

Patron Comments Related to the New Main Library Building

The following comments were gleaned from print and online surveys, emails, public meetings and personal communications over the past three years. These recommendations have been considered in the development of the new library building program. Many of these suggestions have been incorporated into the document.

Building Design

Eco-friendly, energy-efficient design with long-term maintenance and flexibility in mind

Make the Library a Destination—not just a box of books

Engaging architectural style, competitive with Barnes and Noble bookstores

Simple and elegant design that will not look “dated” in twenty years

Build the foundation such that the third floor could be fully expanded

Large foyer with an open feel

Proper entrance mats to handle high foot traffic, including muddy soccer shoes

High Ceilings

Interior windows between different function areas

Wide aisles in book stacks as well as among tables, sufficient for several people to pass or browse comfortably

Spacious and visible escalators

Elevator with at least one glass wall for security

Improved air circulation

Changeable environments

More technology

Noise control

Provide only one entrance *OR* Provide two entrances

Integration within the Park

Walking path around the building, complete with labeled plants, local flora

Allow for future growth of plants and trees

Reading or Sculpture garden, possibly with a cupola for outside seating

No fence between Library and Park

Plaza area for outdoor programs

Access to Courtyard

Accessible to Bike paths

Make sure there is more than one way to access the main drive

Provide vehicular access from Goodwood Blvd *OR* Eliminate vehicular access from Goodwood Blvd

Parking Lot

Variety of exterior lighting options for security, ease of walking

Exterior walkways at least 6 feet wide

Covered drop off area for patrons, wheelchair accessible

Covered walkways

Special “courtesy” parking spaces for moms with strollers, seniors, etc.

Consider underground parking

Special Spaces

Separate areas for Children, Teens and Adults, with special activity areas for Children and Teens

Doors to each area for Children, Teens and Adults to block sound and limit movement

No doors to each area for Children, Teens and Adults—use acoustical separation

Make a separate Magazine Reading Room

Make a separate AV Department, with space and facilities for more DVDs, audiobooks, etc.

Listening area

Meeting Rooms to accommodate more library programs and community groups of various sizes

AV equipment built into Meeting Room design

Group Study Rooms with built-in technology

Small Tutoring Rooms for Adult Literacy, etc.

Bigger Computer Lab with Distance Learning capabilities

Quiet reading room with no talking allowed

Coffee Shop operated by local coffee vendor or refreshment lounge for patrons

Book Sale and Library Gift shop area

Cell phone rooms or booths

Lockable study carrels equipped with locks and visibility windows

Provide home for the Career Center

Provide space for Genealogy Collection

More bathrooms; put wider doors on the bathroom stalls and install a book shelf in each stall

Lighting

Skylights

Variety of lighting options including daylight (use shading system or low E glass) and artificial

Task Lighting at desks or carrels

Furnishings and Equipment

Reading tables with variety of seating options, including wheelchair access

Provide upholstered reading chairs and lounge seating with side tables throughout

Variety of chairs and seating options, including those with good lumbar support

Include some chairs with arms in the Meeting Rooms

More computers, spread further apart

Wireless Access

Slant shelves on the lower end

Don't shelve any books on the bottom or top shelves

More step stools in stacks

Art or other Special Features

Place for public art; use local artists

Stained glass by local artist

Place for author signings

Aquarium

Consider a “Buy a Brick” promotion or other such commemorative program to allow the public to literally “buy in” to the new Main Library

Interior landscaping

Collections

Better distribution and marketing of books, DVDS and videos, audiobooks, music cds, circulating paintings, etc

New Services

Drive through window for book pickup and return

Design drop-off depository that accommodates non-book items such DVDs and videos

Self Check-out machine

More security

Personal lockers for patrons

Book carriers or “shopping carts” for patrons