

SAINT ANTHONY PARK LIBRARY
2245 Como Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55108

At a Glance: 2008

Built-Remodeled	1917-1988-1999
Square Ft	10,590
Hours/week*	63
Days/open/week	Seven
Materials Budget	\$95,768
Collection Size	53,805
Material:	
Adult	16,956
Juvenile	27,645
Total Circulation	267,329
Adult	124,540 (47%)
Juvenile	142,789 (53%)
Circulation/FTE	36,125
Total Information	25,376
Information/Ref FTE	6,189
FTEs Public Service*	7.4
Gate Count	168,080

Computer Workstations (Public) 16; Internet workstations/Excel/Powerpoint: 6; Word processors: 2; Catalog workstations: 6; Children's workstations: 2, Wi-Fi

Lounge chairs: 4; Study tables: 7 with 18 chairs; Study carrels: 0, seasonal outdoor seating- 7 benches

*Information on hours and staff reflect system-wide changes implemented in November 2006

SERVICE PROFILE:

The Saint Anthony Park Branch Library is considered an icon of this picturesque neighborhood tucked away in northwestern Saint Paul. This 1917 Carnegie library was remodeled in 1985 and again in 1999. A park-like lawn with many benches invites patrons to linger with a book. The 1999 renovation includes a children's rotunda reading room. This inviting space, combined with a juvenile collection that is well funded through a private grant, make us a "destination library" for young families, teachers, and class visits. Both St. Anthony Park Elementary and Murray Junior High schools are within three blocks and the Elementary classes visit throughout the school year. Materials circulation has tripled since the expansion, ranking 5th highest amongst all branches.

Our neighborhood population is approximately 8,547. However, because of our location on the most western end of St. Paul, nearly one third of our patrons are coming from nearby Minneapolis and suburban Ramsey County. In addition, another 25% come from zip codes outside our area. The University of Minnesota St. Paul campus, University student housing and Luther Seminary are within a 10 minute walk. Ramsey County Library's Roseville branch,

retired U of M faculty housing, and the Minnesota International Institute are within a 5-minute drive.

Many university faculty and staff reside in the immediate neighborhood. Students and recent graduates fill much of the rental property, with affordable housing expanding along University Avenue near Highway 280. Recent census figures show that over 60% of the adults have attained a bachelor's degree or higher.

Racial diversity is increasing with new residents arriving from Somalia, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Mexico. The neighborhood remains predominately white (76.4%). The major nationalities represented by residents residing at Luther Seminary and U of M married student housing are Chinese, Korean, Japanese and African. Of these groups, Asian and Pacific Islanders are the predominant group at 8.3% of the population. The library's world language collection features materials in these languages.

In addition to regular program offerings for all ages, recent collaborative efforts with local schools and organizations have brought new programming that improves service to area people. These include help for customers seeking computer training, English language learners (Partners in English Conversation Circle), Seniors (St. Anthony Park Block Nurse exercise Program) and youth (Green Book Shelf Partnership with the International Institute of Minnesota). We work to establish and maintain collaborations that will benefit our community.

The library has an active Library Association which has served the community since 1934. The annual Arts Festival, held the first Saturday in June, is their major fundraiser. Funds from this festival have been used to underwrite additional summer youth programming.

This is a neighborhood with a strong identity. Residents are actively involved politically, supporting their beliefs through words, actions, and funding.