

ILSLEY 100 PROJECT TEAM

UPDATE TO SELECTBOARD

JUNE 28, 2022



UPDATE TO SELECTBOARD 6.28.2022

ILSLEY 100 PROJECT TEAM

- **CHARGE:** Guide development of design options with a team of professionals that fulfill the vision statement, accomplishing the goals of as many of the building pillars as possible. Coordinate funding strategies and community engagement efforts to bring the project to fruition.
- **MEMBERSHIP:** Dan Brown, Farhad Khan, Joe McVeigh, Amy Mincher, Barbara Doyle-Wilch, Jim Gish, Ken Perine, Dana Hart, Judith Harris
- **MEETINGS:** 8 warned meetings since March 24. All meetings open to public.

BACKGROUND RESEARCH

- Existing issues; previous work
- Field trips
- Design examples
- ALA guidance
- Expertise of Hart, Doyle-Wilch, Harris



FOUNDATIONAL ASSUMPTIONS

- **Vision Statement and Pillars:** “...be a welcoming, accessible, and safe community hub with the flexibility and sustainability to enrich community members’ lives now and into the future.”
 - Pillars: welcoming; accessible; safe; community hub; flexible; and sustainable
- **Tell Me Tours:** community aspirations: vibrant downtown, intergenerational gatherings, filling in the gaps for less served parts of our population, increasing connections and breaking down silos.
- **Downtown Master Plan:** Guiding principles: Inclusivity/Gathering Places and Destinations for All; Cultural Vibrancy; and Sustainability & Resiliency.

PROJECT SCHEDULE (PRE-DESIGN) THROUGH JULY 2023

- Develop and refine square footage program
- Develop a strategic matrix to aid in decision-making including options and criteria
- Engage a conceptual estimator to assist in preliminary costing
- Choose a future direction among several options [KEY DECISION POINT FOR SELECTBOARD]
- Engage architect to develop plans



STRATEGIC DECISION MATRIX

Possible Design Directions

- Renovate and repair, retaining current footprint
- Renovate and expand (similar to 2017 approach)
- Renovate and repair plus add non-adjacent annex for more square footage
- Renovate and expand on a larger footprint, possibly towards Otter Creek
- Relocate the library within downtown to an alternate site; find an adaptive re-use for the existing building

NO DECISION ON DESIGN DIRECTION HAS BEEN MADE

STRATEGIC DECISION MATRIX

Possible Criteria for Evaluating Design Directions

- fulfillment of the desired square footage program
- suitability of site and location
- alignment with stated community aspirations
- funding viability

OPTIONS AND DECISION CRITERIA ARE STILL BEING ESTABLISHED

SQUARE FOOT PROGRAM

- Square footage currently used - analysis
- Staff interviews and job shadowing
- Collection space needs – convert linear feet → square feet
- Detailed narrative
- Align spaces with vision, pillars, aspirations
- SF PROGRAM ABSTRACT – NOT PLACE-DEPENDENT



COMMUNICATIONS

- “Building the Library of the Future” Op-Ed pieces in the *Addison Independent*
- Ilsley 100 Project Team Website
- Jim Gish blog – just underway
- Updates at Library Trustees meetings
- Engage public in design process
- Explore possible partnerships

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The Future of Ilsley Public Library

By tyroneilsley | May 13, 2022

Highlights

- A look ahead and a look back
- The Ilsley 100 Project Team

In 1924, the Ilsley Public Library, a gift of Middlebury resident Colonel Silas Augustine Ilsley, first opened its doors to the community.

Nearly 100 years later, with the encouragement and support of the Middlebury Selectboard, Library Director Dana Hart and the elected members of the Ilsley Library Board of Trustees have formed a project team to lay the groundwork for the Ilsley Library's next 100 years.

You may remember that at about the time that I took on the role of Community Liaison for our downtown bridge and rail project, the Ilsley team put a proposal in front of the community to meet the challenges of a 100-year-old building and the changing needs of the community with a new addition.

The timing wasn't right for that proposal to move forward in 2017 but the challenges remain. I was delighted to be asked to join what is being called the Ilsley 100 Project Team as the communications specialist. As with our downtown construction, there's real value in bringing the story directly to you.



For me, too, there was a personal connection to Ilsley. At the time of Ilsley's 75th anniversary, I served for four years as chair of the library Board of Trustees and then spent a further seven years on the Vermont State Library Board. And I have to say that the oak-paneled main lobby/reading room, shown in our first photo above, is one of the

FUNDING – POSSIBLE SOURCES

Government Funding

- Federal/state appropriations
- ARPA funding
- Energy efficiency incentives

Private Funding

- Grants
- Capital campaign (fundraising)

Public Funding

- Bond vote

NEXT STEPS

- Pre-design: refine the square footage program; solidify options and criteria for the decision matrix; consider how best to engage a cost estimator in the decision-making process.
- Communication: obtain feedback from the public; explore possible partnerships
- Funding: identify funding sources

QUESTIONS

