

Report to Board

September 16, 2026

Amanda E. Perrine, MSLIS

OCPL Priority Updates

- Petit
 - Currently with the architectural firm.
- Security
 - Focus on White
 - They now have an armed security guard due to increase in incidents
 - County and City are working on issues surrounding the 800-block of Butternut (which the library is on).
 - The County youth parole department is at the library on Thursday nights as a deterrent to issues with some teens.
 - Central is continuing with the increased security, and all parties agree that it has helped with staff and patron safety.

Strategic Pathways Updates: OCPL: System & City

- For each quarter, my reports will focus on
 - Month 1: Statistics (October)
 - Month 2: OCPL: System (November)
 - Month 3: OCPL: City (December)
- Due to not having a meeting in August, this will be a combination of System and City information.

OCPL: System

- The launch of OCPL: The Passport on September 8th
 - **Why is this important?**
 - This program, funded with Love Your Library Grant money from NYS, brings patrons to all 32 libraries in the County to see everything available, particularly the unique offerings at each location. We had a 20-year-old spend his whole Wednesday, the day after the launch, completing the passport.
 - I have wanted to do a passport like this for many years and it has been a top priority for me since starting in this position. Thank you to Communications and Member Services, particularly Yona, for bringing this project to fruition!
 - **How is this being promoted?**

- The passport falls under the Strategic Pathway “Grow Community Awareness” and is a marketing opportunity itself. I was on channel 9, Ted and Amy, and will be on Bridge Street. All libraries are promoting it on their social media. Patrons are also starting to share it on their socials.
- **How can the Board help?**
 - Tell your friends and family, share our social media posts, and get a passport for you and others in your household.
- The completion of the updated System and Central Plans of Service, the Free and Direct Access Plan, the Memorandum of Understanding between the System and Member Libraries, and the Member Council Bylaws
 - **Why is this important?**
 - The plans are a legal requirement by the State Library and the MOU is a requirement with our Members.
 - These have never been updated at the same time, so they have been out of sync and contradictory, which has now been fixed.
 - These help the System, Central, and the Member Libraries know what is expected of them and what they are expected to do.
 - We also utilized this to get a much better understanding of what the Member libraries needs are, where we need to be better communicating how we can help them, and to better explain how the County budgeting process works. Additionally, Amanda S. has been able to utilize this to meet with suburban boards for training and to answer questions they may have about OCPL.
 - **How do these fit with the Strategic Pathways?**
 - There are a few schools of thought about this throughout the state, but I see them, in part, an operationalization of the strategic pathways. Going forward, I would love to also update the Strategic Plan in a way that they will more obviously align as I think it will be helpful to the Board and staff.
 - I am working on a document showing where the POS areas fall under the pathways, with a draft planned for the October board meeting.
 - **How can the Board help?**
 - Please approve the State documents at the September meeting and the MOU at the October meeting.
 - Please read the forthcoming document and comment on the strategy and operational aspects to make sure that I am leading the organization in accordance with the board’s priorities.

- We received nearly full-funding for the LSTA grant to support the purchase of 5 Translate Live ILA devices/licenses as well as the professional translation of key library promotional materials into six languages!
 - **Why is this important?**
 - This falls squarely under the Strategic Pathways “Ensure Equitable Access” and “Grow Equitable System Access.” By having these devices at outreach events, White, and Central, plus the availability to borrow for other OCPL libraries, and translating our materials into the most used languages in CNY, it will help all of our public libraries reach more community members.
 - The grant award is \$19,521 (requested \$19,954, with the difference attributed to the need to prorate the cellular plan for the duration of the project period), and the project will begin in October 2026. Thank you to Jessica for her work on this project!

OCPL: City

- New Long-Arm Quilting Machine
 - **Why is this important?**
 - Staff and patrons are excited about the new equipment, which will tie in well with the quilt show at the Betts branch that is held every March. The machine is also expected to support the Sankofa ‘Piece’ Makers, a quilting group that meets at the Beauchamp branch, and the couple dozen other local quilting groups we have found in our research. We also will be tying in programming and promotion with Central's Local History and Genealogy Department who holds the “Quilt Patterns of Onondaga County, 1919–1923” collection, digitized on New York Heritage.
 - The collection includes 419 hand-painted, scale-drawn quilt patterns, many based on quilts made before 1850, making it an important record of local domestic life. The patterns were created between 1919 and 1923 by Virginia Beauchamp and donated to the library by her sister, Grace B. Lodder, in November 1945.
 - Available to browse at <https://nyheritage.org/collections/quilt-patterns-onondaga-county-1919-1923>
 - This fits in with the “Evaluate Current Programs and Services” Strategic Pathway as we have found that quilting is in the middle of a huge resurgence as people work to get off screens and back to creating items.

- Purchased from Calico Gals (training staff in the photo below) with funds from FOCL.



- Two New Bambu Lab P2S 3D Printers in the MakerSpace
 - **Why is this important?**
 - This ensures that the Makerspace's 3D printing offerings are set for the next 5–8 years. We have been seeing an increase in teens at Central thanks to the hard work of Nan, Saptarshi, and TJ, and the Makerspace is one of the teens favorite areas of the library.
 - Funding was secured through a Special Projects Capital Grant from the Downtown/Lakefront TNT (Tomorrow's Neighborhoods Today) chapter and was championed by Eric Saxton, a longtime Makerspace user and registered library volunteer who helps maintain the existing printer fleet (pictured below with his son after installation).
 - This, along with the quilting machine, fall under the Strategic Pathway “Innovate Current Spaces and Services with an Eye Towards Future Technologies and Population Changes.” I have had a couple great discussions with Central staff on ideas to continue building the MakerSpace and bringing in the technology patron's request. Further information later this year along with additional needs in our City locations.

