

Library priorities for several categories, with a brief explanation. I am happy to fill in more details as necessary.

Location priorities (in order of priority)

1. Near as many schools as possible

Jr High and High School are able to walk further. Elementary school within ½ mile. Bus will route to where ever we are!

2. Downtown

Walkable to other business or short drive. Many people combine their errands within a close proximity.

3. Near parking

40-50 parking spaces for patrons within 1 block. Street parking next to building with no street to cross is the most desirable by patrons.

4. Walkable

Ability to walk, ride bikes, or push strollers from 5-10 blocks away.

5. Outdoor space

For programs, outdoor reading, events, community space

6. Current side of Main Street

Most walkable and safest route for the most people to get to the library. Or be near a crosswalk and light on Main Street.

Priorities in a new library building - for current library staff (in priority order)

1. 10,000-15,000 sq feet

At least double the current space of 5,757 square feet

2. Enclosable with some soundproofing kid's space & teen space (at least double current space)

Safer space for kids to run around without easy access to outside doors. Ability to enclose teen space for teen events & gatherings. Sound dampening so all ages can be themselves and not bother everyone in the building. Comfortable floor in kid's area for floor seating!

3. Meeting room that can hold 50-100 people

Dividable space that can accommodate different sized community groups, storytimes and library programs. With dividable sound system (can be used in whole or half of room)

4. At least 2 study rooms for 2-5 people and one for 5-8 people

Smaller enclosed private spaces for online meetings, appointments, interviews, testing, etc. We are asked for this almost daily.

5. Office space (at least 3 single offices) and shared staff space

Full time staff (at least) need their own office spaces. We currently have 1 office. Only 3 of 6 staff currently have their own desk space not in the public area.

6. All bathrooms single stall family bathrooms with changing tables

During storytimes there is often a need for multiple family bathroom spaces and changing tables. We currently have 3 single stall public bathrooms. Only 1 has a changing table and is large enough for parent and kids. This is also our 1 handicap bathroom. All public bathrooms meeting these requirements would be easiest and most convenient for families. ADA compliant doors would also be desired.

7. More space for Tweens

Space can be located with Kid or Teen area, but does not have to be. Enclosed space that is sound dampened would be most desirable.

8. Better ADA access at all entry points

Have all exterior doors be ADA compliant, including staff entrance.

9. Lower shelving/more shelving

Best practice is to have all shelving be under 66 inches. The majority of collections should be in the 15 inch to 48 inch range for all ages. Lower shelving that is not along walls also helps with staff visibility to all people in the building.

10. Windows

We desire outside light! Coating can be put on windows to help stop any sunlight damage to collections.

11. Better access to bookdrops inside and outside of building

A drive-up book drop that can be accessed by larger vehicles is needed. We have the drop, it is just not in a great location currently. A better interior book drop for staff access inside the building.

12. Staff break room/kitchen/Washer/Dryer (staff access)/Shower(staff access)

A break room for staff equipped with microwave, fridge/freezer, sink, dishwasher, washer, and dryer is highly desired. The dishwasher, washer & dryer would be used for program clean up too. A shower in the staff bathroom is desired. All of these features can also assist in the event of a local emergency.

13. Larger staff parking lot (6-8 spots)

The current staff parking lot does not have enough space for all staff and also has the single handicap parking spot for the library. Eight spots would accommodate some staff growth or space for volunteers.

14.Storage space

Libraries have a lot of stuff for programs, we need a better space to organize it. It is much cheaper to buy items in bulk for multiple programs, but this requires space to store it.

15.Better Wifi

We need stronger Wifi that can accommodate more users at one time. Library programs also require Wifi for streaming content. A larger space will also mean more users are expected.

16.Kitchenette in meeting room

A small kitchenette in the meeting room space for patrons to use or even for cooking demo programs. Sink and minifridge at minimum. Place to plug in 1-2 hotplates is desirable. Hot water dispenser available. This would also allow for the Library to “rent” out the room to community groups for various uses.

17.Access to coffee shop (either next door or in building)

We want easy access to caffeine and snacks!

Priorities in a new library building for community members (2019 survey & current patron comments) – in no particular order!

Keep stained glass windows in some capacity

This can be on an exterior wall, interior wall, or illuminated on the end caps of shelving rows.

Keep Library staff

Patrons like the interactions with staff and want to keep those social connections.

Space for a Library of Things

Space for more unique items to check out and more space for games & puzzles. We have requests for more musical instruments, cake pans, kitchen appliances, fishing poles, tools, sewing machines, food dehydrators, birding kits, light therapy lamps, and more!

Dedicated space for kid's, tweens, teens, seniors (quieter space)

See staff request above

Private small rooms

See staff request above

Meeting room

See staff request above

Timber/Logging theme

An overall theme that belongs to the community. Old growth lumber, older pictures of logging and Sweet Home would be desirable.

More comfortable seating

More soft seating available. We currently have 3 soft chairs and a bench. All are almost always occupied. 20+ soft seats would be ideal. We also need additional table seating for single seats or small groups of 4-8 people.

Self Checkout station

The ability to check out items without staff intervention, for those that are in a hurry, only have 1-2 items, or don't want as much staff interaction.

Assumptions about new building

Meet all minimum ADA requirements

Fire suppression system

Energy Efficient

One story building (*unless another entity occupies floors 2 & 3*)

Electrical access/availability (plugs available every 6-10 feet)

Flexibility in layout and design

We will continue all current collections and services (plus add more!)

We are not a quiet Library and do not plan to become one, even with sound dampening areas in the library.