Delaware Libraries
Statewide Master Plan for Library Services and Construction

Library: Kirkwood Highway Public Library

Address:
6000 Kirkwood Hwy.
Wilmington, DE 19808

Contact Information:
(302) 995-7663
(302) 995-7687 FAX

Library Exterior:

Estimated Size: 13,400 SF

Hours:
- Monday 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM
- Tuesday 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM
- Wednesday 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM
- Thursday 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM
- Friday CLOSED
- Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Sunday 1:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Estimated Hours Open 2003:
2,991 hours
Kirkwood Highway
Children's Area

Kirkwood Highway
Adult Stack Area

Kirkwood Highway
Books-on-Tape

Kirkwood Highway
Children's Area
History:

The Kirkwood Highway Public Library building was dedicated in 1967 as the second suburban branch of the Wilmington Institute Library and New Castle County Library System. Erected on County owned property, it was operated by the Wilmington Institute from 1967-1975. The building underwent major renovations in 1994-95 to upgrade its systems and to prepare the building wiring for automated library services.

The Kirkwood Highway Public Library provides library service to the Mill Creek Hundred area and provided bookmobile service to the southern New Castle County from 1967 to 1975. The library’s service population has grown from 30,000 in the 1960s to a high of 90,000 in the early 1990s.

Many changes in the emphasis of service have occurred as the needs of the community have evolved; however, the most consistent need is for service to children. Since 1984, children’s services have been provided by Elizabeth Simmons, Youth Services Librarian. The library offers many special children’s programs, storytimes plus a Summer Reading Challenge.

General Description:

The Kirkwood Highway Library is a brick structure located on a busy stretch of a major route between Wilmington and Newark. The interior of the building admits very little natural light and is extremely crowded. Shelving is filled beyond capacity and user seating is extremely limited. The children’s area of the Library is very small.
Six Year Circulation History:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Circulation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 1999</td>
<td>338,549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2000</td>
<td>323,235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2001</td>
<td>365,671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2002</td>
<td>430,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2003</td>
<td>418,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2004</td>
<td>308,938</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Six Year Circulation Trend:
Circulation reached its highest point in FY 2002 when the Newark Library was being expanded. Between FY 2003 and FY 2004, circulation decreased by twenty-six percent (26.0%). FY 2004 circulation was nine percent (8.7%) lower than circulation in FY 1999, the beginning point for comparison.

2003 Library Visits: 169,466

2003 Registered Borrowers: 26,359

2003 Holdings (number of items in library collection)
- Total Holdings: 90,458
- Audio Holdings: 5,169
- Video Holdings: 1,575
- Periodical Titles: 208
Holdings per Capita:
1.5 items per capita
New Castle mean is 3.2; Delaware mean is 2.8
State target is 3.09

2003 Circulation Breakdown:
Total Circulation 418,634
Juvenile Circulation 147,529
Adult Circulation 271,105

2003 Turnover Rates: (number of times average item circulates/year)
Turnover 4.63
New Castle mean is 2.71
Delaware mean is 2.43

Total Operating Expenditures: $970,383

Estimated Service Population:
2004/05 (Estimate) 62,018
2009/10 (Projection) 63,086
2015 (Projection) 65,372
2020 (Projection) 67,307
2025 (Projection) 68,848

Operating Cost per Person in Service Area: $15.65 per capita

2003 Cost per Circulation: $2.32

2003 Cost per Hour Open: $324.43 per hour

Circulation per Capita in Service Area: 6.8 circulations per capita

Circulation per SF: 31.24 circulations per SF

Circulation per Hour Open: 139.96 circulations per hour

SF per Person in Service Area: 0.22 SF per capita
State target is 1.0

Library Visits per Capita: 2.7 visits per person

Registrations as a Percentage of Service Area Population: 42.50%
Total Units of Service: 635,915

Total Units of Service per capita: 10.25

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