



125 Tower Drive  
Burr Ridge IL 60527  
630.734.5000  
Fax: 630.734.5050  
railslibraries.info

January 4, 2022

**TO:** RAILS Consortia Committee – LLSAP Sustainability Working Group  
**FROM:** Anne Slaughter  
**SUBJECT:** Working group priorities

Below is an updated summary of the priorities that have continued to take shape in previous Working Group meetings and remain on deck for discussion. We will have a discussion of this “living document” and confirm, expand on, prioritize, and/or add to it as necessary to further your work toward fulfilling the charge and crafting recommendations. As the group considers what an ideal future looks like, what elements should the working group’s recommendations contain? What more information is needed to arrive at a set of recommendations? Where can RAILS support provide the most value to LLSAPs and the libraries they serve?

## Emerging Priorities and Recommendation Topics

- Acknowledgement and recap of divergent LLSAP histories and priorities
- Costs associated with LLSAPs
  - RAILS support and total cost of operations
  - Library membership costs and fee structures
  - Cost comparisons for cataloging and ILL processing
  - Defining sustainability for LLSAPs and libraries
  - Alternative funding for LLSAPs
- LLSAP merger possibilities
  - Benefits, obstacles, membership implications
- Criteria for libraries to join LLSAPs
- Find More Illinois as a strategic part of the resource sharing landscape
- Cataloging costs and services
  - Find More Illinois
  - Centralized services provided by RAILS
  - OCLC – how money is spent statewide by ISL and libraries
    - Costs by LLSAP, library, and system
    - Membership and service landscape
    - Potential to move away from Group Services; explore cataloging-only service level
- Schools/nonpublics
  - Do they want/need an LLSAP?
  - Other considerations for nonpublic libraries
- Bigger-picture library funding and advocacy issues
  - ILA Public Library Standards and funding recommendations
  - Value of consortial membership & how it relates to library and state-level funding
  - Varying public library per capita tax funding levels
  - Effective units of service