

Report to / Rapport au:

**Ottawa Public Library Board
Conseil d'administration de la Bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa**

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Submitted by / Soumis par:

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File Number: OPLB-2019-0206

SUBJECT: Rosemount Branch Revitalization Project Update

OBJET: Revitalisation de la succursale Rosemount – Mise-à-jour

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

That the Ottawa Public Library Board receive this report and the Rosemount branch final design (to be tabled at the meeting) for information.

RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT

Que le Conseil d'administration de la Bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa prenne connaissance du présent rapport et de la conception finale de la succursale Rosemount (soumis lors de la réunion), à titre d'information.

BACKGROUND

In September 2016, the OPL Board approved the Library Facilities Framework and Investment and Growth Planning Study (OPLB-2016-0181), which identified Rosemount branch as the Board's top renewal priority.

In October 2017, the Board received the Rosemount Branch Renewal report (OPLB-2017-1002), and directed staff to include \$2M in the 2018 capital budget for the revitalization of the existing facility. This amount was based on a scope of work detailed

in a 2016 Preliminary Design Study Report to meet the requirements of accessibility, building code deficiencies, and restoration of historic character.

In July 2018, OPL engaged +VG Architects to design the Rosemount branch Revitalization, incorporating feedback from public engagement and consultation. OPL's direction to +VG was to preserve the heritage character of the branch while extensively renovating and refreshing the facility, addressing building condition, safety, and accessibility, improving efficiencies of operations and use of space, modestly increasing public floor space, and introducing sustainable features.

In December 2018, the Board received two design options: a basic design, that met the project budget and stated objectives, and an enhanced design option, which better aligned with the feedback received through the public consultation process. The enhanced design included all the features of the basic design while further increasing public floor space, opening more windows for added natural light, improving seating options, upgrading finishes, further enhancing the historical character and adding sustainability features. This design added 150 square feet of additional public space, in the form of a glass "reading room" addition off the main library space, increased the size of the front entry, added much requested public seating, and created a visual connection between the revitalized branch and the community.

As a result of the presentation of design options, the Board directed staff to include an additional \$400K in the 2019 budget for the revitalization project, to cover the additional cost of the enhanced design and its measures to improve the customer experience. The enhanced design option increases the project scale sufficiently to make the project eligible for the City's Public Arts program. This allows for a public art competition for a work of art to be created for the project and incorporated into the building, allowing another opportunity for the community to participate in the branch's revitalization and further enhance the architectural design.

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the work completed to date. The final design will be presented at the February 2019 Board meeting for information.

DISCUSSION

Following submission of Board Report Rosemount Revitalization Project Update (OPLB-2018-1203) and presentation of the preliminary design to the Board in December 2018,

the preliminary design was shared with the community during two days of engagement. Feedback was positive.

The final design, based on the enhanced option, will be tabled at the February 2019 Board meeting and then displayed to the public for information. In addition, the request for \$400K to fund the enhanced option, will be included in the draft 2019 budget as per direction received by the Board in December 2018.

As per Board policy OPLB-002, Delegation of Authority, and OPL policy ADM-219 POL, Branch Closures, a closure of a branch for more than 10 days requires board approval. By virtue of approving the Rosemount branch revitalization project, the Board has approved the 10-12 month closure of the branch, and no further request will follow budget adoption.

The project is targeted for construction tender in March, pending budget adoption. Construction is anticipated for spring 2019 with completion in winter 2019/2020.

In order to continue services to the community during construction, OPL will operate out of a temporary location at 1207 Wellington West. The temporary location will provide a carefully curated collection of materials in all formats, holds pick-up, book return, public computer access, Wi-Fi, and printing. Programming will be delivered in the community. The temporary location will open to the public in late spring 2019, two days after the branch closes for revitalization.

CONSULTATION

The preliminary design was displayed for community input on December 13 and December 15, 2018, with +VG and OPL staff present to address questions and receive feedback. Close to 200 people were engaged over the two days. There was a diverse age range of participants - children, teens and adults - and many new people who were not part of the earlier consultation meetings. Staff received positive feedback on the proposed entry, increased public space, new meeting rooms and reading nooks.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

This report is based on the assumption that the \$400K will be approved, as per the direction received from the Board at its December 2018 meeting. If this amount is not approved, revisions to the proposed design will be required, and likely delay the start of the project.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications with this report.

ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

The Rosemount Revitalization project will incorporate accessibility features in the new design.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

There are no technology implications with this report.

BOARD PRIORITIES

The revitalization of the Rosemount branch aligns with the OPL Board's 2015-2018 strategic priority of "SPACES for community, collections, and creation," part of the direction to "Sustain collaborative and flexible physical spaces across the library system." This also aligns with the OPL Board's Branch Renewal Priorities (2016-2021) which identified Rosemount branch as the number one renewal priority.

DISPOSITION

Pending adoption of the budget:

1. Construction tenders will be issued and construction will commence.
2. Staff will prepare for the Rosemount branch closure and the opening of the temporary location.
3. Periodic status reports will be made to the public throughout the project.
4. The City will manage a consultative public art process.
5. OPL will plan an opening ceremony for early 2020 to celebrate the revitalized branch.