

Apache Junction Public Library Strategic Plan 2022-2025

Summary Report

About the Apache Junction Public Library

The Apache Junction Women's Club founded the first Apache Junction community library in 1964 and donated the library to the City of Apache Junction in 1982. The current building opened in 1986 and has undergone multiple additions and renovations to grow to its current size of 31,545 square feet. The library is a member of the Pinal County Federated Libraries and serves the city of Apache Junction as well as the residents of Pinal County. The library continuously moves forward by innovating and delivering services that grow and inspire the Apache Junction community. We are also supported by an active Friends of the Library group and a Library Board of Trustees that ensures we are a strong steward of the public good by providing the spaces, resources, and materials the Apache Junction community needs to learn, engage, and grow.

Like all public libraries in Arizona, Apache Junction Public Library saw declines in library visits and use during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. However, in the past two years, the library has seen a rebound in all our service usage. We are excited and grateful to see our community attend more programs, check out more materials, and visit us more frequently.



Building on Success

The Apache Junction Public Library made great progress towards achieving the goals of our 2022 – 2025 strategic plan in the areas of Access, Communication, Community Engagement and Spaces. Key successes include:

- Designing a functional Mobile Library and developing strategic routes to provide resources and services to community members in need.
- Actively partnering with local schools by identifying key contacts and consistently collaborating to provide library services, resources and materials to both students and educators outside the library building.
- Creating an actionable library marketing plan and utilizing it in conjunction with the City's new Communication and Marketing department.
- Implementing new communication techniques to keep all library staff informed, and integrating consistent training regarding library collections, resources, and equipment into bi-monthly staff meetings.
- Utilizing real circulation and collection data to improve spending of material budgets and keep library shelves fresh.
- Collecting library program feedback to better inform future programming topics for younger adults and families.
- Making better use of our space by implementing logical layouts of materials and decreasing clutter.
- Established a new teen lounge to separate gaming from studying.



The Planning Process

Beginning in February 2025, the Apache Junction Public Library began the process to create a new strategic plan. The planning process included a community survey where we received 450 responses, a library staff survey, and five focus groups with community members. The library sincerely thanks those who offered their ideas and time as part of this process; your feedback is invaluable. The new plan will be available July 2025.

Apache Junction Public Library's Strategic Planning Team 2025

Pam Harrison, Library Director

Jason Kirchofer, Adult Services Supervisor/Librarian

Penny Brumbaugh, Youth Services Supervisor/Librarian

Megan Carbiener, Outreach Services Supervisor/Librarian

Trish Pelletier, Library Supervisor