

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

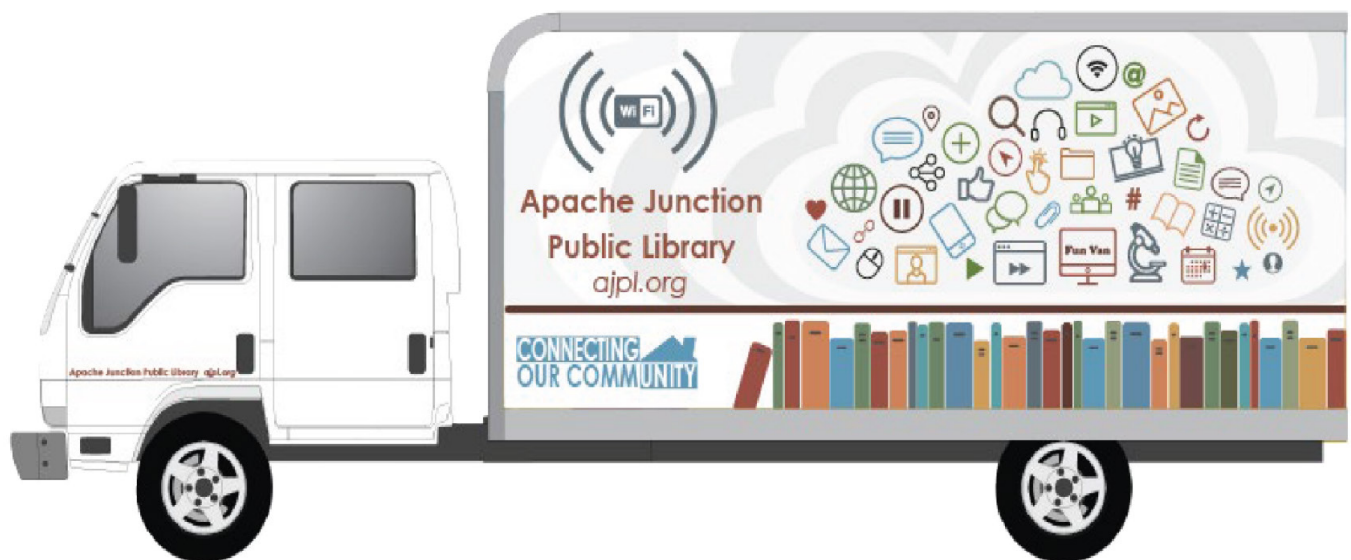
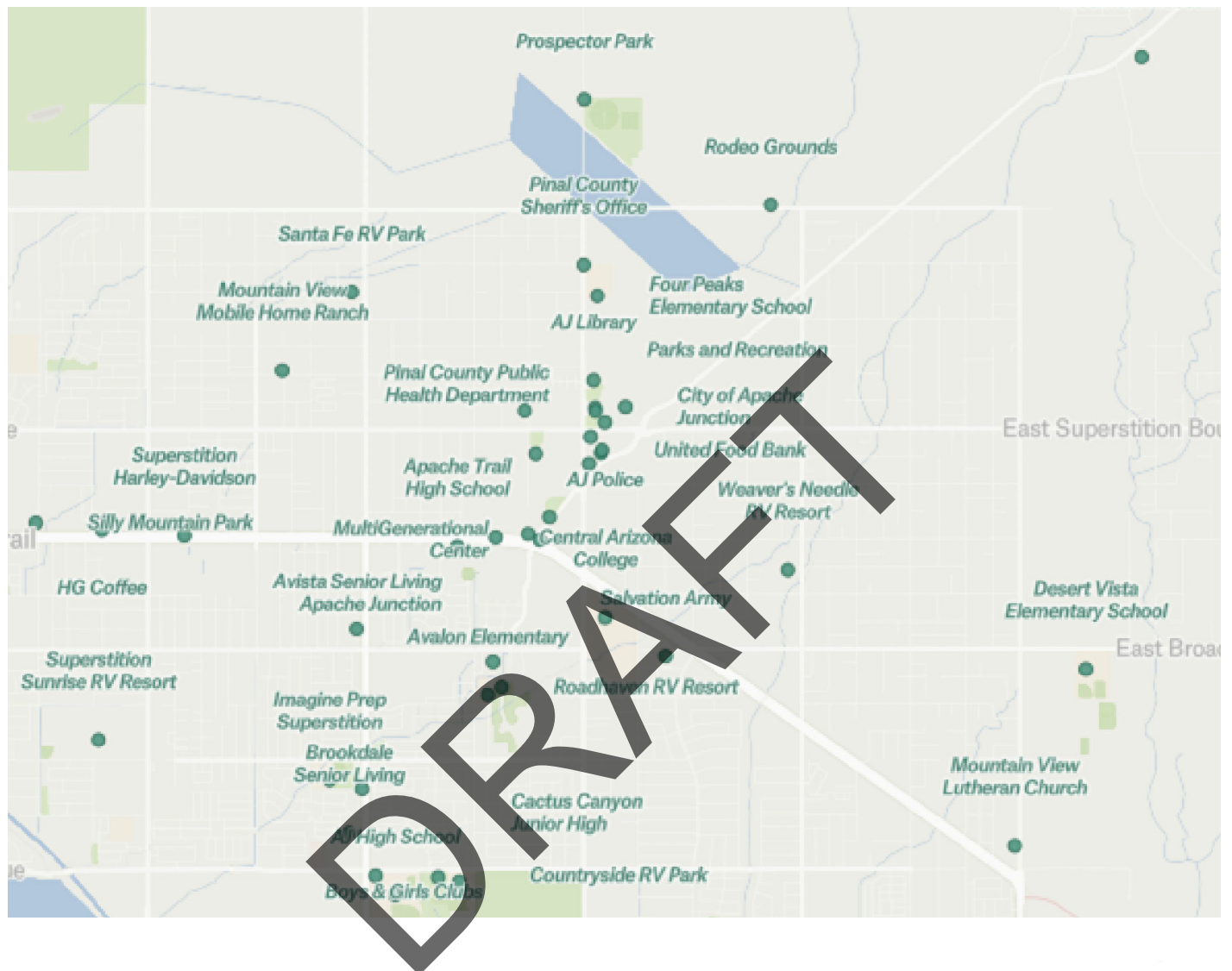


COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT



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
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$	20,745

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
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$	1,874,190

DEVELOPMENT FEE FUND 6,517

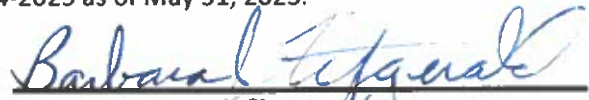
LIBRARY FUND 47,228

GRANTS-IN-TRUST 239,227

DEBT SERVICE -

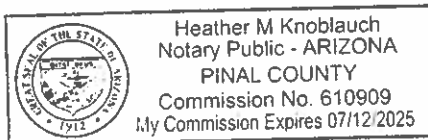
TOTAL EXPENDITURES **\$ 2,167,163**

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