

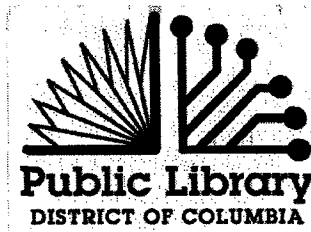
HOPES AND DREAMS COMMUNITY LISTENING MEETING MEETING SUMMARY AND COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Meeting Date:** Tuesday, March 11, 2008
6:00-8:00 PM
- Location:** Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Library
3160 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20010
- Meeting Purpose:** Community listening meeting and discussion of hopes and dreams for the renovation of the Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Library
- Meeting Format:** Presentation and interactive workshop format.
- Display boards were used to showcase notable design and programming ideas from other libraries across the country.
 - Another set of boards displayed 18 library service response categories. Using color-coded adhesive dots meeting participants were able to identify their service priorities. Participants also provided written comments, which are presented in this summary.
 - The presentation included an overview of project implementation and a discussion of service priorities.
 - A facilitated discussion allowed participants to provide comments and ask questions of District Library staff.
- Attendees:** Fourteen community members added their names to the sign-in sheets. DCPL staff participants included Ginnie Cooper, Archie Williams, Jeff Bonvechio, Barbara Norland, Chris Wright, and Martha Saccocio. Guitele Nicoleau represented the DC Library Board of Trustees. The following members of the CirclePoint consulting team attended the meeting: W. Steve Lee and Tosin Durotoye.

Following introductions, Ginnie Cooper, Chief Librarian for the District of Columbia Public Library (DCPL), introduced the project, purpose of the meeting, discussed the constraints

Mt. Pleasant Community Hopes & Dreams Meeting – March 11, 2008
Summary of Public Comments
Page 1

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.18240
EXHIBIT NO.27C



and opportunities facing the project, and provided context for the 18 library service responses and how they were developed. The public was then given the opportunity to discuss and identify their top service priorities using the 18 existing service responses as a guide. The following 8 service areas were identified as the top priorities (1 is the most important):

- Create Young Readers: Early Literacy (1)
- Know Your Community: Community Resources and Services (1)
- Satisfy Curiosity: Lifelong Learning (1)
- Visit a Comfortable Place: Physical and Virtual Places (1)

- Learn to Read and Write: Adult, Teen, and Family Literacy (2)

- Celebrate Diversity: Cultural Awareness (3)
- Stimulate Imagination: Reading, Viewing, and Listening for Pleasure (3)

The remaining service responses are listed in order of importance as were indicated by the participants:

- Succeed in School: Homework Help (4)
- Welcome to the United States: Services for New Immigrants (4)
- Build Successful Enterprise: Business and Non-Profit Support (5)
- Express Creativity: Create and Share Content (5)

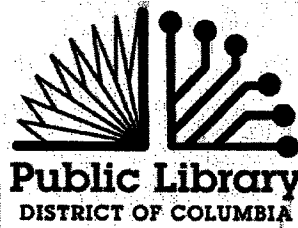
- Be an Informed Citizen: Local, National, and World Affairs (6)
- Connect to the Online World: Public Internet Access (6)
- Make Career Choices: Job and Career Development (6)
- Make Informed Decisions: Health, Wealth, and Other Life Choices (6)

- Get Facts Fast: Ready Reference (7)
- Understand How to Find, Evaluate, and Use Information: Information Fluency (7)

The following service response was not identified as a priority by meeting participants:

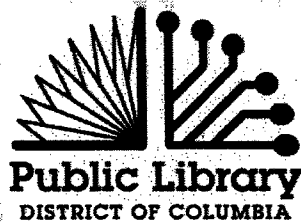
- Discover Your Roots: Genealogy and Local History (0)

Compilation of Additional Community Comments & Questions



- Progress has been made, but our library still has a way to go before it is as inviting as it needs to be.
- Library needs to support neighborhood organizations by providing more meeting room space.
- I would like to see an abundant and current print collection.
- Need up-to-date and consistently maintained public computers.
- Would like to see a fun staff working at the library.
- The library should serve as a community resource for services.
- Need more resources for students.
- I would like the library to offer programs on job and career development.
- Need regular custodial services, fun professional staffing, and renovation to many of the library's interior spaces (especially the basement).
- Library should offer bilingual computer classes.
- Need more outreach to the community through churches and local schools.
- Meetings regarding the library should be held at schools, churches, etc.
- I would like to see more children's and after school programming offered at the library.
- Seek to get more neighborhood input via churches and schools.
- Consult patrons of the library in order to broaden and make more inclusive the library service responses.
- When will the library renovation be completed?
- If I want to find out more information on the rebuilding and renovation of other District libraries, where do I go?
- I would like to ask the community to consider other renovation alternatives outside of those being presented by the DC Public Library.
- Need a scientific survey process involving library patrons and the community in order to compile a more inclusive library service response list.
- Consult local grassroots organizations during outreach process.
- I love the historic fabric of the library but understand that it may present a challenge as renovations are considered.
- I am concerned that the exterior of the library appears pretentious and uninviting to passersby.
- I Would like to see more flexible space within the library.
- The nature of the arts and crafts space is one of the best parts of the library.
- I love the idea of creating a more accessible entrance for patrons.
- Need more functional space within the library.
- I Would like to see more extensive outreach to the wider community.
- I am aware that there is not enough money in the budget to preserve historic elements of the library while developing interior aspects such as flexible space.

The next public design meeting will occur in early May 2008.



COMMUNITY DESIGN MEETING SUMMARY & COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Meeting Date:** Tuesday, June 10, 2008
6:00-8:00 PM
- Location:** Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Library
3160 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20010
- Meeting Purpose:** Public meeting to provide the community with an opportunity to view and provide comments on the schematic design for the renovation of the Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Library.
- Meeting Format:** Presentation and interactive workshop format
- The presentation included an overview of project implementation and a discussion of design options.
 - A facilitated discussion allowed participants to provide comments and ask questions of District Library staff and the project team.
- Attendees:** Nineteen community members added their names to the sign-in sheets. Ginnie Cooper, Archie Williams, Jeff Bonvechio, Chris Wright, Barbara Norland, Elissa Miller, Martha Saccocio, and the Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Library staff represented the DC Public Library and Richard Levy represented the DC Library Board of Trustees. Henry Myerberg represented CORE and HMA2 Architects. Representing the CirclePoint consulting team was Tosin Durotoye.

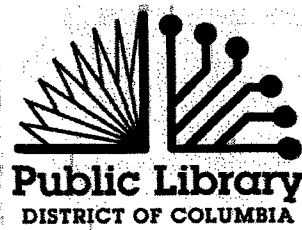
SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY MEETING COMMENTS

Library Use Issues

- The proposed design needs to allow for expansion flexibility.
- Computers should be kept away from stacks.

Library User Issues

- Proposed green terrace should be accessible to the public.



- Would like to request that accommodations be made within the new library to promote urban literacy.
- The Mt. Pleasant Library does not provide necessary services for its patrons and the community in general.
- The growing and changing population needs to be considered within the proposed renovation.
- Increase the available reading space for young patrons and readers.

Library Design Scheme Issues

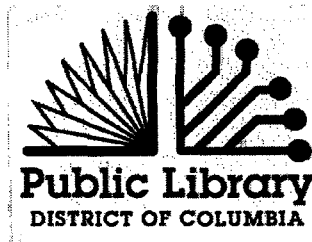
- Design scheme B has a center entry and the center stairs are removed. This results in a low ceiling in the lobby.
- Design scheme C has a side entry and the center stairs are kept intact. This results in a high ceiling in the lobby.
- Scheme C looks good aesthetically.
- Both design schemes B and C will include a side and rear extension but design scheme B will result in slightly more useable space.
- Design scheme B is more attractive and appears to be more thought out.
- Consider adding historic elements elsewhere. For example, perhaps a part of the front stairs, if removed, can be displayed artistically elsewhere in the library.
- I love the respectfulness both design schemes show to the history of the library.
- Consider a mix and match approach combining design schemes B and C.
- The budget is comparable between design schemes B and C.

Library Design Issues (Interior)

- The main level of the present library hogs space and looks like a prison.
- Presently, the lower level looks dingy and dark.
- Would prefer a design with an accessible meeting space in the lower level.
- The upper level of the library needs acoustics treatment and room dividers so as to make the space more useable.
- Clarify location of security desk and cameras in the new library.
- Computer lab should be located in the lower level so as to avoid disrupting other patrons.

Other

- The Friends of the Mt. Pleasant Library would like to serve as the advisory committee for the renovation efforts.
- Would like it if the Library would provide the community with the design proposal prior to public meetings. This way, the community has an opportunity to review and come up with useful suggestions.
- The approval of the local ANC needs to be sought before the renovation proposal is implemented.
- Please post this evening's PowerPoint presentation online.
- The library will be out of service for 15-18 months during renovations.
- DCPL should consider acquiring the building next to the library (on 16th Street, NW). This will provide the opportunity to expand the buildable lot.



- DCPL needs to review all design options with community civic associations.
- Effective community engagement is necessary to involve all.
- DCPL hopes to locate an interim library site not far from the Mt. Pleasant Library. Please contact the DCPL with possible suggestions.

Summary of Comment Card Comments

Library Design Issues (Interior)

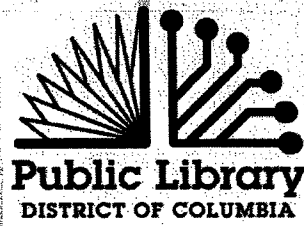
- Fixtures in the new library should be high quality and durable.
- Would like to see high quality maintenance and repairs.
- Need more attractive lighting.
- Don't worship history, but support it. Pay more attention to what we need in the present day.
- Computer lab should be built in the lower level to reduce the noise level around patrons not using the computers.
- Replace the new chairs as they are totally unusable and are a torture device.
- Need more meeting space for community groups.

Library Design Issues (Exterior)

- Please do not remove the central stairs. This will lead to an unnecessary and expensive preservation fight that will promote ill will.
- Please continue to maintain the surrounding landscape.
- Would like to see better signage.
- Lighting needs to be as unobtrusive as possible and we need security cameras.
- Would like to see an outdoor seating and play area for patrons.
- This is an original Carnegie Library. As such, this building is historic and should not be changed except maybe to restore certain features.
- The latest remodeling was not a good job in my opinion. I do not like how, when it is raining, I can get wet while waiting for the basement door to open.
- Much can be done to the west side and the rear of the library that will not destroy the original façade.
- Landscaping is needed but we do not need a chain link fence.
- Expansion of the side entrance seems like it would be the best option.
- Keep the central stairs but work to make those stairs serve the community.
- Think about ways to link the library with the park across the street.
- Really like the proposed signage.
- Would like to see an outdoor gathering space for patrons.

Other

- Happy with the opportunity for input and the diligence of the DCPL in promoting and advertising the public meetings.
- This evening's meeting was excellent.
- I prefer design scheme B.
- Pay more attention to the needs of disabled patrons.



- My comfort level at this evening's meeting was very low due to past experiences of the DCPL disregarding the community's suggestions and requests. According to District law, the ANC must be listened to with "great weight".
- This evening's meeting gave me great insight on the design process.

The next public meeting date is TBD.

For more information, log on to www.dclibrary.org or contact Archie Williams, DC Public Library at archie.williams@dc.gov or (202) 727-1437.



COMMUNITY MEETING SUMMARY & COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, October 22, 2008
6:30-8:30 PM

LOCATION: Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Library
3160 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20010

PURPOSE: Public meeting to provide the community the opportunity to view the designs for the renovation of the Mt. Pleasant Library as they progress and to offer comments.

ATTENDEES: Twenty-five people added their names to the sign in sheet. Ginnie Cooper, Archie Williams, Jeff Bonvechio, Chris Wright, Barbara Norland, George Williams, Martha Saccocio and the Mt. Pleasant Library staff represented the DC Public Library and Myrna Peralta represented the DC Library Board of Trustees. Henry Myerberg represented HMA2 Architects and Dale Stewart represented CORE Architects.

Impact of Addition on Nearby Residents

Several residents expressed concern about the Library's plan to build an addition up to the property line on the north side of the building. These residents live in the building adjacent to the library and expressed several concerns about the impact of the addition including:

- Impact on air and light;
- Impact on property values;
- Access to fire escape route; and
- Location of the trash dumpster.

Residents questioned the need for the addition and asked why the decision was made to locate the addition on the side of the building. The residents stated that, currently, their building's fire escape route has an egress across the Library's property. The proposed addition will block this route.

Residents stated that they had not been informed of earlier meetings regarding the Mt. Pleasant renovation.

Library Response: The proposed addition will touch the neighboring building, but it will not directly block any windows. In order to meet the requirements of the Library Building Program (large collections of books, DVDs and other materials; separate

reading areas; open space for story time; and large and small meeting rooms) develop for the Mt. Pleasant Library, the architects have determined that an addition is necessary. The existing 17,000 sq. ft. is not sufficient.

The architects have looked into the issue of the fire escape and the proposed addition is in full compliance with DC Building Code, which states that a legal path of egress CANNOT cross over a property line:

Section 1023.1 – Exit Discharge - Exits shall discharge directly to the exterior of the building. The exit shall be at grade or shall provide direct access to grade. The exit shall not reenter a building.

Section 1023.6 Access to a public way – The exit discharge shall provide a direct and unobstructed access to a public way.

Section 1002 – Definitions – Public Way – A street, alley or other parcel of land open to the outside air leading to a street, that has been deeded, dedicated or otherwise permanently appropriated to the public for public use and which has a clear width and height of not less than 10 feet.

The proposed design also will move the trash removal (dumpster) to the opposite side of the building, and will be accessed via the alley on that side. Similarly, deliveries will be possible on the alley side and in front of the building.

Though we have researched this issue, DCPL and the architects will continue to look at options to see if there are alternative ways to achieve the additional space needed. DCPL Capital Construction staff is available to meet with residents to discuss their concerns further.

Though we have made efforts to promote the previous two meetings in the community through advertisements at the library, via postcards to nearby residents and through listservs and community groups, we will make every effort to do outreach to even more members of the community through e-mails, postings on our web site (dclibrary.org), and information at the Mt. Pleasant Library and meetings in the community.

Programs & Services

Be sure programs and services target not just residents of Mt. Pleasant, but also reach residents of Adams Morgan and Columbia Heights, which also use this library.

Library Response: The Library Building Program for Mt. Pleasant calls for a broad collection of books and materials, including materials in Spanish. Similarly, programs will serve a broad range of audiences from young children to seniors.

How will computer access compare to the current level of service? Will there be WiFi? Will there be a computer lab?

Library Response: The renovated library will have more public access computers than it presently can accommodate. There will be a minimum of 24 computers for adults and 8 for children. There will be free WiFi Internet access throughout the building. A mobile laptop cart will be available for computer classes in the meeting room or for other purposes throughout the library.

Design Issues

Will the open space plan for the children's room allow multiple or competing programs to occur simultaneously?

Library Response: The goal in the children's area is to create spaces for multiple age groups. The "room-within-a-room" approach creates a warm, inviting space that will draw children in. The children's room has a programming area; the flexible design of the large meeting room will make it possible to use for children's programming as well.

Has the Library considered putting a meeting room above the sunroom?

Library Response:

The square footage is not large enough to add a meeting room above the sunroom.

What is the current square footage of the library? What will be the square footage of the expanded building?

Library Response: The current building is approximately 17,000 square feet. The Library Building Program developed for Mt. Pleasant calls for at least 20,000 square feet. After renovation, it will be close to 22,000 square feet.

Process Issues

When will the images be posted on the website?

Some in the community would have preferred a design process that entertained more options. Some are dissatisfied with the nature of the process and the lack of dialogue between DCPL and residents. The ANC is considering initiating a community involvement process of its own. The Library should consider setting up a Community Advisory Group.

Library Response: The design images will be posted within a week of the community meeting. Selected images also will be posted on a display in the library. Comments may be submitted via email to MTPCommunityFeedback@dc.gov or on comments cards that will be available at the library.

DC Public Library has worked throughout the process to gain community input. In addition to the series of community meetings, the Library included community representatives on the Architect Selection Panel. The Library currently is working with a community consultant to seek community feedback on programs and services from a broader audience. The goal is to reach at least 150 individuals through this outreach.

Mount Pleasant Library
Summary of Community Meeting
March 26, 2009

The meeting was opened by Chief Librarian Ginnie Cooper who gave a welcome. Jeff Bonvechio, Director of Capital Construction for DC Public Library gave an update on the design process.

The meeting was attended by approximately 80 people including DC Councilmember Jim Graham who helped facilitate.

Architect Henry Myerberg presented the updated design, with two schemes for the addition: one with the addition on the side of the building and one with the addition on the rear.

Community Comments

-One suggestion was to open the design process and create a community *working group* to design the building with the architecture team.

-The Library should conduct a needs assessment for Ward 1.

-Some residents felt the Library should open a second library in Ward 1, rather than expand the current location.

-Most participants at the meeting preferred to move the addition to the rear of the building.

-Some neighbors, especially those immediately adjacent to the library, expressed concern about loss of views and concern about fire access behind the building. They noted the fire that occurred on Mt. Pleasant Street last year as an example of why the addition presented a fire hazard.

-The Councilmember Graham ~~and~~ assured those in attendance that Fire Chief Rubin would be brought into the discussion to address any fire safety concerns and that he would attend an upcoming community meeting.

Several members of the audience used and appreciated the Spanish translation service that the Library made available.

At the end of the meeting, the Library agreed to host another community meeting in May.



Summary of Mount Pleasant Library Community Meeting Wednesday, June 3, 2009

The summation of the June 3, 2009 community meeting held at the Mount Pleasant Library is as follows:

The meeting was opened with a welcome by Chief Librarian Ginnie Cooper who then introduced Helen Hiltz, Branch Manager.

Ms. Hiltz informed the attendees that she recently transferred to the Mount Pleasant Library from the Takoma Park Library and remarked that they are both Carnegie libraries and historic buildings. Her presentation included the following:

- A brief history of the Mount Pleasant Library;
- Library programs and services at the Mount Pleasant library;
- Challenges and constraints presented to the staff due to the limited size and physical layout of the Mount Pleasant library; and
- Introduction of the Mount Pleasant library staff.

Jeff Bonvechio, Director of DCPL 21st Century Capital Projects, then gave a presentation on the development and evolution of the current design for the renovation and the expansion of the Mount Pleasant Library. He brought the attendees up-to-date regarding the meetings (held since the last community meeting) with Councilman Jim Graham and an ad hoc group of ANC representatives and residents to continue the engagement about the proposed building addition, fire safety and other issues.

DC Councilmember Jim Graham addressed the meeting and recounted the meetings held on May 13th and May 28th at his office. Councilmember Graham stated that the Library had listened to the groups and taken a concept back to the architectural team for consideration called "Scheme G". This concept was

determined to be unworkable in addressing the library's programmatic needs. Therefore, the Library is now moving ahead with the design called "Scheme F".

The architects presented a slide show of the latest design for the renovation and expansion of the Mt. Pleasant Library.

Summary of Questions and Comments

Some residents stated they preferred this final version, which has the addition on the rear of the building. They stated they appreciated that the library had listened to their concerns about the previously proposed side addition, which they felt was less respectful of the building's historic nature.

Some residents stated they liked the refinements to the design and expressed hope that the project would now move forward without further delay.

Some residents expressed concern that the addition on the rear would eliminate the sun room and questioned whether the sun room can be incorporated somehow into the design of the addition.

Some residents questioned the need for an addition on the library and suggested an alternate solution would be to open another library elsewhere in Ward 1.

Some residents preferred not to move the addition to the rear citing fire safety and egress issues for the apartment buildings immediately behind the library.

Near the conclusion of the meeting, Councilmember Graham asked for an informal show of hands of who supported the renovation with the rear addition. The majority of meeting participants indicated they would support the renovation with the rear addition.