Fields Corner Branch Library

Public Meeting #1

November 9, 2022

Michelle Wu, Mayor
Boston Public Library
City of Boston, Public Facilities Department

Oudens Ello Architecture
Agenda

1. Introduction, Team and Schedule
2. BPL Compass Principles, Building Goals and Programming Study
3. Proposed Library Program
4. Preliminary Building Massing and Plans
5. Questions and Feedback
6. Next Steps
7. Feedback Contact
Project Team

City of Boston

- Boston Public Library
- Public Facilities Dept.

Fields Corner Community

Design Team
- Oudens Ello Architecture
- Consultants and Engineers
Building Design Schedule

- **2022**
  - Schematic Design
  - Building Program and Preliminary Planning

- **2023**
  - Design Development

- **2024**
  - Construction Documents
  - 2024 Construction Start

Public Meetings are indicated by circles.
BPL Compass  Principles for Excellence: “Free to All”

1. User-Centered Institution
2. Community Gathering
3. Special Collections
4. Center of Knowledge
5. Children and Teens
6. Access and Innovation
7. Sustainable Organization
8. Fun
BPL Compass  Principles for Excellence: “Free to All”

Service Priorities
1. Reading & Literacy
2. Community Gathering
3. Reference & Instruction
4. Cultural Heritage
New Building Goals

Flexible Spaces
More Community Space
Improved Technology
Improved Building Comfort
Daylighting
Outdoor Space
Improved Staff Workflow
Improved Sight Lines
Energy Efficiency (LEED Silver and Zero Net Carbon)
2: Two-story Library

This two-story library building develops the stand-alone option as introduced in Section 2.1. Like the previous one-story approaches, a glazed curtain wall with an overhanging roof along Dorchester Ave. defines a generous and welcoming entry to the library. The two-story glass facade - with a double-height reading room behind it - also creates a strong visual presence for the library at this corner site. The glass facade of the second floor building, at roughly 8' tall, is below the existing height limit for the neighborhood. A notch in the building at the second floor along Park Street creates an exterior reading terrace - this is the only design option with natural light that can also provide delivery access maintained at rear of building.

The interior is organized around a double-height reading room at the Dorchester/Park Ave. corner that helps to visually connect and unify the upper floor with the main level of the library. Adult, Teen, and Children’s: the classrooms and the Children’s Library are all located at the ground floor. Adult/Teen areas, the Teen Library and Community Rooms and Study Rooms are on the second floor.
Library Program
Proposed Program Summary

Community Program
2,140 ft² (17%)

Adult
3,195 ft² (26%)

Children
2,445 ft² (20%)

Entry
1,105 ft² (9%)

Staff
829 ft² (7%)

Teen
767 ft² (6%)

Service
1,790 ft² (15%)

BPL Fields Corner Branch Library
Program Comparison

Current Size
8,557 ft²

Proposed Program
14,725 ft²

Building Services
- Entrance: +51%
- Staff: +14%
- Community: +217%
- Children: +40%
- Teen: +28%
- Adult: +36%

+72%
Community Proposed

Community Room
1,100 ft² + 50 ft² Kitchenette + 150 ft² Storage

Study Rooms
120 ft² each

Classroom
600 ft²

EXISTING
675 ft²

PROPOSED
2,140 ft² (217% increase)
Community Proposed

Community Room
1,100 ft² + 50 ft² Kitchenette + 150 ft² Storage

Study Rooms
120 ft² each

Classroom
600 ft²
Entry Proposed

Friends Book Sale Shelves
40 ft²

Self Checkout and Reserves
150 ft²

Service Point
325 ft²

Lobby
300 ft²

Book Drop
60 ft²

Vestibule
130 ft²

EXISTING
732 ft²

PROPOSED
1,105 ft² (51% increase)
Entry Proposed

Friends Book Sale Shelves
40 ft²

Self Checkout and Reserves
150 ft²

Service Point
325 ft²

Book Drop
60 ft²

Vestibule
130 ft²

Lobby
300 ft²
Adult Proposed

**Fiction**
- 510 ft²

**Non-Fiction**
- 654 ft²

**Media**
- 250 ft²

**Seating**
- 1,190 ft²

**Adult Technology**
- 450 ft²

**Periodicals**
- 40 ft²

**New Materials and Lucky Day**
- 40 ft²

**Immigration Materials Display**
- 20 ft²

**Print Release Station**
- 50 ft²

**EXISTING**
- 2,350 ft²

**PROPOSED**
- 3,195 ft² (36% increase)
Adult Proposed

**Fiction**
510 ft²

**Non-Fiction**
654 ft²

**Media**
250 ft²

**Seating**
1,190 ft²

**Adult Technology**
450 ft²

**Periodicals**
40 ft²

**New Materials and Lucky Day**
40 ft²

**Immigration Materials Display**
20 ft²

**Print Release Station**
50 ft²
Children Proposed

Children’s Collection
1093 ft²

Tweens
220 ft²

Children’s Seating
330 ft²

Early Literacy
220 ft²

Craft Alcove
250 ft²

Children’s Technology
225 ft²

Service Point
45 ft²

Family Restroom
60 ft²

EXISTING
1,750 ft²

PROPOSED
2,445 ft² (40% increase)
Children Proposed

Children’s Collection
1093 ft²

Tweens
220 ft²

Children’s Seating
330 ft²

Early Literacy
220 ft²

Craft Alcove
250 ft²

Children’s Technology
225 ft²

Service Point
45 ft²

Family Restroom
60 ft²
Teen Proposed

Teen Collection
385 ft²

Teen Seating
382 ft²

EXISTING
600 ft²

PROPOSED
767 ft² (28% increase)
Preliminary Building Massing and Plans
Available Building Lot

Lot 1
9,172 ft²

Lot 2
600 ft²

Lot 3
1,800 ft²
Lot 3
Staff Parking

Lot Size
11,572 ft²

Lot 1+2
Current Building
2 Story Branch Library

New Branch Library
14,725 ft²

Main Entrance

Staff Parking and Delivery Access
Preliminary Building Massing from 2020 Programming Study
Next Steps

- **Schematic Design**
  - Public Meeting

- **Preliminary Building Design**
  - Public Meeting

- **Design Development**
  - Next Community Meeting in February-March

- **Construction Documents**
  - Public Meeting

Timeline:
- **2022**
- **2023**
- **2024**

2024 Construction Start
Feedback?

Please contact:

Priscilla Foley, Director of Neighborhood Services
pfoley@bpl.org