



Toledo Lucas County Public Library South Toledo Community Engagement Summary

Community Engagement Report | August 3, 2026



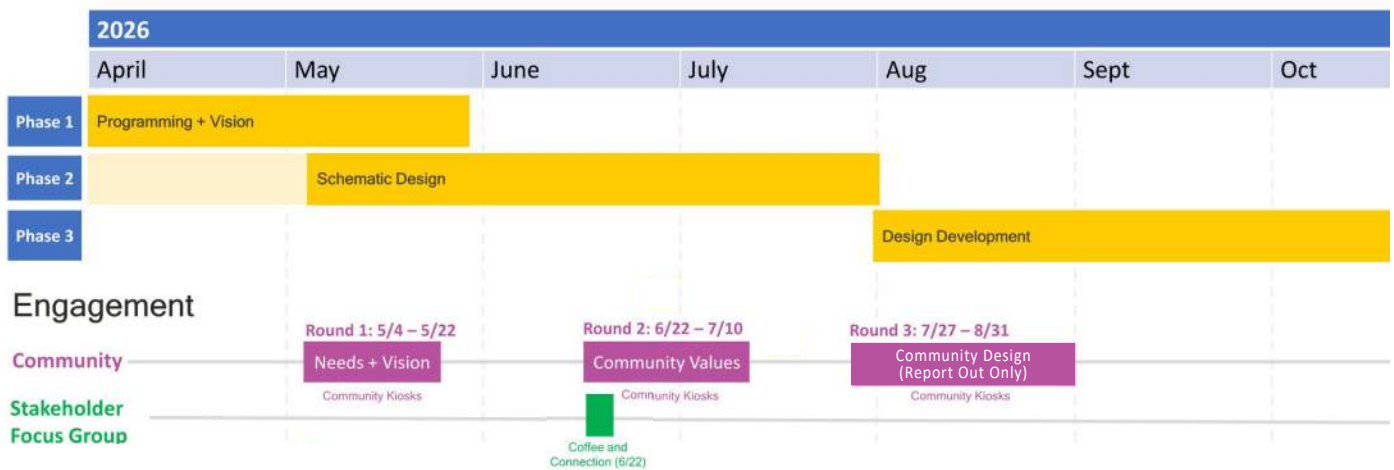
THE
COLLAB
ORATIVE



GROUP 4
ARCHITECTURE



Draft Engagement Plan



ABOUT THE PROJECT

The new approximately 18,000 square foot library will serve as the consolidated branch for the Toledo Heights and Heatherdowns locations, creating a single, welcoming destination that strengthens its South Toledo neighborhoods. Located about 1.5 miles from the previous two locations and served by TARTA, the one-story library will weave together pedestrian-friendly pathways, intuitive site and building circulation, and a network of indoor and outdoor public gathering spaces that invite people of all ages to linger, connect, and participate. Thoughtfully integrated architecture and landscape will create a civic place that celebrates the natural setting, enhances safety and comfort, and supports evolving library services through flexible spaces for learning, discovery, and community life.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

Community engagement took course over 3 rounds between May to August. Participants were asked to provide their priorities on a range of topics including program spaces, exterior design values, interior design values, and site priorities. The Library and design team engaged with community members both at Heatherdowns Branch and at off-site locations including Kroger, Lickity Split, Area Office on Aging, and Plate 21 Spring Market.

- ROUND 1: Community Needs + Vision
- ROUND 2: Community Values
- ROUND 3: Community Design
- Coffee Connections with Local Institutional Partners and Leaders on S. Detroit Ave





ROUND 1: May 4 – May 22

In-Library Events (library only)

- May 4, 10:30a.m. preschool dance party; 2p.m. terrarium building and woodburning; 3:30p.m. button-making
- May 6, 6p.m. chess
- May 7, 4p.m. cardboard flower painting
- May 11, 10:30a.m. preschool dance party
- May 13, 6p.m. chess
- May 18, 10:30a.m. preschool dance party

Community Events: May 6

- 11:30a.m.-6:30p.m Kroger on Glendale

Other Community Events

- May 12, Book Club
- May 16, 4-8p.m. Spring Market

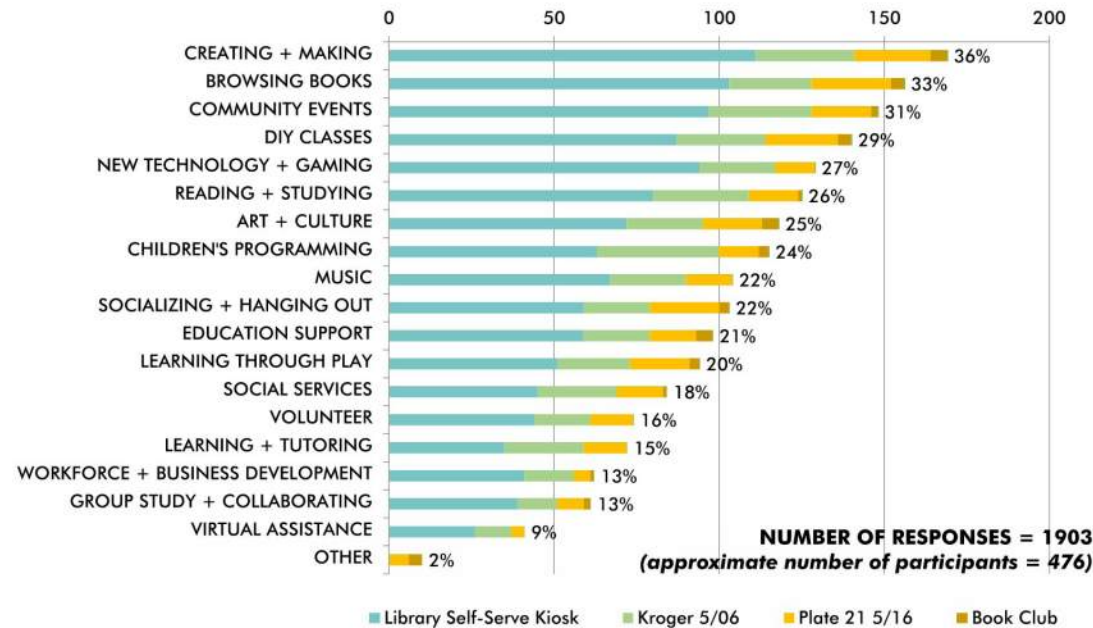


ROUND 1 COMMUNITY FEEDBACK BOARDS

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WHAT WILL YOU DO AT YOUR NEW LIBRARY?

Participants were asked to select their top 4 program priorities they would like to see in the new library.



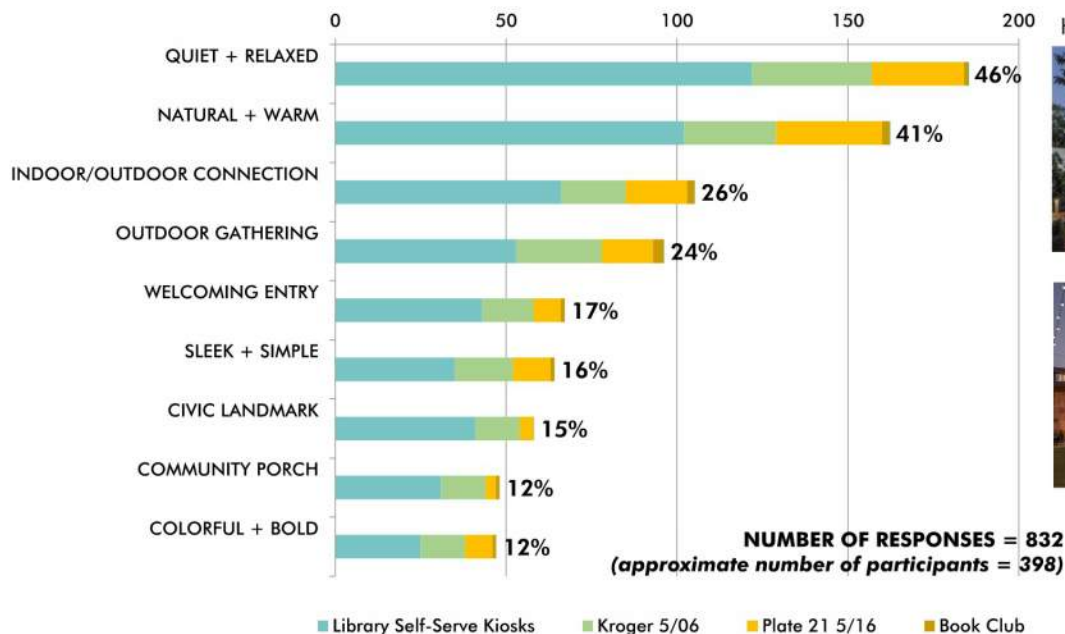
HIGH PRIORITY



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EXTERIOR DESIGN VALUES

Participants were asked to select all their top 3 exterior design characteristics.



HIGH PRIORITY



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TOP PROGRAM OPTIONS

HIGH PRIORITY



MEDIUM PRIORITY



LOW PRIORITY



TOP COMMUNITY VALUES OPTIONS

HIGH PRIORITY



MEDIUM PRIORITY



LOW PRIORITY



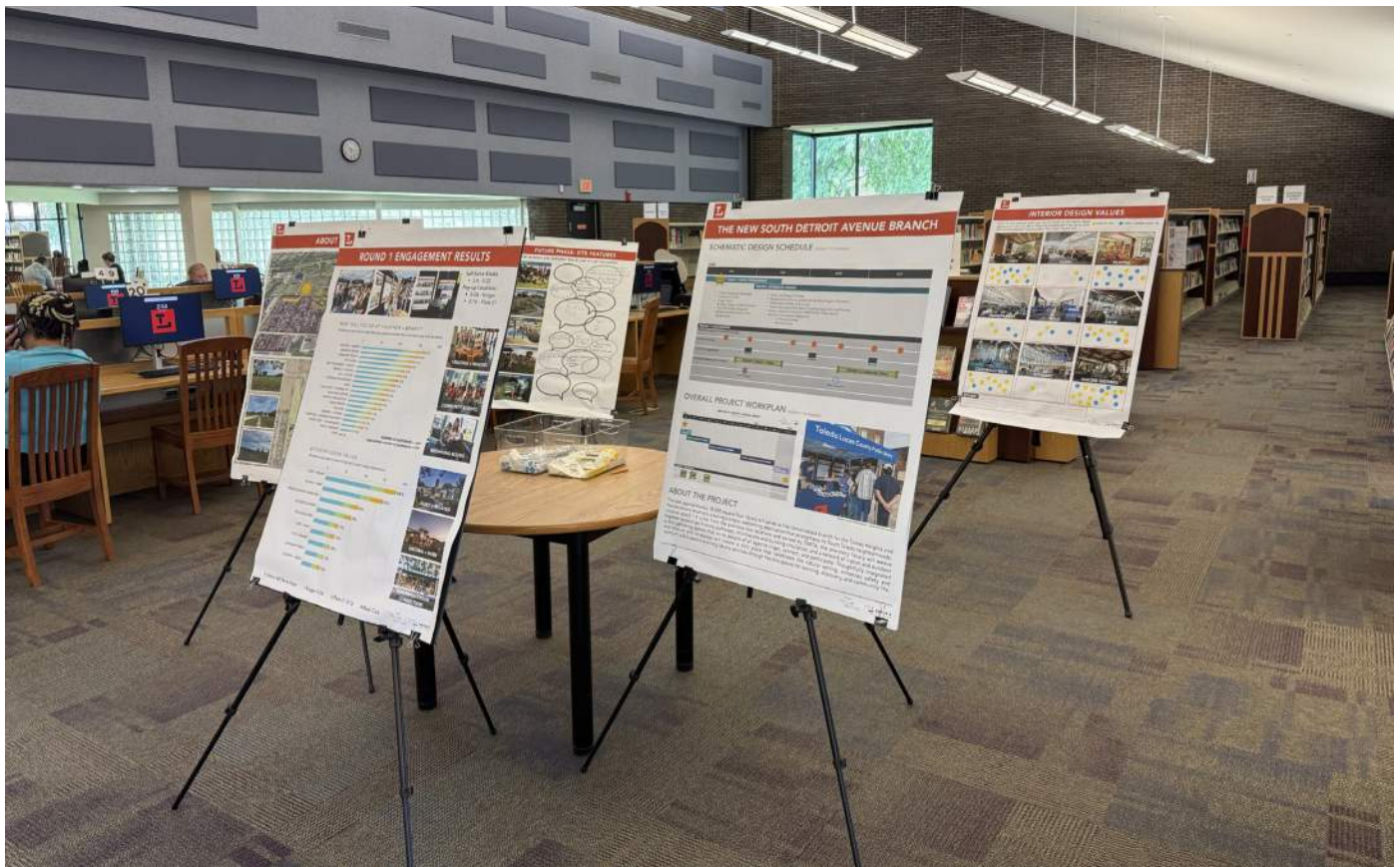


WHAT MAKES YOUR COMMUNITY UNIQUE?



wild areas dart frog dash small town feel Glass City kindness
cohesive art museum food outdoor activities communal
thoughtful minds Maumee River jazz Plate-21
technology friendliness Metro Parks welcoming accessibility sports
librarians water history kind Motor Park kids solar field
imagination station diversity friendly Toledo Zoo storytime
learning-to-read community birding pride
library books farmers market





ROUND 2: June 22 – July 10

In-Library Events (library only)

- June 22, 10:30 a.m. preschool dance party
- June 23, pop bottle fireflies
- June 24, 6 p.m. chess; 2pm Improv 101
- June 29, 10:30 a.m. preschool dance party
- July 01, 6 p.m. chess
- July 06, 10:30 a.m. preschool dance party
- July 09, Heatherdowns book club

3 Community Events: June 24th

- 9-11 a.m. Area Office on Aging
- 12-2 p.m. Kroger
- Afternoon/evening Lickity Split

Coffee Connection at Heatherdowns: June 23rd

- Key community institution leaders
- How can we work better with the goals of your organization and serve constituents?
- What would you like to see in the new library?
- Library Visioning Workshop Style

Other Community Events

- June 17, 7:30-8:30p.m. Books on Tap

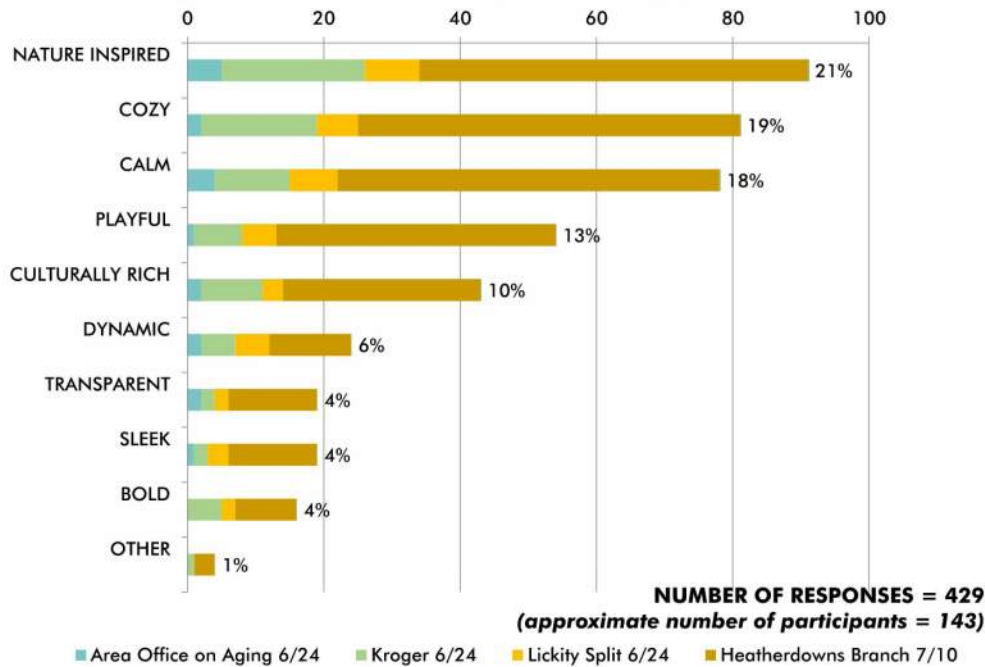


ROUND 2 COMMUNITY FEEDBACK BOARDS

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INTERIOR DESIGN VALUES

Participants were asked to select their top 3 interior design priorities.



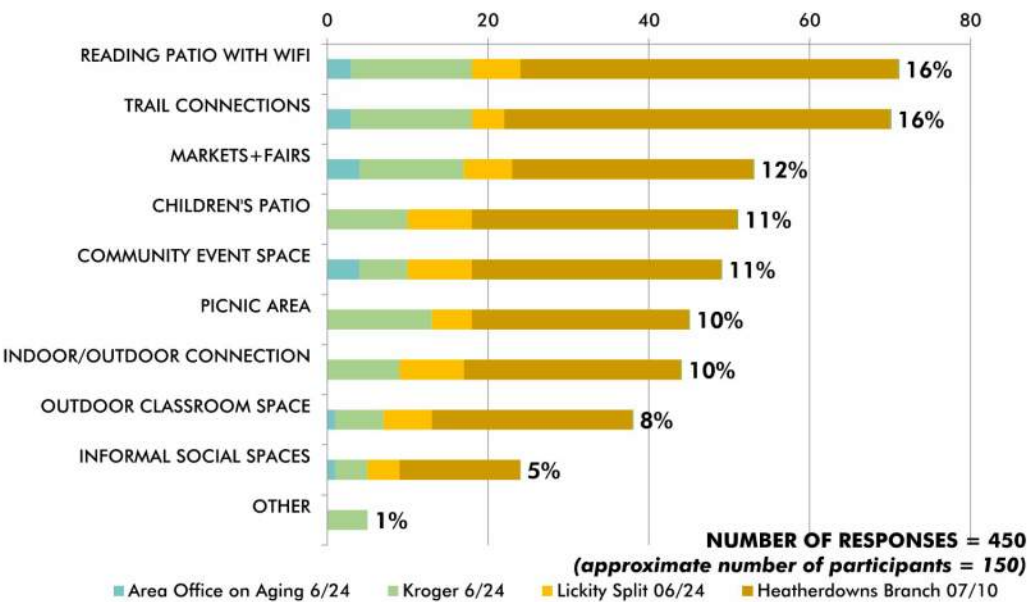
HIGH PRIORITY



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OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITIES

Participants were asked to select all their top 3 outdoor opportunities.



HIGH PRIORITY







FUTURE PHASE: SITE FEATURES

WRITE-IN WHAT SITE FEATURES YOU'D LIKE TO SEE INCLUDED!



PUBLIC ART



EDUCATIONAL GARDENS



KIDS PLAY AREA



OUTDOOR EVENTS



STORYTELLING WALKS

COZY READING SPACES

EDUCATIONAL GARDEN WITH NATIVE PLANTS

PICNIC AREA

CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

SHARED PARKING

BIKE PATHS

ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

OUTDOOR COMMUNITY EVENTS

PUBLIC ART

QUIET READING SPACES

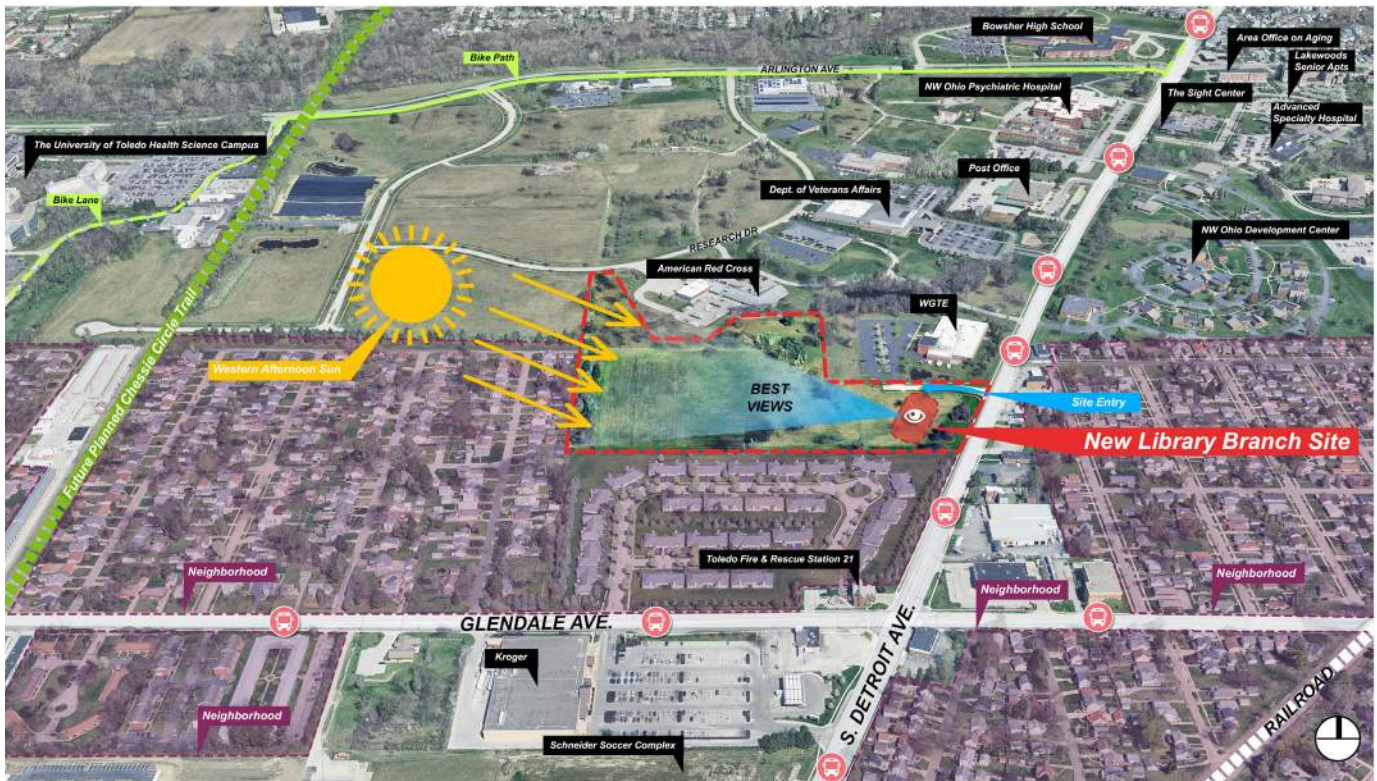
SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCE CONNECTIONS

THE COLLABORATIVE

GROUP 4 ARCHITECTURE



ABOUT THE SITE



FUTURE SITE OPPORTUNITIES

- Walking Trails?
- Outdoor Events?
- Community Gardens?

PHASE 01 SITE DEVELOPMENT





COFFEE CONNECTIONS

Coffee Connections brought together key institutional partners and stakeholders along South Detroit Ave. to explore how a new library could work alongside their organizations to better serve the community. Institutional partners who attended included:

- Area Office on Aging
- WGTE Public Media
- The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio
- University of Toledo Medical Center
- Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Lucas County Veterans Service Commission
- Toledo Public Schools



FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITY INSTITUTION LEADERS



Share ideas for activities, services and spaces that you love, would like to change, or would like to create for the clients you serve at the NEW South Detroit Branch. Use one Post-it per idea.

LOVE What activities, services, and spaces would you keep for the clients you serve in the NEW South Detroit Branch?	CHANGE What activities, services, and spaces would you like to get rid of or change for the clients you serve in the NEW South Detroit Branch?	CREATE What activities, services, and spaces that do not currently exist would you like to see created for the clients you serve in the NEW South Detroit Branch?
• Reading ribbon (Opportunity w/ Acreage) • Pedestrian pathways + access • Limited speed zones / times • TARTA access and flex service • Neighborhood connectivity • Teen programs + services • Open and connected to outdoors	• Techno accessibility + privacy	• Healthcare + other community services • Accessible site amenities • Intergenerational opportunities • Wayman Palmer YMCA - Food Pantry • Exam space/Clinical space • Tutoring support • Adult quiet rooms • Play groups for development • Sensory room • Adult changing table

What are the TOP 5 NEEDS in your community and for the clients you serve?	What new program or service could the Library + a Local Partner provide TOGETHER to help fill this need?
1 Safe Access – Chessie Circle and S. Detroit traffic concerns	
2 Older Adults + Veterans	Accessibility + resource center + research local history + genealogy, tech support
3 Young Children + Teens	After school programs; Sensory rooms; Meals; Local career center + opportunity; partner to local colleges; Bowsher arts focus
4 Outdoor opportunities	Fitness + Nature
5 Large Gathering/ Meeting Room	Up to 500!



HOW YOUR FEEDBACK INFLUENCED DESIGN

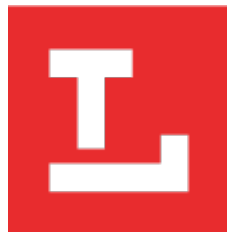
EXTERIOR FINISHES: WARM & NATURAL MATERIALS WITH RICH TEXTURES



INTERIOR DESIGN: COZY & CALM SPACES INSPIRED BY NATURE



THANK YOU!



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