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**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: October 14, 2021**

**RE: October Library Building Project Update**

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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:

#### **Concept Design, Community Input and Communication**

- a. SOM and BOLDT presented to the City of Appleton Common Council on September 15.
- b. Focus groups were held October 5-7. Additional focus groups are being scheduled.
- c. The architects continue to refine the design based on feedback.

#### **2. Additional Site Assessment Updates**

Work and analysis continues on subsurface environmental investigations as well as additional inspections of the existing facility for lead, asbestos. Analysis determined no lead paint was present. Subsurface testing has identified some soft soils and certain depths. This is valuable to ensure the footings and foundation are built appropriately.

#### **3. Parking**

The City has engaged Walker Consultants to assist with parking planning services for the renovated and expanded library to develop a parking plan for the Library that will incorporate nearby available resources, identify future parking needs, and provide in an implementable solution that supports public access to the Library.

#### **4. Interim library needs**

Director Gazza has begun working with city departments and library staff to identify possible locations for the library to function during the period of construction. Staff have begun planning how to transition to a smaller, temporary space. The 2022 library operations budget includes temporary reductions in primarily areas of supplies and services that will function in a reduced manner during construction.

## 5. College Avenue North Neighborhood Planning

The College Avenue North Neighborhood Plan began work in August. Community and Economic Development Director Karen Harkness and Cory Scott from RDG, the planning firm on this process, presented to the library board and the Appleton Redevelopment Authority in September. RDG also held two focus groups for library staff and are in the process of scheduling another focus group for library stakeholders in the future.

**Stay up to date on the library project at [apl.org/planning](http://apl.org/planning) and sign up for email updates at [apl.org/email](http://apl.org/email) and select “Building Process Updates.”**