

Delivery Report for SCLS Board of Trustees September, 2023

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New Building:

The Delivery addition to the Pankratz building is moving steadily with very visible and tangible progress for anticipating occupancy in January.

All interior walls have been studded in. Electrical and plumbing rough-ins are in place. Exterior masonry is nearing completion.

We have secured Yerges Movers for a mid-January transfer of heavy items from our 1601 Gilson site. Alongside that, we are tabbing the MLK Day holiday as a potential pivot point to transition with least amount of impact on regular service to members. MLK Day offers an observed but partially working holiday to allow for an extra day to be back up and running from a new location.

Red Cart Supply/Condition:

After the Labor Day holiday and entering into a period of some observed volume increase, we seem to have lost some of our red cart supply to a variety of pressures:

- Damage and age
- Increased reliance at libraries to facilitate sorting processes
- Libraries not circulating their incoming materials on a pace that returns carts back via Delivery exchanges
- A desire to “want” more comfort with spare carts than the actual “need.”

Red carts are our means of moving over 80% of our volume most efficiently. The carts are used for quick exchanges of that high volume on mostly local routes in the Dane County vicinity. They travel on our box-truck fleet with between 8 and 12 carts per load, typically.

Red carts not an insignificant expense. A recently expired quote for the minimum order of 20 carts came in at over \$6,500. This is just for the aluminum frame. To outfit them fully with the appropriate caster wheels, we add another \$100 per cart.

We will pursue making an order for our unexpected low supply very soon after we appeal to our libraries to look for extras on their sites to free up and return to circulation.

This expense needs to become an annual consideration in our budget as well as a formal inventory analysis that we perform with regularity. Ideally, we would want to make a minimum purchase annually of 20 new carts (possibly 30 or 40), to maintain a healthy and functional fleet of carts.