

Of all the branches open 5 days a week, the Northgate Branch is the most heavily visited with over 212,000 visits in 2011.



At a Glance 2011

- 212,552 patron visits
- 353,736 materials checked out
- 2,637 story time participants
- 386 homework help students
- 25 public computers
- 191 community meetings

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Northgate Branch

The busy Northgate Branch serves a densely populated, diverse neighborhood as well as the thousands who travel through the nearby transit hub and visit the shopping mall. This dynamic branch stays nimble to serve new groups who move into the area and become active participants in neighborhood life. While the branch is home to a Russian language collection of books and materials, a growing number of Spanish speakers also need resources in their native language. Librarians provide a high level of service to patrons. Programming for children and teens is popular, as are book groups for adults and services such as AARP's tax help. The 2010 hours cut significantly limited access for the wide array of people who rely on this branch.

Needs: The levy will open the Northgate Branch seven days a week, which will allow the branch to increase programming, provide more access to computers, and better serve the neighborhood through more partnerships with key community groups. More hours mean more people can use the branch's much-needed World Languages collection. Computers and printers essential to support students, job seekers and others will be upgraded and the collection of books and materials and online services improved. Funding for regular building maintenance also is included.

What this means for patrons:

- Open the Northgate Branch seven days a week
- Add books, electronic books, movies and music and reduce wait times, especially for popular titles
- Expand children's collection of books systemwide to support early literacy and early learning
- Eliminate one-week systemwide closure
- Upgrade technology services, including computers, software, printers, copiers, online services and infrastructure
- Increase maintenance, including specialized cleaning and furniture care, periodic restroom updates, major maintenance

Programs:

Story time, homework help, ESL classes, tax help, gaming for teens, book group

Currently open:

Five days a week

Special features:

The Northgate Branch offers books, movies and music in English and Russian. Bilingual staff members are available to answer questions. There are also a meeting room, two study rooms, a quiet room and areas for children and teens. The branch shares a campus with the Northgate Community Center, a park and a play area.