

SSP LIBRARY SURVEY

Since it opened in 1922, the South St. Paul Library has served thousands of people by providing a space to learn, enjoy its many collections, and participate in special programs and events throughout the year. The Library is one of four City-owned libraries of the 115 libraries in the metro area. The Library and City are at a crossroads in determining its future as it is in need of many repairs, improvements, and increased capacity. As we look toward writing the next chapter of our community, we want to ensure the Library serves the needs of all South St. Paul's residents.

The following survey has approximately 18 questions and will take less than five minutes to complete. The information provided will be invaluable as South St. Paul considers the future of the City's library. Thank you in advance for your participation.

If you prefer completing an online version of this survey, visit: bit.ly/SSPLibrarySurvey

1. Please write your address to verify you are a South St. Paul resident.

2. How often do you use the South St. Paul Library?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Daily | <input type="checkbox"/> Every few months |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once or twice a week | <input type="checkbox"/> Once a year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once or twice a month | <input type="checkbox"/> I never visit the South St. Paul Library |

3. What programming or services offered by the South St. Paul Library do you use?

- Adult programs
- Teen programs
- Children's programs
- Children's Play & Learn Station (*revolving themes throughout the year*)
- Technology classes/tutoring
- Public computers with free Internet access/software or free Wi-Fi
- Meeting room reservation
- Fax Service
- E-books/audiobooks (*Cloud Library, RBdigital, etc.*) and streaming service (*Hoopla Digital*)
- Online resources and databases (*Homework Help Now!, JobNow!, Ancestry Library Edition, NoveList Plus, etc.*)
- Check out onsite library materials (*books, DVDs, magazines, Spanish-Language collection, DIY kits, etc.*)
- Other (*please describe*): _____
- None of the Above



SSP Library Survey (page 2)

4. Have you reviewed the Future of the South St. Paul Library Fact Sheet and/or the SSP Final Library Report?

_____ Yes

_____ No

_____ Unsure

5. Do you think the South St. Paul Library's current location and/or building have any deficiencies or issues?

_____ Yes

_____ No

_____ Unsure

6. What do you think are the South St. Paul Library's deficiencies or issues? *(please describe)*

7. What do you LIKE about South St. Paul Library?

8. Have you used any of the other Dakota County Libraries?

_____ Yes

_____ No

_____ Unsure

SSP Library Survey (page 3)

9. Which of the following Dakota County Libraries have you visited? (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Burnhaven (Burnsville) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pleasant Hill (Hastings) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Farmington | <input type="checkbox"/> Robert Trail (Rosemount) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Galaxie (Apple Valley) | <input type="checkbox"/> Wentworth (West St. Paul) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heritage (Lakeville) | <input type="checkbox"/> Wescott (Eagan) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inver Glen (Inver Grove Heights) | <input type="checkbox"/> None of the Above |

10. What did you LIKE about the Dakota County Library or Libraries you visited?

11. What did you DISLIKE about the Dakota County Library or Libraries you visited?

12. The City of South St. Paul and the Library Board believe the current library facility needs substantial upgrades to meet the needs of the users and community now and in the future. Do you agree/disagree with this assessment?

- Agree
 Disagree
 Unsure

13. The City Council is considering joining the Dakota County Library System which would provide operational cost savings to the City of an estimated \$319,000 annually (2019 Library Levy was \$767,739). Any renovation or rebuild costs, estimated at \$6-\$8 million, would also be absorbed by the County. Based on that information, should the City pursue these savings by having Dakota County provide library services to South St. Paul residents, or should the City continue to operate and maintain the current library?

- Yes, I support joining the Dakota County Library System
 No, I support the City continuing to operate and maintain the Library
 Unsure



SSP Library Survey (Page 4)

14. If you support having the City of South St. Paul continue to operate and maintain the library, then:

- The City should substantially upgrade the facility
- The City should build a new library facility at a new site
- The library should be kept essentially as it is
- Unsure
- I do not support the City of South St. Paul continuing to operate and maintain the library

15. If the City of South St. Paul decides the South St. Paul Library will not join the Dakota County Library System, would you be in favor of a community referendum (*vote*) in support of bonding \$6-\$8 million in order for the City to renovate the existing library/build a new library?

- Yes
- Maybe
- No

16. What is your age?

- Under 18
- 18 - 24
- 25 - 34
- 35 - 44
- 45 - 54
- 55 - 64
- 65 - 74
- 75+
- Prefer not to say

17. How long have you lived in South St. Paul?

_____ Less than 1 year

_____ 1 - 5 years

_____ 6 - 10 years

_____ 11 - 15 years

_____ 16 - 20 years

_____ 21 - 25 years

_____ 26 - 30 years

_____ 31+ years

_____ Prefer not to say

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. If you completed the paper version of the survey, please return by January 24, 2020 by mailing to:

**City of South St. Paul
Attn: Library Survey
125 3rd Avenue North
South St. Paul, MN 55075**

You can also drop off the completed paper version at City Hall (125 3rd Avenue North) or the South St. Paul Library (106 3rd Avenue North).

Your input is valued - Thank you!