



CITY COUNCIL REPORT

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TO: Phillip L. Nelson, City Manager *PLN*

CITY OF TROY
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

FROM: John M. Lamerato, Assistant City Manager/Finance
Brian Stoutenburg, Library Director *BMS*

SUBJECT: Library Ranking

Background:

- 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 2004 (the latest numbers available), the Troy Public Library is ranked as the State's #2 library for the second year in a row.
- When compared with the 531 public libraries nationwide serving populations of our size, we rank 13th. Last year we were ranked 22nd.
- When compared with all 9,092 public libraries, regardless of size, we rank 104th nationally compared with 146th last year. This puts the Troy Public Library in the top 1% of libraries in the nation.
- The HAPLR Index also stated that the average size of library facilities in the Great Lakes Region for our population of the 2000 census is about 15,000 square feet larger than our facility.

Financial Considerations:

- Continued strong funding support is instrumental to the library's ability to meet the needs of residents and have high rankings as we benchmark our level of service against other communities.

Legal Considerations:

- There are no legal considerations.

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Policy Considerations:

- The Troy Public Library offers a valuable service to the community as a center for lifetime learning. Continued strong financial support for access to materials, appropriate staffing levels, operational support, and an appropriately sized facility is necessary to provide excellence in library service delivery. This relates to City Council goal III: Effectively and professionally communicate internally and externally.

Options:

- There are no options connected with this report.