Community Presentation for the New North East Branch Library
In early 2018, we asked for the Community’s Participation to envision a new library for North East

Our Community Survey
- 357 responses

8 Community Meetings
- Over 250 participants at Town Hall, North East Chamber, Boys and Girls Club, North East students, early childhood experts and parents of young children
- Meetings scheduled to reach a broad cross-section of the community

Interviews
- County Executive Alan McCarthy
- North East Mayor Robert F. McKnight

Site Visits
- CCPL Branches
- Other libraries in Maryland

Staff Feedback
- Staff Survey
- Meetings with Branch Staff
- On-going communications with CCPL leadership
Community Survey Results

Top 10 Rated Spaces
1. Variety of seating places
2. Children’s library space
3. Quiet Reading Room
4. Café/Vending Area
5. Space for children’s programs
6. Space for using my own technology
7. Meeting Rooms for community groups
8. Teen Space
9. Space for cultural programs
10. Spaces for individual study

What kinds of spaces would you like to see MORE of in the new North East Branch? (pick up to 4)

- 2 Children’s library in general
- 5 Space for children’s story times & programs
- Special area for preschool age children & their parents
- 8 Teen Space
- Library computers I can use
- 6 Space for using my own technology (e.g. laptops, tablets)
- 7 Meeting Rooms for community groups
- 9 Space for cultural programs, performances, & presentations
- Informal meeting and networking places
- 10 Spaces for individual study
- Consulting/Tutoring rooms for 2 people
- Group collaboration rooms (for 4 or more)
- 3 Quiet reading room
- 1 Variety of comfortable seating places
- 4 Café/Vending Area
- 11 Collections Spaces (books, audio/video, magazines)
- Listening or viewing stations
- Productive space for creating or editing multi-media content
- Maker Space - Productive space for creating or transforming
- 12 Outdoor area or activity area
- Display/exhibition space
Community Survey

WHAT WORKS AT THE CURRENT LIBRARY?

- The more natural light inside brought inside the better.
- Friendly, helpful staff
- Actually I like the smallness of it and the friendliness of the staff.
- Inviting environment, easy access to all areas, enough room to find private space.
- Teen and children classes activities
- Books - paper and audio (mp3 & disks), audio & video disks, computers, meeting rooms, magazines
- I go on-line to hold materials and just pick them up. The N.E. library is too small to 'hang out' there.
- Green building and energy efficiency so more money can be used for materials and not building expense
- New and old non-fiction books
- Tables and chairs for reading
- Meeting and presentation rooms
- Windows are good to have. Good natural light.
- Well organized racks.
- Two entrances! Different sides of building.
- Separation of functions, but each visible to the others
# Community Survey

## WHAT DOESN’T WORK AT THE CURRENT LIBRARY?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Suggested Improvement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More square footage to allow for more display of new/current materials</td>
<td>Hopefully library will offer separate children’s area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over crowding</td>
<td>Dark, little or no windows, low ceilings. No amount of lights can make-up for large window walls.</td>
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<tr>
<td>New library needs more open space, more seating for reading, tables for working at</td>
<td>Crowded conditions with limited bathrooms.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improved areas where there is actual QUIET!!!</td>
<td>An open teen space/children’s area. I’d like the areas to be separate from the main library so each group can not disrupt others and have time to themselves.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crowded spaces, small meeting room</td>
<td>Bigger children’s area with more interactive features, places to jump/climb, etc.</td>
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<td>Bigger and better kids section</td>
<td>Small restrooms</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Window seat that faces the outside</td>
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<td></td>
<td>It’s hard to see my family when we come in, the space isn’t very open.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>An environment that is not engaging</td>
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</tbody>
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By a large margin, the majority of comments about what “doesn’t work” were categorized as relating to the library’s interior spaces.

Simply needing **more** space was often mentioned.
Community Survey

WHAT’S MISSING AT THE CURRENT LIBRARY?

Maker space, 3D printers, audiovisual technology, teen gaming rooms.
a tech or maker space with 3D printer, computers with design software
Comfy seats like at Starbucks
Cafe - not machines
Private study rooms
computer classes focused on today’s digital needs—such as how to navigate facebook; how to operate smartphones...
makerspace room and classes with a 3-d printer
we need an insulated from sound quiet room
laptop computers available to sign out, so that you can go to comfortable seating.

Computer stations with design software for designing graphics, editing video, etc.
Better relaxing lobby type areas for sitting and reading or studying
The Perry Hall branch of Baltimore County has a very nice glassed in silent reading room with a working (gas) fireplace and comfortable seating that is very inviting!
A recording studio - for audio and visual
A cafe would be very cool.
state of the art children’s room with bright colors, climbing areas, study areas, play areas, sink, bathroom, places to eat, etc
Consider what is available in the new Route 9 library in New Castle, DE
design/innovation lab

An area focused on latest technological innovations.
Green ways such as skylights to be used instead of lights during the day, solar lights in the parking light solar panels to help offset electricity, recycled materials used in the construction and flooring, green methods of heating and cooling the building.
A decent designated teen area with comfortable seating
ipads to borrow
More self check outs
Coffee bar run by local business
Science/lab related areas for STEM activities

Survey respondents shared many suggestions and ideas for the new library.
Community Participation Meetings

North East High School

Town Hall Community Meeting

Early Childhood Program at the Library

North East Chamber Lunch Meeting
Community Participation

North East Elementary School
Community Participation

WORKSHOP - GET WITH THE PROGRAM

Participants were asked to review sections of the plan to show what was most important to the community.
COMMUNITY/STAFF PARTICIPATION TAKEAWAYS

• Significant emphasis on **Early Learning**, incorporating experiential and tactile learning as well as “book learning”

• Enable **small group meetings** and conversations without disturbing others

• Continue & enhance support for emerging and existing **small businesses**

• Have a variety of places in the library for using a **variety of computing devices**

• Have a variety of comfortable **places to sit** with more than one type of chair

• Incorporate **daylight**

• Be **student friendly & tutor friendly**

• **Support teens** with their (individual and group) **homework** needs but also establish space for teens to **interact** with each other as well as with library resources

• Create zones of **quiet** within the active library
COMMUNITY & STAFF INVOLVEMENT & PARTICIPATION SHOWED THAT

The new North East Library should become the community’s “Center of Opportunity”
Library Building Program for Design
WRITTEN WITH COMMUNITY & STAFF INVOLVEMENT & PARTICIPATION
Town of North East
DOWNTOWN INSPIRES DESIGN
The original Town Hall housed North East’s first library on the second floor, established by the Women’s Civic League of North East.
Town of North East
PROXIMITY TO MANY SCHOOLS
Town of North East
FITTING THE LIBRARY TO THE PLACE

NEW LIBRARY SITE!
Welcome to the New North East Branch Library

First Story Floorplan
Raising the 21st Century Child

Second Story Floorplan
View driving up from West Marine from Route 272 into the shopping center.
Main entrance.
View from Food Lion. Administrative Headquarters on the left.
Back of the Library – Terrace and green space facing trees along Route 272.
View from landing going up to the second floor. Below and to the right is the main entrance with the Book Lovers’ Marketplace and Welcome Desk to the left.
Family Gathering Area on the second floor connecting the children and teen rooms.
Teen Room will offer collaborative study rooms, a computing center, an interactive design set-up, programming areas, and plenty of books.
Children’s Room featuring the Idea Lab, STEM Wall, and homework study rooms.
View of the Children’s Room with Our Town Early Literacy Center to the right.
A child-sized village designed to reflect historic Main Street, "Our Town" will offer developmentally appropriate books, toys, and activities for children ages birth to 5. It’s the perfect place for a child to start their imaginative journey to curiosity and literacy.
View of Our Town from the Storytime Room. The goal of the Our Town Early Literacy Center is to empower parents to be their child’s first teacher, develop early literacy skills and a love of reading and to promote school readiness.
This structure can serve as a house, restaurant, garden shop or bakery. Children and their caregivers can interact with these spaces from the inside and out. The theme of the structures are designed to change frequently to inspire children’s curiosity and imaginative play.
The Civic Building could be imagined as a bank, puppet theatre, stage or library.
The Civic Shed, reflecting the interior of the Upper Bay Museum, could be a boat building shed, a mechanics garage, or a barn.
The theme will reflect waterways and nature. Behind the lighthouse is a “Baby Garden” an area designed for babies up to pre-walkers. All interactive items will be on the floor and at their level.
Champion Reading
Build Knowledge
Inspire Curiosity

The Library is the heart of a thriving Cecil County