

ILSLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

VISION SUPPORT SPACES

New Spaces

- A **Community Living Room** will provide a comfortable space to gather. This room will have soft seating, a sink and small refrigerator for providing refreshments, and a coat closet. This will be a perfect space for groups of up to ten to hold small receptions, book discussions, or other gatherings that would benefit from a less formal setting, like open hours with local representatives. The Community Living Room supports the Welcoming and Community Hub pillars, and supports the community aspirations of breaking down silos and creating opportunities for intergenerational gathering.
- A **Hospitality Area** near the library entrance will feature a counter with a water fountain, sink, hot water kettle, and coffee machine. This dedicated space will foster a friendly, welcoming atmosphere, and community members will see that their comfort has been considered. This space encourages people to slow down, have a beverage, and talk with a friend in the library. The Hospitality Area supports the Welcoming pillar, and responds to the community aspiration of building a vibrant downtown.
- A **Conference Room** will accommodate groups of up to twelve people. The room will feature a large conference table and technology to support hybrid meetings for local boards, community groups, classes, etc. This will allow multiple meetings to take place at the library simultaneously, and free up the Community Meeting Room for larger events and meetings. This space supports the Community Hub and Flexible pillars, and meets the community aspirations of building a vibrant downtown and making Middlebury more affordable.
- A **Library Activity Room** will be a dedicated space where library staff can conduct a variety of programs for youth, teens, and adults. This space will be specially designed for programs that require crafts, cooking, physical movement, and signing, with sinks and easy to clean surfaces and good sound insulation. Because Storytimes can take place here, the Community Meeting Room will be freed up for community use, making the library more Flexible.
- A **High School Hang-out Area** will provide a dedicated space for teens to socialize, do homework, read, access the internet, relax, and work collaboratively. Booths will provide comfortable spaces for collaborative work and conversation, and nooks will provide space for quiet reading and privacy. This space supports the Welcoming and Community Hub pillars, and responds directly to community aspirations of reaching underserved groups (teens).
- A **Family Restroom** will provide families and individuals with space and privacy in a safe way. A Family Restroom supports the Safe, Accessible, and Welcoming Pillars.
- A **Lactation Room** will provide community members and employees a place to nurse or pump. Many young mothers come to the library, but there are currently no functional, private spaces to pump. Having a dedicated space for this will make the library more Accessible and Welcoming.

Expanded or Reconfigured Spaces

- The **Pre-K and Kindergarten Area** will be greatly expanded (effectively doubled). This will allow for collection growth, more accessible shelving, and, most importantly, a dedicated early learning area. This area is a large, open space where the library's youngest users can wiggle and play safely. Dedicated storage will allow for a collection of sensory exploration units and activity centers to be rotated regularly. Parent-child carrels will allow parents of babies to work comfortably, and dedicated stroller parking will make it easier to get into the library. This space supports the Welcoming, Accessible, and Community Hub pillars, and responds to community aspirations of building a vibrant downtown; creating opportunities for intergenerational gathering; and increasing connections and breaking down silos.
- The **Elementary and Middle School Areas** will be expanded, allowing for additional spaces for children to read individually, work collaboratively, and browse for books. Expanding these spaces supports the Community Hub pillar and responds to the community aspiration of filling in gaps for underserved groups in our community by providing a safe space for children to go after school.
- A larger **Community Meeting Room** will accommodate up to 100 people seated in chairs, allowing for larger public gatherings (supporting the Community Hub pillar). Dedicated storage closets for the Community Meeting Room will ensure furniture and technology are properly stored, freeing up the full space of the Community Meeting Room for events, and preventing unsightly piles of equipment and supplies from piling up (supporting the Welcoming pillar). Higher ceilings will allow for film screenings (supporting the Flexible pillar).
- The **Quiet Study Area** for adults will be consolidated into one area (as opposed to currently being scattered throughout the library). This will both make it easier to ensure low volume and make the space more flexible for future use.
- **Staff Work Areas** will be consolidated and expanded. Each staff member will have a workspace that is functional and comfortable. A shared Staff Workroom will have adequate shelving for incoming books, a counter for processing books, and a central table for program prep. Dedicated space for book trucks, trash and recycling, and deaccessioned books will ensure there are no unsightly piles of trash around the building. Two additional workstations will support interns and work-study students, as well as allow space for future personnel growth. Improved staff spaces support the Accessible, Welcoming, and Flexible pillars.
- The **Collections Shelving Plan** consolidates adult fiction and non-fiction. It also allows space for each individual collection (Adult New, Adult Old, Pre-K and Kindergarten, Elementary School, Middle School, and High School) to be shelved in parallel rows, which ensures staff and patrons have sightlines, supporting the Safe pillar. The plan also allows space for each collection to have the appropriate amount of display shelving and be limited to the appropriate height for the user group (42" for Kindergarten, 66" for adults, etc.), supporting the Accessible pillar.