

The Tacoma Public Library Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that after careful consideration Kate Larsen will be our new Library Director beginning January 2, 2018. The following is Kate's bio:

After graduating from the University of New Mexico, Kate Larsen took a job at the Albuquerque Public Library. Realizing she wanted to work in public libraries (rather than go in to social work, as she'd planned), she moved to New York to pursue her MLS at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY, and to work for The New York Public Library as a librarian trainee. When she left six years later she was the supervisor of reference in one of the NYPL's central libraries.

Kate then moved to northern Nevada to take the position of Information Services Division Head at the Washoe County Public Library System. Feeling drawn to the Pacific Northwest, in 2007 she was offered the Assistant Director position at the Everett Public Library, where she has worked since.

In total, Kate brings her nearly 20 years of experience managing in public libraries to the Tacoma director position. As a library administrator, she emphasizes community engagement and works to improve standard operations and public services, to improve internal and external communication, engage staff strengths, and move libraries forward through the use of technology. At the Everett Public Library she worked across City departments and established key partnerships, helping to build the stable, responsive, community centered library EPLS is today.

Kate is looking forward to working with the community, the staff, and the Board of Trustees at the Tacoma Public Library. She is excited to not only be remaining in the Pacific Northwest, but especially to be living and working in Tacoma.

In her personal life, Kate has served on the Board of Directors for Cocoon House, a nationally recognized Snohomish County non-profit working to end youth homelessness, since 2014. She likes to spend time with her goofy pit-basset-cattle dog mix (aptly named Goober), work out at the YMCA, listen to e-audio books, read paper books, and attend local concerts.

Welcome Kate!

Jack Connelly, President  
Tacoma Public Library  
Board of Trustees