



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – April 12, 2017 Agenda Item 6

Work Session

Library Renovation Update

Recommended Council Action

Hear the information presented.

Context with Key Issues

The Library building is 62 years old, and had its last renovation of public space 27 years ago. In 2014 a feasibility study was completed, and followed by an architectural analysis and report – which recommended a renovation and addition, to include the following:

- Adequate space for collections, collaborative work-spaces, young adult materials and study, enhanced technology, and more seating;
- ADA compliance, including restroom accessibility, a family restroom, and space between stacks to allow wheelchair access;
- Energy efficient systems and sustainable design systems;
- A program room, to be used alternatively for wireless usage or study;
- Improved exterior and interior lighting and signage.

Since then, the Council has considered many designs put forward by The Lukmire Partnership, in conjunction with members of the public, and Library and City staff. The most current concept designs are available on the City website and in the Library. Cost projections for detailed design, construction, and related costs are included in the FY 18 and FY 19 capital improvement budgets.

Council Priority

Livable Community for All; Environmentally Sustainable Community

Environmental Impact of Action

The current concept designs incorporate energy efficient systems and sustainable design. Planning and design for the surrounding landscape is forthcoming. A site survey was recently concluded and is contained in this presentation.

Racial Equity Impact

The library serves a diverse population of residents, school children, and others. However, there is no dedicated space for the programming that serves many immigrant families, so these activities must take over the children's room, precluding other use. There is no dedicated space for young adult books and their readers, many of whom are young people of color. The surrounding neighborhood of Ward 4 is 85.1% people of color, per the 2010 Census. The renovation will enable the library to provide additional services and space for this local community.

Fiscal Impact of Action

The FY 18, FY19 and FY20 budgets contain a total of \$8,120,000 for detailed design, construction, relocation and storage, furnishings and contingency costs.

Attachments and Links

Library Renovation and Addition - Recent Developments

[Project Directory – Library Renovation](#)

Library Renovation and Addition - Recent Developments are as follows:

A Bond Bill request in the amount of \$150,000 was submitted to the Maryland State Legislature. City Councilmember Kovar, accompanied by the Library Director, gave testimony in support of the Proposal on March 13, 2017. The full amount of \$150,000 has been approved for funding by the House and Senate.

Informational brochures with pertinent facts about library use, its location and role within the community, and graphic representations of the current and proposed library buildings reinforced testimony, and are here included to underscore of the need for renovation, and to show some elements of the designs for a 21st century public library in Takoma Park.

A topographic, utility and boundary survey was completed by The Lukmire Partnership in January of 2017. This shows existing conditions of relevant portions of the buildings, flood wall, etc. which will be incorporated into the base drawings for the new building.

A relocation committee comprised of Library and other City staff has been meeting for several months to discuss: Possible spaces for relocating Library services, spaces for storage of Library materials, services during construction, and work space for Library staff. To the greatest extent possible Library services, including programs, public computer use, and limited circulation activities will remain in the Community Center and associated or nearby buildings. A large storage space is needed where books can remain on shelves in order for daily retrieval by staff to fulfill patron requests. A limited number of the most popular new adult books and children's books will circulate at the Community Center. A number of storage options are under consideration. Staff are also exploring the likely costs of moving Library collections, and are seeking affordable options. Construction is expected to take 12 to 18 months.

The Lukmire Partnership has joined with RRMM Architects in Chesapeake, VA and they are now RRMM Lukmire Architects. They have submitted a detailed fee proposal for professional services from design through construction administration. These include: Architectural design, structural engineering, mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering, civil engineering, interior design, cost estimating, and geotechnical engineering. The City's acceptance of the proposal is pending review by a construction attorney and the City Attorney.