITY OF APACHE JUNCTION PUBLIC LIBRARY

Fiscal Year: 2024-2025

### STATEMENT OF PROPERTY

Location:	1177 North Idaho Road Apache Junction, AZ 85119 The building resides on the Apache Junction Municipal Government 20-acre complex.
Legal Description:	W 1/2 SW 1/4 of Section 16 Township 1 North Range 8 East Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Pinal County, Arizona.
Money:	Received, where derived, how used and expended. See the attached financial statement.

**CITY OF APACHE JUNCTION PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**  
Fiscal Year 2024-2025

**REVENUES (As of May 31,2025)**

**GENERAL FUND**

Library Fines	\$	852
Charges for Services		17,792
Other Revenues		2,100
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>20,745</b>

**DEVELOPMENT FEE FUND** 922,554

**LIBRARY FUND** 111,284

**GRANTS-IN-TRUST** 239,231

**TOTAL REVENUES** \$ 1,293,814

**EXPENDITURES (As of May 31, 2025)**

**GENERAL FUND**

Personnel Costs	\$	1,494,012
Charges for Services		69,132
Commodities		184,169
Capital Equipment Outlay		126,878
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,874,190</b>

**DEVELOPMENT FEE FUND** 6,517

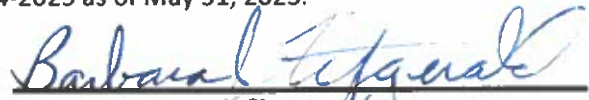
**LIBRARY FUND** 47,228

**GRANTS-IN-TRUST** 239,227

**DEBT SERVICE** -

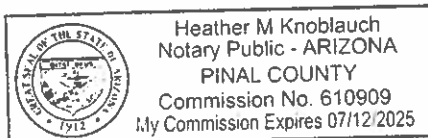
**TOTAL EXPENDITURES** \$ 2,167,163

I, Barbara Fitzgerald, Secretary of the Library Board of Trustees, do hereby verify that the above financial statement for the Apache Junction Public Library represents a true and accurate record of all receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year 2024-2025 as of May 31, 2025.

  
Signature

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4 day of June, 2025.

  
Notary Public



My Commission Expires:

Pinal  
County  
7/12/2025