



WARSAW COMMUNITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Facility Feasibility Study

DECEMBER 2024



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As modern communities continue to struggle with growing health disparities and social inequality, the public library stands as an invaluable resource – one that can exist as an anchor institution for the community it works diligently to support. The public library is more than just another building. It’s an opportunity incubator for people of all ages and abilities. This equitable access to information, entertainment, and well-being is more important than ever. Especially in Warsaw.

Located conveniently in downtown Warsaw, the Warsaw Community Public Library (WCPL) understands that it is uniquely positioned to utilize its building, programs, and services to support their community and increase access to opportunity for some of the city’s most vulnerable populations. This Facility Feasibility Study provides strategies that build on the strength of the library and puts forth facility recommendations that empower staff to nimbly react to the shifting priorities and needs of the county.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Warsaw Community Public Library (WCPL) experiences over 90,000 visits, circulates over 500,000 physical and digital materials, and holds more than 350 programs every year. The intent of the Facility Feasibility Study is to identify strategies that optimize the physical infrastructure of the existing building through enhanced capital improvement projects, expanded access, and innovative service delivery.

The plan is designed to serve as a framework for WCPL staff as they consider capital investments, fundraising, and decision-making for both the short and long-term success of the facility. It incorporates data and research regarding the community's evolving socio-economic conditions, growth patterns, and underserved service areas. It situates WCPL in the broader community context and is informed by research of peer library systems from across the country.

Guided by the library's desire to increase equity and access to opportunity, the study brings together an assessment and analysis of WCPL's physical infrastructure, user data, and collection utilization, combined with community-identified needs.

The recommendations included within this report provide a collection of strategies that the facility can undertake. Action steps are presented with two possible categories – *urgent needs* and a *comprehensive strategy*– defining a variety of approaches that can be acted on immediately and implemented into the future.

As one of the most deeply loved and historic institutions in the city, the Warsaw Community Public Library (WCPL) is uniquely positioned to leverage its building, programs, and services to support the community and increase access to opportunity for the city's most vulnerable communities. However, the building is facing some immediate needs to ensure its continued operation.

This study provides recommendations and strategies that build on the strength of the library and puts forth facility interventions that empower library staff to nimbly react to the shifting priorities and needs of the community with recommendations guided by the following principles:

REIMAGINE PHYSICAL SPACE: Enhance the library's ability to provide inclusive places that are accessible and engaging to a variety of people.

EXPAND VIRTUAL PRESENCE: Leverage evolving technology to improve the patron experience and equity relationship with the library.

CULTIVATE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Strengthen the library's ability to foster diverse experiences aimed at successfully engaging the community.

“The public library is where place and possibility meet.”

- Stuart Dybek

SYSTEM SNAPSHOT

1 Central Location

94,515 Annual Visits

541,468 Annual circulation

5,894 Public Computer Uses

7,364 Program Attendance

FACILITY PLANNING GOALS + VISION

The Warsaw Community Public Library (WCPL) has worked diligently to assess its current facility to produce a comprehensive Facility Feasibility Study to guide planning, renovations, and improvements for the coming years.

This work aimed to assess and evaluate the existing building, spaces, and assets and to identify how best to address deficiencies and plan for future growth to empower WCPL to respond appropriately to shifts in community demographics, technology development, emerging library services, aging facilities, and other future needs.

SYSTEM SNAPSHOT

1 Central Location
94,515 Annual Visits
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5,894 Public Computer Uses
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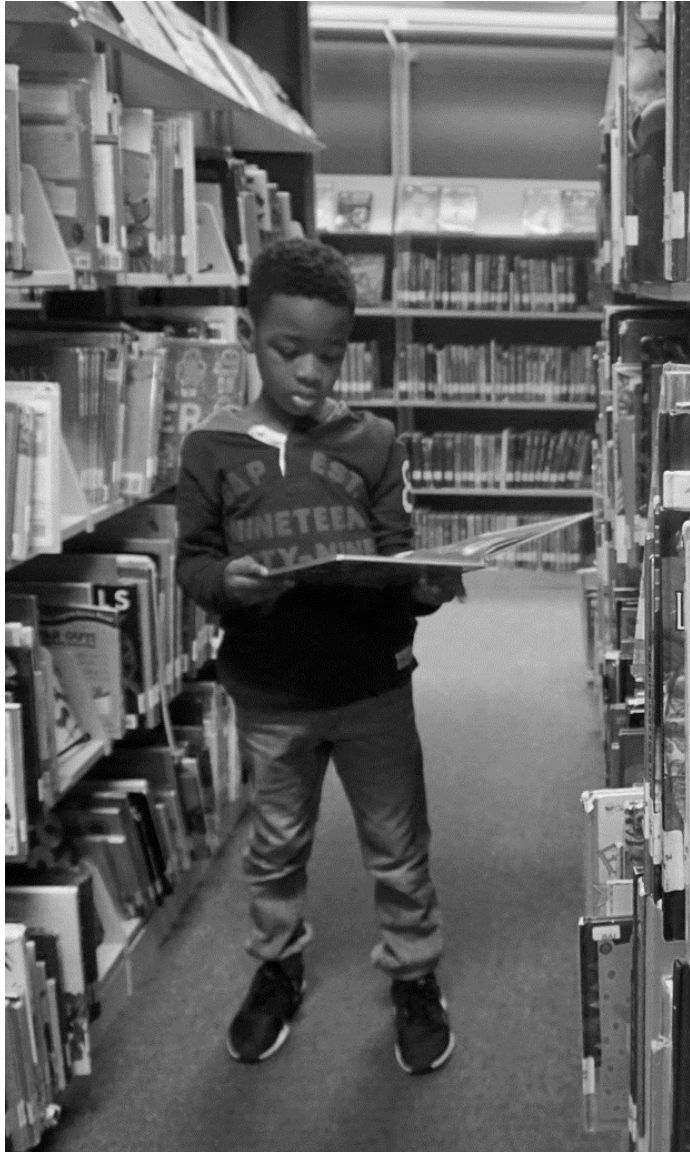
Mission

The Warsaw Public Library's mission is to provide a welcoming destination that supports life-long learning for all ages. The library strives to be a place where the community has access to quality materials, engaging resources and enriching services. The library promotes the joy of reading and strives to foster the pursuit of knowledge to enrich the lives in our community.

Vision

WCPL engages and equips our community by providing inclusive, innovative, and relevant services without barriers.

PLANNING APPROACH



The Facility Feasibility Study is grounded in both staff and community engagement, as well as spatial and library science research to ensure that the library's physical realities, its equity aspirations and patron priorities are all at the forefront.

The planning process was led by MKM architecture + design, an architecture and planning firm dedicated to enhancing community health and well-being through design. The planning team includes a multi-disciplinary team of architects, engineers, interior designers, and programmers with many years of experience collaborating on library and community projects that advance equitable and inclusive places.

Over a six-month period, the team's multi-pronged approach is looking at the various locations throughout the library's service areas through multiple lenses:

- Peer Research
- Engagement
- Facility Assessment
- Community Context

All of these inputs were woven together to formulate the Facility Feasibility Study recommendations and framework.

INPUTS



PEER RESEARCH

Comparisons to peer library facilities, community health data, and national best practices.



ENGAGEMENT

Community needs and priorities are being identified through engagement with over 400 residents, 34 library staff and dozens of service providers who are participating in focus groups, one-on-one interviews, advisory meetings and surveys.



FACILITIES ASSESSMENT

Assessments of building conditions, staff interviews, existing programming and circulation.



COMMUNITY CONTEXT

Spatial analysis of the surrounding site, community-wide capital investments, and population trends.

“Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life.”

- Sidney Sheldon

INTRODUCTION

Warsaw is changing. As medical and research facilities continue to attract workers from all reaches of the globe, and economic development grows, this small city situated off IN-30 is seeing rapid growth and evolution. Pairing this change with the history and culture of small-town America creates opportunities for tension, but also for great beauty and collaboration.

Understanding the unique reality of today’s Warsaw, as well as Kosciusko County, is integral in planning how the Warsaw Community Public Library can meet the changing needs of the community. The Facility Feasibility Study builds on the library’s previous work and national best practices to inform a new and modified approach to service delivery.

In response to in-depth community engagement, the study attempts to define a framework that can exist as a fluid planning tool for WCPL as it explores the most effective ways to serve the community. It explores the library’s community context by leveraging the city’s strengths as a backdrop to how the library anchors its service area and community. Over a six-month period, the planning team looked at the library through multiple lenses:

PEER RESEARCH: Research, interviews and lessons learned from library systems across the United States informed best practices, service gaps, and growth areas.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: A layered community engagement process mobilized local stakeholders to identify public priorities for library facilities. Community input informed the equitable design and development of programmatic interventions, spaces and service models that optimize facility use and respond to resident needs.








FACILITY ASSESSMENT: Facility assessments and the evaluation of existing conditions informed a roadmap for implementation. Decision-making criteria will allow WCPL to assess and prioritize various development options by considering community need, cost, feasibility, and impact.

COMMUNITY CONTEXT: A study of the city’s social and physical context highlighted areas of high vulnerability, city growth trends and capital investment patterns, to identify areas of concern that should be addressed by the library through outreach, programs, and services.

All these inputs were woven together to formulate the Facility Feasibility Study framework into a strategy focused on positioning WCPL as an efficient and effective platform for engaging and equipping the community with inclusive, innovative, and relevant services without barriers.

PEER COMPARISON

COMPARISON BENCHMARK ANALYSIS – COHORT AVERAGES ONLY (2022)

													
NUMBER OF BUILDINGS		SERVICE POPULATION		TOTAL VISITS PER CAPITA		TOTAL CIRC. PER CAPITA		TOTAL PROGRAMS PER 1K CAPITA		PROGRAM ATT. PER 100 CAPITA		TOTAL PUBLIC PC'S	
National	1.8	LJ Star Lib.	32,664	Indiana	3.1	WCPL	15.3	Indiana	18.2	Regional	38.2	WCPL	38.0
Regional	1.7	Avg. of Cohorts	30,961	WCPL	3.0	Regional	7.9	Regional	17.7	Indiana	34.7	Indiana	36.0
Avg. of Cohorts	1.6	Indiana	30,912	Regional	2.9	Indiana	6.5	Avg. of Cohorts	15.1	National	31.6	Regional	29.0
Indiana	1.5	National	30,482	National	2.5	National	5.4	National	14.9	Avg. of Cohorts	30.1	Avg. of Cohorts	26.6
LJ Star Branches	1.2	WCPL	30,433	Avg. of Cohorts	2.4	Avg. of Cohorts	5.3	WCPL	11.8	WCPL	21.4	National	25.2
WCPL	1.0	Regional	29,784	LJ Star Libraries	1.1	LJ Star Libraries	1.5	LJ Star Libraries	9.8	LJ Star Libraries	16	LJ Star Libraries	16.2

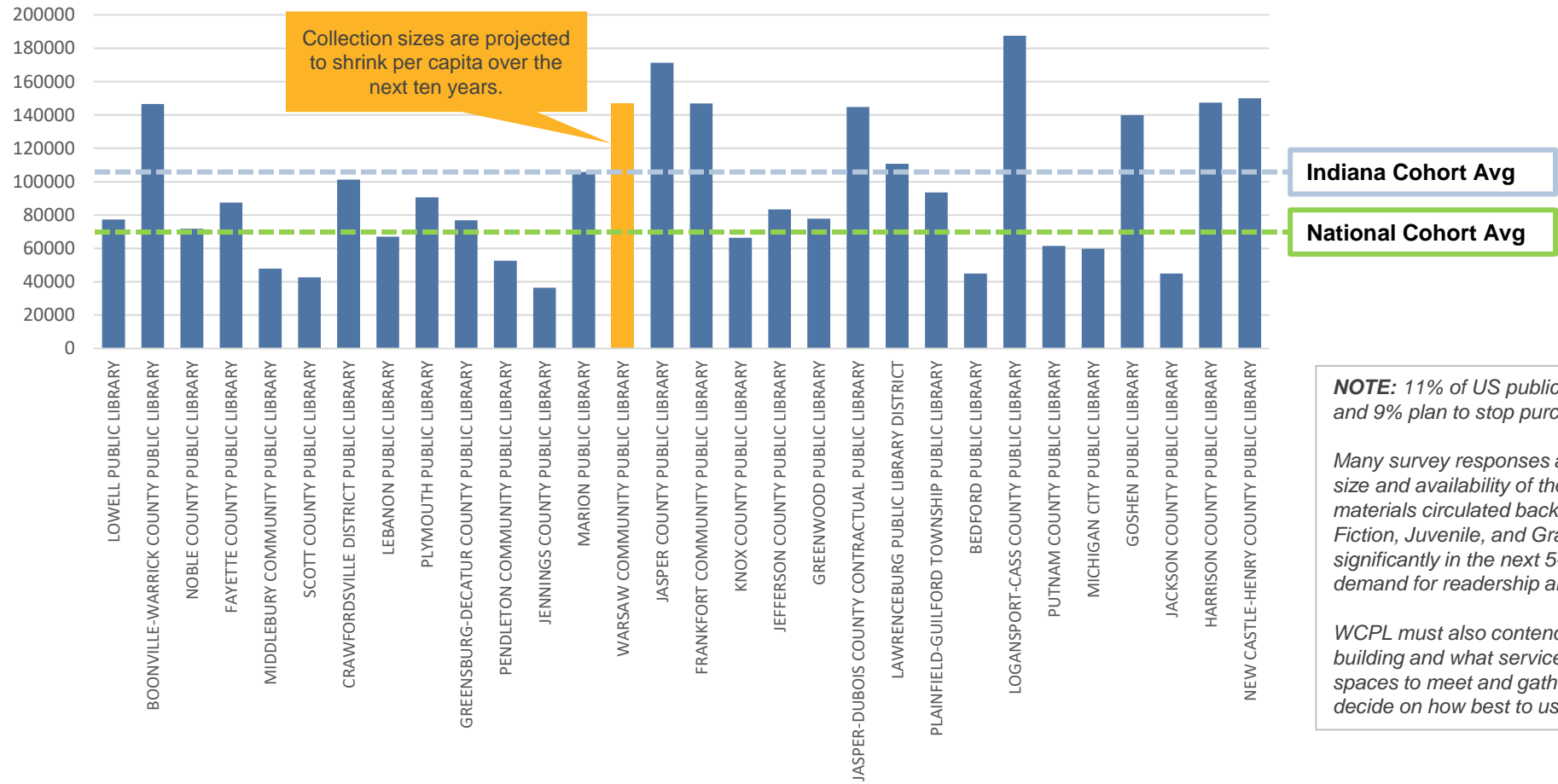
When comparing WCPL to other peer libraries, the library performs on or near par across most categories with a couple notable outliers. WCPL provides a significantly higher circulation number than most other similar sized service areas yet offers fewer programs with lower attendance than those same systems. Digging further into this data, the WCPL Children’s programming is closer to being on par with the cohort systems, but young adult and adult programming is significantly lower by comparison. This programming disparity was fleshed out in our staff interviews as we learned that programming responsibilities have shifted frequently in the last few years. Upgraded programming facilities and dedicated programming staff should see these numbers jump quickly in the coming years.

NOTE: Many peer libraries are singular, county institutions, unlike WCPL which serves Wayne Township in addition to five other libraries serving Kosciusko County. Cohorts were averaged based on service populations +/- 5,000 from WCPL’s service area of 30,433 people.

PEER COMPARISON

COMPARISON BENCHMARK ANALYSIS – COHORT AVERAGES ONLY (2022)

Total Collection Size (2022)



NOTE: 11% of US public libraries plan to stop purchasing audiobooks CDs and 9% plan to stop purchasing music CD within the next two years.

Many survey responses and informal conversations stated how much the size and availability of the WCPL collection was appreciated. The quantity of materials circulated backs this up as well. While some collections like Adult Fiction, Juvenile, and Graphic Novels are not anticipated to shrink significantly in the next 5-10 years, other collections will reduce due to lower demand for readership and better digital alternatives.

WCPL must also contend with the changing nature of the physical library building and what services it is offering an ever-changing world. When spaces to meet and gather in-person are becoming critical, all libraries must decide on how best to use the square footage they have available.

FACILITY ASSESSMENT

LIBRARY SNAPSHOT

1 Building | 1917 Original Carnegie Built | 1998 Building Addition | 43,000 Total Square Feet

The planning team have performed an assessment of the physical spaces as well as the HVAC, plumbing, and electrical systems serving the library building and site. Prior to visiting the building, a 3D scan of the building was completed, and an in-depth review of the 1998 construction documents were conducted. This was followed by interactive visits to the site accompanied by the library staff. During the physical assessment, the facility's systems were observed in operation to document any apparent issues or concerns.

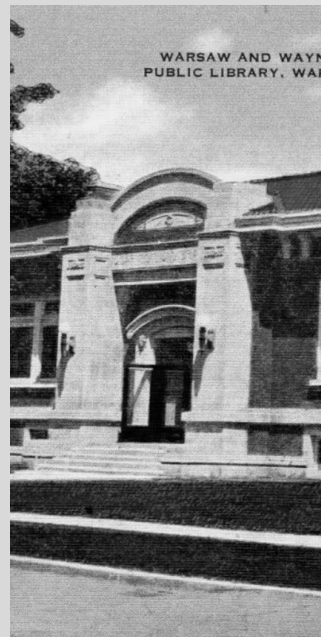
Following this review, a report was identified that summarized the building's systems, documentation of the issues, suggested renovations, probable cost budgets, and suggested prioritization of work.

Key considerations include:

- Aging building infrastructure and systems
- Entry sequence accessibility
- Building operations and efficiency
- Allocation of public / staff spaces

An additional consideration is the value of the facility's location. One metric to measure this is by identifying the building's "Walk Score" – which measures the quantity of amenities adjacent to a specific location. Currently, the WCPL building has a walk score of 77 – positioning it as one of the most walkable public libraries in Indiana.

For more see www.walkscore.com



Walk Score
77

WALKSCORE

- 90-100 Walker's Paradise** (Daily errands do not require a car)
- 70-89 Very Walkable** (Most errands can be accomplished by foot)
- 50-69 Somewhat Walkable** (Some errands accomplished on foot)
- 25-49 Car Dependent** (Most errands require a car)
- 0-24 Car Dependent** (Almost all errands require a car)

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

Warsaw, IN Census Data:

In 2022, Warsaw, IN had a population of 16.5k people with a median age of 33.1 and a median household income of \$57,931. Between 2021 and 2022 the population of Warsaw, IN grew from 15,905 to 16,473, a 3.57% increase and its median household income grew from \$55,295 to \$57,931, a 4.77% increase.

RACE

In 2022, there were 12 times more White (Non-Hispanic) residents (12.9k people) in Warsaw, IN than any other race or ethnicity. There were 1.07k Two+ (Hispanic) and 739 Asian (Non-Hispanic) residents, the second and third most common ethnic groups. 12.1% of the people in Warsaw, IN are Hispanic (1.99k people).

INCOME

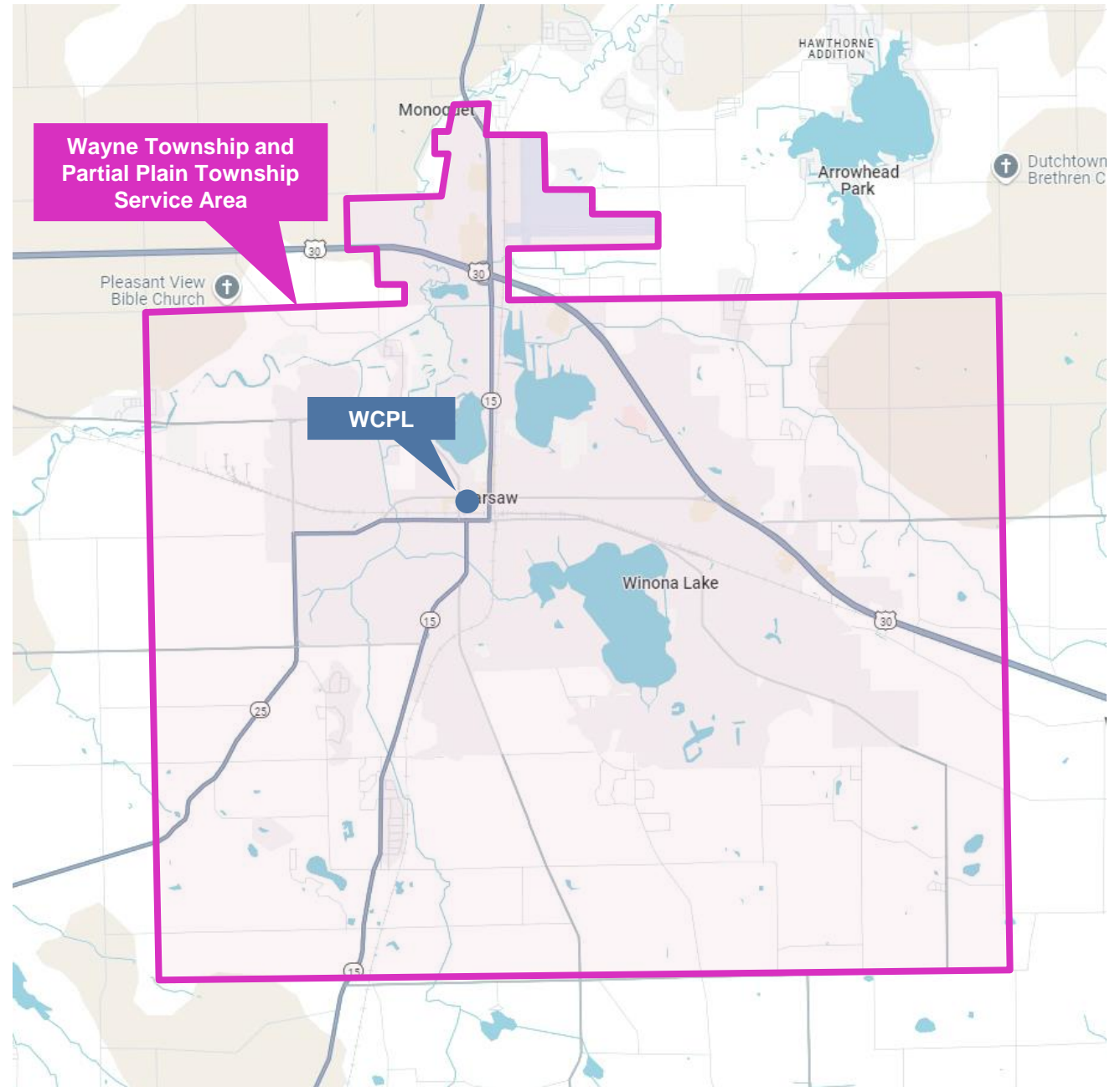
The economy of Warsaw, IN employs 8.48k people. The largest industries in Warsaw, IN are Manufacturing (3,708 people), Accommodation & Food Services (771 people), and Health Care & Social Assistance (705 people), and the highest paying industries are Information (\$54,250), Public Administration (\$49,621), and Manufacturing (\$49,403).

HOUSING & LIVING

The median property value in Warsaw, IN was \$158,900 in 2022, which is 0.564 times smaller than the national average of \$281,900. Between 2021 and 2022 the median property value increased from \$137,200 to \$158,900, a 15.8% increase. The homeownership rate in Warsaw, IN is 49.2%, which is approximately the same as the national average of 64.8%.

People in Warsaw, IN have an average commute time of 15.7 minutes, and they drove alone to work. Car ownership in Warsaw, IN is approximately the same as the national average, with an average of 2 cars per household.

In 2023, 9.36% of the population was living with severe housing problems in Kosciusko County, IN. From 2014 to 2023, the indicator declined 2.24%.



COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

Communities that invest in infrastructures to promote active living – such as bike paths, walkability, and public libraries – have residents with better well-being and health outcomes. Research shows that racial and socioeconomic well-being inequities require specific infrastructures (including digital infrastructures like broadband access) and policies to mitigate disparities in health outcomes.

Accordingly, a best-in-class approach to community transformation will deploy interventions across people, policies, and places to optimize the “life radius”—the environments in which people live, work, and play. Informed by community input and driven by a representative local steering committee, an effective community blueprint executes neighborhood-level strategies to address risk across the social determinants of health and achieve health equity and sustainability. Through a combined high-touch and high-tech approach to community transformation, individuals can engage in both their own health journeys daily—as well as that of others in their communities—improving wellbeing through encouragement, empathy, and shared goals.

Based on over 5 million surveys collected since 2008 and nearly 500,000 surveys collected in 2022, the **Sharecare Well-Being Index** is one benchmark of our nation’s health, enabling states and communities to understand health risks and opportunities across domains such as physical and financial resilience, social and community context, and everyday purpose.

Measured on a scale of 0 to 100, with 100 representing the greatest possible well-being, the nation’s average Sharecare Community Well-Being Index score for 2022 was 60.7, suggesting year-to-year stability from the 2021 Index average of 60.9.

*SOURCE: www.wellbeingindex.sharecare.com

WELL-BEING INDEX

	Kosciusko County	U.S. (2020)	Difference
Well-Being Index Score	63.0	61.4	+1.6
Purpose	61.0	58.6	+2.4
Social	58.8	59.1	-0.3
Financial	66.4	64.1	+2.3
Physical	61.2	61.4	-0.2
Community	66.7	61.7	+5.0

Overview:

Overview: In partnership with Boston University School of Public Health (BUSPH), anchored in their Biostatistics and Epidemiology Data Analytics Center

(BEDAC), the Sharecare Community Well-Being Index measures well-being domains across physical, financial, social, community, and purpose, as well as social determinant domains across food access, resources, healthcare, economic security, and housing and transportation.

Well-Being Index Categories:

- *Purpose*: Liking what you do each day and being motivated to achieve your goals.
- *Social*: Having support relationships and love in your life.
- *Financial*: Managing your life to increase financial security and reduce stress.
- *Physical*: Having good health and enough energy to get things done daily.
- *Community*: Liking where you live and having pride in your community.

ENGAGEMENT

400+ SURVEYS | 4 COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUPS | 5 STAFF WORKSHOPS

Public Survey Response

TOP SPACE PRIORITIES

- 71% of the respondents felt that readily accessible collections are extremely important to the Library.
- 63% focused on interactive spaces for young children, 59% for accessible parking, and 50% for 24/7 access to library materials.
- Least important are medium to large meeting spaces and outdoor spaces.

KEY DEMOGRAPHIC INFO

- Respondents were geographically spread out across the area by zip codes with 52% from 46580 (South of IN-30), and 27% from 46582 (North of IN-30).
- Age range was well distributed. About 15% of respondents were over 65 years old, 12% were 56-65, 16% were 46-55, 31% were 36-45, 21% were 26-35, and 6% were under the age of 26.

LIBRARY ACTIVITY

- 62% of respondents visit the library once a month or more, 29% visit weekly or more.
- 44% of users typically spend 30 minutes at the library, while 53% spend an hour or more during each visit.

“This library was the reason that I chose to live in Warsaw. It is very important to me.”

-Survey respondent

“Having longer hours on Saturdays so that I can visit with my children, as I am a working parent.”

- Survey respondent

“Front desk employees were extremely helpful and accommodating.”

-Survey respondent

Love the library and the summer reading program. We bring the kids to library every two weeks and are avid readers. Thank you!!

- Survey respondent

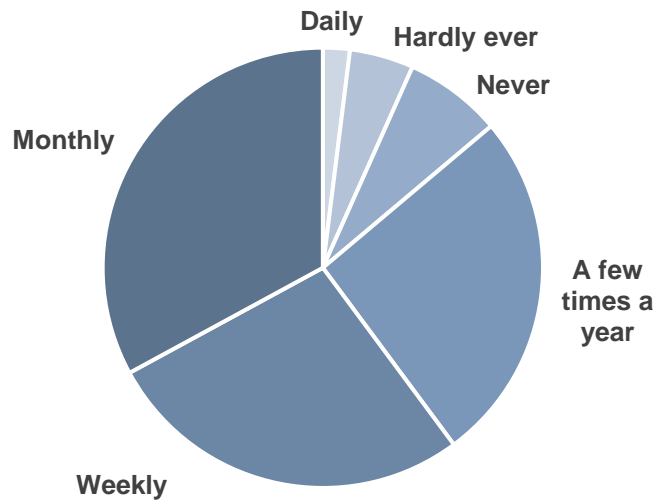
“We love our local library!”

-Survey respondent

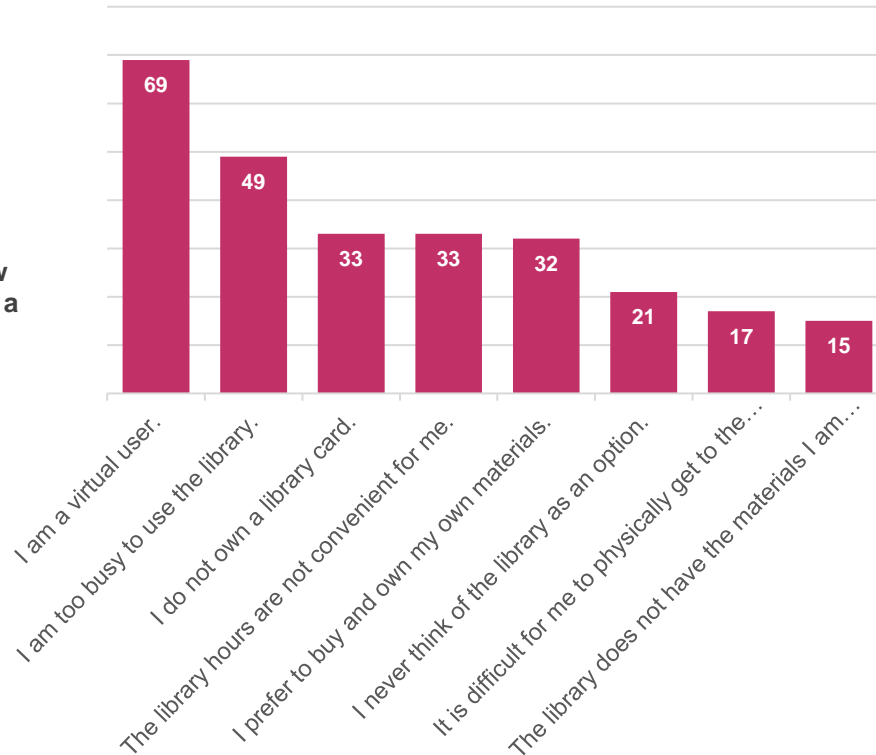
ENGAGEMENT

SYSTEM-WIDE PUBLIC SURVEY RESULTS

How often do you visit the library?



Why do you not visit the library?



87% of survey responders currently have a WCPL library card.

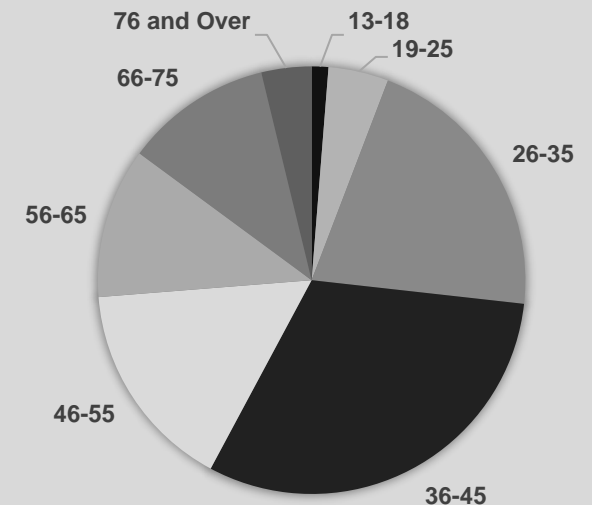
49% of survey responders spend at least one hour at the library.

REASON FOR VISIT

FIND A BOOK/MAGAZINE

- ATTEND A PROGRAM
- FIND DVD, CD, OR AUDIOBOOK
- USE PRINTER/COPIER/FAX
- TO STUDY ALONE
- ATTEND A MEETING
- MEET WITH FRIENDS
- USE WI-FI / COMPUTER
- ACCESS GENEALOGY OR HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

SURVEY RESPONDENT PROFILE (by age)



ENGAGEMENT

SYSTEM-WIDE PUBLIC SURVEY RESULTS

Do you strongly agree or somewhat agree with these statements?

STATEMENT	%
It is an important part of my community.	96.50%
It is clean and well maintained.	95.50%
It is a welcoming and safe place.	95.20%
Parking is readily available.	94.70%
Staff are knowledgeable and helpful.	94.20%
The library location is convenient for me.	92.20%
It has adequate space for my needs.	91.40%
It is a physically comfortable place to visit.	90.90%
The collection is adequate for my needs.	87.20%
It is easy to navigate.	85.60%
The library is easily accessible.	85.20%
It has up-to-date technology.	81.30%
The library has adequate space for the community.	78.50%
The open hours are adequate for my needs.	76.00%

What parts of the library are extremely or somewhat important?

STATEMENT	%
Access to collection material	94.10%
Accessible parking	93.40%
Interactive spaces for children 0-12	83.30%
Interactive spaces for Teens 13-18	79.90%
24/7 access to library materials	76.60%
Technology access	76.40%
Good pedestrian or bike access	71.10%
Sustainable, energy-efficient buildings	68.50%
Digital creative spaces/makerspace	66.40%
Study rooms for 1-4 people	63.00%
Large meeting rooms for 20+ people	57.30%
Outdoor spaces	51.40%
Medium-sized meeting rooms for 10-20 people	45.90%

ENGAGEMENT

400+ SURVEYS | 4 COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUPS | 5 STAFF WORKSHOPS

Staff Survey Response

TOP SPACE PRIORITIES

- Staff responses were accurate in matching the public survey sentiment that top priorities for library building features are a readily accessible collection, interactive spaces for young children, and accessible parking.
- Staff surveys rated technology access and small study rooms at a higher priority than the public surveys. This discrepancy likely correlates to the quantity of questions and conversations that staff have with patrons that don't directly relate to survey questions. There was a common thread in staff interviews that noted the sheer quantity of technology help inquiries at the reference desk and frequent complaints or requests for small, quiet study spaces in an otherwise open building.

LOOKING FORWARD

- Librarians are experts at making the most of the buildings in which they work. Squeezing every drop of usefulness out of every square foot. One of our questions to the staff asked them to think through what new services, events, and programs they wish to provide (but currently cannot) at the current library.
 - Responses for services ranged from electric vehicle charging stations to technology assistance to a dedicated teen librarian to engage this currently underserved group.
 - Programming goals included outdoor events, science demonstrations, adult education, teen programs, and STEAM / makerspaces.

“Storytime is very successful, and the painting always seems to be a hit too. I wish we could find activities for teens that would bring them in.”

-Staff respondent

“The children's programming is outstanding. Lots of options and many loyal attenders. I love that Dana goes to nursing homes, and there is a home bound service for materials as well. I wish we were able to provide more safe spaces for neurodivergent patrons, especially children. Calming room maybe - I'd love to see some sensory bins be made available for check out.

- Staff respondent



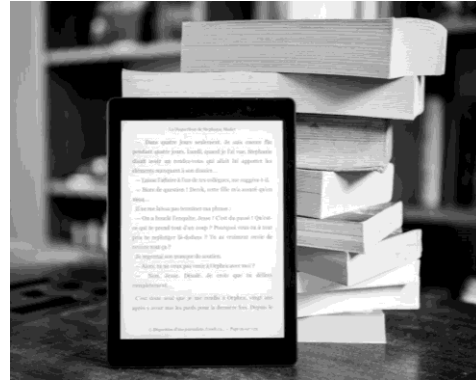
STRATEGIC APPROACH

The WCPL 2021-2025 Strategic Plan outlines three key goals for the system to prioritize in the coming years – each of which offer a unique response for the library as they continue to serve the needs and opportunities found in their local communities. These priorities were validated through a variety of surveys, interviews, workshops, and staff discussions.



1. REIMAGINE PHYSICAL SPACE

- Modernize the library to make it bright, comfortable and barrier free.
- Streamline in-house access to materials and services and enrich face-to-face engagement and hands on opportunities.



2. EXPAND VIRTUAL PRESENCE

- Provide instant 24/7 access to a wide array of digital materials, original content and virtual programs available on multi-platforms from anywhere.
- Develop an online presence that creates an engaging library experience.



3. CULTIVATE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Reinvent library outreach throughout the community.
- Strengthen community ties through engagement and partnerships.



"To ask why we need libraries at all, when there is so much information available elsewhere, is about as sensible as asking if roadmaps are necessary now that there are so very many roads."

- Jon Bing

FACILITY PLAN FRAMEWORK

The framework for this study provides system-wide recommendations and location-specific strategies that look to enhance the multiple ways people use libraries today and creates a flexible roadmap for adapting to future changes.

Libraries have a proven positive impact on the daily lives of patrons much beyond a traditional exchange and absorption of knowledge. A recent Pew Research study found that Americans believe libraries help them in the following ways:

- 65% say libraries help them grow as people.
- 49% think libraries help them focus on things that matter in their lives.
- 43% believe libraries help them cope with a busy world.
- 38% say libraries help them cope with a world where it's hard to get ahead.
- 27% think libraries help them protect their personal data from online thieves.

Facility-wide recommendations present pathways to increase the reach and impact the building and provide tangible action steps. Together, they serve as a prioritized framework for future investment that builds on the existing strengths and help transform the library into a driver of equity and opportunity throughout the city.

As outlined in The Aspen Institute's report, *Rising to the Challenge: Re-Envisioning Public Libraries*, in an increasingly virtual world, physical library places are community assets. They:

ESTABLISH PERSONAL CONNECTIONS that help define community needs and interests

PROVIDE AN ANCHOR for economic development and neighborhood revitalization

STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY IDENTITY in ways that yield significant return on investment, including drawing people together for diverse purposes

PROVIDE A SAFE AND TRUSTED LOCATION for community services such as health clinics, emergency response centers, small business incubators, workforce development centers, and immigrant resource centers

CREATE CONNECTING PLACES in new locations that draw people together—shopping malls, big box stores, airports, and mobile buses

THE VALUE PROPOSITION OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The emerging value proposition of the public library is built around three key assets – *people, place* and *platform*. *

PEOPLE. The public library is a hub of civic engagement, fostering new relationships and strengthening the human capital of the community. Librarians are actively engaged in the community. They connect individuals to a vast array of local and national resources and serve as neutral conveners to foster civic health, facilitating learning for children and adults alike.

PLACE. The public library is a welcoming space for a wide range of purposes—reading, communicating, learning, playing, meeting, and getting business done. Its design recognizes that people are not merely consumers of content but creators and citizens as well. Its physical presence provides an anchor for economic development and neighborhood revitalization and helps to strengthen social bonds and community identity. The library is also a virtual space where individuals can gain access to information, resources, and all the rich experiences the library offers. In the creative design of its physical and virtual spaces the public library defines what makes a great public space.

PLATFORM. The public library is user-centered. It provides opportunities for individuals and the community to gain access to a variety of tools and resources with which to discover and create new knowledge. The platform enables the curation and sharing of the community's knowledge and innovation. A great library platform is a “third place” —an interactive entity that can facilitate many people operating individually and in groups—and supports the learning and civic needs of the community.

***SOURCE:** *Rising to the Challenge: Re-Envisioning Public Libraries*, The Aspen Institute (2014)



“Persistent education and learning are the reality... the library as people, place and platform is the new knowledge institution that can serve all those needs.”

- Lee Rainie

COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELL-BEING

As this value proposition evolves over time within the community, it is a reality that is coupled with the growing research connecting the built environment with neighborhood health and well-being.

Beyond the conventional duty of providing resources and programming, libraries need to strengthen their ability to serve as social hubs for people of all ages and abilities. More precisely, they need to operate as an effective “third place” – the place beyond the realms of (1) home and (2) work. As Ray Oldenburg defined it in his book, *The Great Good Place*, “The third place is a generic designation for a great variety of public spaces that host the regular, voluntary, informal, and happily anticipated gatherings of individuals beyond the realms of home and work.” In embracing the role as a third place, specific attention is given to how the library operates as a gathering place and how the physical structure impacts the health of the neighborhood it looks to support.

A reason public libraries are seen as such important third-place institutions is that they and their librarians have gradually taken on other functions well beyond lending out books. In many communities, librarians are also ad hoc social workers and navigators. They help local people figure out the complexities of life, from navigating the health system to helping those with housing needs. This “go-to” role has influenced library programming and events, with libraries providing advice and connections to health, housing, literacy, and other areas.

Other sectors, such as healthcare, increasingly see public libraries as a critical link to improving community health and well-being. For instance, the National Library of Medicine is helping local librarians to be more effective local navigators by regularly hosting webinars and training sessions for local librarians on how to navigate social services, aging, mental health, welfare and public assistance, housing resources, health care, and employment resources.



PRIORITIZING THE ROLE AS AN ANCHOR INSTITUTION

In many communities, libraries are combining the access and trust characteristics of a third place with a growing interest in eliminating health disparities – using partnerships with other institutions to connect people with services and help. Additionally, through localized initiatives, the role of the modern public library is moving beyond identifying as an information hub or a social node and gravitating towards the necessary function of an *anchor institution*.

“Main Street public libraries became local agents, physical and figurative, through which their communities’ citizens – elite as well as common – accomplished two tasks for local harmony. First, the libraries provided public space to demonstrate and teach social behaviors and responsibilities acceptable to the community. Second, they provided literary space through collections and services that offered models for successful living, problem solving, and an orderly life at the same time they peacefully mediated a set of ever-shifting cultural values constantly influenced by inside and outside forces.”*

Anchor institutions are deeply rooted economic engines in the communities they serve, holding significant social capital. They are often trusted leaders in their communities, well positioned to help lead multi-sector work aimed at eliminating health disparities. By leveraging their economic power, good will, and human resources, anchor institutions can make significant advancements in the promotion of health equity. It’s a role that works to respond to specific and urgent challenges facing many communities – one that will shape the planning, development, and management of public libraries for the next several years.

* Wayne Wiegand, “Main Street Public Library,” *American Libraries Magazine*, September/October 2011, p. 16



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

PLANNING FRAMEWORK

a REIMAGINE PHYSICAL SPACE

Enhance the library's ability to provide **inclusive** places that are accessible and engaging to a variety of people.



b EXPAND VIRTUAL PRESENCE

Leverage evolving technology to improve the patron experience and **equity** relationship with the library.



c CULTIVATE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Strengthen the library's ability to foster **diverse** experiences aimed at successfully engaging the community.



Opportunities

- Upgrade aging infrastructure and building systems
- Redefine the aesthetic brand of interior spaces
- Effective wayfinding and signage.
- Welcoming ADA accessible entry sequence for people of all ages and abilities

- Increase access to physical and digital collection and programming opportunities.
- Modernize collection displays and access to changing focus (i.e., Library of Things)
- Use technology as platform for collaboration (gaming, wi-fi gardens, etc.)

- Flexible meeting and programming rooms.
- Sensory rooms and telehealth capabilities.
- Interactive children's area(s)
- Maker / craft space and modernized programming space.
- Outdoor programming spaces.

FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

In response to the existing facility assessments and guiding principles, a series of facility recommendations were developed for the current building. These recommendations range from in size and complexity, but all these items should be considered when planning capital improvements.



FACILITY ACCESSIBILITY

The current site and building have accessibility issues that create barriers for patrons with limited mobility. Addressing these components will require more extensive construction. Goals would be to increase access and safety from the parking lot and optimizing the main entry sequence to reduce elevator rides and simplify access to both levels of the building.



ACCESS TO COLLECTION

The library currently offers robust collection, but access can always be improved. Interventions ranging from additional (multilingual) signage to reorganization of collection(s) to improve the acoustical zoning of the library will offer better spaces for social interaction and more intuitive access to the collection.



PUBLIC & STAFF SPACES

Like most building of a similar age, staff and support spaces have evolved over time – offering inefficient use of space. By consolidating these spaces, the building can reallocate some of that space to public usage for functions ranging from study rooms to lounge areas. Staff spaces would be organized for efficiency while retaining enough work surfaces to handle the volume of work undertaken by staff.



UTILITY REPLACEMENT

Most of the existing mechanical, electrical, and plumbing equipment in the building is at or past its expected life. While contingency plans for immediate repairs can be identified, the strategic approach to the building's infrastructure should consider a complete replacement of the buildings primary systems in the near future to ensure the continued operation of the building.

FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Specific recommendations celebrate the legacy, culture, and challenges facing a facility and recognize that investments will be carried out incrementally over time. The different strategies provide flexibility and information to seek out additional funds for specific projects, as well as direct funds as they become available in a systematic and equitable manner.

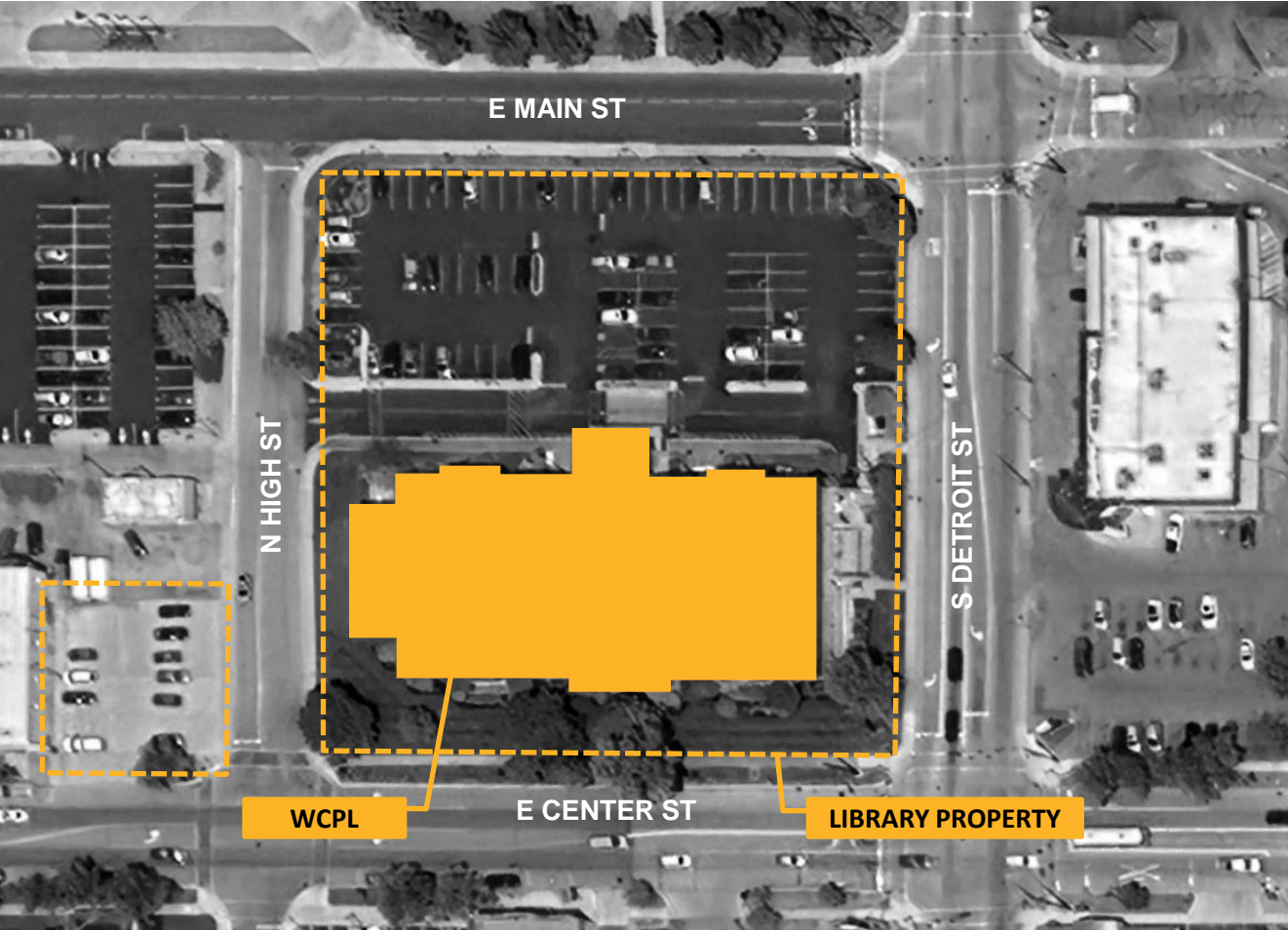
URGENT NEEDS: Urgent needs define critical strategic investments that can be made at moderate costs (\$150,000 - \$500,000) but must occur within the immediate future. They can dramatically increase building functionality, reduce maintenance and operational costs, and increase sustainable longevity of the facility.

COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY: The comprehensive strategy identifies a singular project that could collectively reorganize and renovate the existing building (including an entire replacement of the existing building infrastructure) to address the entirety of the facility needs – accommodating building systems AND operational inefficiency simultaneously.

The recommendations provided by this analysis will present a series of strategies for the facility. However, these recommendations will not be mutually exclusive. While modest investments can be allocated to solve a variety of localized issues within the building, a larger investment will be needed to address the growing needs of the facility. If the Library has the ability to embrace a more “comprehensive strategy,” these initial efforts can be replaced with a singular project absorbing the defined strategies into a larger effort.



WCPL CURRENT FACILITY



310 E Main St, Warsaw, IN 46580

----- Building/Site

LOT SIZE: 1.8 Acres
BLDG SIZE: 43,003 SF (2 STORY)



WCPL CURRENT FACILITY

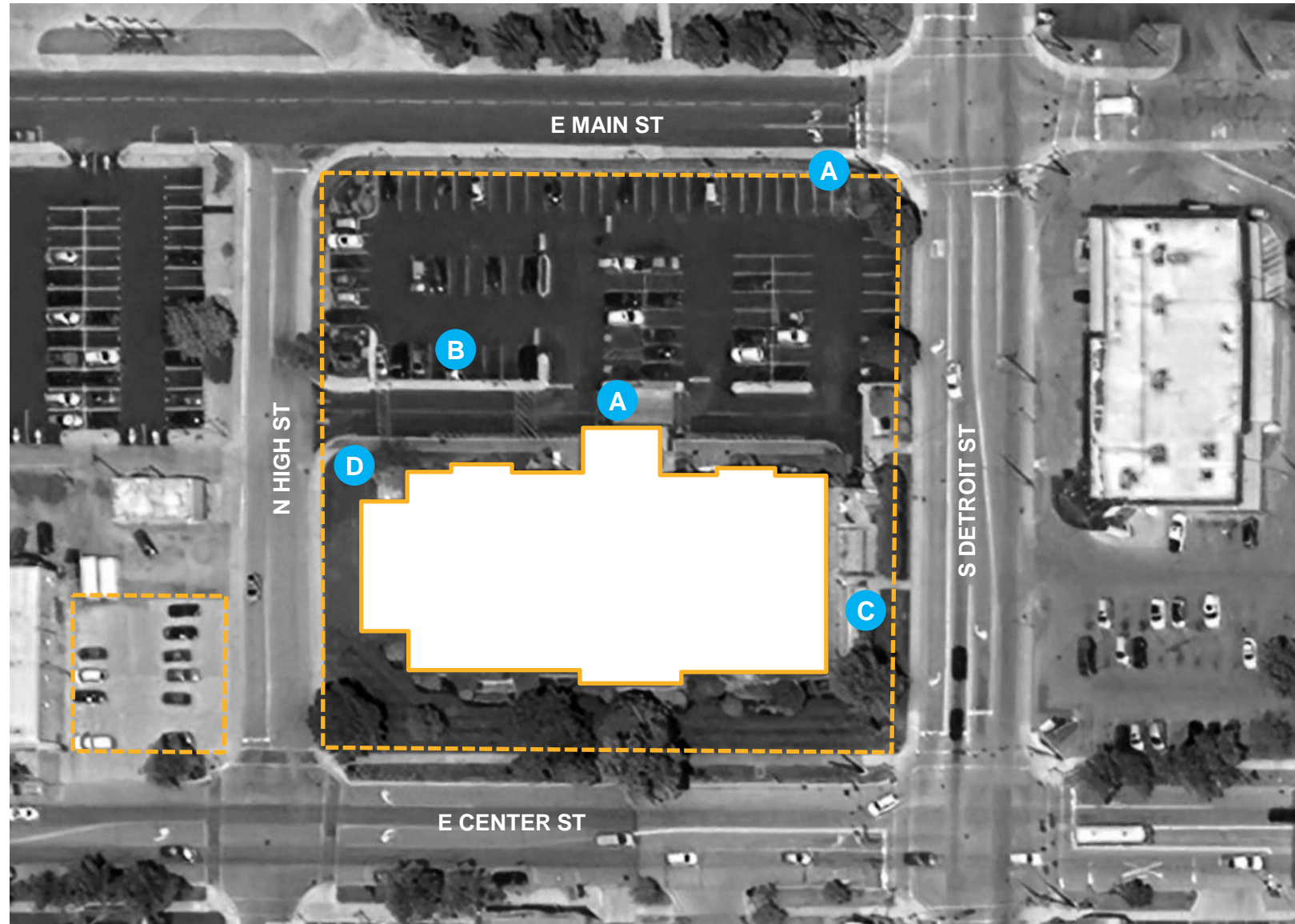


WCPL EXISTING CONDITIONS

BUILDING SITE

KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

- A. **ENTRY SEQUENCE:** The current path of entry from the surrounding sidewalks to the parking lot and from the parking lot to the building are not optimized for current and future use. There is limited opportunities for visitors with various mobility impairments or those with strollers must navigate around the site perimeter to reach one of two accessible points of entry. The area of entry directly outside the main doors is located near the vehicular traffic at the entry drive, which raises concerns for the safety of patrons.
- B. **PARKING LOT LAYOUT:** The layout of the existing parking lot creates congestion at the single point of entry when delivery vehicles or patrons dropping off books park in the entry drive. The accessible spaces are located on the wrong side of the entry drive meaning that those patrons needing to use these spaces must cross the main vehicular traffic of the parking lot. The current number of parking spaces is not sufficient to hold a maximum capacity for large meetings and events that the library holds. The site is landlocked, and additional parking spaces would only be made available if adjacent lots can flex availability during off-hours.
- C. **RAMP ENTRY:** The existing east ramp entry to the Lower Level follows an unapproachable route from the parking lot to the building entry. While the ramp likely met accessibility requirements at the time of construction, the path to reach it partially runs along Detroit St, which feels unsafe to patrons, and continues down a walled ramp with tight turning radiuses before entering the building.
- D. **OUTDOOR PROGRAMMING:** The library is currently not able to offer consistent outdoor programming for patrons, especially children, due to the lack of connection from interior to exterior and the lack of purposefully designed exterior spaces. The lawn and landscaping are very well maintained, but do not offer meaningful places to gather.

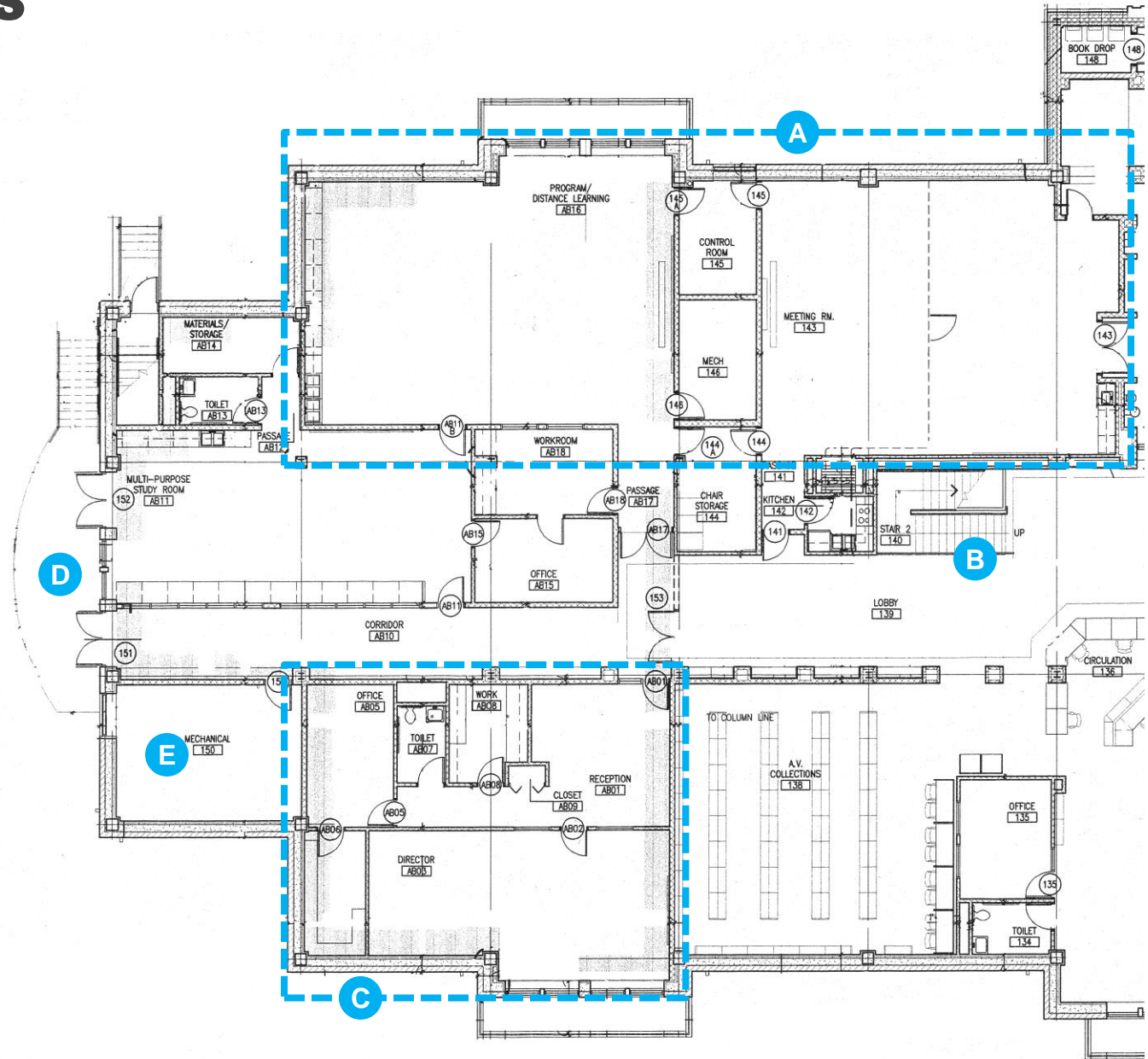


WCPL EXISTING CONDITIONS

LOWER LEVEL

KEY CONSIDERATIONS: LL WEST

- A. **MEETING ROOMS:** The current meeting rooms in the Lower Level can accommodate medium sized programs, but they cannot be joined to create a space large enough to host the large events the library wants to program. The east meeting room can be divided with an operable wall, but it is no longer used.
- B. **OPEN STAIRCASE:** Due to the current arrangement at the building's main entry, an internal staircase was built between levels as the public path of vertical travel alongside the internal elevator. This open staircase creates issues with noise traveling between levels and difficulty controlling temperature as the conditioned air cannot be zoned correctly.
- C. **NON-PUBLIC SPACES:** The current organization of non-public spaces within the building needs to be consolidated for the current staff and modern librarianship. Offices, departments, workstations and general workspaces are disconnected from each other and have become disorganized since the previous interior construction occurred over the years.
- D. **OUTDOOR PROGRAMMING:** The west entry to the building is currently used as a staff entry point. This area appears to have originally been intended as a programmable outdoor meeting area, but it has not been used this way in recent years.
- E. **MEP DEFERRED MAINTENANCE:** See the included exhibit for the scope of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing work needed to be included in any upcoming capital projects.



WCPL EXISTING CONDITIONS LOWER LEVEL

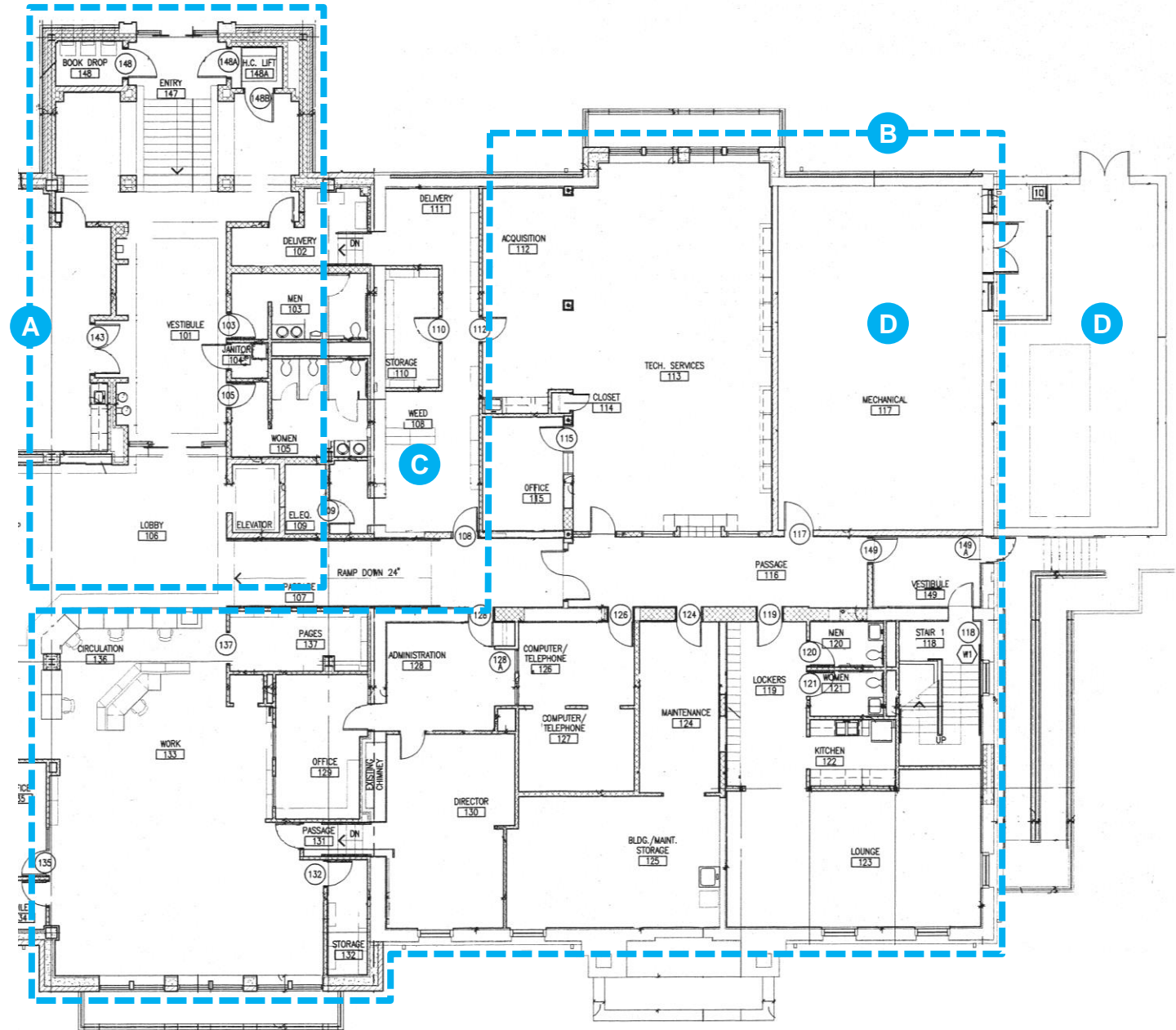


WCPL EXISTING CONDITIONS

LOWER LEVEL

KEY CONSIDERATIONS: LL EAST

- A. **BUILDING ENTRY:** The entry sequence into the building is one of the most glaring issues in the building as it relates to the patron experience. Once patrons have entered the outer doors, they can either use the small lift or a set of stairs to descend to the Lower Level. Once there, patrons then must use a second staircase or elevator to get to the Upper Level. Besides being overly complicated, this poses a safety issue for patrons to understand how and where to evacuate in the case of an emergency.
- B. **NON-PUBLIC SPACES:** The current organization of non-public spaces within the building needs to be consolidated for the current staff and modern librarianship. Offices, departments, workstations and general workspaces are disconnected from each other and have become disorganized since the previous interior construction occurred over the years.
- C. **FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY (“FOL”):** The FOL bookstore in its current arrangement is outgrowing its allocated space. It also faces difficulty in having a public facing presence for patrons to know when the bookstore is open. Alternative methods for display and sale should be considered.
- D. **MEP DEFERRED MAINTENANCE:** See the included exhibit for the scope of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing work needed to be included in any upcoming capital projects.



WCPL EXISTING CONDITIONS

LOWER LEVEL



WCPL EXISTING CONDITIONS

UPPER LEVEL

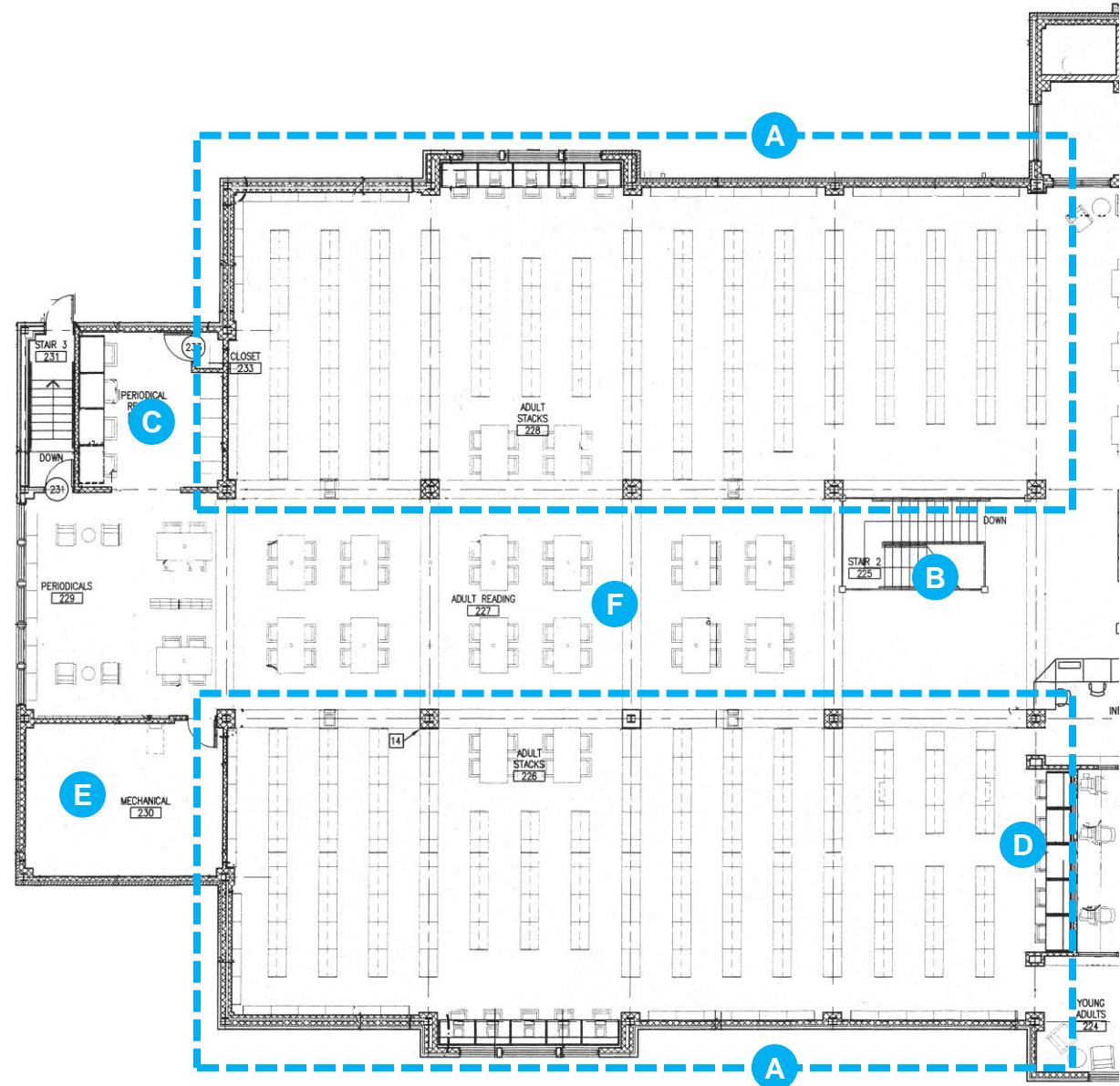


WCPL EXISTING CONDITIONS

UPPER LEVEL

KEY CONSIDERATIONS: UL WEST

- A. **PHYSICAL BOOK COLLECTION:** The WCPL currently has one of the largest per capita physical collections in the region, surpassing the Indiana average of service area cohorts. Future library trends show physical collections of some genres decreasing significantly as more and more patrons access digital collections. Considerations should be made for future capital projects to envision how the library should allocate their limited floor area between study collections, open lounge space, meeting rooms, and study rooms.
- B. **OPEN STAIRCASE:** Due to the current arrangement at the building's main entry, an internal staircase was built between levels as the public path of vertical travel alongside the internal elevator. This open staircase creates issues with noise traveling between levels and difficulty controlling temperature as the conditioned air cannot be zoned correctly.
- C. **STORAGE SPACES:** Storage of holiday items, carts, and seldom used display pieces tend to accumulate slowly but steadily over the years. Large renovation projects provide a helpful impetus to sort through items that can be discarded.
- D. **DESIGNATED TEEN SPACE:** The current teen area is located directly adjacent to the reference desk on the Main Level. While this location offers supervision, it also tends to drive teens to other areas of the building to avoid feeling watched.
- E. **MEP DEFERRED MAINTENANCE:** See the included exhibit for the scope of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing work needed to be included in any upcoming capital projects.
- F. **VAULTED CEILING:** The vaulted ceiling feature has numerous cove lights that are reaching different coloration due to age or have burnt out completely. This architectural feature would benefit from modernization to enhance the beauty of this space.



WCPL EXISTING CONDITIONS

UPPER LEVEL

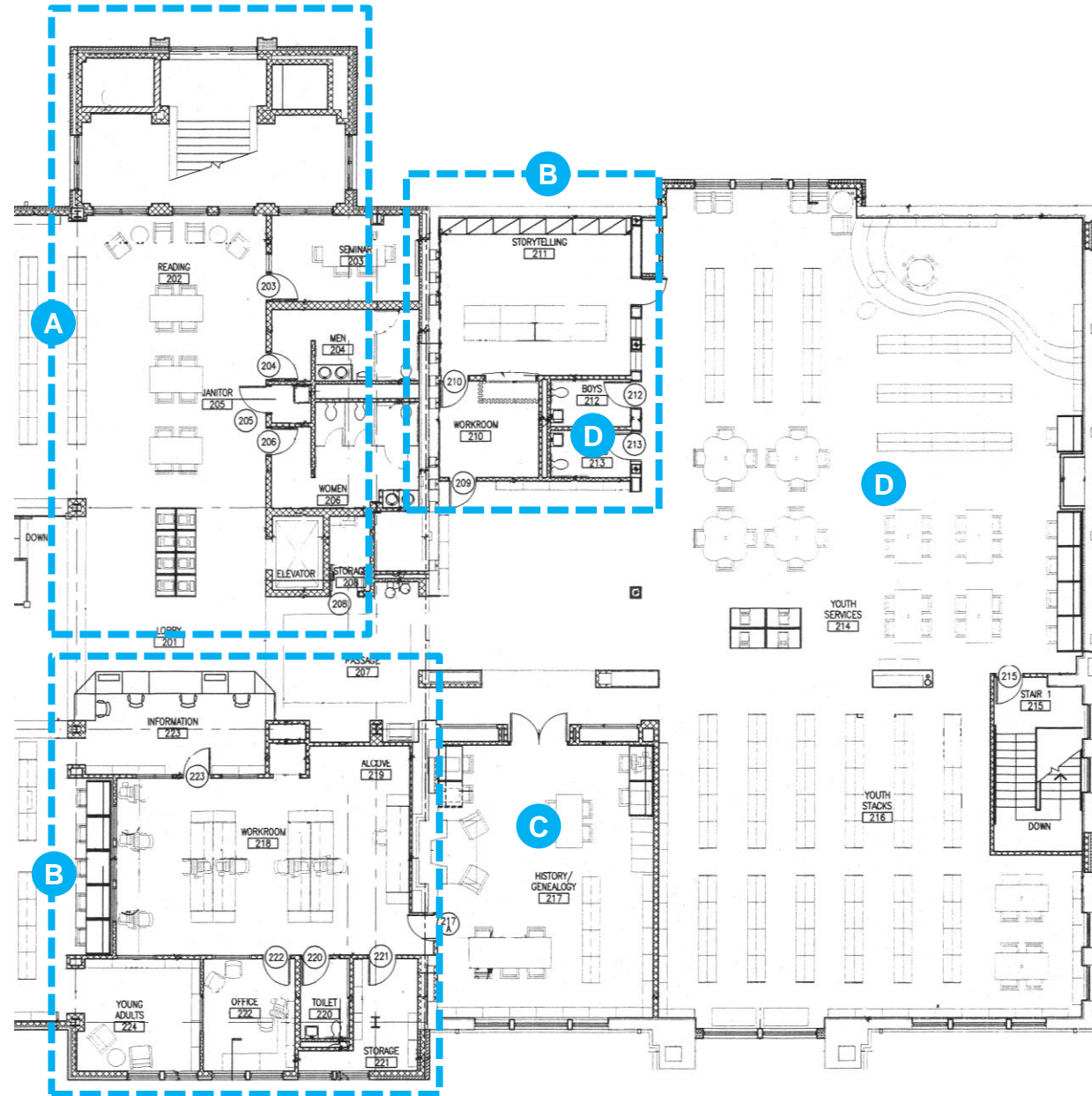


WCPL EXISTING CONDITIONS

UPPER LEVEL

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- A. BUILDING ENTRY:** The entry sequence into the building is one of the most glaring issues in the building as it relates to the patron experience. Once patrons have entered the outer doors, they can either use the small lift or a set of stairs to descend to the Lower Level. Once there, patrons then must use a second staircase or elevator to get to the Upper Level. Besides being overly complicated, this poses a safety issue for patrons to understand how and where to evacuate in the case of an emergency.
- B. NON-PUBLIC SPACES:** The current organization of non-public spaces within the building needs to be consolidated for the current staff and modern librarianship. Offices, departments, workstations and general workspaces are disconnected from each other and have become disorganized since the previous interior construction occurred over the years.
- C. INDIANA ROOM:** The Indiana Room is minimally used. Regardless, the items in the collection and on display are still historically significant and are accessed occasionally. The library should explore options on making this space flexible in use and accentuate its historical design features.
- D. CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT:** The children's collection has grown since the previous construction project and shelving has been added at the cost of open lounge and study spaces. A storage and work room was added on the east wall when the reference desk moved, and the original "Storytelling Room" has turned into additional staff office space. Any children's program must be hosted in one of the large meeting rooms in the Lower Level, which causes noise disturbances before and after each program event. Neither of the two dedicated restrooms in this area are large enough to fit a changing table, so patrons must walk to the group restrooms at the center of the building to have an actual changing table to use.



WCPL EXISTING CONDITIONS

UPPER LEVEL



WCPL CURRENT FACILITY EXISTING BUILDING SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

PLUMBING SYSTEMS

DOMESTIC WATER

The existing incoming domestic water service is a 2.5-inch line that is connected to a 6-inch water line that is routed into the lower-level mechanical room. The building water supply service is routed through a water meter and backflow preventer and then is routed through the building for connection to the multiple water heaters and plumbing fixtures. The building domestic water distribution system piping throughout the building utilizes copper piping. While there is hot water recirculation piping with 3-way mixing valves for the boilers, there are no in-line booster pumps to help circulate the hot water.

FIRE PROTECTION

The building is equipped with a combination dry and wet pipe sprinkler system. A 6-inch line enters the mechanical room and is routed through a backflow preventer. Sprinkler piping is then routed through the building to provide total building protection. The wet pipe system provides sprinkler protection for the basement and the dry pipe system provides sprinkler protection for the second floor and attic. The current system is shows signs of corrosion and is recommended to be replaced.

SANITARY

The building is served by a 6-inch below slab PVC sanitary waste pipe that exits the building underground on the northeast side of the building. All aboveground sanitary waste piping that was observed at the time of the site visit was PVC piping.

COPPER PIPING

For design purposes, a conservative service life for copper pipe is assumed to be 20 years, with an actual service life of 30 to 40 years. Service life varies based on the amount of corrosion erosion and mineral build up in the piping due to the quality of the water. A majority of the copper piping appears to be the originally installed pipe from 1996, and thus the domestic water piping is roughly 28 years old. In general, all the insulation on the domestic piping is either missing or in poor condition and needs replaced. Recommend removal and replacement of the domestic water piping and insulation.

MECHANICAL SYSTEMS

HVAC

The existing heating and cooling system consists of multiple heating/cooling zones throughout the building in which each zone is conditioned by a dedicated air handling terminal unit that is provided with a chilled/hot water coil for space conditioning. There are hot water radiant panel (supplemental heating) units installed around the perimeter of the building at the exterior windows. The mechanical exhaust for the building is provided by roof mounted, belt driven fans.

AIR HANDLERS

The building is divided into 4 separate mechanically conditioned zones. Each zone is provided with an air handling unit that is provided with a chilled/hot water heating coil. Valves installed within the chilled/hot water piping open and close upon the call for space cooling/heating needs. Non-conditioned outside fresh air is provided to the spaces through intake louvers and ducted for connection to the return air ductwork for each of the air handlers. Conditioned air is provided by the air handlers and is distributed to the spaces through insulated ductwork and diffusers located above the ceilings in the spaces served. In general, all the insulation on the ductwork and mechanical piping is in poor condition.

CHILLED/HOT WATER PIPING

Chilled/hot water is distributed throughout the building via a 4-pipe distribution layout. Chilled/hot water is pumped throughout the building using two Bell & Gossett model #1510, 2 hp base mounted pumps for hot water heating and two Bell & Gossett model #1510, 5 hp base mounted pumps for chilled water. All pumps and piping located within the Mechanical Room are in bad shape. Exposed metal surfaces are covered with surface rust and corrosion. The chilled/hot water building distribution piping is the original from 1996. In general, all the insulation on the chilled/hot water supply and return piping is either missing or in poor condition and needs replaced. Recommend removal and replacement of all chilled/hot water supply and return piping based upon service life.

OVERALL EXISTING HVAC EQUIPMENT AGE

The American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (ASHRAE) HVAC application guidelines state that the median service life span of the existing Harshman Hall mechanical equipment is as follows:

<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Median Service Life</u>	<u>Existing Equipment Age</u>
Air Handlers	20 years	30 years
Boilers	25 years	30 years
Chiller	20 years	30 years
Terminal box	20 years	30 years
DX, water, steam coil	20 years	30 years
Ductwork	30 years	30 years
Insulation, blanket	24 years	30 years
Pumps, base mounted	20 years	30 years
Radiant Heater, hot water	25 years	30 years
Fan, centrifugal	25 years	30 years
Copper pipe	30 years	30 years
Cast iron pipe	70 years	30 years

The published median life cycle information is not a prediction for guaranteed failure of equipment at a predetermined time, however, should be referenced with caution for the future planning of capital expenses. All existing mechanical equipment within the building that remains from the 1996 building construction, including air handlers, fans, coils, dampers, etc., are past their service life expectancy. According to maintenance personnel, they are all still operating with several exceptions and that the existing units have had extensive maintenance performed on the units in the past.

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

LIGHTING

The existing lighting is all fluorescent lighting with low voltage switching. Which doesn't meet ASHRAE 90.1 standards. All lighting is recommended to be replaced with modern LED lighting equipped with occupancy sensors and new low voltage controls.

SECURITY SYSTEMS

The existing security system software, storage and cameras are old and becoming antiquated.

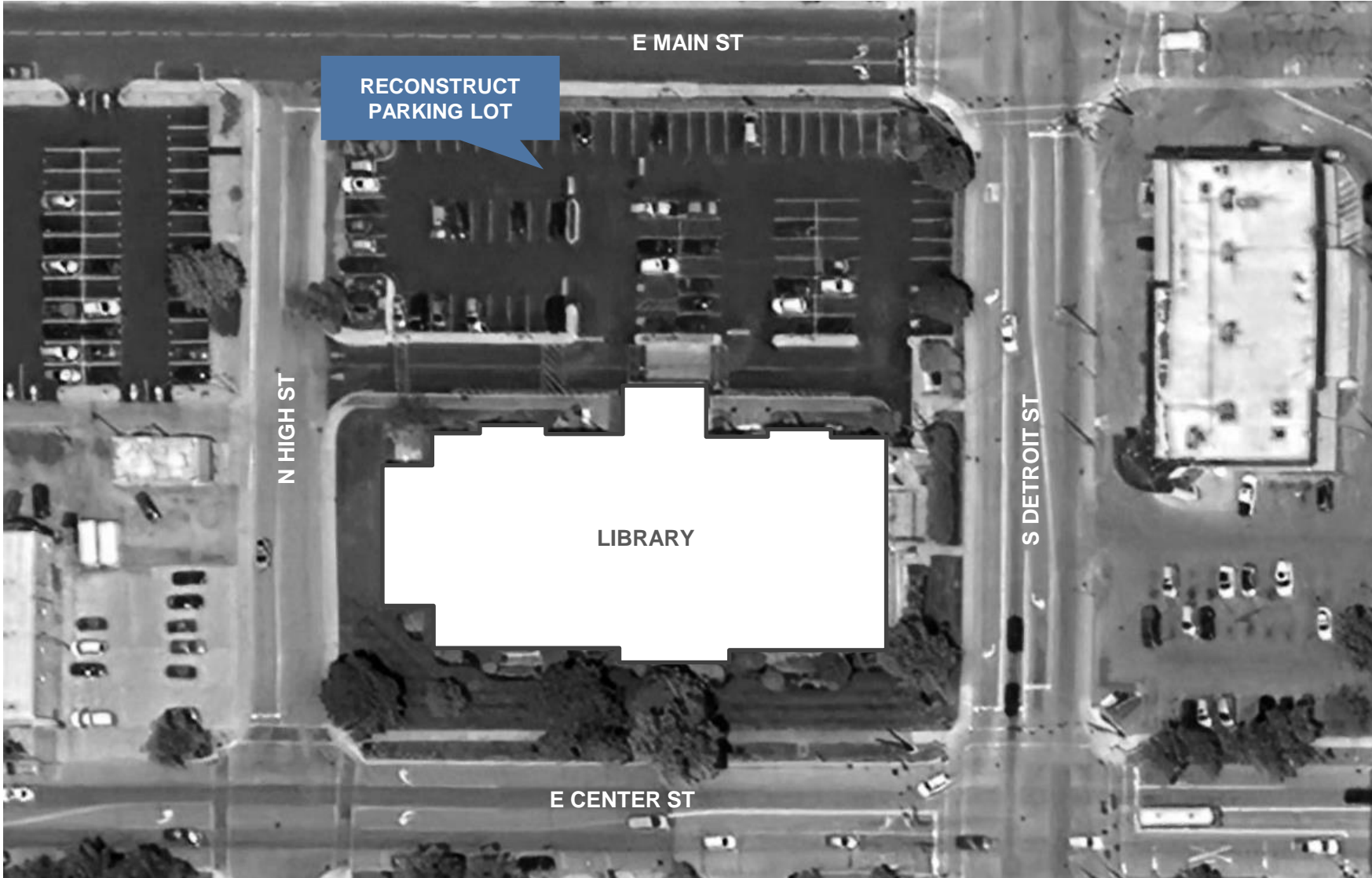
WCPL CURRENT FACILITY

EXISTING BUILDING SYSTEMS



WCPL SCHEMATIC LAYOUT

SITE PLAN



URGENT NEEDS

- Reconstruct and resurface parking lot
- New site lighting throughout campus

WCPL SCHEMATIC LAYOUT

UPPER LEVEL



URGENT NEEDS

- Replace existing lighting with LED fixtures.
- Replace the existing dry and wet sprinkler system throughout the building.
- Replace the chiller and air handling units. Existing piping and ductwork to remain.
- Interior finish updates throughout (as needed).
- Enhance staff areas and workspaces.
- Replace all interior finishes with minimal room modifications.
- Replace aging furniture (as needed).



* STAFF DESK/ACCESS POINT ► POINT OF ENTRY

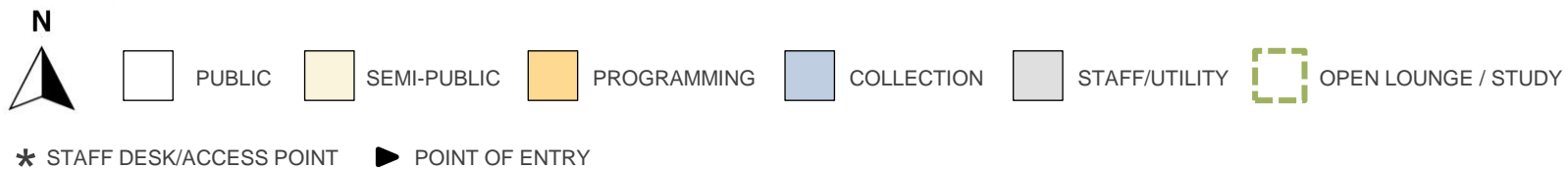
WCPL SCHEMATIC LAYOUT

LOWER LEVEL



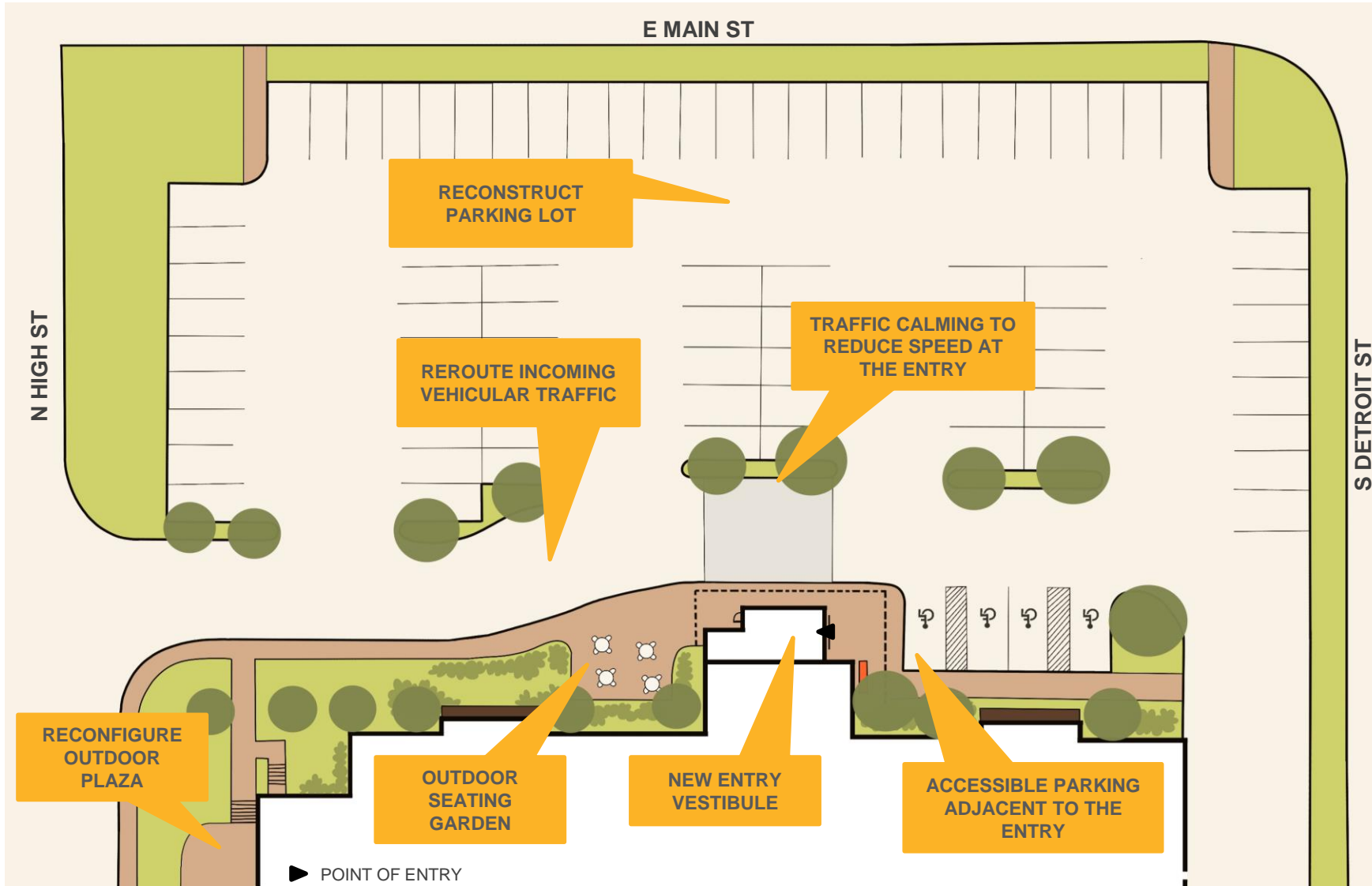
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WCPL SCHEMATIC LAYOUT

SITE PLAN

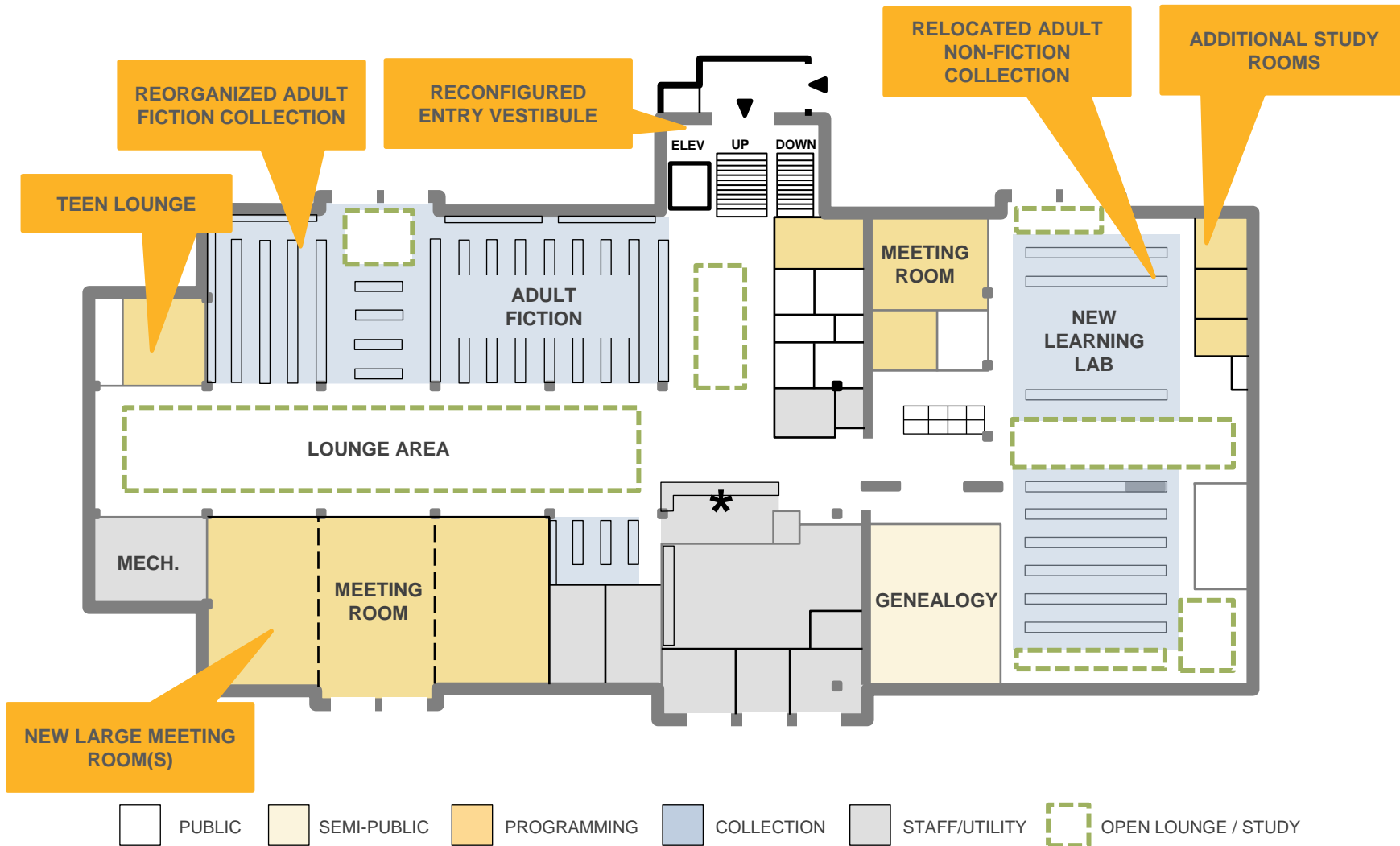


COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY

- Reconstruct and resurface parking lot
- New site lighting throughout campus
- Redesign parking lot layout
 - Reroute incoming vehicular traffic with new drive lane from High Street
 - Retain quantity of spaces
 - Locate accessible parking adjacent to the main entry
 - Create opportunity for an outdoor seating garden
 - Provide new exterior “pick up” lockers for patron access

WCPL SCHEMATIC LAYOUT

UPPER LEVEL



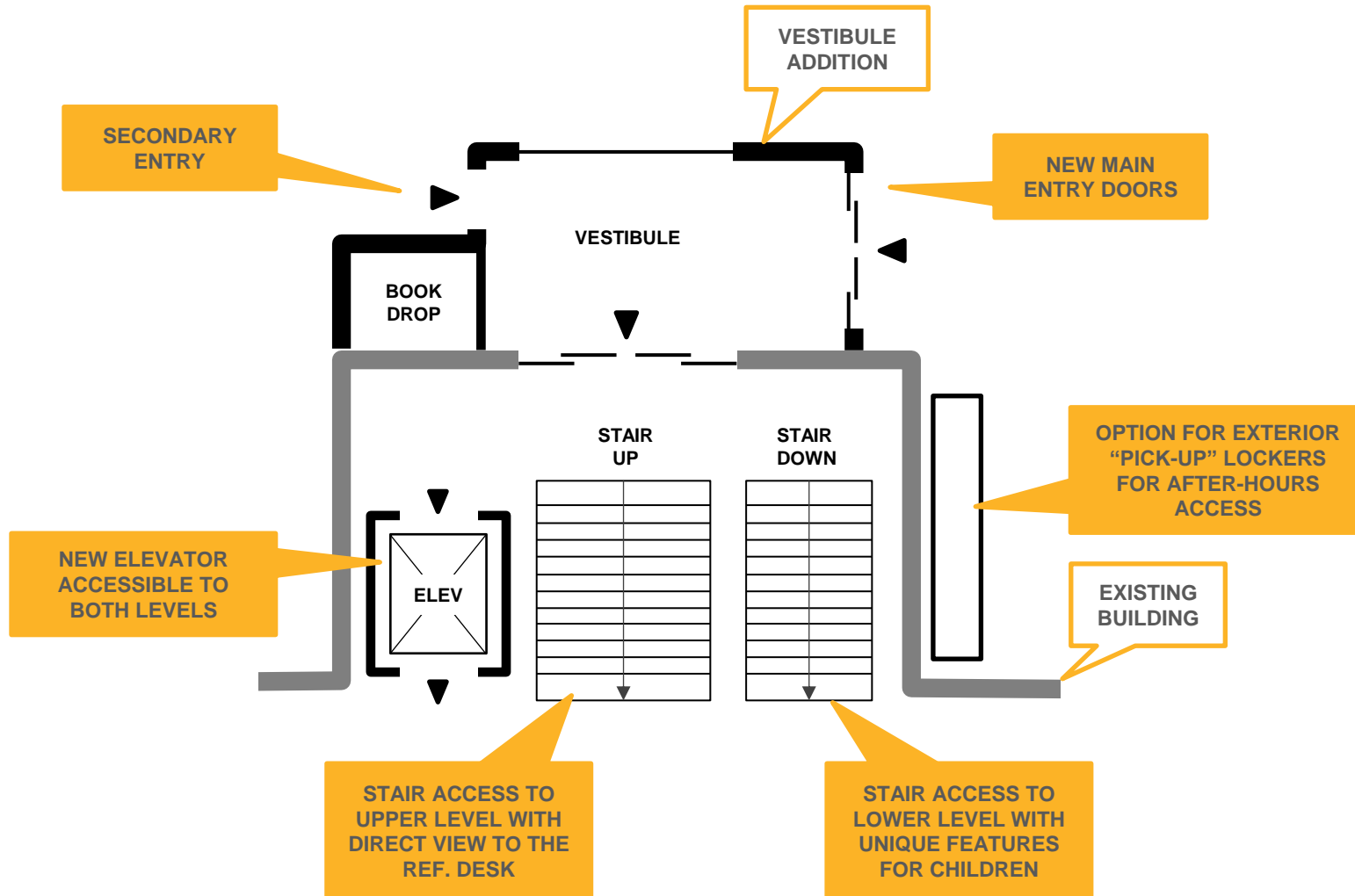
COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY

- Replace all existing building systems infrastructure (mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire suppression).
- Reconfigure entry sequence with new vestibule, public elevator, and stairway.
- Relocate Children's Department to the Lower Level
 - *Right-size and organize total staff spaces*
 - *Increase informal lounge spaces*
 - *Create opportunities for active play and learning*
 - *Provide dedicated programming space*
- Remove internal communicating stair and infill with new floor.
- Relocate Programming and Non-Fiction collection on the Upper Level
 - *Organize Non-Fiction collection adjacent to the existing Indiana Room and create a Learning Lab area within the historic Carnegie footprint*
 - *Position the Large Meeting Room adjacent to high traffic areas to help promote Programming activities*
 - *Designate a formal Teen lounge area*
 - *Formalize strategies for a telehealth room*
 - *Provide formal off-floor storage and public display for Library of Things collection.*

* STAFF DESK/ACCESS POINT ► POINT OF ENTRY

WCPL SCHEMATIC LAYOUT

UPPER LEVEL – Building Entry Detail

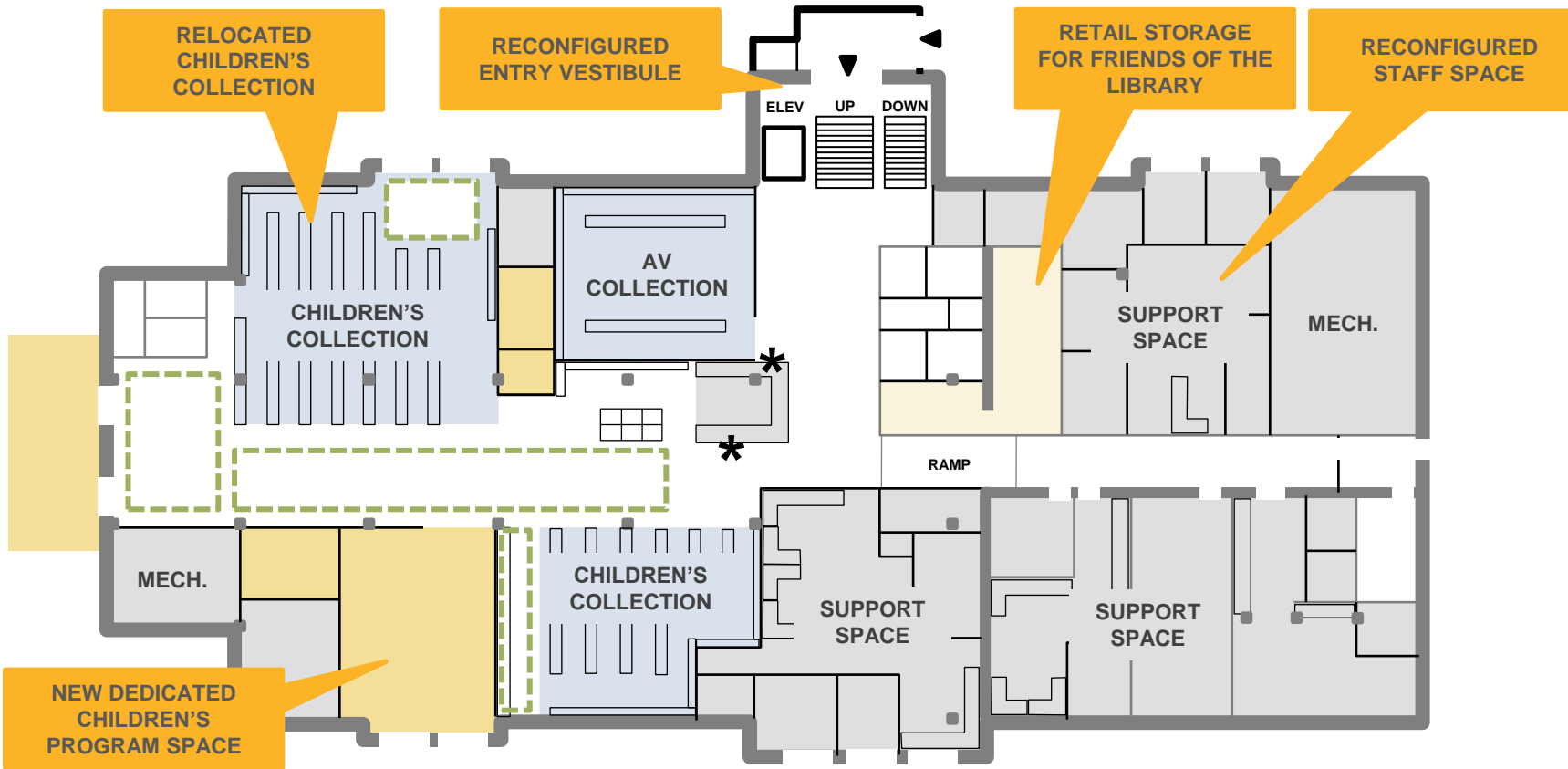


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WCPL SCHEMATIC LAYOUT

LOWER LEVEL



COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY

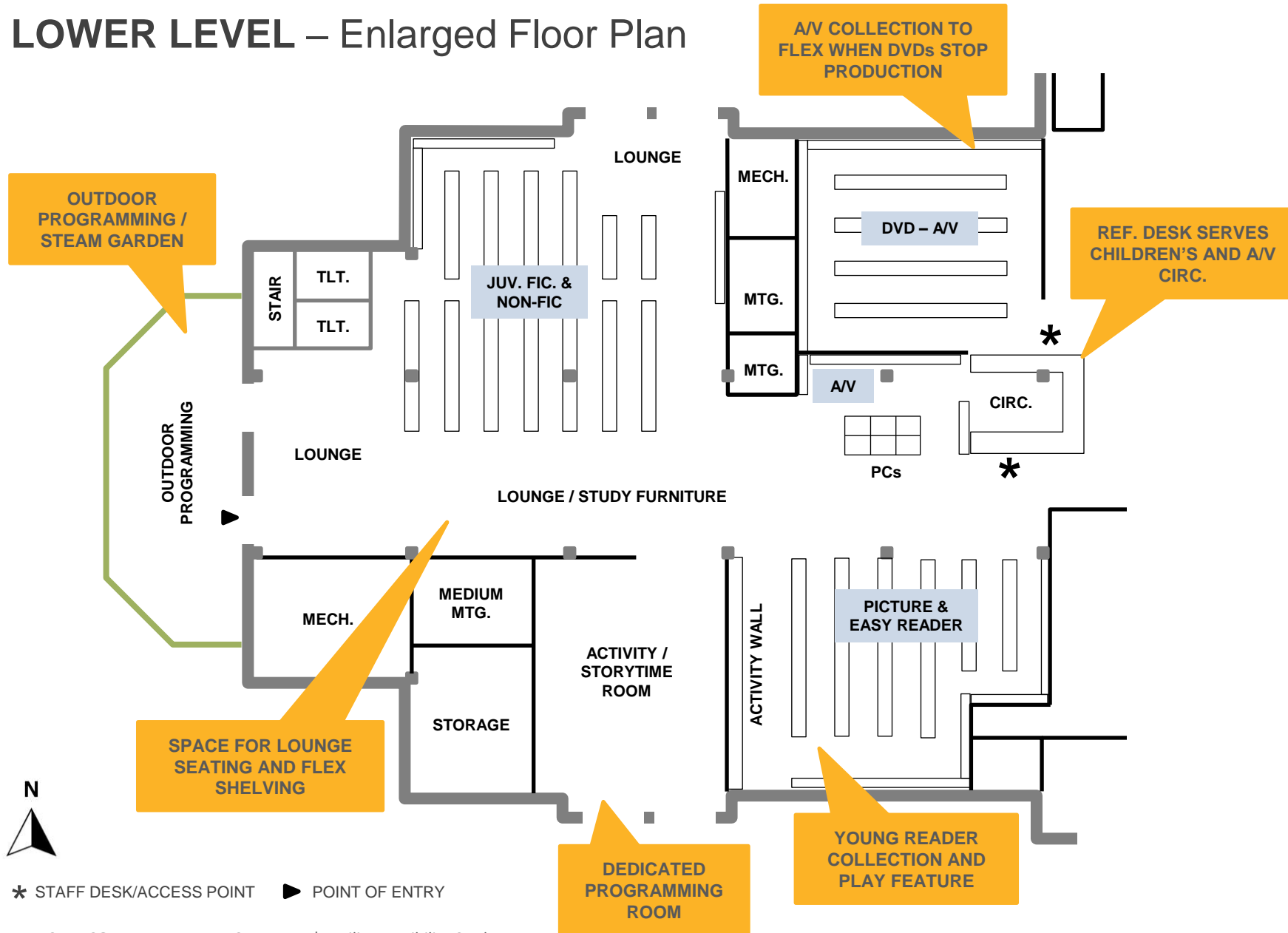
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* STAFF DESK/ACCESS POINT ► POINT OF ENTRY

WCPL SCHEMATIC LAYOUT

LOWER LEVEL – Enlarged Floor Plan



COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY

- Replace all existing building systems infrastructure (mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire suppression).
- Reconfigure entry sequence with new vestibule, public elevator, and stairway.
- Relocate Children's Department to the Lower Level
 - *Right-size and organize total staff spaces*
 - *Increase informal lounge spaces*
 - *Create opportunities for active play and learning*
 - *Provide dedicated programming space*
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WCPL SCHEMATIC LAYOUT

UPPER LEVEL INSPIRATION IMAGERY



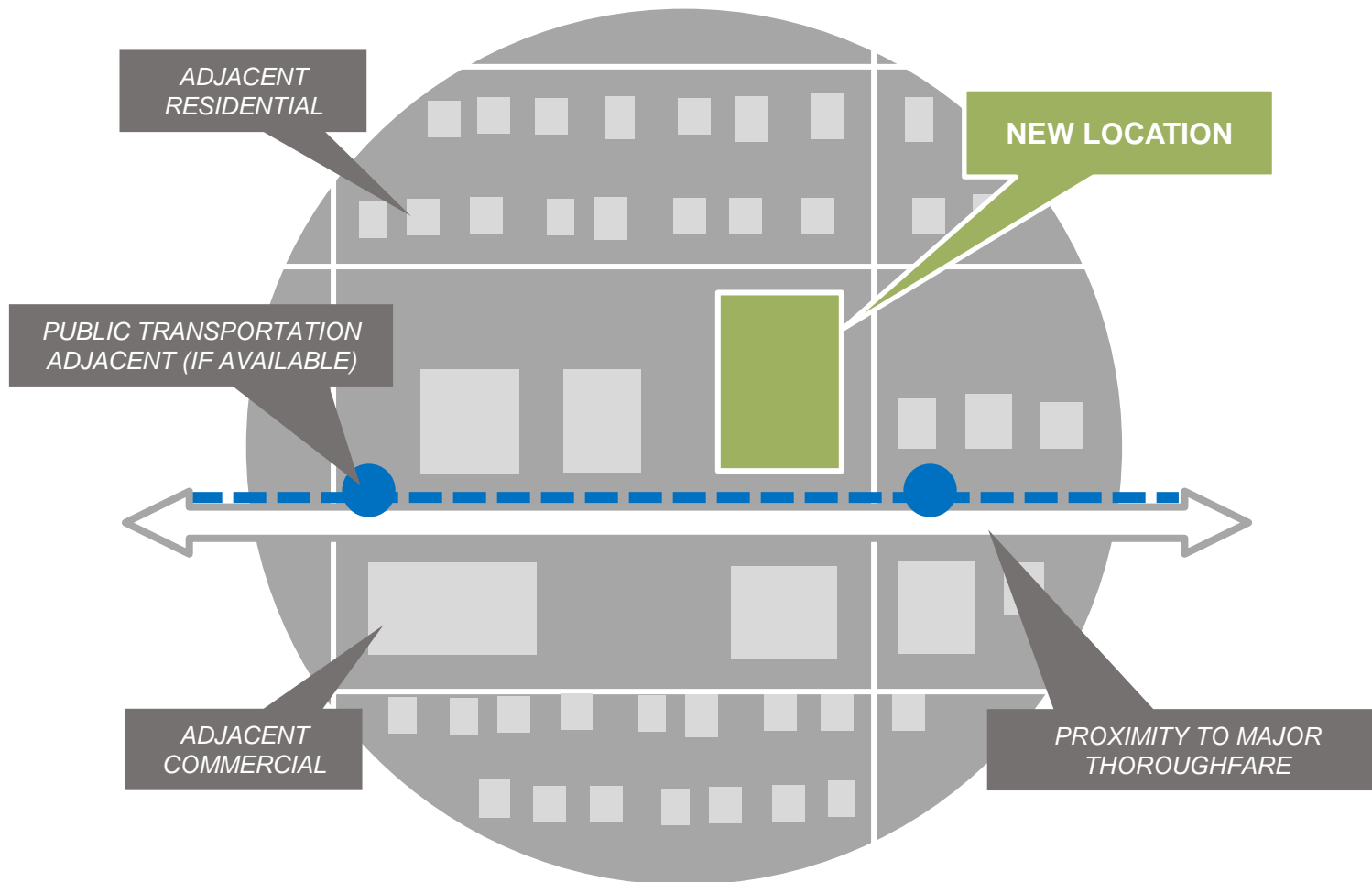
WCPL SCHEMATIC LAYOUT

LOWER LEVEL INSPIRATION IMAGERY



PROTOTYPE CONSIDERATIONS

CONCEPTUAL SPACE PROGRAMMING



ALTERNATIVE STRATEGY

- Considerations for a new facility within the existing service area that prioritizes easy access, same or larger building size, and opportunity for outdoor programming.
- If a new location is deemed worth evaluating, consider how the existing building can be repurposed or the asset released. Coordinate with other community organizations.

SITE SELECTION CRITERIA:

- **ON A MINOR/MAJOR THOROUGHFARE**
- **WALK SCORE: MINIMUM 50**
The existing building has a very high walkscore (77) due to its proximity to other downtown services.
- **ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION**
Needs to have a minor vehicular throughfare.
- **PROVIDE ADEQUATE SPACE**
Provide adequate space for a new building OR renovation of a 50,000 (+/-) square foot facility. Large meeting rooms, outdoor programming, and future growth opportunities need to be considered when evaluating prospective sites.

PRIORITIZING URGENCIES

TIER	SITE	BUILDING	MEP	FF&E	NOTES
URGENT NEEDS	○	●	●	○	Replace the existing dry and wet sprinkler system throughout the building.
	○	○	●	○	Replace the boiler and chiller units. Existing piping and ductwork would remain.
	●	○	○	○	Repair and resurface the existing parking lot.
	○	●	○	○	Replace the existing security system.
	○	○	●	○	Replace existing wiring and lighting with LED fixtures.
	○	●	○	○	Replace all basic interior finishes (flooring, paint, ceiling tiles, etc.).
COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY	○	○	●	○	Replace all existing building systems as defined in the existing conditions assessment as a singular infrastructure upgrade (including limited interior renovations as needed).
	●	●	●	●	In addition to a full building system replacement, comprehensively reorganize and renovate the existing building to address the entirety of the facility needs within a singular project – accommodating failing infrastructure AND operational inefficiency simultaneously. Performing the system replacement and renovation work at the same time cuts library closing time in half and saves money overall as repair and replacement of some architectural elements would still be required when working on large systems above ceilings, behind walls, and under floors. Separating these scopes out would result in a significant duplication of work and spending.

- Minimal or No Improvements
- Moderate Improvements
- Complete Replacement

NEXT STEPS

The Facility Feasibility Study is both pragmatic and ambitious, incorporating immediately actionable strategies and others that look to the future. The plan identifies creative solutions, conceptual strategies, and looks to foster relationships with agencies, community groups, and the private sector. Working together, the spectrum of proposed strategies have the potential to strengthen and change the way the library supports the city, township, and larger community. However, many of the identified needs require immediate action.

While the study looks to the future, the Warsaw Community Public Library (WCPL) has begun seeking concrete ways to implement key recommendations on programming and outreach that emerged from the planning process in collaboration with community stakeholders. In addition, WCPL will begin incorporating small and large-scale interventions into upcoming capital requests in coordination with

the Board of Trustees to help secure the resources necessary to advance the needed work. Depending on the scale of intervention proposed, resources will include financial investment, technical expertise, and general contracting skills.

The WCPL team will steward the implementation process moving forward, keep track of changes made, and continue to advocate for the funding, resources, and partnerships that will be required to make this study a reality. In doing so, they will be advancing a more equitable and vibrant Warsaw, Wayne/Plain Township, and Kosciusko County.

*"Bad libraries build collections,
good libraries build services,
great libraries build
communities."*

- R. David Lankes



Mission

The Warsaw Public Library's mission is to provide a welcoming destination that supports life-long learning for all ages. The library strives to be a place where the community has access to quality materials, engaging resources and enriching services. The library promotes the joy of reading and strives to foster the pursuit of knowledge to enrich the lives in our community.

Vision

WCPL engages and equips our community by providing inclusive, innovative, and relevant services without barriers.



PLANNING TEAM

MKM architecture + design
www.MKMdesign.com

SCO Engineering
www.sco-llc.com

