

# Memo

**To:** Library Development Study Task Force

**From:** Jennie Stapp, State Librarian  
Sarah McHugh, Director of Statewide Library Resources

**Date:** May 13, 2015

**Re:** **Pre-reads and reference materials**

When charged with evaluating opportunities for the future, it can often be useful to know where we've been. Numerous state publications that document the history of the Montana State Library, the Montana Library Association, Montana libraries and relevant topics of interest such as Montana library law are available through the Montana State Library State Publications Digital Text Archive, under Libraries <https://archive.org/details/MontanaStateLibrary>.

Even more important is to have an idea of where we are going. Members of the Task Force are encouraged to read *Rising to the Challenge: Re-envisioning Public Libraries*, <http://csreports.aspeninstitute.org/documents/AspenLibrariesReport.pdf>.

This report was published by the Aspen Institute in October 2014 and was developed with broad input from the national library community. This concise publication presents a picture of 21<sup>st</sup> century libraries that can and should influence our view of the roles of Montana libraries in our communities and from that view, new perspectives on the nature of library development services from the State Library.

The State Library also found great inspiration from a presentation offered by OCLC Vice President for Research and Chief Strategist, Lorcan Dempsey which was given as the keynote at the 2014 Offline Conference: <http://www.slideshare.net/lisld/infrastructure-engagement-innovation>