

The Friends Supports Libraries Across the Country

Library Strategies is a consulting group within The Friends that works with library organizations across the country. Started nearly 17 years ago in response to requests to share our expertise as a Friends organization, Library Strategies works with clients on projects like strategic planning, capital campaign feasibility, and advocacy. This work directly contributes to The Friends' vision of "a dynamic library at the heart of every community." It also allows us to bring ideas and expertise back to Saint Paul.

Library Strategies mid-year snapshot

- 19 clients in 12 states
- 13 active consultants who contract with us on projects



Project Spotlight: Library Strategies recently completed an assessment of community needs and library facilities in Hamilton, Montana. Outcomes from the project will shape how Bitterroot Public Library expands from its historic Carnegie space in a way consistent with 21st-century library expectations and community needs



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OF THE SAINT PAUL PUBLIC LIBRARY
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Your investment in The Friends helps libraries strengthen and inspire their communities.

Thank you for your continued belief and support.

thefriends.org/support

THE FRIENDS
OF THE SAINT PAUL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Summer 2023
Impact Report

We **Believe** in Our Community.
We **Invest** in Our Library.

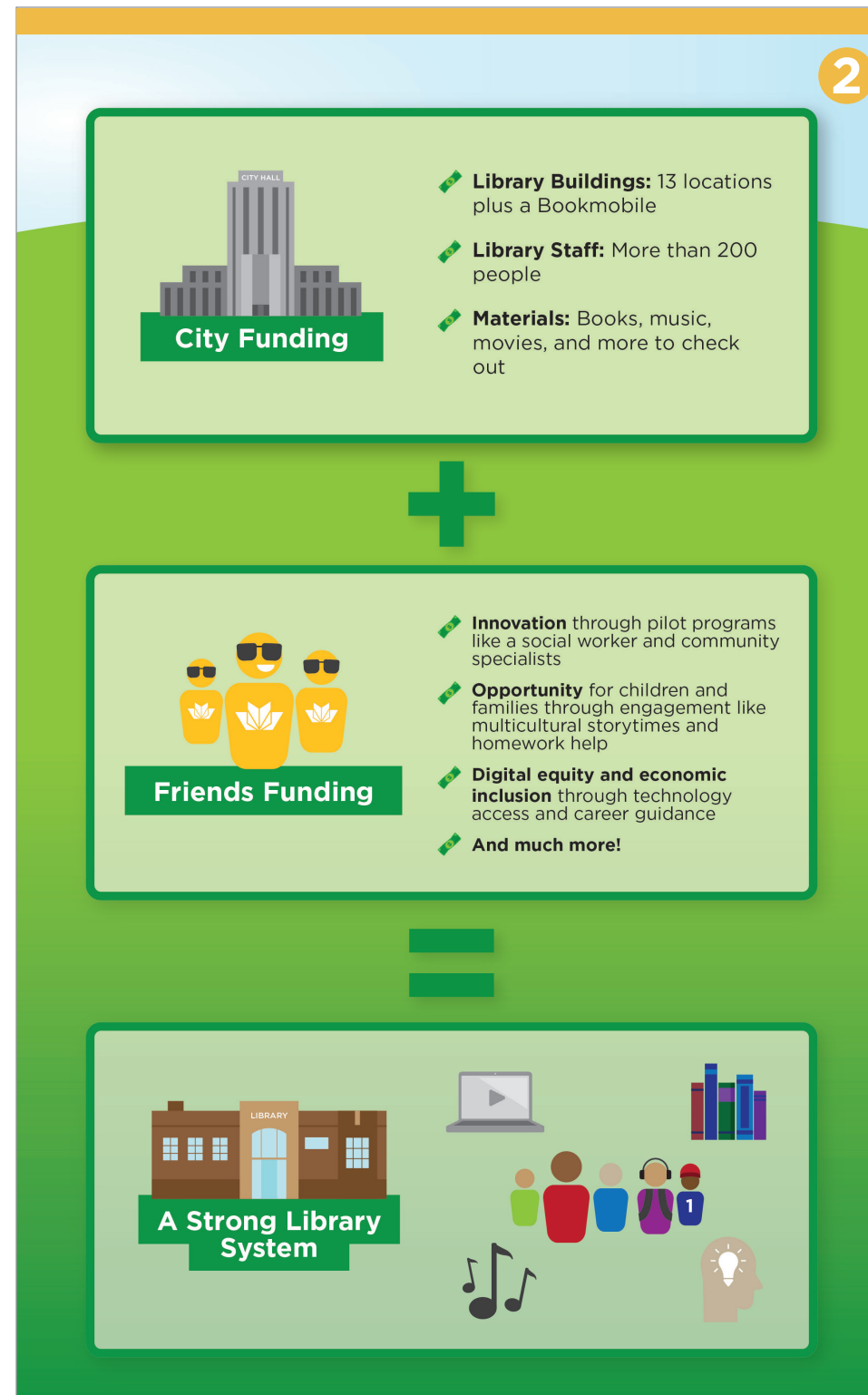
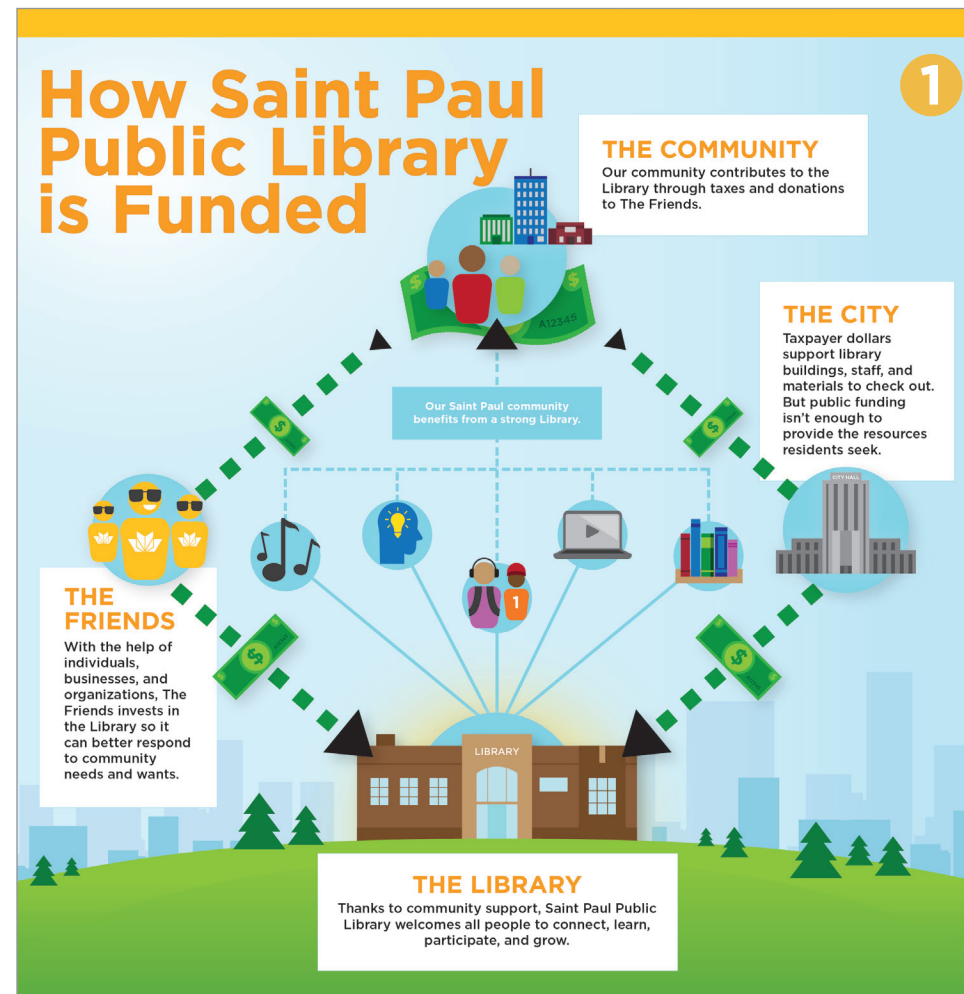
Your support makes a difference.



Library user checking out books

We Invest in Our Library. Libraries Become Centers for Community.

Saint Paul Public Library is a department of the City of Saint Paul. Tax dollars support funding for library staff, spaces, and many of the materials you can check out. Tax dollars are not enough, however, to provide all the resources residents seek. The Friends, as a separate nonprofit organization, works with partners like you to invest in the Library so it can meet community needs and wants. This infographic shows the funding cycle and why your support is critical.



Summer Spark Ignites the Joy of Reading



All Saint Paul Public Library locations offer Summer Spark, an initiative for ages 0-18 that engages kids, teens, and families in learning throughout the summer. Through this Friends-supported program, kids and teens set their own reading and learning goals and receive free books to keep. Summer Spark encourages youth to read more and prepares them to start school in September.

Summer Spark 2022 highlights

- **11,923** Free books distributed directly to Saint Paul families
- **73** Events and programs where kids learn and engage together
- **2,009** Kids attended free programs with hands-on arts and crafts learning activities
- **74%** of participants said Summer Spark makes reading more fun