

west branch library | somerville, ma | COMMUNITY MEETING | 02.26.18



designLAB architects
G2 Collaborative



AGENDA

6.00_{PM}

- 1** | OPENING
- 2** | MEETING GOALS

6.15_{PM}

- 3** | SUMMARY OF SATURDAY, 2/24 SITE WALK

6.45_{PM}

- 4** | DISCUSSION, Q&A

7.45_{PM}

- 5** | NEXT STEPS

8.00_{PM}

- 6** | END OF MEETING

TEAM INTRODUCTION

CITY OF SOMERVILLE

mayor: Joseph A. Curtatone

ward 6 alderman: Lance Davis

BUILDING COMMITTEE:

capital projects: Robert King, Director
Robert Cassano, Project Manager
Debora Mitrano, Project Assistant

library director: Glenn Ferdman
deputy director: Cathy Piantigini
west branch library: Karen Kramer
Alison Mitchell
library board of trustees: Katherine L. Van Sleet, President
library board of trustees: Peter Scheidler
city arborist: Vanessa Boukili

designLAB architects: Bob Miklos
Ben Youtz
Jason Van Yperen
Andrew Brookes

G2 Collaborative: Lisa Giersbach
Gigi Saltonstall
Sara Brunelle

design technique inc.: John Sayre-Scibona, Owners Project Manager

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | EMERGING THEMES & NEEDS

PROGRAMS & RESOURCES:

MULTIPURPOSE & FLEXIBLE SPACES

NEW COMMUNITY SPACE FOR MEETINGS, SMALL PERFORMANCES & EVENTS

MAINTAIN & EXPAND CHILDRENS PROGRAMS

INCREASE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS, & ADULT OFFERINGS

UNIFY COLLECTIONS AND IMPROVE BROWSABILITY

OPERATIONS:

IMPROVE ENTRY SEQUENCE, SECURITY ISSUES & STAFF SPACES

INCREASE RESTROOMS & ADD DEDICATED FAMILY & STAFF RESTROOMS

MODERNIZE MECHANICAL SYSTEMS & ADDRESS ENVELOPE ISSUES

EXTERIOR & LANDSCAPE:

CREATE ACCESSIBLE & APPEALING ENTRY WHILE MAINTAINING HISTORIC INTEGRITY

SPACE FOR OUTDOOR PROGRAMS

NEW COMMUNITY SPACE FOR MEETINGS, SMALL PERFORMANCES & EVENTS

SUMMARY | HIGHLIGHTS



SUMMARY | HIGHLIGHTS



SUMMARY | HIGHLIGHTS

ADD PLAN

SUMMARY | HIGHLIGHTS



SUMMARY | HIGHLIGHTS



SUMMARY | HIGHLIGHTS



REAR LANDSCAPE

TREES:

- MAINTAIN LARGE NORWAY MAPLE
- FURTHER ANALYZE POSSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN ADDITIONAL EXISTING TREES

GENERAL:

- GENERAL DESIRE FOR AS MUCH 'GREEN' AS POSSIBLE
- 'STRIKE THE RIGHT BALANCE' BETWEEN PROGRAMMABLE / OCCUPIABLE SPACES AND PARKING / SERVICE
- CONSIDER 'OUTDOOR CLASSROOM' AND/OR STAGE FOR NEIGHBORING SCHOOL AND OTHER COMMUNITY GROUP USE
- CONSIDER NATIVE, LOW MAINTENANCE PLANT SPECIES: WORK WITH GARDEN CLUB
 - CONSIDER PERMEABLE PAVING OPTIONS THAT FEEL 'MULTI-USE'
 - FLEXIBLE SEATING FOR SMALL INFORMAL GATHERINGS WOULD BE DESIREABLE
 - CONSIDER SOME TYPE OF 'AMPHITHEATER' SEATING
 - LIGHTING DESIGN IS AN IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION
 - CONSIDER ELEMENTS THAT CAN BE PLAYED ON

FRONT LANDSCAPE

TREES:

- MAINTAIN (2) COLUMNAR BEECH TREES + DAWN REDWOOD
- EXISTING BEECH TREE IN SOUTHEAST CORNER WILL NEED TO BE REMOVED FOR NEW ENTRY WALKWAY CONNECTING SIDEWALK TO ADDITION

GENERAL:

- LANDSCAPED SPACES SHOULD FEEL APPROACHABLE + WELCOMING
 - MANY LIKED INTIMACY OF EXISTING SPACES
- SEATING IS DESIRABLE. BENCHES + LAWN SEATING WERE DISCUSSED
 - SEPARATION OF OPEN SPACE FROM SIDEWALK IS AN IMPORTANT DESIGN CONSIDERATION
- LANDSCAPE SHOULD BE SYMMETRICALLY BALANCED TO COMPLIMENT HISTORIC BUILDING FACADE
- HOW TO BUFFER NOISE FROM COLLEGE AVE. WAS A DISCUSSION TOPIC

SUMMARY | HIGHLIGHTS



LANDSCAPE INSPIRATION



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LANDSCAPE INSPIRATION





● DISCUSSION, Q&A

NEXT STEPS

- Community Meeting to Review Landscape Design Strategies
- Historic Preservation Commission Review
- Special Permit Application
- Design Process to Construction



THANK YOU

