## LIBRARY BUILDING PROJECT - PARKING AND PEDESTRIAN PATH TO LIBRARY

Access to convenient parking is essential for library patrons. The City of Appleton hired Walker Parking Consultants to help us address parking concerns in the area around the library.

Walker worked with City Staff and had a stakeholder meeting that included SOM architects, library volunteers, library trustees, Library Building Project Advisory Committee and Friends of APL members.

Parking will be addressed through a multifaceted approach involving the existing library lot, the Yellow Ramp and metered street parking as follows:

#### **Library Lot**

The current library lot has 94 spaces. The south row is often utilized by city vehicles so functionally it has not served library patrons in a significant way.

After the renovation, the library is currently anticipated to have 47 spaces. Accessible parking is a priority in this lot and designs exceed ADA requirements. In addition, the path to the library is barrier free with no curbs to navigate. The drive through area provides a speed table/crosswalk to slow down traffic and improve the arrival experience.

### **Street Parking**

Metered street parking provides 44 additional spaces in immediate blocks to the south. Additional metered street parking also exists to the north.



Source: Walker, Google Earth, 2021

#### **Yellow Ramp**

The Yellow Ramp is 500 feet from the library and has over 1,100 spaces. Maximizing our existing ramp is important. According to Walker, structured parking in Wisconsin for a free-standing above-grade, 300-500 space ramp can range from \$22,000-\$28,000 per space in construction costs.

This structure is well lit and clean with ample parking capacity for future library and neighborhood growth. Analysis from Walker factored in conditions for average weekday conditions as well as for peak special event conditions including the needs for the new Merge development and the library.

The following recommendations were approved by Municipal Services Committee and the City Council to prioritize convenient parking for library patrons in the library lot and the Yellow Ramp.

- Ordinance modification that overnight parking in the Yellow Ramp is permitted only on levels 6 and 7, effective January 1, 2023.
- Policy modification that City employees park in the 12-hour on-street meters or in the Yellow Ramp, not the Library Parking Lot.
- Ordinance change to make 1<sup>st</sup> Floor West Bay (nearest the library) 3-hour parking

Walker also recommends pedestrian improvements in the library plaza and sidewalks between the library and the Yellow Ramp to lead patrons towards the southwest corner of the ramp through direct and indirect visual cues and wayfinding signage.

They also recommend informational signage within the library interior as well as the Yellow Ramp to direct patrons to and from the library. Finally, they recommend a destination guide sign at the SE corner of the library lot to direct pedestrians to the Yellow Ramp that also indicates the distance remaining. A sample of options provided by Walker is below.

Valley Transit is in the beginning stages of long-term planning for the future of their facility and pedestrian safety and wayfinding will be a priority in their planning.

# Direct and Indirect Pedestrian Wayfinding











