



City Manager's
Office/Troy Public
Library

Memo

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Brian Kischnick, City Manager
Mark Miller, Director of Economic & Community Development
Cathleen Russ, Library Director

CC:

Date: July 8, 2014

Re: Library Improvement Team

The Troy Public Library's Strategic Plan focuses heavily on technology innovations and improvements, in order to improve and enhance the community's experience, and continue the Library's relevance. This focus on technology was reinforced by the results of the focus groups conducted by the City Manager in Fall 2013; participants overwhelmingly responded that they would like to see technology improvements at the Troy Public Library. On January 27, 2014, City Council members toured Troy Public Library to view the challenges and opportunities faced by TPL, in regard to building and technology improvements.

In order to make the goals of the Strategic Plan a reality, as well as to respond to community input, Mr. Kischnick directed Mr. Miller and Ms. Russ to put together a Library Improvement Team, to investigate opportunities and challenges. This team includes Library department heads; Gert Paraskevin, head of IT for the City of Troy; and Sue Martin and Eve Parsons, President and Vice President of the Friends of Troy Public Library.

Working with Troy-based John Tagle Associates Incorporated, the team's approach is to take a three-dimensional perspective regarding technology improvements for the Troy Public Library.

The team has identified four areas of priority to evaluate:

- Critical deficiencies of the Troy Public Library building

- Operational adjacencies to improve workflow and efficiency
- Inclusion of technology enhancements
- Improving operational space for the Friends' Book Shop

Once the evaluation of these areas is complete, the team will develop a plan to address any concerns, and share that proposal with City Council.