

# Future of Libraries Survey Report

May 14th, 2024 - May 31st, 2024

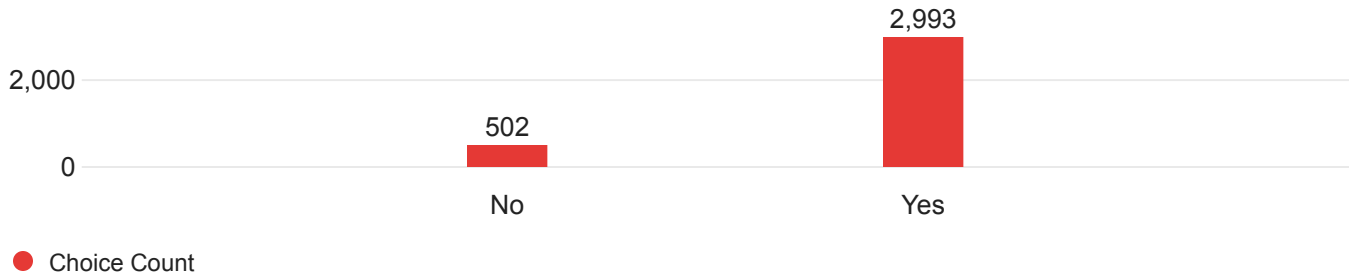
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# Survey Demographics

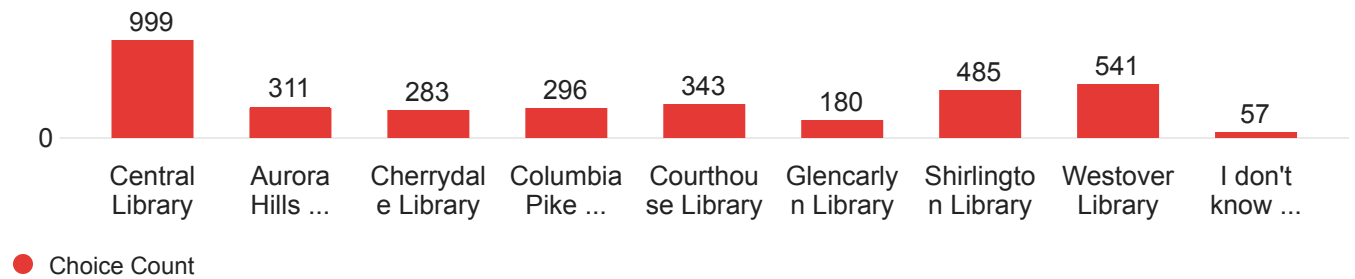
Are you a resident of Arlington, Virginia? \*

3495 Responses



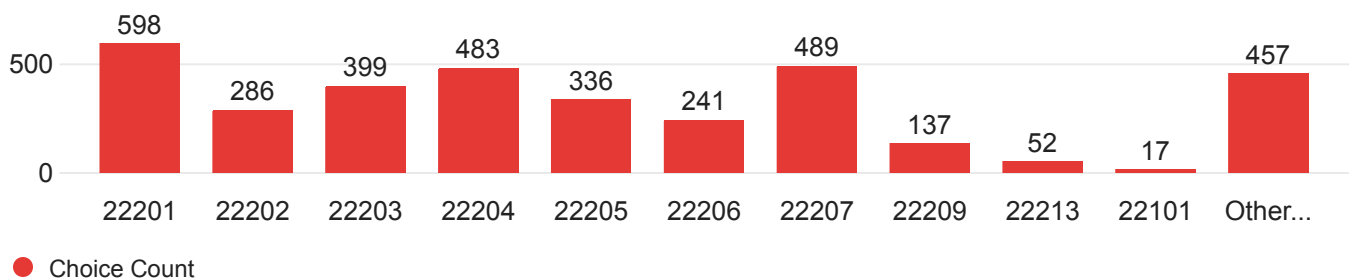
I live closest to the following library. \*

3495 Responses



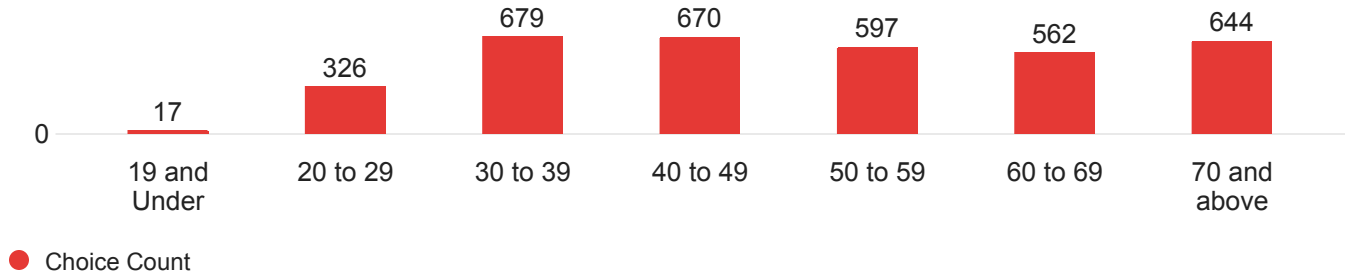
What is your zip code? \*

3495 Responses



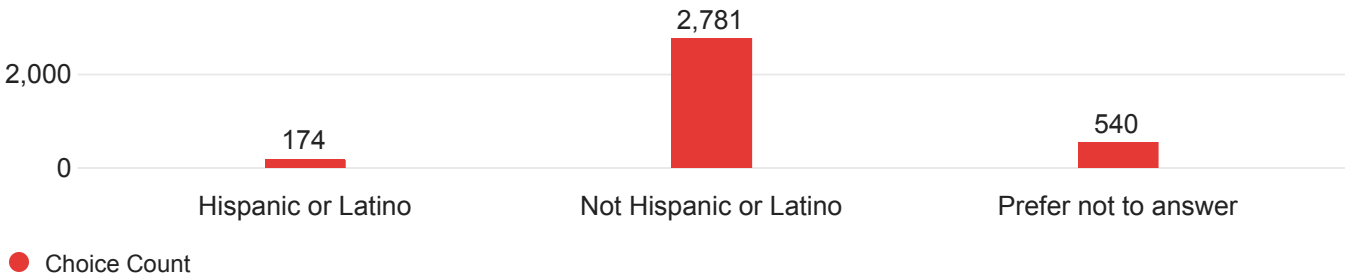
### What is your age range? \*

3495 Responses



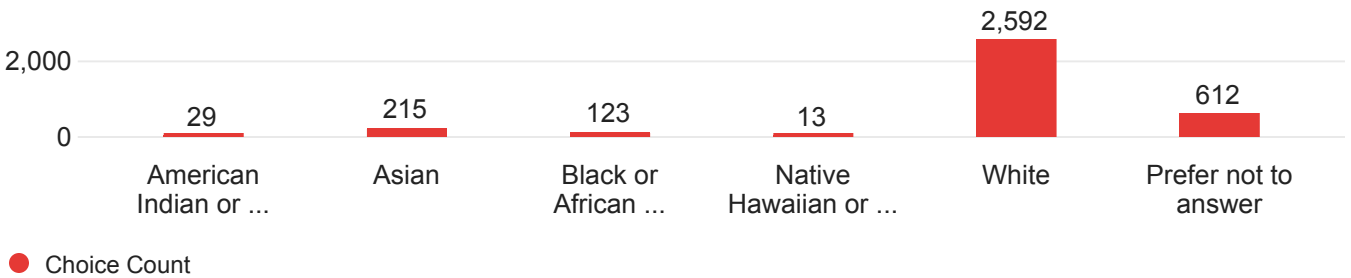
### How would you describe your ethnicity? \*

3495 Responses



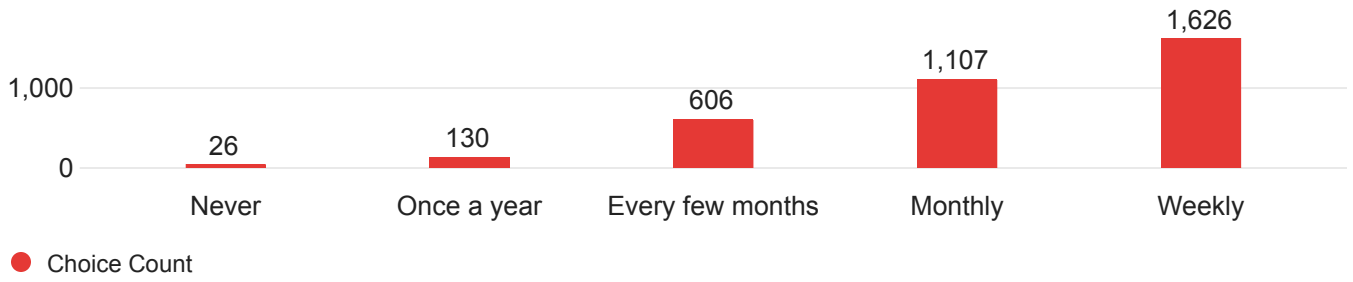
### How would you describe your race? Select all that apply. \*

3495 Responses



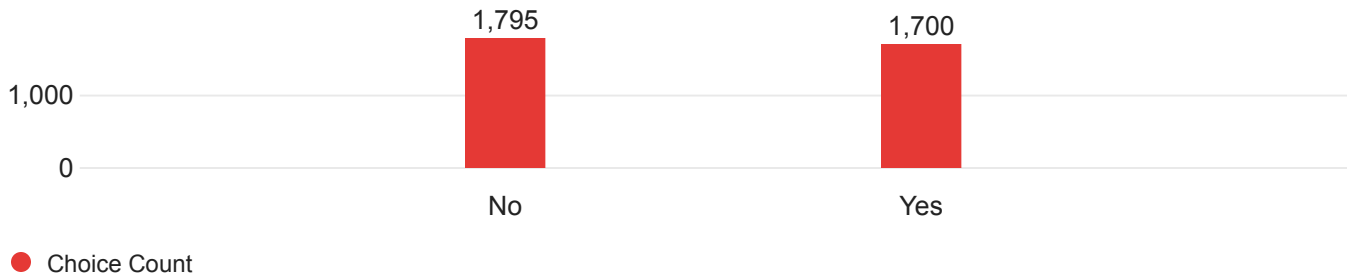
### How often would you say you use the library (if at all)? \*

3495 Responses



### Do you have children? \*

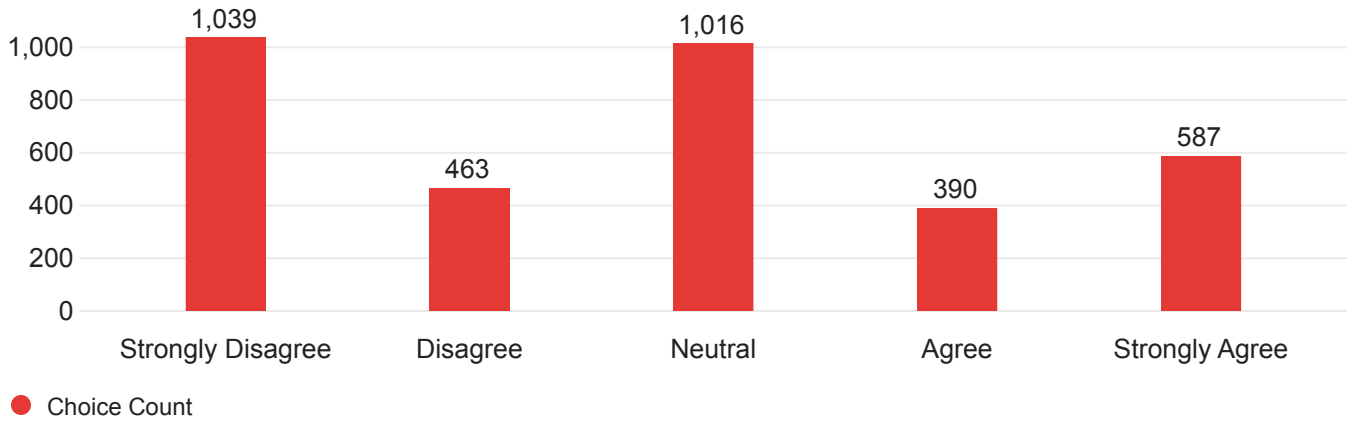
3495 Responses



# KidZone

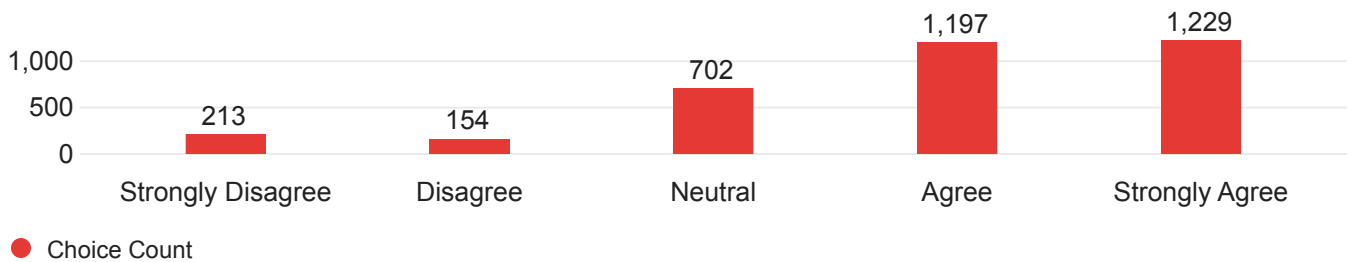
## KidZone: I would use this if it existed

3495 Responses



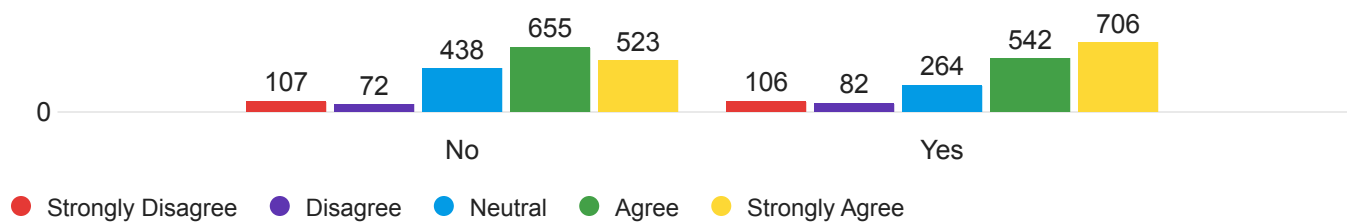
## KidZone: This would make a positive impact on my neighborhood

3495 Responses



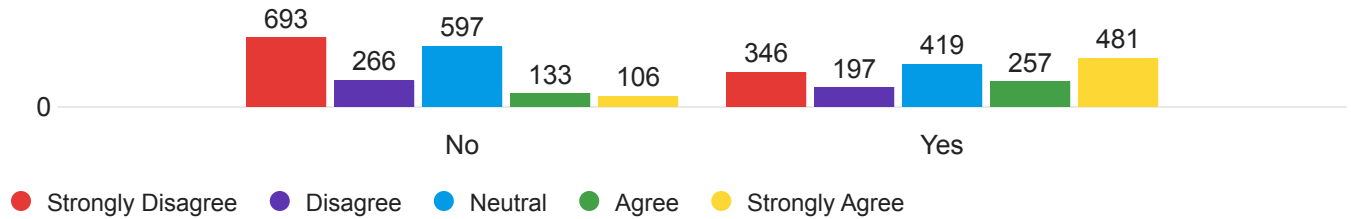
## KidZone: "This would make a positive impact on my neighborhood" filtered by "Do you have children?"

3495 Responses



## KidZone: "I would use this if it existed" filtered by "Do you have children?"

3495 Responses



## What thoughts and feedback do you have on the KidZone concept? (Optional)

What thoughts and feedback do you have on the KidZone concept? (Optional)

I no longer have young children. My thoughts are that many of these activities should be provided by Arlington Parks & Rec and that is where kids & parents should go for these activities. I think it's important for children to learn that different places are for different activities and different behaviors are expected at different places. I think small craft activities related to a Book that was read aloud to children are appropriate.

lots of new families in the area and not enough places for children to explore.

I do not have any children but this seems like a positive amenity for those with small children.

I dont have children but I'm sure parents and children would enjoy it. Other library patrons may not enjoy the noise.

There needs to be quiet space people can enjoy

A public space for small children to engage with each other in an age appropriate manner is most welcome. As an older adult without children I whole heartedly agree with this concept.

I don't have kids, would prefer if this space was sound proof.

This seems to be duplicating the offerings and role of our community centers and recreations centers. Also will directly compete with local businesses offering kids play classes and spaces. Is that appropriate?

This would become a vector for diseases

Accessibility and not limiting to age 5.

Don't like kids.

It would be to have programming on weekday mornings, especially during winter

I have no kids - so neutral response. This is a great idea - as long as adults can have quiet space. How will this be managed?

could be hard to isolate noise in smaller libraries like Courthouse branch

It fosters an appreciation of libraries for future generations. I'm 45 and my early memories of libraries were pleasant places to discover stories!

I do not have kids, but increasing free kid-friendly areas is fantastic

this is a library, not an indoor playground. if the county wants to build indoor playgrounds, they can do that too but it shouldn't be inside a library distracting kids from the books and reading

There are locally owned businesses that provide these services that would be harmed by the government competition.

Libraries are specifically about books. Those books provide information. They provide entertainment. And, many times both. The children's section provides those two things AND teaches children How and Why to read. At times play tables are needed for the younger siblings of those children.

But, the " KidZone " concept goes too far. By your description it is not a library function. It is a combination of Pre-School and Daycare. The " Arts & Crafts and Playgrounds " section is a description of Pre-Schools. The " .. support parents in finding spaces for their kids to unapologetically act their age. " section is a description of Daycare.

Library funds are limited (anywhere in this country) and should not be used to provide public Daycare and Pre-School.

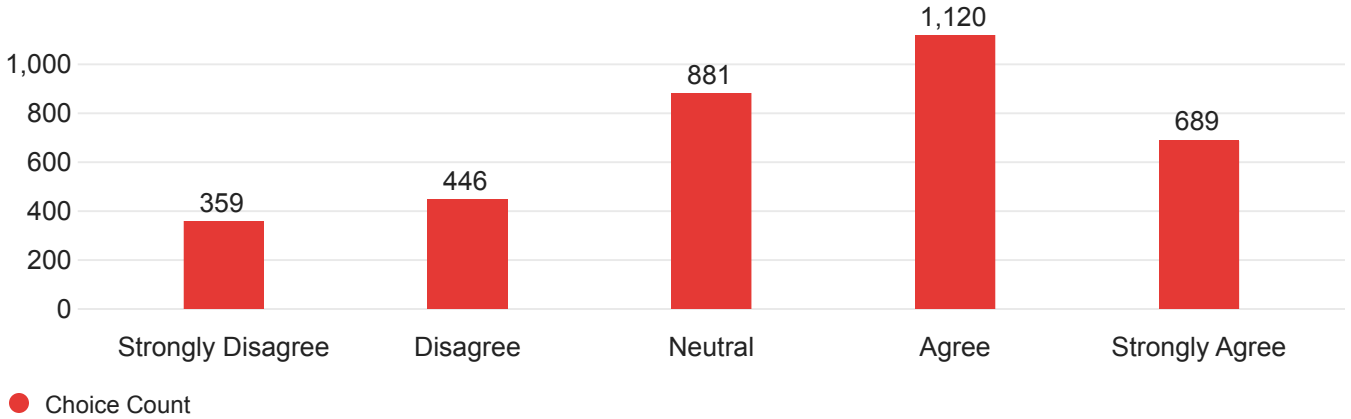
I don't have kids myself, but this seems like a great space to have for children in the county.



# Third Place Space

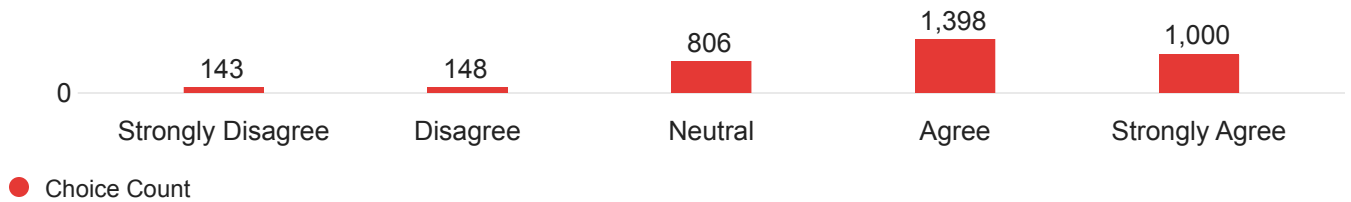
## Third Place Space: I would use this if it existed

3495 Responses



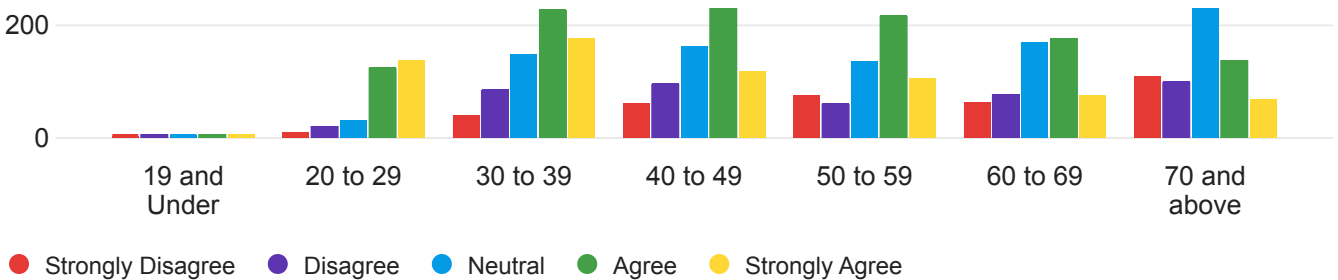
## Third Place Space: This would make a positive impact on my neighborhood

3495 Responses



## Third Place Space: "I would use this if it existed" filtered by Age Range

3495 Responses



## Q23 - What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Third Place Space concept? (Optional)

What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Third Place Space concept? (Optional)

I think a community space would be a great alternative to meeting friends at bars in the neighborhood.

I like the concept, but whether this would be positive depends on if this would be a strain on the library system (later hours) or require giving up other priorities (more books).

This would most certainly appeal to seniors and single people

I have had discussions with my neighbors about where we could meetup to talk about community issues and this would be an excellent venue.

Arlington needs more third spaces!

This would attract more people experiencing homelessness and would not be utilized by the community writ large

Love this idea.

Libraries can't do everything. Lend books. Provide a quiet space for people to be left alone.

This is another great idea; passive is easy - active/noisy could be disruptive to other library users, unless activity noise is managed.

Love the idea of later opening hours

The library is was where I developed a love of film and had access to arthouse auteure films I couldn't find anywhere else. I attended the Pink Floyd wizard of oz feature at shirlington with my family...was a lot of fun!

Having late night social areas outside of clubs and bars would be an incredible option

Might appeal to the younger people in Arlington, as a way of connecting.

Libraries should not have to have sections set aside for Social Gatherings. There have always been impromptu social gatherings at libraries, but it shouldn't become an organized and expected function.

I imagine this working best with curated, but casual, events.

Use community centers for this

I love this idea! There are too few third place spaces in the area.

I like the concept of late night space. Security concerns come to mind.

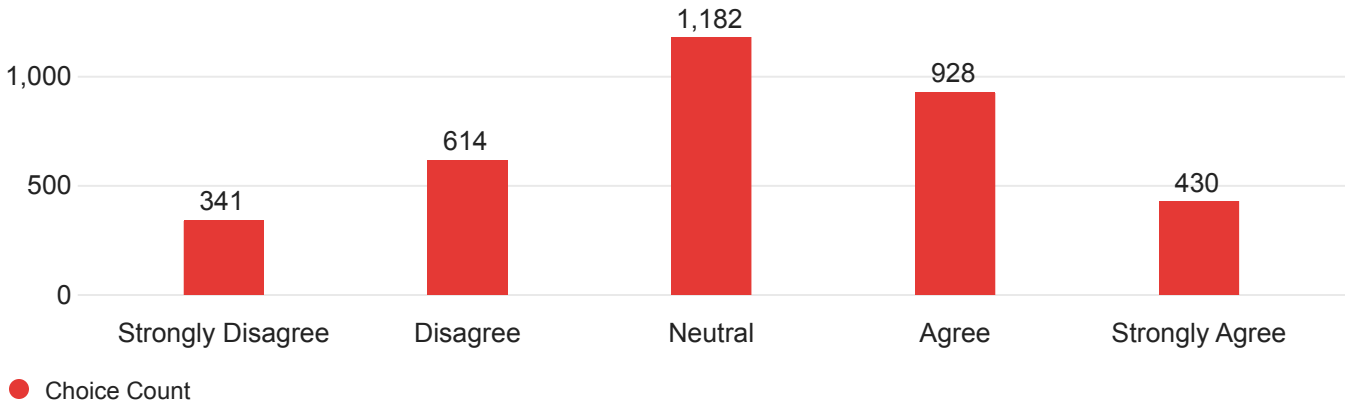
Will depend on the layout and amenities at each particular library location.

As the young people in my neighborhood grow, they may use this space if they know about it.

# Citizens of the World

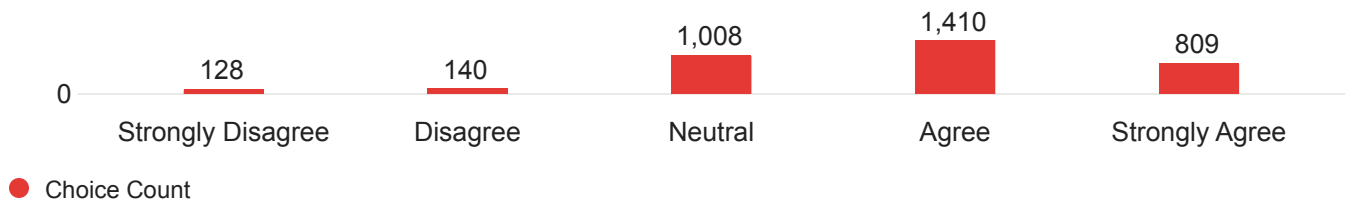
## Citizens of the World: I would use this if it existed

3495 Responses



## Citizens of the World: This would make a positive impact on my neighborhood

3495 Responses



## Q9 - What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Citizens of the World concept? (Optional)

What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Citizens of the World concept? (Optional)

I think we have citizens of the world already here in arlington. Providing them with resources to better assimilate to their new home would be a better use (i.e. language and conversation classes, basic US customs, financial practices, social services resources, etc.)

You could also leverage the diversity within the community to attract locals to learn about other cultures, practices, and opportunities abroad.

This is what school is for

Hopefully, this could tie into schools with Int'l. Baccalaurate programs.

Don't see the point.

We already have this in the Aurora Highlands branch - and it's Great!

Not a bad idea, but not sure if it would actually get used

quiet is good, separate activates involving sound

Education is a proper Library function. This " Citizens of the World " concept is reasonable.

This sounds cool. I would be especially interested in German language opportunities.

A terrific idea.

Probably not something I would have time to use, but it's a good idea.

Some of my neighbors have family living overseas. Would this be a way to contact them ... say, they want to share with people about their family in India or Egypt.

I think it would be great to have some ESL programs; I know many people are looking for things like that.

The concept is intriguing. More information about the purpose and how it would work is needed for me to support this.

Again, I'm not the need this meets is one that Arlington specifically has much of.

Would not use this service if it were available.

Again not sure who would use this. The county is full of multi-lingual and well traveled people. It seems those who want this kind of service already have other outlets.

Just unsure if it would actually be used

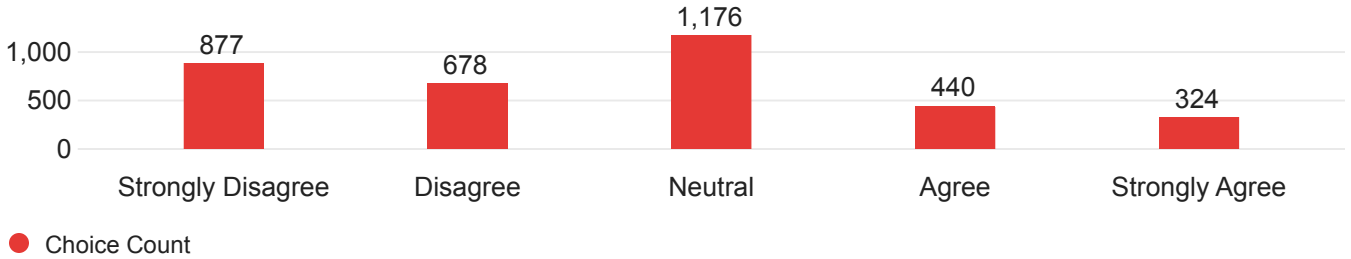
Not familiar how this would work but it sounds like a great opportunity to connect outside US. Safety measures would be my only concern but again not sure on details

I like the idea, but normally go to the library with my daughter who is 5 but she is interested in things like learning languages too so if it had kid programming we would enjoy it

# Student Union

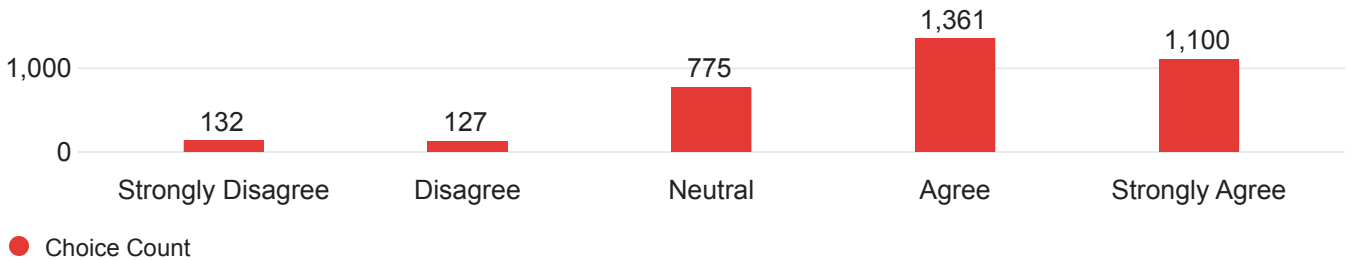
## Student Union: I would use this if it existed

3495 Responses



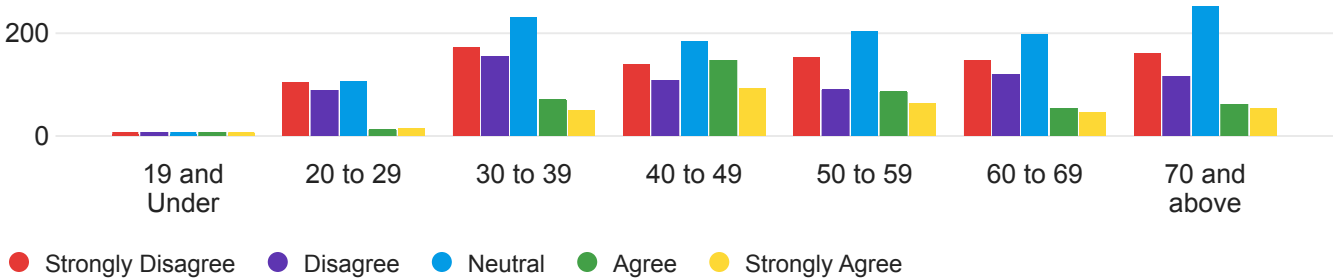
## Student Union: This would make a positive impact on my neighborhood

3495 Responses



## Student Union: "I would use this if it existed" filtered by Age Range

3495 Responses



## Q19 - What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Student Union concept? (Optional)

What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Student Union concept? (Optional)

You could also incorporate classes to show these kids and their parents how to apply to colleges and universities and use the library to conduct mock interviews or even have universities visit and talk about their schools

Don't bring more conflict to the area

I would like to see an Arlington Neighborhood College program for APS teens. Students who complete the program could receive academic credit. Let's make better citizens.

Again, to what end?

I think new library initiatives should focus on kids 0-18.

Great idea.

If I was of the age, this s a ma like a great idea

No comment, except to say that the academic credit part is critical if you want today's overscheduled teens to take an active role.

quiet is good, separate activates involving sound

I don't think our libraries have the room for this, but if APS is actually involved (and pays for it), I have nothing against the concept.

No children of this age. Anything that gives teens a place to meet with a purpose could be impactful

This would not affect me much but could be good. The main caveat to me is whether this function is already being served on local school campuses.

Do we need another incubator? I suspect the "leaders" at school will be the ones who come to this - to add to their resume. I like the other ideas - interest groups, tutoring

Our kids are too busy to use this, except possibly during the summer.

Not sure how possible it will be to get teens into this.

Anything to help teens to learn and use social skills is good.

I think this could be a really valuable thing but worry it would skew in a particular political direction or make students from differing political views not feel welcomed. As long as conservative points of view were welcomed and celebrated as much as liberal, I think this could be valuable.

Would encourage activities for under-served students. There are so many opportunities already for the high-achieving students in Arl schools, I'm not sure I want to see more investment in activities for them.

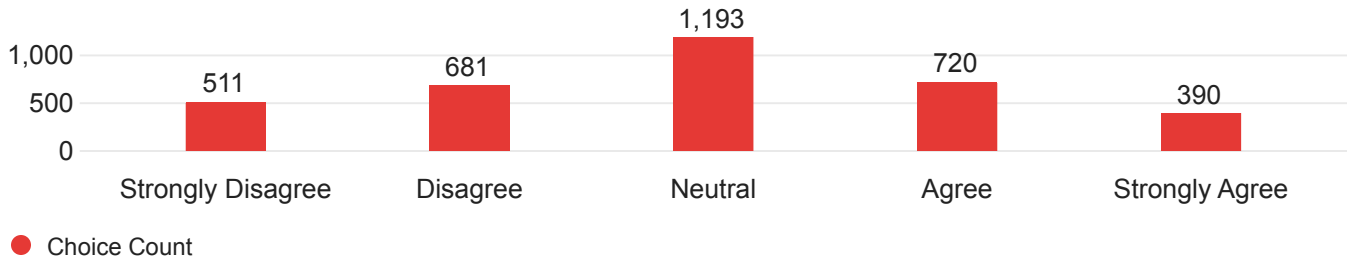
No longer a student, nor parent of a student, but students 13-19 particularly seem in need of an offline "third place" more than other demographics might.

Seems like something better done as an extracurricular school club.

# Career Compass

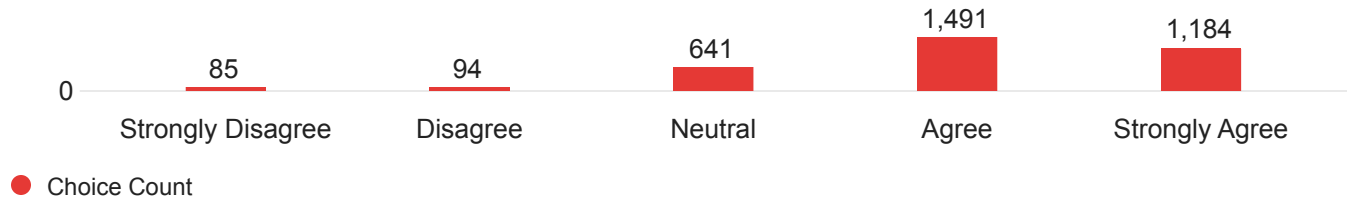
## Career Compass: I would use this if it existed

3495 Responses



## Career Compass: This would make a positive impact on my neighborhood

3495 Responses



## Q11 - What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Career Compass concept? (Optional)

What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Career Compass concept? (Optional)

you could also make the library a hub where skills based volunteering is centralized. Arlington is one of the most educated zip codes in the nation. Why not leverage the communities to volunteer their time and skills (legal, business, STEM) to help local non-profits and small businesses (Arlington Library could serve as the vetting entity and provide space for interested parties to meet)

Ambitious and worthwhile.

We need to support Arlingtonians who need career counseling and training and a safe space to explore new options. Good for you!

Most of my community have is highly skilled or employed .



This is the first idea I've read so far that doesn't duplicate services easily available elsewhere in the community. Very much in line with a library's mission and could appeal to a wide audience from teens to seniors.

quiet is good, separate activates involving sound

This area is the responsibility of High School and College career Councilors and of the Arlington Employment Center. Libraries should not be involved.

This is more appropriate for the Employment Center

This sounds useful for the community, though I think my career interests are too niche for this to help me personally.

This would be less intimidating i think, than going to the employment center. So, yes, a great idea.

Another really good idea, but I'm not sure how much traction it could gain. Maybe it would be great. I'm just not sure.

I am retired but career is an important asset for all in the job market.

Love this idea - I think it would be particularly valuable to promote work in the trades / partner with companies offering apprenticeship programs. My partner is in the trades and there is a huge shortage of employees, and these fields are quite lucrative with no college degree required.

Question about who is doing the counseling and what is their background?

I suppose I would benefit from some information as to how this differs from the Career Center

This could be a good resource for people who don't have access to a headhunter or job counselor.

I think more outreach is needed for people to be comfortable with help in the library. Many families I deal with with limited English don't realize they can use library for various resources.

See comments above. Great idea but let's avoid duplication.

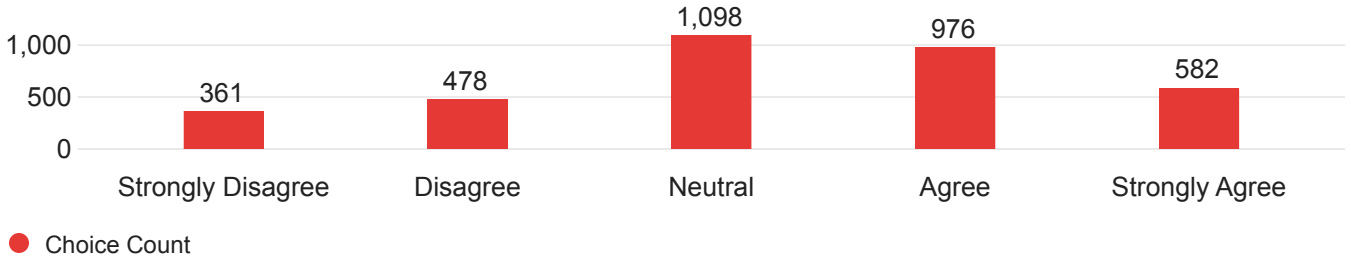
Wonderful for teens.

Once again, the library needs to be cognizant of an overly aggressive goal here. Statement such as "Career Compass would be the connective fiber between Arlingtonians and their next career step—big or small, paid or unpaid. " may be too ambitious. First, there are plenty of resources - many of them free - that already exist. Second, this type of program would probably work best with entry level jobs or career switchers. I have no expectation that the library is going to help me land my next job as an SVP at a big company - and neither should others. This program could focus on how to enable people to most effectively use the library's research.

# Convertible Kit-Cart

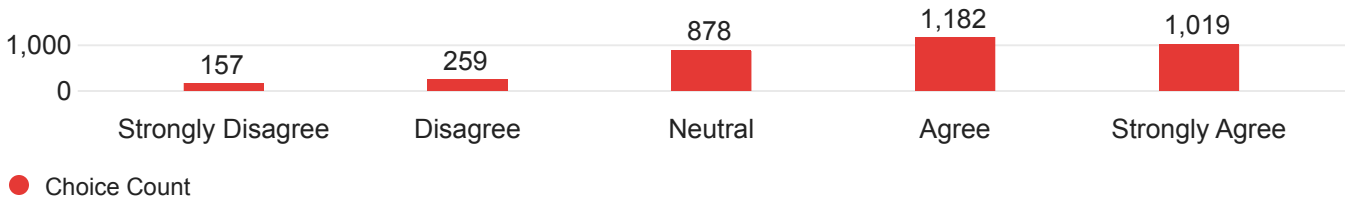
## Convertible Kit-Cart: I would use this if it existed

3495 Responses



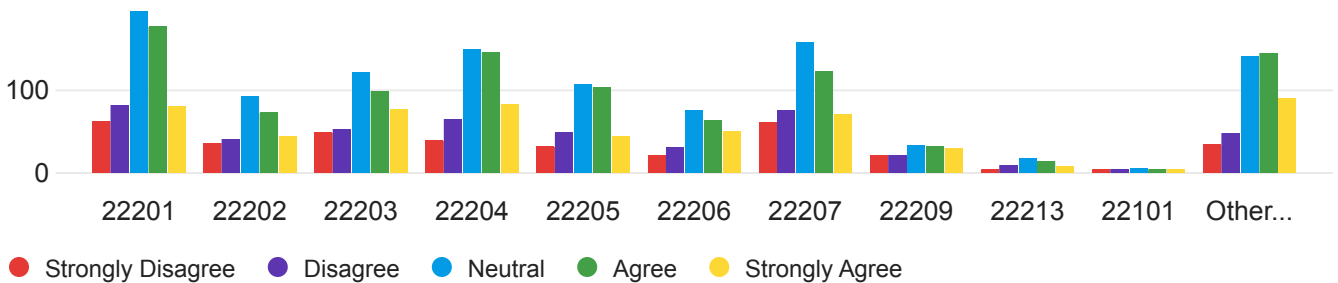
## Convertible Kit-Cart: This would make a positive impact on my neighborhood

3495 Responses



## Convertible Kit-Cart: "I would use this if it existed" filtered by Zip Code

3495 Responses



## Q3 - What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Convertible Kit-Cart concept? (Optional)

What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Convertible Kit-Cart concept? (Optional)

Just invest more in virtual services (i.e. Libby) and increase availability and size of catalogue

County facilities and courts

Interesting. Seems a significant commitment.

Try a pilot project in the Pentagon City Fashion Centre!

great idea to bring the library to people who may not live near a library or not know about library services

I like the idea of setting up games at hospitals or community events. I've rented library games to determine what's the most playable for adding to my home library. This could be close the community to new hobbies

This is so impractical. A staff member transports the cart, stays with the cart and hopes that there happens to be a bored kid there who will be waiting long enough to find and use the cart? That's a lot of resources devoted to a minuscule audience!

Hospitals have their own libraries and waiting room magazine racks. And the Malls and Hospitals should provide the phone chargers and mobile hotspots.

Since I don't live that close to a physical library location, I would definitely go to one of these to check out popular titles if it was in my neighborhood (e.g., at the Rosslyn Farmer's Market).

It's a cool idea, though I'm not sure that it is a crucial service.

I'm not sure "borrow" is the right word. Give away perhaps. I don't see folks remembering to return things or having time to read a whole book.

Would be great to have this at VHC.

Not sure how practical this idea would be.

This seems like a good idea, but might be costly of staff time. I also think things lended out in these kinds of situations are less likely to be returned....

With the wonderful abundance of branch libraries throughout Arlington County's small geographic area, I'm not fully clear on what need this serves. I thought Arlington had a bookmobile for this purpose.

Don't think this is necessary.

This is fabulous! Much better than thumbing through old magazines.

Seems like something those non-library places should be doing. Perhaps they could contract with the library for support. Most of these places have WiFi. I can't recall not having access in the last few years. Every kid I see has a phone to play with & adult head's buried in their own phone.

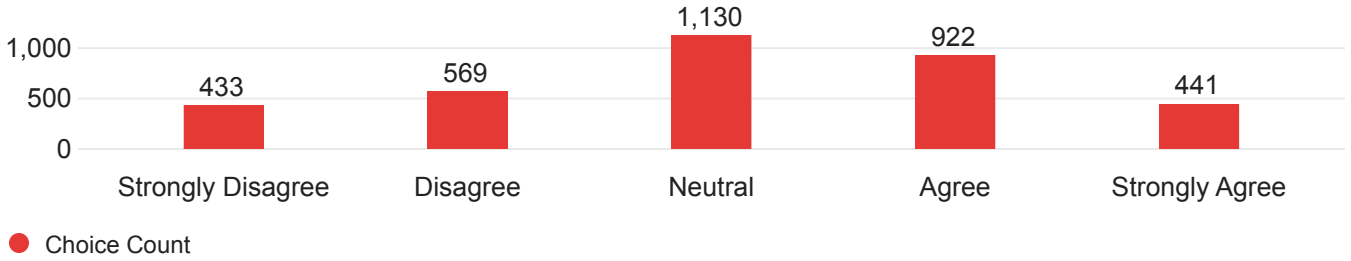
Not practical and does Arlington even have staff/ volunteers who could do this? How much longer will malls be around?

Resources could be better used

# My 'Brary Does What?

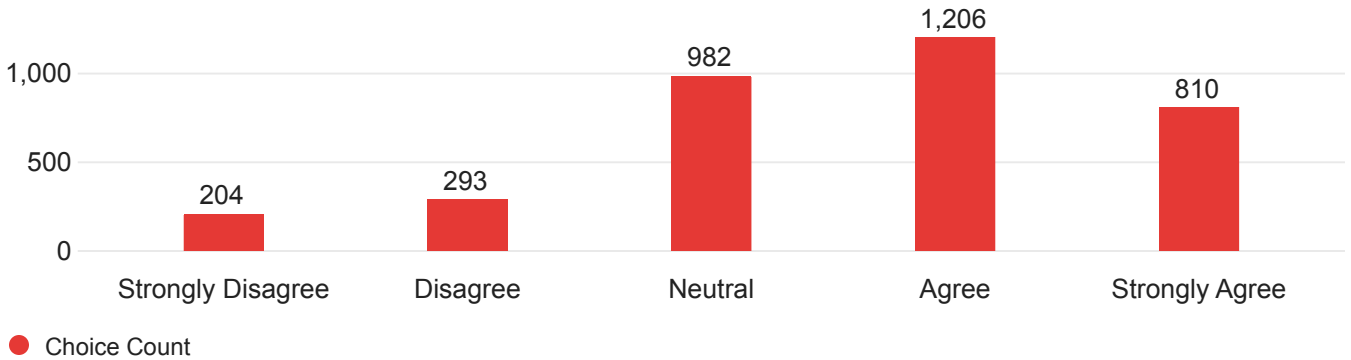
## My 'Brary Does What: I would use this if it existed

3495 Responses



## My 'Brary Does What: This would make a positive impact on my neighborhood

3495 Responses



## Q5 - What thoughts and feedback do you have on the My 'brary Does What concept? (Optional)

What thoughts and feedback do you have on the My 'brary Does What concept? (Optional)

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Don't like the name, though

I guess it would depend on where you plan to do this..yet I think other than schools and community centers, it might be ambitious to think that people who already somewhere to do something (for example: shop at the farmer's market or enjoying the outdoors at the park) would change their plans once they are there to focus on that the library offers

That said, I think that for years, Arlington has done a fair job of communicating what it is that is offered in programs and services. Arlington needs to come up with a better way of getting the word out

Supports everyone

This might be a good idea. It does not have much appeal to me because I can walk 10 minutes to my branch library.

Name is odd. Offputting?

Reaching.

I think 22202 already loves our library and treasures it and hopes that we'll soon have a Crystal City branch as well!

I find the branding incredibly off putting. This example is particularly egregious, but there's an undercurrent of (embarrassing, uniformed) patronizing pandering to the way all of these ideas are being presented.

On the surface, they sound like good things. But there's this suspicion that someone is either trying to sell me something or perhaps hiding something in my food.

If executed well, this could be interesting. The name is horrible.

Great concept; terrible name! It's illiterate and condescending. But I love the idea of reaching out to community gathering places.

how does this encourage people to go to the library?

This is advertising. Library advertising should be for core functions, not ancillary issues. Your description of "My 'brary Does What?" is simply a means to drum up customers for your other non-library social endeavors.

The name is kind of dumb, but I would certainly check these out if it was at farmers' markets or similar events.

Make sure people can get a library card on the spot.

This could be an effective form of public outreach; however, it might take up a fair amount of the library's limited resources.

how many trucks would you have? I prefer the term "Libe" - its what we used when I was in college. brary sounds silly to me.

Might work.

Sounds fun.

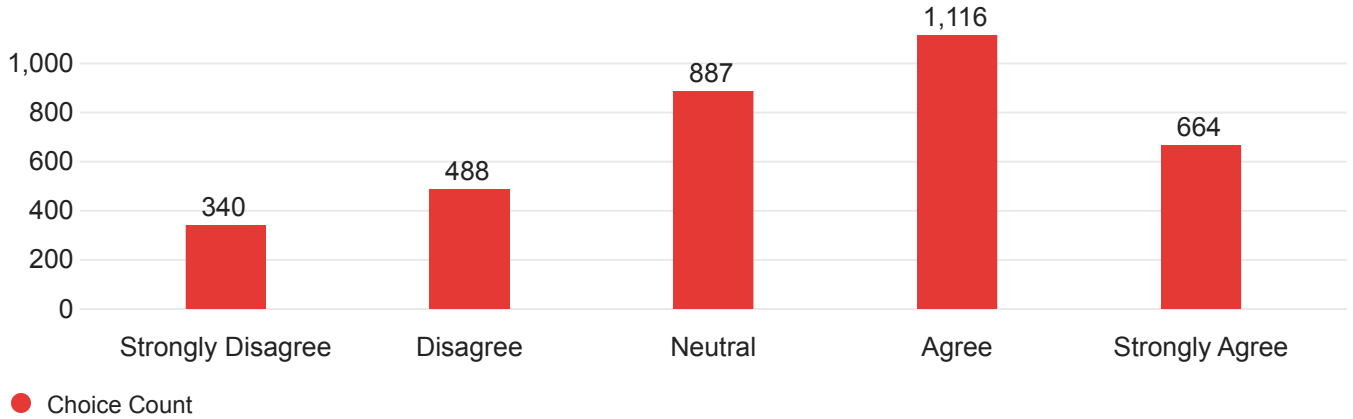
This is a cool idea!

This reminds me of the "packhorse" librarians in Appalachia in the 1930's-1940's.

# Appetite for Learning

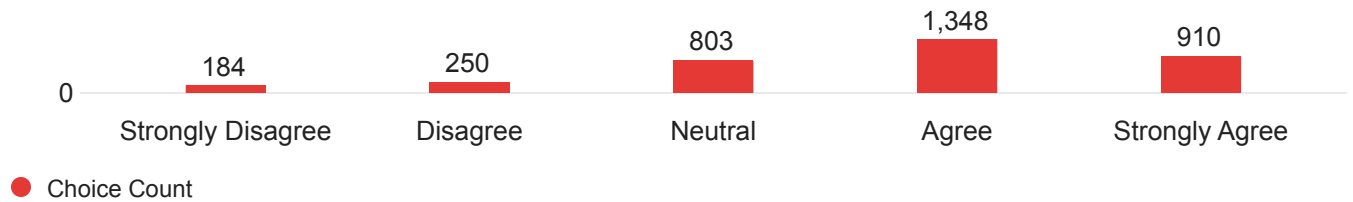
## Appetite for Learning: I would use this if it existed

3495 Responses



## Appetite for Learning: This would make a positive impact on my neighborhood

3495 Responses



## Q7 - What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Appetite for Learning concept? (Optional)

What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Appetite for Learning concept? (Optional)

I think this idea is mostly already covered by Arlington Adult Education Cooking Classes. Perhaps the thought is to try to attract teenagers ?

Great Ideas. Plenty of young foodies in the area.

The concept seems interesting, but I do not think the library is the best venue. Seems like a community center/park would be a better place to host these kinds of events.

I love this idea!



Never would have thought of the library doing something like this!

This program seems much better suited to Arlington County Parks and Rec or other adult-ed type options.

How is this the Library's job? There are opportunities in the community for health & nutrition. Giant has a robust program. Nova Community College must have offerings... I think these concepts order on nannying. The library can't do everything. Stick to your knitting.

Please work with local restaurants to make this happen - it sounds like a great idea! Who would provide the cooking equipment and facilities? Most libraries probably don't have kitchens per se, so cooking choices would need to be carefully chosen.

This sounds amazing and something my whole family will sign up for...we've done similar with the 3d printing, laser burning etc

Again, this duplicates offerings already available in the community. Also would require expensive equipment. No an appropriate avenue for a library.

Education is appropriate for libraries, but hands on teaching (like your example) are better handled by Arlington Adult Education.

I would love being able to do cooking classes through the library.

This would be useful and fun! I would go.

I like the idea. But, getting licensed and regularly inspected - partnering with existing restaurants might be easier.

Would love this. Might be high demand but would attend if available.

Sounds fun. I don't know how much it will be used. Try it and see.

I understand there is a full kitchen in the basement of Thomas Jefferson Middle School that is rarely used. I would encourage Arl Library to interact with APS to find out if use could be made of this space.

Again, I ask who would be designing and leading this program? Does it also take into account food insecurity and how that might be addressed?

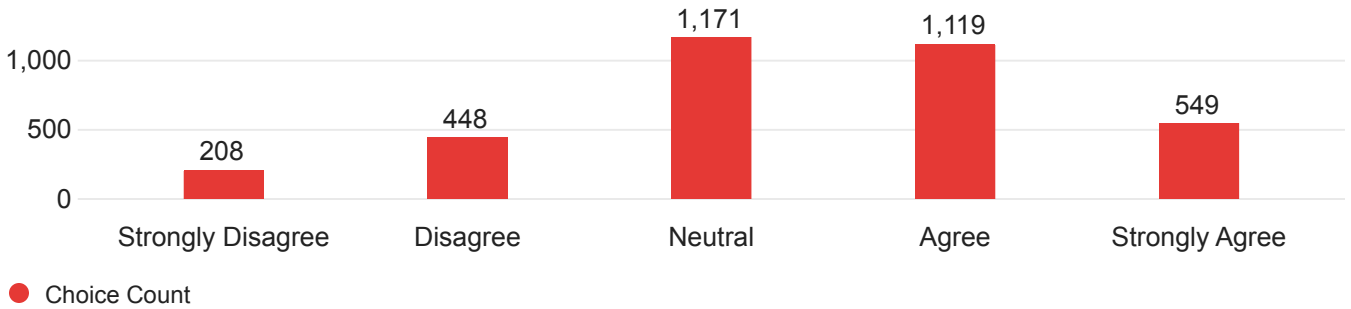
Not clear how this falls under the remit of a library specifically, but seems like a good program in general, sure.

Classes at Sur la Table or county not necessarily cost effective for many people. Love the idea of learning more healthy cooking/eating recipes.

# Borrow an Expert

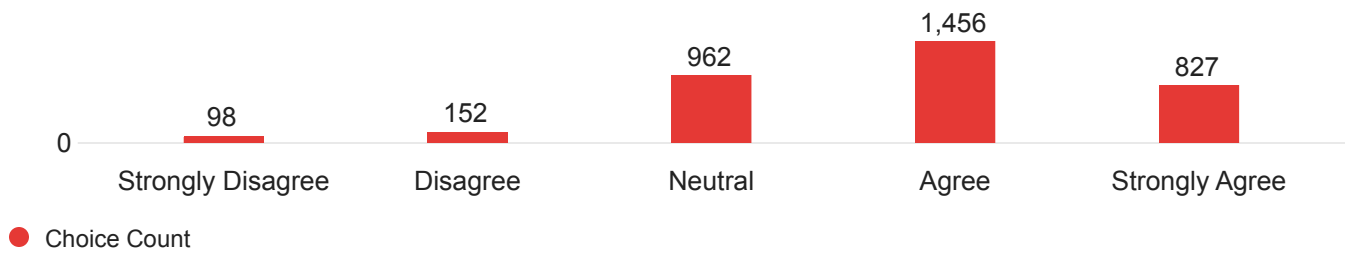
## Borrow an Expert: I would use this if it existed

3495 Responses



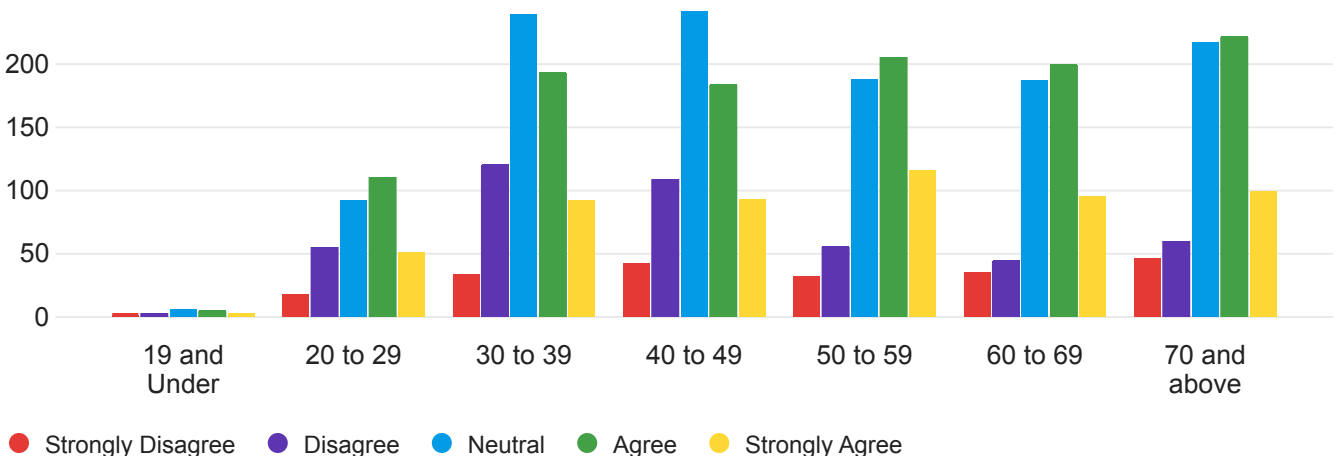
## Borrow an Expert: This would make a positive impact on my neighborhood

3495 Responses



## Borrow an Expert: "I would use this if it existed" filtered by Age Range

3495 Responses



## Q13 - What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Borrow an Expert concept? (Optional)

What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Borrow an Expert concept? (Optional)

This is an interesting idea. Coordinating it will be difficult. I think it is a novel idea that would be hard to actually be as successful as one would hope it would be.

Again, might be better suited to Parks & Rec possibly utilizing Library space

This one is on target.

Please dump the badges idea - we're not scouts anymore and don't need badges. But it's a great idea - and needs careful planning (some experts just need a place to talk, some will need computers etc to share their expertise).

Not big on the brownie point badges, or that you think giving the expert a pat on the back is the most important part to expand upon about this idea.

I love this idea of allowing experts in the community to give back! May need some vetting though

I like this! Similar to the Checkout a Person program that the library did a few years ago, only with the useful twist of learning their skill rather than their life experience.

This is the first true library function on your list.

The badges seem unnecessary, but it would be helpful to just have some sort of accessible rolodex of experts on knowledgeable topics in Arlington.

Let existing community forums, bulletin boards etc do this. ANV for older residents. Parks and rec offers some BYD classes for one on one help; could be expanded

This is a fantastic idea! It would be a great way to use our community's knowledge.

One concern is how one defines and "vets" an expert.

Great idea! Publication of events can be difficult - as is any communication in this era.

Retired people have so much knowledge and experience, it would be wonderful to get them talking and mingling with other younger people.

This could be great for students, as well as tie into the career apprenticeship/mentoring initiative described earlier.

Creating an access point for the incredible wealth of former-professional knowledge in Arlington (especially north Arlington) seems like a great thing for all involved. Strongly support this idea.

Really cool idea if you can pull it off with a good pool of experts

This seems like something this is "on point" for a library.

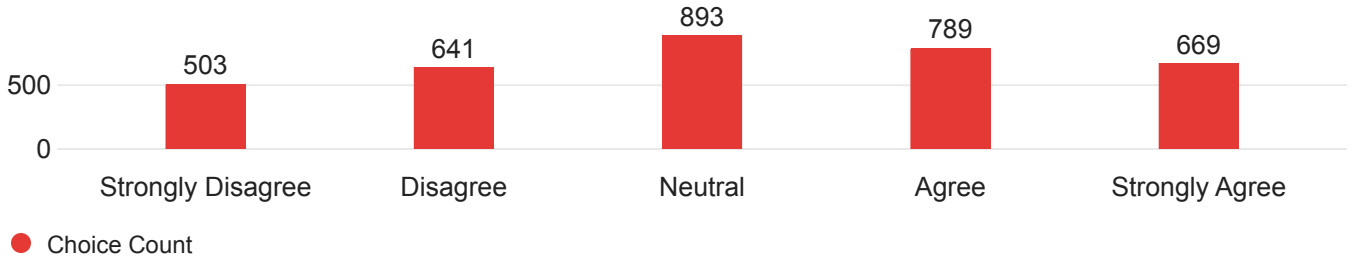
Read that I think they already tried this but not sure if we would use this resource. Love the concept

Ugh I don't like the gamification of this. But I'm older than the demographic it seems like you're trying to reach. That demographic would likely not even get my "Badges? We don't need no stinking badges!" joke.

# Remote Work Space

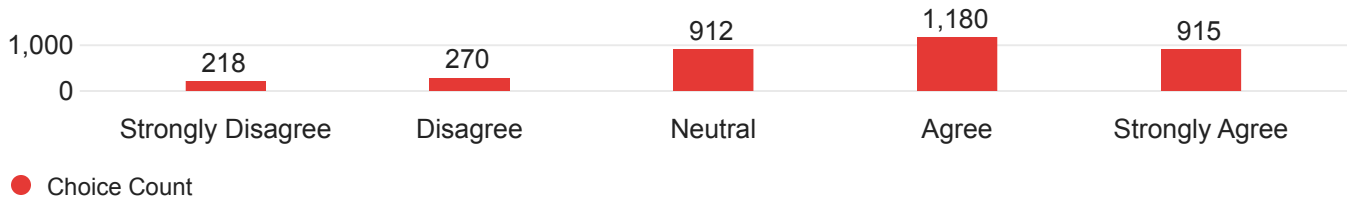
## Remote Work Space: I would use this if it existed

3495 Responses



## Remote Work Space: This would make a positive impact on my neighborhood

3495 Responses



## Q40 - What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Remote Work Space concept? (Optional)

What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Remote Work Space concept? (Optional)

Another interesting idea. I think it may be difficult to get Bosses to agree for employees to do this on a regular basis.

I believe this dynamic already exists at the library. A safe space for community members to work. I would be careful not to venture too far outside the library's purpose. It is not a We Work space. That dynamic may skew that "vibe" enough to alienate other community members

I think it's OK except for the takeovers.

Information security could be a concern here

Seems to be competing with existing businesses in Arlington

It doesn't personally appeal to me, but I think others might like it.

Feels out of scope and could be used inappropriately by businesses

Individual private spaces would be preferable, although being a limited resource, not feasible. Such an accommodation would be desirable for anyone--students, media fans, anyone seeking a quiet space. Most individuals don't come to the library to socialize, and most of these ideas seem to challenge that basic assumption.

This is already an essential service: Many of us already use the local library this way, and having a local library where we can print what we need (or use the library computer as well) is critical Please maintain these services and equipment and the friendly assistance from the library staff! It would be nice if Arlington could provide free limited copies, as DC libraries do.

I would love this option. However I am a federal employee and May not connect my laptop to public Wi-Fi—it must be password protected. That would make it feasible for me.

As a grad student, I would love this. A good space outside of my home to work.

This somewhat duplicates existing commercial services, but could have lots of community appeal.

impossible to provide equal services to all; cannot believe ACPL branches have adequate surplus unused/underused space

This is not a Library function at all. They should have nothing to do with remote working.

The industry-specific days sound silly, but I would certainly use a remote work space in the library with reliable wifi and small rooms for taking calls.

If someone actively chooses to work from home, why would they travel to the library to work instead?

Having a free or cheap place to work remotely that isn't my bedroom sounds great.

If you do have "takeover time," such as for engineers on Tuesdays in the example provided, would there be spaces for those in other realms who wish to use the library to telework?

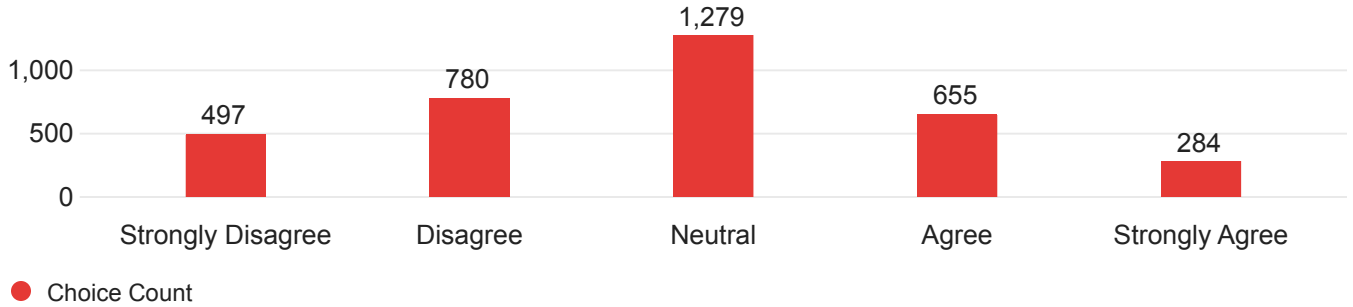
how will you manage the space. long term rentals? how many spaces?

I can't use it due to data restrictions. I'm sure many of the area's workers are in a similar position, but also are plenty who do not have these restrictions.

# Community Collective

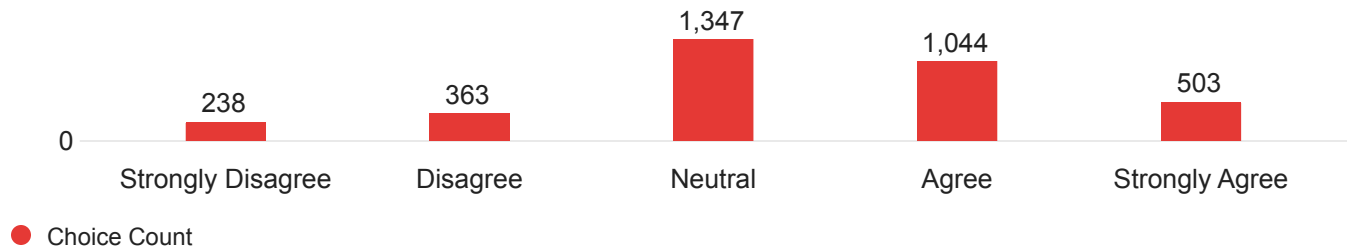
## Community Collective: I would use this if it existed

3495 Responses



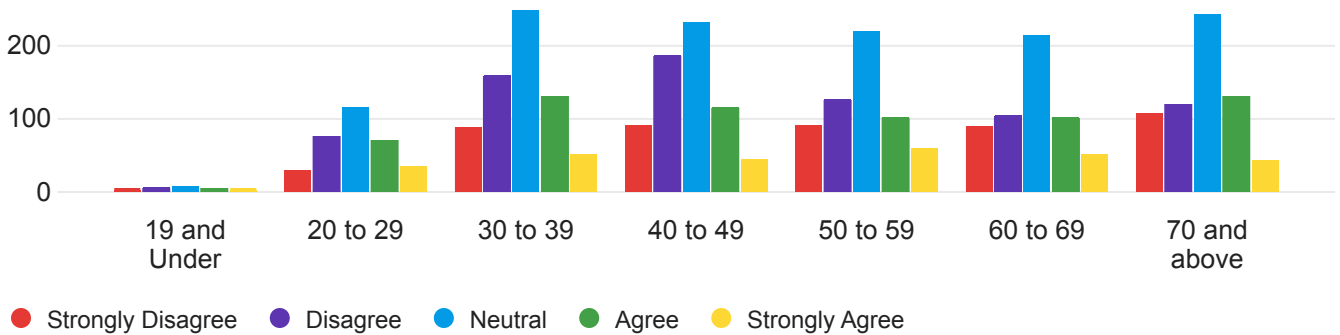
## Community Collective: This would make a positive impact on my neighborhood

3495 Responses



## Community Collective: "I would use this if it existed" filtered by Age Range

3495 Responses



## Q21 - What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Community Collective concept? (Optional)

What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Community Collective concept? (Optional)

This takes on a social worker perspective. I would be careful about going into people's homes.

Don't force community based on politics

I love the idea of a community meeting spaces. Not sure how comfortable folks would be about hosting in their homes. But parks and libraries seem like great spaces for these types of gatherings.

I don't think that there is a role for sending county employees into private homes to provide entertainment, even educational entertainment. Possibly a program where groups or families sign up for in-library private events would make sense but I am not in favor of paying county staff to entertain people within their homes.

This wouldn't realistically be utilized

I know I said "neutral" but I strongly disagree. This seems to indicate another instance where the library is departing from its primary mandate.

How is this different from the earlier proposal to provide a gathering place? It seems redundant and should be combined.

Let's bridge the community!

1). Please stop with the "Brary." It isn't cute or funny. 2) Would librarians be comfortable with going into strangers' homes? This idea might work better with visiting nursing homes, preschools, churches, etc.

best only for home-bound/mobility-impaired and gathering such appears far too difficult

This is a rather hazy concept that has nothing to do with the core functions of the libraries.

This seems like asking a lot from the librarians.

I haven't felt an especially strong sense of community since moving to Arlington; a program like this could help.

I'd need more information. I'd also be concerned about the safety of the librarians in people's homes.

This idea is a good one. However, looking at the example given, this is risk inherent by having the public library involved in an activity in a private residence. This is a hard no for me.

Not my thing, and I'm not sure a traveling bookclub fits a need that the smallest county in America particularly has, but sure, what the heck, why not.

Really think the Brary name should be rethought, it's hard to take seriously. Going into strangers homes doesn't sound safe or sanitary



Doesn't not seem like something people would embrace. People's schedules are already overloaded.

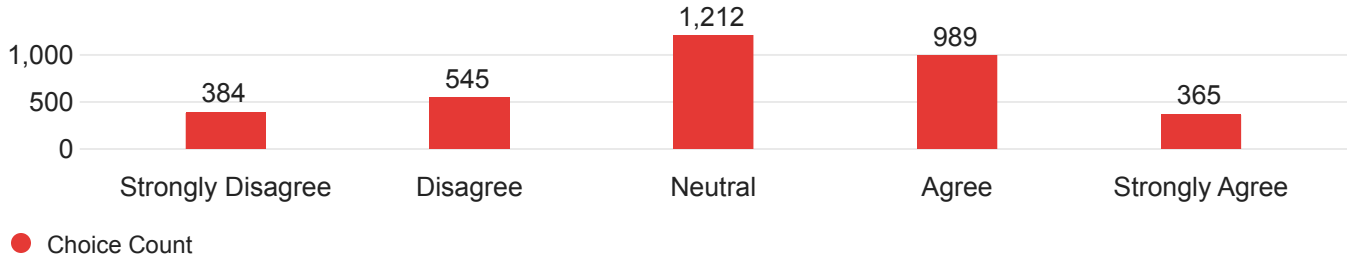
I beg you. Fire "brary" into the sun. I would actively avoid any service using that name it's so gross. Go with Bookie McBookface if you have to. Anything. Focus group it all over again.

Interesting idea. Not sure everyone wants complete strangers in their homes.

# Arlington Town Square

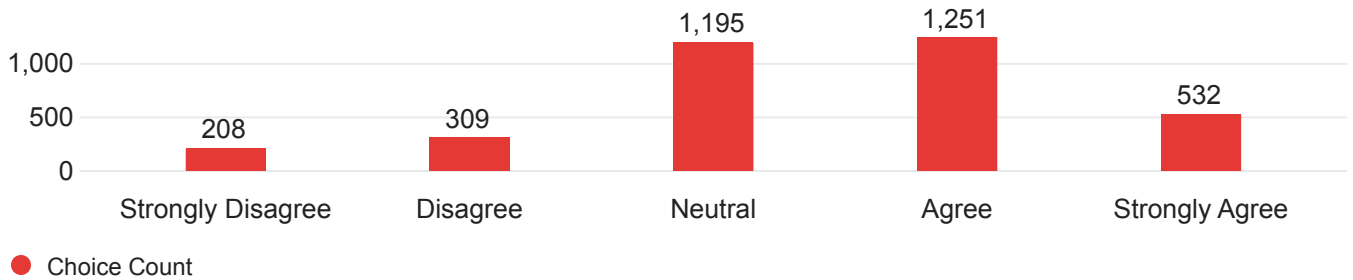
## Arlington Town Square: I would use this if it existed

3495 Responses



## Arlington Town Square: This would make a positive impact on my neighborhood

3495 Responses



## Q25 - What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Arlington's Town Square concept? (Optional)

What thoughts and feedback do you have on the Arlington's Town Square concept? (Optional)

I'm having trouble actually understanding this concept.

Facilitating, regulating, monitoring, and updating these pages would be a heavy lift. I would suggest the program be piloted.

Strongly support this civic function. A combination of library - community center with meeting spaces that can support large and small gatherings. YES!

Not sure that another social media method of connecting will provide much benefit. It seems that there are all many of connecting platforms to fill this role. On the other hand, it would not cost much.

Moderation responsibilities would be astronomical

Sorry - I don't understand what you're proposing.

Like the idea; not sure if people would actually use it. Would have to be heavily promoted to get a broad enough user base to succeed

This is not a core library function. It looks like you want the library to create it's own NextDoor and Facebook.

I think this already exists in so many capacities online.

Don't get into the social network business.

This sounds like a great way for people to connect over shared interests.

Doesn't Arlington Rec do this already?

Having more online spaces to argue doesn't seem like something I need.

I don't need another social media app.

Yes I like the idea of more gathering spaces for people with similar interests or locality but in a public place.

People know don't view or want to view the library as a social club. They have their social outlets and hobby "circles"

I'm not sure exactly if I would use it but I think investment here would open up other opportunities to connect with patrons and is important due to that!

Better idea than some community offerings now available.

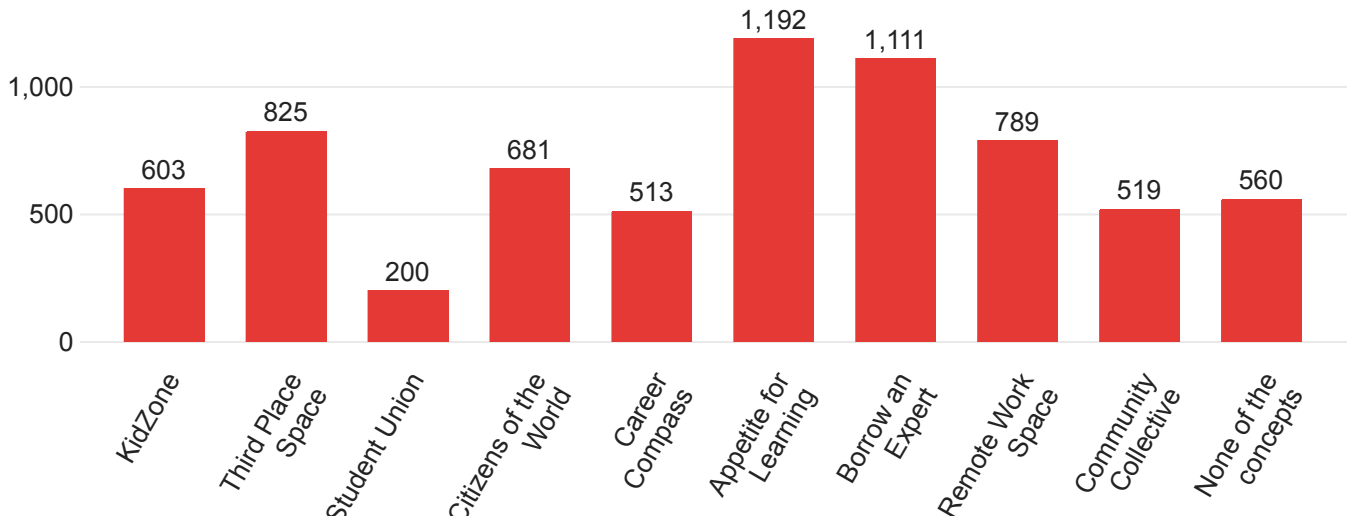
The last thing Arlington needs is more people arguing over an app. The library is supposed to be about reading, learning and bringing people together in a shared physical space so that they feel part of a community.

See comments about duplication. Has APL discussed any of this with community centers?

# Overall Feedback

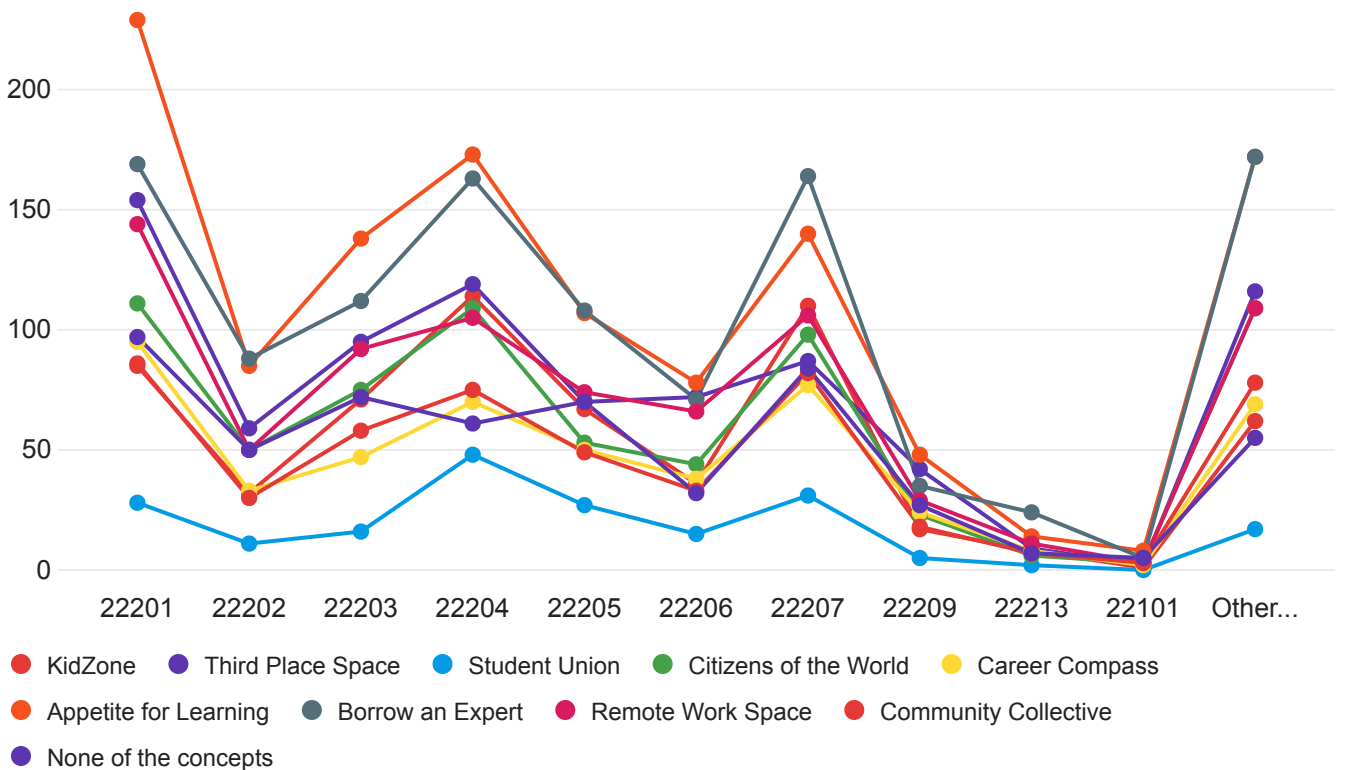
Which of these concepts would you travel to if they were only offered at one location in Arlington? \*

3495 Responses



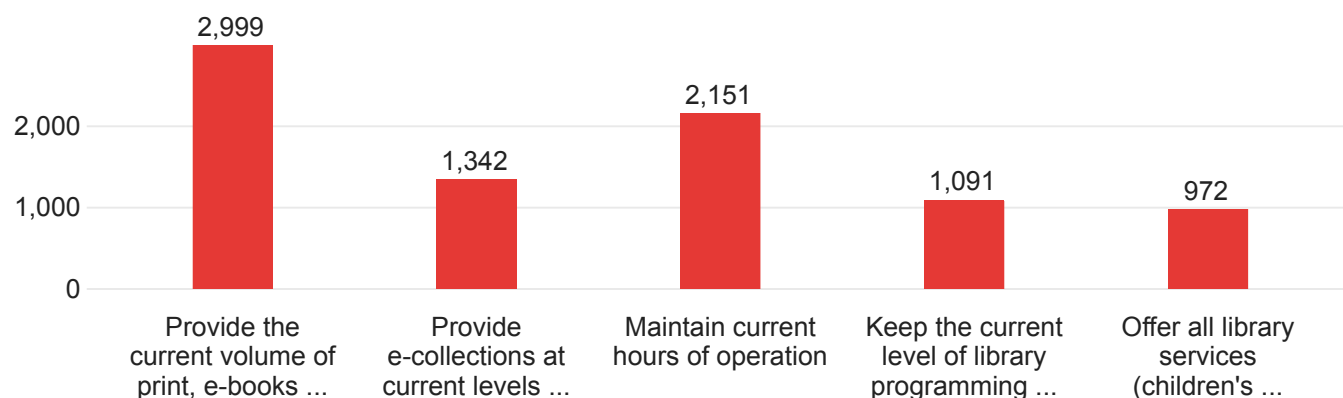
"Which of these concepts would you travel to" filtered by Zip Code

3495 Responses



## What are the most important core services Arlington Public Library offers to you? Select up to three (3). (Optional)

3404 Responses



## Please share any other feedback for Arlington Public Library to consider as we move forward with envisioning the future of libraries. (Optional)

Please share any other feedback for Arlington Public Library to consider as we move forward with envisioning the future of libraries. (Optional)

I personally like the Library the way that it's been for years. I would like to see it Open longer hours. When I moved to Arlington it was Open until 10pm and it was very busy. There were lots of people leaving the library just before 10pm. I guess that a lot of College and Graduate students came to the library to study. This was in the late 1980s. For me as a working adult, I was always thankful that the library was open a little bit later so I could drop by to pick up a book after work or after going to the grocery store or after fixing supper and getting kids situated for the evening, I could run up to the library for an hour.

You have not mentioned anything about using the outdoor space.

For example: A "screen on the green" movie nights during the summer. Projecting movies outside maybe once a week (maybe movie classics). And including children's night. You get local food & ice cream trucks to cater might be an option. I believe mental library even has access to outdoor bathrooms.

The remodeled Courthouse library is terrific, and I especially appreciate that it's open on Saturdays and open till 8 on Mondays and Tuesdays. The extended hours have greatly increased my ability to use it.

Let's keep political agenda out of library reuses. We have enough division, we don't need anymore

I used to live in London and their libraries has a Library of Things section that allowed people to check out a variety of items such as power tools, sewing machines, ice cream makers, etc. It's a fantastic way to reduce waste and unnecessary consumption.

When I was young, I was a regular user of my branch library. Then as a working adult I stopped using it. Now retired, I have rediscovered and come to deeply appreciate the library again. I value having access to the excellent collection, but also enjoy watching the many people in my neighborhood, particularly the small children who visit. A treasured Arlington institution. Thank you for everything you do.

Thank you for the survey and keeping the community involved.

Outdoor green space should also be considered. Quincy park around Central Library has a positive impact on library use.

I love our local libraries and am so happy to still have the Columbia Pike branch, which is close to my home. Great service and so worthy of our tax dollars.

Really appreciate these thoughtful ideas. More ideas specific to high density neighborhood venues and engaging with communities where English is not the first language would be valuable.

Enjoyed learning what you're up to. I wonder if you're not biting off more than you can chew. Seem to have a lot of irons in the fire.

Keep up the good work! The libraries and library staff are a critical part of what makes Arlington a wonderful place to live! Continue to offer to be a polling place if necessary! I visit my branch library several times each week! (it's about 2 blocks from my house!) It's WONDERFUL!

Big fan of virtual offerings (book club on Zoom, Libby, Kanopy)

Community engagement and to the what the library has to offer for current and future generations are what I think should be top priority. I love the focus and bringing people together and growing a community through the library!

Please don't lose focus on the library's core competency

I love these ideas! I am so proud that our library is so forward-thinking.

Make better use of the Center for Local History.

Please don't forget about patrons who love to read and love the feel (and smell) of books physically held in their hands. The print collection is very important to us.

quiet is good, separate/segregate activates involving sound

I love the many ideas as to how to bring the library out into public spaces

Some of the programs you describe would be reasonable social programs, BUT not as part of the library. They should be parts of our existing social agencies and perhaps draw some resources from libraries. It would be appropriate, though, for the libraries to be clearinghouses of information concerning these programs.