



BUILDING GREAT LIBRARIES, BUILDING GREAT COMMUNITIES

LISTENING TO LIBRARY COMMUNITIES

We have found big themes by talking to people in person, in online meetings, and through surveys. We got over 6,000 comments from more than 40 events. We also worked with 14 community members who joined our engagement team. This group was called the Community Design Advocates (CDAs).

WORKING WITH COMMUNITY DESIGN ADVOCATES (CDAs)

CDAs applied through an open call. They received a \$2500 stipend for their work. Perhaps you were in one of their focus groups or conversations!

This group met with our designers once a week from December 2021 until April 2022. They worked together to plan their outreach, then gave feedback to the architects based on what they learned from their communities.

CDAs are part of many communities that are affected by these library projects. This includes:

- Black & African American communities
- Indigenous communities
- Immigrants & Refugees
- Asian and Pacific Islander communities
- Latino / Hispanic people
- Seniors
- Youth
- Slavic communities
- People with disabilities
- Parents & grandparents
- People experiencing housing insecurity



SOME MEMBERS OF THE CDA TEAM

FLEXIBILITY

People want libraries to:

- Welcome more kinds of people
- Have more kinds of events
- Have room to be louder and quieter

ACCESS TO NATURE

People want to feel close to nature while indoors and out. Themes included natural light, plants and fresh, clean air. Clean air is also related to health concerns like COVID and pollution.

IMPORTANT THEMES

In community discussions, we've heard multiple themes that highlight issues that are most important to people.

IDENTITY, CULTURE & BELONGING

The library should welcome and reflect people of many cultures.

RESOURCES

Resources at the library are important for people who can't get them at other places. This can include:

- Housing resources
- Financial aid
- Internet and technology
- Print media
- Meeting space

JOYFULNESS

Libraries should be joyful and fun. This includes collections, events, design and art.

ACCESS

People use all parts of the library in different ways based on:

- Ability and disability
- Body types
- Ways of thinking and acting
- Gender

SAFETY & SECURITY

People want to feel that they belong in library spaces. They want resources and connections that help them feel safe. They want security policies they can feel good about and trust.

EXCITING CHANGES AT HOLGATE & MIDLAND LIBRARIES!

A Colloqate Design publication
in partnership with Bora Architecture & Interiors
and Multnomah County Library

INTRODUCING THE TEAM & PROJECTS

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Thanks to the support of voters, Multnomah County Library is hard at work on a major transformation. New spaces will replace cramped buildings and help the library change and grow along with the community. Holgate Library will be a bigger, entirely new two-story building at the same location as the existing building. It will reopen in summer 2024. Midland Library will be updated and expanded by approximately 6,000 square feet, also opening in summer 2024.

Community input is shaping the design for library spaces and new features.

DESIGN AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

The design team includes Bora Architecture & Interiors and Colloqate Design. Bora is a 73-person office based in Portland. They are passionate about designing healthy, joyful places connecting people and communities.

Colloqate is a nonprofit design practice with staff in Portland and New Orleans, focused on building community power through the design of social, civic and cultural spaces.

The whole team is committed to the ideas of the Design Justice movement. This means they use design as a way to challenge systems of power that harm communities, whether the harm is intended or not.



HOLGATE LIBRARY (SUMMER 2024)



MIDLAND LIBRARY (SUMMER 2024)

Top: Holgate Library (SE Holgate Blvd. & 79th Ave.)
Bottom: Midland Library (SE 122nd Ave. & Morrison St.)

Descargue este cartel en su idioma
下載有您語言的海報
Tải xuống cáo này với ngôn ngữ của quý vị
Скачайте эту листовку на на своем языке
Download this poster in your language



bit.ly/hgt-mid-poster

HOLGATE LIBRARY

Holgate Library will be a brand new two-story building, triple the size of the current space for a total of 21,000 square feet. It will be one of the largest libraries in Multnomah County.

Dedicated teen room with space for technology, homework and creative expression.

Multiple community rooms for events, meetings and more.

More access to computers and technology.



TEEN ROOM



CHILDREN'S AREA

Good natural light throughout the building to stay connected to the seasons.

Places to charge devices and drink something or have a snack.

Bringing nature indoors.

Large play and learning space for children and families. Room to be loud, away from quieter reading and computer areas.



GROUND FLOOR LOBBY

Welcoming greeting area with staff to help out.

Rotating art gallery wall to see the creativity of our communities.

Solar panels to help offset energy use.

Covered entries.

Outdoor plaza for community members to relax and connect.



FRONT ENTRY

COMMUNITY ART WORKSHOP

Local artist Salomé Souag hosted a community printmaking event at CORE PDX to inspire ideas for the design of an original artwork which will be inside the library. Based on this design, Salomé will also create linework that will be on the exterior of the building and give it a unique character.



MIDLAND LIBRARY

Midland will have more community spaces, faster internet, updated technology, and will add 6,000 square feet to the building.

Dedicated teen room with space for technology, homework and creative expression.

Outdoor interactive children's garden.

Large play and learning space for children and families.



TEEN ROOM



CHILDREN'S GARDEN

Good natural light throughout the building to stay connected to the seasons.

Bookshelves that are easy for people to reach, and easy to see over for safety.

Connections to nature and views, inside and outside.

Flexible community rooms for events that can open up to the outdoor plaza.



GATHERING CIRCLE

Places to sit and gather in circles, accessible to many different bodies. Circular gathering spaces are important in Indigenous communities as a way of making everyone feel equally welcome.

Art throughout the building that represents the diverse communities who use the libraries.

MAKING PATTERNS FROM COMMUNITY STORIES

During a Pattern Design Workshop, community members shared stories about something that is culturally important to them. They made images based on their stories which the design team turned into a pattern that will be on the building's exterior, welcoming visitors from the library's diverse communities.



OUTDOOR PLAZA

Power and water connections for food carts, cultural festivals and resource fairs.

Outdoor covered seating areas with power to charge devices.

Note: all art in these pictures is an example. Final art will be designed by community artists with Regional Arts & Culture Council.

LEARN MORE!

To learn more about upcoming opportunities around these projects see the link or QR code below:



PROJECT WEBSITE

<https://multcolib.org/about/building-libraries-together>



NEWSLETTER

Sign up to receive updates on the library's progress:

<https://multcolib.org/sign-receive-updates-libraris-progress>

PUBLIC VOTING

Community engagement was an important, ongoing effort, including three public voting sessions for colors and materials.

HOLGATE LIBRARY

Patterns in nature inspired the look and feel for the interior and exterior of the library. Calming natural colors and repeating geometric patterns complement the building's wooden structure.



MIDLAND LIBRARY

Water inspired the winning interior design. Many community members shared stories from different cultures which centered water as an important connector.

