



# College Hill Branch Discussion

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# What We'll Talk About Today

- Welcome & Introductions
- Library overview
- Facilities Master Plan (FMP)
- Community Engagement



# Your Public Library: Overview

- 7 person Board; 7 year term;
- Approximately 800 staff
- 42 locations, 1 million sf public space
- ½ funding from State (Public Library Fund)
- ½ funding local Hamilton County levies
- Budget priorities include
  - Library books and eResources
  - Building the Next Generation Libraries



# 2023 By the Numbers

Stat	2023	College Hill
Total Items Borrowed	18,452,268	48,192 (34th)
PC sessions	578,162	18,223 (10th)
Wi-fi Sessions	1,976,032	42,615 (12th)
Customer Visits	3,633,121	102,921 (10th)
Program Attendance	347,922	2357 (38th)
Room Reservations	59,231	561 (24th)



# 2024 College Hill Service Stats (So Far\*)

\*These stats are thru November 2024 for the College Hill Branch Library

- 44,533 items borrowed (up 9% from last year)
- 6011 customers attended programs (up 192% from last year)
- 21,548 WiFi sessions
- 16,600 PC sessions
- 90,868 customer visits
- 548 room reservations for 1093 hours
- 2514 JFS scans
- 6,689 meal and snacks served
- 450 additional supplemental snacks served







# Building the Next Generation Library



# Facility Master Plan Overview

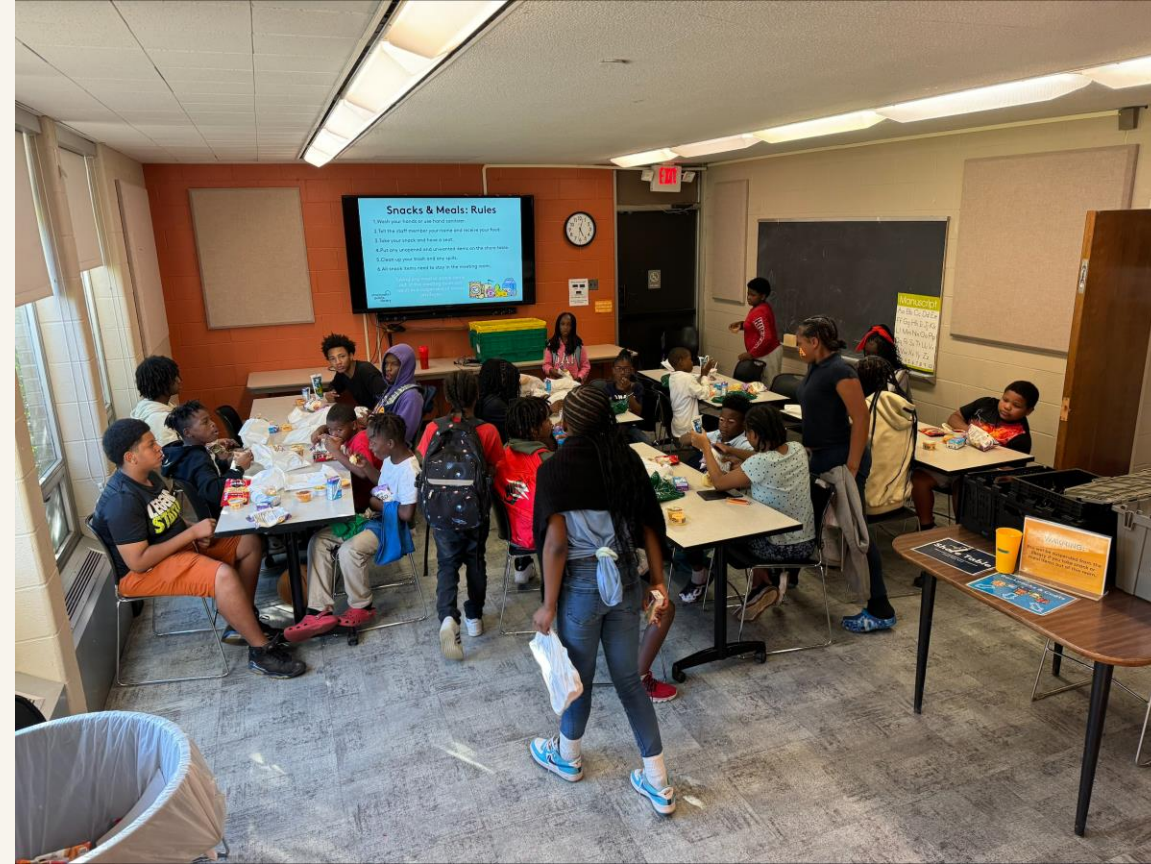
- Developed throughout 2019
  - Over 3,000 community members gave input
    - 90+ community meetings
    - 15 focus groups
    - In-person & online surveys
- Comprehensive, 10-year plan
  - 5 planning zones
- Facility improvement funds are from levy passed in 2018
- **Building the Next Generation Library Initiative**





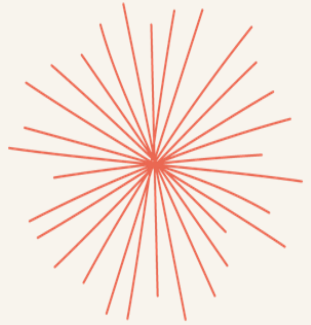
# Infrastructure

- Accessibility
- Maintenance
- Size
- Evolving Customer Needs
- Demographics





# Facility Master Plan Progress



## Completed County-Wide Improvements

2024



**Downtown Main Library**  
South Building & Plaza  
Renovation



**Forest Park**  
Relocation and New Build



**Hyde Park**  
Improved Accessibility



**Mt. Healthy**  
Relocation with Larger  
Building

2023

**Corryville**  
Maintenance

**Sharonville**  
Interior Updates

**Madisonville**  
New Branch

**West End**  
Renovation

**Pleasant Ridge**  
Maintenance

2022

**Green Township**  
Maintenance

**Mariemont**  
Exterior Update

**Walnut Hills**  
Renovation and  
Expansion

2021

**Anderson Township**  
Renovation

**Deer Park**  
Relocation and Expansion

**Price Hill**  
Renovation and Expansion

2020

**College Hill**  
Interior Update

**Elmwood Place**  
Interior Update

**Groesbeck**  
Interior Update

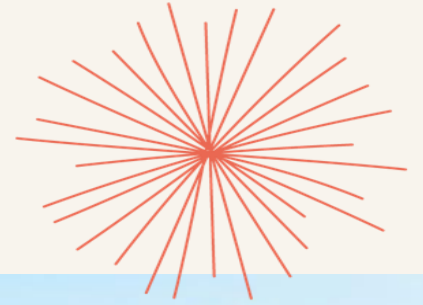
**Madeira**  
Interior Update

2019

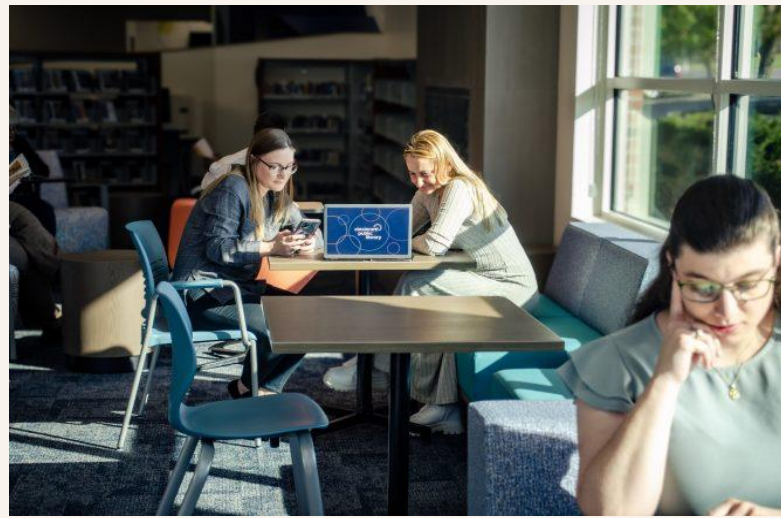
**Downtown Main**  
Energy Retrofit



# Mt. Healthy Branch



- Investment: \$6.3 million
- Grand opening: November 2024
- Square footage: 10,000
- Key features:
  - Fully accessible
  - Expanded parking
  - More interior space
  - Meeting space and Study Pods
  - Drive-Thru Service





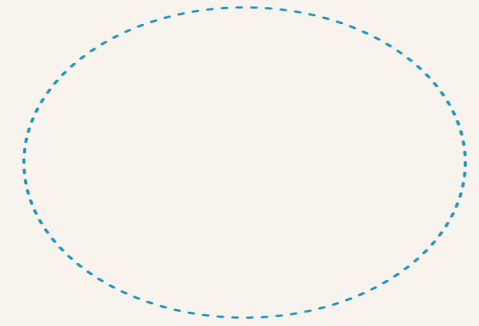
# Deer Park

- Investment: \$4.5M
- Grand opening: December 2021
- Square footage: 25,000
- Architect: GBBN
- Construction Firm: Perkins Carmack
- Key features:
  - 2 Meeting rooms
  - Large meeting room can accommodate nearly 200 people
  - 7 Study rooms
  - Fully accessible





# The Journey So Far



- **Background/Historical Context**

- College Hill Branch completed in 1966 (almost 60 years old)
- Accessibility issues with entrance to the branch from the parking lot
- No dedicated library parking lot on site, shared community parking
- The Library does not own the property that the branch is built on
  - It is part of a 99-year lease with Cincinnati Public Schools that was executed in 1965.

- **Short Term Vision (Facility Master Plan)**

- The College Hill Branch Library underwent Scheduled Maintenance in 2020, which was completed June 21, 2020, and included:
  - Updated carpet and paint throughout the branch
  - Updated shelving



# What we heard

- Develop dynamic, engaging, and flexible spaces with particular focus on youth services, increasing access to technology, and social spaces for community use
- Delineate spaces for kids/teens/adults with particular focus on improved acoustics and designated quiet/noisy spaces
- Utilize outdoor spaces more effectively with particular focus on recapturing courtyard space and increasing parking capacity

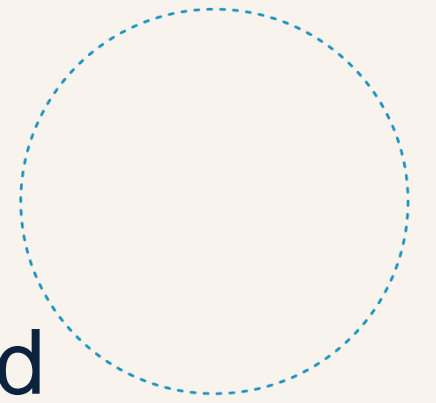


# College Hill Opportunities

- **Long term vision (Facility Master Plan) for College Hill Branch Library**
  - The Library may also explore acquiring additional land to expand or even explore nearby locations for relocation as opportunities present themselves
  - College Hill and its surrounding communities are seeing the mixed-use development at Hamilton Ave & North Bend Rd which is to include retail space, apartments, and townhomes.
  - The College Hill Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation has been acquiring properties to redevelop and bring entrepreneurs to College Hill.
  - The Library remains active and responsive as a long-standing member of an ever-growing community and will consider these and other surrounding developments as it engages in opportunities for growth
- **Location opportunity– 1609 W North Bend Rd**
  - [FMP Part III: Implementation Strategy](#)



# Where we are now



- Property acquisition – 1609 W North Bend Rd
  - [FMP Part III: Implementation Strategy](#)
- In early 2024, the Library was approached about being a part of the redevelopment efforts in College Hill along Hamilton Avenue.
- As a result of this opportunity and given the existing conditions of the current branch, we have identified a site that will meet our needs and improve overall service to the community.
- December Board Meeting – Board approval for the Library to further explore this opportunity



# Community Input

- Today's engagement, what do we need to hear from you?
- Activity #1- Youth Service Focus
  - What does a dynamic dedicated space for youth look like?
- Activity #2 – Like/Change/Improve
  - What do you like about your library?
  - What would you change or improve?





# Thank you!

