

# INCORPORATING WELLBEING INTO THE SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Wellbeing Index has shown that Santa Monica can be enriched by creating opportunities to meet new people, build connections, and learn about local wellbeing activities that are available through the Library.



## CHALLENGE

### Extensive strategic planning to develop Library services.

In 2014-2015, the Library undertook extensive strategic planning to guide development of Library services over the next three years. Contributions included community and staff input, review of best practices, and emerging trends and examination of City data, including the Wellbeing Index.

### Discovery of key Library assets that promote wellbeing.

Wellbeing Index findings, particularly in the areas of learning, place and community (specifically social cohesion) were identified as key opportunities to leverage the Library's assets to promote wellbeing. The strategic planning process resulted in four strategic focus areas, including establishing SMPL as Wellbeing Cultivator.

## SOLUTION

### Library Commitment to a Learning Community

SMPL is committed to supporting Santa Monica as a learning community; providing tools and experiences that stimulate intellectual exploration, emotional development and relationship building; and creative inventive ways for people and groups to make meaningful connections with one another.

### Community and Cultural Connector

The Library will serve as a "vibrant learning center, as a dynamic 'third place' for the community and as a community and cultural connector. These concepts, together with Wellbeing Cultivator, reflect SMPL's commitment to using wellbeing as a driving principle informing and shaping their work.

### Current Status

- Implementation is underway. Following adoption of the SMPL Strategic Plan at the December 8, 2015 Council Meeting, an implementation team was formed. The team will be working with library staff to identify opportunities and priorities based on the four key success areas named in the plan.
- In 2016, staff will be assessing programs and activities to determine how SMPL can use its programming services to create, maintain and strengthen community connections. Staff also seeks to establish evaluation tools that link SMPL inputs and outputs to wellbeing impact/outcomes.

## DATA POWERING CHANGE

The Wellbeing Index harnesses the power of data to provide a shared understanding of our community's strengths and needs.

## KEY PARTNERSHIPS

### City:

Santa Monica Public Library (SMPL)

## DIMENSIONS INCORPORATED



COMMUNITY



LEARNING

