

discover something cool

...about your library!

It's crazy busy

We serve more than **2,000** square miles with **12** library buildings totalling **237,000** square feet of space. **2** main libraries, **10** branches, and **3** mobile libraries bring library service to people throughout El Paso County, from Palmer Lake to Fountain, Ute Pass to the eastern plains. These spaces offer public meeting rooms, quiet areas, teen and children's areas, computer centers, and lots of great materials and services. We provide **724** public hours a week throughout the District, including evenings and weekends in many locations. Requests for **additional open hours** top the list of what you want from your library. We work each year to **expand access** in response.

When you think about using the public library, you might have a very different idea than we do! PPLD is one of the best large library systems in the country, circulating more books, welcoming more patrons, and serving more online browsers than libraries in most of the biggest cities in the U.S. The total number of visitors that come through our doors each year has grown by **62** percent since 2000, **3 million** annual visits and climbing. We serve these visitors, manage nearly **800,000** annual reference inquiries, and provide service to **4.5 million** browsers of our website with a staff of **425** and **1,400** dedicated volunteers.

We reach **114,000** students of all ages in the community, supporting educational standards and personal goals. The development of informed, engaged individuals is central to our mission and one of the **5** basic fundamentals of service we fulfill. The other **4** core tenets of service include: providing free and equal access to information and resources, participating in the community as an economic engine, a community builder, and a public forum of community information for those we serve.

quite a spread

We take pride in being a major economic contributor to the community, not just by employing **425** people, but by providing free access to materials that support small businesses, entrepreneurs, students, and lifelong learners. Our collection of **1.1 million** lending items includes **923,000** books and **163,000** audiovisual materials, through which the Library brings you access to educational information and popular culture. Some of the economic development services and materials we provide include access to 70+ subscription databases, which brings free information to cardholders that they would otherwise have to purchase; business development classes taught by one of the premier business librarians in the country; and public spaces where some of the most effective networking takes place every day. Another important economic value we provide is through our numerous strategic collaborations, which greatly impact your ability to access the information resources and services that you need. Our nationally recognized partnership programs and classes were attended by more than **260,000** people in 2007.

in the zone

A new zoning status for Pikes Peak Library District will give individuals and organizations additional incentives to donate to their local library system. PPLD was granted enterprise zone status by the Colorado Economic Development Commission in 2007. This means that a taxpayer who makes a contribution to an eligible enterprise zone development project may claim additional tax credits for gifts beginning at \$250. Many PPLD locations and projects qualify – get more information by contacting us at 531-6333, x2205. Look for the “in the zone” icon on page 3 in this report to find some of our eligible sites and projects.

boosting the economy

our strategy

We have an annual budget of **\$22 million**, generated mainly from property and specific ownership taxes, is supplemented by granted and donated funds that allow us to expand our facilities, services, and programs. For each **\$1** of annual tax support we receive, the Library produces direct benefits to patrons of more than **\$6**. Each gifted dollar we acquire helps us push that return on investment even higher. What we receive from Foundations and Agencies is very important, but it is the generosity of individuals that represents our true fundraising potential. Whether it is a cash gift, a bequest, or another gifting type, donations of all sizes make our mission a reality. Another way we increase the return on our public funding is through the efforts of volunteers. In 2007, the **1,400** people who guide and support us by volunteering provided close to **\$1 million** of service hours to nearly every function of PPLD. Adult Literacy programs drew more than **10,000** hours of support, and members of the Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District contributed **4,000** hours. It's likely that someone you know supports the Library as a volunteer!

fast figures

Year Ending December 31, 2007

Established: 1903	District Formed: 1962	Card Holders: 255,407
Service Area: 2,087 square miles	Service Area Population: 530,000	
Revenues: \$22,669,000	Expenditures: \$21,727,000	
Staff Positions: 416	Librarian (MLS) Positions: 38	
Volunteers: 1,466	Volunteer Hours: 50,600	
Total Items in Collection: 1.13 million	Turnover Rate: 7.3	
Annual Visits: 2,650,958	Annual Web Visits: 4.5 million	
Annual Programs: 6,500	Program Attendance: 259,700	
Total Summer Reading Participants (children and teens): 27,500	Public-use Laptops: 24	
Total Public Computers: 383		

a big return on your investment

PPLD was ranked 9th in the country in 2007 among library systems serving populations greater than 500,000. The ranking, awarded by Hennen's American Public Library Ratings, acknowledges the District's commitment to efficient, effective service delivery.