

## CHARLOTTE TOMORROW section

### Under Economic Development Strategies:

Support efforts by the Charlotte Library to serve as a clearinghouse for job seekers. The library offerings include access to computer training resources, resume-writing classes, and other job-prep services available through the library.

## CHARLOTTE TODAY section:

### Library

Approximately 61 percent of Charlotte's population borrows from the town library. In addition to having a large book (13,389), audiobook (1,424), and DVD (954) collection, members can download ebooks (4,092) and audiobooks (8,627). The library also offers programs including adult book groups, how-to workshops and guest speakers; and youth story times, after school reading programs, and arts & crafts. The library serves as a repository and information clearinghouse for Charlotte local history resources. In addition, the library provides quiet space for telecommuting, homework sessions, and proctored testing. The library works with the Charlotte Senior Center, the Charlotte Historical Society, Charlotte Central School, the Charlotte Children's Center and the Charlotte Volunteer Fire & Rescue Squad in coordinating programs and activities to meet community needs.

## NOTES ON LIBRARY & TOWN PLAN:

### CHARLOTTE LIBRARY'S ROLE IN CHARLOTTE TOWN PLAN

1. Key Planning Considerations: The Charlotte Library is poised to support the Selectboard's work in managing the Key Planning Considerations. From helping the next generation of readers to providing additional resources and information to Charlotte's aging population to fostering resilience in our community, the library is a key player in the future of our town.
2. Community Facilities and Services Strategies:
  - a. Education
    - 1) The Charlotte Library will continue its connections with Charlotte Central School. This includes the popular "Classical Connections" program for middle school readers as well as early literacy initiative programs with the Early Education Enrichment programs and afterschool and vacation sessions for children of all ages.
    - 2) The Charlotte Library seeks to be a partner in connected learning. "[C]onnected learning happens across learning networks including school, home, libraries and community centers. Connected learning also supports the idea that learners achieve best when learning is reinforced and supported in multiple settings, providing opportunities for libraries to engage other institutions as partners in connected learning environments." (<http://www.ilovelibrares.org/librariestransform/trends/>)
    - 3) The Charlotte Library supports the early education efforts of Charlotte Central School and provides complementary introduction to literacy and math skills for our youngest patrons. The library has been a pilot member of the Vermont Early Literacy Initiative program which "supports the development of early literacy skills and school readiness by providing training and resources to public librarians working with young children and their parents and caregivers."  
(<http://www.ilovelibrares.org/librariestransform/trends/>)
  - b. Social Facilities & Services
    - 1) The Charlotte Library aims to provide the health information and resources needed by our community. Using the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Minnesota model, "Public Libraries of Health," the library will build its collection and programming to promote health education and equity tailored to the town's population.
    - 2) The Charlotte Library collaborates with the Charlotte Senior Center on a variety of programs of interest to the senior community. These include one-on-one tech sessions, reading and discussion groups as well as more formal programs.

3) Local History: With the expertise of the library's local history curator, the library fields a variety of questions about local history received from around the region and the U.S. Our curator also works with the Charlotte Historical Society to plan and promote local history events. The library plans to continue collaboration with the historical society and other town institutions to preserve and celebrate our town's past and present. These may include story telling events, arts displays and local author events.

c. Public Safety:

Community Resiliency: The Charlotte Library supports all efforts by the town to prepare and plan for natural and manmade hazards as well as effects of climate change and seeks to be an up-to-date resource, drawing on American Library Association Sustainability Roundtable.

“Resilience requires community involvement – encouraging individuals to make decisions that help prepare for and prevent the impact of disasters, providing resources and information to help them make informed decisions, and offerings programs and services that allow individuals to respond to issues as they arise. Libraries and information professionals may be ideal partners or providers in helping individuals adopt resilient practices in their communities.

Resilience may also align with library values of equity and access. Truly resilient communities would embrace distributed renewable energy, support diversified local agriculture, and foster social equity and inclusion; all ensuring that communities can adapt to disruptions and avoid situations where the greatest impacts are felt by the most vulnerable members of the community.” (<http://www.ilovelibres.org/librariestransform/trends/>)

d. Telecommunications Facilities & Services:

Internet and Wi-Fi service: The Charlotte Library extends its policy of accessibility to wireless and internet service, making a commitment to provide connection to the digital world to all in our community. As a corollary, the library also commits to providing digital literacy education so that all users may learn how to safeguard privacy and information when working and communicating online.