

Jefferson County Public Library
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Survey results @ <http://coniferareacouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/CAC2021-Survey-Library-Results.pdf>

- Earlier this year, CAC conducted a survey about library needs in our area and 560 people responded, with 93 percent supporting a full-service library. Community members responded that their most important reasons for supporting a full service library were extended hours and library hours that fit their schedules. Other concerns about the current library included parking and accessibility.
- Currently Conifer shares library service with the Conifer High School. Conifer public patrons have library access beginning at 3:00pm on weekdays with a total of 36 public hours per week. Eight JCPL libraries are open 58 hours weekly and the ninth is open 52.
- The other six public libraries in Colorado that share a building with a school give priority to public patron's library hours. Some designate hours for students or may have separate entrances that accommodate each group. (Please see the chart in the video)
- Conifer is the only combined library that excludes the school gate count from the total public library gate count. This practice diminishes Conifer's use and value to the community and to JCPL. According to the Colorado State Library this practice is not dictated by the State as reported by JCPL staff.
- The Conifer Library has been part of JCPL since 1954 yet has never been housed in its own facility. All other JCPL libraries have their own buildings, owned or rented by JCPL and most have undergone extensive remodeling since their inception. (See Chart of JCPL libraries in video)
- **In 2011 the Conifer Library Committee reported that the budget for the Conifer Library was less than 1% of the JCPL budget. In 2020 it was .41%, less than half of 1%.**
- **All Conifer property owners pay the same 4.5 mills in property taxes as the rest of the county's property owners to support the library.**
- The community asked the County to accelerate the timeline to build/acquire a stand-alone Conifer library, including it in the 2025-2030 budget plan and that funds be allocated in the upcoming budget year to bring this to fruition.
- In June, the Library Executive Team recommended new libraries for NW Arvada and Lakewood at Quincy and Kipling with a large increase in Administrative space. No mention of a stand-alone library in Conifer is in the budget. The Library Administration and Board intend to review the Facilities Master Plan this Fall. A list of library contacts is included in this presentation.