Dover Public Library



Dover Public Library

The mission of the Dover Public Library is to meet the educational, recreational, and cultural needs of a diverse population through library collections and library services with a well-trained staff available to promote library resources and to assist with their use.



Dover Public Library Staff

Library Value



"The move of the library into a modern, technology adaptable library located in the core area of Dover would be a significant landmark for downtown Dover. It would greatly enhance the downtown area and be a destination location for Dover and neighboring residents. Because the library would attract many users on a daily basis it would increase activity in the downtown area and support the City of Dover Comprehensive Plan. As library services develops in Kent County, it is anticipated that the Dover Public Library would play a larger and larger regional role and both the new building and any possible addition should support that possibility."

City of Dover Library Facilities Plan, Robert H. Rohlf Associates, May 2004

Dover Public Library



Value to Library patrons **$532,450**

In FY2005, we noted our computer use at **53,245** hours.

In comparing our value of service, we found that people are charging at a rate of **$10** per hour for computer use. Our Library patrons saved **$532,450** as we provide this service at **no charge.**

Dover Public Library

In FY2005, **398,842** items were checked out. With the average item costing **$25**, patrons saved $9,971,050 because they did not have to purchase the materials.



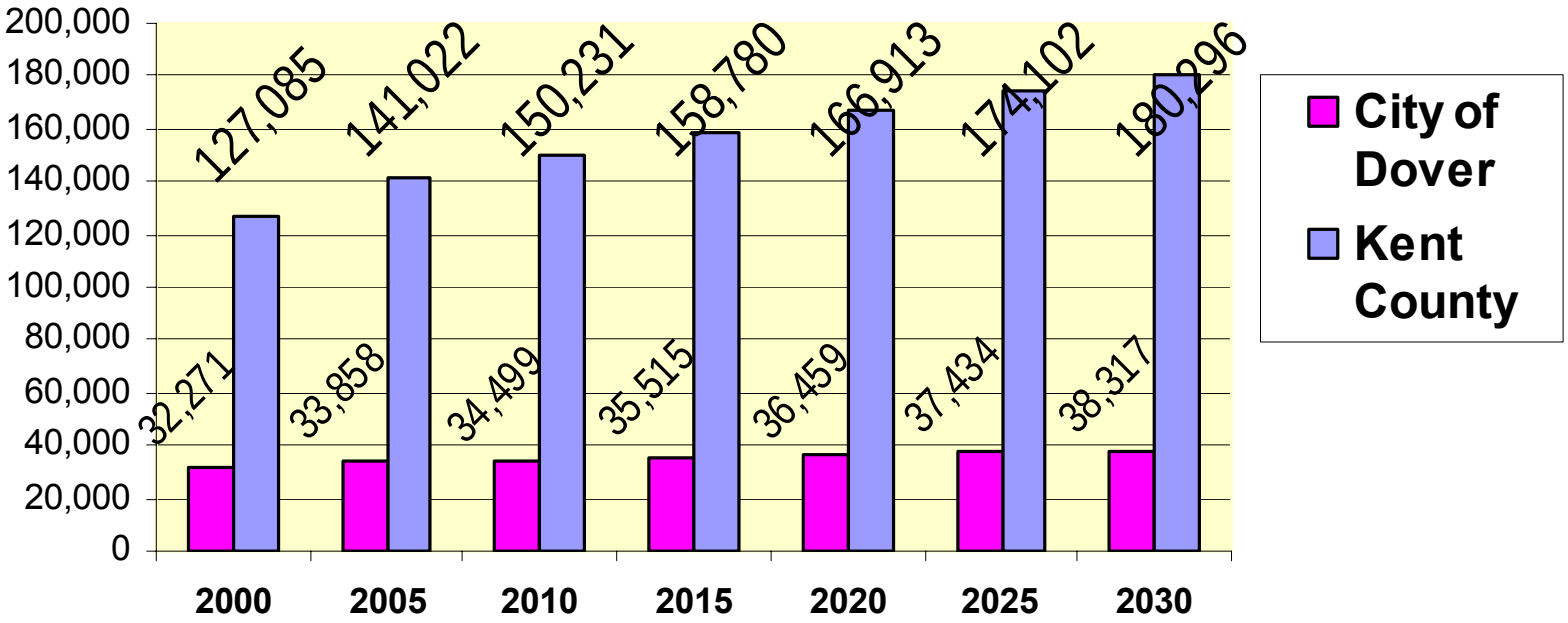
Value to Library patrons **$9,971,050**

Dover Public Library

Serving as a regional library, the 17,090 square foot library is a full-service facility:

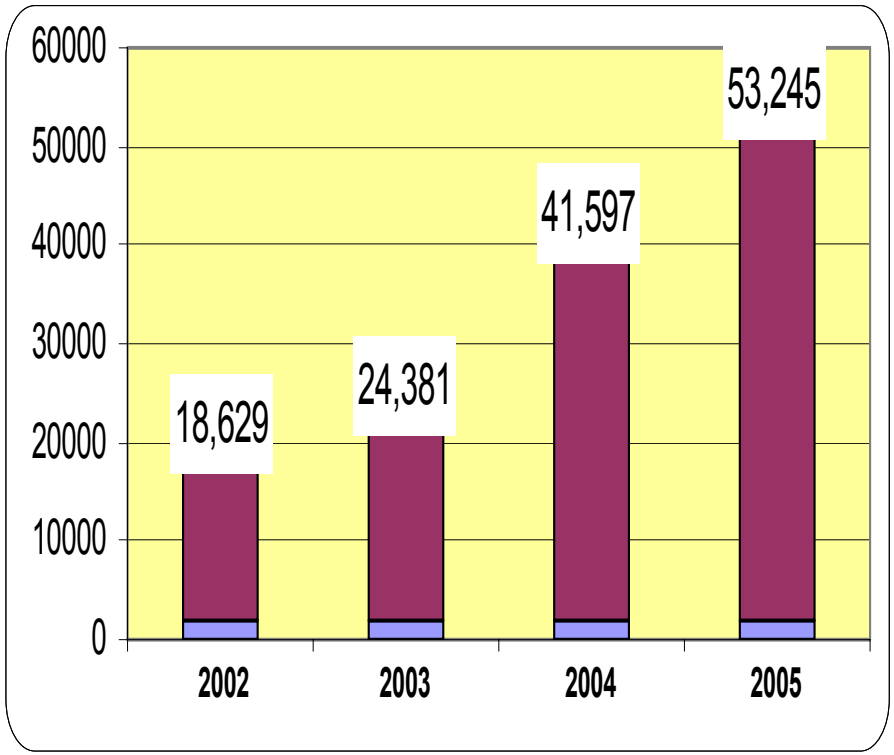
- ✓ Seven professional Staff with Master's Degrees accredited by the American Library Association (ALA)
- ✓ Open Seven (7) Days Per Week
- ✓ Consumer Health Circuit Librarian
- ✓ Reference Center With Specially Trained Staff in Conducting Research for all Kent County Residents
- ✓ Separate Children's Services Department and Staff
- ✓ Teen Services Librarian
- ✓ Local History / Genealogy Center
- ✓ Largest Collection of Books in Kent County
- ✓ Public Meeting Rooms

City of Dover & Kent County Population Estimates



Statistics provided by the Delaware Population Consortium.

Computer Usage



FY2002: 18,629

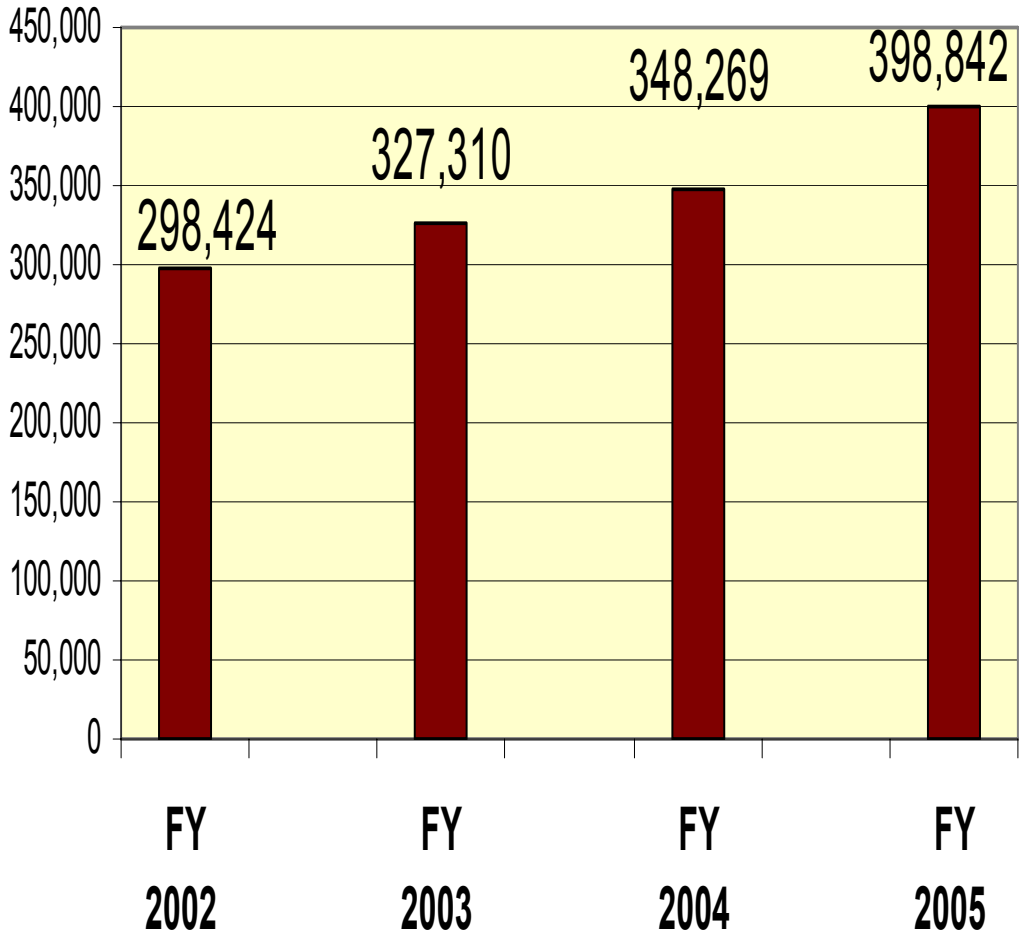
FY2003: 24,381

FY2004: 41,597

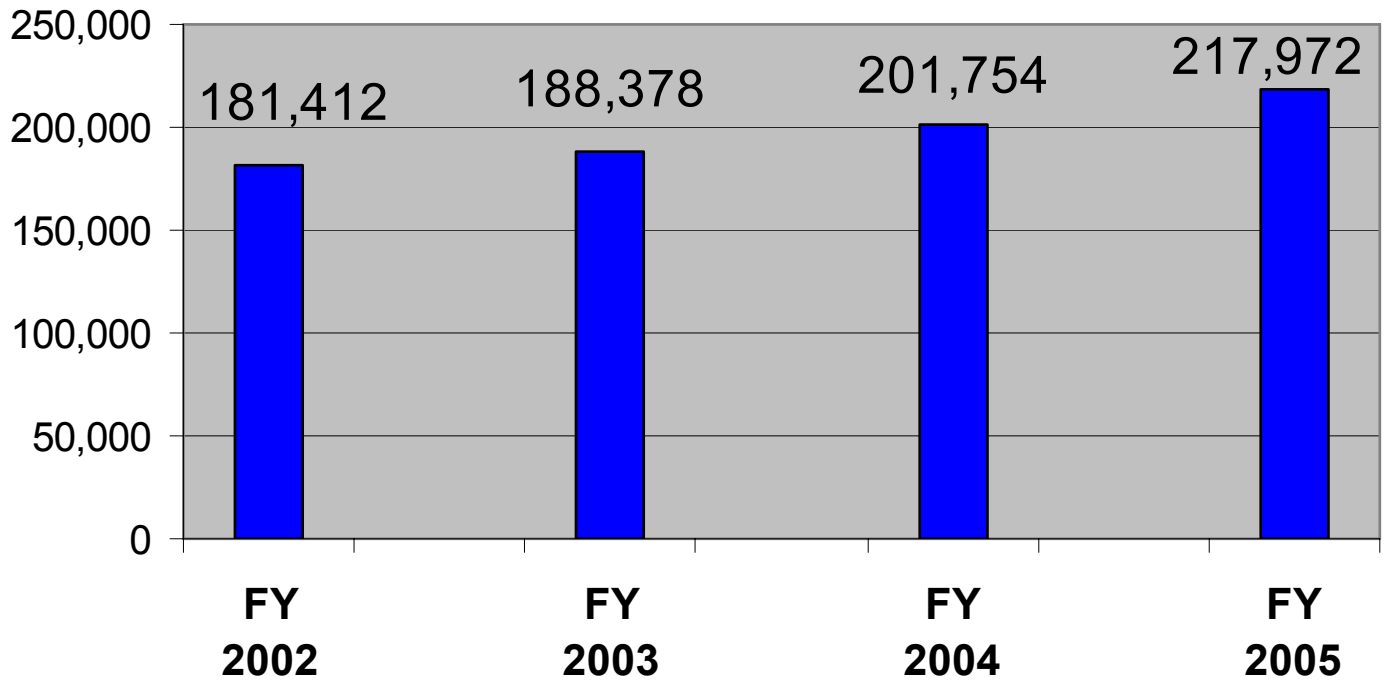
FY2005: 53,245

Reflected number represents HOURLY usage.

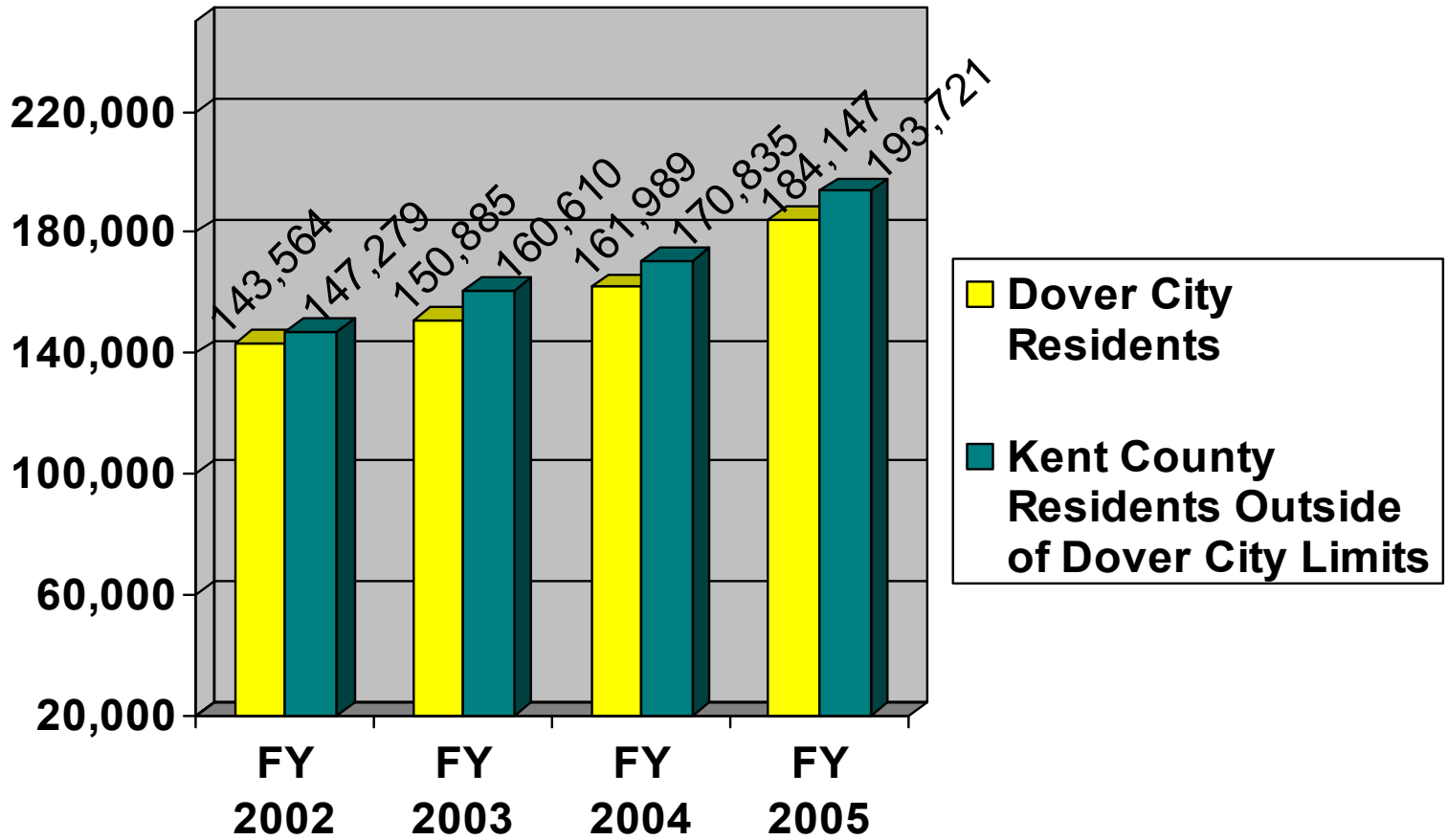
Borrowed Items



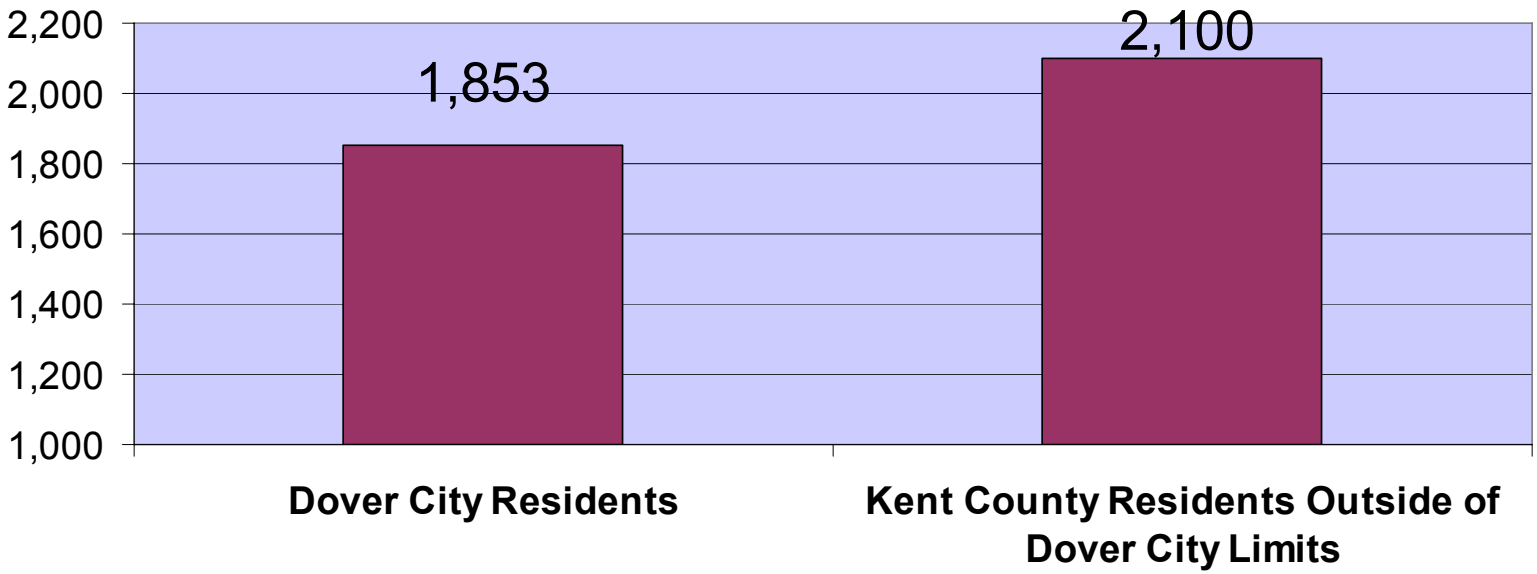
First Floor Door Count



Dover Public Library Circulation



New Cardholders In FY 2005



Library Improvements Since 2001

1. Expanded parking lot
2. Installed two additional book returns
3. Renovated the Children's Services Department
4. Upgraded online public access catalog
5. Installed security cameras
6. Augmented shelving for popular materials
7. Increased number of public computers from 8 to 21





Issues Overcrowding



Public Computer Access Area

Children's Area

Shelving Space



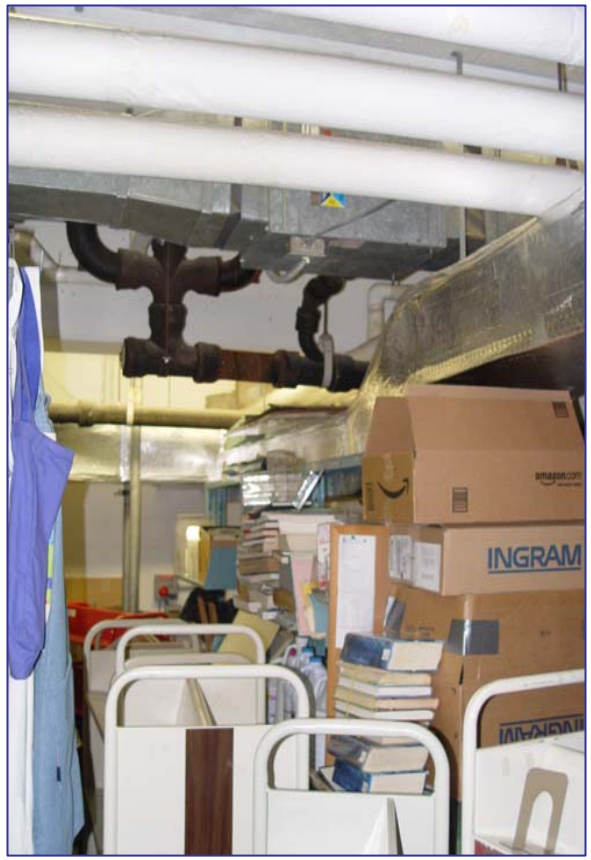


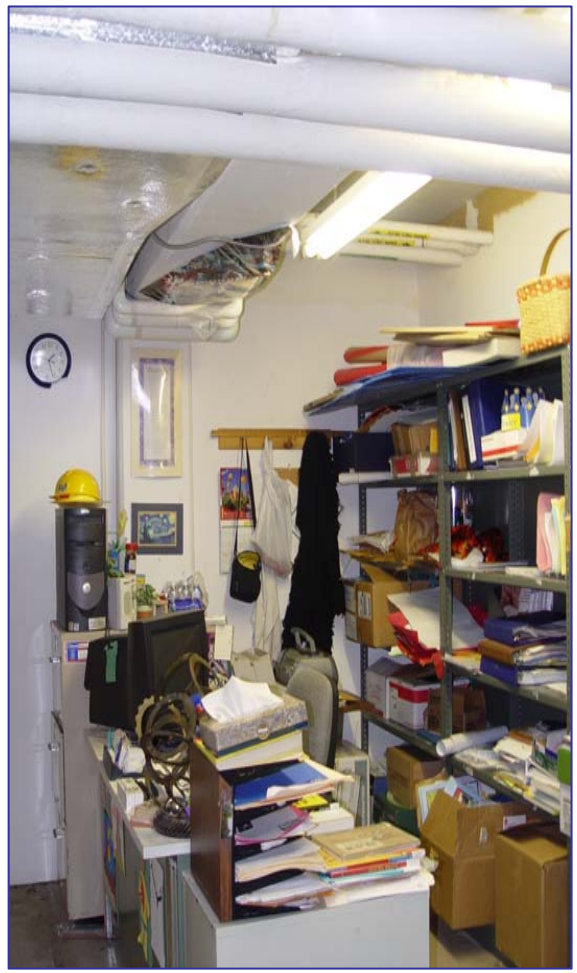
Issues

Workspace

Staff Office Space







Other Issues

- No quiet reading areas & no study or tutorial rooms available
- Public service desk locations and limited size due to building configuration
- Restrooms inadequate and pose security problems
- No delivery or receiving area w/ all materials received through front door and interruptions to major public service desk
- Inadequate Teen area
- Collection space maximized & sequence is irregular due to building shape and size
- Overall poor lighting
- HVAC system performing irregularly and with some leaking pipes
- Book lift operation sporadic and undependable
- Major ADA non-conformance areas
- Inadequate parking

Intergovernmental Site Committee

To address the issues raised in the report, a site committee was formed to identify potential locations for construction of a new library.

Members of Site Committee

Tony DePrima, City Manager
Eugene Ruane, Councilman & Library Liaison
Zach Carter, Director Parks, Recreation & Library
Dr. Morris Eskenazi, Library Commission Chairman
Sheila Anderson, Director Dover Public Library
Allan Angel, Levy Court Commissioner
Dick Krueger, Director Kent County Library
Anne Norman, Director Delaware Division of Libraries

Site Committee Work





Site boundaries for the new location included the following:

----- North: Walker Road

----- East: Route 13

----- South: Wyoming Avenue

----- West: Saulsbury Road

The site committee began with 29 locations, narrowed the list to 10, and visited those sites. The committee chose the top 6 sites from the 10 remaining. At this time there are 3 remaining top sites.

Additionally, the committee along with key individuals, including Kent County and Dover residents, toured three libraries that had been recently constructed.

Abingdon Branch of Harford County, MD
Bel Air Branch of Harford County, MD
New Castle County – Brandywine Hundred Branch

State of Delaware

Also, during this time frame the State of Delaware completed a "Statewide Library Services & Construction Infrastructure for Delaware Libraries" report

February 2005 – three recommended options for Dover

Option 1 – New 50,000 sq ft anchor library
Option 2 – New 60,000 sq ft library with space for Kent County Library administration & bookmobile operations
Option 3 – New 75,000 sq ft anchor library, space for Kent County & DE Division of Libraries administration

Anchor Library

Based on State of Delaware Library Plan the new facility should serve as an Anchor Library for the Central Delaware area

Anchor Library will be a full service facility:

Sized from 40,000 to 60,000 square feet

Open seven days per week

One square foot per capita

Collection to include print materials, DVDs, books on compact disc, music, and electronic resources

Meeting rooms for public and staff use

Computer stations

Computer training center

Site Options

Based on the Site Committee review three (3) sites were recommended for consideration as the location of a new Library for Dover.

City Parking Lot & Dover Post Office

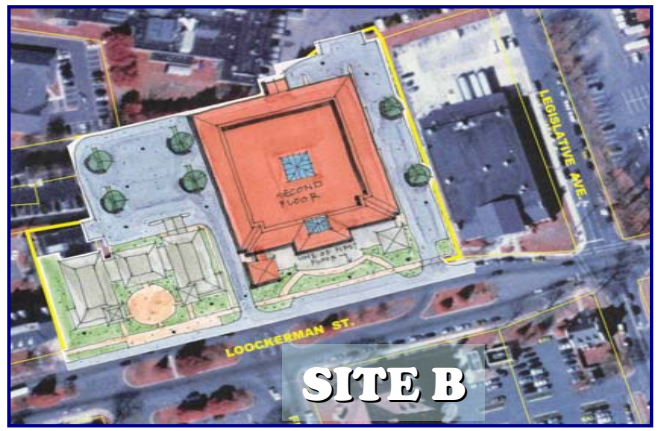
Eden Hill

Treadway Towers

Site Options

City Parking Lot & Dover Post Office





SITE BENEFITS

√ City Ownership of Site

√ Downtown Location

√ Part of Government Complex

CHALLENGE FOR SITE WITH POST OFFICE

√ Need to meet parking requirements

Site Options

SITE BENEFITS

√ City Ownership of Site

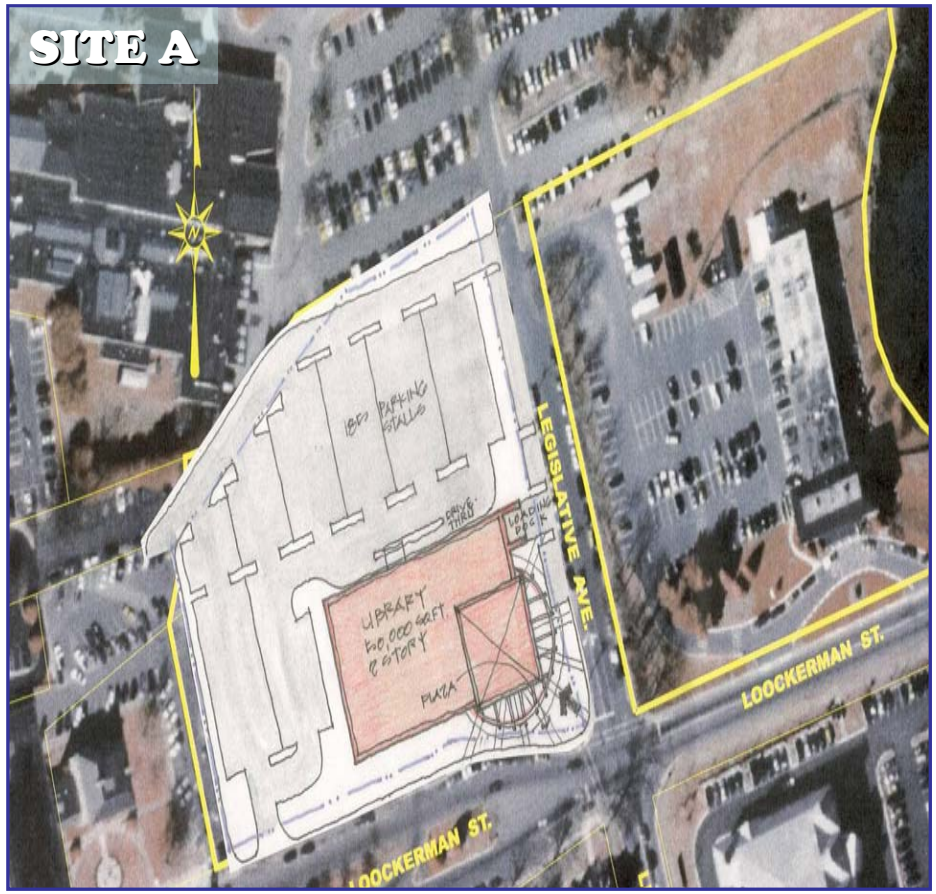
√ Downtown Location

√ Part of Government Complex

CHALLENGES FOR SITE WITHOUT POST FFICE

√ Relocation of Dover Post Office

√ Cost of Demolition of Existing building



Site Options

Eden Hill property



Hazlettville Road



SITE BENEFITS

√ State ownership of land

√ Future residential development nearby

√ Site flexibility for building size and configuration

SITE CHALLENGES

√ Site accessibility

√ Undetermined time frame for utility and road development

Site Options

Treadway Towers

SITE BENEFITS

√ Downtown location

√ Gateway to center city

√ Library overlooking Mirror Lake and park



SITE CHALLENGES

√ Private ownership and acquisition costs

√ Relocation of existing occupants

√ Cost of demolition for existing building

√ Site in flood plain



New Library Building

- Library will be 52,000 square feet.
- Anchor library based on State of Delaware plan.
- Estimate cost $18,200,000. (Cost does not include land)

Dover Public Library Funding Plan

Government Cost Sharing	
State Funds	$8,600,000
*Kent County	$3,700,000
**City of Dover	$3,700,000
Private Fundraising	
Friends of DPL	$200,000
Foundations	$850,000
Grants	$100,000
Private donations	$50,000
Sell existing library building	$1,000,000
TOTAL REVENUE:	$18,200,000

* Assumes a greater role for Kent County in planning, design, and future operation of Anchor Library

** City of Dover funding will consist of special assessment fees and bond

Dover Public Library Funding Plan

***Potential Foundation/Grants/Fundraising sources include the following:**

Artisan Bank
AstraZeneca
Bank of America
Citizens Bank
Commerce Bank
Crestler Foundation, Inc.
Crystal Trust
Delaware Community Foundation
Greater Dover Foundation
Kiwanis Clubs
Kresge Foundation
Longwood Foundation
PNC Bank
Rotary Clubs
Welfare Foundation
Wilmington Trust

Next Steps

- Select one of the three options as the Preferred Site
- Select an Alternate Site
- Adopt City Funding Plan
    - Create Library Reserve fund
    - Designate Pay in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) income for library
    - Approve Carry Forward Fund balance for Library
    - Develop bond issue plan
    - Sale of excess city real estate for library reserve
- Develop a model for governance with Kent County and continue the dialogue with the state and the county on cost and space sharing, and governance
- Negotiate with current owners of potential sites