

Pross

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"The staff seem to be very pleased with him," Thompson continued. "We feel this is a really good opportunity without bringing in somebody they don't know.

"We're looking forward to his new ideas."

Both he and Pross downplayed the library's problems with

retaining CEOs. Pross is the fourth since 2007.

"I feel we're back on track," said Thompson.

"I am looking for a long-term career here," said Pross.

He said there is "turnover with any job" and he's focused on the future.

"I'm not going to worry too much about the past," he said.

He said he wants to increase use of the library and promote it as a downtown destination, part

of the ongoing effort to improve the city's core.

Pross said it should be a meeting place, "not just a place where you get your books and leave."

Thompson said it's too early to discuss priorities for the new CEO; they'll be set in future board meetings.

Pross continues to fill both the CEO role and that of public service director. The latter job will be posted within a few weeks, Pross said.