Welcome
Land Acknowledgement

Every community owes its existence and vitality to generations from around the world who contributed their hopes, dreams, and energy to making the history that led to this moment. Some were brought here against their will, some were drawn to leave their distant homes in hope of a better life, and some have lived on this land for more generations than can be counted. Truth and acknowledgment are critical to building mutual respect and connection across all barriers of heritage and difference.

We begin this effort to acknowledge what has been buried by honoring the truth. We are standing on the lands of the Dakota People. We acknowledge the Ojibwe and Ho Chunk people who also call this place home. We pay respects to their elders past and present. Take a moment to consider the treaties made by the tribal nations that entitle non-Native people to live and work on traditional Native lands. Consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today.

Please join us in using this community space as a place for growth and reconciliation. We invite you to use this moment together to examine our cultural narratives that perpetuate violence against indigenous communities and work to create space to engage with and learn from indigenous community members.
Agreements

- Be present as fully as possible
- Keep the conversation community centered.
- Engage with humility. Recognize and acknowledge the history and inequities that impact our individual communities.
- Share your truth in ways that respect other people's truth. All contributions and opinions matter and count.
- Venture to be honest, with gentleness, about real experiences.
- When the going gets tough, turn to wonder. "I wonder what brought them to this belief. I wonder what they're feeling right now. I wonder what my feeling teaches me about myself."
- If possible, speak up during the meeting. A question or concern you have might help someone else with a similar question.
Housekeeping/Teams

- To show the conversation, click on the speech bubble.
- Share reactions or raise your hand with hand/smiley button.
- Feel free to turn your video on, but it's ok not to. Take breaks as needed.
- Please stay on mute unless talking.
- To enable captions, click on the three dots, choose 'turn on live captions.'
Agenda

1. Welcome/Acknowledgement/Agreements/Housekeeping – 5 min
2. Intros & Review of Roles & Responsibilities - 10 min
3. We heard from you – 10 min
4. Facility Assessments Review – 5 min
5. Program & Unique Decisions Overview & Discussion – 15 min
6. Engagement Recap – 10 min
7. Engagement Next Steps (Breakouts) – 15 min
8. Review of Timeline & Next Steps – 5 min
9. What’s on your mind? – (remainder+)
Introductions

- Name/Pronouns
Roles & Responsibilities

IAP2 Role: Involve / Collaborate

• Give recommendations and insight to options for the library, the facilities design, and the schematic design.
• Hear updates from the design team and consultants and advise on design to ensure community input and collaboration.
• Connect SPPL with existing community partners and assets.
• Share information with your communities, neighborhoods, and networks.
• Direct interested neighbors and stakeholders to information, resources, and engagement opportunities.
• Promote engagement opportunities and project updates to neighbors and other stakeholders.
We heard from You...
What: Engage community in co-creating schematic designs for the transformation of 3 neighborhood libraries that are well loved, well used, and well worn.
Your ideas

Go to the people! (schools, coffee shops, community centers)
- Be very clear with people about what ideas are not viable and explain why in as transparent a way as possible.
- Ambassadors Outreach
- Meet with neighborhood groups who are already connected.
- Go where people are - laundromats, coffee shops, grocery stores
- Connect with faith-based organizations and have a presence where they worship.

Outreach

ECFE classes
- In-School pop-up sessions.
- Workshops with parent groups at schools
- Design sessions at the library with kids
- Visit a Chamber event to introduce the project and ask for feedback from the biz community.

On-site engagement with library users (not a show and engagement)
- Ongoing conversations with patrons when they come in
- Past ambassadors in libraries for “open office hours” that are advertised ahead of time and let us have folks collect information via surveys or other means.
- Work with people who have unique needs - might be things that stress very specific needs that make people feel better for everyone. Thinking of every need, people to get around on buses vs walking.

Diverse media

Feed people! Ideas flow better on a full stomach.
- Go where people are - laundromats, coffee shops, grocery stores
- Connect with faith-based organizations and have a presence where they worship.
- Pay native language speakers to talk to members of the community.

Community

Visitation dinners

Multi-lingual outreach

Multi-lingual outreach

Neighborhood pop-ups
- come to community where they already are and find out what can bring them to the library.

In the community

Session out in the community

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Who/Where to engage

- Partner Organizations
- In our libraries
- In our neighborhoods
- Seek out people by needs/interests/cultures/affinity groups
How to publicize engagements

- Go to where the people are
- Flyers
- Ambassador Outreach
- Neighborhood papers
- Engage with interactive website
How to frame the engagement process

- Be clear about what ideas are viable and are not
- Be as transparent as possible
- Don’t ask for ideas we can’t implement – set expectations appropriately
How to host

- Events (in library and out in community)
- TikTok
- Meetings
- Food
- Pop-ups
- Talking circles
- Offer in non-English languages, too
What We Will Deliver

- Safe, inviting, affirming, and comfortable libraries for people of all cultures, abilities, and communities
- Improved accessibility
- Additional spaces and study rooms for communities to gather, work, study, and collaborate
- Separation of quiet & loud spaces
- Enhanced play & learn space
- Technology-rich environments
Community Engagement Timeline

Feb.
- Project Ambassador Meeting #1
  - Schedule Process Input
- Community Open House Meeting #1

Mar.
- Project Ambassador Meeting #2
  - Programs Facility Condition Update
- Community Open House Meetings #2

Apr.
- Project Ambassador Meeting #3
  - Option & Opportunities Update
- Creative Encounters

May
- Project Ambassador Meeting #4
  - Facility Design Update
- Creative Encounters

Jun.
- Project Ambassador Meeting #5
  - Facility Design Update
- Creative Encounters

Jul.
- No Aug
- Creative Encounters

Aug.
- Staff Workshop Design Review Input

Sep.
- Creative Encounters
- Staff Workshop
- Community Survey #3

PRE-DESIGN
- Design Direction is Defined

SCHEMATIC DESIGN

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT
- Project Ambassador Meeting #7
  - TBD

Listening Sessions

Community Survey #1

LSE ARCHITECTS
Facility Assessments
Hayden Heights Library

**Gross Area**  
11,356 SF

**Usable Public**  
8,855 SF

**2019 Visits**  
67,608

**Assessment Big Picture**
- Study Rooms do not meet accessibility
- Finishes are worn and dated
- No visual control of restroom at entry
- Staff restrooms do not meet accessibility
- High windowsill heights limit views in or out
- Window in staff workroom leaks
- Doors need to be replaced
- Single-story, wide-open, flexible space
Riverview Library

Gross Area 8,418 SF  
Net Usable 6,380 SF  
Net Usable Public 6,250 SF

Assessment Big Picture

- Accessible entry is inequitable
- Approach to accessible entry does not meet accessibility
- Poor exterior sightlines to accessible entry are a security concern
- Replace Mechanical systems that have reached their useful life
- Remote lower-level restrooms present major security challenge
- Carnegie Library; Historical Preservation Status
Hamline Midway Library

Gross Area: 7,911 SF
Usable Public: 5,045 SF
2019 Visits: 87,777

Assessment Big Picture

- Two story library
- Accessible entry off the alley is inequitable
- Building is lacking mechanical ventilation
- Floor to floor height of 9'-6" is limiting
- Lower-level hallway width and height do not meet accessibility requirements
- Structural system shows signs of deterioration in visible areas
- Subterranean water infiltration is the likely cause of foundation degradation and wet walls and floors
- Remote lower-level restrooms present major security challenges
- Select Architectural features could be retained or re-used
Program & Unique Decisions

**Hamline**
- Expansion options

**Riverview**
- Accessibly entry
- Bathrooms
- Outdoor space

**Hayden Heights**
- Partner space
- Outdoor space
Hamline Concepts

1. Addition to building in front of existing building

2. Move building to new location on site and addition

3. Preserve facade on new building

4. Reuse architectural features and materials in new construction

Local Precedent 1
Gibbsen Learning Center
Hamline University, Saint Paul

Local Precedent 2
Opened of the Schubert Theater Minneapolis

Local Precedent 3
Pioneer Hall
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Local Precedent 4
Nellis Center
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
Antonek Pedestal with key LB Team Members
Open House Recap

Describe your community library in one or two words.

- welcoming
- cozy
- historic
- beautiful
- vital service for city
- informational
- friendly staff
- accessible
- democratic
- outdated
- invaluable resource
- heart of community
- artistic
- support
- service
- friendly
- quiet
- beloved
- classic
- bustling
- quirky
- used
- cherished
- small
- historic
- beautiful
- valuable
- cold
- resource
- engaged
- small cozy
- connection
- preserved
- diverse
- future
- peace
Open House Recap

Rank your priorities

1st: Add community meeting/program spaces and study rooms
2nd: Create sustainable & environmentally friendly libraries
3rd: Enhance play & learn in children's areas
4th: Preserve architectural design elements
5th: Separate quiet & loud spaces acoustically
6th: Improve technology for meeting/working/studying
7th: Provide access to social service programs
8th: Create dedicated teen space
9th: Increase access to books, movies & music
10th: Connect to nature & outdoor space
Open House Recap
How do you identify your race/ethnicity/cultural group?

![Bar chart showing the distribution of responses.]

- **American Indian/Alaskan Native**: 0
- **Asian (including Hmong, Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Karen)**: 2
- **Black or African American (including Somali, Nigerian, Oromo, Ethiopian)**: 1
- **Hispanic or Latinx**: 0
- **Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander**: 0
- **White or Caucasian**: 22
- **Multiracial**: 1
- **Other/Choose not to respond**: 4
Open House Recap

How do you identify your gender?

- Female: 15
- Male: 11
- Non Binary / Trans: 0
- Other / Choose not to respond: 4
Open House Recap

What is your age

- 0-17: 0
- 18-26: 1
- 27-39: 5
- 40-64: 19
- 65+: 4
- Choose not to respond: 1
Listening Session
@ Hamline Recap
What is one way to make the library feel more welcoming to all?

- More movable space
- More connected community space to common library
- Larger windows so we can see the outside
- More windows to see in front of activities, activity inside
- More open doors for easier access
- More welcoming lighting
- More area around the main entryway
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- New model building but with character
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What is the most important thing you want us to know about the library?

- It is a beloved community asset and is more than a building
- IBA is really good done
- The library has a history of colonization/poorly handled
- I don't want to lose the history of the building
- A library is an organic system - not a building
- This building is an essential part of the historical neighborhood
- Building is small - it should be made larger in the addition
- We need quiet, small meeting spaces - more children can be noisy
- We need quiet, small meeting spaces where more children can be noisy
- It will be utilized more with better facilities - Mission deserves better
- Library is a community asset that needs to be maintained
- It is disturbing to see how this building has been neglected - shame on you!
- It should be focused on the future of the community
- It reflects the history of the community and cannot be adapted to the future
- IBA needs to be maintained for big community benefits
- Library needs to be maintained for big community benefits
- Save as much of the original IBA as possible
- It was abandoned for big community benefits
- The community has the history of this building and would like to keep it as original as possible
- The building is an important part of the neighborhood and must be preserved
Libraries are Resilience Centers. How does, or could, the library positively impact your life?

1. A place to gather as neighbors and as a family without appointments to spend $.
2. A place for community members to access resources and information.
3. A place for meeting and a place for learning.
4. In terms of real, the library helped feed & shelter my family via internet & printer access.
5. More varied activities for my family (incl kids).
6. The library is a place where all can feel less alone & more connected & supported.
7. As a family who has been lower income, having access to books, videos, music has been essential for us.
8. More space equals more possibilities & opportunities for community.
10. More varied activities for the families & kids.
11. Reliable destinations for families.
12. Reading more often.
What other ideas do you have to get input that reflects the diversity of the community?

- Open meetings with feedback
- Meetings with a variety of groups
- Block party!
- Engage community members of different ages
- Q&A session
- Engage with arts and culture
- Monitor, measure, informed design
- Encourage engagement of all groups
- Seek input from local businesses and neighbors
- Talk to neighbors and community members
- Develop community toolkit to promote diversity
- Engage with community leaders
- Foster a sense of belonging
- Foster a sense of community
- Preserve indigenous knowledge
- Promote environmental sustainability
Listening Session @ Hamline Recap

“It has a great history that should be remembered and celebrated”

“A building that doesn’t require folks with assisted mobility devices to use only a back door”

Right now the front stairs make anyone with a mobility challenge feel like a second class citizen…”

“A safer feel for staff not having to manage two stories”

“… a room for a children’s story time that isn’t in a regularly flooding space!”
Listening Session @ Hamline Recap

- I think keeping elements of the existing building is a fine compromise. It doesn't impede with making this the best library it can be for the future of the community.
- I like the idea preserving elements if feasible and makes economic sense look for inclusion of quiet spaces.
- Adopt green features. Design features for those with disabilities.
- Prioritize reusing materials from old building – light fixtures, windows, fireplace, front façade, even bricks from exterior structure.
- Preservation of as much of the existing building should be the goal. Please do not give us another Rondo-style library eyesore.
- I think a new building with some homage to the old façade would be great. More modern space is best use of the funds for long term use.
- Mod and eclectic and mindful of past and future!
- Don’t spend extra money on moving or saving building. Do what is best for the future.
- Please consider a completely new building that has 2 stories and meeting rooms, gathering space, and fully accessible.
- I am glad that the ideas being put forward will incorporate architectural elements of the existing building.
- Option three looks amazing. A new accessible space while still keeping the original outside feel.
- The idea of moving the building toward the street and adding the new features behind and under seems very exciting to me.
- Save the original building and keep the façade up front.
- Please maintain the beautiful exterior... It has clearly been neglected and is in need of repair and updating but please avoid an ultra modern box...
- This library values children and their freedom of movement. Almost half of the library has been dedicated to children. Please keep this a value that the neighborhood wants to keep at the heart of its library. Thank you for your work and consideration of what is important to the community.
- I have never encountered 10 or 12 others using the library and usually less. The schools already have good libraries so what demand!
- I am a Midway neighbor, SPPS parent... I am interested in using this opportunity to create something truly transformational on another site.
- Add a second floor or third and fourth for housing and density.
- Move building to new location on site and addition? This seems difficult and not worth it?
- Preserve façade on new building if this is landscaped in useful way.
Listening Session @ Hamline Recap
Next Up: SURVEY

Breakout (10 mins)

How can you help us organize?
Where do you go to be in community?
Next Up

Please confirm all dates on SPPL.org – they are subject to change.

- Transformation Listening Session at Riverview (3/15)
- Staff Workshop w/LSE with Hayden Heights staff (3/15)
- Transformation Listening Session at Hayden Heights (3/16)
- Community Survey (3/11 - 3/28)
- Community Open House Meetings in-person #2 (TBD)
- Artist Creative Encounters (TBD)
Next Steps for this Group

- Help us ensure we have representation from historically under-represented groups in the survey.
  - Please commit to sharing with an ask of at least 15 community members and posting it widely.
- Continue to follow the projects progress at [www.sppl.org/transforming-libraries](http://www.sppl.org/transforming-libraries)
What’s On Your Mind?