



Multnomah County Library Summary of community input

January 2020

Framework for Future Library Spaces

Over the past three-and-a-half years, the library has conducted a comprehensive community engagement and analysis process to understand space deficiencies and what the community's priorities are for the modernization and expansion of library spaces. An important milestone in that process was the creation of a specific library capital planning framework for the coming 15 years, the Framework for Future Library Spaces.

The framework was created based on the input of diverse communities, through 13 culturally- specific focus groups, 51 community conversations across the county with nearly 2,000 community members at libraries, community centers, service agencies and partner organizations and a public survey that received more than 1,700 responses.

Those groups were convened through the following organizations:

- Africa House
- APANO – Chinese
- APANO – Vietnamese
- Billy Webb Elks Lodge
- Blueprint Foundation
- El Programa Hispano
- Hacienda
- June Key Delta
- Lutheran Family Services – Russian
- Muslim Educational Trust
- NAYA Elders
- NAYA Youth
- Self-Enhancement, Inc.

Blue Ribbon Committee

As part of its planning and due diligence, the library convened a Blue Ribbon Committee, made up of civic and business leaders from across the county, to independently review the library's long term capital plans and proposals. Commissioner Stegmann participated in the Committee's meetings but was not part of shaping this memo.

The Committee met three times between April and September 2019. At each step along the way, members were asked to provide written feedback, which has been collected in addition to their comments recorded at meetings.



Members of the Blue Ribbon Committee:

- Amy Wayson, Literary Arts Board of Directors
- Carter MacNichol, Shiels Oblatz Johnsen
- Charles Wilhoite, Willamette Management Associates
- Cole Mills, Bridgetown Wealth Management
- Dan Field, Kaiser Permanente NW
- Dan Lavey, Gallatin Public Affairs
- Dave Robertson and Deane Funk, Portland General Electric
- Emily Karr, Stoel Rives
- Ginnie Cooper, retired Multnomah County Library Director
- Julie Harrelson, Cascade Seed Fund
- Lizzie Martinez, Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon / Library Advisory Board
- Multnomah County Commissioner Lori Stegmann, District 4
- Lisa Riggs, Gresham-Barlow School District
- Luis Vargas, Modern Adventure
- Mark Garber, Pamplin Media Group
- Mary Faulkner, Ferguson Wellman Capital Management
- Michael Liu, Fubonn
- Rachel Solotaroff, Central City Concern
- Randall Edwards, ENSOGO Analytics
- Richelle Luther, Columbia Sportswear
- Ruth Shelly, Portland Children’s Museum
- Skip Newberry, Technology Association of Oregon
- Theo Downes-Le Guin, Upfor
- Traci Rossi, Center for Women’s Leadership

One-on-one conversations

In addition to the processes outlined above, the library has gained considerable insight from one-on-one conversations between the director, members of the community and leading thinkers in modern library design. These have included CEOs; educational leaders; architects, real estate and construction experts; fellow urban library directors; library staff and others.