

Joint Statement from NFPL and SCPL

Dear Colleagues,

We hope this message finds you well. We are writing to inform you about an important initiative that NFPL and SCPL have embarked upon to enhance our library services and better serve our communities.

NFPL and SCPL have been collaborating on standardizing our cataloging records and processing standards over the last two years. As we are getting closer to the expiration dates of our current ILS service agreements, after careful consideration, we have decided to work together to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for sharing an Integrated Library System (ILS). Our primary objective is to identify a service provider that can offer the best product, services and support at a reasonable cost, ensuring that we can continue to provide high-quality services to our customers while managing our resources efficiently.

We understand that any significant change in library operations can raise concerns and questions. Therefore, we want to ensure complete transparency throughout this process and address any potential misunderstandings that may arise.

1. Collaboration and Mutual Benefit: By working together, we aim to leverage our collective needs to negotiate better terms and conditions, which we believe will ultimately benefit our respective libraries and our communities.

2. Standardization Efforts: Our work on standardizing cataloging records and processing standards is aimed at improving efficiency and consistency across our libraries. This initiative aligns with our shared goal of enhancing service quality.

3. Transparency and Open Communication: We are committed to maintaining open lines of communication with all our neighboring libraries. We welcome any questions or concerns you may have and are happy to share our process, findings, and decisions as we progress.

4. Commitment to Service Quality: Our focus is on improving service quality and operational efficiency. This initiative is not intended to negatively impact any other libraries in the region but rather to strengthen our ability to serve our customers.

5. Regional Cooperation: We value the strong sense of community and cooperation that exists among libraries in the region. This initiative is a reflection of our commitment to continually improve and innovate, and we believe that such efforts will contribute positively to the broader library community.

We will keep you updated on significant milestones and decisions throughout the RFP process. In the meantime, if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,

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