

# Dudley Branch Library Renovations



**Martin J. Walsh, Mayor**

**Project #7084**

**City of Boston Public Facilities Department**

**Boston Public Library**

**Utile, Inc. Architecture and Planning**

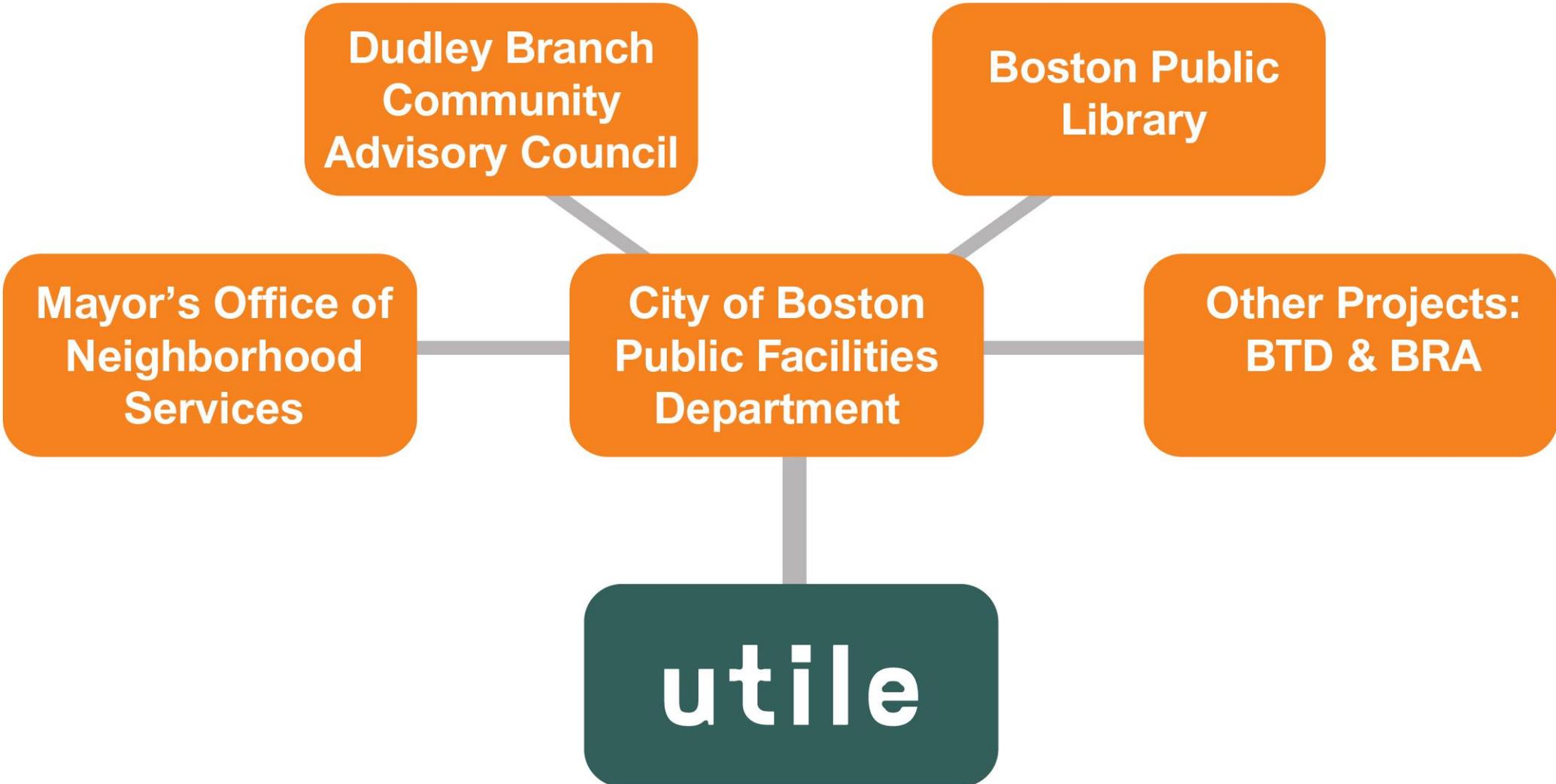
**November 16, 2016**

# Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
- Recap from 9/27 Meeting
- Priorities for Design
- Program Plans



# The Team



# Feedback from 9/27 CAC Meeting Site, Exterior, and Entrance

- “Need a welcoming front door.”
- “Activity outside discourages visitors.”  
“Not pleasant to come to the library and have to walk through unpleasantness at the front plaza.”
- “Public safety concerns and substance abuse discourages kids.”
- “Consider a contained outdoor space for the library accessed from the library”
- “Library outdoor space could host performances.”



View from Dudley Street

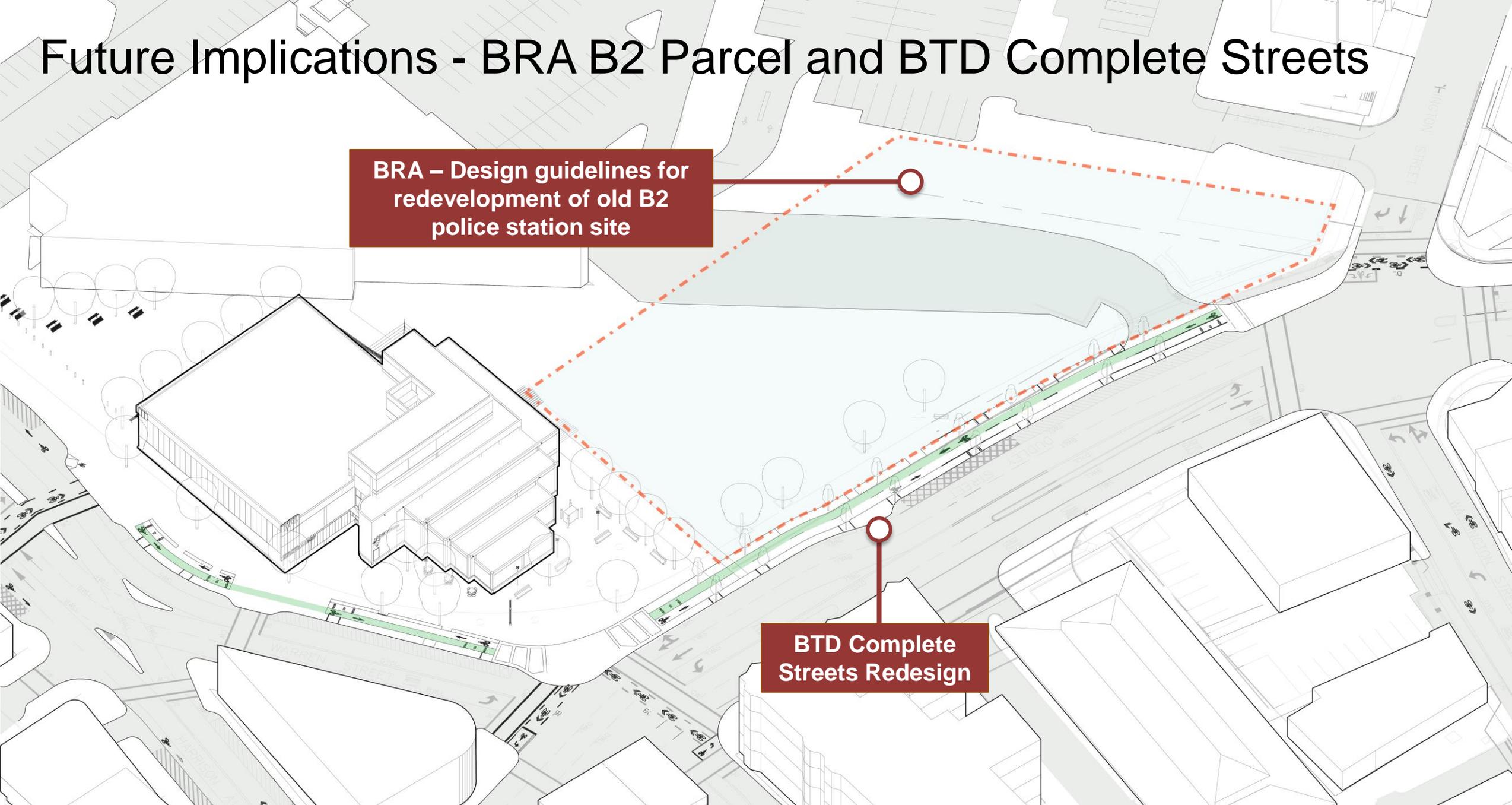
# Site, Exterior, and Entrance



# Future Implications - BRA B2 Parcel and BTD Complete Streets

**BRA – Design guidelines for redevelopment of old B2 police station site**

**BTD Complete Streets Redesign**



# Feedback from 9/27 CAC Meeting

## Community Programing

- “The community room has a heart as a performing arts space. Enhance the amenities, acoustics and sound system.”
- “Ensure space for meetings for community organizations”
- “Consider flexible spaces – can the community room be partitioned into multiple spaces?”
- “Storage is important”
- “Integrate art into the building and develop opportunities to showcase local artists.”



View from Community Room



# Community Programming



# Recap from 9/27 CAC Meeting

## Programming and Space Needs

- “Make distinct spaces for teens, kids, and adults”
- “Provide classrooms, quiet study spaces and study carrels”
- “Dudley is considered the African American Studies branch.”
- “Cooking, yoga, crafts, computer classes, music lessons, and fashion classes are some of the variety of programs at the library.”



# Existing "Box"

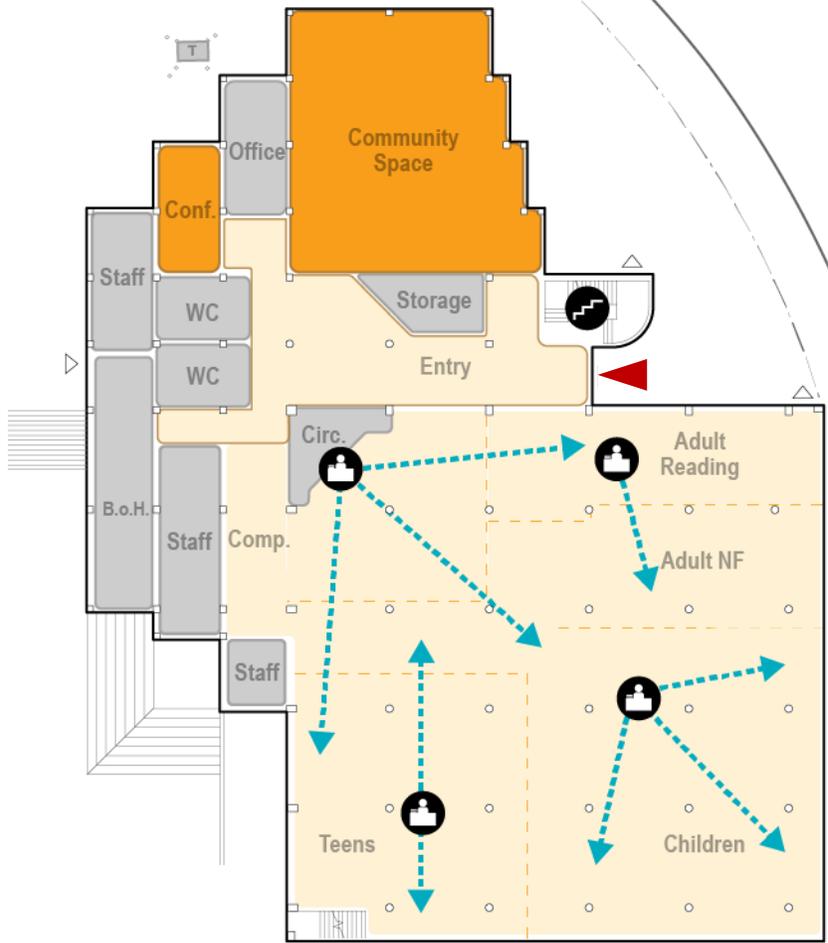


# Goals for Reimagining the Dudley Branch Library

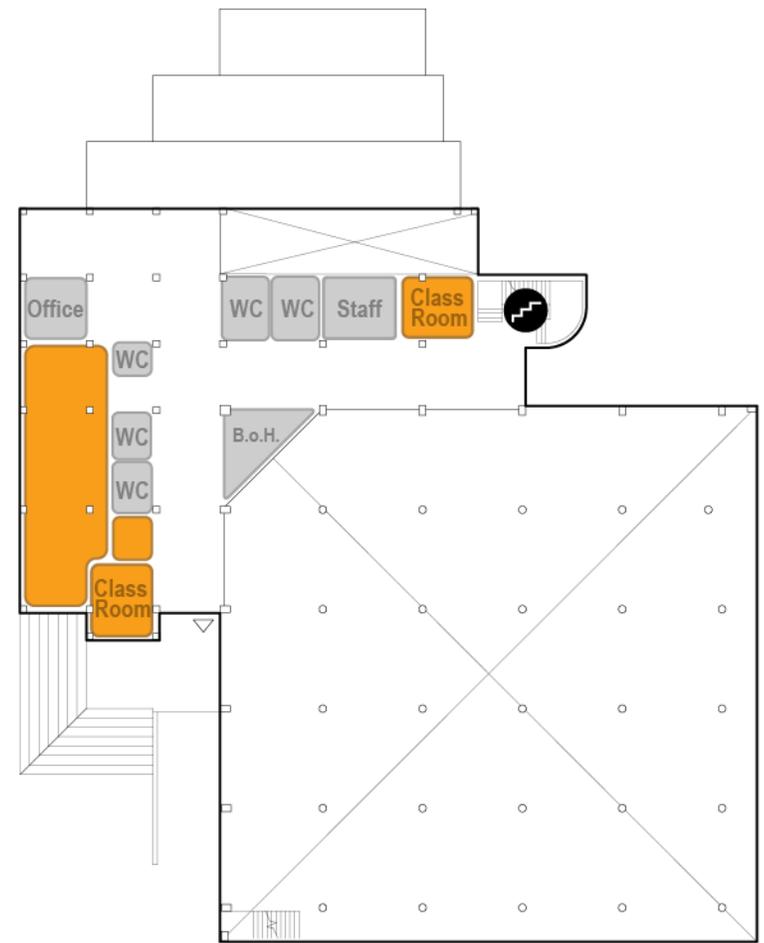
- **“Open up”** the building to better **connect to the site** and consider opportunities to **“warm up”** its exterior presence.
- **Improve spatial definition** to better respond to specific user groups and establish hierarchy and orientation within the library.
- Create a **meaningful connection** between levels.
- **Incorporate space needs** and consider flexibility to meet evolving programming needs.
- **Improve building performance** and energy efficiency of sustainable building systems.
- Strengthen digital resources.
- Enhance local history display.
- Ensure accessibility throughout the building and site.
- Improve signage and wayfinding

# Program Plans

## Existing Plans



Ground Level

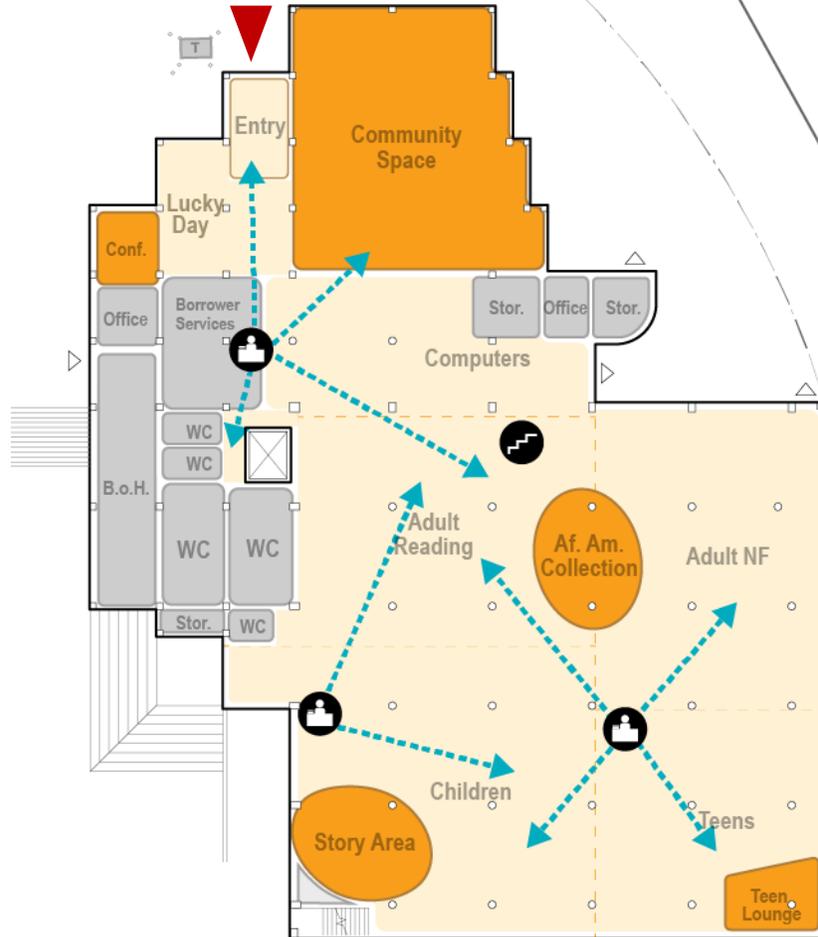


Upper Level

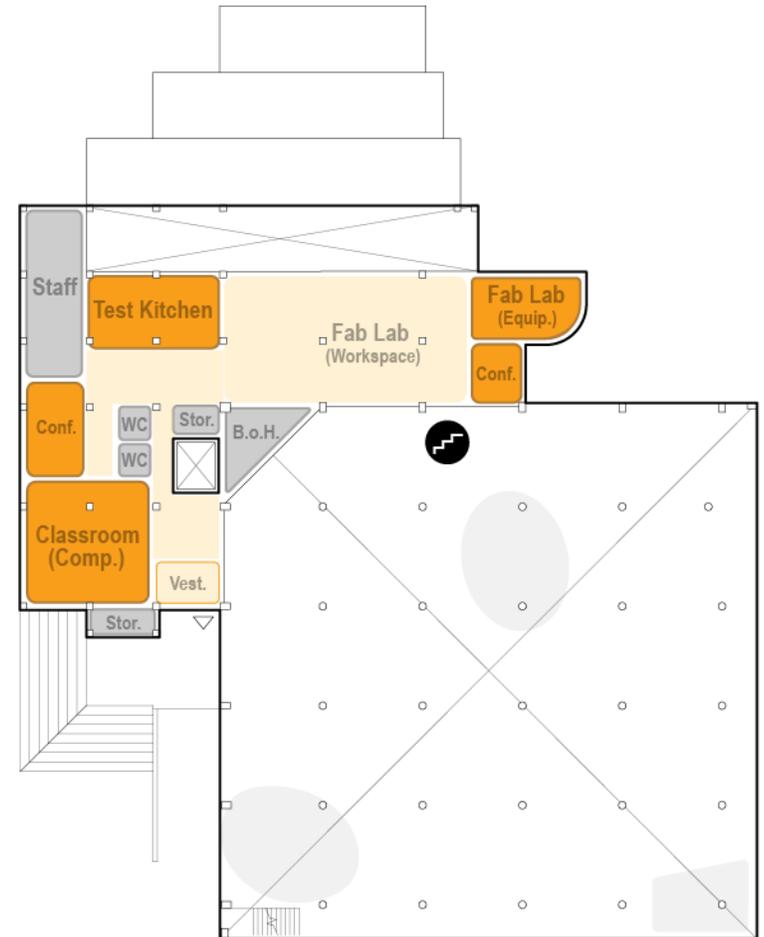
# Program Plans

## Concept Plan

- Reorients the library entry to face Dudley Square.
- Provides visibility to the Dudley Street Plaza and allows for potential programming of plaza for library uses.
- Optimize community spaces for diverse types and scales of programming.
- African-American collection considered as central figure in the heart of the library.
- Pods of program placed within library volume break up scale and help define distinct spaces.
- **New open stair** enhances connection between levels and streamlines circulation



Ground Level

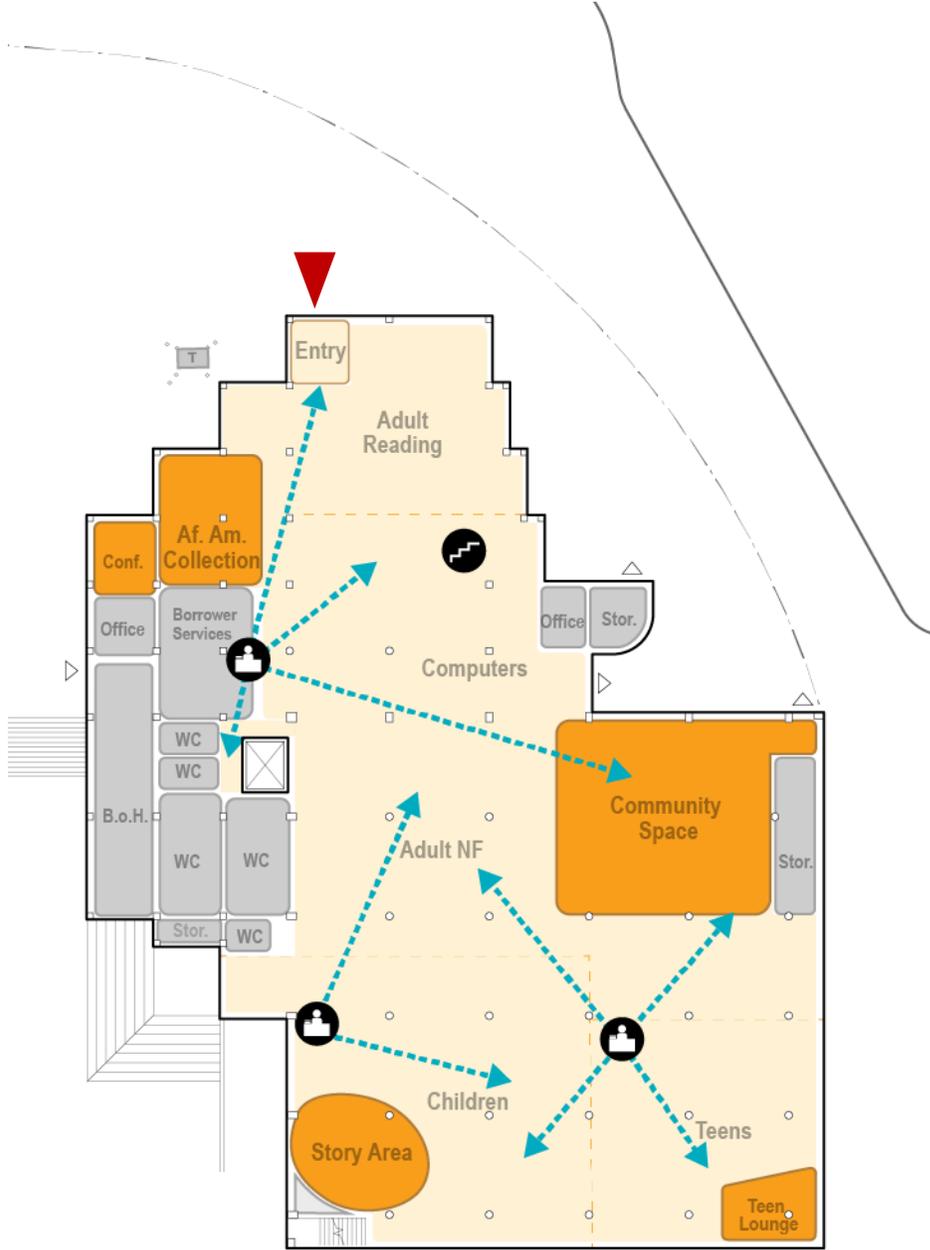


Upper Level

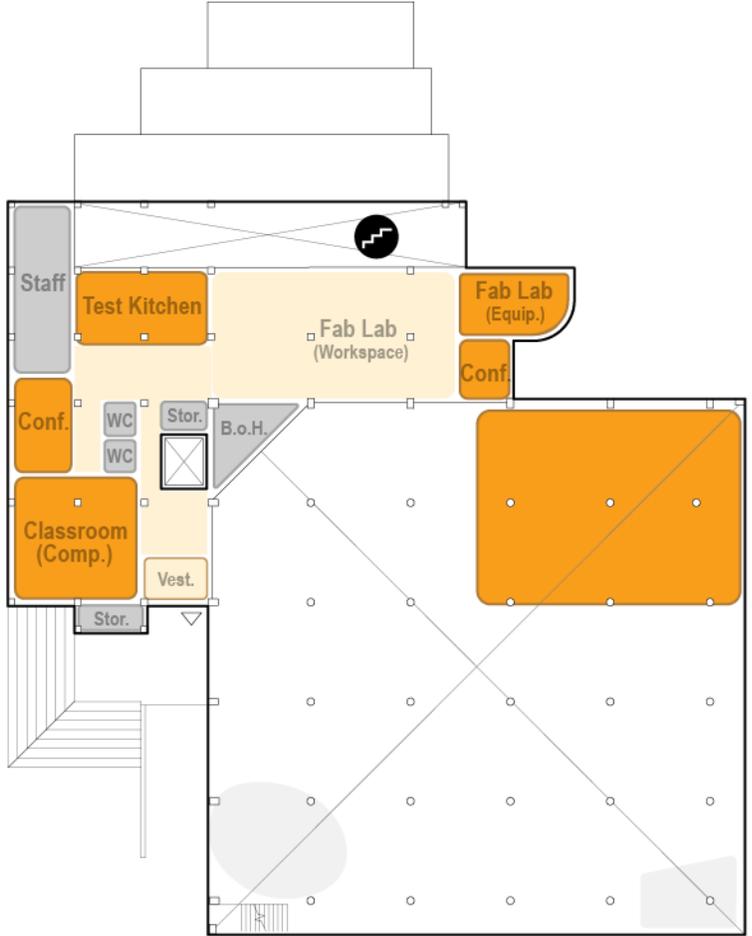
# Program Plans

## Alternate Scheme

- Relocates the community room to provide library programming



Ground Level



Upper Level

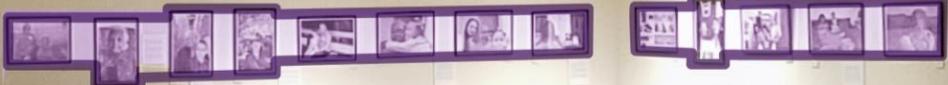


# Community Room



# Community Room

Artwork Display



# Community Room



Chair  
Count 70

# Community Room

(+/-) 30-40  
Chairs

STORAGE

STORAGE

STORAGE

# Existing Storage Room for Community Room



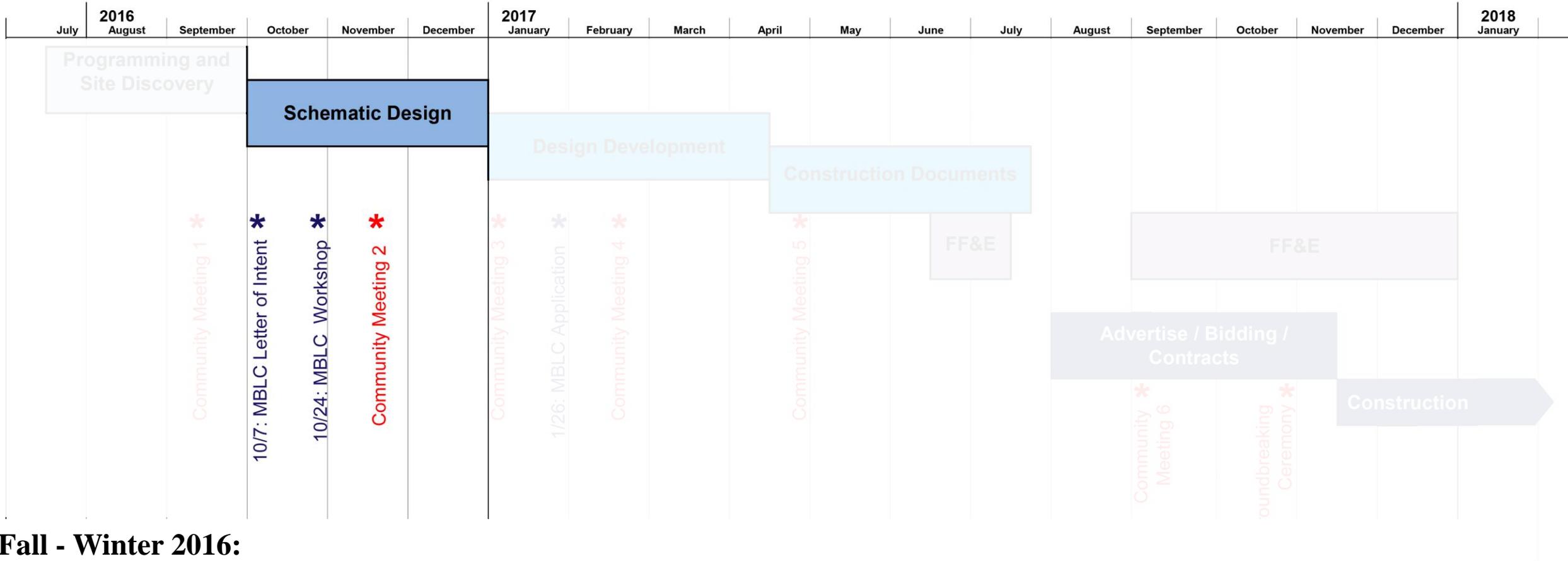
An open stair is an opportunity to meaningfully connect the two levels of the library.



Low walls, shelving and other elements can break up the scale of the primary volume and define distinct spaces



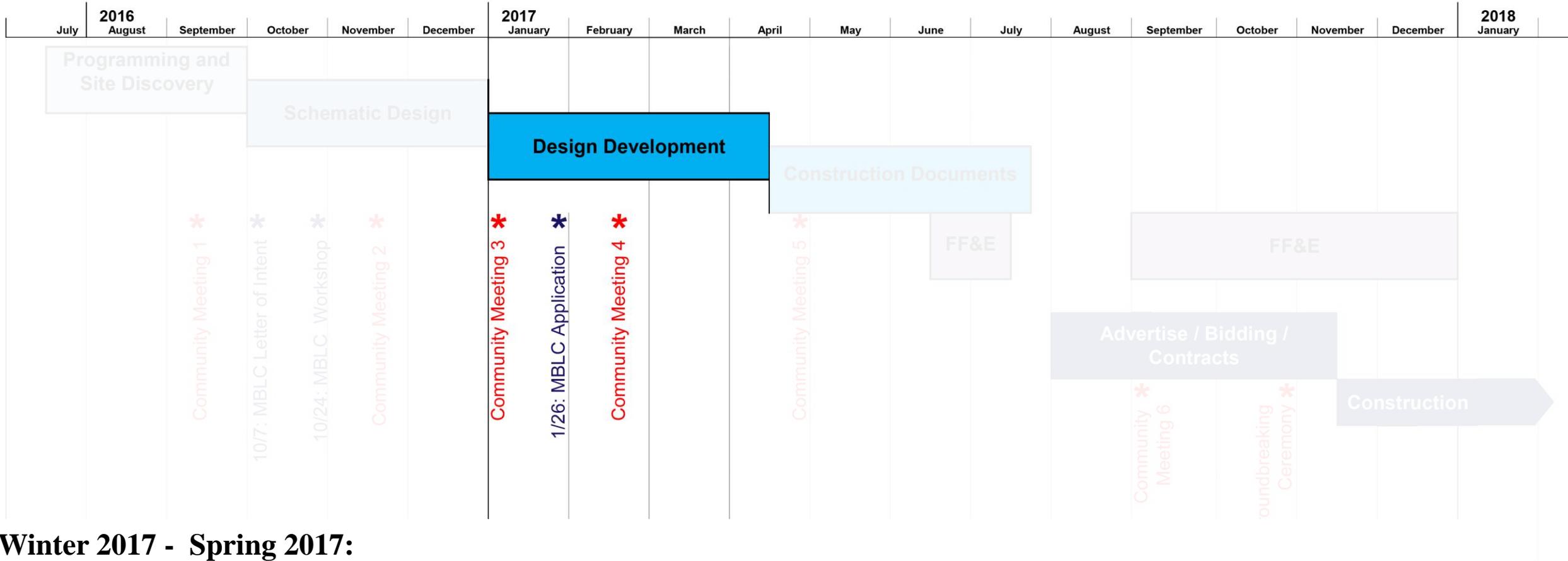
# Design Schedule



## Fall - Winter 2016:

Develop floor plans to understand programming and space planning options  
 Coordinate with MBLC for grant application

# Design Schedule



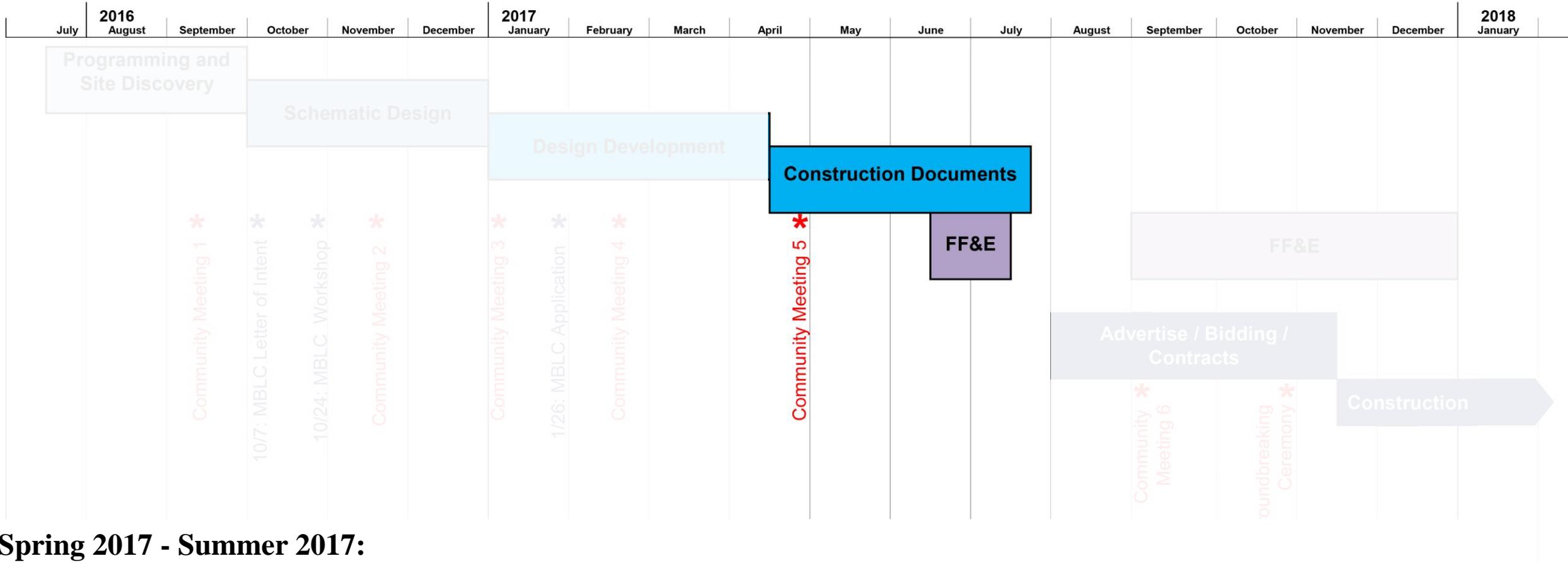
## Winter 2017 - Spring 2017:

Refine design

Develop options for building exterior and landscape

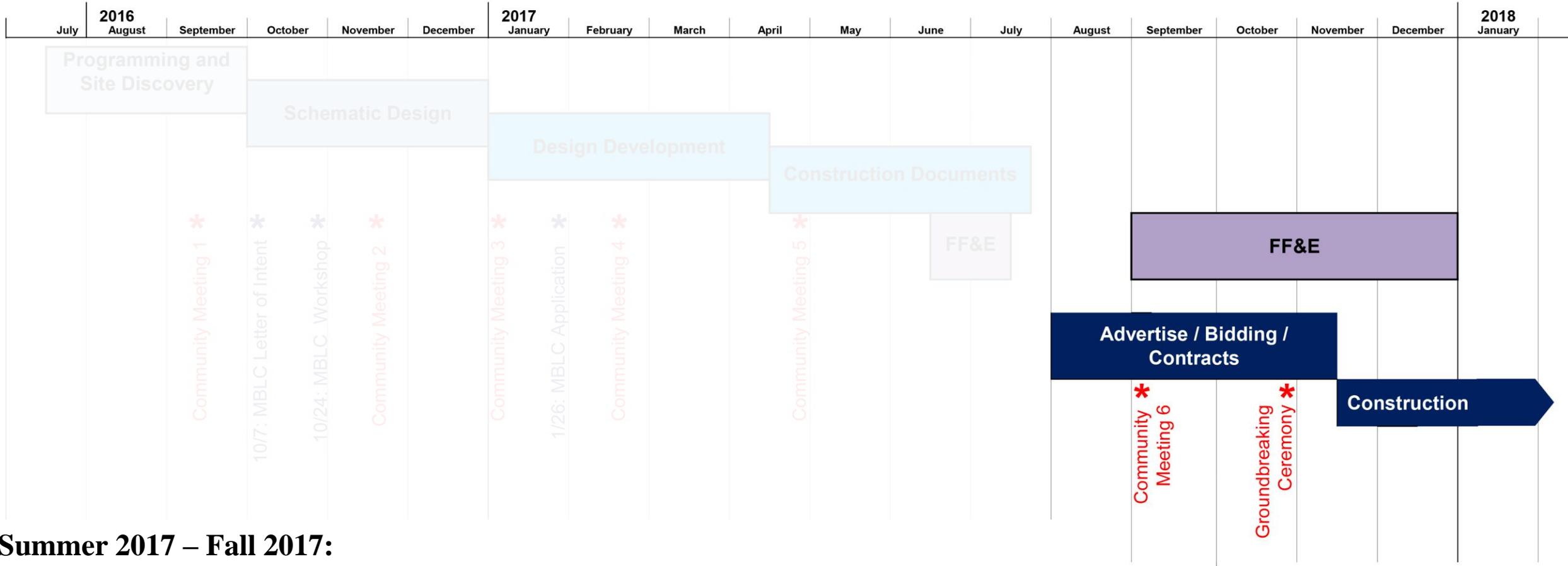
Submit MBLC Application

# Design Schedule



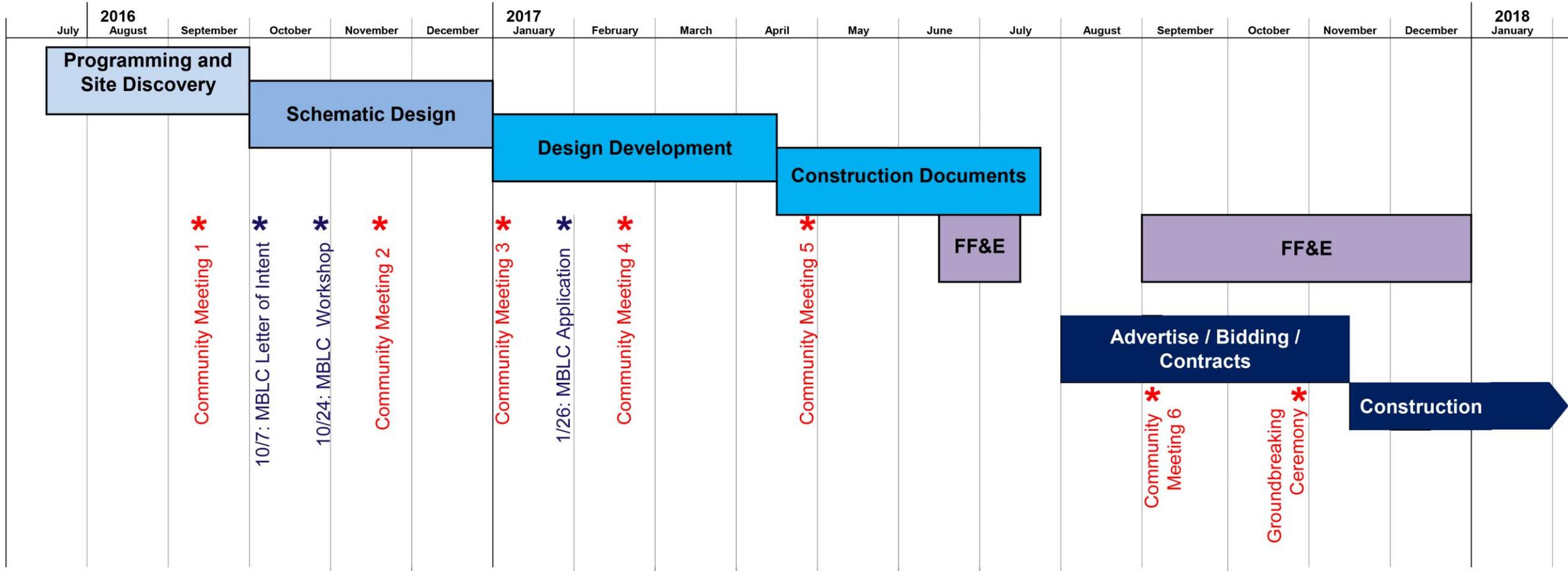
**Spring 2017 - Summer 2017:**  
 Prepare Construction Documents  
 Develop interior environment

# Design Schedule



**Summer 2017 – Fall 2017:**  
 Study furnishings  
 Groundbreaking Ceremony  
 Library closes for construction

# Design Schedule



Thank You!



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# Discussion



[bpl.org](http://bpl.org)