

Lee, Chris

From: Zewdie, Addis
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2025 8:20 AM
To: Lee, Chris
Subject: FW: MPL Response to LRB 10/28 Memo

Importance: High

Good morning!

This came in last night but the F&P committee members were not copied.

Addis

From: Johnson, Joan <JRJohns@milwaukee.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 5:01 PM
To: Brengosz, Kathleen <Kathleen.Brengosz@milwaukee.gov>; Zewdie, Addis <Addis.Zewdie@milwaukee.gov>
Cc: Haack, Nathaniel <nhaack@milwaukee.gov>; Johnson, Joan <JRJohns@milwaukee.gov>; DeSiato, Nick <ndesiato@milwaukee.gov>; Howard, Melissa <MHowar@milwaukee.gov>; Meyer-Stearns, Jennifer <jrmeyer@milwaukee.gov>; Pederson, Karli <KLPeder@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: MPL Response to LRB 10/28 Memo
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For the Finance & Personnel Committee Members:

Thank you for your continued support of the Milwaukee Public Library. We appreciate the shared goal of increasing access for residents through thoughtful expansion of services to meet community demand. In reviewing the memo describing the amendments, there are three areas to address so the final action matches what the Council intends.

Sunday Data Comparisons

The amendment compares Sunday usage from 2024, when we had fewer Sundays in service, to the higher 2025 service days to project future growth. Additionally, it projects a circulation growth rate on Sundays that is significantly higher than the trend for the system as a whole, indicating re-timed use verses new use. We recommend a longer-term data set to determine growth projections, given the number of variables and small data pool set.

Staffing Model Not Yet Implemented

The amendment indicates the new, system-wide Sunday staffing rotation has already been fully vetted and implemented. However, the new Sunday staffing pilot is not currently in place, set to start in 2026. Building permanent service expansion on a staffing model that is still being tested creates risk for both coverage and service impacts. MPL indicates that the new staffing framework can support expansion if hiring and training occur in advance of implementation. The department also notes that Sunday and week-day hours serve distinct community needs and are not interchangeable.

Sunday Service Availability

The current staffing model does not support Sunday programming or open Maker Space time. Any programming commitments for Sundays in 2026 would need to wait until the new model has been fully staffed and in effect for a few months.

Fiscal Impact

It has been noted that a correction is needed regarding tax rates:

Option 1 should be \$0.008/\$1,000

Option 2 should be \$0.012/\$1,000

Option 3 should be \$0.014/\$1,000

Best Regards,

Joan

Joan Johnson

City Librarian

Milwaukee Public Library

414-286-3020

