

cincinnati
public
library

Hamilton County

Welcome!

Avondale Branch Library

Maintenance Project





What We'll Cover Today

- Welcome & Introductions
- Library Overview & Statistics
- Review of Facility Master Plan Progress
- Journey So Far
- Planned Branch Improvements
- What's Next for the Avondale Branch Library
- Questions and Comments

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



2024 By the Numbers

- **Items Borrowed:** 19+ million
 - *Almost 700,000 more checkouts in 2024 than 2023*
- **Customer Visits:** 4.1+ million
 - *Bengals 2024 home attendance = 66,294/game or 530,352 total*
 - *500,000 more in-person visits in 2024 than 2023 (15%)*
 - *Many of these were young people after school*
- **PC Sessions** 664,144
- **Wi-Fi Sessions** 1.4+ million
- **Room Reservations** 69,147



2024 By the Numbers

- **Homework Helpers:** Over 15,000 sessions
Foundation, Friends, and private funding
- **Youth Meals & Snacks:** Distributed 97,242 portions
Funded Federally & The Library Foundation
- **Faxes & Scans:** 489,149 Pages
- **Voter Registration:** Completed 715 voter registrations
- **Directly Delivered Items:** 115,052 items delivered to daycares, schools, and senior living facilities
- **Free Books:** More than 35,000 books given away

Building the Next Generation Library

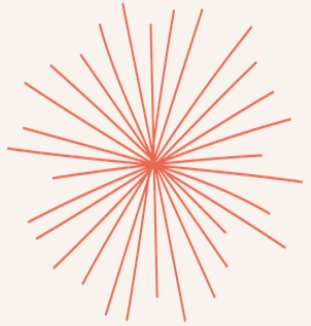


Facility Master Plan Overview

- 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
- **19 of 41 Branches (4 in 2024) have now received improvements!**
- Almost 60,000 new square ft of public space added
- **Building the Next Generation Library Initiative**



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

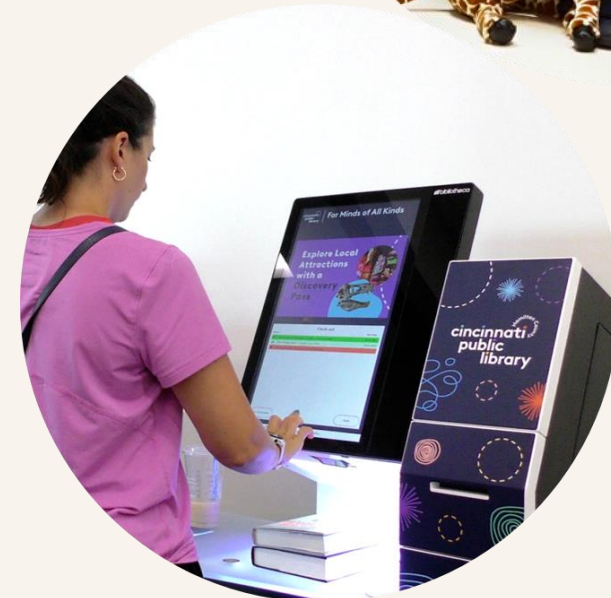
Madeira
Interior Update

2019

Downtown Main
Energy Retrofit

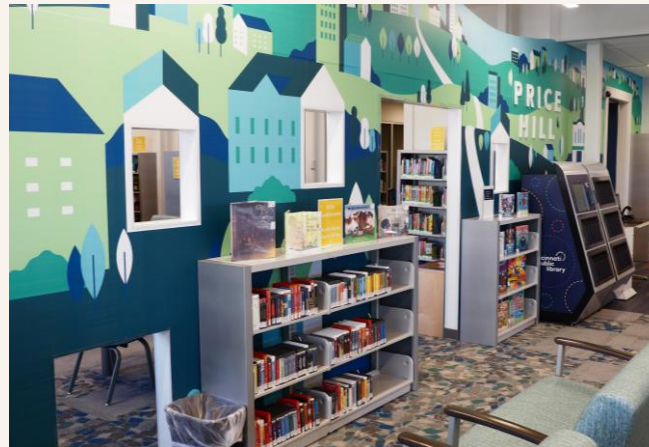
Strategic Priorities

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



Price Hill Branch

- Investment: \$7.3 million
 - \$477,000 Parklet Project
- Grand Reopening: April 2021
- Square footage: 13,513
- Key features:
 - Accessible to wheelchairs, walkers, and strollers
 - Designated quiet areas
 - Re-envisioned spaces for adults, teens, kids including three study rooms, four meeting rooms, and a meeting space accommodating up to 100 people
 - Bilingual approach, including signage in Spanish
 - Increased parking



Hyde Park Branch

- Investment: \$5.8 million
- Grand Reopening: April 2024
- Square footage: nearly 8,960
- Key features:
 - Fully accessible
 - Expanded parking
 - New Elevator
 - Brand-New Flooring, Paint, and Furniture
 - Improved Meeting Room
 - Updated Kids' Area



2024 Avondale Service Stats

- 35,769 items borrowed (up 21% from last year)
- 2,209 customers attended programs
- 25,181 Wi-Fi sessions
- 20,159 PC sessions (up 11% from last year)
- 80,529 customer visits (up 9% from last year)
- 1,660 JFS scans
- 3,972 youth meals served in 2023; 4,270 youth meals served in 2024
- 915 additional supplemental snacks served



Avondale Programs

- Youth Meal Service, Monday thru Friday, 3:30pm to 4:30pm (**UMC**)
 - Supplemental snacks provided six days a week
- Free afterschool art program (**ProjectArt**)
 - Wednesday & Thursday, 4:30pm-5:30pm
- Biweekly Parent Network (**GCRC**)
 - Dinner provided
- Ethics & Dragons (**UC Ethics Center**)
 - Mondays, 4:30pm-6:30pm
- Daycare and School Outreach
 - Biweekly visits
- Avondale Lecture Series
 - Monthly
- And MORE... !



Avondale Partners

- Avondale Community Council and Board Members
- Children's Hospital (various departments!)
 - Avondale Reading Bears
 - SAFE Network
 - All Children Thrive
- Childhood Food Solutions
- Greater Cincinnati Resilience Coalition
- Avondale Development Corporation
- Cincinnati Public Schools
- Avondale Education Project
- And MORE... !



The Journey So Far



- **Avondale Branch Background/Historical Context**

- One of the nine Hamilton County libraries built with funds provided by the Andrew Carnegie Foundation.
- Opened on March 1, 1913, the architectural firm Garber and Woodward designed the building in the Spanish Colonial style with decorative features including:
 - a Rookwood tile entry, decorative iron work, and a domed ceiling
- The Branch Accessibility Project was completed on May 20, 2014. This \$1.2-million renovation included a handicap accessible entrance, elevator, and two new restrooms.

Avondale Branch Project History

- In 2014, the elevator addition and supplemental HVAC system was installed.
- Between 2015-2022, Avondale Branch continued HVAC performance issues, it does not function in extreme temperatures.
- 2022 Maintenance project planning was to address this issue but concerns about water-proofing costs and uncertainty regarding best options for HVAC solutions led to further investigation.
 - The building does not contain ductwork, and the interior walls are very thick which is influencing the HVAC design
- CHPL has also explored options to obtain nearby parking but do not have a feasible cost-effective solution.
- During the project review, CHPL identified additional service needs of the community that we plan to address in this new scope.
- We have completed conceptual planning and the architect is working on construction documents.

Site of the Avondale Branch Library

- Property landlocked by Mann Place and surrounding buildings
- One of the main project priorities is to utilize the space at the front of the building for an accessible and welcoming entrance



Summary of Planned Improvements

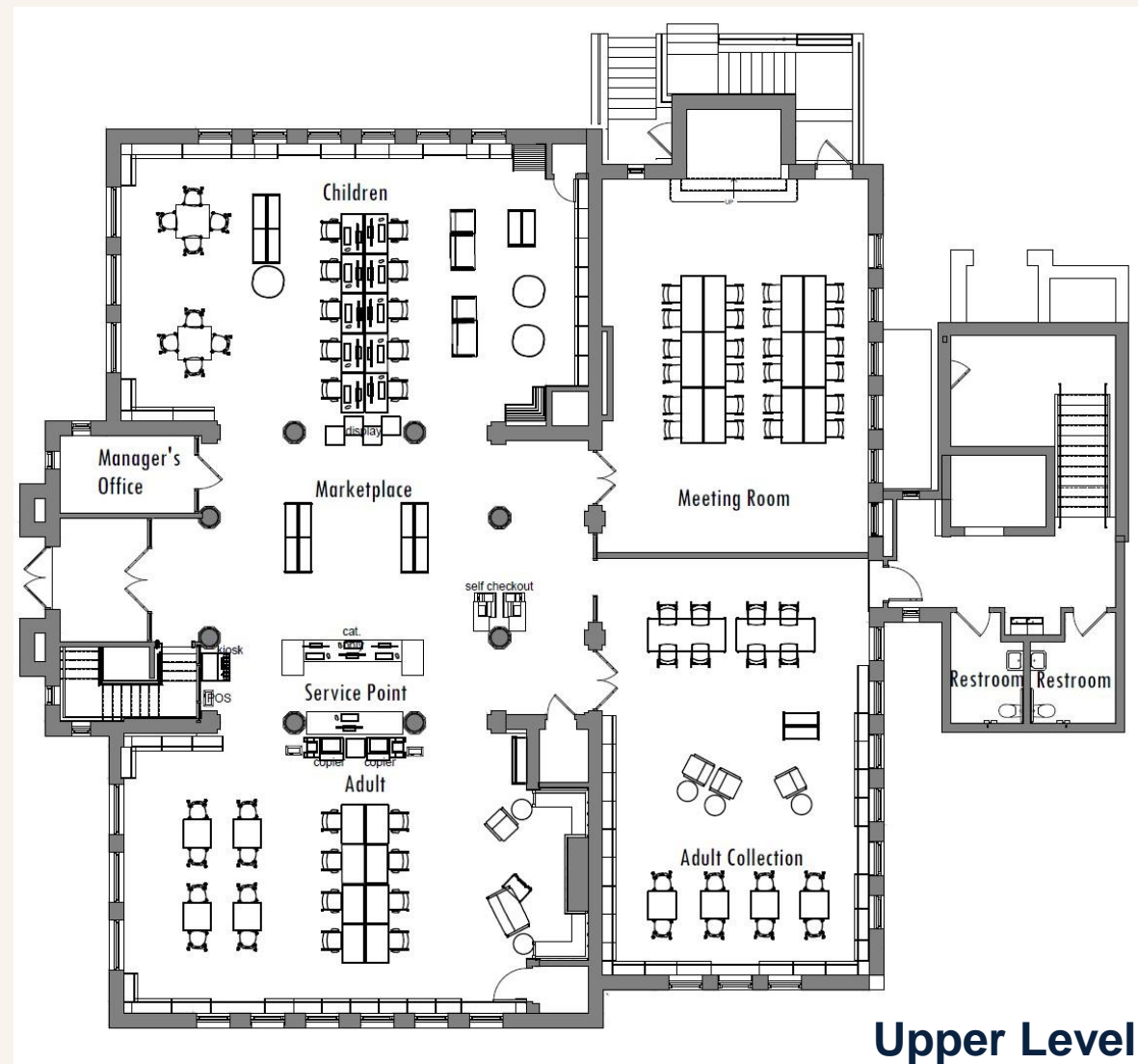
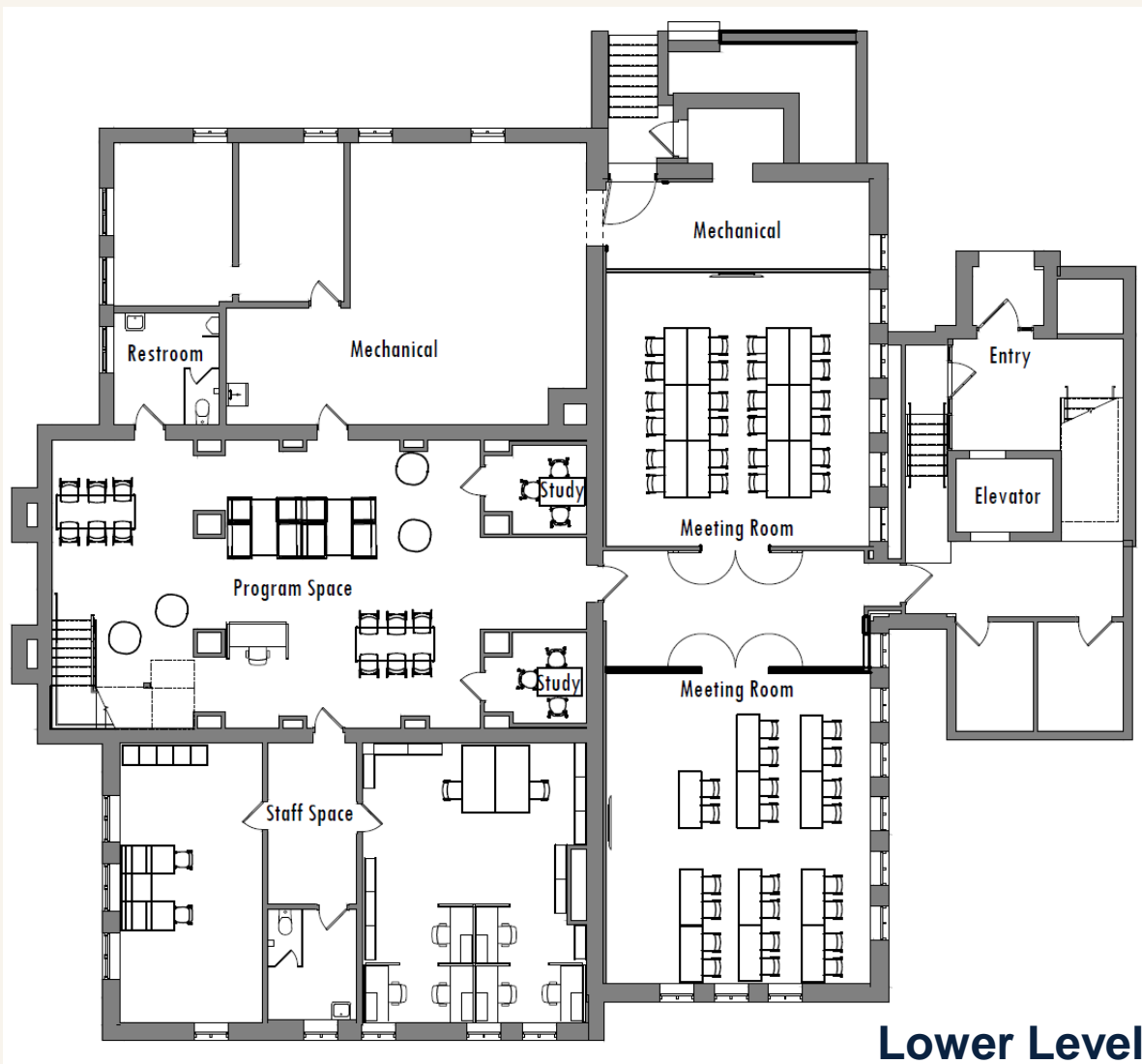
- New accessible front entrance
- Foundation waterproofing
- Electrical service upgrade
- Replace interior lighting with LED lighting
- HVAC upgrades including additional heat
- Underground plumbing upgrades
- Replace basement windows
- Upgrade ceiling in lower level
- Carpet & paint throughout
- Additional program space and meeting rooms in lower level

What is Not Changing

- Location of the branch
- Majority of the architectural details
- Public entrances to the building
- Quiet area on upper level
- Staff/staffing levels
- Same excellent service



New Floorplans



Option 1



Benefits



Concerns

Option 2



Benefits



Concerns

Option 3



Benefits



Concerns

What's Next

- Design & Construction Documents, Permitting, and Bidding
 - Through Summer of 2025
- Construction
 - Estimated to Begin Fall 2025
 - Planned Completion Fall 2026
 - Estimated budget 7.5 million



We are still reviewing ways to continue to serve the Avondale Community during construction



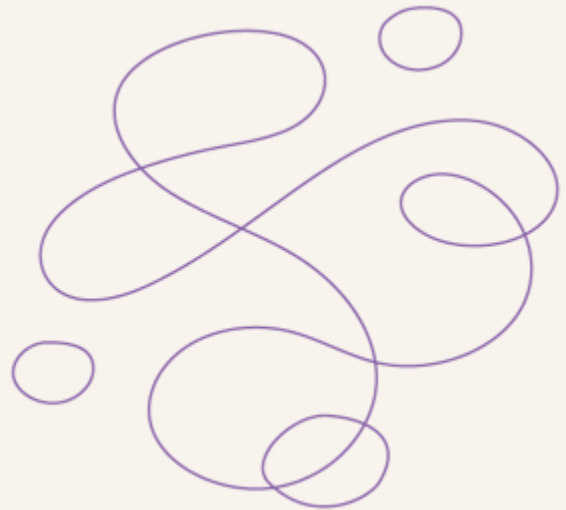
Questions & Answers



Ideas, comments and questions can also be submitted online
(scroll to the bottom & complete the form)

[CHPL.org/next](https://chpl.org/next)

We Need Your Help Securing a Temporary Space



Thank You!

**We're so excited to bring
improvements to your branch!**

[CHPL.org/next](https://chpl.org/next)

