Smart Growth

Boise, Idaho
Boise
The Grove – Downtown’s Plaza
First ring disinvestment
3 NEW Branch Libraries in Boise

Branches were located in disinvested strip centers

- Expanded the use of library services and the neighborhood locations have made the service more accessible.
Branch Libraries in Boise

Branches filled an unmet need for library service

- Customer count increased 12%. The main library grew by 2% and the branches after 5 and 6 month operations saw 150,000 visits.
Branch Libraries in Boise

The branches have met other city goals

- LEED cert., art in neighborhoods, neighborhood access, place making opportunities and have lead to private reinvestment.
Branch Libraries in Boise

The branches have met other city goals

- Branches were designed with neighborhood input, art was chosen from local artists to represent the neighborhood.
Branch Libraries in Boise

The branches have met other city goals

- All branches have a community meeting room and family and community friendly features.
Branch Libraries in Boise

The branches have met other city goals

- The branches have all exceeded expectations for bicycle use by patrons, we tripled the amount of bike parking at each.
Branch Libraries in Boise

The branches have met other city goals

- All branches included LEED features such as solar light. The rebuild was the first public building in region to meet LEED Gold, it includes storm water treatment on site.
Branch Libraries in Boise

Branches became anchors for their centers

- Customer count continues to increase. 1.1 million, a 10.45% increase over last year. Cole and Ustick had 28,498 visitors in July. Hillcrest and Collister have averaged 12,000 visits per month.
Libraries spin-off effects

Collister Shopping Center

- Library traffic has helped traffic at existing businesses, ice cream store, hair salon, and bowling alley.

- Library spurred facelift of 50 year old center.

- Attracted new pad tenant to a pad that had never been built on in the 50 year history of the center.
Libraries spin-off effects

Hillcrest Shopping Center

- Community theater next to the theater has begun a children’s program.
- The corner of mall next to library empty when library moved in (except for theater) now over 50% rented.
- Long empty big box space now being rebuilt as mixed use.
- New roadway connection into neighborhood established.
Libraries spin-off effects

- Evergreen Library Plaza Center
  - Plaza undergoing complete rebuild of one building, new sidewalk, trees and other public realm upgrades.
  - Center renamed to Library Plaza to take advantage of library brand.
  - Coffee shop 1st new tenant