

November 5, 2005

To: John Szerlag, City Manager

From: Brian Murphy, Assistant City Manager/Services  
Brian Stoutenburg, Library Director

Subject: **Agenda Item** – Library rankings

Each year a variety of statistics are collected from the over 9,000 public libraries in the United States through a federal program. The HAPLR (Hennen's American Public Library Rating) Index ranks the effectiveness of public libraries by focusing on 15 input and output measures dealing with funding level, staffing, collections, patron visits, materials circulated and reference questions asked.

Based on this index for statistics reported for the 2003/04 fiscal year (the latest numbers available), the Troy Public Library is ranked as the State's #2 library overall. Last year we were ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> overall and 1<sup>st</sup> for libraries serving populations over 50,000.

When compared with the 531 public libraries nationwide serving populations of our size, we rank 18<sup>th</sup>. Last year we were ranked 22<sup>nd</sup>.

When compared with all 9,027 public libraries, regardless of size, we rank 146<sup>th</sup> nationally compared with 214<sup>th</sup> last year.

We are proud of these rankings and we feel they make a strong statement of the value our patrons place on library services, the leadership of Council in providing appropriate funding, the support of the Library Advisory Board and the Friends of the Library, and the dedication, forward-thinking and professionalism of the staff.

The Index this year also stated that the average size of library facilities in the Great Lakes region for our population is about 15,000 square feet larger than our facility.