



2010

KCLS surpasses the busiest library in the U.S. (Queens NY) with 22.4 million items checked out. In collaboration with other libraries across the U.S., KCLS transitions from a proprietary Integrated Library System to an open source system called Evergreen. The catalog records 84.5 million visits and **www.kcls.org** receives 31 million hits. The new Federal Way, Sammamish and Lake Hills Libraries open to record crowds.

2009

Patrons make 10 million visits to KCLS libraries and check out a record 21.3 million items. KCLS catalog has 88.6 million visits and **www.kcls.org** receives 26.8 million hits. Award-winning Look to Your Library (LTYL) outreach effort guides users to free library and community resources including job listings, job search tools and small business assistance. Library Express @ Redmond Ridge opens, as does newly expanded Kirkland Library.

2008

KCLS remains the second busiest library in the U.S., circulating more than 20 million items. New library card registration increases 10%, and 9.6 million people visit KCLS libraries. Library openings include Covington and Woodmont expansions, and new libraries in Black Diamond, Fall City, Muckleshoot and Greenbridge.

2007

Circulation tops 19.3 million as KCLS remains the second busiest Library System in the U.S. Launches the African American Achievement collection and diversity outreach to new employees, vendors and contractors. Capital Bond Project Update celebrates groundbreaking for Fall City, Black Diamond, Muckleshoot and Greenbridge Libraries; openings for Snoqualmie and Shoreline parking expansion.

2006

Circulation hits 19.1 million; KCLS is one of the busiest libraries in the nation. Self-Check Out reaches 73%. Summer Reading Program closes with 14,000 finishers. Reciprocal Borrowing Agreement with Seattle Public Library modified due to \$1 million cross-use imbalance; KCLS breaks ground for new Snoqualmie Library.

2005

KCLS initiates a comprehensive research project to survey patron habits, preferences and perceptions to define and deliver the "gold standard" for library service. Summer Reading reaches record numbers with more than 13,000 children completing the program. About 18.3 million items circulate and Web transactions reach 98 million.



2004

Circulation exceeds 17 million items. ABC Express mobile library begins serving childcare sites. Library Connection @ Southcenter (funded by KCLS Foundation) opens. "Yes" vote on \$172 million capital bond election passes at 63.57%.

2003

More than 22 million hits to **www.kcls.org**, 15 million items circulate. Self-Check Out begins at several libraries.

2002

Levy lid lift measure passes at 64%. Nearly 15 million items circulate; holds continue to increase 20% monthly. Web site connections increase to 22 million.

2001

New Richmond Beach, Issaquah Libraries and Library Connection @ Crossroads open. More than 14 million items circulate; more than 19 million Web site connections.

2000

Woodmont, Auburn and Maple Valley Libraries open. KCLS Service Center relocated to Issaquah. Nearly 13 million items circulate. More than 11 million Web site connections. Library card campaign increases rate of residents with a KCLS library card to 90%. City of Sammamish annexes to KCLS (88%).

1999

Redmond Regional Library opens. Kenmore annexes to KCLS (92%). 12.8 million items circulate. 5.2 million connections to the KCLS Web site.

1998

Sammamish Library opens. Lake Forest Park annexes to KCLS (85%). 13.1 million items circulate. 1 million Web site connections.

1997

Circulation jumps 10%, topping 13 million items. Auburn (70%), Covington (92%) and Maple Valley (93%) vote to annex to KCLS.

1996

Circulation holds steady at 12.6 million items. Foster Library and the new Lake Forest Park Library open. Library Capital Facility Areas approved by voters in Redmond (September, 68%) and Issaquah (November, 71%). Bonds for new buildings approved (Redmond, 64%; Issaquah, 65%).

1995

Nearly 13 million items circulate, up 6% in one year. Kirkland and Bothell Regional Libraries open. Shoreline annexes to KCLS (91%).

1994

North Bend and Algona-Pacific Libraries open. Des Moines (87%) and Newport Hills/Newcastle (93%) annex to KCLS. KCLS celebrates 50th Anniversary. Internet gateway added. More than 12 million items circulate.



1993

Woodinville, Covington, Burien, Bellevue Regional, Shoreline and Skykomish Libraries open. Mercer Island (78%), Duvall (73%), Kent (71%), Burien (91%) and Woodinville (96%) annex to KCLS. InfoNet, an online service featuring the KCLS catalog and other information services, is implemented. Approximately 11 millions items circulate.

1992

Four cities vote to annex to the library district: Tukwila (82%), Normandy Park (75%), Carnation (67%) and Clyde Hill (61%). More than 10 million items circulate.

1991

Circulation again approaches 10 million items. Answer Line opens; KCLS expands services, enhances reference resources and completes renovation of 15 libraries. KCLS Foundation established to provide added support beyond public funding. Beaux Arts Village (58%) and Medina (56%) annex to KCLS. Kent Regional and Federal Way Regional Libraries open. Online catalog is available in libraries.

1990

Circulation approaches 10 million items—a 6% increase over 1989. Ten cities annex to KCLS: Federal Way (90%), SeaTac (87%), Black Diamond (83%), Algona (75%), Issaquah (75%), Kirkland (79%), Pacific (75%), Redmond (85%), Skykomish (88%) and Snoqualmie (80%). KCLS selects Dynix for online catalog.

1989

Circulation exceeds 9 million, a 33% jump in just four years. Mercer Island voters approve a city bond issue for a new library (66%).

1988

\$67 million bond issue for capital improvements passes (63.9%). North Bend annexes to KCLS (84%). More than 9 million items circulate.

1987

The Library District develops the capital plan, “Looking to the Year 2000.” Capital improvement bonds from 1966 are paid in full. The System’s circulation reaches 8.4 million—doubling that of 10 years earlier.

1986

County-wide requests for more library service as many communities seek new or expanded facilities. Bothell annexes to KCLS (84%) and Des Moines voters pass a city bond measure for a new library (72%). About 7.86 million items circulate.

1985

Bellevue annexes to KCLS (83%). Circulation soars to nearly 7 million items, a 48% increase over 1982.

1982

Circulation reaches more than 4.7 million items. ULISYS automated circulation system implemented.

1980

Second levy lid lift is approved by 67%, funding construction of Valley View (1982), Vashon (1983), Fairwood (1986) and Issaquah Libraries (1983). Books and other materials are purchased for the new buildings; computerized circulation system is installed. Circulation reaches 4.15 million items.

1977

Circulation reaches more than 4 million items. Voters raise the levy lid tax rate to the full \$.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value, approved by 67.8%.

1966

Voters approve a \$6 million bond issue with a 63% “Yes” vote, with federal funds from the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) grant and matching funds from some cities. New libraries are built in Bellevue, Bothell, Boulevard Park, Burien, Carnation, Fall City, Federal Way, Foster, Kingsgate, Lake Hills, Maple Valley, Newport Way, Redmond, Shoreline, Skyway, Snoqualmie, Vista and White Center during the next 10 years. A former UPS building in Seattle is remodeled to become the Service Center.

1960s

Full or partial library service is offered at 39 libraries in quarters frequently rented and none more than 5,000-square-feet. Use of the collection grows. The need for new and expanded buildings, and more books and other materials increases.

1943

Tax revenues begin accruing. Library System starts to grow.

1942

Voters in King County establish the King County Rural Library District to provide library services to rural areas. Funding is provided from the property tax base of unincorporated areas at \$.50 per \$1,000 assessed value, and from contracts with cities and towns that join KCLS for library services. Small community libraries run by volunteers, including Richmond Beach and Boulevard Park, are the first to join KCLS.



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History.

Of the King County Library System