TRUSTEE STATEMENTS OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Bozeman Public Library Property and Adjacent Lands

Located on the eastern end of Bozeman's historic district, on Main Street, the fourteen-acre library property is an important, central piece of municipal land. Decisions regarding the use and development of that property will have significant impacts on the community and on surrounding properties. In addition, the potential development of adjacent properties will impact the character of the Library. The following principles set out parameters and priorities for the future dispensation of property, and the current wishes of the Bozeman Public Library Board of Trustees.

PRINCIPLES:

1. That lands necessary for future expansion of the Library and parking lot, on site, remain available as needed.
2. That the preponderance of library lands not required for future expansion or parking be retained as open space/park property.
3. That library property function as both a hub and connection to surrounding public lands and trails, including Lindley Park, the Gallagator Trail, Burke Park, Peet's Hill, and the Main Street to the Mountains Trail System.
4. That the possible dedication of available open-space library lands as city park land be periodically evaluated.
5. That library property be made available, from time to time, for civic meetings and community functions as approved by the Library Director and/or Board of Trustees.
6. That all proposals from community organizations or development interests involving library property be brought before the Board of Trustees for consideration and discussion.
7. That the Library Board of Trustees would welcome being consulted in development plans for adjacent private property (e.g. South Wallace, east Main) with the goal for that development to be consistent with and complementary to the character of historic downtown Main Street and the Library.
8. That some land situated along the eastern side of the library property, and not designated for future expansion or park lands, may be considered for inclusion in future redevelopment along S. Wallace, in a manner deemed compatible with the library and historic downtown Main Street. Such development proposals would be considered and evaluated by the Library Board of Trustees.
9. That the Board of Trustees is aware that the library lands form a critical public amenity and that it is sensitive to community concerns and desires over the use of that property.
10. That, to the extent possible, development along S. Wallace Street, adjacent to library property, should be pursued with an emphasis of improving library access and parking (for example, the continuation of Babcock Street into the current library parking lot).
11. That library access via library property by pedestrians, bicyclists, and users of mass transit be encouraged.

(Approved by the Library Board of Trustees, July 16, 2008)