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Find your place... your place in a book, your hidden skill, your ability to do, your place in our community. Your place now and in the future.

Everyone can lift the edge and find their place.

01

Executive Summary

This document represents the completion of a schematic design and concept study for a new central public library for the City of Omaha, Nebraska. This design engagement was done in collaboration with the Omaha Public Library, Omaha Public Library Foundation, the City of Omaha, Do Space, and Heritage Omaha.

This new facility will house the central branch of the Omaha Public Library, Do Space, and the collection hub (Automatic Storage and Retrieval System) for the Omaha Public Library system. This was completed through a process of discovery, engagement, and design working directly with Omaha Public Library and Do Space leadership and staff. It also included leaders from over one hundred community and civic groups.

The public library is the heart of the community, connecting thought, information, and contemporary library services for all Omaha residents. The potential new central public library would house the blended services of Omaha Public Library (OPL) and Do Space, providing more opportunities for individuals and groups to learn and engage. Thoughtfully designed with purpose, it would respond to Omaha's needs and wants for its central public library. It would offer places for people to read, learn, research, browse books, connect with technology, and connect with each other.

DISCOVERY

Great design and planning start with understanding what is needed and how other institutions are solving these challenges. In the case of the new central public library for the City of Omaha, the design team engaged in a series of workshops with the staff of the Omaha Public Library and Do Space. These workshops established the baseline program of the proposed building based on the current needs of the two organizations. The design team also engaged in several meetings to project future needs, as the schematic concept is intended to be a 100+ year building, meaning it will need to offer a flexible and resilient environment that can continue to transform for the generation to follow.

During this course of the design engagement, members of Omaha Public Library, Do Space, and Heritage Omaha made learning journeys to tour and observe how best-in-class libraries were designed functionally and operationally. They also met directly with library staff and leadership to hear lessons learned during design, construction, and operation upon completion. The journeys included the James Hunt Jr. Library at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina; the Calgary Central Library in Calgary, Alberta, Canada; and the The Deichman Library in Oslo, Norway. Each of these projects represents the best example of design, systems, and operations the new Omaha central public library looks to incorporate. The Hunt Library operates a state-of-the-art automatic storage and retrieval system; Calgary is considered the best library in North America; and the Deichman was recognized as the world's best new public library in 2021.

ENGAGEMENT

Running parallel to the discovery efforts was the process of engaging with the Omaha community leadership. This included the establishment of the Building Stakeholders Group. This group of city and community leaders met with the library, Do Space, Heritage Omaha, and the design team monthly to help guide the development of the design as it evolved during the schematic phase of the design process. This was supported by the Engagement Committee that helped direct outreach to a diverse group of community and institutional leaders in the city to discuss how the proposed design could help support their organizations' missions.

The design team engaged a group of community leaders in a series of workshops over two days at the Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. These group workshops were followed by a series of one-on-one interviews conducted by MSS. Central to this part of the process were two surveys. The surveys, one for community leaders and one for the general public, allowed participants to help guide the program sections of the design. The public survey engaged over sixteen hundred members of the community and offered insight into the most needed program elements in the new design. Located on page 36, the survey helped categorize and prioritize spaces as they were associated with the schematic design documented in this publication.

DESIGN

The schematic design for a welcoming space for all at the corner of 72nd and Dodge has been informed by the 2017 Omaha Public Library Facilities Master Plan and the discovery and engagement process.

The points of entry located on the east and west sides of the building would rise to allow the users to see a glimpse of the building's interior—a reference to the lifted edge of a page to find your place.

The building design would establish a system of modular elements that come together in an iconic form. The individual modules represent the individuals and organizations of our great city and demonstrate the strength and beauty that we can display when we come together as a community. This building form would work to incorporate the dynamic energy of the site and, in a way, represent the diversity and interconnected nature of our community. The building form would establish a posture that embraces users and will offer a respite for body and mind. While dynamic stacks of glass blocks reflect the energy of the passing traffic, they also would create an element that helps buffer this energy from the south-facing city garden the building folds itself around.

Designed to be a destination that is welcoming and reflective of the Omaha community, the library would be organized to be open, flexible, and supportive of a variety of activities. A centrally located feature stair would guide users upward, while simultaneously providing a beacon to all floors, with sweeping views of adjacent spaces.

Open floor plans would encourage intuitive wayfinding and allow for future flexibility. A heavily landscaped courtyard on the south side of the library could be seen from multiple areas. The exterior facade would be comprised of high-performance materials that balance opaque and transparent glazing. The transparent glass would create evenly dispersed natural light, while efficiently keeping interior comfort a priority. The building envelope would wrap the three floor plates to give focus to library functions within and would break on the south facade, opening to the courtyard and seamlessly connecting interior to exterior. Sustainable, durable, and timeless materials could include warm woods and soft neutrals. Acoustic wood ceilings, glass walls, and subtly curved railings would project openness and comfort. Natural daylight would be included in all spaces.

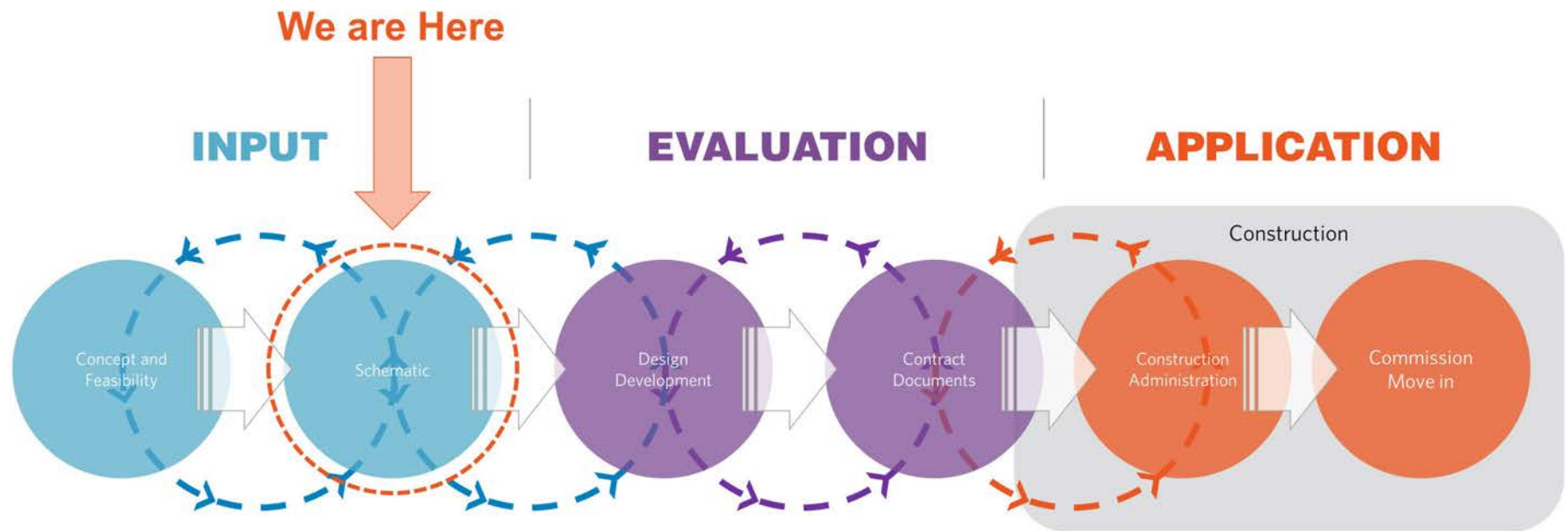
THIS DOCUMENT

The following pages outline in detail the process summarized to the left. This small publication has been prepared so that you to might imagine your place in this new design proposal for the community of Omaha, Nebraska.

WHAT HAPPENS IF...

CONCEPTUAL PROJECT TIMELINE

This project is dependent on the support of the City of Omaha and its residents. The below graphic offers a glimpse into the phases that would be needed to complete the design and see the building constructed should the project find support and move forward.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

LIBRARY

The initial aspiration for this study was the creation of a new system that is built upon the physical needs and technology of an Automated Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS). Centered on the ASRS, the new building will establish the heart of a new network of distribution that will support the entire Omaha Public Library system. Through the implementation of this new technology, both the Central Library and its branches will have the capacity to explore new programming and space use. The concepts investigated during this design engagement blended the traditions of the Omaha Public Library with the technology and innovation of Do Space, merging them into an integrated entity. This combination creates a library benchmark that becomes a national model and positions the Omaha Public Library at the cutting edge of library design.

DESIGN

When we consider the modern library as architecture and environment, we have come to expect a defining — if not iconic — form, incorporating human-scale and inviting interior environments. The concepts reflected in this study are intended to present a contextualized place that is of and from the site at 72nd and Dodge Street. These ideas project a hint of familiarity without relying on old emblems or local fancies. The study incorporates the natural environment as a central point of focus for a modern community building. They apply the need for acoustic and landscape buffers to create a sense of security for pedestrians moving along and occupying space at Dodge and 72nd Streets. The expectation of the building is one that can hold its own in the world of design criticism, and offer a vision for the potential of our city's future. It aspires to be sensible in function but progressive and forward moving in its aesthetic.

SUSTAINABILITY

The future of the built environment is one that considers present needs while evolving to accommodate new demands over the next century. The concepts investigated in this document work to establish a definition of traditional environmental sustainability with progressive aspirations for the building's carbon footprint. This includes opportunities for a LEED Platinum and a Net Zero building and site. A concept of resiliency and sustainability is expressed in the context of nearly 80,000 automobiles passing its site each day, which equates to 29.2 million automobiles passing the site each year. This setting begs the question: what can design share with the local population in this visible setting? The possibilities require balance between the concepts of dynamic and flexible space while allowing the building to transform over time. Providing such resiliency will help ensure the community's investment in such an environment will prove to be worthwhile.

COMMUNITY

Central to any library is the community it serves and the place it occupies in the context of the city. In this case, we as citizens of the City of Omaha look to create an inclusive environment that represents all members of our community. We seek to provide Omaha a place that will fuel our future innovation and the creative fires of its citizens while establishing a physical catalyst that will help accelerate the urban development of a central intersection of our city. What is 72nd and Dodge? It has been said that the Downtown is the heart of any city, but neighborhoods are its soul. 72nd and Dodge is part of our soul. It is... about crossroads, protest, celebration, innovation, repurposing, and rebirth. It is a site that has lived many lives: torn to bits in the tornado of '75, vacated when Borders went out of business, and then reborn by the transformational Do Space. You cannot miss the kinetic energy of the 72nd and Dodge. Maybe that is the dichotomy of this place. It evokes the potential and kinetic energy of the city of Omaha.

Create our place... our place in a book, our hidden skills, our abilities to do, our place in the community. Our place now and in the future.

Everyone can lift the edge and establish their place.



02

Discovery

The New York Times



Why Libraries May Never Stop Being People Places

Redesigned buildings with outdoor gathering areas were underway before Covid hit. Now, they look like 20/20 foresight.

A curbside reading room outside the Crown Heights branch of the Brooklyn Public Library. Gregg Richards



Gift this article



30

By **Karrie Jacobs**

April 21, 2022

This article is part of our latest [Design special report](#), about new creative pathways shaped by the pandemic.

The New York Times

Beyond the Libraries A New Era

With a shift to online
underway, “the most
institutions” are in a
with the changing fut



York Times

Pandemic, ook Toward

resources well
trusted civic
good position to deal
ure.



The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

THE POST'S VIEW

Opinion | The golden age of public libraries dawns again



By the Editorial Board

January 1, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. EST



COLLECTIONS HUB

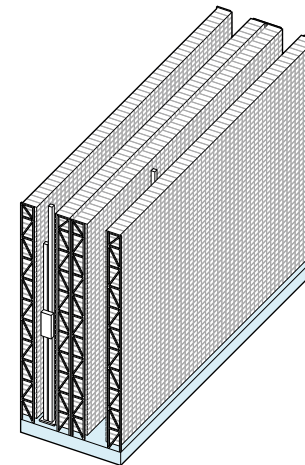
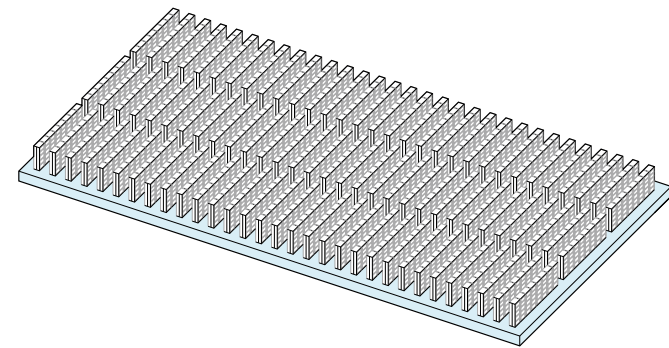
AUTOMATED STORAGE & RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

defining a building... supporting the branches

A 21st century library provides flexible spaces for learning, creating, working, and community-building. It also provides the opportunity for more significant collections of books and materials through a Collections Hub approach. Sometimes called an automated storage and retrieval system (ASRS), the Collections Hub at the new central public library would be a new, innovative storage system that would serve every OPL branch. The Collections Hub would allow thoughtful curation of materials across the system, creating more spaces for people and activities in all branches. One of the Collections Hub's advantages is the quick retrieval of materials stored within, which means requested items can be delivered swiftly to library users at all locations. In addition, for library users who enjoy browsing, the Collections Hub will enable the creation of curated collections and dynamic displays to reflect the community's unique needs and interests across all branches. This best-practice approach for creating flexible spaces and greater access to robust collections of materials through the Collections Hub will ensure OPL meets the community's needs today and in the future.

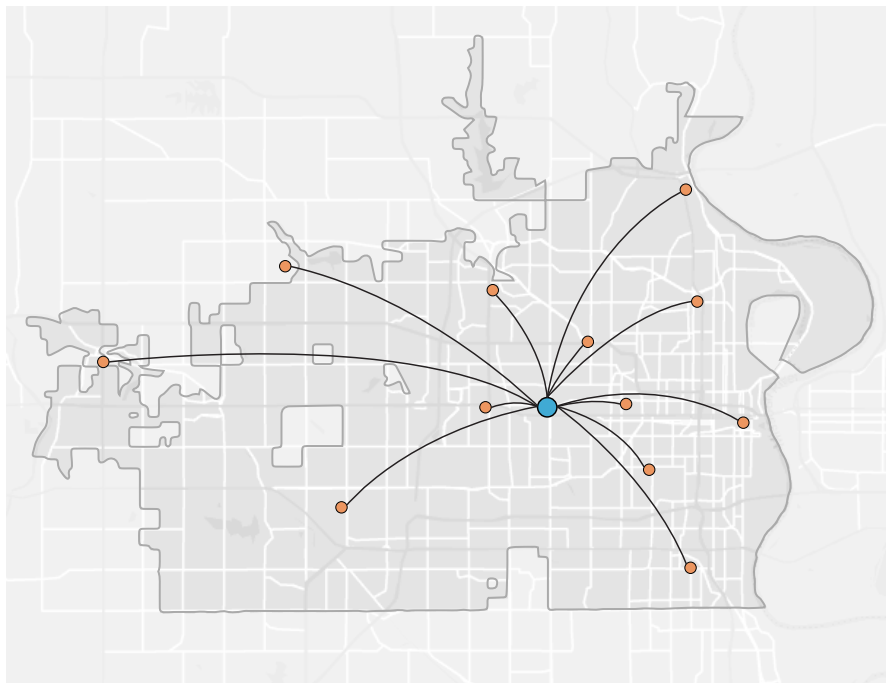
DOUBLE COLLECTION CAPACITY

Compact vertical storage, supplemented by traditional shelving, thoughtful curation of materials, and more flexible space throughout the OPL system.



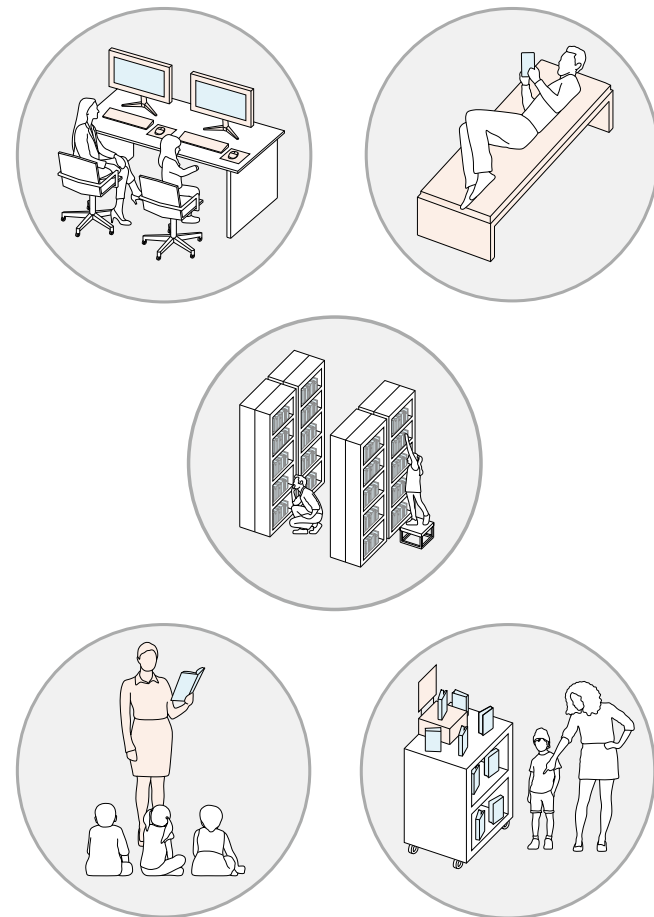
SUPPORTING THE BRANCHES

Central storage space provides efficient access to titles delivered to a patron's branch of choice.



DYNAMIC COLLECTIONS, DISPLAYS, PROGRAMMING, & SERVICES

Utilizing flexible space to engage and inspire users.



PROJECT PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

These organizations are working together to explore the possibilities of what a world-class central public library could bring to Omaha.



Wendy Townley, Omaha Public Library Foundation and Tina Lonergan, a Trustee of the Omaha Public Library Foundation Board - Community Partners' Breakfast, April 4, 2022
Rebecca Stavick, Community Information Trust/Do Space, Rachel Steiner, Omaha Public Library - Harmonic Design Workshop, April 13, 2022
Laura Marlane, Omaha Public Library and Angela McGraw, Do Space - OPL & OPLF Workshop, July 2, 2021
Anna Gadzinski, Heritage Omaha - Community Open House, April 7, 2022
Danny Begley, Omaha City Council - Building Stakeholders Meeting, March 9, 2022



**Omaha
Public
Library**



**Omaha
Public
Library**
foundation



space[®]

**Heritage
Omaha**

These organizations are delving into how Omaha could benefit from a new central public library. They are analyzing how enhancements—like growing and providing services beyond the current capacity and increasing access to tech and human-centered services—would serve our community, while keeping books at the heart of the system. Do Space programs and services and traditional Omaha Public Library services can serve the community under one roof to meet 21st century information needs. This ambitious project began in response to Omaha Public Library's 2010 and 2017 Facilities Master Plans that called for a new central public library to be built along the Dodge Street corridor, between 72nd and 90th Streets. Many cities around the world, including those visited by the project team, have shown the phenomenal impact a modern central public library can have on communities. Omaha and Omaha Public Library deserve the best that public libraries have to offer. The ultimate goal is to collectively provide a strong foundation for our community's future.

DO SPACE & OPL WORKSHOPS

Members of the design team led Do Space and Omaha Public Library staff through several workshops to consider program elements and develop concepts that would influence how a future central public library would function.





JANUARY 11, 2022

Twenty members of Do Space staff participated in a workshop to provide feedback on their current space and programs and to dream of future opportunities for a new central public library space. They also participated in an activity to design patron personas. The “Design Your Patron Persona” activity engaged staff in exploring a diverse lineup of personalities and learning styles, while looking critically at what activities, spaces, and places could support of those diverse needs.



JANUARY 13–14, 2022

64 members of the Omaha Public Library staff participated in meetings over two days to discuss individual department ideas and needs. Staff were asked to comment on “beauty boards” of images meant to inspire programs and spaces that could occur in a new central public library. Staff were also prompted to provide a wish list of activities, spaces, places, and programs they would like to see in a new library building.



FEBRUARY 10–11, 2022

Omaha Public Library departments met with the design team over a second set of two days to focus on revising the initial program and to focus on staff areas specifically. These 64 department members were asked to comment on precedent images of staff spaces, including dedicated desking, work support, and personal support. Staff were asked specific questions to determine departmental adjacencies, storage needs, and efficient workflows.

SERVICE DESIGN WORKSHOPS

The design team engaged Do Space and Omaha Public Library leadership in a series of workshops in order to envision a future service model for a central public library to inspire services that are more human, cooperative, and sustainable for the City of Omaha. The goals of these workshops during schematic design included:

- To begin exploring service experience and service model possibilities.
- To inform a commitment to align on a future-state service model vision.
- To lay the foundation for service design work to occur in future project phases.



**PROMPT: “TO BE SUCCESSFUL,
AS PARTNERS WE MUST:”**

Themes that emerged:

- Be part of an open, communicative, and collaborative team with a shared vision of the future.
- Work backward from community outcomes to guide decision-making.
- Embrace opportunities for incremental change and opportunities for transformation.

**PROMPT: “WHAT MAKES OUR
COMBINED WORK MEANINGFUL?”**

All leaders were passionate about creating greater impact through service every day.

- **Innovation** – Blending Omaha Public Library and Do Space creates an amazing opportunity for combining information, services, and technology in new and innovative ways.
- **Partnerships** – The library can be a platform for change that creates an impact through more creative approaches to orchestrating relationships.
- **Measurement** – Impact makes their work meaningful. Provide equal access.

“Leaders are strongly aligned in their role to empower people and foster deeper connections, helping communities prepare, learn, and grow while expanding what’s possible for everyone in greater Omaha.”

— Patrick Quattlebaum,
Harmonic Design

LEARNING JOURNEYS

In March 2022, representatives from Omaha Public Library, Do Space, and the design team traveled to visit libraries that represent the very best in collections management, operational advancement, and facilities design. The libraries visited were the James B. Hunt Jr. Library in Raleigh, North Carolina ; the Calgary Central Library in Calgary, Canada; and the Deichman Library in Oslo, Norway.

The purpose of these trips was to gather lessons learned from each of these fabulous examples of recent library design. In each case, the groups that traveled were able to meet with local library representatives, tour both public and staff library spaces, and see the many systems and programs of each facility in use.



OMA -> RDU
1,235 mi



OMA -> YYC
1,374mi



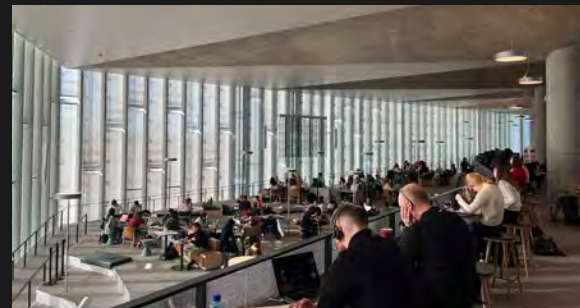
OMA -> OSL
4,313mi



Upper left: Calgary Central Library

Lower left: James B. Hunt Jr. Library

Below: Deichman Library



JAMES B. HUNT JR. LIBRARY

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

SNØHETTA 2013

The James B. Hunt Jr. Library is the second main library of North Carolina State University (NCSU) and is located on the University's Centennial Campus. The \$115 million facility opened in January 2013 and is best known for its architecture and technological integration, including a large robotic book storage and retrieval system that houses most of the university's engineering, textiles, and hard sciences collections.

Visiting the Hunt Library afforded participants an opportunity to observe firsthand an ASRS (Automated Storage and Retrieval System) and learn how this system works in a library setting. Best practices and lessons learned were shared with the group to help inform the planning and development possibilities in the Omaha Central Library system.

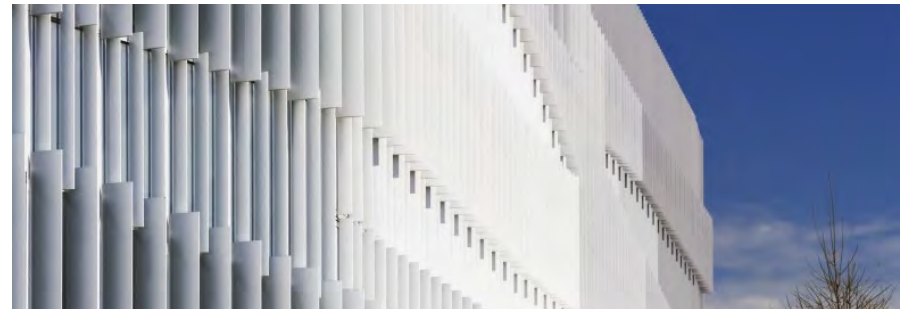




Above: A row of shelved storage inside the automated storage and retrieval system
Opposite page: Rain garden reading lounge



Above: Quiet reading room
Below: Exterior facade



CALGARY CENTRAL LIBRARY

CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA

SNØHETTA 2018

The Calgary Central Library, also known as the Calgary New Central Library (NCL), is a public library in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, and the flagship branch of the Calgary Public Library system. The building is located in the Downtown East Village neighborhood and opened on November 1, 2018, replacing an earlier central branch built in the 1960s in Downtown Calgary.

The NCL is considered to be one of North America's best modern libraries. The trip allowed our group to see how the library operates as a central library and how it interacts with its branches. It is an excellent example of acoustic control in open space, by way of creative sound attenuation strategies, as well as strategic organization of space types based on predicted noise levels.





Above: Reading room
Opposite page: Entrance atrium



Above: Children's play area
Below: Entrance canopy

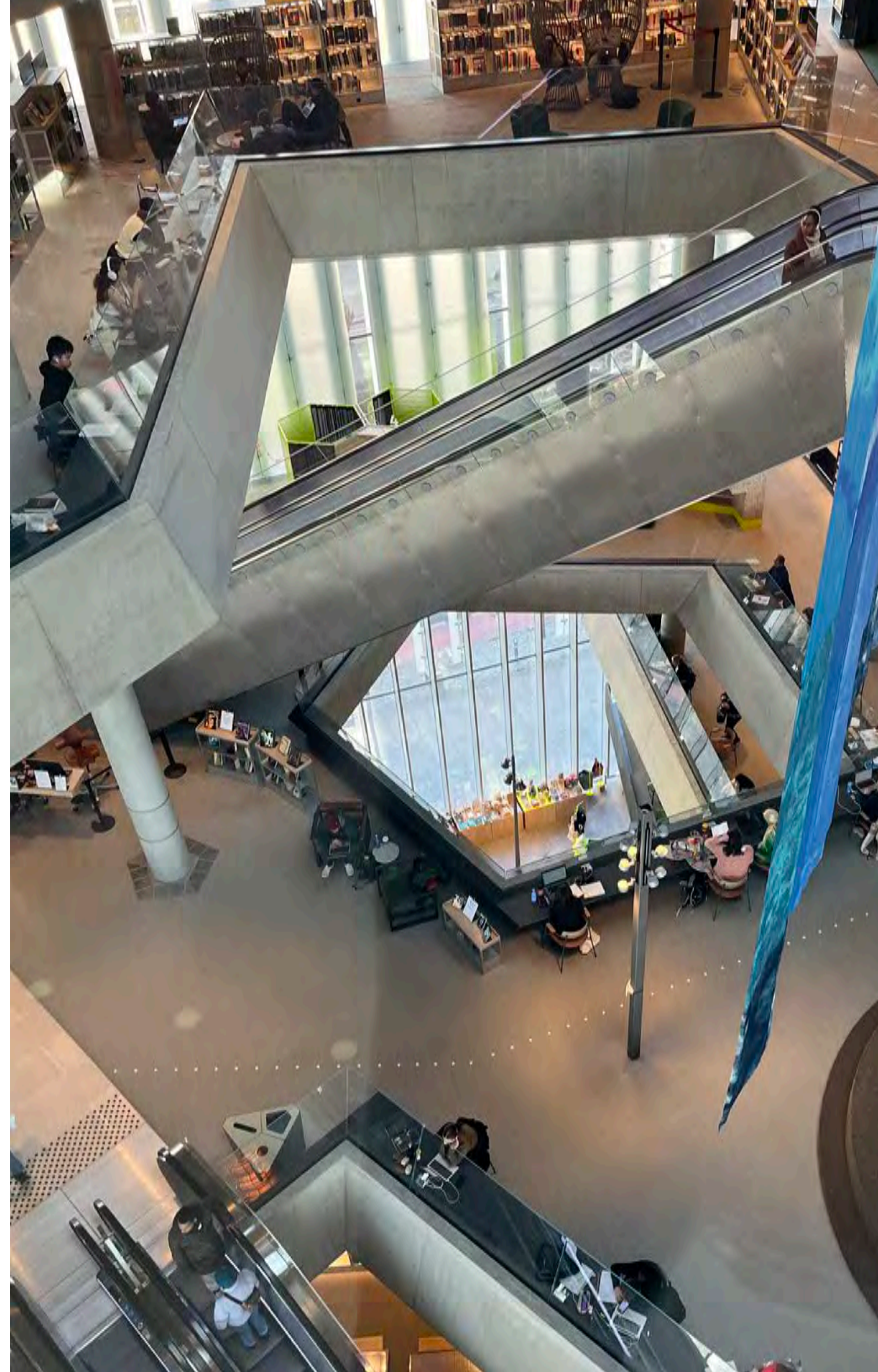
DEICHMAN LIBRARY

OSLO, NORWAY

ATELIER OSLO, LUND HAGEM 2020

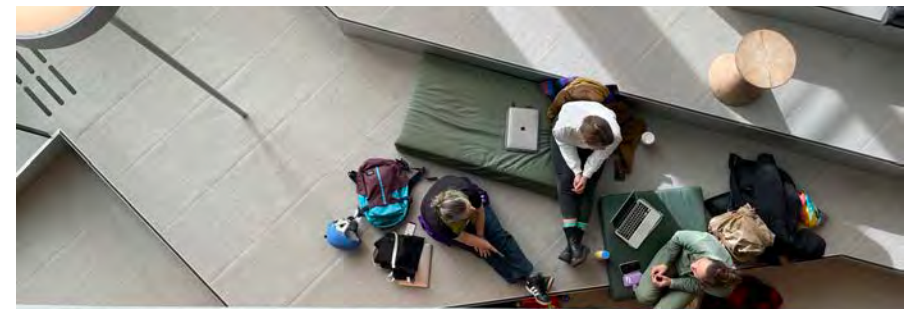
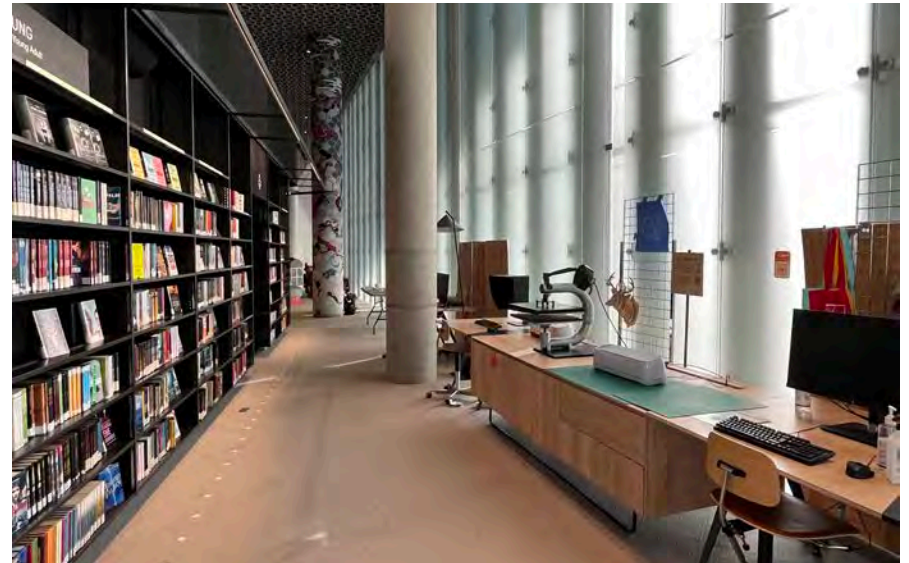
In 2021, 32 libraries competed for the world's best public library award. Five were shortlisted before Deichman Bjørvika eventually won the title. The library is located in the Bjørvika neighborhood near the city's iconic Opera House. It is a modern and dynamic library that contains Deichman's extensive book collections, as well as a wealth of diverse space types that support additional programming (e.g. a movie theatre, media workshops, gaming zones, lounges, a restaurant, et al).

Northern European libraries are considered to be the best in the world, and Deichman represents the best of the best. The team wanted to experience this environment and use it as a benchmark for a new world class library for our Omaha community.





Above: Common reading space and stair
Opposite page: Escalators and floor openings connecting multiple floors of the library



Above: Shelving and public work area
Below: Interactive seating

“I always felt, in any town,
if I can get to a library, I’ll be okay.”

- Maya Angelou



03

Engagement

BUILDING STAKEHOLDERS GROUP

JANUARY 12 – MAY 4, 2022

The Building Stakeholders Group, comprised of twenty-eight members, met throughout the schematic design process and included representatives from the City of Omaha City Council, the Omaha Public Library board and staff, the Omaha Public Library Foundation board and staff, Do Space staff, and Heritage Omaha staff.

This team met monthly to hear from the design team on their progress and to offer input and feedback as the design of a new central public library for Omaha began to form.



BUILDING STAKEHOLDERS GROUP MEMBERS

City of Omaha	Kevin Andersen	Deputy Chief of Staff - Economic Development
City of Omaha	Troy Anderson	Deputy Chief of Staff - Economic Development
City of Omaha	Thomas Warren	Chief of Staff
Community Information Trust	Rebecca Stavick	Chief Executive Officer
Community Information Trust Board	Gary Gates	Advisor; Heritage Services Board, Director
Community Information Trust Board	Karen Linder	Director; Heritage Services Board, Director
Community Information Trust Board	Michael McCarthy	Chair; Heritage Services Board, Chair
Community Information Trust Board	David Slosburg	Director; Heritage Services Board, Director
Do Space	Angela McGraw	Director
The Hawks Foundation	Julie Cobb	Principal; Omaha Public Library Foundation Advisory Council, Member
Heritage Omaha	Anna Gadzinski	Project and Development Officer
Heritage Omaha	Rachel Jacobson	President; Community Information Trust, President
Heritage Omaha	Kevin McCarthy	Pro-Bono Consultant
Lozier Foundation	Dr. Susan Toohy	Director of Educational Initiatives
Metropolitan Community College	Gary Girard	Executive Director - Continuing Education
Omaha City Council	Danny Begley	Councilmember; Library Committee
Omaha City Council	Brinker Harding	Councilmember; Library Committee
Omaha City Council	Don Rowe	Councilmember; Library Committee
Omaha Public Library	Elizabeth Johnson	Senior Manager of Operations
Omaha Public Library	Stacy Lickteig	Senior Manager of Branches
Omaha Public Library	Laura Marlane	Executive Director
Omaha Public Library	Rachel Steiner	Assistant Library Director
Omaha Public Library Board	Dr. Keith Lutz	Trustee; Facilities Committee, Chair
Omaha Public Library Board	Rochelle Mullen	Trustee; Facilities Committee, Member
Omaha Public Library Board	Jen Rae Wang	Secretary-Treasurer; Facilities Committee, Member
Omaha Public Library Foundation	Wendy Townley	Executive Director
Omaha Public Library Foundation Board	Jo Giles	Trustee
Omaha Public Library Foundation Board	Tina Lonergan	Trustee

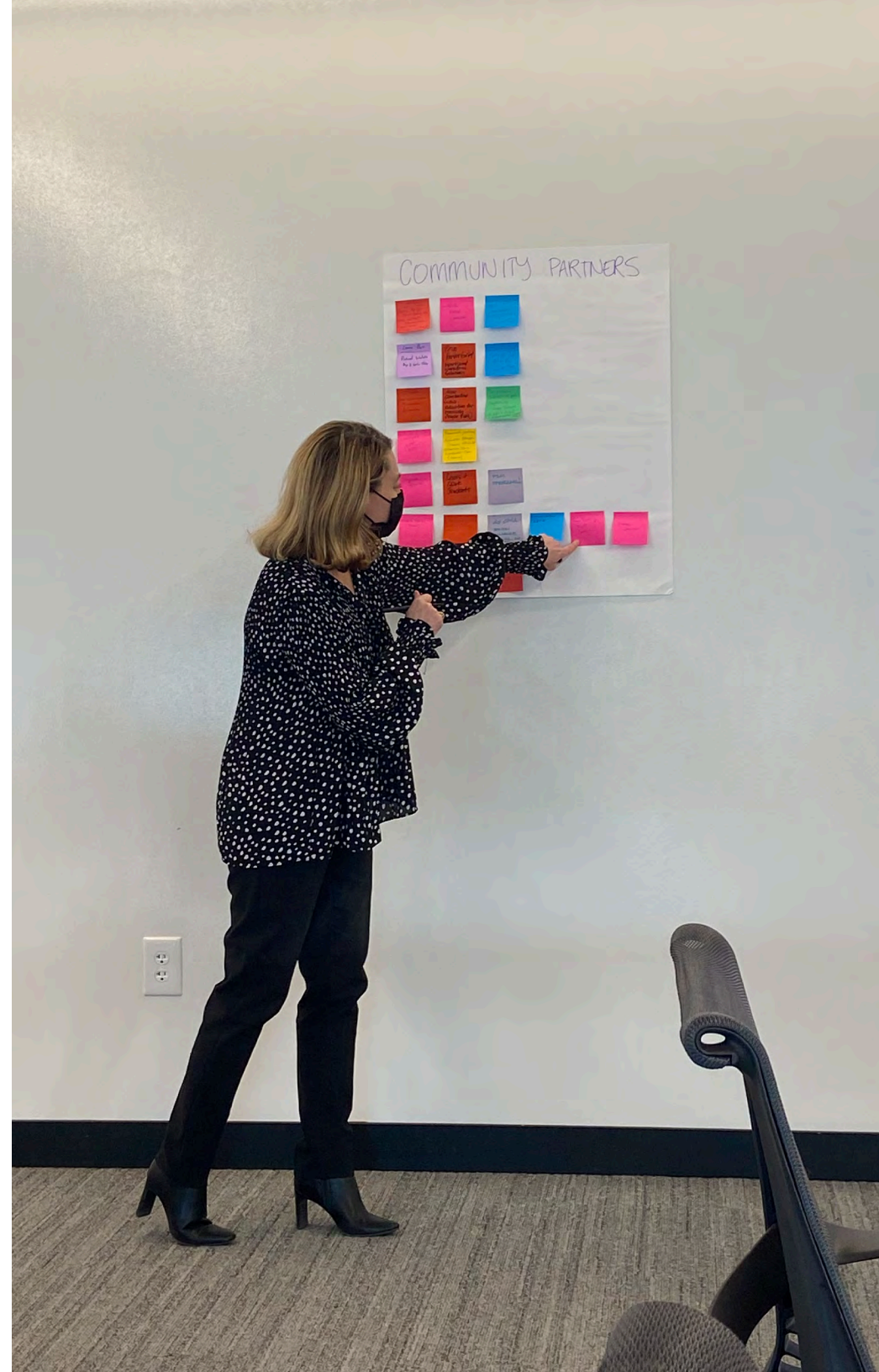


COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 9 & MARCH 9, 2022

The Community Engagement Committee met twice during the schematic design process and was comprised of a group of stakeholder representatives from all partner organizations (Omaha Public Library, Omaha Public Library Foundation, City of Omaha, Community Information Trust, Do Space, and Heritage Omaha) who advised and planned broader community engagement for the project. This committee complemented the work of the Community Partners Group, comprised of community leaders representing diverse neighborhoods and communities. The Community Engagement Committee informed the design team's work by:

- Reviewing and informing the schematic design phase community engagement plan, including surveys and public meetings.
- Co-creating a list of over 300 community partners to engage during the process.
- Informing the project website and communication plan as engagement and transparency tools.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

City of Omaha	Carrie Murphy	Deputy Chief of Staff - Communications
City of Omaha	Keith Station	Deputy Chief of Staff - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Community Information Trust	Rebecca Stavick	Chief Executive Officer
Do Space	Angela McGraw	Director
Heritage Omaha	Anna Gadzinski	Project and Development Officer
Heritage Omaha	Rachel Jacobson	President; Community Information Trust, President
Omaha Public Library	Emily Getzschman	Marketing & Media Relations Manager
Omaha Public Library	Amy Mather	Adult Services Manager
Omaha Public Library Board	John Barrett	Trustee; Community Engagement Committee, Chair
Omaha Public Library Board	Tulani Grundy Meadows	Trustee; Community Engagement Committee, Member
Omaha Public Library Foundation	Wendy Townley	Executive Director



COMMUNITY PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

During the schematic design process, community partners talked about how the library can become an “anchor institution” that leverages and fosters shared social impact. The design team learned so much about how excited and committed Omaha community leaders are by the potential to leverage a central public library to serve community members and expand their reach exponentially through intentional partnerships.



PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS*

AARP Nebraska	Intercultural Senior Center	Omaha Community Foundation
AIM Institute	Ja Keen Fox Solutions	Omaha Girls Rock
All Kinds Accessibility	Jewish Federation of Omaha	Omaha Lit Fest
American Institute of Graphic Arts	Joslyn Art Museum	Omaha Public Power District
American Society of Landscape Architects	Kids Can Community Center	Omaha Public Schools
Autism Action Partnership	Kiewit Luminarium	Omaha STEM Ecosystem
Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center	Latino Center of the Midlands	Omaha Symphony
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Midlands	Lauritzen Gardens	Omaha Zoo Foundation
Bike Walk Nebraska	Learning for ALL	Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium
Buffett Early Childhood Institute	Legal Aid of Nebraska	One Omaha
Canopy South	Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc.	Open Door Mission
Center for Holistic Development, Inc.	Maha Festival	The Reader
The Collective for Hope	Metro Omaha Education Consortium	Refugee Women Rising
Creighton University	Metro Omaha Education Consortium	Rose Theater
Dundee Book Company	Metro Transit	Siena Francis House
Durham Museum	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency	Table Grace Ministries
Film Streams	Metropolitan Community College	Three Rivers Library System
Fontenelle Forrest	Millard Public Schools	Union for Contemporary Art
Friends of Omaha Public Library	Munroe-Meyer Institute	United Way of the Midlands
Front Porch Investments	Nania Arts	University of Nebraska - Omaha
Google	Natural Healing Omaha	University of Nebraska Medical Center
Great Plains Black History Museum	Nebraska Arts Council	Urban League of Nebraska
Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce	Nebraska Early Childhood Collaborative	Vic Gutman & Associates
Greater Omaha Genealogical Society	Nebraska Legislature	The Wellbeing Partners
Growing Hearts Collaborative	Nebraska Methodist College	Westside Community Schools
Habitat for Humanity	Nebraska Shakespeare Festival, Inc.	WhyArts Inc.
Heartland Bike Share	No More Empty Pots	Wild Roots People's Clinic
Heartland Family Service	Nonprofit Association of the Midlands	Women's Center for Advancement
Heartland Workforce Solutions	North End Teleservices	Women's Fund of Omaha
Humanities Nebraska	Omaha 100	
Institute for Holocaust Education	Omaha by Design	

*Includes organizations that participated in the community partner survey, the community breakfasts, and/or one-on-one Zoom interviews.

COMMUNITY PARTNER SURVEY

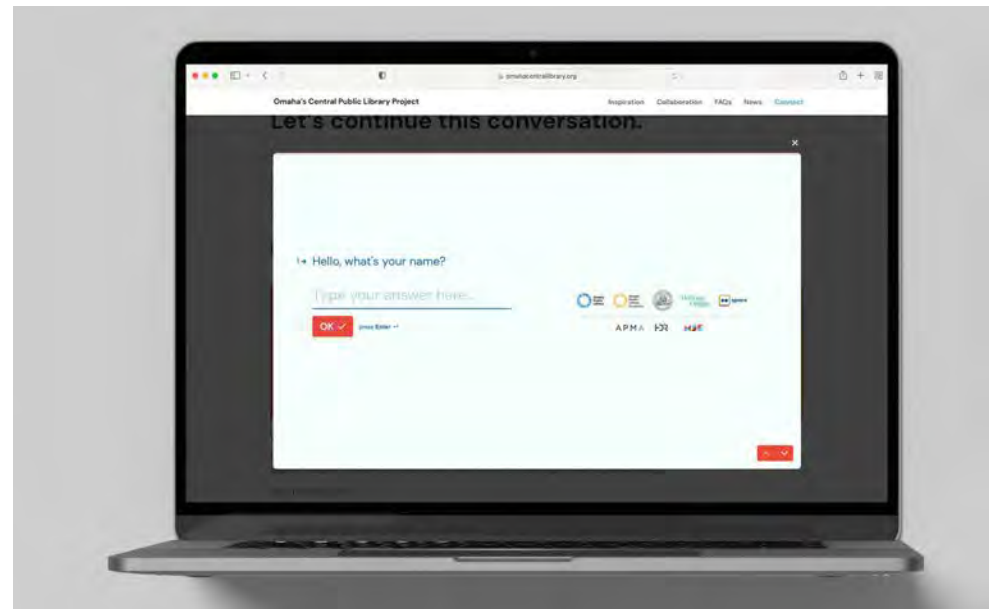
MARCH 15 – APRIL 15, 2022

Further community partner participation was encouraged through an online survey tailored to determining organizations' aspirations, missions, and needs. Fifty-three participants provided insights on their work and what activities, spaces, and places could best support their organizations' missions at a new central public library.

PROMPT: "WHAT ARE YOUR ORGANIZATION'S TOP PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS?"

Responses included:

- **Providing quality education:** Increasing early literacy and math proficiency and preparing students for kindergarten, high school, and college. Providing adult learners and ESL students with quality educational opportunities.
- **Diversity and equity:** Improving the experiences and quality of life of all Omahans.
- **Health and wellbeing:** Improving mental health and decreasing related stigmas. Assisting with recovery efforts related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Access to space:** Institutions actively looking for larger facilities, program spaces, and meeting rooms.
- **Staying connected:** Maintaining and expanding relationships with clients and communities.



PROMPT: “THE LIBRARY COULD SUPPORT OUR MISSION IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS...”

Responses included:

- Gathering and meeting space
- Connection to social services
- Safe space
- Cross promotion of community events
- Provide equitable access
- STEM learning programs
- English as a second language programming
- Program collaboration
- Addressing digital literacy
- Expanded print tools
- Expanded digital tools
- Early childhood programming
- Mentoring resources
- Volunteers
- Funding partnerships
- Hosting free food truck events
- Facilitating community discussions
- Providing partner space
- Shared storage spaces
- Addressing inequity
- Access to technology
- Summer programming
- Pop-up events
- Attracting young talent in Omaha

PROMPT: “WHAT DO YOU ADDRESS IN YOUR WORK?”

A word cloud of social and community issues. The most prominent words are 'EDUCATION', 'DIVERSITY & INCLUSIVENESS', 'ARTS & CULTURE', and 'INEQUITY'. Other visible words include 'AFFORDABLE HOUSING', 'JOB SKILLS & WORKFORCE', 'MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES', 'ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT', 'POVERTY', 'HOMELESSNESS', 'AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE', 'DRUGS & ADDICTION', 'DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT', 'ACCESS TO RESOURCES', 'LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN', 'SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT', 'FOOD SECURITY', 'CHILD CARE', and 'LANGUAGE BARRIERS DIGITAL DIVIDE'.

PROMPT: "WHAT SPACES AND PLACES WOULD SUPPORT YOUR ORGANIZATION AT THE LIBRARY?"



83% Meeting Rooms



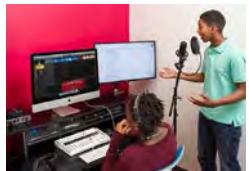
65% Classrooms



64% Event Space



44% Community Living Room



44% Podcast Room



39% Vibrant Cafe



37% Film Studio



37% Quiet Room



37% Study Rooms



35% Art gallery



35% Business & Career Center



33% Storytelling lab



31% Citizenship center



31% Early childhood play space



31% Homework Help



31% Social Services Center



31% Tech Training Lab



29% Childcare



29% Co-Working Space



29% Language Center



27% Teen Hangout



25% Messy Makerspace



25% Social Club



25% Vibrant Bookstore



23% Tech Arts Lab



21% Business Incubator



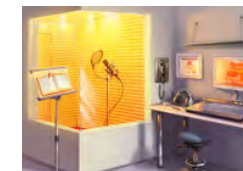
19% Community Theater



19% Nooks



19% Printmaking Studio



17% Music Studio



2% Demo Kitchen

PROMPT: “WHERE IS YOUR ORGANIZATION EXCELLING?”

Responses included:

- **Collaboration:** Working cohesively within institutions, districts, and city and/or state-wide.
- **Measurable results:** Achieving excellent outcomes for and meeting the needs of clients and community members.
- **Building relationships:** Bringing diverse perspectives and voices together to represent and promote change in Omaha.
- **Quality of service:** Providing services and resources that go above and beyond addressing the needs of clients and communities.

PROMPT: “WHAT BARRIERS IS YOUR ORGANIZATION CURRENTLY FACING?”

Themes that emerged:

- **COVID-19 recovery:** Challenges in improvement outside the “getting back to normal” realm and fostering community and community engagement after years of isolation.
- **Employment landscape:** Low applicant pools, funding for staff, and recruitment challenges.
- **Funding:** Financial constraints on growth, visibility, and access.
- **Mental health:** Challenges exasperated by the pandemic, especially children’s mental health.

“The library could support our mission [by being] a resource on community issues and to hold large scale community conversations to raise awareness and have dialogue.”

— Jo Giles, Women’s Fund of Omaha

COMMUNITY PARTNERS BREAKFASTS

APRIL 4 – APRIL 5, 2022

Ninety-four community partners participated in one of two morning events with the goal of building relationships with local stakeholders; aligning the central public library project with the goals of community organizations; and learning about the strengths, needs, and challenges of the Omaha community.

The design team led the groups through an informative presentation on the process during breakfast, followed by a worksheet activity, then conversation to gain an understanding of challenges and opportunities the library project can address. After a Q&A period, participants were encouraged to network and further discuss their ideas.



PROMPT: “HOW MIGHT WE FOSTER COMMUNITY GATHERING?”

- A place for diverse groups
- Non-profit meeting spaces
- Cross-disciplinary programs
- Community events
- Radical accessibility
- Dedicated room for tribal councils
- Learning from each other

PROMPT: “HOW MIGHT WE FOSTER COMMUNITY GROWTH?”

- Bridge diverse communities
- Partner with non-profits
- Representation of cultures
- Engaging spaces
- Digital literacy
- Cyber Seniors
- Universal design
- Intergenerational programs

PROMPT: “HOW MIGHT WE FOSTER COMMUNITY STORIES?”

- Community literacies
- Oral stories, written stories, podcasts
- Speaker series
- Publishing for aspiring writers
- Creative spaces

PROMPT: “HOW MIGHT WE FOSTER COMMUNITY CO-CREATION?”

- Storytelling lab
- Food art
- Unique desires of the community
- Connecting music to lived experiences
- Art classes
- Senior makerspace
- Creative writing workshops
- Creative collaborations

PROMPT: “HOW MIGHT WE FOSTER COMMUNITY CAREERS?”

- Co-working spaces
- Create creative entrepreneurs
- Library draws people to live in Omaha
- Attract innovative people
- TED Talks
- Job fairs
- Professional development workshops

ONE-ON-ONE ZOOM INTERVIEWS

MARCH 16 – APRIL 29, 2022

A total of eighteen community partners participated in a 30-minute zoom interview with library consultant, Margaret Sullivan. Interviewees were updated on the project's progress and asked strategic questions to gain insight into where the schematic design process could further align with the Omaha community.

These conversations allow the library to position itself as a leader in the community and build on community strengths and assets. Through these interviews, the design team was also able to align the goals of the project with those of community organizations and learn about the strengths, needs, and challenges of the community.

PROMPT: "WHAT ARE THE STRENGTHS OF OMAHA?"

- Omaha residents are deeply committed to improving the quality of life for all residents.
- Tremendous creativity and innovation in the ways these community leaders, organizers, and activists are serving the community.
- Grateful for the opportunity to engage in these conversations to re-imagine a central public library.
- Desire to continue the conversation and collaboration.

WISH LIST

Participants shared insights into spaces and programs they would love to see at a new central public library. Gathering and meeting spaces were indicated by virtually all participants, but additional ideas include:

- Multi-modal transportation
- Kitchen space
- Intergenerational opportunities
- Coffee shop
- Great public restrooms
- Climate-controlled seed storage
- Access to experts
- Partnerships with every school in town
- Virtual reality
- Fireplace
- Adult changing tables
- Showcase archives and genealogy collections
- Spaces to entertain yourself
- Flexible spaces
- Spaces for infants and toddlers
- Spaces for parents and caretakers
- Exhibit space

EMERGING THEMES FOR A SUCCESSFUL CENTRAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

A PLACE TO BUILD COMMUNITY

- Free and flexible community meeting spaces.
- Increase collaborations through co-location opportunities.
- Serve as a social service resource center and one-stop shop for community services.

COMMUNITY
CO-CREATIONCULTURAL
DIVERSITYVOICES FOR
DEMOCRACY**A PLACE TO BE INCLUSIVE AND WELCOMING TO ALL**

- Multi-modal transportation and access for all Omahans, especially to and from North and South Omaha.
- Equitable, inclusive, welcoming space where folks want to be for a variety of activities.
- Radical “centering” of the community around our most vulnerable populations.

INCLUSIVE
STORYTELLINGCUSTOMIZED
LEARNINGONE-STOP
RESOURCE SHOP**A PLACE TO SHOWCASE OMAHA'S STRENGTHS**

- Build on Omaha's strength of providing a variety of enriching, family-centric experiences.
- Celebrate Omaha's industrious, innovative, and entrepreneurial spirit.
- Elevate Omaha's commitment to design excellence as a vehicle for community economic development.

ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENTRADICAL
ACCESSIBILITYINTERGENERATIONAL
EXPERIENCES

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The outpouring of community participation throughout the schematic design process has reinforced the belief that in Omaha, libraries form the backbone of the city and are beloved for the impact they make every day. Community input and ideas have been and will continue to be critical in informing the direction of the potential new central public library.

“What do you love about the
Omaha Public Library?”

“It feels like home.”

— Laura Chytka



Community Open House,
April 7, 2022



COMMUNITY SURVEY

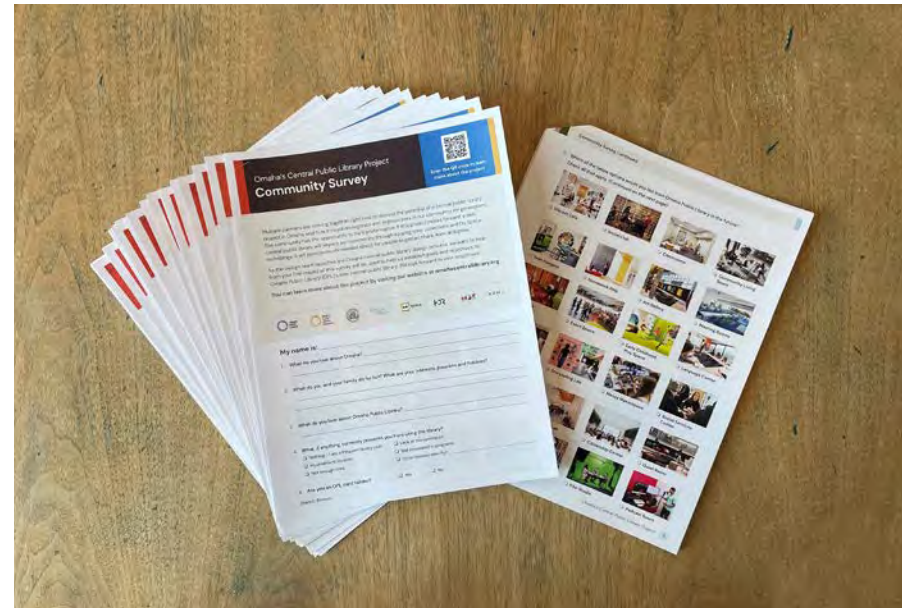
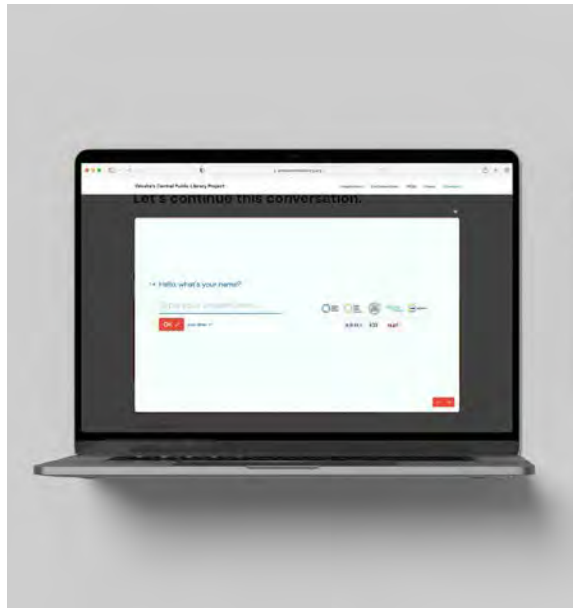
MARCH 15 – APRIL 15, 2022

Over 1,600 respondents participated in a community survey available in three forms: an online English language survey, an online Spanish language survey, and a printed English language survey distributed to all Omaha Public Library branches and Do Space. Among respondents, Millard, W. Dale Clark (Main) and Swanson were the most visited Omaha Public Library branches.

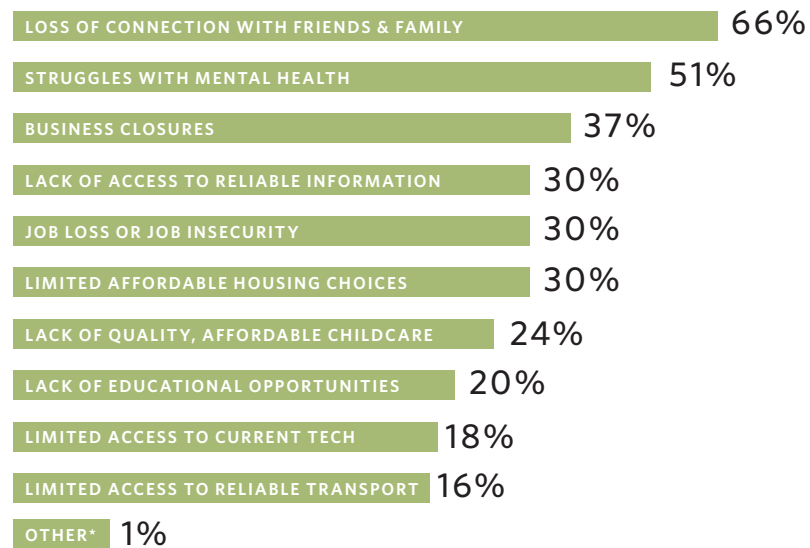
A total of 1,496 people responded to the online English language survey; 3 people responded to the online Spanish language survey; and 116 people filled out paper surveys. 82% of respondents were OPL card holders.

55% of respondents characterized themselves as **FREQUENT LIBRARY USERS**.

*44% of respondents indicated they had visited an Omaha Public Library branch in the last month, and 11% indicated they had visited a branch in the last three months.



PROMPT: “DUE TO THE ONGOING COVID-19 PANDEMIC, WHAT CHALLENGES DO YOU, YOUR NEIGHBORS, AND COMMUNITY FACE?”



*Additional responses included: inability to travel far from residence; no challenges faced; fear of illness; lack of quality jobs; lack of youth programming; lack of free gathering spaces; and inflation.

PROMPT: “WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT OMAHA PUBLIC LIBRARY?”

Themes that emerged:

- **It's free:** Respondents loved that the services and resources provided by Omaha Public Library are free to all.
- **Accessibility/convenience:** Respondents loved the level of service that they receive at Omaha Public Library branches.
- **Amazing staff:** Omaha Public Library librarians were described as knowledgeable, friendly, kind, and helpful.
- **BOOKS!:** The variety of titles offered and the forms they come in were highly commended by respondents. The love of browsing is also cherished throughout Omaha.
- **Technology:** Respondents noted their love for the library as a resource for computers and internet access. The technology available at Do Space is also beloved by respondents.
- **It's for everyone:** Everyone is welcome at the library regardless of age, race, gender, or wealth.
- **Community hub:** The library is a wonderful place to engage the community, encourage families to interact, and be a part of the neighborhood.
- **Selection:** In addition to books, DVDs, CDs, community passes, and the seed library are beloved.
- **Genealogy/archive collections:** Omahans are proud of their world-class historical collections and resources.
- **Program variety:** Respondents reflected fondly on programs such as Omaha Reads and the Summer Reading Program.
- **Space for kids:** A place where children look forward to going, feel safe, and are encouraged to read and play.

PROMPT: "WHICH OF THE BELOW OPTIONS WOULD YOU LIKE FROM OMAHA PUBLIC LIBRARY IN THE FUTURE?"



54% VIBRANT CAFE



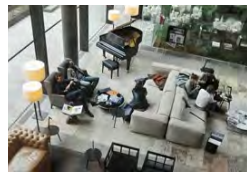
46% MEETING ROOMS



45% QUIET ROOM



45% EVENT SPACE



41% COMMUNITY LIVING ROOM



41% ART GALLERY



36% MESSY MAKERSPACE



36% CLASSROOMS



36% TECH ARTS LAB



35% STUDY ROOMS



34% VIBRANT BOOKSTORE



34% LANGUAGE CENTER



33% TECH TRAINING LAB



32% SOCIAL SERVICES CENTER



32% SOCIAL CLUB



31% PRINTMAKING STUDIO



30% HOMEWORK HELP



30% CO-WORKING SPACE



29% CITIZENSHIP CENTER



29% BUSINESS & CAREER CENTER



28% EARLY CHILDHOOD PLAYSPACE



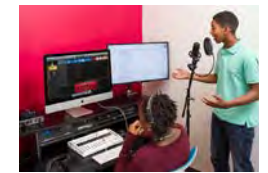
28% NOOKS



27% TEEN HANGOUT



25% STORYTELLING LAB



24% PODCAST ROOM



22% MUSIC STUDIO



20% FILM STUDIO



20% CHILDCARE



17% COMMUNITY THEATER



16% BUSINESS INCUBATOR



3% OTHER

*Additional responses included: outdoor spaces, browsable book areas, digital resource center, genealogy research center, gaming room, and legal self-help desk.

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE

APRIL 7, 2022

The Omaha community was invited to attend an open house at the Omaha Public Library A.V. Sorensen branch to learn about the project and share ideas, questions, and concerns about a potential new central public library. The event included a presentation about the project by the design team, a “dreamstorming” activity, and a variety of interactive stations.

Turnout for the event included a diverse range of community members who expressed interest in spaces for gathering, reading, a rooftop garden, and creative workshops. Participants were also passionate about advocating for those in Omaha who do not have access to the resources and quality of life that many in attendance enjoy, emphasizing that library programs, services, and spaces must continue to be relevant for under-resourced community members.



“It’s really cool that we can put our input into it and make it about the community.”

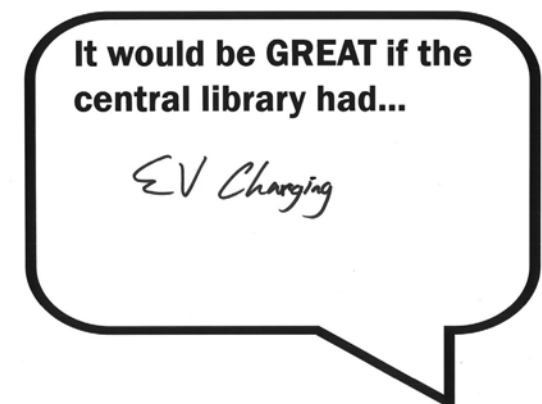
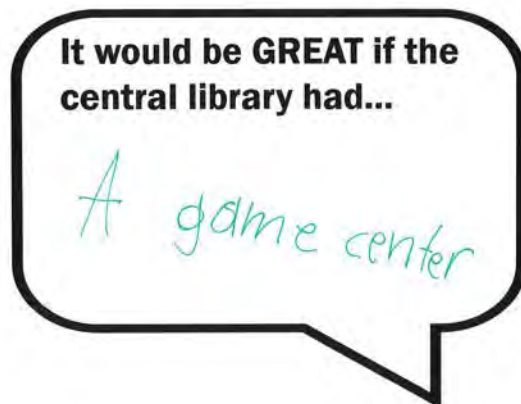
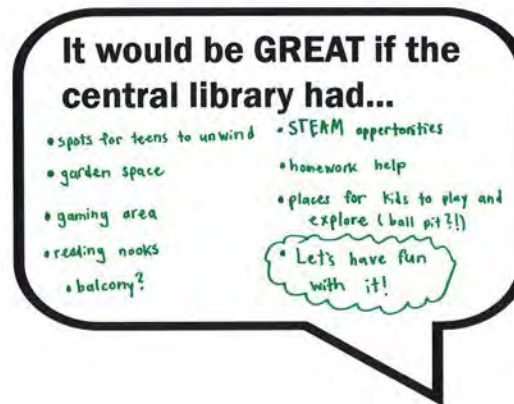
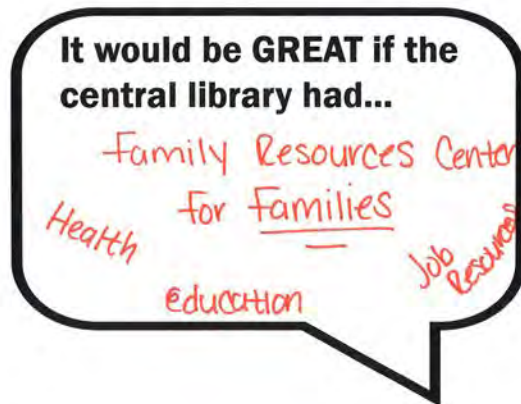
— Nora, 13-year-old



ACTIVITIES

PROMPT: "IT WOULD BE GREAT IF THE CENTRAL PUBLIC LIBRARY HAD..."

Worksheets were placed throughout the event space encouraging participants to let the design team know what they would like to see in a potential central public library project.



PROMPT: "HOW CAN WE COMBINE THE STRENGTHS OF OMAHA PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE STRENGTHS OF DO SPACE TO CREATE A CENTRAL PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR ALL OMAHANS?"

Tables of five to six people were assigned a different patron group such as "Omaha's Young Families," "Omaha's Creatives," or "Omaha's Readers & Book Lovers." Groups were then asked to imagine how these patrons might use the library to foster community gathering, community growth, community stories, community co-creation, and community careers. Tools available at both Omaha Public Library and Do Space were then used to help patrons achieve their goals.

Step 1:
Review your patron personas

Step 2:
Design Their Library Experiences

Step 3:
Combine Omaha Public Library and Do Space tools to enhance patrons' experiences

OMAHA'S ENTREPRENEURS

Patron: Debbie 58 years old

Passions: Teaching people about homes

Story: Debbie has been a realtor in Omaha for over 20 years! One season she lived in every house and apartment building at least once in her life and has clear ties to all the locals. Since the building boom in Omaha Debbie has not been sure of how to expand her network for new clients, she asks some friends and they put her everything is done online these days, her son suggests a website but Debbie doesn't even enjoy working her unappreciated. Frustrated she goes to her son her friend Beth at the library and is informed of the access to learning platforms such as LinkedIn and the webinars they have available. Debbie signs up for both and takes to the web like a champion! She creates her own website using vizio and has already gained 10 new clients.

OMAHA'S ENTREPRENEURS

Patron: Keith 43 years old

Passions: Business consulting

Story: Keith has been building businesses since he was 20 years old, he has had several successes to the point where he became the talk of the town in the business community. Multiple members of the community have approached Keith and asked for help or advice in their businesses, until Keith had an excellent idea to do one night of business consulting every week he wants to keep the cash flow since he will be engaging within his own community so he asks the library if he could host the events there and they are more than happy to help. Keith sets up a weekly workshop and uses the library's website to spread the news. His first workshop has sold out overnight!

I AM USING MY LIBRARY TO...

Describe the activities your patron would do to foster these community goals

- COMMUNITY GATHERING:** Debbie finds a local group to share their passion for the ability to celebrate their custom ordering for all sorts of events. Debbie gathers with friends.
- COMMUNITY GROWTH:** Debbie finds a local group of girls who focus on mutual advancement.
- COMMUNITY CO-CREATION:** Community kitchen - create more jobs.
- COMMUNITY CAREERS:** Film director - film director.

Community Stories: Debbie finds a local group to share their passion for the ability to celebrate their custom ordering for all sorts of events. Debbie gathers with friends.

Notes: - The Central Library is more than a place for books. It's a place for the community to gather and learn. - Centers: The Central Library does not weaken the influence that help away from the neighborhood libraries.

I AM USING MY LIBRARY TO...

Describe the activities your patron would do to foster these community goals

- COMMUNITY GATHERING:** Keith finds a local group to share their passion for the ability to celebrate their custom ordering for all sorts of events. Keith gathers with friends.
- COMMUNITY GROWTH:** Keith finds a local group of girls who focus on mutual advancement.
- COMMUNITY CO-CREATION:** Community kitchen - create more jobs.
- COMMUNITY CAREERS:** Film director - film director.

Community Stories: Keith finds a local group to share their passion for the ability to celebrate their custom ordering for all sorts of events. Keith gathers with friends.

TOOLS & ENABLERS

How can I utilize the best of OPL and Do Space?

My Community Group is: **Omaha's Entrepreneurs**

Select the OPL and Do Space tool that makes the new Central Library the destination to go for your community group!

- Local History
- Reference
- Career Prep
- Microcraft
- Microloan Suite
- Local History
- Reference
- Career Prep
- Microcraft
- Microloan Suite
- Local History
- Reference
- Career Prep
- Microcraft
- Microloan Suite

STATIONS

LIBRARY MEMORY BOX

Tell us your best memory of the library!



LIBRARY MEMORY BOX

Participants were asked to write down their favorite memories of the library and place them into a “Library Memory Box.” Some of the responses included:

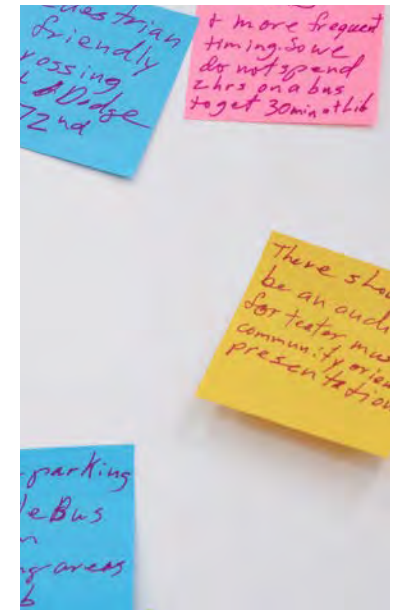
- To read all the magazines my parents could not afford.
- Summer library visits with grandparents, checking out giant stack of books.
- I went to the library every Saturday while my mom got her hair done. I read all the Trixie Belden books over and over and over and over.
- Summer reading program with the prize of taking a picture in a bath tub filled with books.
- Coming to A.V. Sorensen for my taekwondo classes. Getting ten books at a time.
- Summer reading program — 100 books for a plastic eagle toy that balanced on my finger.
- I really like the satisfaction of my long library receipt.
- Getting lost with microfiche.
- Baby storytime and all the chaos that it brings!

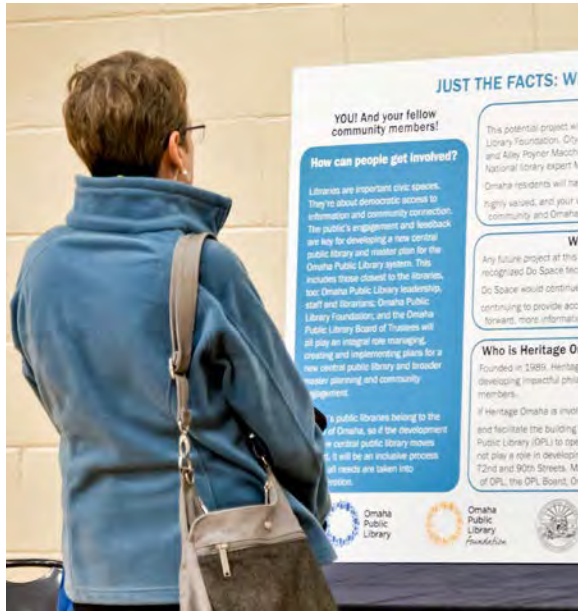


AMPLIFYING OUR VOICES

We asked participants to tell us anything that we were forgetting to ask them about the project. Themes that emerged included:

- **Site:** Participants were interested in how 72nd and Dodge can be transformed to include increased parking, walkability, public transportation, and alternate street entrances.
- **Programs:** Suggestions for additional programs, as well as questions related to the types of services provided; included tech support and social service programs.
- **Spaces and places:** Sensory spaces, computer labs, and an auditorium were among some of the spaces community members proposed for a new central public library.
- **Involvement:** Participants were looking forward to continuing their involvement in the engagement process with interest in volunteering, workshops, and continued project website engagement.





JUST THE FACTS

An area was designated to respond to community questions related to the project with design and project team members nearby to answer questions.



BEAUTY BOARDS

Imagery boards were used as thought-starters to imagine what innovations, technology, and community spaces could exist in a new central public library. Participants placed stickers on images they found of greatest interest.



TRANSPORTATION STATION

Participants used a string to map their way from their homes to the proposed central public library location at 72nd and Dodge. String colors indicated whether patrons would likely bike, walk, drive, or take public transportation to the site in the future.

SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS

Through engagement with project partners, community partners, and the Omaha community at large, the design team learned much about how committed our community is to leveraging a new central public library to meet community needs and to exponentially expand the reach of local community organizations through intentional partnerships with the library. The design team is committed to crafting a design that leads to a variety of flexible, adaptable public spaces, for the present and future.

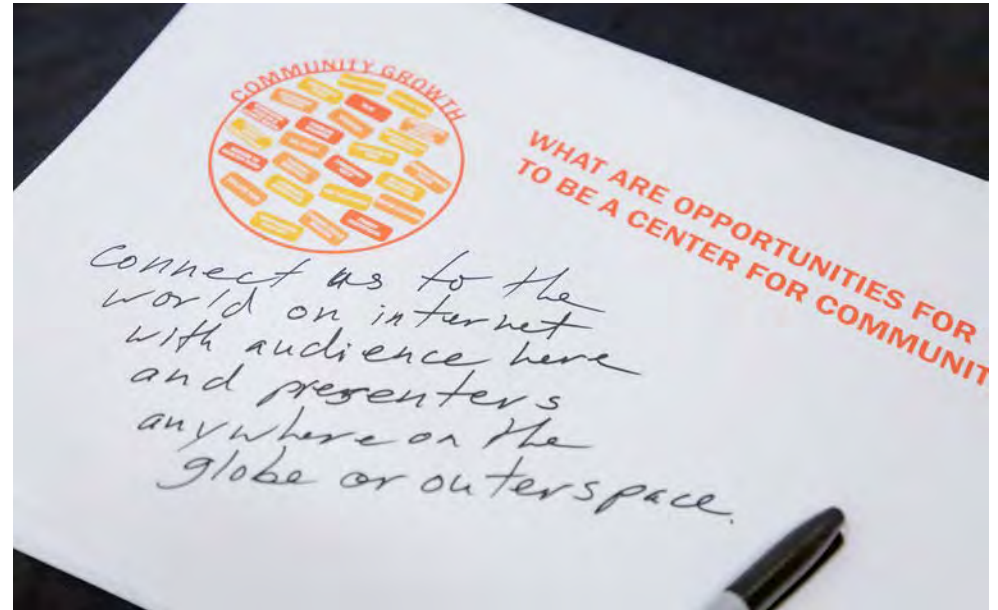
WHAT WE LEARNED FROM ENGAGEMENT PARTICIPANTS:

- The commitment of Omahans to contributing to meaningful change is clear.
- The opportunities to partner for collective impact are many.
- How a new central public library can be a powerful place to continue to build on the great work Omaha Public Library and Do Space are already doing here in Omaha.

HOW WE HAVE USED THESE FINDINGS TO SHAPE THE SCHEMATIC DESIGN PROCESS:

A new central public library in Omaha should include:

- A variety of meeting rooms for hosting events of all sizes.
- Places for connecting to social services.
- Flexible spaces for pop-ups, impromptu meetings, and hoteling.
- Outdoor space.
- Places to support a one-stop shop of learning, wrap-around services, and even recreation for Omaha's families.
- Partner spaces to take advantage of the trusted relationships the public highly values with their Omaha Public Library and Do Space staff.
- A place for design excellence as a vehicle to attract and retain talent.



WHAT MAKES A SUCCESSFUL LIBRARY?

A VISUAL NOTEBOOK FROM THE NATIONAL PEER SYMPOSIUM JULY 8, 2021

THE SPECIAL SAUCE



FLEXIBILITY

More Open ≠ More Flexible



NO SHUSHING

Loud Libraries Are Good



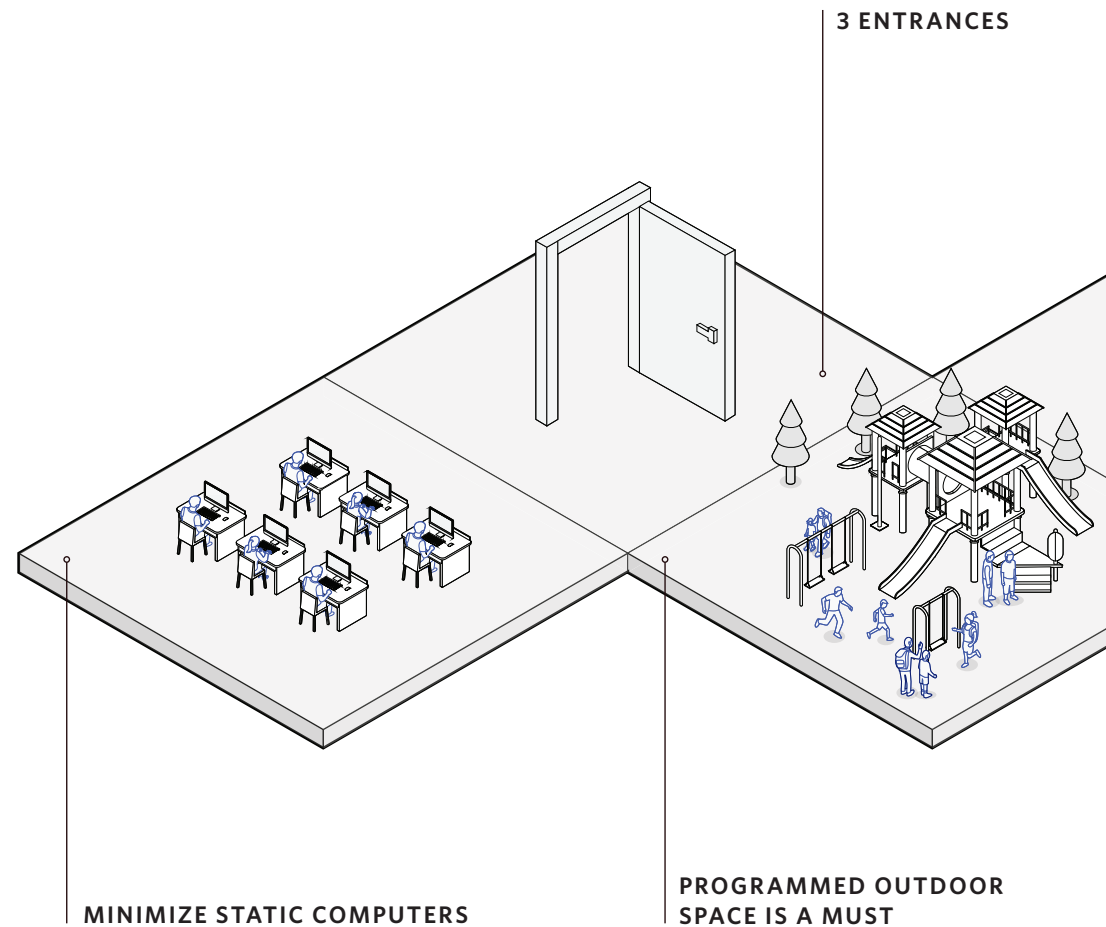
HEALING SPACES

A Library Should Make You Think "Somehow I Feel Better"



FIND YOUR ALLIES

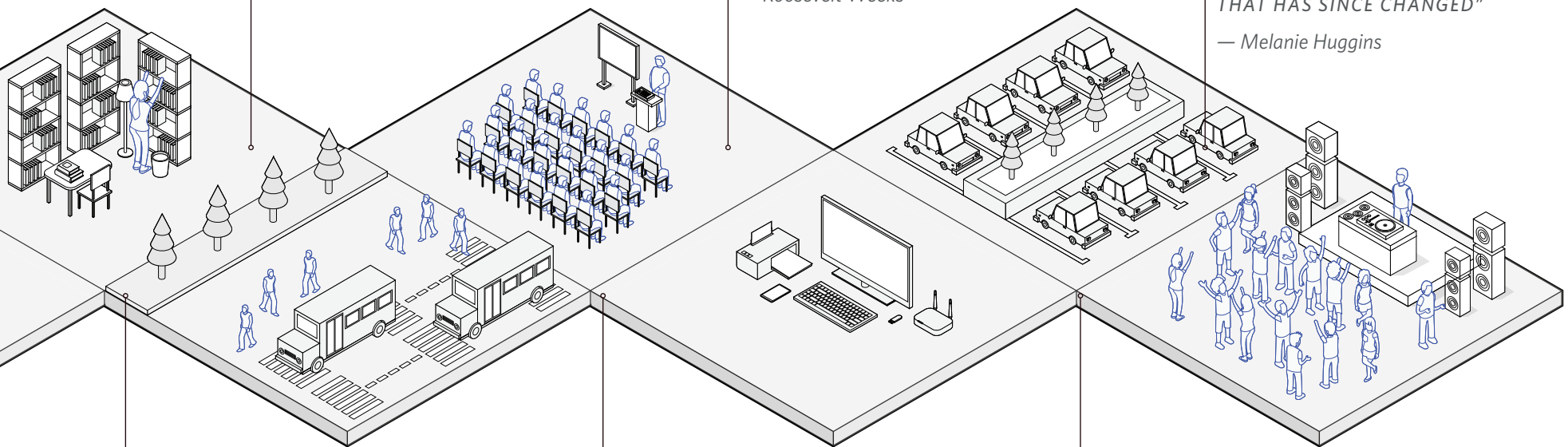
Focus on Programming and Partnerships



BALANCE BOOK SPACE & PROGRAMMED SPACE

LARGE RENTABLE MEETING SPACE IS KEY

HAVE AMPLE PARKING BUT PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE



"A LIBRARY SHOULD BE A PLACE TO GATHER"

— Roosevelt Weeks

"IMAGINON WAS IN A CAR CENTRIC CITY PRIOR TO THE BUILDING BEING BUILT, BUT THAT HAS SINCE CHANGED"

— Melanie Huggins

DON'T FORGET SCHOOL BUSING

INCORPORATE TECH FROM THE BEGINNING

BE OPEN TO NON-TRADITIONAL PROGRAMMING

KEEP THIS ENTRANCE OFF BUSY STREETS

AUSTIN'S PUBLIC LIBRARY LOVES TO HOST LIVE MUSIC

INTERNATIONAL PEER REVIEW COMMITTEE

MAY 26, 2022

Since the start of the project, Omaha Public Library, Do Space, and Margaret Sullivan have engaged a group of internationally recognized library leaders. These leaders have seen or are in the process of designing a central public library for their communities. They have generously offered their counsel in the concept design phase of the project and recently completed a review of the schematic design.

“I love how this design is invested in the place and space you’re at.”

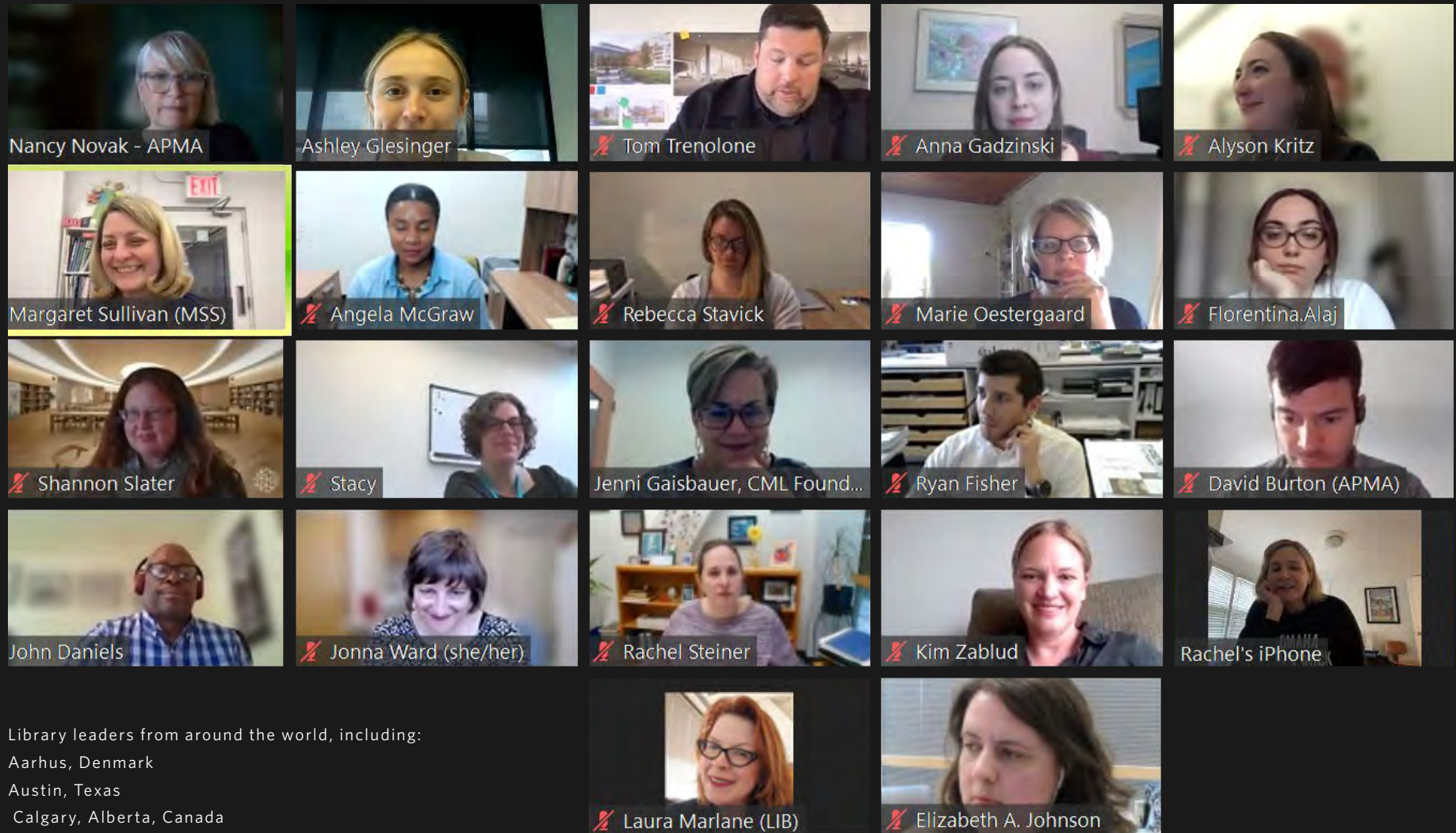
— Marie Oestergaard,
Aarhus Libraries, Denmark

“Looks incredible and so thoughtful. The feel of the space and how people will use it is really well done.”

— Shannon Slater, Calgary Central Library

“Not my grandmother’s library.”

— John Richards, Austin Public Library



Library leaders from around the world, including:

Aarhus, Denmark

Austin, Texas

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Charlotte, North Carolina

Seattle, Washington

Washington, D.C.

COMMUNITY SHARE OUT

JUNE 6, 2022

A public share out of the schematic design was held at the Seventy Five North's Highlander Accelerator campus in collaboration with the Omaha Public Library, Omaha Public Library Foundation, the City of Omaha, Do Space, and Heritage Omaha. The mayor and members of her cabinet attended alongside City Councilmembers, lifelong library patrons, and community leaders. The information documented in this publication was presented to the attendees and the renderings, floor plans, and models were on display. Members of the design team were on hand to answer questions and collect suggestions for the continued development of the project, should it move forward.



Community Share Out
June 6, 2022



“If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need.”

-Cicero



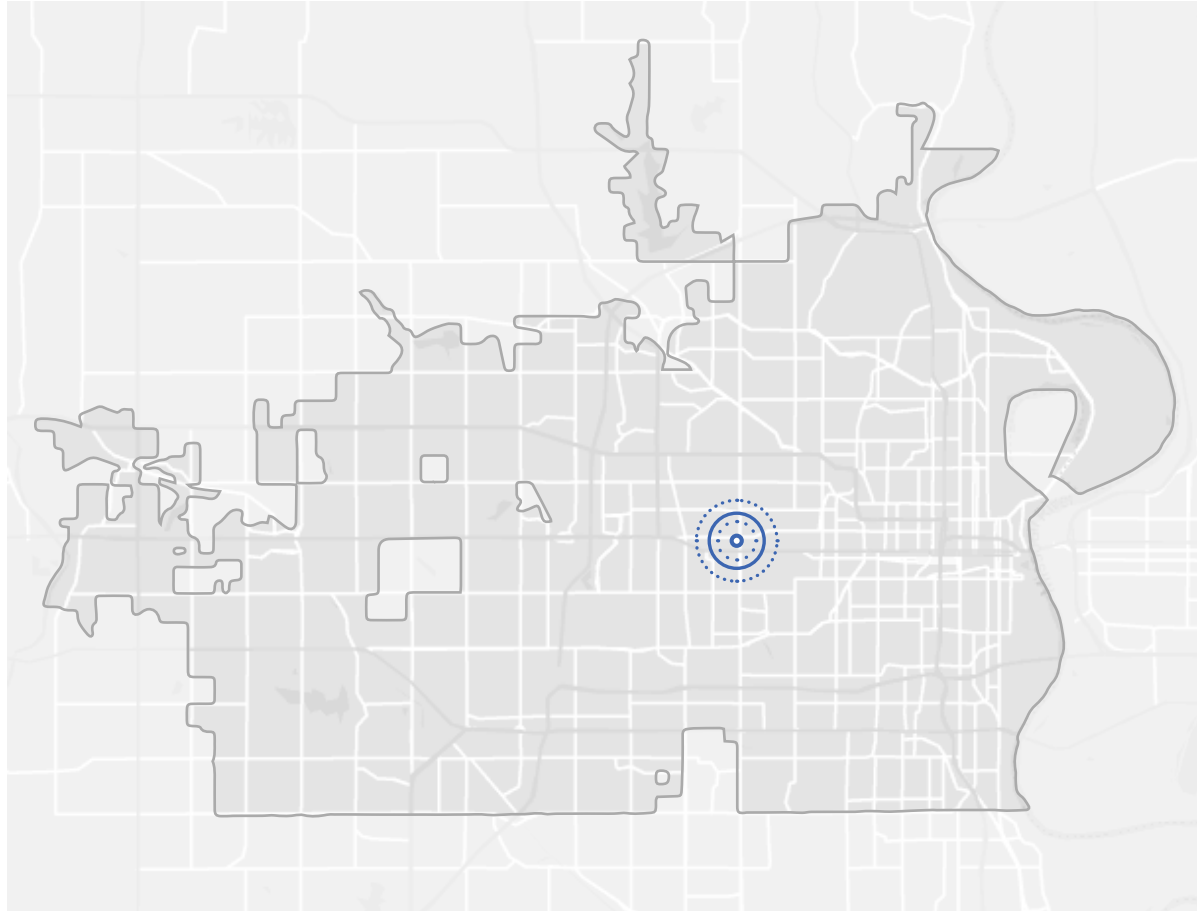
04

Design

It was once said that “the downtown is the heart of a city, but neighborhoods are its soul.” 72nd and Dodge is part of Omaha’s soul. It symbolizes many facets of our city’s history: a crossroads, celebration, protest, innovation, repurposing, and rebirth. The site has gone lifeless several times, most recently when the Borders bookstore closed. But it was reborn by the transformational Do Space. The 72 and Dodge site has its own kind of kinetic energy—informed, perhaps, by the dichotomy between its past and its potential. This new building and its program will impel a new future that influences the greater urban fabric of its surroundings.



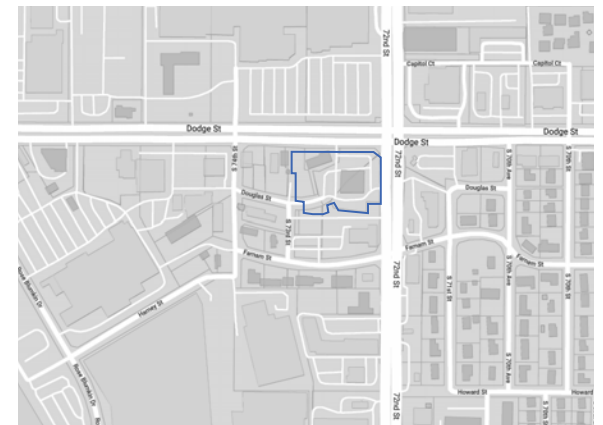
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https://omaha.com/news/local/omahas-1st-digital-library-planned-at-72nd-dodge-on-ex-borders-site/article_91d9bfd6-7b1a-11e4-bf75-e31e4b226470.html
<https://www.npr.org/sections/alltechconsidered/2016/05/31/477819498/in-omaha-a-library-with-no-books-brings-technology-to-all>
https://omaha.com/news/local/image-of-young-omaha-girl-list-in-the-air-inspires-the-hope-project/article_d74337ee-5784-59e6-ad09-43374641a175.html
https://theindependent.com/news/state-and-regional/crime-and-courts/lawsuit-contends-special-prosecutors-comments-caused-jake-gardner-to-kill-himself/article_29901eae-6f34-5b57-a84c-65f100afbc2c.html



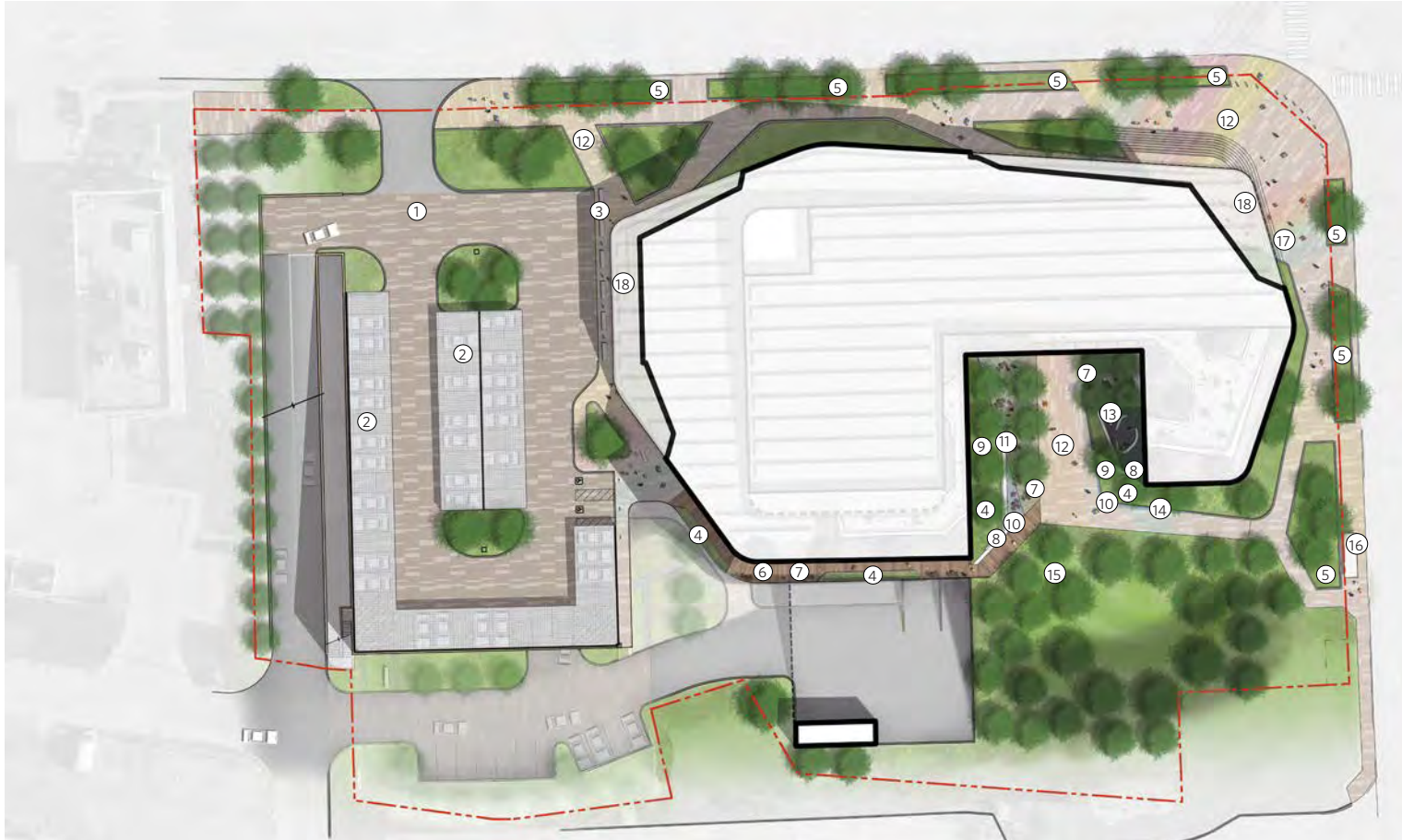
CITY



NEIGHBORHOOD



SITE



Dodge Level Plan

LEGEND

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Parking Deck Linear Pavers | 7 Movable Seating | 13 Children's Activity Zone |
| 2 PV Panel Canopies | 8 Pre-cast custom Bench | 14 Water Wall |
| 3 Defensible Bollards & Benches | 9 Bermed Planting area | 15 Terraced Open Lawn |
| 4 Native Pollinator Planters | 10 Crushed Aggregate | 16 Future Transit Stop |
| 5 Stormwater Filtration Planters | 11 Permeable Stone Pavers | 17 Grand Civic Stair |
| 6 Boardwalk | 12 Linear Pavers | 18 Building Canopy |



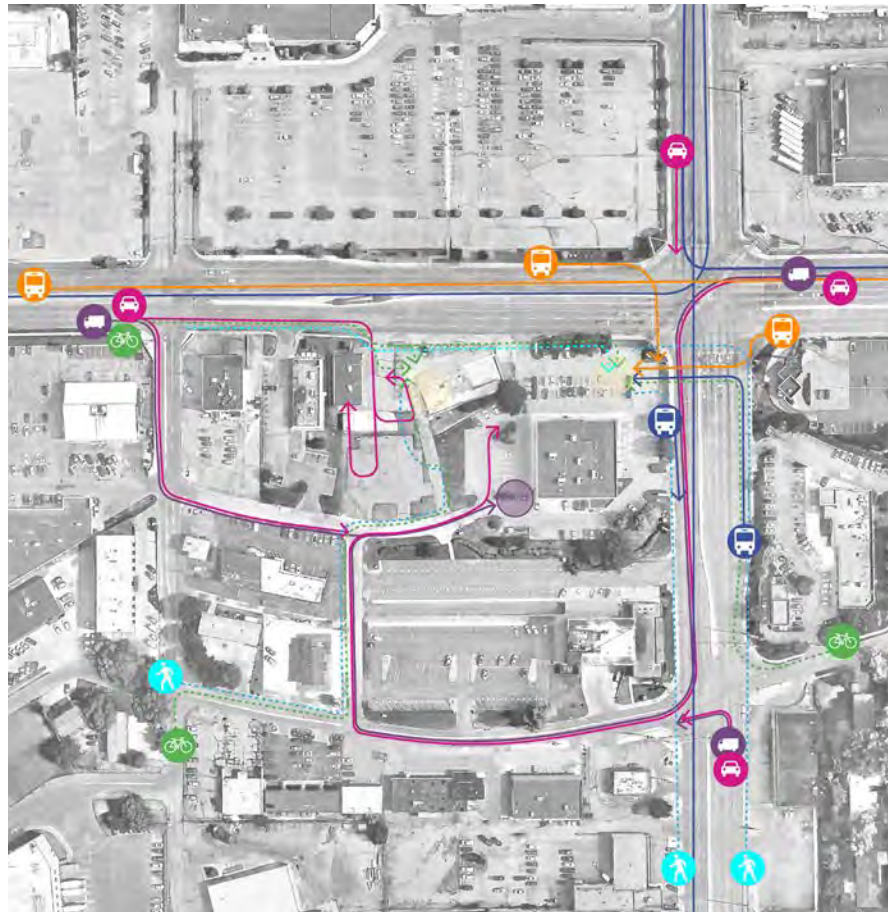
Douglas Level Plan

LEGEND

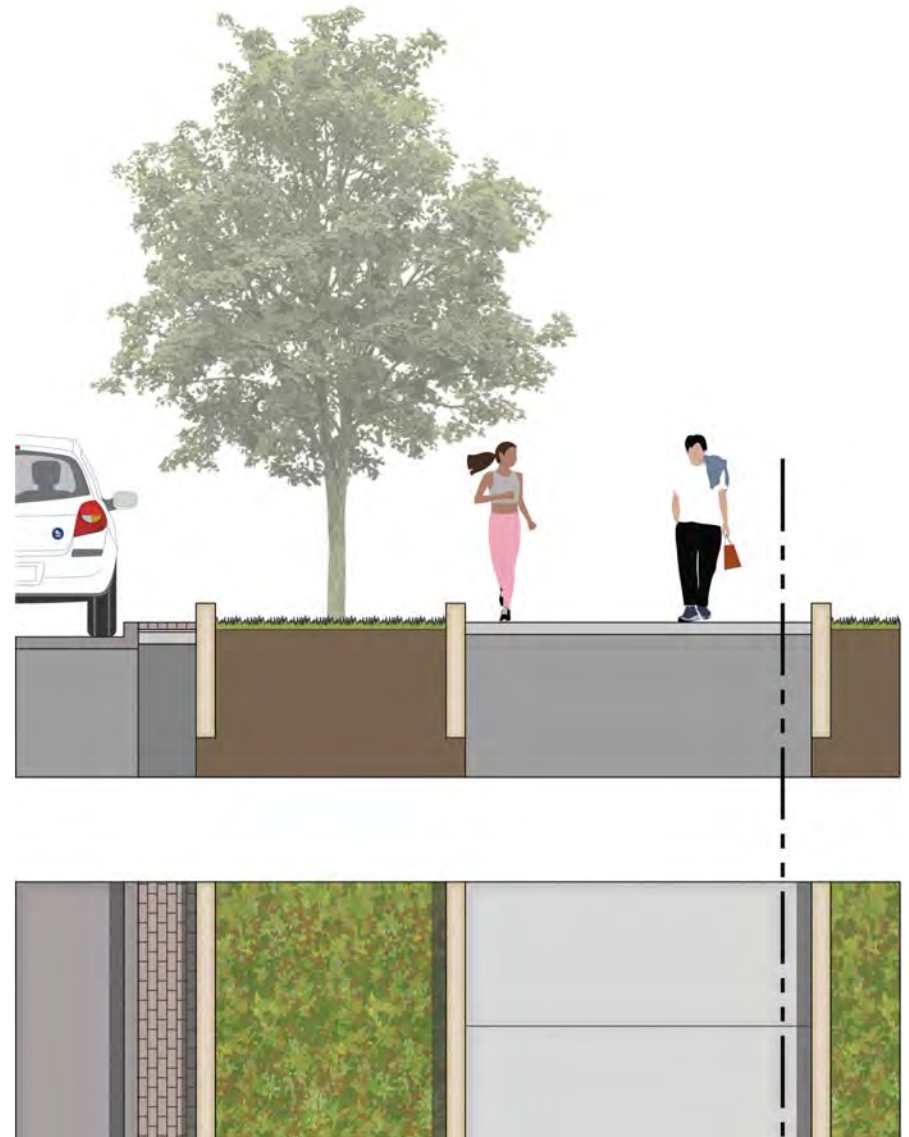
- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 Parking Ramp to Level 1 | 7 Loading Dock Retaining Wall +/- 8' |
| 2 Exit Stair | 8 Native Plantings |
| 3 Stone Landscape Accents | 9 Building Canopy |
| 4 Entrance Signage | 10 Pre-Cast Custom Benches |
| 5 Custom Motorized Sliding Gate | 11 Bike Racks |
| 6 +/- 3.5' CIP Retaining Wall | 12 Level 1 for Reference |

TRANSPORTATION

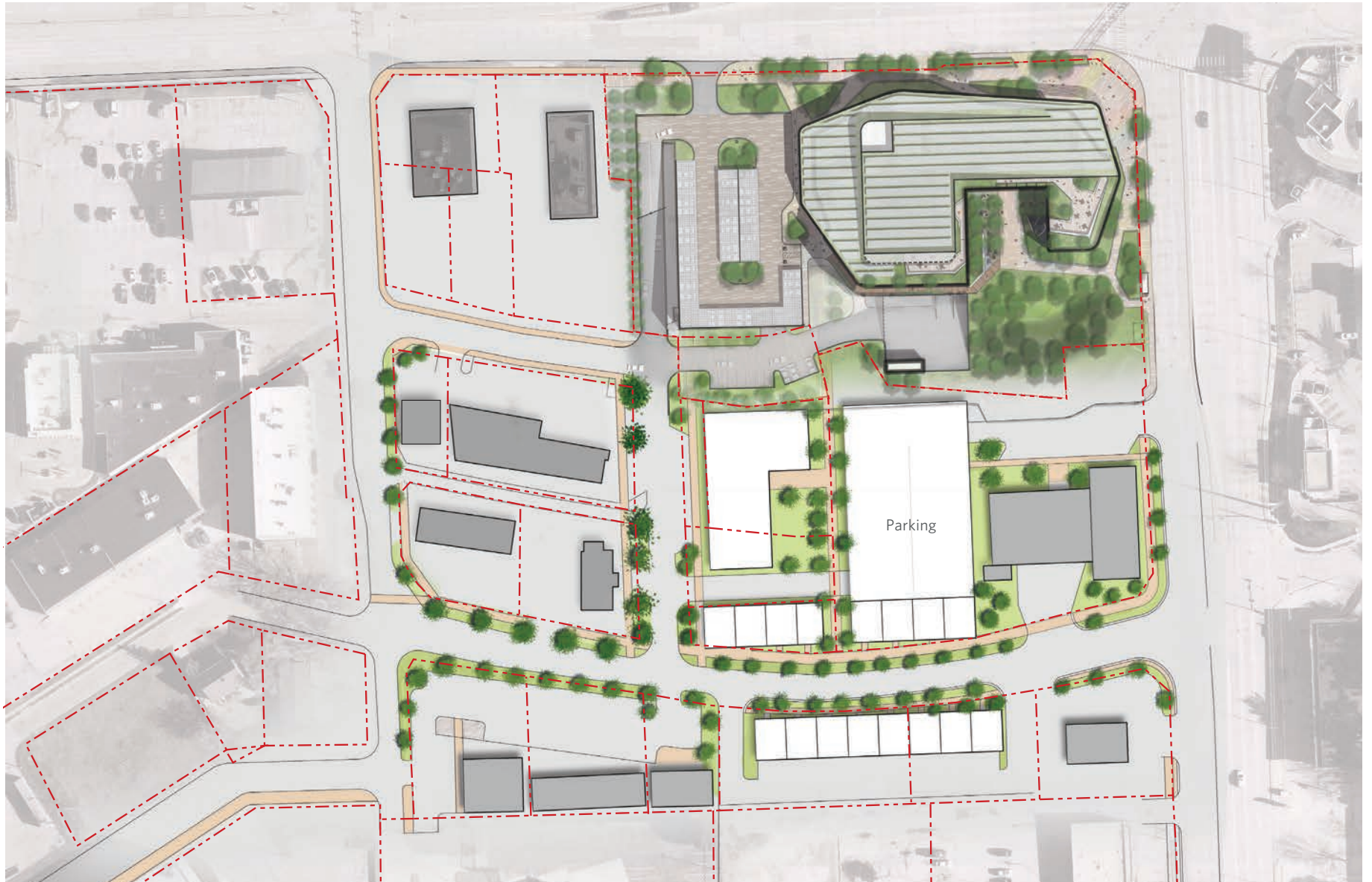
-  Pedestrian Walking Path
-  Bike Access Routes
-  Orbit Access Routes
-  Transit Access Routes
-  Vehicular Access Routes
-  Service Distribution Deliveries



Transportation Diagram



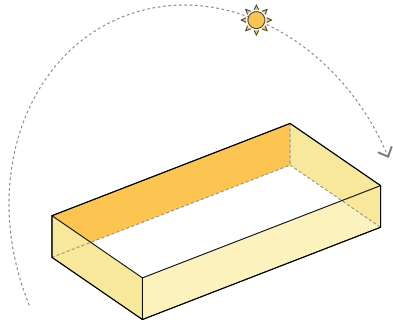
Sidewalk Section



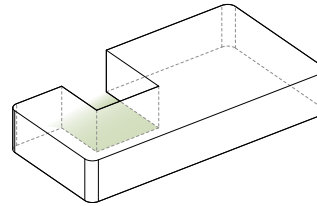
Possible District Plan



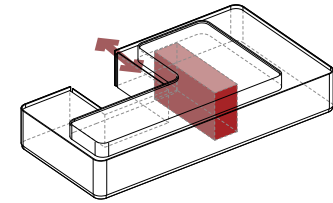
MORPHOLOGY



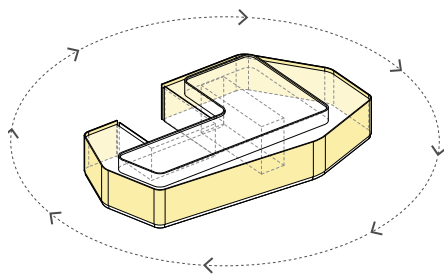
1 Building oriented to maximize daylighting potential.



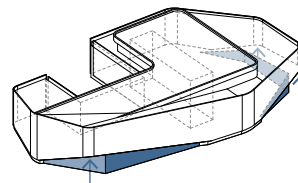
2 Green space inserted to enhance connection with outdoors.



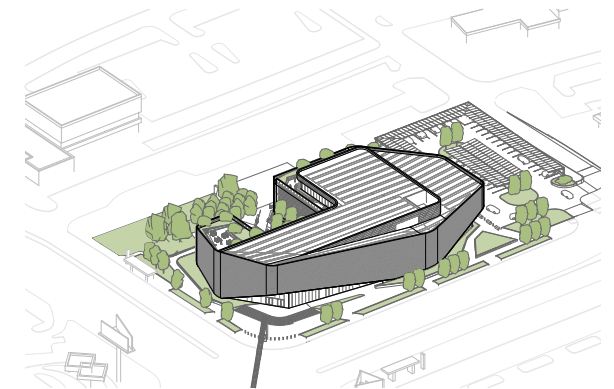
3 High-density storage embedded with proper support access.



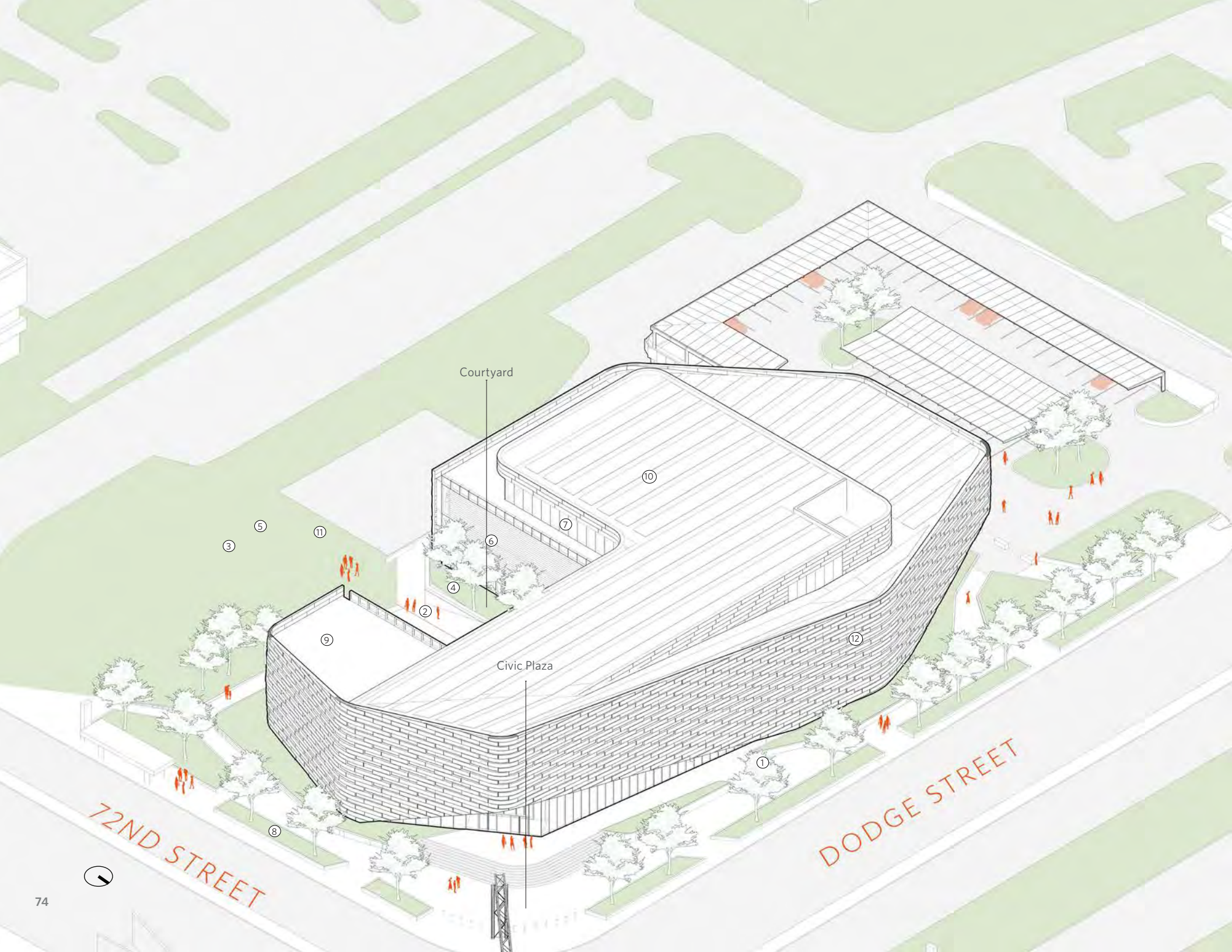
4 Building form softened to respond to 360 degree circulation around site.



5 East and west sides lifted to invite entry.



6 Landscape elements positioned strategically to focus pedestrian flows and provide acoustic buffer.



Courtyard

Civic Plaza

72ND STREET

DODGE STREET





1 Street Trees
(Reducing heat island effect)



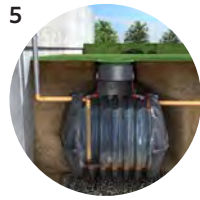
2 Permeable Paving



3 Pollinator Garden



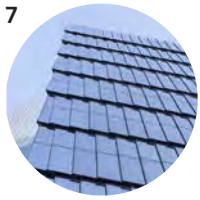
4 Biophilic Design



5 Underground Storage Cistern
(for irrigation)



6 Self-Shading Curtain Wall



7 Southern Facade Design
(to maximize daylighting)



8 Stormwater Filtration Planters



9 Green Roof



10 Photovoltaic Panels



11 Native Plant Palette



12 Low U-Value North Facade
(to minimize conduction losses and traffic noise)

RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES

The Civic Plaza is a multi-functional space with an open design that allows for civic prominence, art integration, and flexibility of use: an immersive art pop-up in the plaza or a food truck event and live music celebrating Omaha's diverse story.

The interior courtyard utilizes the building form to create spaces for multiple activities at any given time. The children's exploration garden boasts inclusive and sensory play and an area for outdoor learning. A large flexible central courtyard is bounded by integral seating and a water wall providing biophilic properties and buffering noise pollution from beyond the site. Outdoor café space and a shaded lawn provide flexibility for visitors; beyond the courtyard to the south, a sloped lawn can be utilized for larger gatherings.

Native plantings showcase all seasons, and pollinator gardens will bring butterflies, flora, and fauna to the spaces. These plantings will filter views and provide sound buffers within the outdoor spaces

for comfort. The courtyard creates a microclimate space allowing for extended use and appreciation of the outdoors from within the library. Water collection, storage, and reuse are intended to improve the resiliency of the landscape.

A proposed roof garden will help insulate the building and reduce urban heat island effects, while providing opportunities for additional outdoor spaces. This space is flexible for community events, weddings, and outdoor workspaces depending on the day. Native plantings and small overstory trees will provide shade and introduce pollinators to the site.

Parking on site is accessed from either Dodge or Douglas streets. Parking is facilitated by a multi-level drop-off area with elevator access and a multi-level parking structure to accommodate parking for the facility. Covered bike parking is included on the west facade, and additional bike parking is provided along 72nd Street at the east entry.

1 https://www.mvvaic.com/project.php?id=22&c=plazas_and_streetscapes

2 <https://www.witchhazeldesigns.com/winter-bloom-blog/tag/water>

3 <https://i.pinimg.com/originals/2a/c2/b7/2ac2b722483b40e1d1b6f8c287a58736.jpg>

4 <https://worldlandscapearchitect.com/the-spheres-exploring-biophilia-in-the-modern-workplace/>

5 <https://asctanks.com.au/product/graf-3750lt-septic-tank/>

6 <https://www.adorefloors.com/Applications/Detail/healthcare>

7 <https://www.frontinc.com/project/10-hudson-yards/>

8 <http://drystonegarden.com/index.php/2010/08/el-cerrito-rain-gardens/>

10 <https://icrowdnewswire.com/2017/06/02/magnolia-optical-technologies-inc-optical-technology-with-defense-commercial/>

11 <https://www.asla.org/awards/2008/08winners/020.html>

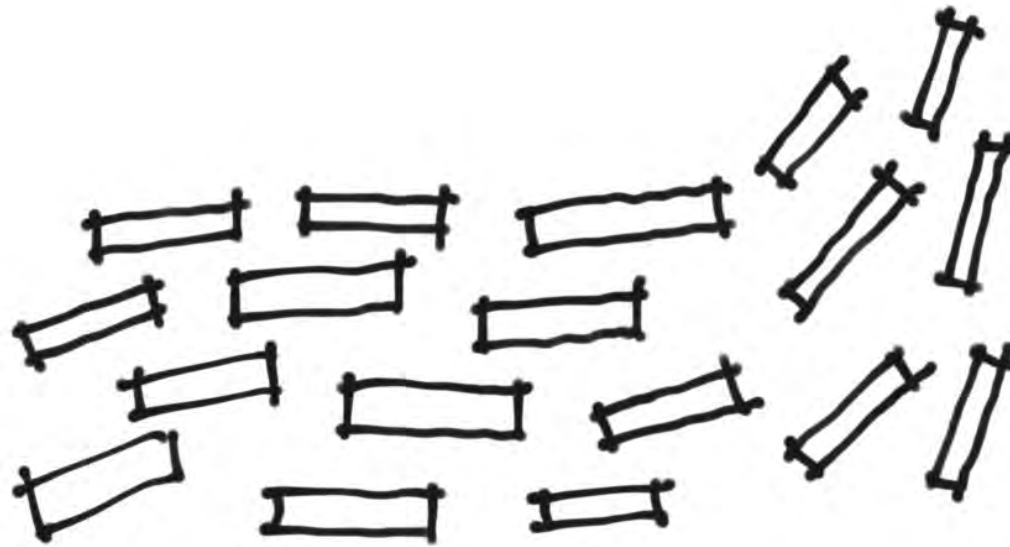
12 http://www.cngrowglass.com/products_detail_65.html

ASSEMBLING A NARRATIVE

FACADE CONCEPT

“The whole is greater than the sum of the parts.”

- Aristotle







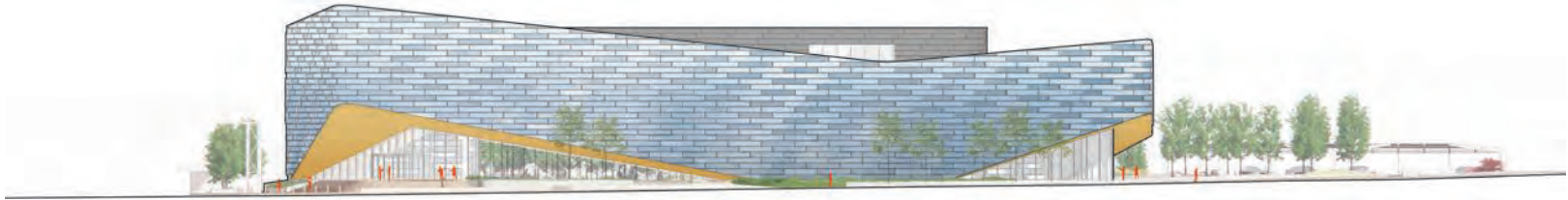
Looking Southwest from 72nd and Dodge



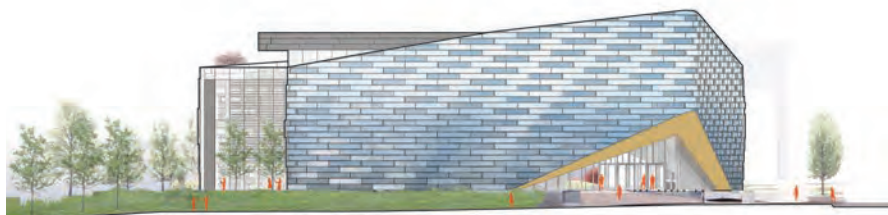




Auto-Court Looking East



North Elevation



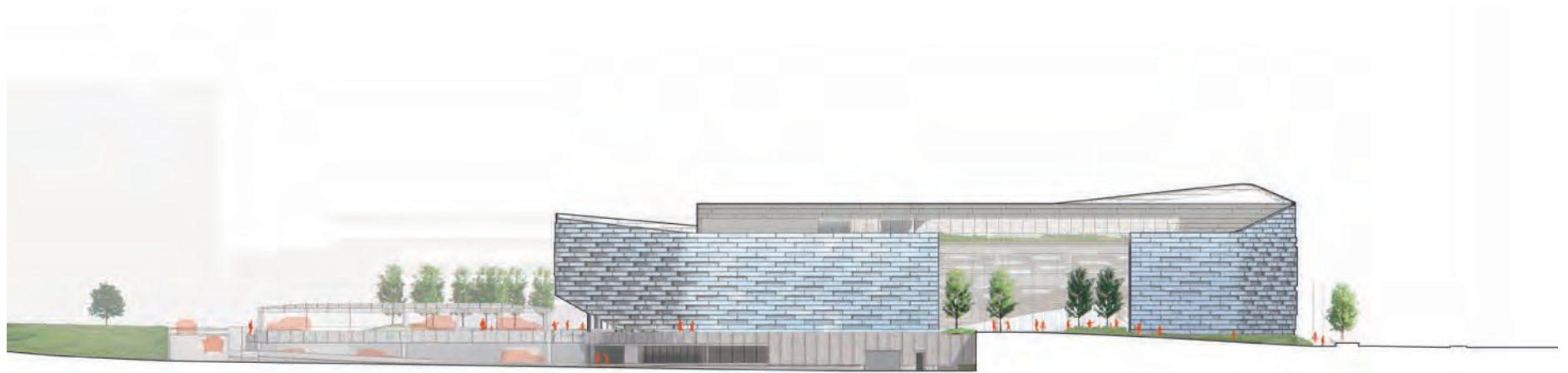
East Elevation



Transverse Section



Longitudinal Section



South Elevation



City Garden

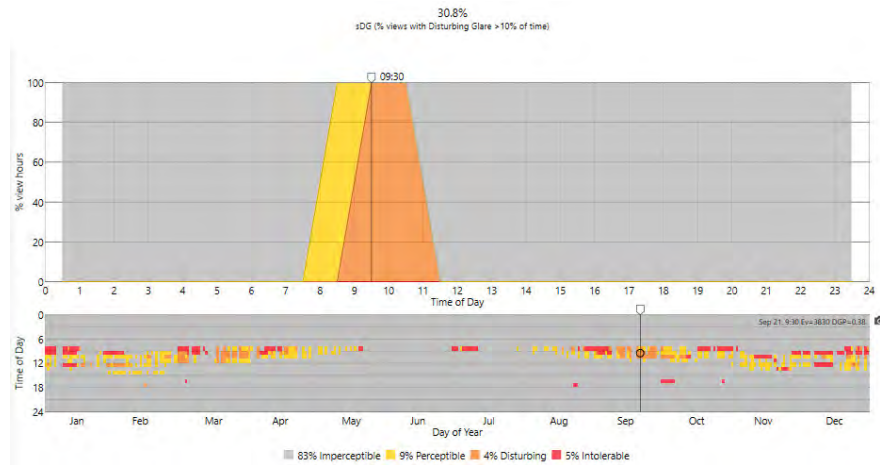


DAYLIGHTING

WORKING WITH THE SUN

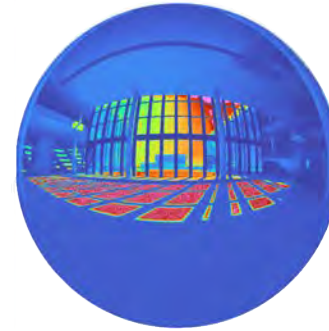
A critical component to consider when designing for human comfort is daylighting—the controlled admittance of both direct and diffused sunlight into interior space. A successful daylighting strategy balances several optimal criterion that often are at odds with one another. The daylighting design aspect of this project optimizes occupant comfort and energy efficiency, while maintaining a cohesive architectural language on the building envelope.

Leveraging cutting-edge technology, the design team simulated the site-specific solar conditions at every hour of the year. The captured data was used to evaluate glare potential and illumination at any point in time and at any location in the project. By employing data-driven analysis through an iterative process, informed decisions regarding geometries, materials, and controls is possible. The result is a design optimized to reduce the need for electric lighting while providing a comfortable environment for visitors.



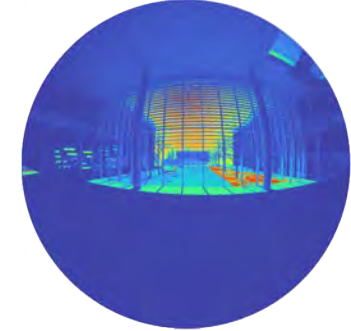
ANNUAL DAYLIGHT GLARE PROBABILITY FOR CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

1



SOUTH-FACING ATRIUM
NO EXTERIOR SHADING
1:00 PM SEPTEMBER 21

2

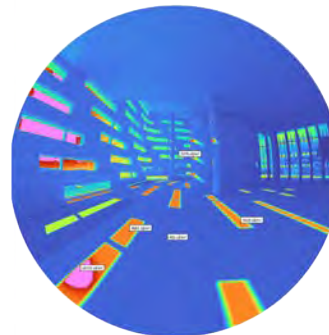


SOUTH-FACING ATRIUM
HORIZONTAL LOUVRE SYSTEM
1:00 PM SEPTEMBER 21

0

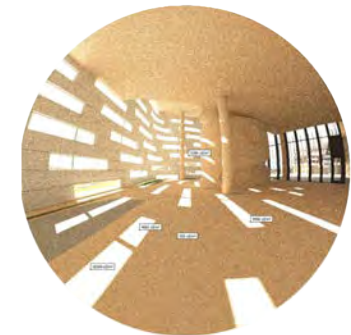
6,000 cd/m²

3



CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA
9:30 AM SEPTEMBER 21
FALSE COLOR LUMINANCE MAP

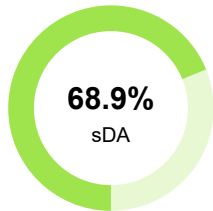
4



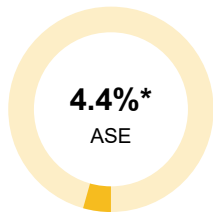
CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA
9:30 AM SEPTEMBER 21



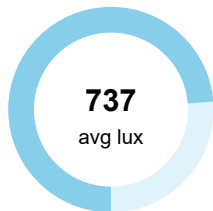
LEED v4.1 DAYLIGHT CREDITS BASIS FOR DESIGN



SPATIAL DAYLIGHT AUTONOMY

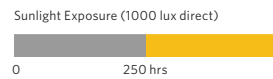
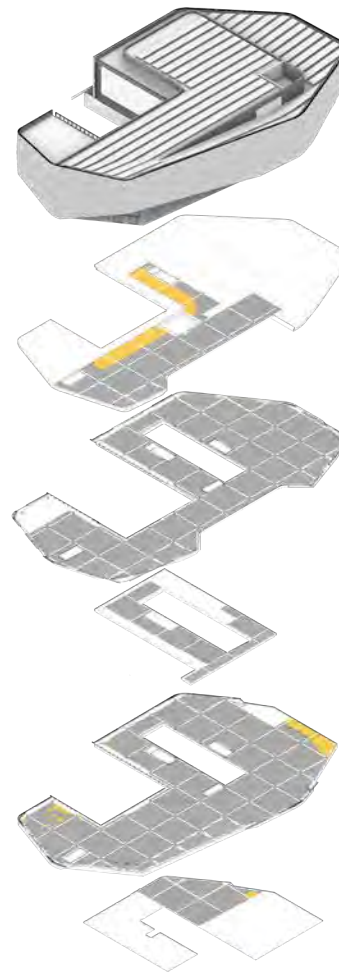


ANNUAL SUN EXPOSURE

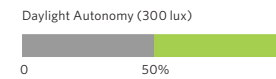
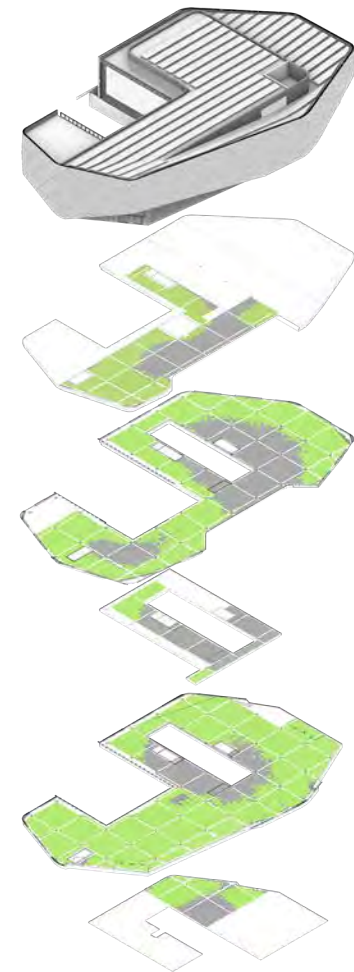


AVERAGE INTERIOR ILLUMINANCE

ASE ANALYSIS



sDA ANALYSIS



IGNITE • ENGAGE • CONNECT

For centuries, the library has been celebrated as a free place where the public can go to share and access information. This is still true today, but the way patrons are accessing information is changing and expanding. In response to the changing times and technologies, the library design team has worked to craft a world-class central public library in support of Omaha's 21st century needs.

The design of libraries should reach higher and create spaces that inspire the individual and the intellect. The library should act as a life enhancing space and serve as the “living room” to all ages of the community. The library's mission is based on the key functions of providing educational, cultural, recreational, and informational services to a wide variety of patrons in a variety of physical and digital settings. The book reading experience of the past is now being accompanied by other diverse activities, including presenting and interacting with information in new and unusual formats. Ultimately, the goal of the new central public library is to reach more than just the programmatic and functional needs of the library—it is to provide a new central public library that reflects the values and aspirations of the community it serves.

As a knowledge repository, the greatest challenge to the library has been access to electronic information. With technological advancements, our progressive libraries are changing from a center of information to a center of culture. And as technology continues to grow, the community center for all ages role becomes even more important for the public library. In addition to housing and updating a variety of collections of information, the library should be welcoming and inviting, user friendly to all ages, and provide quick access to information and services. The library should be flexible and easily adaptable to future changes. It should be beautiful, durable, maintainable, and timeless.

LIBRARY AS LEARNING CENTER

Today's libraries are enhancing their learning opportunities to include such program needs as classrooms, labs, high-tech workrooms, integrated IT, makerspaces, music rooms, podcast studios, and business support spaces.

LIBRARY AS SOCIAL CENTER

The library serves as a community living room, often including fireplaces, coffee shops, and other amenities to invite and support patrons, as well as space that offers opportunities for guest lectures, readings, and other forms of entertainment.

LIBRARY AS SHOWCASE FOR HISTORICAL TRADITION

Special rooms such as genealogy and heritage spaces, exhibit halls, and living pieces of history offer a place to showcase and research community history and other related materials.

THE NEW LIBRARY SHOULD:

- Be a beacon that reflects and respects the past, present, and future of the community.
- Be appealing to patrons of all ages!
- Act as a cultural commons to the community—encouraging collaboration, interaction, celebration, and discourse.
- Be spatially open and transparent, allowing good visibility for staff and patrons.
- Provide a variety of seating areas.
- Provide digital equity.
- Create a beautiful and aspirational space that supports life-long learners.
- Use environmentally friendly materials and systems that help preserve our natural environment.
- Function efficiently for patron and staff use.
- Provide flexible space that can change easily to meet future needs.
- Allow for ubiquitous technology throughout the library.
- Provide collaborative environments.
- Provide a dynamic children's area that is visually defined and adjacent to programmed space that supports children's activities.
- Provide an exciting young adult section that gives this group of users a space of their own.





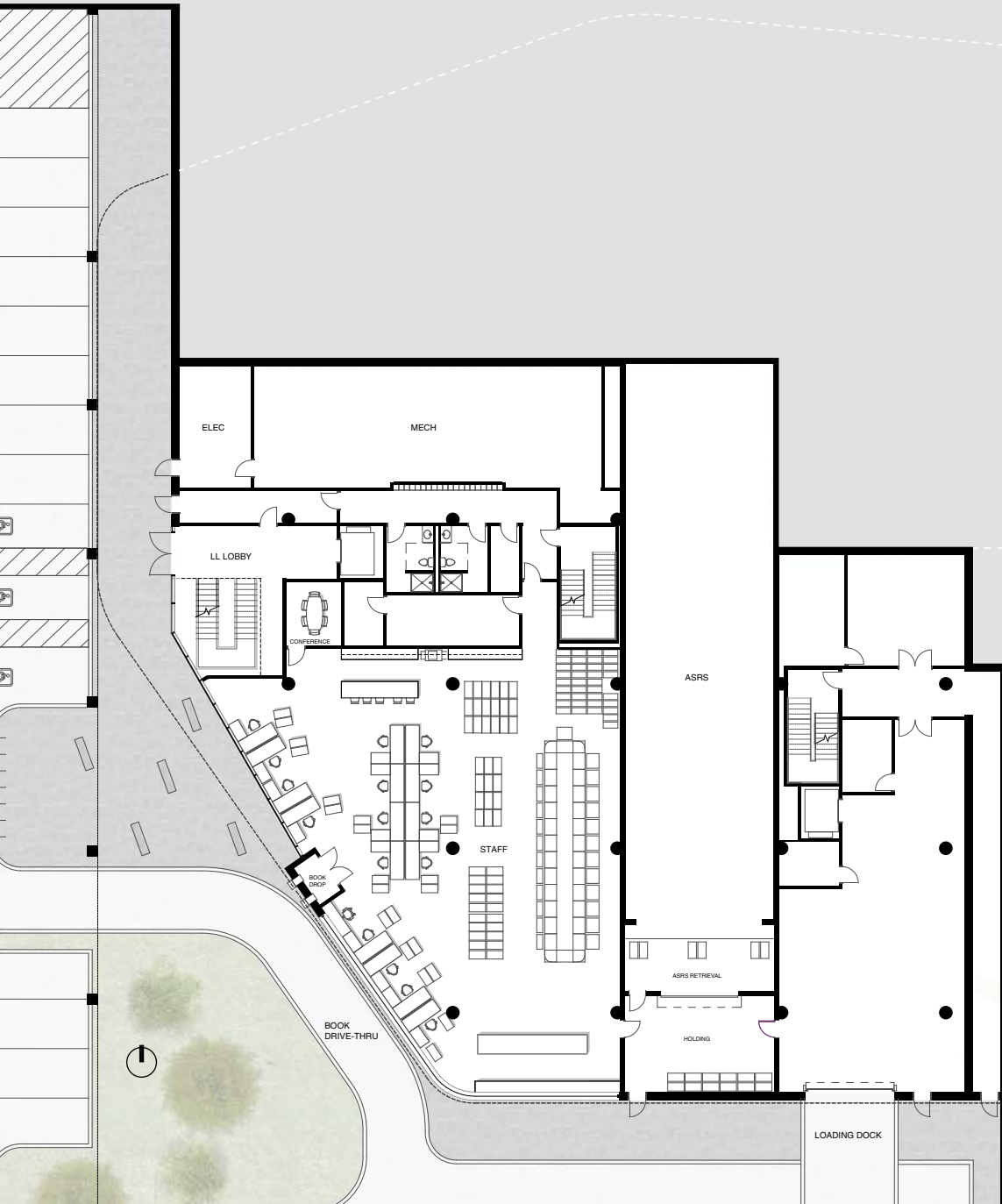


LOWER LEVEL

Staff space is distributed on all floors so they can best serve patrons both in the front and back of house.

The lower-level staff space features a book drop off and pick up drive through window for patrons. It also houses the ground level of the Automated Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS) that is managed by staff on this floor.

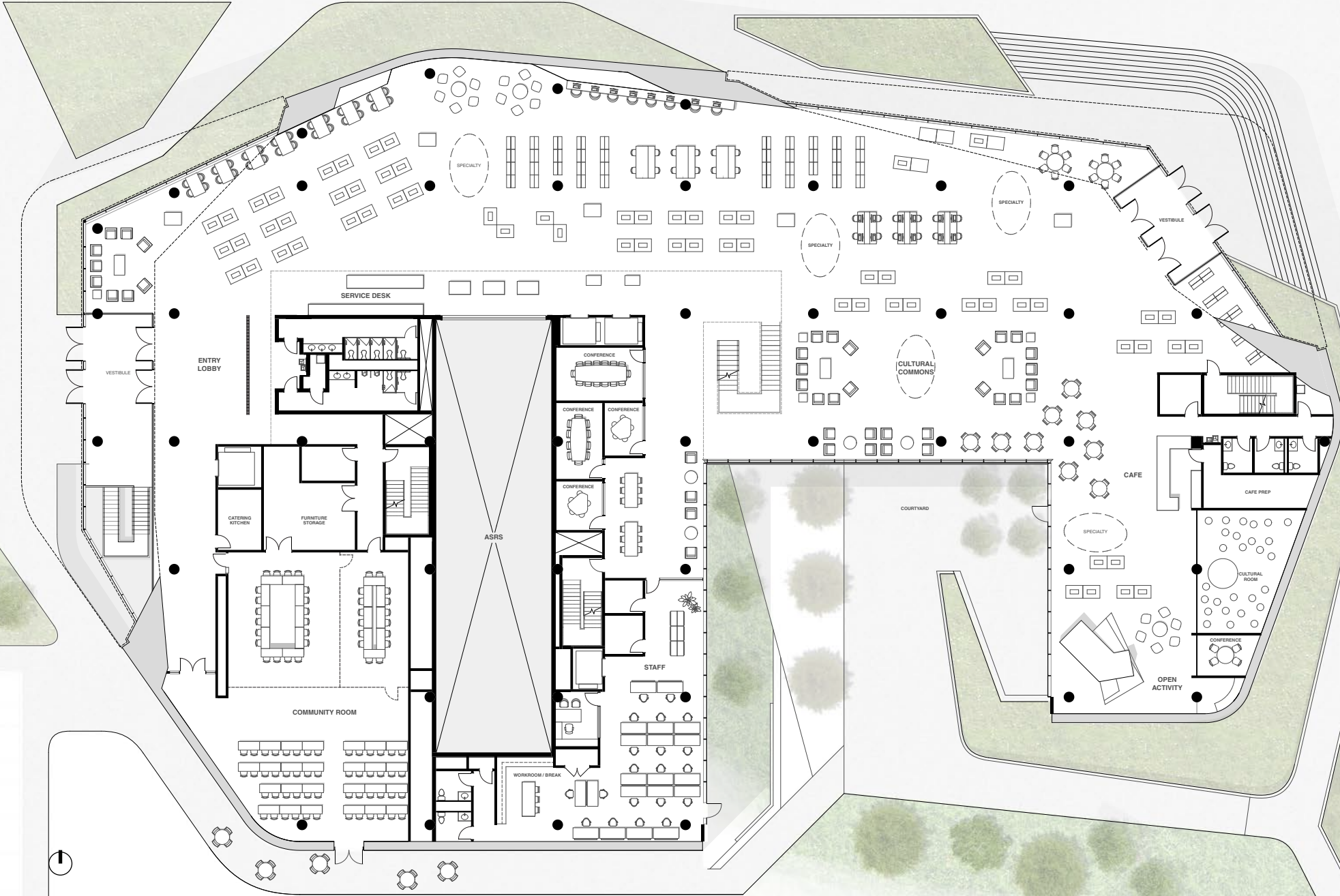






FIRST FLOOR

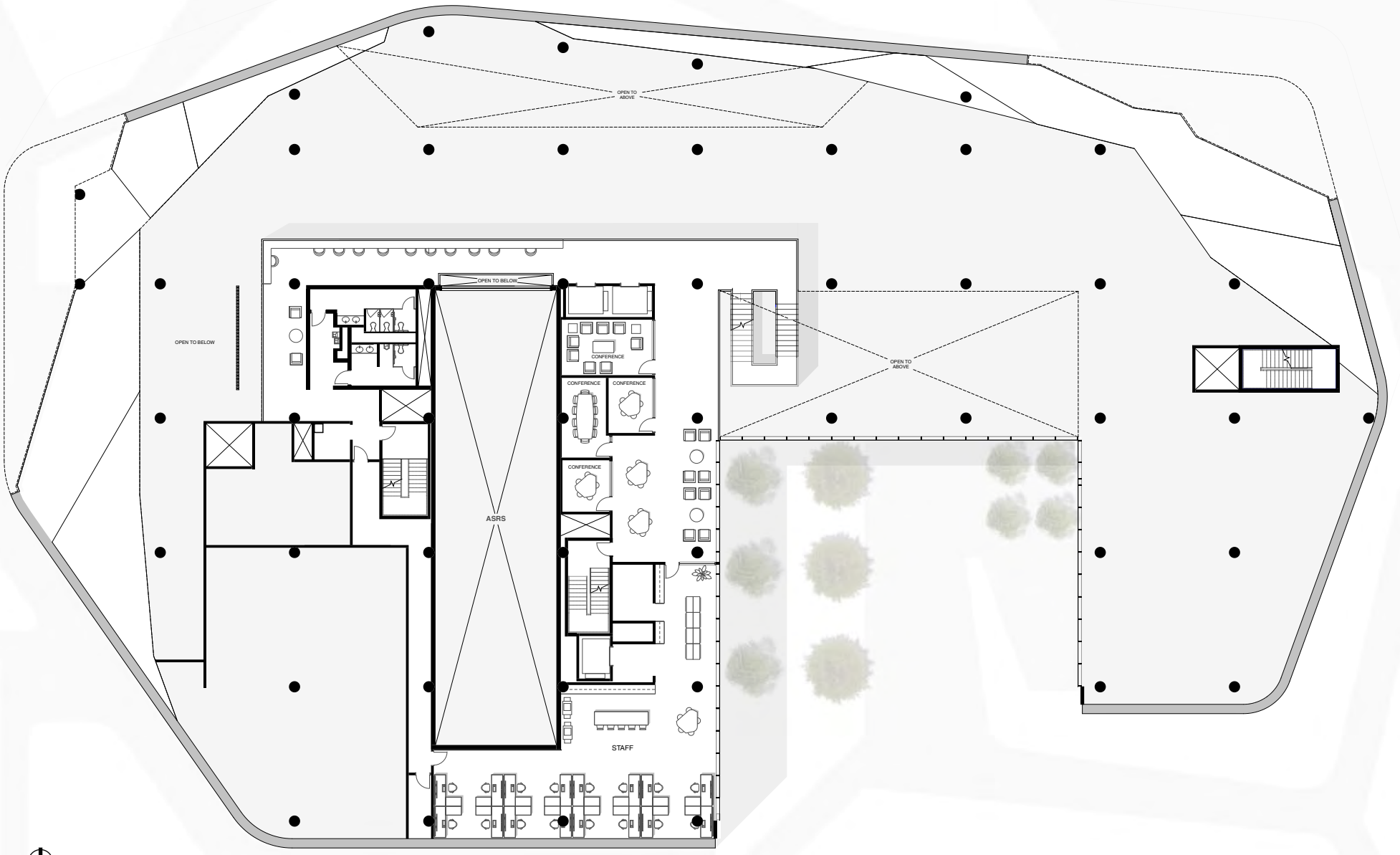
The first floor of the library celebrates all ages, acting as an intergenerational, collaborative, and multi-purpose cultural commons. Program highlights include collection displays for all ages, interspersed with a variety of technology. A vibrant café, early childhood play space, 300-seat community meeting room, array of meeting/conference spaces, lounge furniture, and reader tables can be found throughout the floor.





MEZZANINE

A mezzanine tucked between the first and second floors features a variety of open and private meeting rooms and lounge areas. Acting as a quieter and cozier floor nestled within the activated surrounds, a seated counter sits at the edge of the floor opening, allowing visitors to sit and look over the first-floor activities. Views from this perched level also look towards bustling Dodge Street to the north and to quiet courtyard gardens to the south.



CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

The Children's Department features a variety of collection displays; a 100-seat interactive story time area; fixed computers for children's educational and recreational use; family space; stroller parking; a variety of seating for all ages; collaborative space; and a large activity/Little Lab room for arts and crafts, digital exploration, and several other programs.







SECOND FLOOR

The second floor houses the Children's Department, Young Adults' Department, and Do Space makerspace.



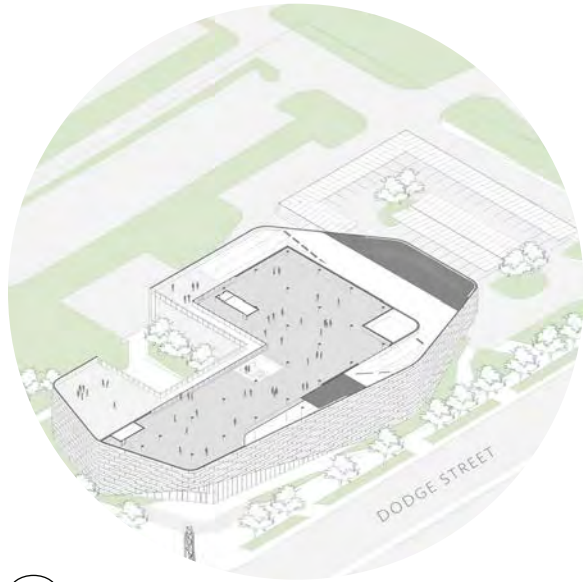
MAKER SPACE

Multiple makerspace programs and pieces of equipment are featured in Do Space, inviting the user to experiment and learn about the latest technologies. A centrally located Tech lab, visible through glass walls, houses 3D printers, laser cutters, and other 3D tech equipment. A 24-seat tech training room, Audio and Visual labs, Listening and Film Viewing rooms, and podcast studio offer a variety of opportunities to learn, create, explore, and invent. In adjacent open areas, patrons will find arts and crafts stations and a variety of technology.

Situated along the north railing, a seated countertop with tech support wraps to the teen area, inviting patrons to sit down, plug in, and engage. Young adults can find comfortable lounge furniture, collaborative high-top tables, collections, computer tables, and group study and tutoring rooms. Located at the top of the feature stair, teens enjoy panoramic views both inside and out that add to the dynamics.

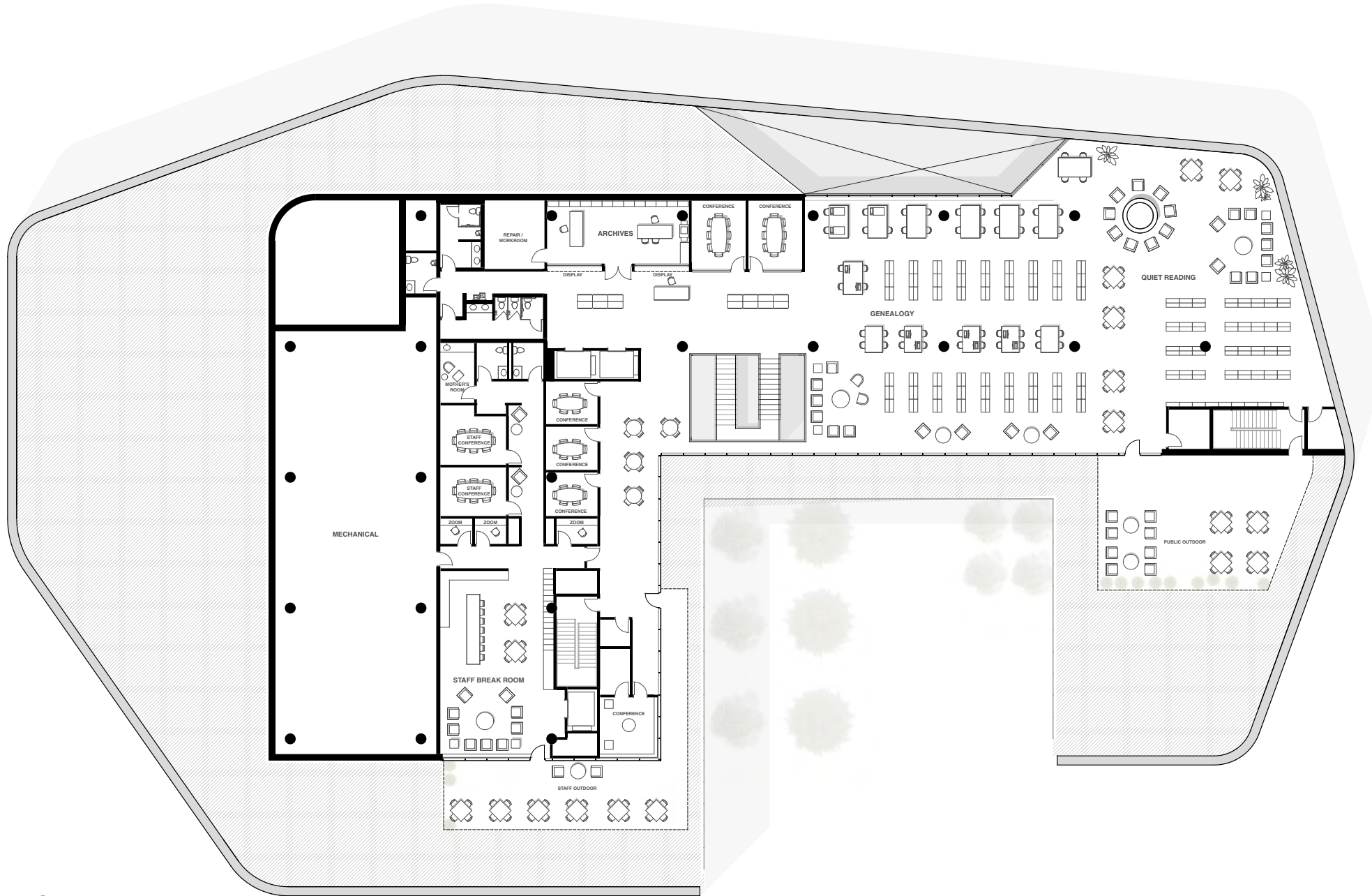






THIRD FLOOR

Third floor features Archives, Genealogy & Heritage, and a quiet reading room. A variety of soft seating, research and reader tables, technology, and collections are housed on this floor. A variety of meeting rooms are distributed throughout. Display cases showcase Nebraska history and the library's extensive archive collection. A centrally located fireplace in the quiet reading space—with views that look outdoors to the south, east, and north—encourages readers to relax and enjoy the more contemplative spaces.





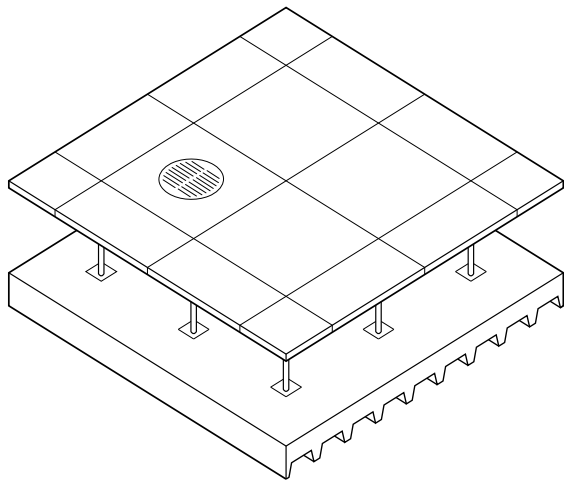




SUSTAINABLE ENGINEERING SYSTEMS

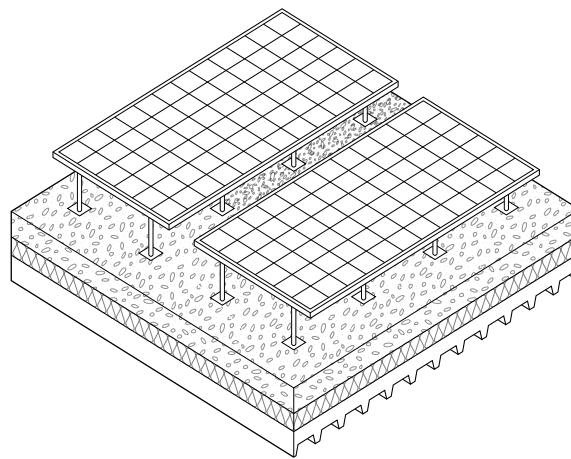
UNDERFLOOR AIR DISTRIBUTION

After minimizing both the exterior and interior loads, the third stage is to take further advantage of the reduced loads with efficient heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. For libraries in particular, underfloor air distribution (UFAD) systems are very popular. They not only provide quiet and flexible operation, but also allow less ventilation air to be supplied compared to a typical variable air volume (VAV) system.



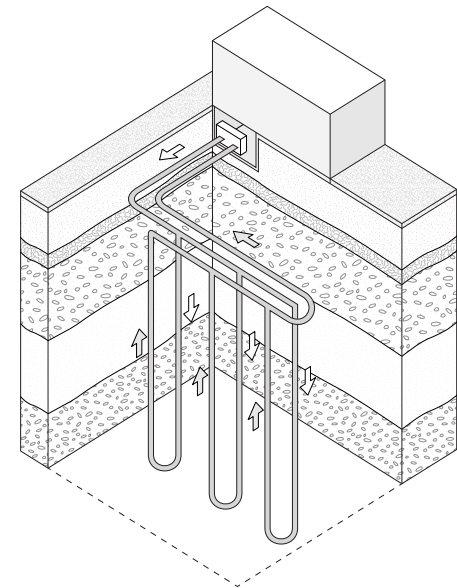
PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY GENERATION

Approximately 30,000-square-feet of roof area and 9,500-square-feet of parking lot canopy have been set aside for photovoltaic arrays. Both areas will likely need to be utilized to achieve full net-zero operation. To account for additional roof-mounted mechanical equipment, safety buffers around the edge of the building, and access walkways, a 75% utilization factor is applied to the available roof area. This leaves approximately 22,500-square-feet of roof space available for photovoltaic arrays. If required, additional roof space could be added in the form of canopies above the green roof section on the southeast corner of the building. A low-angle (0-5°) tilt with a primarily south-facing orientation will be utilized.

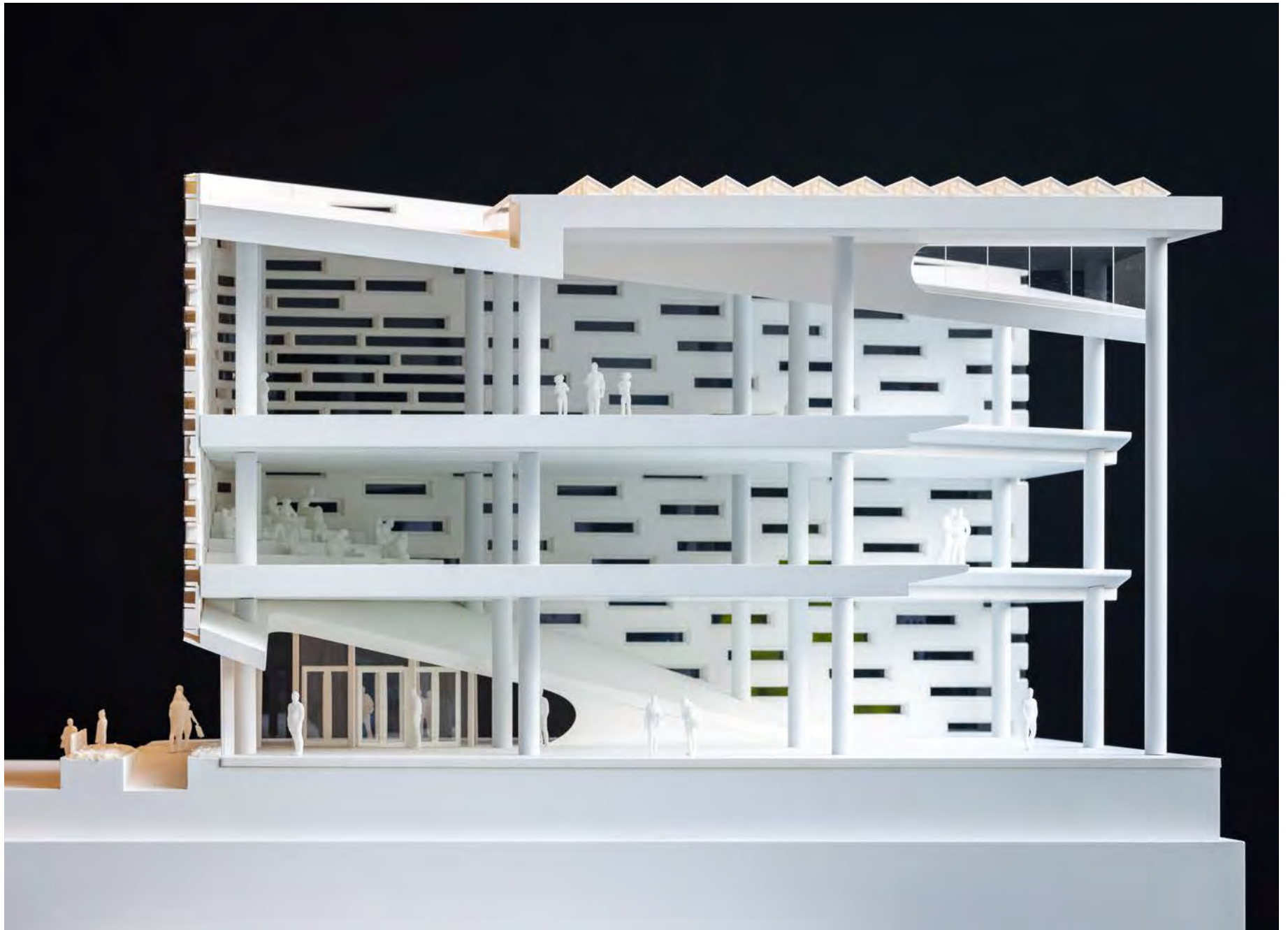


GEOHERMAL LOOP SYSTEM

The site will include a geothermal well field paired with a heat recovery chiller system to supplement both the heating and cooling needs of the facility. The heating plant will be comprised of two electric boilers and variable primary redundant hot water distribution pumps. The pumps will distribute hot water from both the heat recovery chiller and the boilers to pre-heat coils in the air handling system, VAV reheat coils, finned tube "trench" heaters, and unit heaters. A British Thermal Unit (BTU) meter and mag flow meter will be installed on the geothermal loop system, and energy consumption will be recorded at the building management system.







Facade Assembly Model, Interior

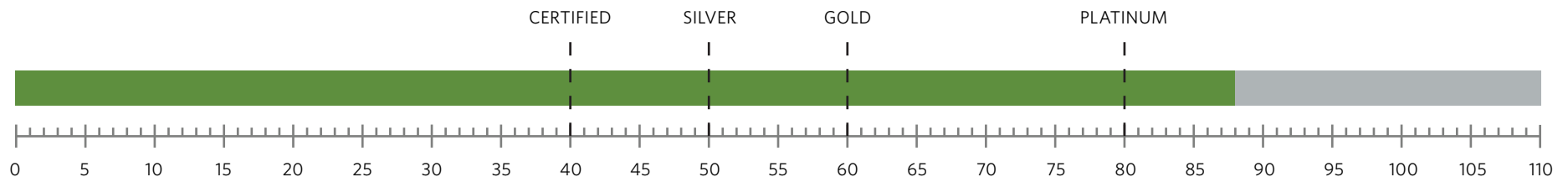
SUSTAINABILITY

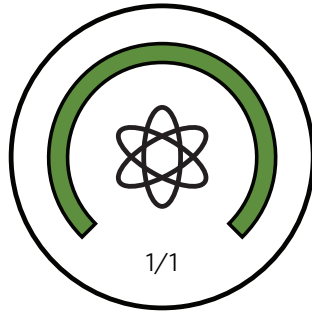
PERFORMANCE & COMMUNITY

A landmark central public library is looked to for inspiration on how a public building should be designed, constructed, operated, and effectively utilized by the community it serves. This project provides a terrific opportunity to lay a foundation for future construction in Omaha—one that is built to withstand the climate challenges that our future holds. The preliminary goals for this project include LEED Platinum certification, certified net-zero overall energy use, increased energy resiliency, and operational carbon reduction.

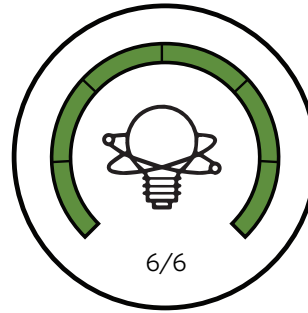
LEED PLATINUM

This project will follow LEED v4.1 BD+C: New Construction as the baseline for certification. To achieve Platinum certification status, the project will need to achieve a minimum of 80 of the available 110 points. A minimum of 88 points will be targeted (80 points Platinum threshold + 10% contingency).

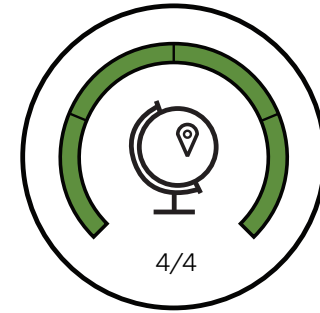




INTEGRATIVE PROCESS



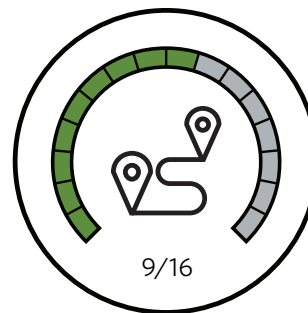
INNOVATION



REGIONAL PRIORITY



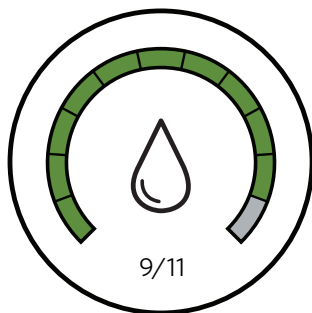
SUSTAINABLE SITES



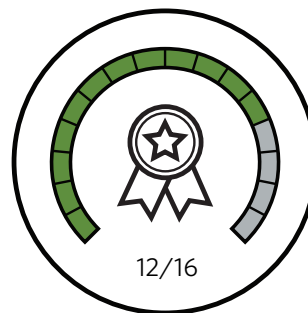
LOCATION & TRANSPORTATION



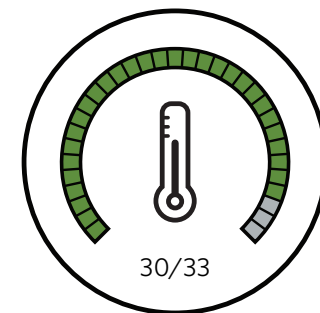
MATERIALS & RESOURCES



WATER EFFICIENCY

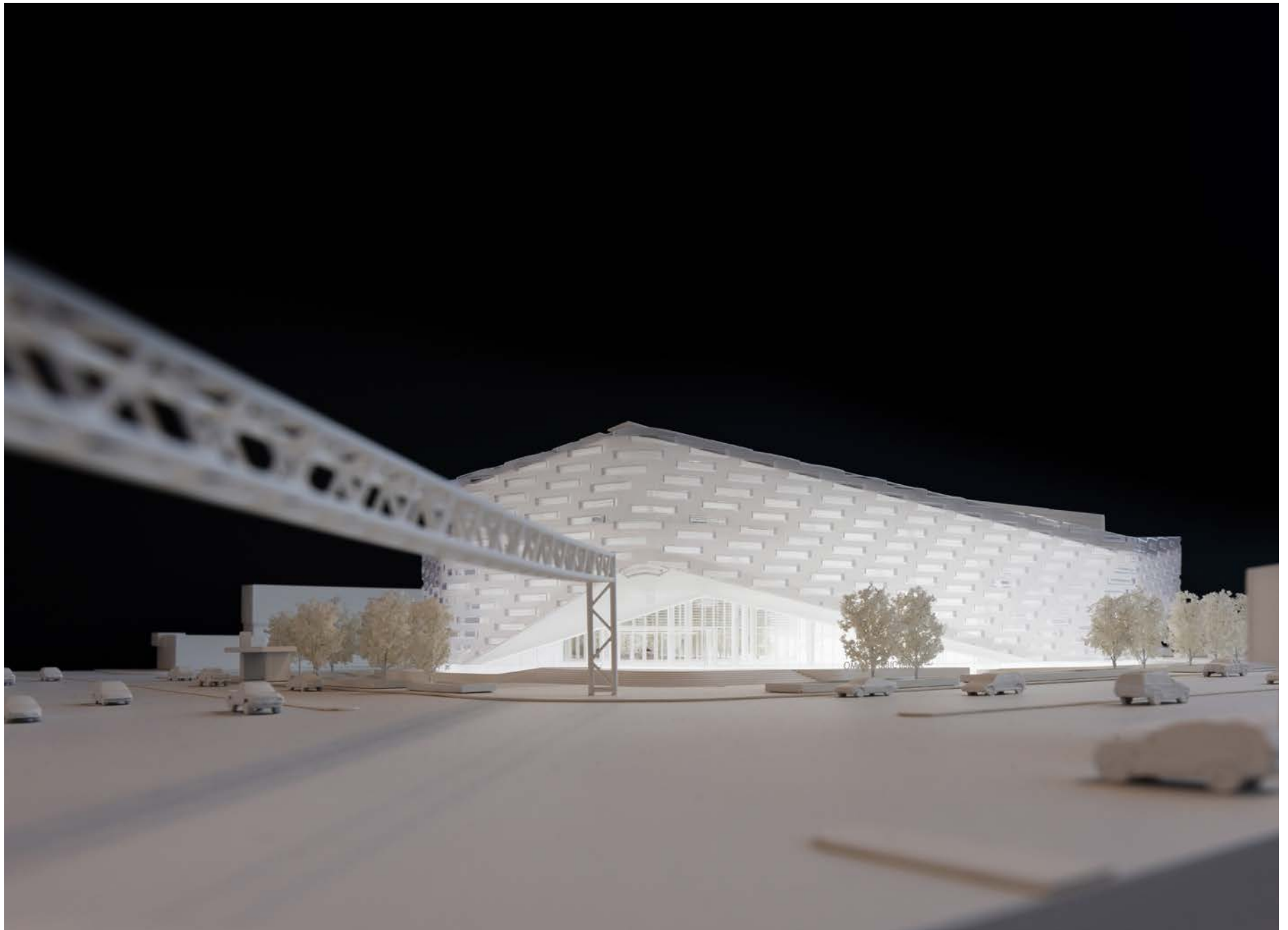


INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



ENERGY & ATMOSPHERE





Site Model, 72nd Dodge Street Perspective

DESIGNING TOWARD A NET ZERO BUILDING

This project is striving to achieve net-zero energy use. This would be a significant achievement for not only the City of Omaha, but also the State of Nebraska and the surrounding region. To achieve this, there are several stages of focus throughout the design process that can help this project achieve net-zero energy usage. Completing these stages in order helps create the most cost-effective approach to a zero-energy design. Energy modeling and analysis will be heavily utilized on this project to track its progress towards the net-zero energy goal.



PASSIVE ARCHITECTURE STRATEGIES

Passive architectural strategies are largely based on the climate and type of building. They include massing and orientation, envelope material selection, insulation and glazing property selection, and shading strategies. The primary focus is to improve the building envelope to minimize the peak heating and cooling loads and overall energy usage, while still maintaining access to quality daylight and views of the outside.



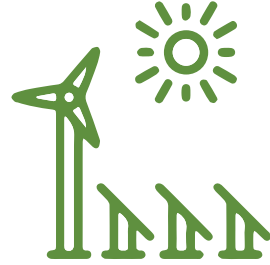
REDUCE PLUG AND PROCESS LOADS

Once the impact of exterior loads has been reduced, the focus turns toward reducing interior loads wherever possible. This can be a little more difficult to do in a building so highly utilized by the public as the central public library. The primary goal should be to select equipment with low power demands, especially items such as kitchen equipment, breakroom appliances, elevators, computer/AV equipment, and digital displays. A secondary strategy to reduce plug load consumption is through receptacle control. In this strategy, receptacles have one outlet that is controlled and one outlet that is uncontrolled. Monitors and TVs, task lighting, and portable appliances can be plugged into the controlled outlet. Devices with integral power-save settings can be plugged into the uncontrolled outlet.



IMPROVE HVAC SYSTEM EFFICIENCY

After minimizing both the exterior and interior loads, the third stage is to take further advantage of the reduced loads with efficient HVAC systems. For libraries in particular, underfloor air distribution (UFAD) systems are very popular. They not only provide quiet and flexible operation, but also allow less ventilation air to be supplied compared to a typical VAV system. Increased plant and motor efficiencies, energy recovery technologies, and advanced control strategies are additional avenues to increase overall system efficiency and decrease energy usage.



MAXIMIZE RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION

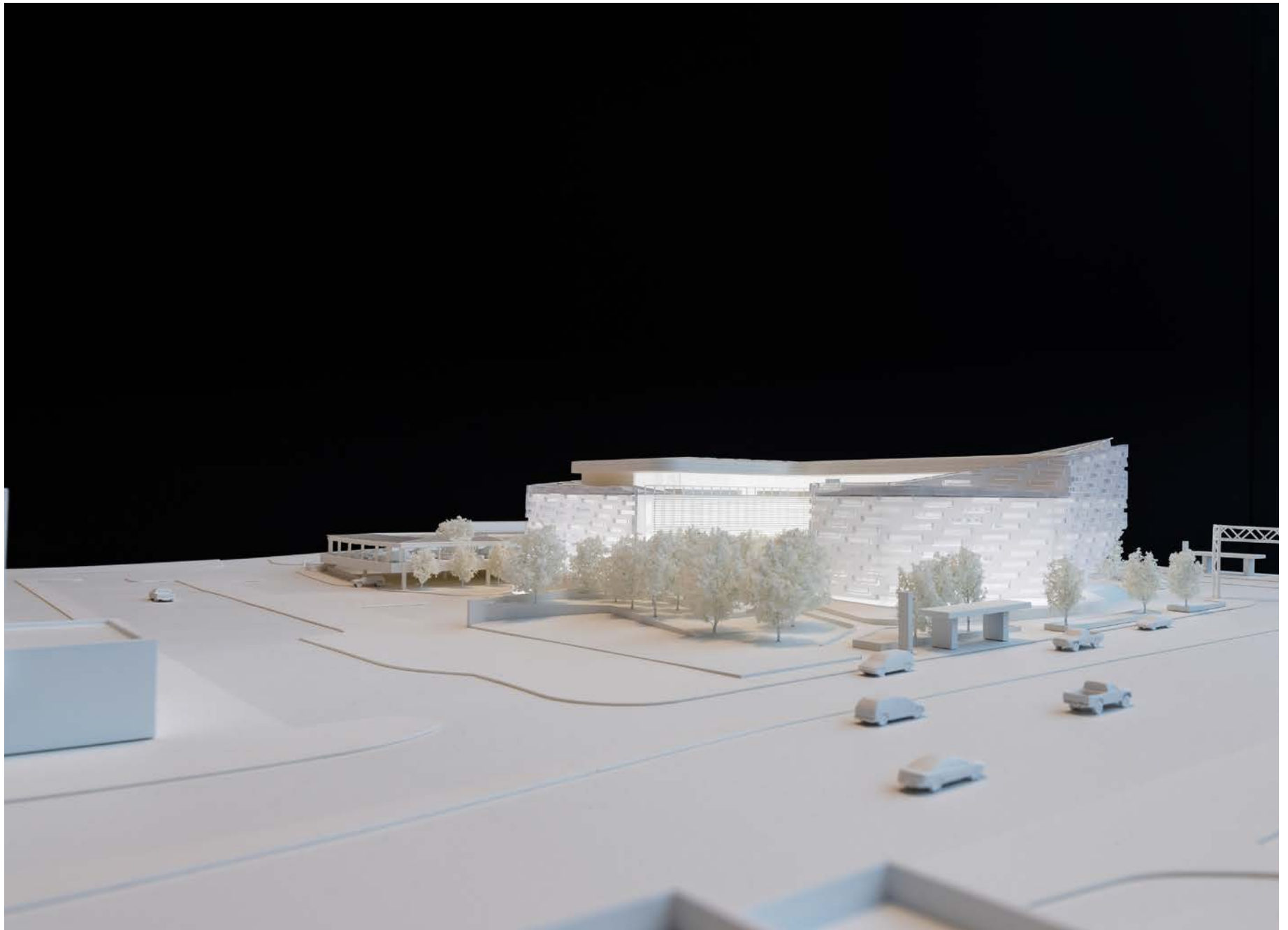
Once the overall building energy usage has been optimized through the previous three steps, the fourth step is to offset that energy usage through on-site renewable energy generation. This is most commonly accomplished through the implementation of photovoltaic panels, which will be the case on this project. Other types of generation—such as small-scale wind turbines—are fairly limited in production capabilities and aren't economically viable options. A common target when designing a photovoltaic array for a net-zero building is to provide at least 110% of the predicted annual energy use in generated energy.



OPTIMIZE OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

A vital part of designing a net-zero building is ensuring it operates at net-zero both on “Day One” and well into the future. Establishing commissioning, measurement and verification, building operation training, and occupant behavior education practices all go a long way toward ensuring the building performs in the real world as it was designed. Cloud-based fault detection and diagnostics will be specified in future design phases to aid in continual building system operation and optimization.





Site Model, 72nd Street Looking Northwest

“A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert.”

-Andrew Carnegie

05

Appendix

LIBRARY + OMAHA CENTRIC TEAM

The library is considered one of a city's most personal buildings. It represents the history and culture of its place while embodying the tools and information that will help the community continue to develop and prosper. Generations gather to learn history, experience a world of creative narrative, and consider the future. The team assembled for this investigation represents the best in national library program expertise balanced with the exceptional skills and talents of some of the nation's best design professionals. Uniquely, the majority of this team calls Omaha home. Like renowned Omaha architect Thomas Kimball, these professionals were born and raised here. In the classic tradition of the early pioneer families of the Great Plains who sent their young adults to experience the world, these sons and daughters of Nebraska set out to learn from universities and the school of life in great cities all over the globe. They learned about design, arts, business, and literature. Their relocations lasted anywhere from many months to many years, yet all returned home, armed with broader experiences and a desire to do what they love in a place they love. This team recognizes what an incredible opportunity lies before them, and is eager to contribute to the great narrative of our city of Omaha.

The following pages introduce you to the leading members of the team and their education, professional accolades, and community contributions. Also included is a collage of the great spaces they have contributed to Omaha in recent years.



THOMAS J. TRENOLONE
FAIA, IIDA, LEED AP
Architectural Design Lead

An architect and design advocate with HDR's international architecture and engineering practice, Tom is a design director and vice president with the firm. He studied at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, University of Kansas, and the Università IUAV di Venezia in Italy. He holds degrees in Architecture and Advertising Journalism. He is also the president and founder of daOMA (design alliance OMAha), a non-profit focused on building greater awareness of the design arts through lectures and community engagement. He is one of Nebraska's most decorated architects with four national AIA honor awards for design excellence to his credit. A recipient of the Kagan Design Fellowship in 2002, his research entitled "Speed, Sex, Firepower" was an in-depth study of how large automotive companies, couture fashion houses and the U.S. military maintain their creative edge. He is a lecturer at the University of Nebraska College of Architecture and was recently elevated to AIA's College of Fellows.



NANCY F. NOVAK
NCIDQ, LEED AP
Interior Design Lead

Nancy holds degrees in interior design and English literature. After practicing in Minneapolis, and inspired by the increasing development happening in her hometown, she moved back to Omaha and quickly established herself in the local design community. With a deep-rooted belief in the essential nature of libraries, Nancy has spent the last 20 years specializing in library design, leading the design of award-winning libraries in municipalities and universities throughout the country. An advocate for the transformational power of design, Nancy has worked on a variety of projects that include corporate, arts, cultural, and hospitality. This diverse portfolio of projects inform one another, and Nancy draws inspiration from various sources, designing innovative spaces that foster a sense of community. Her work has been recognized with numerous local, regional, and national awards from AIA and IIDA. A partner and leader in Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture's interior design practice, Nancy has lectured on library design and has taught a course on Central Library design at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she is an adjunct professor.



MARGARET SULLIVAN
ALA, PLA, ULC, YALSA
Library Design Consultant

Margaret is a national thought leader in assisting public libraries envision their preferred future. Margaret leads Margaret Sullivan Studio, a full-service strategy and design firm, collaborating with innovative library systems internationally. Since the firm's founding in 2014, MSS has become the industry leader in re-envisioning the 21st century library for diverse and complex contemporary communities, with a focus on social justice and racial equity. Margaret has assisted over 30 public library systems define their version of what a 21st-century library can be through strategy planning, facilities master planning, vision, programming and interior design. Among the public libraries she has assisted include those in New York City, Washington, D.C., Las Vegas-Clark County, Richland, New Haven, Salt Lake City, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Memphis. Prior to establishing her own firm, Margaret worked for prestigious architecture firms including H3 Hardy Collaboration Architecture as director of interior design. In 2017, Margaret was named one of Interior Design Magazine's Rising Stars.







JOHN DINEEN
AIA
Project Principal

John is a skilled architect and facilitator. He comes from an Omaha family with generations of firefighters who know the meaning of community service and leadership. (John continues this tradition as a volunteer). He is a graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Architecture and has quietly built a reputation for helping the city of Omaha realize its ambitions in built form. As a project leader for TD Ameritrade Park, Siena Francis House, and the Kiewit Luminarium to his credit. John is skilled at navigating the design and construction process and a partner who understands the demands of high design and high-performance building environments.



JEN CROSS
PLA, ASLA
Site Design

Jen has a decade of practice and commitment to the design and planning of public places and the perpetuation of the value of landscape architecture via thought leadership, mentorship, community engagement, advocacy, and innovation. She grew up in rural Iowa with deep roots in community connection to place and has a passion for understanding, celebrating, and improving communities. Her work has received awards from the American Society of Landscape Architects and American Planning Association, among others. A graduate of Iowa State University, Jen has made Omaha home and is active as a leader in her church's building design committee, son's school community club, and co-chair of the Central States ASLA planning committee.



COLE WYCOFF
AIA
Architect

Cole comes from a family of doctors, but at age 10 found himself inside a gross anatomy lab and realized medical education wasn't for him. Instead, Cole decided, he would become an architect. He has since spent his life creating and exploring, moving to New York where he was afforded the opportunity to do both, designing schools, hospitals, offices, art installations—and even gross anatomy labs—around the world. Cole recently returned to the Midwest with a sketchbook full of memories and a runner's log of his travels and excursions. While he has spent his life nurturing his right-brain creativity, he still has the scientific left-brain processing coded into his family DNA. His strength is his ability to oscillate between and among modes of thinking, from left to right and back again.



RYAN FISHER
AIA, LEED AP
Architect

A graduate of Iowa State University, Ryan's education opened his eyes to modern Midwestern beauty, pragmatism, and constructibility. Since then, he has nurtured his interest in the connections between modern architecture, industrial fabrication, and both emerging and traditional construction techniques. As a partner and lead designer at Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture, Ryan produces innovative architectural solutions for a variety of clients, from libraries and museums to schools and workspaces. His work has been recognized with two AIA Nebraska Design Awards for Emerging Architects, a A|N Best of Design Awards, Honorable Mention in the Public Category, and multiple AIA Nebraska and AIA Central States honors.

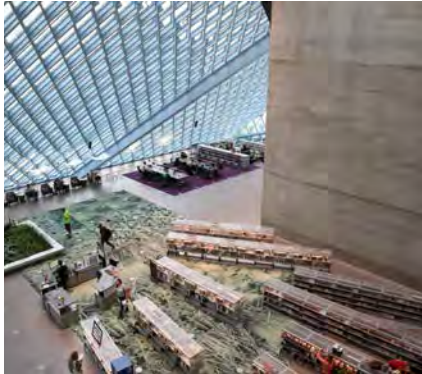
This group represents the highest level of passion for—and excellence in—design. It is a collective of architects and designers from multiple organizations, connected by a shared personal interest in the success of a new main library for Omaha.







PRECEDENTS



SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Seattle, Washington
OMA + LMN
2004
38,300 m²



LOS ANGELES CENTRAL LIBRARY

Los Angeles, California
Bertram Gooch, Hardy
Holzman Pfeiffer
1926, 1993
538,000ft²



RICHLAND LIBRARY

Columbia South, Carolina
Stevens & Wilkinson
Boudreaux Group,
Margaret Sullivan
1993, 2019
240,000 ft²



BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Brooklyn, New York
Toshiko Mori Architects
2021
352,000 ft²



LOCHAL LIBRARY

Tilburg, The Netherlands
Braaksmas & Roos
architectenbureau, CIVIC
architects, Inside Outside,
Mecanoo
2019
7,000ft²



AUSTIN CENTRAL LIBRARY

Austin, Texas
Lake Flato Architects,
Shepley Bulfinch
2017
198,000ft²



MLK JR. MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Washington, D.C.
Mecanoo, Martinez +
Johnson Architecture
2020
426,000ft²



BILLIE JEAN KING MAIN LIBRARY

Long Beach, California
Skidmore, Owings & Merrill
2019
93,500 ft²



IMAGINON: THE JOE AND JOAN MARTIN CENTER

Charlotte, North Carolina
Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer,
Grant Huberman
2005
102,000ft²



HENNEPIN COUNTY WALKER LIBRARY

Minneapolis, Minnesota
VJAA
2014
30,000ft²



CALGARY CENTRAL LIBRARY

Calgary, Canada
Snøhetta
2018
240,000 ft²



OODI HELSINKI CENTRAL LIBRARY

Helsingfors, Finland
ALA Architects
2018
17,250m²



**MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
RENOVATION**

New York, New York
Diller Scofidio + Renfro
2019
70,800 ft²



**GOTHENBURG UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY**

Gothenburg, Sweden
Cobe
Unbuilt (2021)
6,300 m²



POETRY FOUNDATION

Chicago, Illinois
John Ronan Architects
2011
26,000 ft²



**SISSI'S WONDERLAND
LIBRARY**

Shanghai, China
Muxin Studio
2018
108 m²



WA MUSEUM BOOLA BARDIP

Perth, Australia
Hassell + OMA
2019
19,000 m²



DEICHMAN LIBRARY

Sentrum, Norway
Atelier Oslo + Lund Hagem
2020
19,600 m²



**THE LIBRARY OF SONGDO
INTERNATIONAL CITY**

Songdo, Korea
aoe architects
2021
8,199.5 m²



**SHANGHAI JIADING PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

Shanghai, China
Bermilion Zhou Design Group
2013



**LOT FOURTEEN
ENTREPRENEUR AND
INNOVATION CENTRE**

Adelaide, Australia
Baukultur
Unbuilt



PINGTUNG PUBLIC LIBRARY

Pingtung City, Taiwan
MAYU architects
2020
8,597 m²



JEWISH ARTS QUARTER

Melbourne, Australia
McIldowie Partners
Unbuilt (2022)



KIRKKONUMMI LIBRARY

Kirkkonummi, Finland
JKMM Architects
2020
4,700 m²

PERFORMANCE

DEFINITIONS

Annual Sunlight Exposure (ASE)

Annual, grid-based, daylight metric that measures the percentage of floor area that receives at least 1000lx for at least 250 occupied hours per year

Spatial Daylight Autonomy (sDA)

Annual, grid-based, daylight metric for percentage of floor area where 300lx is achieved for at least 50% of the occupied hours of the year.

Useful Daylight Illuminance (UDI)

Annual, grid-based daylight availability metric that corresponds to the percentage of the occupied time when a target range of illuminance levels (100lx-2000lx) at a point in a space is met

Daylight Glare Probability (DGP):

Most recent index used to evaluate glare from daylight - extracted by experimental data in private office spaces involving human test subjects (Wienold & Christoffersen 2006)
To calculate, a complex formula is used that correlates Luminance Ratios (contrast) in field of view (fish eye lens) to experimental data and reported perception of glare

UDI RANGE

“UDI less” percentage of the occupied time when illuminance levels at a point are between 0-100lux

“UDI” percentage of the occupied time when illuminance levels at a point are between 100-2000lux

“UDI more” percentage of the occupied time when illuminance levels at a point are above 2000lux

GLARE RANGE

>45%	Intolerable Glare
40-45%	Disturbing Glare
35-40%	Perceptible Glare
<35%	Imperceptible Glare

LIBRARY PERFORMANCE DATA

USEFUL DAYLIGHT ILLUMINANCE (UDI)

Level 1: 62%

Level 2: : 77%

Level3: 58%

SPATIAL DAYLIGHT AUTONOMY (SDA)

Level 1: 99%

Level 2: 100%

Level 3: : 100%

ANNUAL SUNLIGHT EXPOSURE (ASE)

Level 1: 21%

Level 2: 18%

Level 3: 20%

GLARE DATA

Intolerable: 528 Hours

Disturbing: 130 Hours

Perceptible: 255 Hours

Imperceptible: 3,396 Hours

