

**TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION**  
*Library Committee*

**Issue Briefing**

**Topic:** Presentation of the Lower Merion Library System's Strategic Plan

**Prepared By:** David Belanger, Director of Libraries; Betty-Ann Izenman, LMLS Board President

**Date:** March 7, 2018

- I. Action To Be Considered By The Board:** Receive and provide feedback on the Strategic Plan of the Lower Merion Library System.
- II. Why This Issue Requires Board Consideration:** The plan adopted by the Lower Merion Library System Board of Directors is a continually developing document; it will evolve and be updated. Input from the Board of Commissioners will assist with updates to the plan and will guide implementation. As the primary funder of library services and representatives of the citizens of Lower Merion Township, input from the Board of Commissioner is crucial to the success of the plan.
- III. Current Policy or Practice (If Applicable):** The Library Department currently provides annual goals as part of the budget process. The plan allows for an extended period and for additional details.
- IV. Other Relevant Background Information:** The plan was developed with input from library boards, staff and public officials. Brainstorming sessions were held with the staff of each library to identify major library issues and opportunities. This was followed by surveys of library staff, the members of individual library boards and public officials. The public official survey included members of the Board of Commissioners and key township staff members. From the surveys and staff feedback, five strategic initiatives were developed. Then five teams of library staff members developed details for each of the initiatives. The compiled plan was then reviewed and approved by the Lower Merion Library System Board of Directors.
- V. Impact on Township Finances:** No direct cost to the township is anticipated.
- VI. Staff Recommendation:** The LMLS Board and Staff request that the Board of Commissioners receive the plan and provide input for ongoing revisions.