

City of Independence - Strategic Planning Project Information Sheet

Project Title: Library Facility Updates

Department: Library

Contact Person: Laura Blaker

1. Estimated Total Cost: \$119,000

2. Project Timeline: 2026-2030 estimated timeline

Replacing the hard surface flooring, repainting the interior of the library, adding sound baffles in the community room, and replacing the main exterior doors will improve the functionality, durability, beauty, and security of the public library space. The project could be done in phases, possibly in this order:

Sound Baffles in Community Room (approx. \$3000 in 2026)

Main exterior doors (approx. \$11,000 in 2027)

Flooring could be done in to 2 to 3 phases (approx. \$55,000 in 2028-2029).

The main library (entering library proper, by circulation, by fireplace), story area, and

teen area could be done at one time.

The family bathroom and community room kitchenette can be replaced at one time.

Staff areas including bathroom, storage, and corridor could be done towards the end.

Painting the interior of the library (approx. \$50,000 in 2030)

3. Project Description:

This project will allow the library, opened in 2008, to maintain and improve its functionality, security, durability, and beauty.

The sound baffles will improve the acoustics in the main meeting room.

Replacing the exterior doors with metal doors will get rid of the issues we have with the expanding and contracting of the current doors and improve the security of the library.

Replacing the 20-year-old sheet vinyl and replacing it with a luxury vinyl plank will increase durability and resistance to wear and tear.

Repainting the interior will keep the space looking clean and inviting.

4. Project Justification / Community Benefit:

A City's public library reflects the value it places on education, culture, and community engagement. Libraries are open to all and enrich lives, promote lifelong learning, and facilitate personal growth and discovery.

This project will allow the library, opened in 2008, to improve its functionality with the sound baffles improving the acoustics in the main meeting room. With 265 programs

and 57 additional uses by businesses and organizations in fiscal year 2025, it is used heavily. The acoustics have been a barrier for visitors and attendees, especially those with some hearing loss.

Replacing the main exterior doors with all metal doors will get rid of the issues we have with the expanding and contracting of the current doors and improve the security of the library. The doors don't always latch when they are closed, making it necessary to double-check every time we close the library.

Replacing the 20-year-old sheet vinyl and replacing it with a luxury vinyl plank will increase durability and resistance to everyday wear and tear. The current flooring is showing its age with fading, scratches, and bubbles. New flooring will help maintain the library as an inviting, welcoming public space for our community and visitors. With damage, individual planks could be replaced rather than the patching necessary with sheet vinyl.

Repainting the interior is needed to keep the space looking clean and inviting.

Updating the library facility is closely linked to these **City initiatives**:

- Improving the quality of life for our citizens
- Developing a vibrant future
- Encouraging community involvement and engagement
- Providing high-quality City Services

5. Key Dependencies or Potential Roadblocks:

With painting, shelving that is attached to the wall may need to be detached and moved prior to painting. Lifts would need to be used for some areas. That, and replacing flooring in public areas would require the library to close during some of the work.