

## **GATHERING IDEAS FOR FUTURE STATEWIDE PROJECTS**

The Library Council of Washington is looking for your help in identifying ideas for the use of federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding to meet statewide library needs and opportunities.

**Number: 07-GI-10**

**Idea name: Digitizing the Backfiles of the Seattle Times**

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### **1. Briefly describe your idea for the use of LSTA funding:**

Have the State Library pay for / subsidize the digitization of the Seattle Times backfile. If the State Library pays then the Library should get a complete copy of the project and make that available to Washington State residents without charge.

### **2. Briefly describe why funding of this idea is important to the Washington library community:**

Since the 1880s Seattle has been, if not the most important city, one of the most important cities in Washington State. The Seattle Times is the paper of record. While many of the biggest libraries have microfilm, it is a place bound resource. If the resource were digitized and available through the State Library on some sort of ILL agreement it would be a great boon to anyone doing historical research on issues that were reported in the Seattle Times.

### **3. Briefly describe the outcome that is expected should the idea be funded. In other words, how will we know if the project has been successful and has achieved its goals?:**

The goal would be to provide digital access to Washington State residents to the backfiles of the Seattle Times that are not currently digitized.

The goal would be achieved when all of the backfiles of the Seattle Times are digitized and available to the residents of Washington State.

## General Information

Which library types are intended as the primary beneficiaries of this project? (check all that apply)

Academic (private and public two-year and four-year academic institutions)

Public (libraries organized under RCW 27.12)

School (private and public K-12 schools)

Special (business and industry, law, medical, other government, tribal, other)

If other, specify: \_\_\_\_\_

The intended beneficiaries of the project? (check the primary beneficiary)

Library staff

Library users or potential library users

\_\_\_\_\_ A specific group of staff or users, or a potential user group. Name the target beneficiaries(s): \_\_\_\_\_

(e.g., children, adults, disadvantaged, remote access library users, unserved community members, reference staff, IT staff, students)

The activities needed to implement this project are envisioned to include (check all that apply):

\_\_\_\_\_ User training

Staff training

Grants

\_\_\_\_\_ Development of best practices

\_\_\_\_\_ Demonstration of emerging technology or practices

Other, please explain: Digitization of the backfiles of the newspaper and provision of access to this information resource.

Considering the outcome desired, how long should the project continue? 2 to 3 years

(Note that most projects are from one year to four years in length.)