

Item 23-0530: Building Project Update

Library Board
Tues, May 16, 2023, 4:30PM

Nancy Scheuerman (Library Board President) 17:36

We then can go on to Administrative Report. We have a building project update. I'm sure that all anxious for this. So, Colleen, I'm gonna let you do that.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 17:48

So, yes. This month, we were really excited to be able to release some updated renderings. And those renderings, in their entirety, are linked to on our website along with some short descriptions of the specific spaces that you're looking at. We've also included those in the packet as well.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 18:10

We wanted to show a variety of the spaces and the kind of qualities of space. So, you do see two exterior renderings kind of an evening and a daytime rendering, just to see how the building looks in different times of day.



Exterior - Day



Exterior - Evening

You have some of the gathering spaces. Those are kind of the featured spaces in the building. The community meeting room, which is a space that will still be divisible by three. It'll hold up to 315 folks. that space is going to be on the second floor on the east end of the building and be adjacent to a kind of pre-function space, and I think be a really, really compelling popular space.



Community Meeting Room – As the largest gathering space in the library, this large multi-purpose room will accommodate a variety of community and library activities with a total capacity of over 300 people. Two operable walls are incorporated into the design, allowing the room to be separated into three smaller rooms.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 19:00

The learning stairs is a multipurpose space. It's the transformational entrance to children's. It also brings light down into a portion of the children's area because as you can see, there's a glass wall and act—and access to daylight from above. It's also a space that you can have informal gatherings. So maybe you're just going to meet up with your family and have lunch on the learning stairs. Or it can be a place for plan programs like summer library program performers. So that is a space that we were really excited about showing.



Learning Stairs – Designed to function as an event, hangout and learning space, the learning stairs also serve as an inspirational transition to the Children’s Services Department fostering wonder and curiosity.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 19:34

And in addition, within the learning stairs rendering, you'll see that you actually have views of like all three floors in the building, which is something that we've worked really hard, and the architects made great efforts to maintain. We want it to create that sense of discovery and that desire to kind of be like "Oh what's going on over there and over there?" And that is what has been especially lacking in the current building. So, they were able to do that with the actual existing building structure overall by doing some creative design work.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 20:11

Another one of the spaces that you have a rendering of is the Flexbox. And that's the super flexible space. It's a space that changed from first location that we had originally had it in back about a year ago. And it's now backed by the teen area, which is actually a great location for it, because we really imagine that a lot of teen programs would happen in that space. It's a space for hands on interactive learning, space for gaming, could be a space when there isn't a program plan there to just kind of open up and have as a hangout. It's got a nice garage door. So, it'll open up like right into the teen area. So, you can have programs that kind of spill out. I'm looking at you

guys in the audience hoping that this sounds like a place you'll want to be. And so that's, that's a space, it's got like a sink and things like that too, storage.



The Flexbox – The Flexbox will invite participation and inspire community members of all ages to explore new ideas, approaches, and opportunities to learn together. A mix of traditional demonstration space combines with technology to become a space that can be shared in-person and online.

Executive Director Colleen Rortved (Library) 21:03
The Commons is kind of that main entry of the library. It's another one of the renderings that you can see throughout the building, you can see up to the second floor, you can see down to the lower level with the learning stairs, has a gorgeous amount of light coming in, and is infinitely



The Commons - The Commons is the central connector and community gathering space designed to facilitate interaction and discovery. This space features views of every level of the library and a flexible layout that can be transformed into a reception area.

flexible. So, while you'll see what looks like kind of a large table in that rendering, it's actually a table that can be broken apart. It could be a space that you could have an event. It could be a space that we could—we'll you know, stack bookshelves on wheels and put displays up there. It's a space that we imagine putting our Community Table Initiative, which is where folks can kind of walk into the library and stumble on a local organization that we're featuring, as you've seen us do in the old library already with like Feeding America or Partnership Community Health or Veterans Administration. So, this is should be just a really active space and really kind of a true sign of kind of the transformation of the library design and how the design can support the functions that we haven't been able to support in the past.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 22:15

Another one of the images is the first floor gathering space, which we're working on some names for that one right now, I don't know if we're ready to. But this is beneath the skylight, one of the skylights. We have three skylights in the design because the building itself is still a very solid building. And we want to bring that light down deep within the library. And so, this is a first-floor space, but it'll be directly below a skylight where there is a balcony that overlooks it, a large, featured sofa area. This will be near the information desk but also near kind of area where there are numerous different types of gathering meeting rooms. So, there'll be—this is where the new board meeting room will be. It's also where some of the smaller conference rooms will be where you can have like four or six people. And it's also where that unconference room is going to be. And that unconference room is more like a living room feel where you can have a book club or a support group meeting in that space.



First Floor Gathering Space – Located directly beneath a skylight, this featured seating area is surrounded by popular fiction genre collections and the information desk - providing an inviting place to sit, reflect, study or meet up with friends.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 23:22

The children's area. The children's collection is a lower-level kind of similar strategy with light directly beneath a skylight. But this one is down in the in the lowest level, and it's over on the east side. So, this is the space that will still have only one floor above it. So, there isn't entirely a second floor for a small portion of our second floor. So, the skylight will come down deep within the children's area, and then there's a feature kind of play area. Again, we're playing with some names for it—the hill, the bluff. It's the place where you may see actual structured programs, or it could just be available for non-structured play.



Children's Area/Collection - The Children's Services area invites exploration and play for children of all ages. Placed strategically under the main skylight, the soft play climbing hill will draw families deep into the space and allow them to spend extended time at the library.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 24:12

Again, children's early childhood area, kind of similar thing. There may be some structured activities there, but we know that this is the place where early childhood is going to spend a lot of time. Lots of bins and things to play with. You'll see some of the features of the shelves that have little ellipses so that are just big enough just only for little people.



Children's Early Childhood Area - This cozy area will feature a mix of collection and interactive activities that highlight early literacy skills and practices. Young children and their caregivers will find opportunities to connect with each other and those around them as they read and play together.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 24:40

And then the teen area which has—it's one of the areas that we did strategically put taller shelves because we wanted to create this sense of privacy without it being a completely private space. But that's right adjacent to that flex box. So, you can see that garage door, which is closed in this image, in addition to varieties of types of seating. So maybe you want to work in small groups, maybe you want to work on a computer, maybe you want to have solo workspace, a variety of options.



Teen Area – The teen area fosters a sense of belonging, inclusiveness and synergy, while offering teens the necessary space for schoolwork, reflection, or to simply read and relax. It features a mixed seating concept and adaptive technology, enhanced by its adjacency to the flexbox and creation studios.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 25:16

The upper Commons, which is the second-floor version of the first floor Commons. And this is just a super cool space. You see, this kind of footbridge, has space to sit in. Behind you in this image is where the large meeting room will be. So, the elevators come up right behind you, and you'll be able to kind of turn around and go to the large meeting space back there. Otherwise walk forward and head to the body of the library.



Upper Commons – As the gathering space at the top of the main staircase, the upper commons functions as a place to hold impromptu meetings and conversations, and an area to nurture spontaneous learning opportunities. It features natural light and views of all levels with sightlines of the second floor. There is space for feature collections inviting community members to stop, browse and discover.

You'll see they kind of carried through some of the design elements of the ellipse. So even though we lost a couple of those pavilions that extend it out, they want

it to still continue to soften the building itself and create that kind of like circular motion. And so, they did that with some of the ceiling features and acoustical work that they did there.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 26:10

The co working space. The last rendering is the co-working space. And this is another really great space. This one's unlike anything that we have, today. There is access to workstations. There's also access to kind of some little breakout spots where you can sit and have small group meetings, and one of the walls is actually composed of small study rooms. So, you can, if you need to, you know, pop into one of those small study rooms and have a quick call or, or meet up with friends, do networking events. And every one of these spaces, we're now working on some of the collection adjacencies, to how to kind of maximize the relevance of those areas. But these were kind of the first ones that we wanted to show you.



Coworking Space - The coworking space offers technology and resources for virtual or in-person interviews, meetings or presentations, and independent and collaborative work. The space serves as a destination for information and opportunities around employment, job skill development, entrepreneurship and small business.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 26:56

Within the next few weeks, we'll be coming out with some updated full layout diagrams, which will be similar to ones you've seen in the past. And then we're working on getting a fly through as well.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 27:12

So, where we are process wise, is we are getting ready to release the documents for bids. So that's—we've got some that have been out, we've had [...] out we've had AV out. And then the remainder I believe are coming out tomorrow.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 27:33

The timeline is such that we'll have those close in June. And what we do is we have a bid opening, because we're a public entity, and those bids all get opened in public. And then the lowest bid is the winner. But of course, there's some work that needs to be done to make sure that we look at them, make sure it's a responsible bid. There's a little bit of evaluation that happens, a lot of evaluation that happens there. Come to Council for approval. So, we're looking at groundbreaking this summer and construction starting as soon as possible after that.

Nancy Scheuerman (Library Board President) 28:07

Thank you. It's exciting to hear this. And I think the redesign really will fulfill all of the things that we had talked about in this whole process before in terms of meeting the library's needs and our patrons needs. Interesting how the architectures—the architects go back and redo and still make it very much a very viable space and very nice looking. So, they've retained some of the features that we liked in the first one. Questions, comments? Anyone? Yes, Lisa, we'll get your mic.

Lisa Nett (Library Board Member) 28:47

Has the bid opening date been determined yet? And if so, or if not, when?

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 28:52

It has been determined; I don't have it in front of me. Do you have it in front of you? We'll get you that. We will get you that. It will happen in this space. So, it's a public bid opening. So, like the—we did it once before. So, the room will be full of people. Some of them will be the contractors. The city clerk is here. Facility staff. So, we'll get you that information.

Nancy Scheuerman (Library Board President) 29:26

I don't think it's on the city website.

Executive Director Colleen Rortvedt (Library) 29:29

I don't know.

Nancy Scheuerman (Library Board President) 29:29

Because I've watched there, and I don't think it's on there yet. Um, other questions, comments from anyone remotely or hear in [...]? Okay, all right. It'll be a great summer for all of us. I think so.