



APPLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY
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**TO: Members of the Appleton Public Library Board of Trustees
Members of the City of Appleton Common Council**
**FROM: Dean Gazza, Director of Parks Recreation and Facilities Management
Colleen Rortvedt, Library Director**
DATE: April 13, 2022
RE: April Library Building Project Update

City staff continue to work with architects Skidmore, Owings and Merrill (SOM) on the library project. This is a time of intensive, highly detailed work as we plan both the newly renovated library as well as the temporary library. The following progress has been made in the past month:

Temporary Library

The upgrades to make the Best Buy space usable are in the final stages. Updates included replacement of a portion of carpeting, painting where needed and construction of temporary dividers for staff and operations space. The physical move of furniture and collections will happen April 18-May 6. Staff are working to label items in the current location for the move. We have received the outdoor returns bins for books that will be placed at both the current and temporary locations.

Design Update

The video of SOM's presentation from March's meeting is available on the City and Library's website (apl.org/building).

Timeline

We remain on track with the following schedule:

- April 13 – Current library closes (last day of service April 12)
- May 23 – Open temporary library
- May – Bidding for construction
- June – Bids Due and Issue contract for construction
- July – Construction begins

Communication

Our current external communications strategy focuses on sharing information about our move to the temporary library on our various communication channels. This includes sharing information on closed dates, available services during our closure (online services, phones, programs) and services available at the temporary location.

Signage for the temporary space has been ordered and will be installed before the temporary library opens. We will be creating an easy-to-use floor map to welcome customers to the new space. We are also working on creating a building project display in the temporary library. The display will include information about the project and updated building project renderings. The display is an opportunity to provide the same information we provide via our online channels.

Upcoming communication strategies include looking at opportunities to expand on some of our frequently asked questions – including parking, building façade, construction timeline and more.

Additional Site Assessment Updates

Final structural assessments were completed in the last month. These were completed to understanding existing conditions such as column sizes that varied from the original contract documents. The better understanding of existing conditions during design helps prevent construction issues during construction that can hamper schedule and cost.

Parking

All recommendations from the Walker parking study that can be implemented at this time have been approved. The final change was approved at Council on April 6 that will update the Municipal Code to change the first floor/west bay of the Yellow Ramp 3-hour parking effective January 1, 2023.

Additional changes to support pedestrian improvements between the library and yellow ramp are ongoing and part of the neighborhood planning process.

A summary about parking related to the library is attached to this memo.

College Avenue North Neighborhood Planning

The College North Neighborhood Plan Open House was held Monday, April 11, 2022 in the City Center Board Room, City Center Plaza, 10 E. College Avenue, 1st Floor toward East End. The boards that were displayed showing concepts for site development from the open house are attached to the agenda.

Funding

In preparation for a Capital Campaign led by the Friends of the Appleton Public Library, a Naming Rights Policy has been created and is included on the April agenda. Friends are organizing to begin fundraising and have hired K Rose Fund Development, a fundraising consultant with expertise in public library capital campaigns, as well as A2Z Design to develop fundraising materials.

Stay up to date on the library building project or sign up for email updates by visiting apl.org/building.