



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: June 9, 2021
RE: May Library Building Project Update

City staff continue to work with architects Skidmore, Owings and Merrill (SOM) on the library project. The following progress has been made in the past month:

1. A building scan utilizing LIDAR scanning technology has been finalized.
2. Ongoing work continues with staff on the library building program including identifying space needs, important adjacencies which will serve as the basis for concepts and design. The architectural team is utilizing this information to begin testing various options for consideration to ensure the design will support the necessary functions of the library.

SOM hosted a small group of staff, the Mayor and the Chair of APL's Building and Equipment Committee on tours of select Chicago Public Libraries (CPL) and other relevant spaces. The SOM team for our project includes the former CPL Commissioner, Andrea Telli, who was able to provide access to public and staff spaces as well as connect us with library staff and CPL leadership to discuss design challenges and solutions.

These tours were informative and inspiring. Tours included CPL's West Loop, Chinatown and Little Italy branches, the Harold Washington Library and the Columbia College Student Center. Photos from tour located at the end of this memo.

The architects came to Appleton for two days of workshops with library staff leading staff discussions and activities to continue to inform space planning.

Regular virtual meetings are continuing as we prepare for the early stages of public input.

3. Appointments are being finalized for the Library Building Project Advisory Committee. This is a group of approximately 25 people that are appointed by the Mayor who meet during the design process to provide advisory input to SOM and staff.
4. Additional opportunities for upcoming community involvement are being finalized. A public survey will be released in June and there will be opportunities this summer for broad community involvement to help inform the concept design phase this summer.



Interior of West Loop Branch



The Maker Lab at Harold Washington Library Center



Exterior of Little Italy Branch



Interior of Chinatown Branch