

Tues, Dec 20, 2022 6:30PM

Item 22-1608: Library Building Project Update

Library Board

Tue, Dec 20, 2022 4:30PM

Nancy Scheuerman (Library Board President) 11:00

So we do have—moving on to the administrative report, you have a library building project update. And I believe that was also at your desk when you came. So Colleen.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 11:11

Yes. And, you know, I apologize. It's a very, unexciting update, we're still working on it. The key takeaway, but I think one other point to note is that by January 18, there will be a plan for a design update. And that'll be at the council meeting. But of course, we encourage and invite all of you to come or to attend virtually. And so that'll be a chance for people to get a sense of kind of the modifications that are being made to bring the scope in line.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 11:44

We've been working—we've got some sense of what the approach is going to have to be. And we're now just verifying that we're still within budget, before the design efforts to really get down into the detail happens. So we're really encouraged. We think that while there's space reductions, we're really not losing any of the spaces that we have been really excited about what they're going to be able to do for us operationally in the long term. We're doing that in some ways by some additional flexibility in some of these spaces. So maybe a space that used to do a couple of other things, we're adding a bit of flexibility. So it's, we were able to say do one less space. But the major spaces, they're going to change. They may even change some of their location of where they were in the building. But overall, I think they're going to be as compelling but different. So by January, you will get that. January 18, you will have a more detailed update.

Nancy Scheuerman (Library Board President) 12:52

So in relationship to our meeting schedule, we meet on the 17th. So we won't be able to see—we won't have that information at our meeting is what you're saying?

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 13:01

I'm not sure about that. I can inquire. I know there's a lot of work to be done on the architecture side. So if they're able to do something for us on the 17th, I can see. But otherwise, I know that you'd be of course welcomed at the meeting. And I'm guessing that if we worked with the mayor's office that if you had questions in the meeting, that we'd be able to arrange to have participation as well.

Nancy Scheuerman (Library Board President) 13:29

Okay, that I think that was my question. I think you were thinking the same thing is, how does that relate to our meeting schedule? And then how does that relate to the approval of that design? In terms of, would that come back to us in February at our meeting for...?

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 13:46

The approval of the design itself—You know, it's really the—what gets approved are the bid contract?

Nancy Scheuerman (Library Board President) 13:55

Right. So

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Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 13:57

Yeah, so the design itself doesn't really come to either the library board or the Council to approve the actual, like architectural design. Council's authority is under the—under the statute is that you know, the city shall erect a, erect a library, and then have a role have a board of trustees that then steps in and does the caretaking for it. So in terms of the functionality, I think your role is that advocating for the functionality and the library, the library's needs, and then the council has that contractual, the—they're not really approving the contract. They're approving the bids that come through.

Nancy Scheuerman (Library Board President) 14:46

Does the council—remind me because it's been a while—does the Council actually have to approve sending out the bids or once it's presented to them it just goes, is a part of the process. Okay. Okay. I just wanted that clarified for myself, but hopefully for all of you too, because we go through these little reiterations, and so sometimes want to make sure that we understand as trustees what the process is.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 15:13

Okay, thank you great questions.

Unknown Board Member 15:16

So the initial design of the updated library was unrecognizable from the current library, which was awesome. And maybe you're not far enough along in the redesign of the redesign to answer the question, but will it be recognizable from what we thought was going to be able to go through or is it much more scaled back that it may not be recognizable?

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 15:43

You know, I don't know that I—I don't know that I can answer that yet. The facade is one of the areas that's really still being figured out. I know that one of the ways that they're really making efforts to keep the costs down as much as possible is making sure like, like for example, you know, there's a hole for the atrium, you know, there's poured concrete flooring and then there's a hole. So how can you take advantage of that existing hole, not modify that space and, and use that for some of the functions that already need to happen; bringing light down to the lower level, creating passage through that area. So you know, so they're, they're leveraging what's already there even more than they were before, which they were already doing. And then the facade is still TBD.

Nancy Scheuerman (Library Board President) 16:43

Other questions? Okay. Thank you, Colleen. We stay steady. It may be looking different but we still have that vision out there making sure we serve the community.