Delaware Libraries  
Statewide Master Plan for Library Services and Construction

Library: Frankford Public Library

Address:  
8 Main St. 
Frankford, DE  19945

Contact Information: 
(302) 732-9351 
(302) 732-3353  FAX

Estimated Size:  1,896 SF

Library Exterior:

Hours:  
Monday       9:00 AM – 8:00 PM  
Tuesday      9:00 AM – 6:00 PM  
Wednesday    9:00 AM – 8:00 PM  
Thursday     9:00 AM – 6:00 PM  
Friday       9:00 AM – 2:00 PM  
Saturday     9:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
Sunday       CLOSED

Estimated Hours Open 2003:  
2,421 hours
Financial Breakdown – Income:

- County, $121,960, 74%
- State, $23,474, 14%
- Federal, $0, 0%
- Other, $20,756, 12%
- City, $0, 0%

History:

The Frankford Public Library was established in November 1931. The original library was housed in a small shop formerly used by a tinsmith, with $100 from the State of Delaware and only 28 books.

In 1936, when the Frankford Firehouse was built, the library was moved to a larger rent-free room. The library remained in the firehouse until 1958 when it moved again to a larger room in a nearby bank building. The collection had grown to more than 5,000 books.

Further expansion occurred in 1981, when the First National Bank of Frankford donated the Main Street building to the library. At the same time, the library benefited greatly from a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to update the facilities and increase the collection.

Today, the library continues to be a favorite gathering place for Frankford residents, both old and young. Library staff know members by name and strive to make them feel welcome. Some special features offered by the library include a children’s librarian and children’s storytimes.

General Description:

The Library is housed in a brick building that once served as a small bank. The facility is extremely crowded and has several different levels. User seating is extremely limited; however, the staff has done a good job of carving out a reasonably good area for public
computer use. The children’s area is extremely small and there is no dedicated meeting space. Off-street parking is available.

**Five Year Circulation History:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Circulation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>22,546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>22,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>24,233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>25,159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>25,424</td>
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</tbody>
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**Five Year Circulation Trend:**
Circulation is on the increase. It increased thirteen percent (12.8%) between 1999 and 2003 and has increased each year.

**2003 Library Visits:** 11,538

**2003 Holdings (number of items in library collection)**
- Total Holdings: 15,252
- Audio Holdings: 216
- Video Holdings: 938
- Periodical Titles: 69

**Holdings per Capita:**
- 4.8 items per person in service area
- Sussex County mean is 2.8; Delaware mean is 2.8
- State target is 3.09
2003 Circulation Breakdown:
- Total Circulation: 25,424
- Juvenile Circulation: 11,055
- Adult Circulation: 14,369

2003 Turnover Rates: (number of times average item circulates/year)
- Turnover: 1.67
- Sussex County mean is 2.26; Delaware mean is 2.43

Total Operating Expenditures: $136,521

Estimated Service Population:
- 2004/05 (Estimate): 3,209
- 2009/10 (Projection): 3,503
- 2015 (Projection): 3,832
- 2020 (Projection): 4,130
- 2025 (Projection): 4,381

Operating Cost per Person in Service Area: $42.54 per person

Cost per Circulation: $5.37

Cost per Hour Open: $56.39 per hour

Circulation per Capita in Service Area: 7.9 circulations per capita

Circulation per SF: 13.41 circulations per SF

Circulation per Hour Open: 10.50 circulations per hour

SF per Person in Service Area: 0.59 SF per person; State target is 1.0

Library Visits per Capita: 3.6 visits per capita

Registrations as a Percentage of Service Area Population: 51.39%

Total Units of Service: 38,547

Total Units of Service per capita: 12.01

*Total Units of Service includes circulation, library visits, reference transactions, and number of persons attending programs.