

WEST ALLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY WEBSITE

JULY 25, 2018

WEBSITE REDESIGN GOALS

1. Increased usability for patrons on the front end
2. Increased usability for staff on the back end
3. Attractive pages that contain useful information for patrons and are more functional, interactive, and aesthetically pleasing

A FEW TERMS

Domain name

- Website URL
- www.westallislibrary.org
- One-time purchase

Website Hosting

- Where the website data is stored
- CivicPlus, Bluehost, etc.
- Recurring fee

Content Management System (CMS)

- What is used to organize pages, modules, plug-ins, and other visual and functional elements of a website
- CivicPlus, WordPress, Drupal, Bibliocommons
- Price varies (open vs. closed source)

Source: <https://www.bibliocommons.com/entry/finding-cms-for-your-website/bibliotv/>

PREFERENCES

1. Ability to customize various aspects of the website to best suit our needs in functionality and aesthetics
2. Easy way to broadcast important messages on the main page (i.e. holiday closings, weather-related closings, etc.)
3. Ability to sign up for meeting rooms online (Constitution Room, Conference Room, study rooms)

BUDGET

1. We have funding available through the Terchak Endowment.
2. However, cost-effectiveness is still something to consider. So, what fees does a new website entail?

	Open Source	CivicPlus*
Website Hosting	\$72-\$360 annually	\$650 annually
CMS	Free	\$1575 annually
Training	Free	Included in annual fee
Initial Set Up	Depends \$0-7	\$8150
Modifications	Free	\$\$\$
Recurring Fees	Website hosting only \$300 (at most) annually	Website hosting + CMS \$1575 (at least) annually

*CivicPlus is used here as the closed source example because those are the numbers we have available to us.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on our needs, preferences, and budget, we think that open source will suit us best.

1. We won't be restricted to a template and can customize the site without extra fees.
2. We can implement a calendar that will work for both patrons and staff.
3. We can keep the website ahead of the curve and don't need to wait for new updates from a CMS proprietor.
4. Training is free and available online.
