

Historical and Local Digital Collections Committee Update
August 2022

- The [WPLC newspaper project webpage](#) is updated to reflect the project's paused status, with links to progress reports and to a document with resources related to newspaper digitization.
- Project managers have reached out to all of the organizations that participated in the newspaper project to share the previously mentioned progress report and the resource document.
 - Message sent to participating libraries:

You're receiving this email because your organization has contributed your community's digitized historical newspapers to the [Archive of Wisconsin Newspapers](#), a resource maintained by the Wisconsin Newspaper Association and available through Badgerlink.

Since 2016, the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) has partnered with the Wisconsin Historical Society, the Wisconsin Newspaper Association, and local libraries and other organizations to add [44 historic newspaper titles from 28 Wisconsin communities to the Archive](#). Much of the funding for this work was provided by Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services administered by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, as well as many local library foundations and other generous local donors.

The [WPLC Historical and Local Digital Collections Committee](#) has determined that exploration on the next generation of a statewide access platform for historical newspapers remains on indefinite hold. In late 2022 or early 2023, WPLC will coordinate a final batch transfer of historical newspaper content to the Archive; this batch is currently being digitized and processed by the Wisconsin Historical Society. After that time, the WPLC will not facilitate any further additions to the Archive.

The content already available in the Archive will continue to remain accessible to you and your patrons. Anyone with a Wisconsin library card can keep using Badgerlink to explore these historical newspapers by title, city, county or date, as well as more than 250 daily and weekly Wisconsin newspapers from 2005 to 90 days ago.

The digitized copies of any microfilm reels that were scanned by the Wisconsin Historical Society (as well as the original microfilm negatives themselves) are now held in storage at the Society, following the addition of metadata and further processing to make the files compliant with National Digital Newspaper Program standards. The WPLC strongly recommends using the Wisconsin Historical Society Microfilm for any future newspaper digitization needs. For more information, please see [this resource document](#).

Thank you for your attention and please reach out to WPLC directly at wplc-info@wils.org with any questions or concerns.