

???? Library

DISCUSSION GUIDE QUESTIONS COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP INTERVIEWS

Person Interviewed:

Organization:

Date:

Interviewer:

1. Have you personally (or members of your family) used the services of the (Name of Library)

IF NO: SKIP TO 2

IF YES:

- 1.a. How would you describe your experiences?
- 1.b. From your perspective as a leader in our area, why do you think some residents do not use their public library?
2. What are some of the current perceptions or attitudes in our communities or among your constituents regarding the public library, its services, and its value to residents of the region?
3. What are some of the important roles the public library plays in the community? (Explore educational center, community focal points, technology center, resource for popular culture materials, source of reliable information, etc.)
4. Libraries across the country are evaluating the access to technology they provide to the public—this would include computers and Internet access. How important is it for (Name of Library) to take the lead in providing electronic access and in introducing other new technologies in our region?
 - 4.a. To what extent should the (Name of Library) be on the cutting edge?
5. What changes are taking place in our region which may affect public library services in the future?

6. (Name of Library) serves many constituencies. In an environment of fiscal constraint, what should the Library's priorities be when considering the needs of families with young children, teens, seniors, young professionals, English language learners, and business owners?
7. Do you believe that residents of our region understand how their public library is funded?
 - 7.a. Is it your perception that the public library has adequate funds to provide quality services?
 - 7.b. As a leader here, is it your view that the public library represents good value for the tax support it receives?
 - 7.c. Are there ways that you think the (Name of Library) contributes or could contribute to economic development in the region?
 - 7.d. Are there ways that you think the (Name of Library) can support academic achievement for children in our schools?
8. What do you think is the outlook for our Library in the future?
9. What do you think (Name of Library)'s priorities should be in the future?
10. How important do you think it is for the Library to expand its services to residents of the region who currently do not have access to a public library?
11. Do you believe the public is well informed about all of the services that are available to them through their public library?
12. Do you have any additional thoughts that you would like to share with the (Name of Library)'s Strategic Planning Team as it begins its information gathering and planning process?