



Program Description

The Robbins Library and the Fox Branch Library are vital community centers for all. Library staff, trustees, and dedicated volunteers create opportunities for lifelong learning, personal fulfillment, and enjoyment. The library responds to citizens' needs with services and activities in a welcoming setting built on a history of free and equal access for all Arlington residents. Library staff select, purchase, and process a wide range of library materials including books, periodicals, audio-visual, and downloadable materials. Reference assistance and reader's advisory services are offered in person and via email, chat, and phone. Access is provided to multiple electronic resources and innovative, engaging programs are offered for all age groups.

Library staff maintain efficient recordkeeping for over 200,000 items in the physical collection and access to over 90,000 titles in the digital library through shared resources of the Minuteman Library Network and resources purchased exclusively for Arlington cardholders. The Library promotes curiosity and the love of reading in children, teens, and adults and provides materials and services which support formal learning as well as the desire for entertainment and personal growth.

FY2019 Objectives

- Use the outcome of the FY18 Reimagining Our Libraries space planning project to determine a direction and timeline for interior renovations at the Robbins Library and Fox Branch Library.
- Identify and explore funding sources for Reimagining Our Libraries renovations, including grant opportunities.
- Provide guidance and support to the Arlington Libraries Foundation as it begins a capital fundraising campaign for the Reimagining Our Libraries project.
- Continue to strengthen Town-wide efforts to make Arlington a cultural destination for residents and visitors by supporting the Arlington Cultural District.
- Initiate a process for a new Strategic Plan for Arlington's Libraries, a requirement of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners for State Aid eligibility.

Budget Statement

The total projected FY19 budget will meet the state municipal appropriation requirement for library certification, which in turn affords Arlington residents borrowing privileges at local libraries and through the interlibrary loan system.

PROGRAM COSTS

	FY2017 Actual	FY2018 Budget	FY2019 Request	FY2019 Final Budget
Libraries				
Personnel Services	1,764,343	1,841,856	1,889,117	1,921,926
Expenses	483,272	537,580	537,580	537,580
Total	2,247,615	2,379,436	2,426,697	2,459,506



Major Accomplishments for 2017

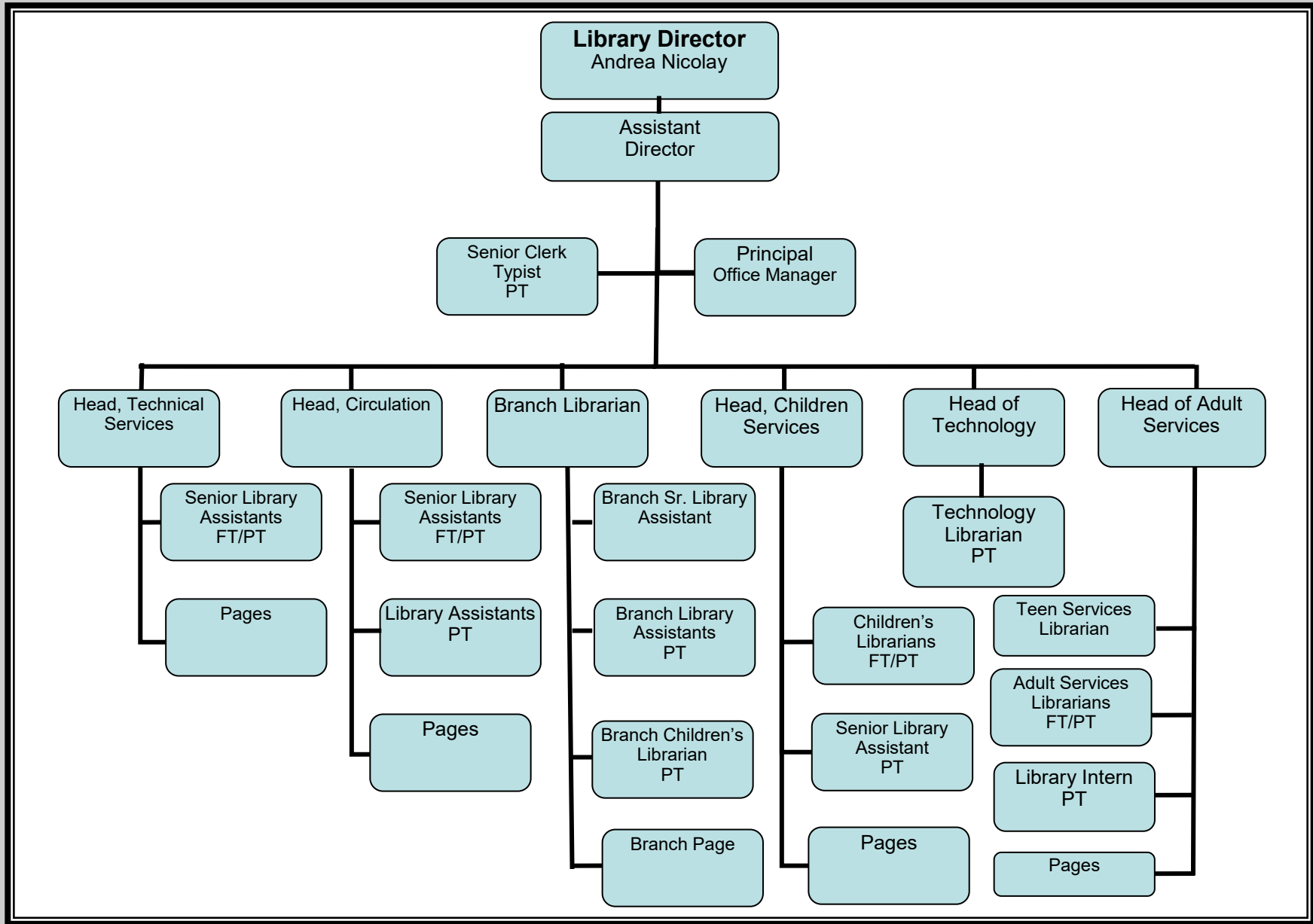
- Kicked off the Reimagining Our Libraries space study for Robbins Library and Fox Branch Library with public meetings and a Town-wide survey.
- Increased weekend library services in September 2017 with Fox Library hours on Saturdays, 9-5. Saturdays at Fox continue through June and are supported with funding from the Friends of Fox.
- Enhanced Children’s programming to meet the needs of weekend library users at the Robbins Library and at Fox Library.
- Introduced a World Languages collection in the Children’s Room, a more inclusive and user-friendly reboot of the Foreign Language collection in : Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Polish, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Swedish, and Turkish.
- Partnered with ACMi to launch The Library Show, a periodic program showcasing library services.
- Held second year at capacity of the Girls Who Code club for girls in grades 6-12 who are interested in entering the field of technology and introduced Hour of Code program open to all teens.
- Conducted Talking about Diversity with Diverse Books workshop for staff of the Bishop and Dallin schools, focusing on fostering inclusive classrooms through diverse children’s literature.
- Partnered with the Chamber of Commerce in the tote bag giveaway for new Arlington residents, resulting in 37 new library cardholders.
- Coordinated a coalition effort toward the designation of the Arlington Cultural District by the Massachusetts Cultural Council in August 2017. District goals: 1) attract artists and cultural enterprise; 2) create a stronger partnership between the business community and the non-profit and civic sectors; 3) encourage job development and economic vitality; 4) establish tourist destinations; 5) preserve and reuse historic buildings; and 6) enhance property values.
- Engaged residents and visitors in community dialogue through the Arlington Reads Together event series in March. Programs and discussions highlighted gender diversity and the transgender experience, inspired by *Becoming Nicole* by Amy Ellis Nutt. Over 400 people attended the headline event with Nicole Maines at Town Hall.

STAFFING

	FY2017 Actual	FY2018 Budget	FY2019 Request	FY2019 Final Budget
Libraries				
Managerial	1	1	1	1
Clerical	14.62	14.62	14	14
Professional/Technical	13.4	13.79	15.65	15.65
Custodial/Bldg. Maint.	0	0	0	0
Total	29.02	29.41	30.65	30.65

Performance / Workload Indicators

Library	FY2015 Actual	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Actual	FY2018 Estimated
Circulation of materials	686,036	694,149	666,966	670,000
eContent Circulation	49,760	62,879	64,631	65,000
Interlibrary loans processed	141,725	145,677	143,729	140,000
Reference questions answered	87,875	89,729	89,480	90,000
Children’s programs	302	436	451	450
Adult and YA programs	169	217	228	230
New items ordered and processed	18,422	17,904	18,226	18,300
Visits to Robbins Library	300,291	296,367	286,667	300,000
Uses of Meeting Rooms	1,020	1,099	1,136	1,200





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