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Mid-Continent Public Library Expands Branch Hours

Library to Offer Customized and Extended Hours of Operation in 2018

Greater Kansas City, MO – Effective January 2, 2018, Mid-Continent Public Library’s doors will be open longer as the Library implements new hours of operation at each of its 31 branches across the Kansas City metro area. The hours, which were determined by Library leadership following months of community meetings and conversation, are unique to each branch’s individual customer needs—whether that means staying open later during the week or providing weekend hours.

“At Mid-Continent Public Library our mission is to provide customers access to resources and services that enrich their lives,” said MCPL Director and CEO Steven V. Potter. “These new hours not only enhance our ability to deliver on this goal; they also ensure customers are being served in a way that is most convenient and beneficial to them.”

Most notable among the scheduling changes is the addition of Sunday hours to 17 branches—bringing the total to 20 MCPL branches that are open that day. Collectively, the Library system will be open an additional 78 hours per week, or 4,000 more each year, once the new schedule takes effect.

“We regularly hear from customers that they need our services seven days a week,” said Ritchie Momon, Chief Customer Experience Officer at MCPL. “For some, it’s a matter of accessing vital services like the internet, which they may not have at home; while for others, it’s their hours of work that interfere with their ability to stop by during the week. Whatever the case, we’re striving to eliminate these barriers to expand access as much as possible.”

The new service hours are made possible by an increase to the Library’s funding (the first in 33 years), which voters approved with the passage of Proposition L last November. In addition to utilizing these dollars to expand branch hours, the Library has already increased its collections budget by 13 percent, added staff to its special programming initiatives like Library-By-Mail for homebound customers, and will soon release a construction timeline for its planned improvements to its aging facilities. Keep updated on the Library’s progress at mymcpl.org/community.

See the full list of new branch hours in the chart below.

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Access Your World
Mid-Continent Public Library is the largest library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area, operating 31 branches and four Library-To-Go locations and serving nearly 800,000 people in Jackson, Clay, and Platte Counties. The Library strives to enrich our citizens and communities through expanding access to innovation, information, ideas, and inspiration. MCPL is a 2014 National Medal for Museum and Library Service winner. Connect with the Library on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

New Mid-Continent Public Library Branch Hours: