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Received & Inspected

NOV 03 2017

FCC Mail Room

26 October 2017

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Commissioners

In the Matter of:

Wire line Competition Bureau Seeking Comments on E-rate Category Two WC
Docket No. 13-184

I am thankful to be able to provide input on the impact of having access to secure and sufficient funding for our Lancaster, NY Public Library Wi-Fi, and internal connections.

In Lancaster and in communities across the country, people turn to the library to use Wi-Fi on their tablets, laptops, and other devices. Our library users are downloading job applications, applying for financial aid, seeking health information, and communicating with family - all dependent on a strong Wi-Fi signal. Increasingly, libraries also provide services that depend on Wi-Fi, like coding clubs for K-12 youth. Libraries everywhere know Wi-Fi throughout the library is not a "nice to have" - it's a necessity and a core community service.

This year, our Lancaster Public Library is averaging 2940 public access services plus 1154 web-site visits per month. For our Buffalo and Erie County System those monthly average usages are 90,068 public access services and 162,225 web-site visits per month. A copy of the B&ECPL system statistics is attached.

Wi-Fi is a needed and well-used essential service in Lancaster and all of Erie County.

With the commitment of the FCC to ensure a library budget of \$2.30 per square foot, our Lancaster library can upgrade outdated equipment or plan for new services. We will have confidence that desperately needed support will be there.

Please maintain secure funding through the full five-year budget period as adopted during the 2014 Modernization. Our patrons are depending on that funding.

Sincerely



Albert E. Martin
Trustee Emeritus – Lancaster, NY Public Library

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Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - 2017 Statistics



	Year to Date Totals					
	Library Visits	Webpage Visits	Circulation	Computer Sessions	WiFi Logins	Program Attendance
System Totals	2,325,953	14,600,252	5,005,091	490,966	391,649	165,603
Member Libraries	1,663,806	262,505	2,711,992	242,446	174,823	118,428
Buffalo Branches	396,460	62,393	387,985	130,598	75,777	11,885
Central Library	230,070	19,971	327,652	117,883	139,498	35,013
Bookmobile	9,978	19,916	7,535	39	1,551	477
Institutions	25,639	-	117,839	-	-	-
e-Branch	-	14,235,467	1,452,088	-	-	-
MEMBER LIBRARIES						
Alden (Ewell Free)	12,736	5,254	20,101	1,399	2,248	857
Amherst						
Audubon	144,079	21,699	302,556	18,521	17,926	16,064
Clearfield	110,412	15,547	204,560	8,484	9,001	5,965
Egbertsville-Snyder	76,881	12,369	108,150	8,401	5,777	5,931
Williamsville	26,941	10,978	39,758	3,328	2,459	4,072
Angola	51,043	5,161	27,584	3,418	2,831	1,039
Aurora	70,006	11,443	128,110	7,348	10,643	4,360
Boston	16,741	5,125	35,117	1,068	1,159	2,033
Cheektowaga						
Julia Boyer Reinstein	128,069	11,796	241,596	26,237	10,604	5,701
Reinstein Memorial	56,152	8,633	91,871	16,935	5,781	884
Clarence	89,545	14,272	165,432	10,083	6,986	8,164
Collins	22,095	3,825	31,514	3,518	3,389	2,713
Concord	29,628	4,459	48,418	4,718	5,348	1,812
Eden	20,101	5,774	39,993	2,017	1,815	1,437
Elma	41,917	10,289	73,115	3,822	2,494	4,113
Grand Island Memorial	47,700	9,009	87,023	4,599	3,267	2,916
Hamburg						
Hamburg	87,236	14,004	144,567	15,057	11,557	5,396
Lake Shore	35,142	6,241	51,823	3,095	3,562	1,410
Lackawanna	40,027	5,791	42,709	10,532	4,881	3,037
Lancaster	81,249	10,384	135,455	14,853	11,608	11,981
Marilla	14,594	4,265	28,912	925	1,123	788

September-2017

	Totals for the Month					
	Library Visits	Webpage Visits	Circulation	Computer Sessions	WiFi Logins	Program Attendance
System Totals	239,326	1,095,362	506,447	51,488	42,835	14,363
Member Libraries	166,656	41,052	268,204	25,341	18,243	9,342
Buffalo Branches	45,933	11,001	41,043	14,053	8,664	1,074
Central Library	22,568	2,903	32,793	12,077	15,774	3,820
Bookmobile	1,676	2,845	1,040	17	154	127
Institutions	2,493	-	12,158	-	-	-
e-Branch	-	1,037,561	151,209	-	-	-
MEMBER LIBRARIES						
Alden (Ewell Free)	1,019	1,134	1,774	144	225	33
Amherst						
Audubon	14,874	2,874	29,468	2,046	1,957	766
Clearfield	11,923	2,006	21,858	1,037	925	289
Egbertsville-Snyder	6,908	2,012	10,700	899	615	40
Williamsville	2,557	1,889	3,646	358	233	17
Angola	5,820	1,025	2,735	485	316	313
Aurora	6,852	1,748	12,037	652	1,117	53
Boston	1,499	893	3,398	97	131	304
Cheektowaga						
Julia Boyer Reinstein	13,643	1,752	24,312	2,882	1,223	311
Reinstein Memorial	5,594	1,444	9,813	1,799	602	188
Clarence	7,919	1,943	16,198	966	429	644
Collins	2,696	787	3,211	358	450	198
Concord	3,051	708	5,089	502	555	164
Eden	2,112	1,132	4,080	201	250	116
Elma	4,161	1,616	7,747	379	255	278
Grand Island Memorial	4,897	1,441	8,384	461	350	628
Hamburg						
Hamburg	8,027	1,959	14,099	1,639	1,212	347
Lake Shore	3,584	894	5,228	362	341	248
Lackawanna	4,255	1,094	3,648	1,156	474	247
Lancaster	8,142	1,893	13,943	1,596	1,397	899
Marilla	1,536	794	2,541	98	107	-

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - 2017 Statistics



	Year to Date Totals					
	Library Visits	Webpage Visits	Circulation	Computer Sessions	WiFi Logins	Program Attendance
Newstead	31,155	4,860	40,525	4,406	5,850	2,652
North Collins	12,356	2,944	16,697	1,801	2,475	687
Orchard Park	147,340	15,753	198,790	15,665	12,659	10,059
City of Tonawanda	56,078	8,928	77,246	10,158	4,406	5,217
Town of Tonawanda						
Kenilworth	40,117	8,286	49,053	7,238	4,388	907
Kenmore	110,902	15,243	202,494	27,870	15,420	4,882
West Seneca	63,564	10,173	78,823	6,950	5,166	3,351
BUFFALO BRANCHES						
Crane	59,829	9,480	79,841	14,875	7,023	2,050
Dudley	44,742	5,613	52,742	12,646	11,690	962
East Clinton	20,583	3,980	39,012	5,760	5,562	1,153
East Delavan	65,702	4,589	36,003	24,053	12,540	860
Mariweather	79,971	6,948	45,560	32,128	12,950	2,375
Niagara	52,132	5,209	44,631	20,132	9,935	1,801
North Park	37,056	21,107	52,249	11,300	5,970	1,178
Riverside	36,445	5,467	37,947	9,704	10,107	1,306
CENTRAL LIBRARY	230,070	19,971	327,652	117,883	139,498	35,013
BOOKMOBILE	9,978	19,916	7,535	39	1,551	477
INSTITUTIONS						
Correctional Facility	17,399	-	84,924	-	-	-
Holding Center	8,240	-	32,915	-	-	-
e-BRANCH ¹	-	14,235,467	-	-	-	-
Online renewals ²	-	-	908,609	-	-	-
Interlibrary Loans	-	-	4,811	-	-	-
Audio Books Downloaded	-	-	125,633	-	-	-
Videos Downloaded/Streamed	-	-	1,477	-	-	-
eBook checkouts/downloads	-	-	337,284	-	-	-
Downloaded music/music video	-	-	74,274	-	-	-

September-2017

	Totals for the Month					
	Library Visits	Webpage Visits	Circulation	Computer Sessions	WiFi Logins	Program Attendance
	3,178	876	4,125	466	577	289
	1,299	506	1,561	204	290	140
	14,608	2,423	20,524	1,599	1,261	1,476
	5,402	1,419	8,122	1,036	572	938
	4,339	1,263	5,367	823	479	72
	11,322	2,133	19,508	2,860	1,689	316
	5,439	1,394	5,088	236	211	28
	6,796	1,836	8,520	1,791	840	134
	5,134	823	5,601	1,448	1,130	98
	2,644	711	4,733	701	605	124
	7,879	851	3,613	2,509	1,546	57
	9,680	1,281	4,675	3,142	1,482	140
	5,783	1,072	4,910	2,176	1,045	118
	4,050	3,276	5,746	1,240	643	105
	3,967	1,151	3,245	1,046	1,373	298
	22,568	2,903	32,793	12,077	15,774	3,820
	1,676	2,845	1,040	17	154	127
	1,636		8,516			
	857		3,642			
		1,037,561				
			93,893			
			399			
			13,777			
			131			
			35,599			
			7,410			

1) Webpage visits listed for individual libraries are those to the home page for that library. Visits to the general library website and online catalogs are listed under e-Branch.

2) Includes patron initiated online renewals through the Library's website; phone renewals processed by e-Branch personnel; and phone renewals made using the Library's automated phone renewal system.

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - 2017 Statistics



Footnotes in Chronological Order

January - February 2017 Website counts for Jan-Feb updated on 4/6/2017 to include the Library's new Digitization Projects server which had not been included previously. Future month reports will include this data.

January 5, 2017 Concord Library closed - winter weather

January 8 through 27, 2017 Kenmore Library visits estimated due to door counter malfunction

January 15, 2017 Clearfield Library closed - plumbing issue

February 16, 2017 Lackawanna Public: Closed - window repair.

Feb. 18 through Mar. 5 2017 Amherst Public: Clearfield Branch: Closed - carpet project.

Feb. 24 through Feb. 28, 2017 Kenilworth: Closed - Carpet tile installation.

West Seneca - Open while under construction.

March 10, 2017 Clearfield - Beginning 3/10/17, Fridays open 3 additional hours.

March 15, 2017 Grand Island - Closed 6 hours early - Weather.

May 1, 2017 Bookmobile Services - Added to door count report.

May 27, 2017 Eden - Internet down.

Jun. 17 through Jun. 20, 2017 Lake Shore - Closed power outage due to transformer fire on utility pole.

Jun. 27 through Jul. 3, 2017 West Seneca - Moving to temporary location due to library expansion project construction.

June 1 through 30, 2017 North Park - Children's PCs unavailable throughout June 2017 due to expansion project construction.

Jul. 15 2017 West Seneca Library - Closed due to construction

Jun. 27 through Jul. 9, 2017 No WiFi - West Seneca

Jul. 10 2017 WiFi restored - West Seneca

Jun. 27 through Jul. 18, 2017 No Public Access Computers available - West Seneca

Jul. 19 2017 4 Public Access Laptops available - West Seneca for use while in smaller temporary space.

Jul. 19 through Jul 20 2017 Reinstein Library - Closed - Sidewalk/side street construction.

September West Seneca - In temporary location due to construction.

August 4, 2017 Merriweather - Added 3 additional open hours every Friday going forward.

August 12, 2017 Clearfield - Closed - Plumbing issue.

September 5, 2017 Aurora - Network connection down 11am -4pm - Cut fiber.

September 9, 2017 West Seneca - Closed - No water.

September 15, 2017 Kenmore - Closed National Grid work causing power outage.