Falmouth Memorial Library Expansion Needs

Falmouth Town Council
August 12, 2013

Purpose

The purpose of this presentation is to review the:

1. Current Falmouth Memorial Library use;
2. Problems with the existing structure; and
3. Future of public libraries.

Who We Are

• The mission of Falmouth Memorial Library is to enrich the community by providing resources and services that foster a love of reading and inspire imagination, curiosity, and an open exchange of ideas and information.

• The Library opened in 1952 to honor all Falmouth veterans.

• We are a 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit.

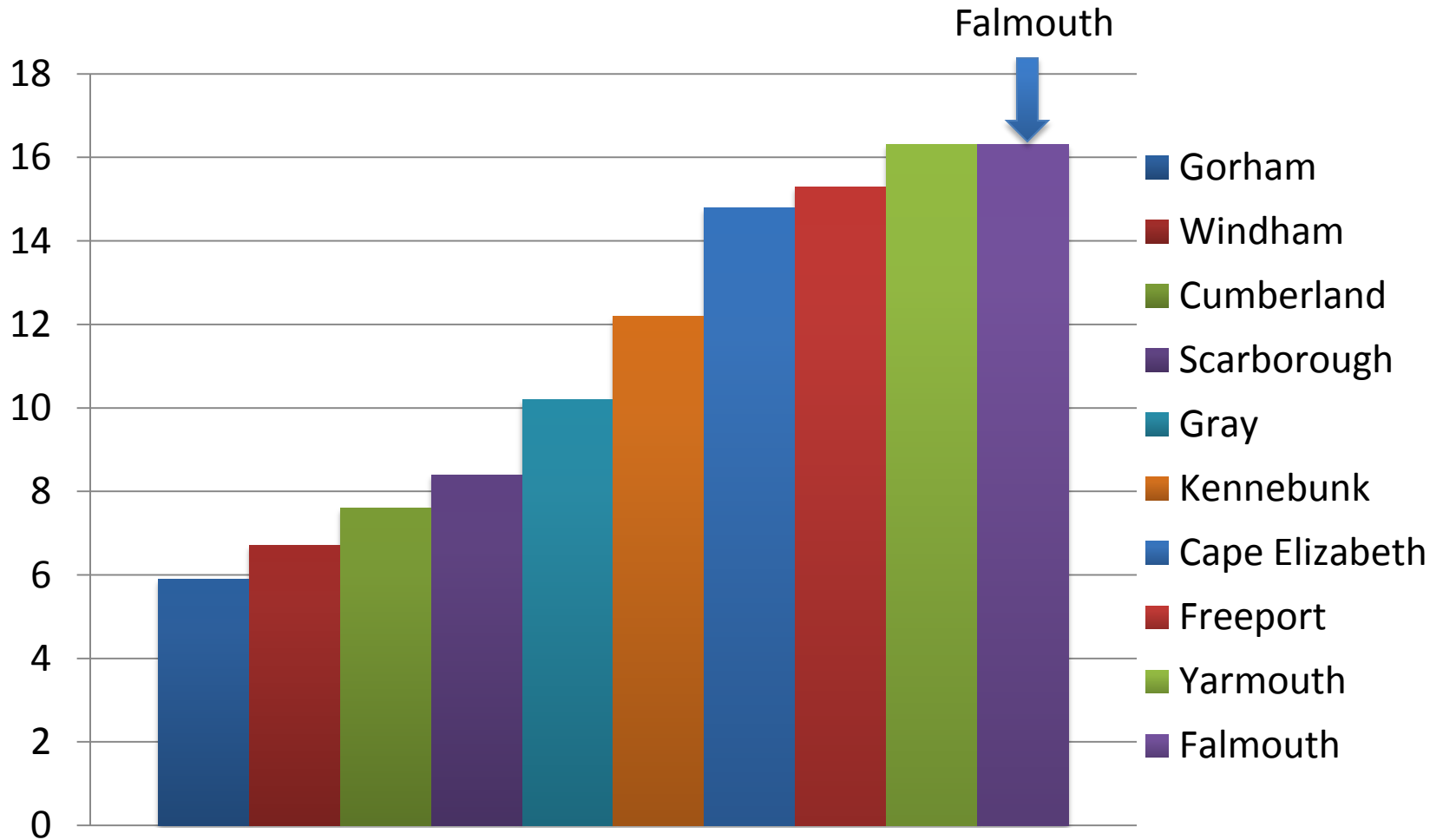
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Brief History

- Last Library expansion – 1995
- Actively engaged in space needs since 2003
  - Two library consultants
  - Four architects
  - One structural engineer
  - One road study
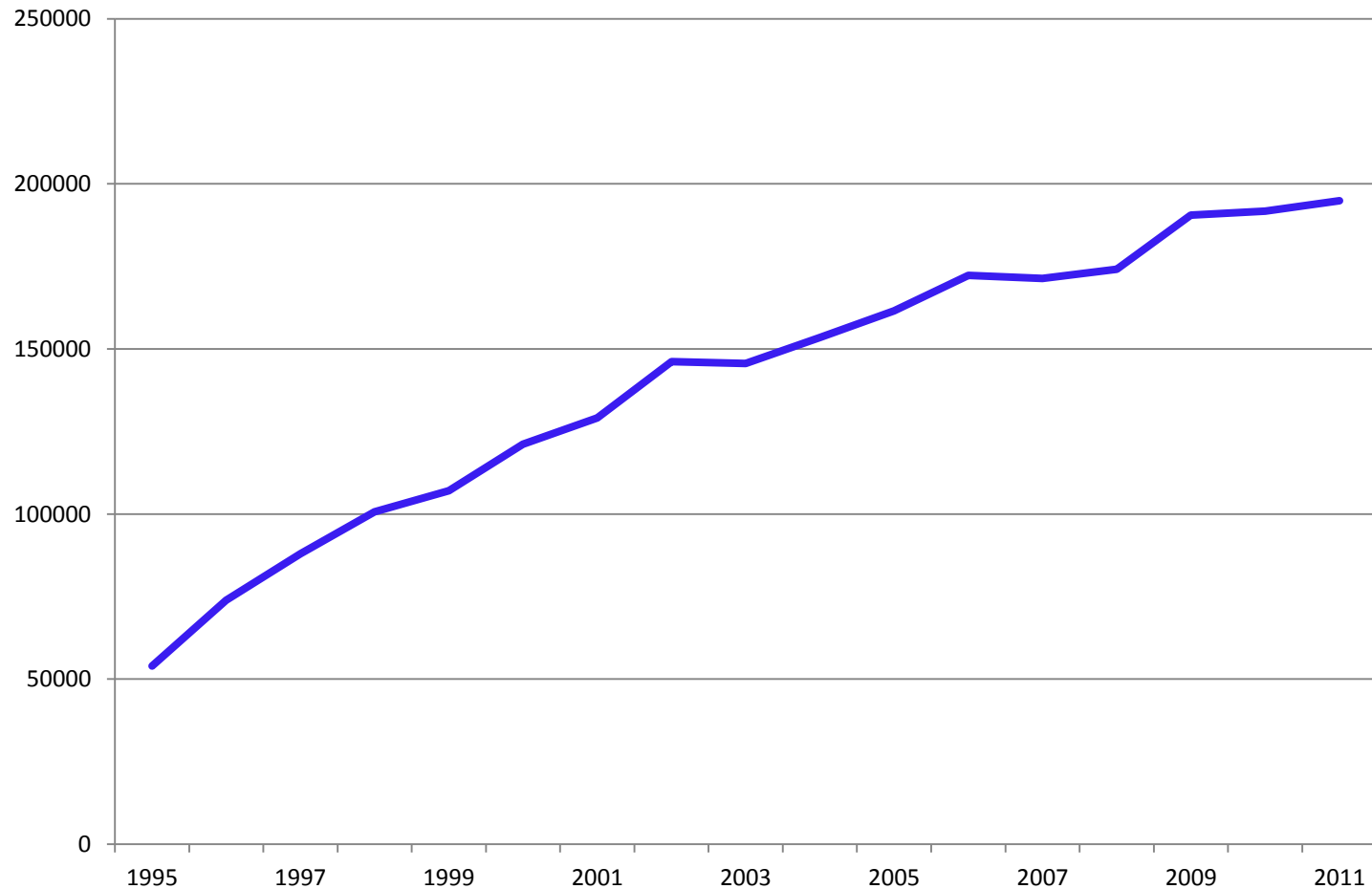 - One feasibility study
  - Numerous off-site considerations

Library Usage

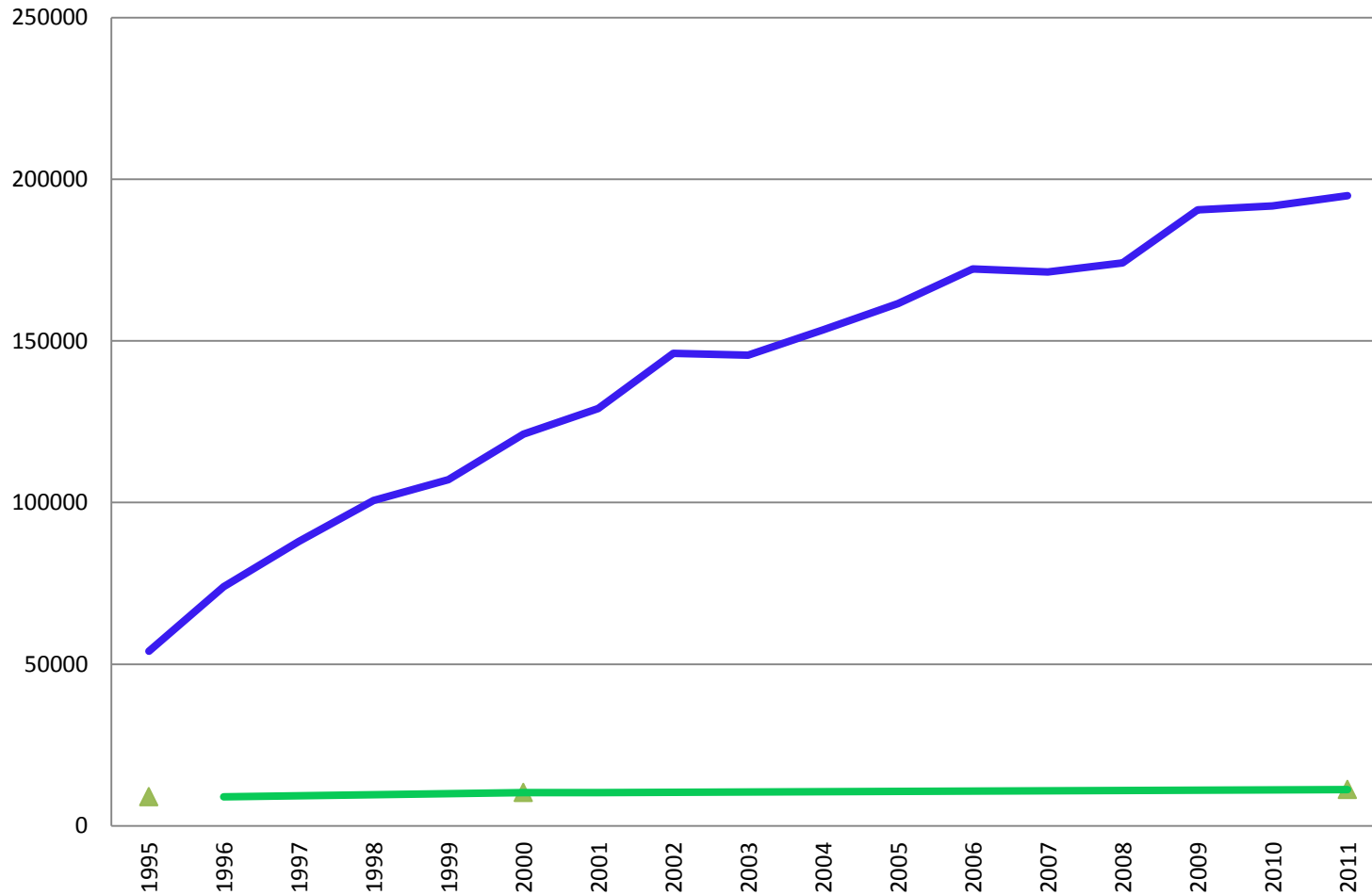# Per Capita Usage

Falmouth

18 —

16 —

14 —

12 —

10 —

8 —

6 —

4 —

2 —

0

- Gorham
- Windham
- Cumberland
- Scarborough
- Gray
- Kennebunk
- Cape Elizabeth
- Freeport
- Yarmouth
- Falmouth

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Source: MSL-2011 data

Falmouth Circulation 95 - 2011

Circulation vs Falmouth Population

Interlibrary Loan

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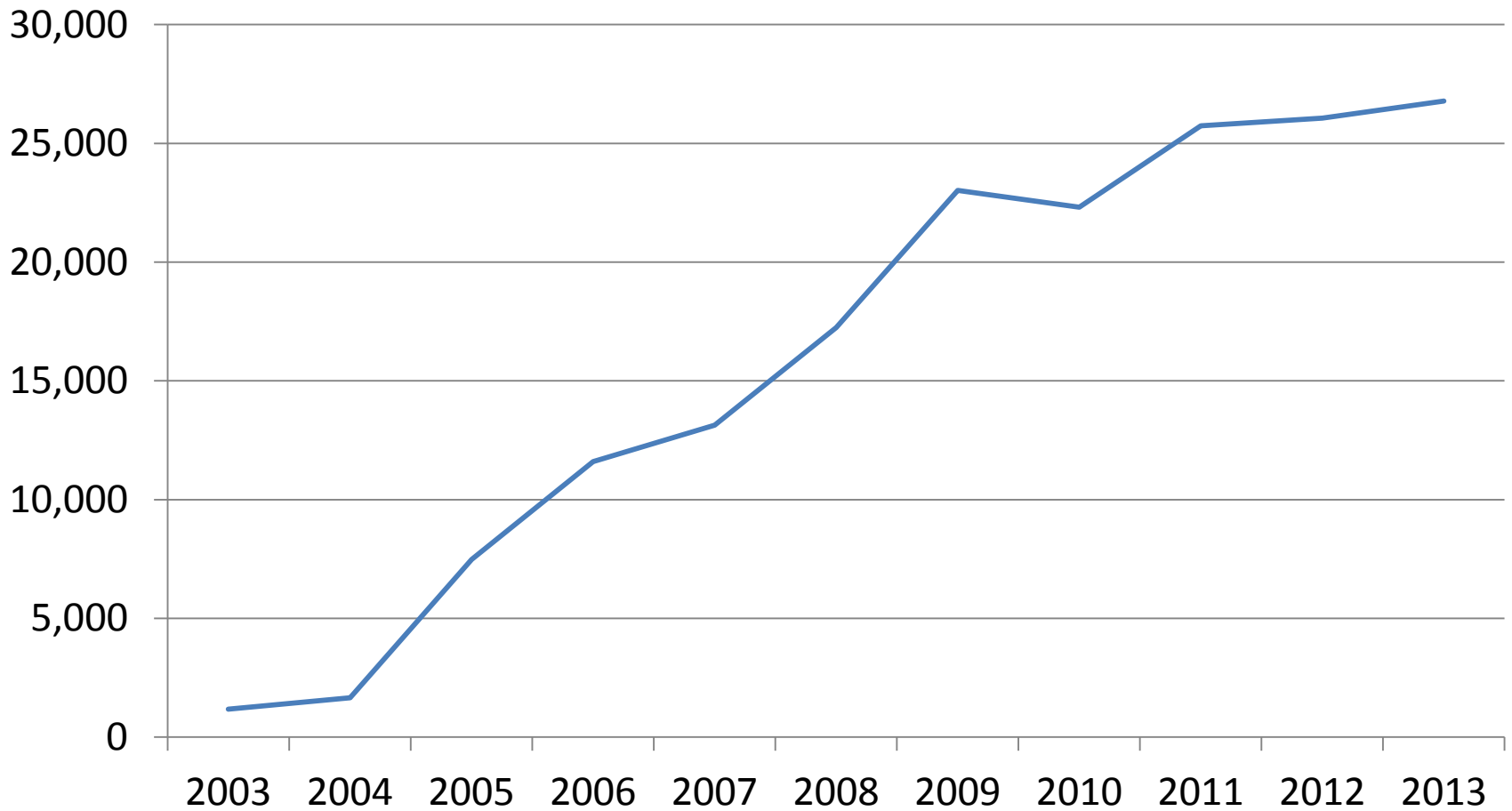
Computer Use

Municipality	Population	Number of Internet Computers Used by Public	Number of Internet Uses (Sessions) per Year
New Gloucester	5,542	2	937
Cape Elizabeth	9,015	14	3,538
Yarmouth	8,349	9	5,400
Gray	7,761	12	6,546
Freeport	7,879	12	6,710
Gorham	16,381	13	7,539
Falmouth	11,185	6	8,042
Cumberland	10,776	10	10,000
Scarborough	18,919	18	10,705
Kennebunk	14,820	15	10,924
Windham	17,001	10	12,087

Source: MSL 2011 data

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Impact of Increased Use

- Higher demand has been placed on building
- Increased technology needs
- Lack of space for processing materials
- Insufficient storage
- Not enough places for people to work and study
- No small meeting places for collaboration
- Staff productivity has been compromised

Increased Use Requires More

- Computers and work stations
- Places for people to work and study
- Smaller, more flexible meeting spaces
- Space for processing materials
- Storage
- Efficient staff work areas
- Building maintenance

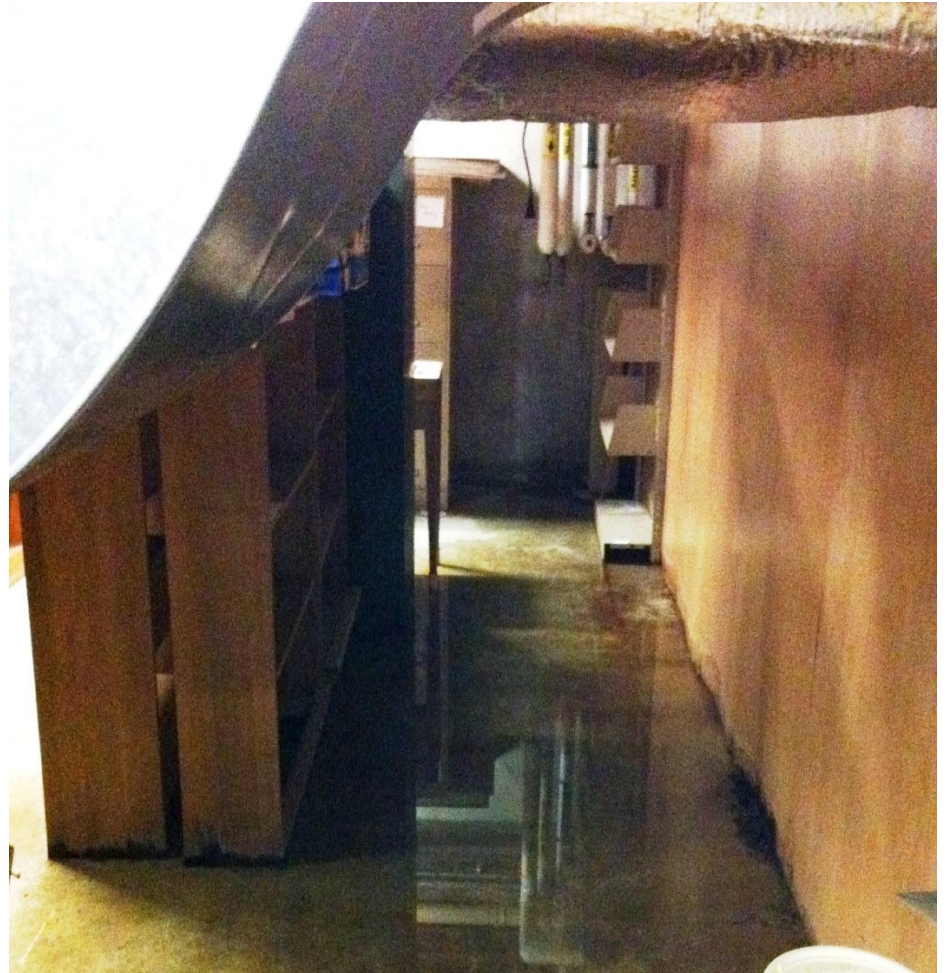FALMOUTH
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Current Building Issues

Technology Constraints
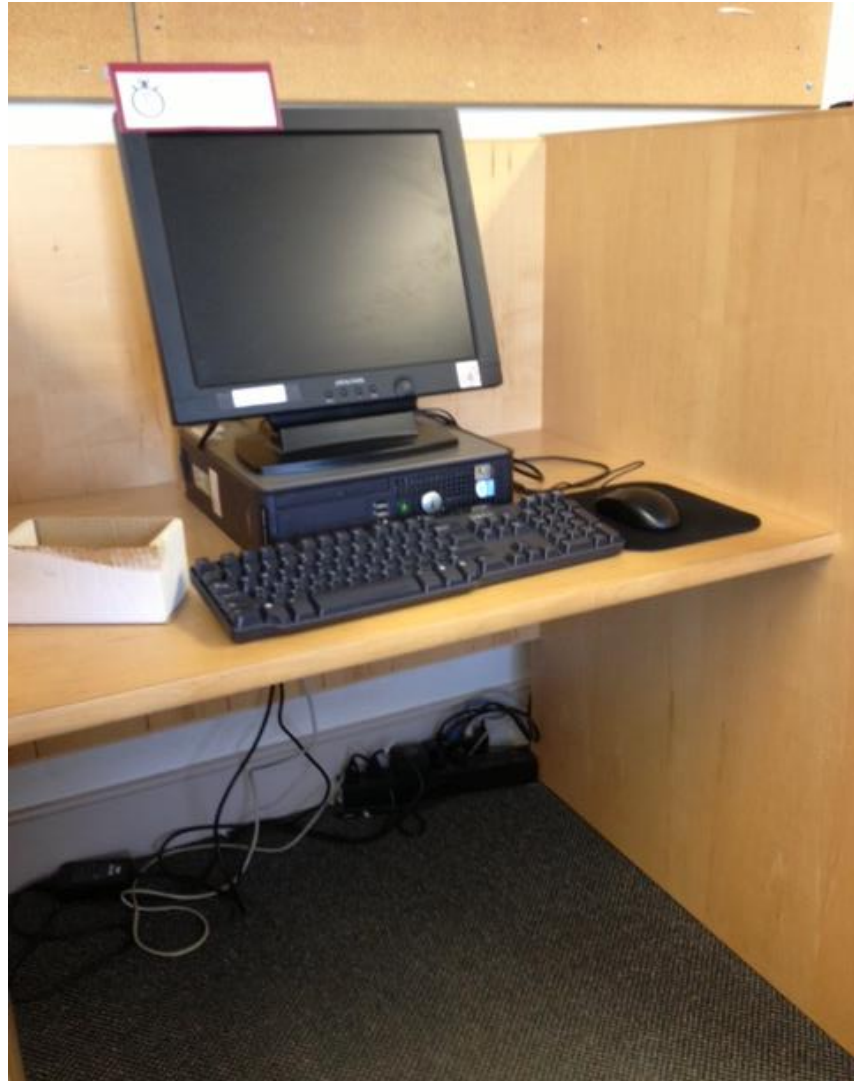
Wet Basement

- Unusable
- Future problems

Not Energy Efficient

- North facing entrance
- HVAC inefficient
- Lack of insulation in old section

Lack of Programming Space

Lack of Small/Flexible Space

Adjacency Issues

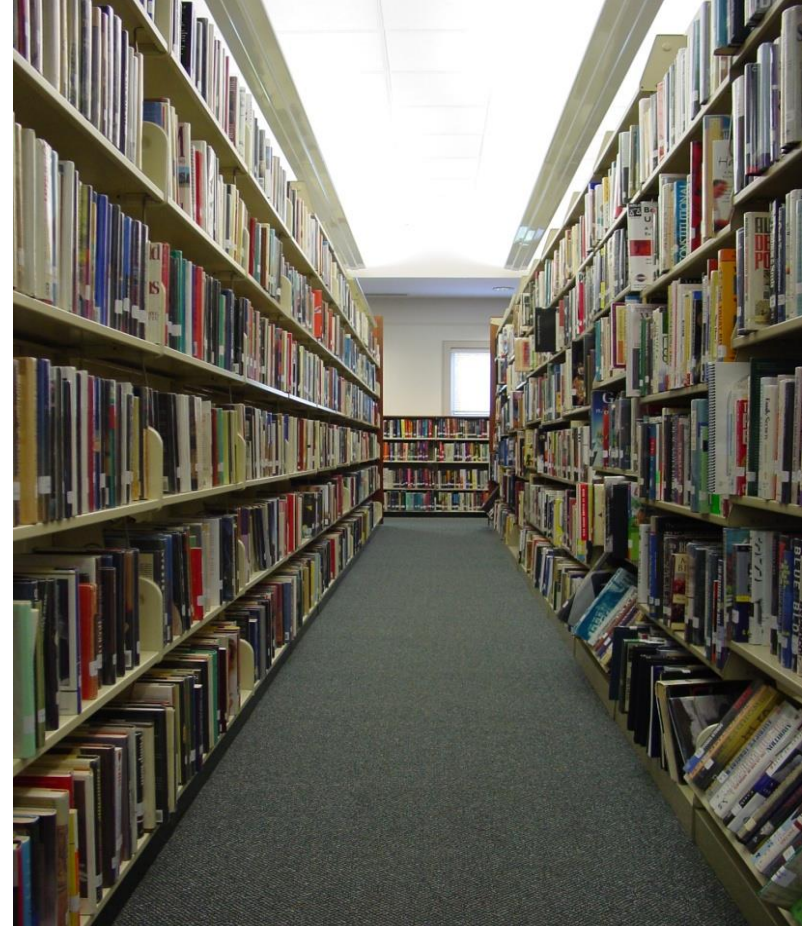# Lack of Storage

Conflicting Workspace

Future of Libraries

How do we plan for a future we do not know?

… We have been studying the trends

Design for the User, Not the Collection

Avoid Space Conflicts

Current space does not accommodate disparate use

Source: SSA's New Portland Library

Correct Ergonomic Issues

Currently using high and low shelves

Include Flexible Spaces

Much of our present structure doesn't allow for flexible reconfiguration of spaces

Build and Update to Adapt

Current space was built before we even had computers

Flexibility – *Raised Floors*

DC public **library**
check it out!

- Raised Floor – Allows DCPL to Remove/Move Stacks and Have Access to Power/Data Everywhere in the Future

Top Library Building Trends

User Trends - Reading

- 59% of Americans have no interest in buying an e-book
  Source: Bowker Market Research as presented in Wall Street Journal, 2012

- The annual growth rate for e-books fell to 34% in 2012
  Source: Association of American Publishers, June 2012

- Nearly 90% of e-book readers also read physical books
  Source: Pew, June 25, 2013

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More User Trends

- Print reading among younger Americans (16 - 29) has remained steady.

- Younger adults are now significantly more likely than older adults to have read a book in print in the past year.

- 80% of Americans under 30 say it is very important for libraries to have librarians to help people find the information they need.

Source: Pew, June 25, 2013

Space Recommendations

	Current			Future		
	Library	**Lucker**	**Lushington**	**Lushington**	**Town Council**	**SSA**
Year	2013	2003	2010	2010	2011	2013
Usable space (sq ft)	6437	13050	12910	15293	12910 (min)	12910

* Usable space does not include hallways, stairs, etc.

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Falmouth Memorial Library Deficiency Highlights

- Fiction/Non-fiction is 57% of recommended size
- Public computing is drastically undersized and is 42% of the area required
- Children's collection area is 55% of recommended size
- Teen Services area needs to quadruple
- Critical need for meeting/study spaces to be used by 2 to 8 people

Source: Scott Simons Architects, 2013

In Conclusion

- Falmouth citizens value and support this library
- Demand for services exceeds the capacity of the building
- The Falmouth Memorial Library's older section is deteriorating
- The opportunity to expand is now with the option to purchase adjacent property
- We need and want Council support in this partnership

You are invited to attend a public meeting at
Falmouth Memorial Library
September 10, 2013
6:00-8:00 pm
John J. Russell Meeting Room
Please join us for this opportunity
to view the preliminary conceptual sketches
created by
Scott Simons Architects

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Addendum

Highest Patron Visits of Peer Communities

Library Name	Municipality	Legal Service Area	Total Program Attendance per Year	Total Number of Patron Visits per Year
Falmouth Memorial Library	Falmouth	11,185	5,933	135,575
Scarborough Public Library	Scarborough	18,919	6,918	118,089
Freeport Community Library	Freeport	7,879	7,440	101,088
Thomas Memorial Library	Cape Elizabeth	9,015	6,847	87,684
Gray Public Library	Gray	7,761	1,718	70,500
Baxter Memorial Library	Gorham	16,381	5,046	60,253
Prince Memorial Library	Cumberland	10,776	2,950	46,815
Windham Public Library	Windham	17,001	3,646	41,600
New Gloucester Public Library	New Gloucester	5,542	1,168	16,630
Kennebunk Free Library	Kennebunk	14,820	6,197	N/A
Merrill Memorial Library	Yarmouth	8,349	2,350	N/A

Source: MSL – 2011 data

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Falmouth Memorial Library

Adult Fiction/Non-Fiction

- The Fiction/Non-Fiction collection is 57% of the size recommended by the Maine Library Association Standards.
- Large print collections and new materials area need to increase to meet public demand.
- Public computing is drastically undersized and is 42% of the area required to properly service patrons.
- Audio-visual services is 22% of the size needed to address the growing collection and public demand for AV material.
- Recent periodicals need to be increased modestly.

Source: Scott Simons Architects, 2013

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Children's Services

- The general collection area of children's services is 55% of its recommended size.
- A dedicated story-time area needs to be added within the Children's library (Story-Time currently occurs in the large meeting room, a space shared with adults).
- A child-specific computer area needs to be accommodated.
- Support storage for Children's Services needs to be added.

Source: Scott Simons Architects, 2013

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Teen Services

- Currently 202SF are dedicated to Teen Services. This needs to expand to 800 SF to properly establish a Young Adult's library.

- A computing area specifically for teens needs to be created.

- Teen Services needs group study rooms and area for tutorials.

Source: Scott Simons Architects, 2013

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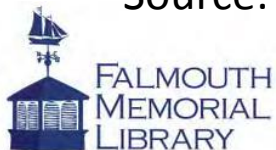
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Meeting Rooms

- Three small meeting rooms are needed to address a variety of small group needs.

- While the Russell Room is useful for larger groups there is a critical community need for spaces to be used by 2 to 8 people.

Source: Scott Simons Architects, 2013

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Staff and Support Spaces

- Staff and support spaces need to be expanded proportionately to serve the expanded collection and additional patrons.
- A new Server/IT room is required.
- A space specifically for the Friends of the Library is needed.
- Public restrooms would be expanded to meet current Maine Plumbing Standards for fixture counts.
- Storage and Janitorial areas need to be sized to support the expanded library.

Source: Scott Simons Architects, 2013

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Reference Services

– Needs to double in size to service the library properly

Periodicals/Special Collections/Maine Room

– Needs to double in size to accommodate the collection

Source: Scott Simons Architects, 2013

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