Strategic Plan 2024-2029

Mission
As the seat of community information, MML prioritizes access to literacy, technology, lifelong learning and social interactions.

Vision
The place where a thriving community Learns. Grows. Succeeds.

The Library As Community Technology Hub

Goal:
Provide the community with cutting edge technology inside and outside of the library.

- Assist in community wide efforts to increase broadband access for all.
  - Create a technology giveaway opportunity for citizens in need.
  - 2024-2029, leverage grants to expand broadband access in KM through cutting edge access points throughout the community.
- Create more opportunities for digital literacy training throughout the Kings Mountain community by appointment, in the moment transactions and through outreach.
  - Throughout 2024, participate in a State Library funded individualized staff technology/digital literacy training to expand staff knowledge and capacity.
  - In 2025, have a new strategized marketing system in place that includes digital and physical promotions.
- Broaden makerspace options and opportunities through hands on learning in various community locations.
  - By 2027, attain a mobile makerspace unit to take to offsite locations.
  - In 2028, have a schedule of offsite makerspace opportunities.

The Library As Community Connector

Goal:
Strive to connect the community through cultivating an inclusive environment for all, in and out of the library.

- Provide excellence in customer service during every transaction.
- Through outreaching to Kings Mountain upper grades (6th-12th grade) re-engage this age group achieving a 10% increase in participation.
- Diversify and strengthen marketing generating an increased awareness of library services.
  - In 2025, have a new strategized marketing system in place that includes digital and physical promotions.
- Connect residents with library services through expanded access experiences creating greater community impact.
  - By 2029, place 2 lending libraries in KM library desert areas.
  - Investigate a library literacy plaza for future CIP project.
The Library As Community Life-Long Educator

Goal:
Foster a learning environment that encompasses all levels of education and interests to meet the evolving needs of the Kings Mountain community.

- From Storytime to research databases to leisure reading, the library will incorporate all aspects of learning in its environment.
  - Beginning Fall 2024, partner with the State Library on Excel High School.
- Through strategic partnerships the library will offer programs from authoritative voices on various topics of community interest.
  - Reengage with the NC humanities council on programs.
- The library will strive to continuously evolve physical and digital collections, keeping current with societal and cultural trends, while remaining true to historical aspects.
  - By 2026, the Harris Children's Wing collection will include 5 Non-Dewey Subject areas.
  - By 2029 audio-book and magazine collections will completely reflect current trends.

The Library As Cultural Enrichment

Goal:
Library Service, as a division of Cultural Enrichment, shall strive to bring relevant activities that enrich the community while seeking to enhance the other divisions.

- Library Services will enhance cultural occurrences in Kings Mountain.
  - Beginning Summer Reading 2024, incorporation of at least one theater or arts performance will occur.
  - By 2027, re-establish partnership with Southern Arts Society and establish partnership with Arts Council.
- Library services will augment Recreational Activities through library led educational recreational programs unifying the department through shared experiences.
  - Continue to expand partnerships with Crowder's Mountain and KM State park to bring increased educational recreation opportunities.
  - By Spring 2026, start a weekly community walking club.
- Library Services will collaborate and cross promote with Senior Services to strengthen capacity and increase awareness.
  - Continuous cross training between services to ensure full services at both divisions.
  - Continuation and expansion of the KM Community Garden.
  - By Spring 2025, consistently cross promote services and resources.

"The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library."
--Albert Einstein

"Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life."
--Sidney Sheldon