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# 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.

# Introductions

Councilmember Jalali

Councilmember Yang

Catherine Penkert - SPPL Director

Barb Sporlein - SPPL Deputy Director of Operations

Marika Staloch - SPPL Special Projects and Initiatives Manager

Stacy Opitz - SPPL Marketing and Communications Manager

Tiana Bellamy - Equity, Inclusion, and Antiracism Coordinator

(LSE Staff will be introduced shortly)

Remember to share  
your input!



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[www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com)

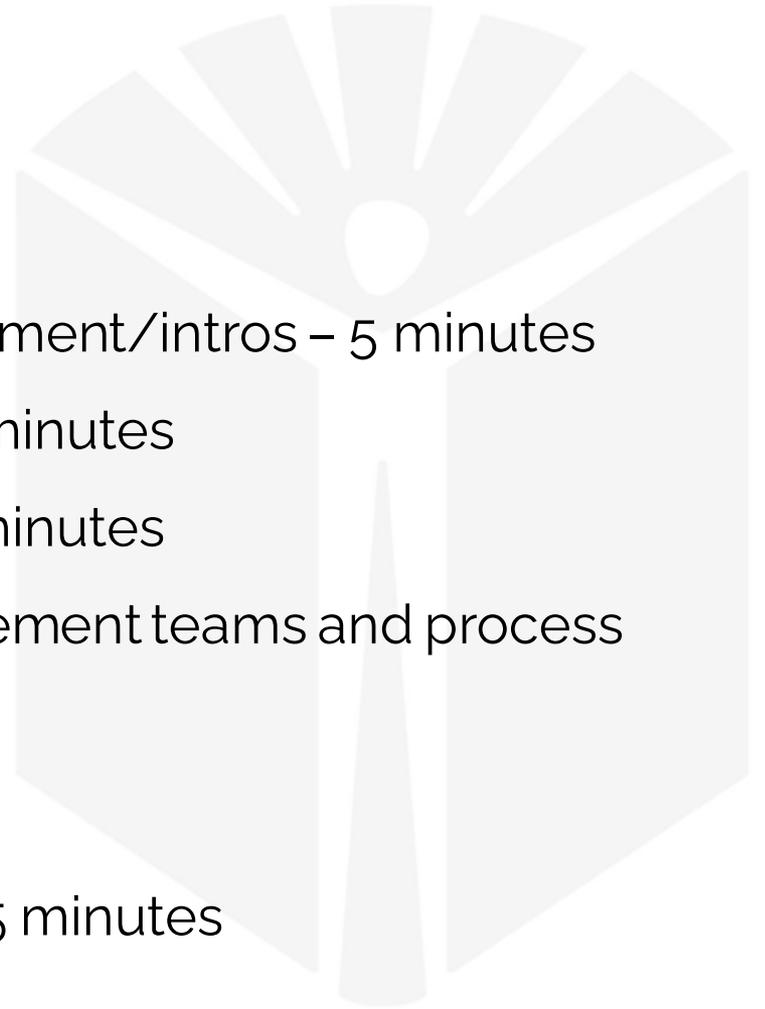
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# Agenda

1. Interactive welcome/acknowledgement/intros – 5 minutes
2. Housekeeping for the meeting – 5 minutes
3. What brought us to this point – 10 minutes
4. Introduction to the design & engagement teams and process  
– 10 minutes
5. Your libraries – 15 minutes
6. Interactive ideas for your library – 15 minutes



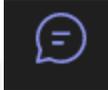
# IAP2 spectrum

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decision.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

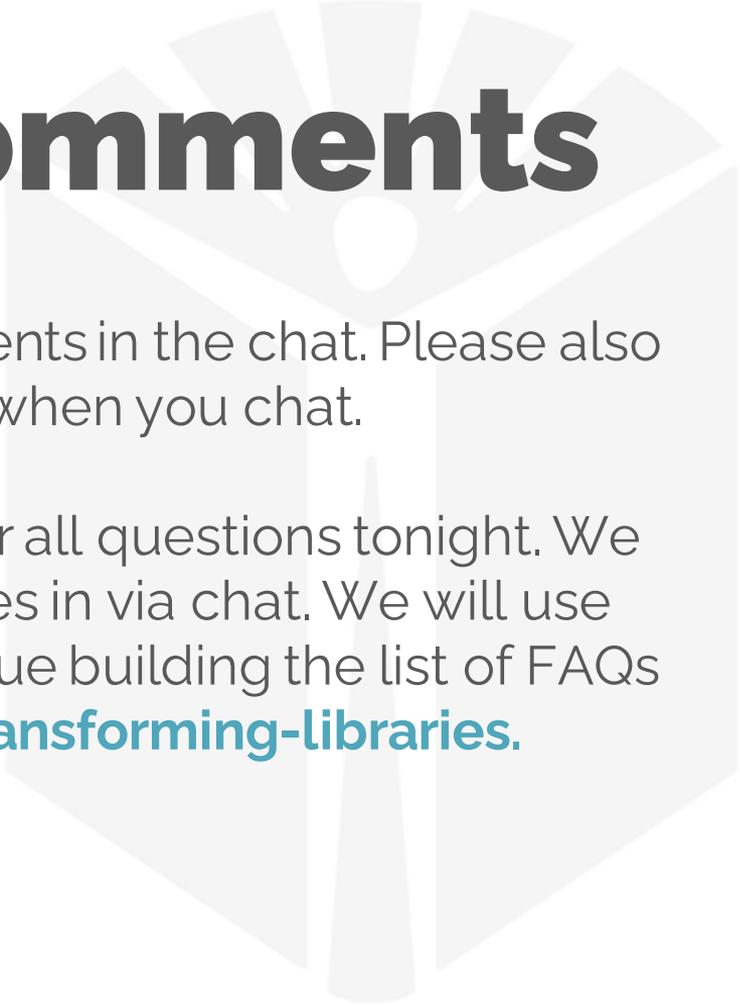
# Please remember to...

- 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."

# Microsoft Teams

- To show the conversation, click on the speech bubble. 
- Share reactions with the hand/smiley button 
- Feel free to turn on your video, *and* it's ok not to. (we may turn them off for bandwidth.) 

# Questions | Comments

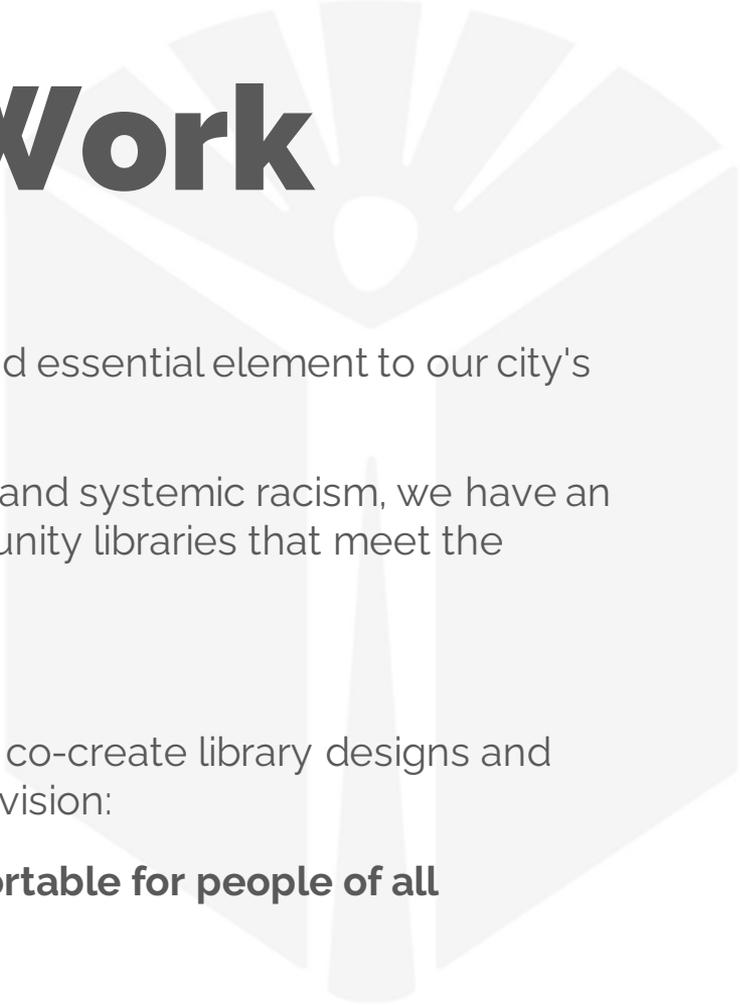


- Please add your questions/comments in the chat. Please also indicate your home neighborhood when you chat.
- We will likely not be able to answer all questions tonight. We are collecting everything that comes in via chat. We will use your submitted questions to continue building the list of FAQs on our project website [spl.org/transforming-libraries](https://spl.org/transforming-libraries).

# CO-CREATING A VISION TO TRANSFORM LIBRARIES



# Scope of our Work



## Why:

- As public spaces, Saint Paul libraries are a unique and essential element to our city's social infrastructure.
- As we reckon with the dual pandemics of COVID-19 and systemic racism, we have an opportunity to reimagine, redesign, and invest in community libraries that meet the needs of residents now and for the next generation.

## How:

- Work together across similarities and differences, to co-create library designs and case for investment that reflect a community-informed vision:
- **Spaces that are safe, inviting, affirming, and comfortable for people of all cultures, abilities, and communities.**

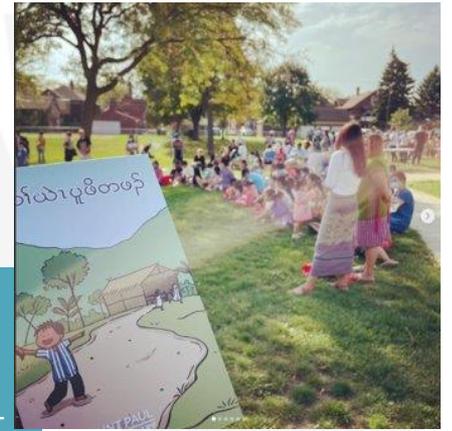


## What:

Engage community in co-creating schematic designs for the transformation of 3 neighborhood libraries that are well loved, well used, and well worn.

# Facilities Vision

Imagine gathering spaces in our communities for neighbors to meet and connect, for job seekers to access Wi-Fi and resume help, for children to discover and learn through play, and for community members to work, study, and access services. These free, accessible spaces that welcome everyone exist in our public libraries. They are **neighborhood resilience centers**.



# Investment Needs

**Transform three neighborhood locations** that are outdated, in poor condition, struggle to support high use, and have not been renovated in 30+ years.

At all locations:

- **Improve technology**
- **Incorporate play and learn spaces**

Hamline Midway Library



Hayden Heights Library



Riverview Library



	Hamline Midway	Riverview	Hayden Heights
Scope	Expansion through renovation + addition or new building	Renovation Possible small addition	Renovation
Funding secured?	Yes	Not yet	Not yet

# The Opportunity



- Co-create with neighbors **safe, inviting, affirming, and comfortable** libraries for people of all cultures, abilities, and communities.
- Improve **accessibility**
- Add community meeting/program **spaces** and study **rooms**
- Separate quiet & loud spaces **acoustically**
- Enhance **play & learn** space and **technology**

# Check In & Word Cloud



# LSE Introduction



- Extensive Relevant Library Experience and Expertise
- Extensive Relevant Sustainability Experience and Expertise
- Minneapolis-based, Black-owned business
- Commitment to equity is deeply embedded into our practice

**LSE**  
ARCHITECTS

# Select | Relevant



George Latimer Central Library



Adams Spanish Immersion



Highland Library - Before and After



Sumner Library



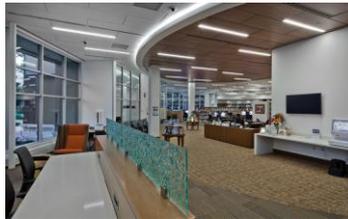
Webber Park Library - HC



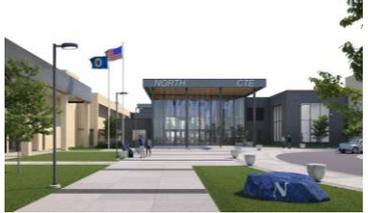
Midway YMCA



Sun Ray Library



Oxboro Library - HC



North High School

# Key LSE Team



**MOHAMMED LAWAL**  
CEO/Principal  
Architect & Design



**JENNIFER  
ANDERSON-TUTTLE**  
Principal Director  
Public Sector



**RANDY KLING**  
Sr. Project Architect /  
Manager



**KEON  
BLASINGAME**  
Project Manager



**CHRIS LAABS**  
Project Architect /  
Manager



**TUNDE OLUSANYA**  
Design / Modeling



**NICOLE  
BAUKNIGHT**  
Documentation



**SUSAN  
JACOBSON**  
Interior Design



**ROSS  
ANDERSON**  
Interior Design



**PHIL RAMSAY**  
Specifications

Support and resources from a firm of 50+

# Design Team

Sub-Consultant team selected for ability to directly respond to Saint Paul's priorities for expertise and experience in these areas:

- **Library Design**
- **Equity and Inclusion**
- **Historical Buildings**
- **Sustainable Design**



# Design Team



**SAINT PAUL  
MINNESOTA**



**SAINT PAUL  
PUBLIC LIBRARY**



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**TRICIA HEURING**  
Founder Public Functionary  
Adjunct Professor MCAD

## STRUCTURAL



## CIVIL

**PIERCE PINI &  
ASSOCIATES, INC.**

## MEP & ENERGY MODELING



## LANDSCAPE



**ASAKURA  
ROBINSON**

## HISTORICAL



**NEW HISTORY**

## COST ESTIMATING



## ACOUSTICS



**KVERNSTOEN, RÖNNHOLM & ASSOCIATES**  
CONSULTANTS IN ARCHITECTURAL ACOUSTICS

# Key Engagement Team



**TRICIA HEURING**  
Community Engagement Strategist



**MOHAMMED LAWAL**  
CEO/Principal Architect & Design



**JENNIFER ANDERSON-TUTTLE**  
Principal Director Public Sector



**SAM ERO-PHILLIPS**  
Project Designer



Artist Advisory  
Cohort

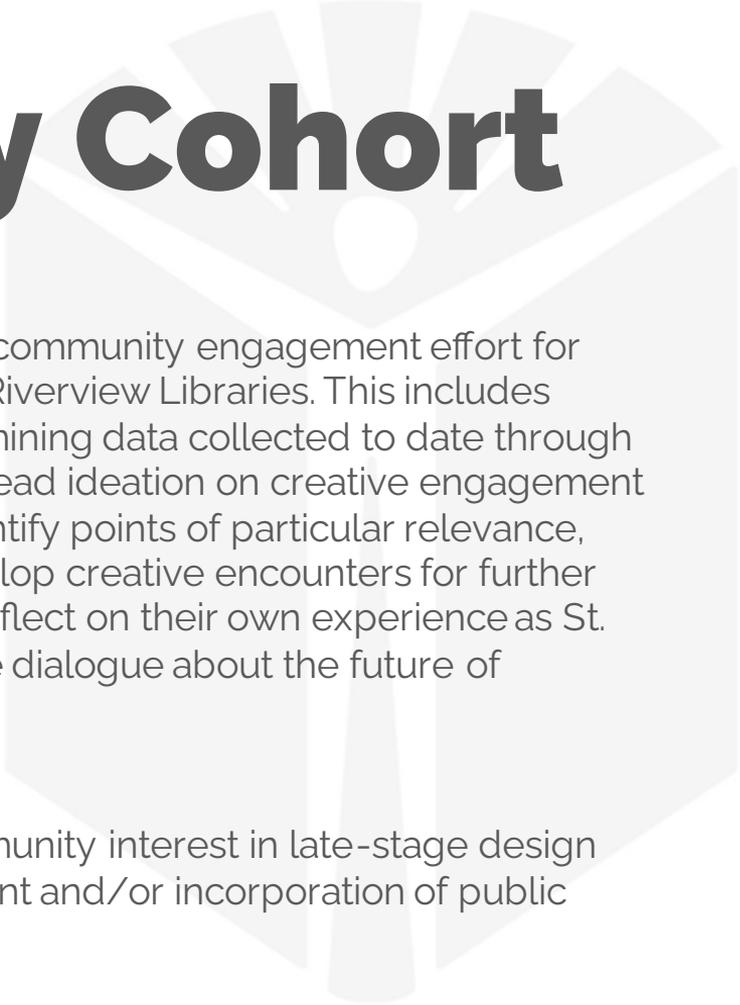


## Cohort Lead and Arts Consultant

### Tricia Heuring

Tricia Heuring is a Thai American curator, public art consultant, and educator. Her practice has been shaped by creating opportunities and community for emerging, BIPOC artists in the Twin Cities. As a co-founder of Public Functionary, a Northeast Minneapolis-based multidisciplinary arts platform, she supports under-resourced artists in building economic sustainability through studio practices and exhibitions. Advocating for an equitable and inclusive MSP arts sector has led to consulting and teaching with civic, grant-making, public art, and academic organizations. As a thought leader in the arts, she has been a speaker at Tedx UMN, MCAD, Pollen Midwest, Walker Art Center, Common Field, Springboard for the Arts, Creative Mornings, American Swedish Institute, The Coven, among others. Tricia is a graduate of Macalester College and holds an M.A. in arts management from St. Mary's University.

# Artist Advisory Cohort



The Artist Advisory Cohort will participate in the ongoing community engagement effort for the design of the Hamline Midway, Hayden Heights and Riverview Libraries. This includes regular meetings and events with stakeholders, and examining data collected to date through previous engagement efforts. They will co-facilitate and lead ideation on creative engagement sessions with LSE for community feedback. They will identify points of particular relevance, whether tensions, connections or opportunities, and develop creative encounters for further public conversation around those points. They will also reflect on their own experience as St. Paul artists and community members to creatively inspire dialogue about the future of libraries as cultural hubs.

The artist advisory cohort will review and represent community interest in late-stage design review and provide recommendations for arts engagement and/or incorporation of public artworks in future phases of the project.



## Artist Advisory Cohort

**Rebekah Crisanta de Ybarra** (Maya-Lenca Nation) is a multidisciplinary artist, musician, and culture bearer whose work is rooted in Indigenous Futurisms. She has extensive experience in community-based social practice, public arts, creative place-making, and intergenerational arts education with Twin Cities nonprofits, schools, and libraries. She is a 2021-22 Jerome Hill Artist Fellow. Previously she has been a recipient of the Knights Art Challenge as an artist/curator creating Electric Machete Studios Latinx art and music production house and gallery. She has also worked with Creative City Making public art projects for building equity in the Minneapolis departments of Regulatory Services, and with Forecast Public Art creating temporary murals for the Flint Hills Festival. She is currently working with Public Art St. Paul and the City of St. Paul on a public art project honoring the West Side Flats history and Wabasha corridor.



## Artist Advisory Cohort

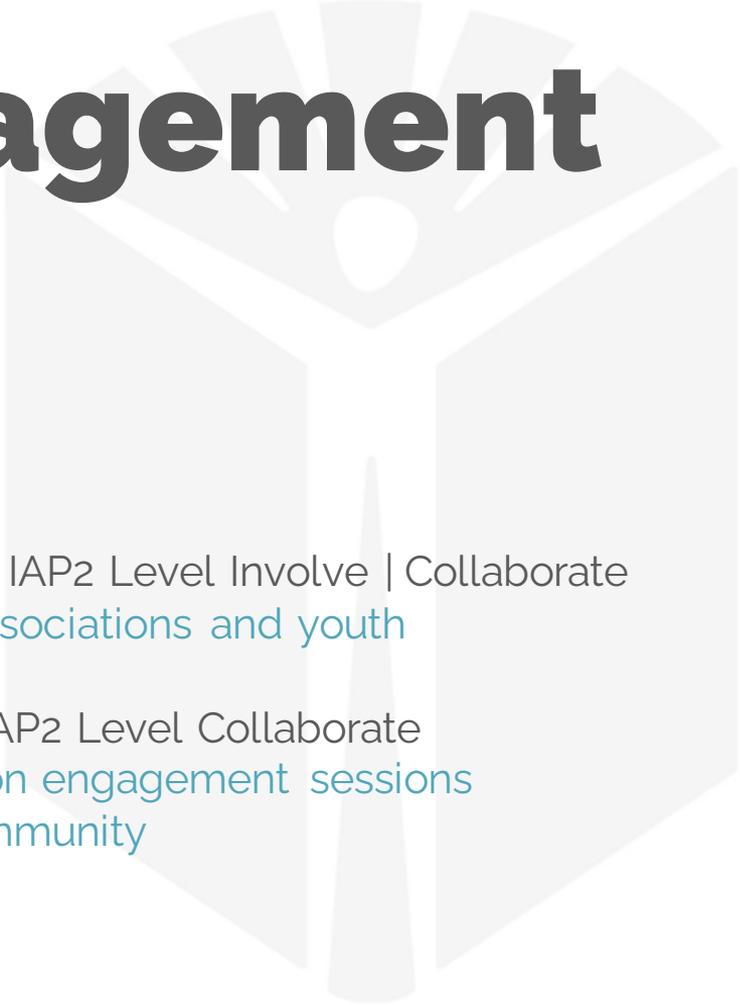
**Bayou** is an artist and designer born in St. Paul. Bayou creates murals, art installations, digital illustrations, digital and print materials for artists & organizations, woodwork, and works as a teaching artist. Bayou's art and design embody themes of nature from the micro to the cosmic, black and collective liberation, healing trauma, time, portals, geometry, setting intentions for affirmations, asking questions, symbols, and identity exploration. Bayou has created and co-facilitated art-based workshops, events, community gathering, and exhibitions with the Million Artist Movement, Kulture Klub Collaborative, Cultural Wellness Center, Northern Lights, Black Table Arts, Public Functionary, Jungle Theater, Exposed Brick Theatre, and Hennepin County Libraries. Bayou was a member of the Northern Lights Program council for two years helping reshape and reform how Northern Lights MN programmed and selected artists for the Northern Spark art festival. Bayou has held an artist residency at the Bell Museum from 2019-2021 focused on climate change, was selected as a 2019-2020 curatorial fellow at MIA, and has received several grants in collaboration with community organizations and artists throughout the Twin Cities.



## Artist Advisory Cohort

**Xee Reiter** is a self-taught artist specializing in watercolor, pen, and ink illustrations. As a first-generation Hmong American, you can largely find cultural influences in her works. Her artistic exploration includes but is not limited to portraiture, art journaling, mural art, typography, and calligraphy works. Xee lives in Saint Paul, Minnesota with her husband and three kids. You'll find her with sketchbooks, pens, and pencils doodling across the cities, from park trails to Hmong Village, as well as in her own backyard where she has started a mini urban farm and garden, complete with chickens and a wide variety of plants and vegetables. She has worked with local organizations such as TPT PBS, Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Public Radio, The Ordway, and Hmong Museum to connect community through her artistry.

# Layers of Engagement



**Open Houses** - IAP2 Level Involve

Series of 3-4 progressive meetings

**Listening Sessions**

In-person listening sessions at each library

**Community Surveys** - IAP2 Level Involve

Series of progressive surveys

**Library Design Project Ambassador Meetings** - IAP2 Level Involve | Collaborate

Comprised of invited neighborhood groups, associations and youth leadership teens

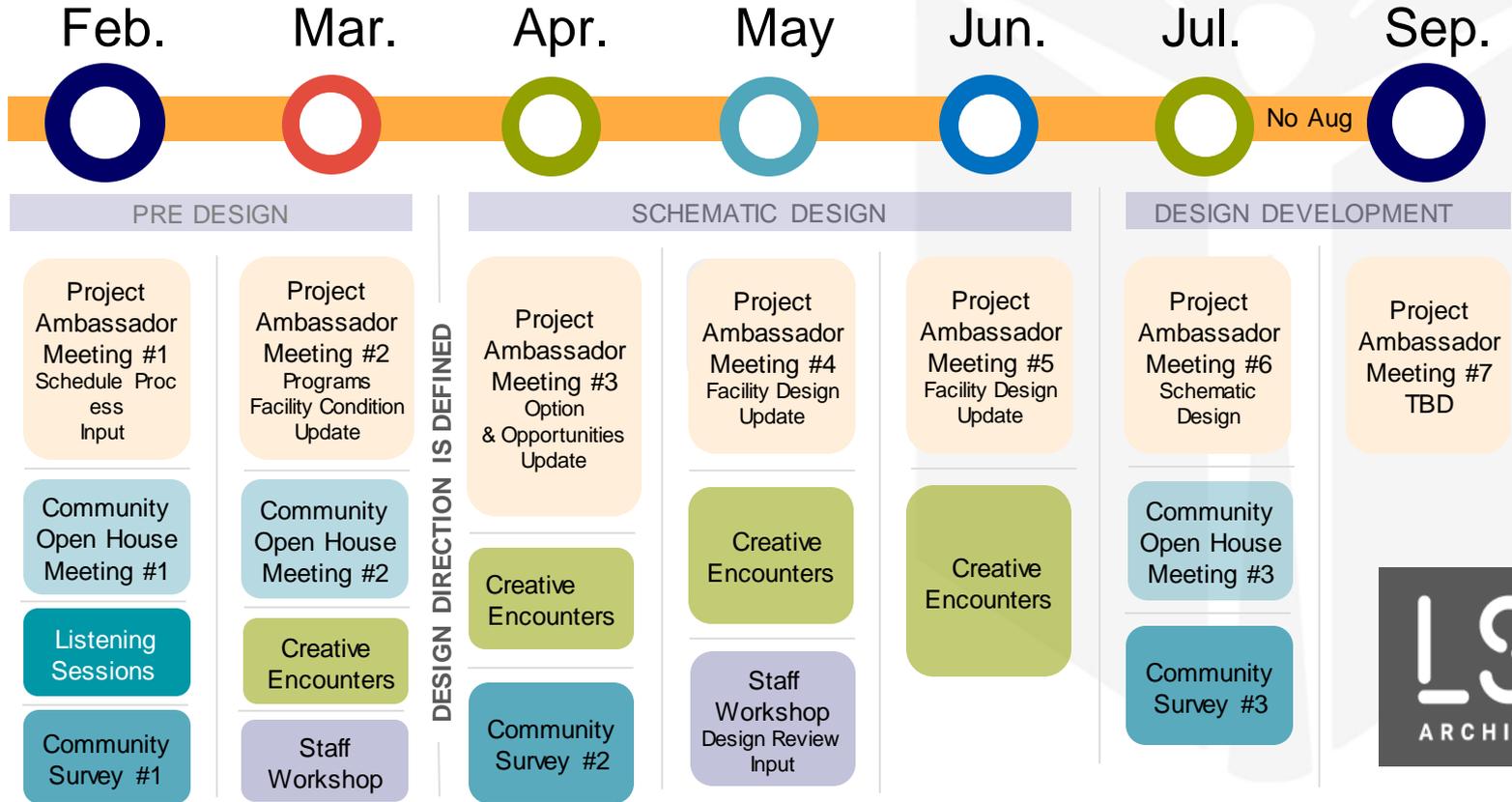
**Artist Advisory Cohort | Creative Encounters** - IAP2 Level Collaborate

Co Facilitators of Engagement, lead ideation on engagement sessions and create creative encounters within the community

**Library Staff Input** - IAP2 Level Collaborate

**Other** - TBD as process evolves

# Community Engagement Timeline



# Your Libraries









# Hamline Midway Library

**Gross Area**

7,911 SF

**Usable Public**

5,045 SF

**2019 Visits**

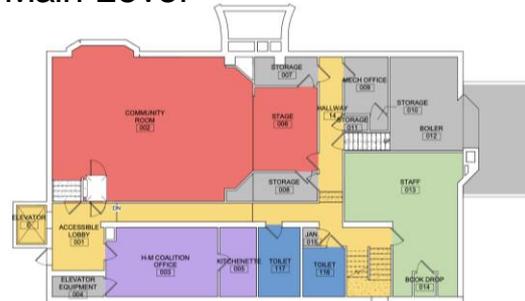
87,777

## 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
- Remote lower-level restrooms present major security challenges
- Beautiful stone archway could be retained or re-used



Main Level



Lower Level

# Check In & Your Input

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Or use QR code

# Your ideas

Go to  
[www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com)

Enter the code  
**4828 1899**



Or use QR code

## Via the Mentimeter Survey:

All 3 library designs will aim for this goal: co-create with neighbors a safe, inviting, affirming, and comfortable library for people of all cultures, abilities, and communities.

### Rank your priorities to help meet that goal.

- A space that reflects the **cultures** in my community
- Improve **accessibility** for people with mobility challenges
- Provide access to **social service programs**
- Create **sustainable and environmentally friendly** libraries
- Preserve architectural **design elements**
- Add community meeting/program **spaces** and study **rooms**
- Separate quiet & loud spaces **acoustically**
- Enhance **play & learn** in children's areas
- Improve **technology** in meeting rooms and for working/studying at the library
- Create dedicated **teen space**
- Create **connections to nature** and outdoor space

# More engagement & thanks!

- Continue to follow the projects progress and sign up for the **newsletter**: [www.sppl.org/transforming-libraries](http://www.sppl.org/transforming-libraries).
- Watch for and respond to **Survey #1** at the website above, our newsletter, or at the library.
- Watch for **Open House #2** announcement next month.
- Join an **in-person listening session** at your library.
- Anything else you wanted to share? Please **share in the chat**.