Meeting date: Wednesday, May 6, 2020
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting
Meeting start time: 6 p.m.

1. Reminder: Commissioners please log monthly volunteer hours in Count Me In Boulder
2. Approval of agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Welcome and administer oath of office to new commissioner Scott Steinbrecher
5. Elect new Library Commission officers and Boulder Library Foundation members
6. Information updates:
   a. Library Budget Update: Revised 2020 ATB1 request, April ATB1 memo and answers to commissioner’s questions
   b. City Reopening Update: Draft phased reopening of library facilities plan
7. Library Commission Update Memo
8. May 2020 Library Director’s Report

2020 Library Commissioners
Juana Gomez  Joel Koenig  Jane Sykes Wilson  Steven Frost  Scott Steinbrecher
### Name of Board/Commission:
Library Commission

### Date of Meeting:
February 5, 2020 at the Main Boulder Public Library, 1001 Arapahoe Ave.

### Contact information preparing summary:
Celia Seaton, 303-441-3106

### Commission members present:
Tim O’Shea, Joel Koenig, Jane Sykes Wilson, Steven Frost, Juana Gomez

### Commission members not present:
None.

### Library staff present:
- David Farman, Director of Library & Arts
- Jennifer Phares, Deputy Library Director
- Celia Seaton, Administrative Specialist

### City staff present:
None

### Members of the public present:
Stephan Hagemann and Rachel Walker

### Type of Meeting:
Regular

### Agenda Item 1:
Reminder: Commissioners please log monthly volunteer hours Count Me In Boulder [0:00:10 Audio min.]
The Commission logged their service.

### Agenda Item 2: Approval of agenda [0:00:50 Audio min.]
The meeting was called to order; O’Shea asked if there were any changes to the agenda. O’Shea suggested including Gomez’s memo to council in the Library Commission Update. As another addition to the same section, Frost will provide feedback from his discussions with Denver Library social work and peer navigators. There was a nod of approval from the commission for this amended agenda.

### Agenda Item 3: Public comment [0:03:20 Audio min.]
None.

### Agenda Item 4: Consent agenda [0:03:29 Audio min.]
a. Approval of January 2020 Meeting Minutes: O’Shea moved to approve these minutes, Koenig seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

### Agenda Item 5: Library Policy Update: Review second round of revisions to the Canyon Theater and Gallery Rental Policy and the Sponsorship of Programs and Events Policy [0:04:37 Audio min.]
Versions of these memos with tracked changes available in the packet. Gomez asked whether there is there an update from Risk Management. Phares noted no update; however, representation from City Attorney’s Office (CAO) and/or Risk Management (RM) has offered to visit April’s commission meeting to discuss issues inherent in this policy. Gomez wondered about precedent of this insurance requirement for other City facilities. Staff responded that some Parks and Recreation facilities have begun requiring insurance for those booking the space; this obligation has depressed public use. Frost suggested offering a liability waiver as a compromise. O’Shea wondered how this issue would translate in event of a district; Farman replied that it would be decided by whomever owns the buildings. Gomez wondered about the practice of non-City facilities who allow others to use their space (e.g. Alfalfa’s community room). O’Shea broached possibilities of support from Boulder Library Foundation for insurance cost.

O’Shea asked commission if it would be helpful to invite Janet Michels (CAO) and James Brown (RM) to the April meeting and the members were favorable. Staff will proceed with the arrangements.

Phares noted that approval for Canyon Theater and Gallery Rental Policy can wait until April to allow for further discussion and clarification. Commission then focused on the Sponsorship of Programs and Events Policy. Gomez moved to accept the Sponsorship of Programs and Events Policy as presented with adjustments in the packet. Frost seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
### Agenda Item 6: Request Library Commission’s favorable recommendation to allocate funds to Carnegie Library for Local History digital asset management system from the Blystadt-Laesar House fund  [0:24:01 Audio min.]

Farhan explained this yearly process and welcomed questions. Phares clarified that this pertains to the digital system used for all of Carnegie’s collection. Storage fee will increase as the collection grows. Discussion of annual storage, hosting, and maintenance fees for 2020. Phares will gather data for response to O’Shea’s query about money spent to date on this project. O’Shea overall favorable toward the expenditure but also sensitive to the limited resources of the Blystadt-Laesar House Fund. Farhan noted that this fund was never intended to completely fulfill the needs of this project. Phares reported positive relationship between the library and the company assisting with the digital transfer who has provided custom solutions around the needs of the collection.

Gomez moved to favorable recommend the proposed budget adjustment for funding from the Blystadt Laesar House funds ($52,770). Koenig seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

### Agenda Item 7: Review Library Commission Handbook  [0:51:40 Audio min.]

Phares asked for input regarding any changes to the current Library Commission Handbook (linked on the commission website as a PDF). Routine updates already incorporated. Gomez suggested including an organizational chart of the library.

### Agenda Item 8: Library Commission Update  [0:59:31 Audio min.]

a. Commission conferred on topics and potential guests to invite to the 2020 retreat. Gomez discussed transmission of commission knowledge and ideas to the potential board of trustees in the event of a library district transition. Koenig suggested waiting until after City Council’s March 17th meeting for direction. Other planned discussion topics: generation of list of potential trustees, presentation from Library Champions, and library social services.

b. Items from Commission (verbal)
   i. Ongoing outreach efforts
      - Outreach to council members – report on meetings, conversations, or email dialogs to discuss the library as a priority item for 2020. Gomez noted upcoming conversation with Council Member Wallach. Gomez spoke with Council Members Yates and Friend. Sykes Wilson and O’Shea met with Council Member Swetlik who appeared open-minded and favorable toward the formation of a district.
   
   ii. Review of memo Gomez has drafted for City Council (see handouts) – Commission discussed sending memo as a group or individuals. Farhan: as a group, it’s worth sending a message.” Frost: memo appears “straightforward.” Sykes Wilson and Koenig agreed, approving the letter. Gomez will send it to City Council with commission signature.
   
   iii. Revisit current applicants to the Commission and who we might urge to apply – deadline February 14th at 5 PM

c. Updates from commissioners representing the Commission in other venues (verbal)
   i. Boulder Library Foundation (BLF) update (Sykes Wilson/Koenig) – fundraising efforts continue for North Boulder Branch capital campaign (recently garnered $17,000 for north Boulder library). New BLF members expected in April/May.
   
   ii. Frost met with the capital grant writer for the Denver Public Library and was introduced to the primary social worker for DPL; Frost plans to meet with the latter in a couple weeks. Noted outside funding available (philanthropist in Colorado who could likely be persuaded to assist with the start-up.)

### Agenda Item 9: Library and Arts Director’s Report  [2:24:11 Audio min.]

a. North Boulder branch library project – Planning & Development Services staff has informed the design team that the anticipated Planning Board hearing tentatively planned for February 20th will be paused in order to allow the design team to further pursue easements from property neighbors, including Boulder Meadows and the Villages at Uptown Broadway. April 2nd set as tentative new date for site review.

b. Main Library Restroom Renovation Project Conclusion – Farhan reported a well-attended and celebratory ribbon-cutting ceremony officially opening these facilities on January 24th.
c. 2020 BLF grant requests – see packet.

d. City Council 2020 retreat

e. Follow up on peer navigator discussion

**Agenda Item 10: Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned.

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**Date, time, and location of next meeting:**
The next Library Commission meeting will be replaced by the annual retreat to be held on Saturday, March 14, 2020, in the Open Space Mountain Parks Hub at 2520 55th St., Boulder CO 80301.
I, Scott Steinbrecher, do solemnly swear (affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States of America and of the State of Colorado and the Charter and ordinances of the City of Boulder, and faithfully perform the duties of the office of a member of the Library Commission which I am about to enter.

__________________________
Scott Steinbrecher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of ________________, 2020.

__________________________
Board Secretary
DATE: May 1, 2020
TO: Library Commission
FROM: David Farnan, Director of Library and Arts Department
       Jennifer Phares, Deputy Library Director

SUBJECT: Revised 1st Adjustment to the 2020 Base Budget

The first Adjustments to Base (ATB) are scheduled to be presented to City Council for first reading on May 5, 2020. A second reading and possible adoption is scheduled to occur on May 19, 2020. These dates may change due to the current pandemic response. The first ATB presents the Library with an opportunity to adjust its base budget to accommodate continuing operational needs and/or address new needs for the 2020 budget year. Due to the economic downturn the library’s first ATB request was revised. The April Library Commission meeting was cancelled due to the pandemic. A memo describing the ATB process with the original proposal and a follow up memo answering the commissioner’s questions about the first ATB were emailed to the Library Commission in April and are included in this packet for reference. Table 1 below shows the revised status of some of the library’s first ATB requests.

### Table 1
Revised 1st Round of Adjustments to 2020 Base Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carnegie Library Digital Asset Management System Enhancement</td>
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<td>Fund balance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Main Library North Building Renovation Feasibility Study (POSTPONED)</td>
<td>$105,000</td>
<td>Operating carryover</td>
<td>Library Fund</td>
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<td>Inclusivity campaign (POSTPONED)</td>
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The carryover requests for public furniture repair and replacement and for library maintenance have been withdrawn and the funds will return to the City General Fund. The carryover requests for the postponed Main Library North Building Renovation Feasibility Study and the Inclusivity
Campaign will be returned to the Library Fund and may be requested during a future budget cycle. Library staff members are working on a 2020 budget reduction and the 2021 budget preparation. Staff will provide another budget update to the Commission in June.
DATE: April 1, 2020

TO: Library Commission

FROM: David Farnan, Director of Library and Arts Department
       Jennifer Phares, Deputy Library Director

SUBJECT: Proposed 1st Adjustment to the 2020 Base Budget

The city’s semi-annual 1st Adjustments to Base (ATB) is scheduled to be presented to City Council for first reading on May 5, 2020. A second reading and possible adoption is scheduled to occur on May 19, 2020. These dates may change due to the current pandemic response. This first ATB presents the Library with an opportunity to adjust its base budget to accommodate continuing operational needs and/or address new needs for the 2020 budget year.

Library staff has identified a list of budget needs related to the continuation of programs and projects that are multi-year in nature and require the carryover of 2019 budget to complete. These are called budget carryovers. Carryovers come in three forms: operating carryovers, project carryovers, and grant carryovers. Operating carryovers represent unspent operating dollars from 2019 that had been dedicated to specific projects or work plan efforts that were not completed by year-end. Project carryovers represent unspent budget from capital projects. Grant carryovers represent unspent funds from projects, programs or services that were funded with third-party grant support and must be accounted for separately.

Library staff has also identified new budget needs that require additional funding from fund balance or additional revenue, which are referred to as budget supplementals. While carryover re-appropriates unspent funds from the previous year’s budget, the supplementals add brand new funding to the 2020 budget. Budget supplementals can be sourced from additional revenue that has been received or is anticipated to be received within the budget year. Due to a constrained budget climate at the city, departments have been instructed to limit budget supplemental requests that rely on General Fund revenue in this first ATB. However, the supplemental requests the library plans to put forward are funded by fund balance from two dedicated library reserves in the General Fund, and additional revenue generated through library programs. Additionally, the Library does anticipate receiving $129,215 in unspent 2019 grant funding balances from the Boulder Library Foundation. The adjustments are all one-time in nature and any remaining money will fall to fund balance at the end of the year if left unspent. Table 1 on the next page provides a detailed list of the proposed budget adjustments divided into General Fund and Library Fund adjustments.
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Renovation Feasibility Study

regulations to determine how much, if any, interior renovations are permitted to the building. This study is a Master Plan objective.

| Inclusivity campaign | $13,000 | Operating carryover | Library Fund | Original appropriation was from the Library Fund Balance. Funds for programs and services that emphasize and support inclusivity. |
| 2019 Boulder Library Foundation Grant | $129,215 | Grant carryover | Grant | Appropriation of 2019 Boulder Library Foundation grant funding (unspent) balances. |
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The new budget adjustments sourced from the Library Fund require the favorable recommendation of the Library Commission. Library Commission provided a favorable recommendation during the February 5, 2020 meeting for the $52,770 Carnegie Storage budget adjustment from the Blystadt-Laesar reserve account in the General Fund. This reserve account was established with proceeds from the sale of the Blystadt-Laesar house and currently holds a balance of $292,091.

Library staff will continue to work on developing 2021 budget requests and plan to present those requests to the Library Commission in May.

**Requests for the Library Commission**
Staff requests that the Library Commissioners submit any questions about the proposed 1st Adjustments to the 2020 Base Budget by email directly to David Farnan and Jennifer Phares. David and Jennifer will compile the questions and answers and send them to the Library Commission.
April 6, 2020

To: Library Commission

From: David Farnan, Library and Arts Director
       Jennifer Phares, Deputy Library Director

Subject: Follow up Questions and Answers to Library Budget Update Memo – 1st 2020 ATB

1. Are these adjustments bi-annual (once every two years) or semi-annual (twice a year)?

   Semi-annual – twice a year. The 2nd ATB requests are submitted in early October.

2. Are carryovers typically carried over or do they revert to the General Fund if unspent?

   Unspent funds revert to the fund of origin unless they are approved for carryover during the 1st ATB or they were encumbered the previous year via contract or purchase order. Unspent, allocated Library Fund dollars revert to the Library Fund if they are not approved for carryover or encumbered. The same is true for allocated General Fund dollars.

3. What is the status of NoBo [north Boulder branch library] design and construction? Is the capital carryover for actual building or for design costs?

   The north Boulder branch library design is pending site review by the Planning Board. The public hearing for site review will be rescheduled. No date has been identified. The capital carryover is for both the remaining design costs and for construction. There may be other carryover entries that occur in the Facilities and Asset Management request for the project from other funding sources. All other available funds for the project were allocated via the budget process.

4. I’m surprised to see that the proceeds from our sales of used books go to the City general fund.

   All revenues generated by the Library go to the General Fund. They may be allocated for use by the department via the annual budget process like the overdue fines were when they were collected. Otherwise, they may be requested for use by the department via the 1st ATB.

5. Who is the consultant selected for Main [Library] North Building [Renovation Feasibility Study] and is there a schedule for that study?

   The contract is under review by the City Attorney and City Manager. The study is scheduled to begin after the contract is final. The start may be delayed until staff is able to access the facility. We will share the name of the selected consultant and the project schedule once the contract is signed/final.

6. Could we get an inclusivity campaign update when we start meeting again as a Commission?
Public Events and Outreach staff members will report on how the Inclusivity Campaign funds were used in 2019. If the carryover is approved, they plan to use these funds to supplement programs and promotion around the One Book One Boulder event.

7. **With the impending budget adjustments is it possible the City will want to delay the $500k NOBO [north Boulder branch library] construction expenditure and the $105K NOBO [Main Library north building renovation] feasibility study?**

   It is possible that the north Boulder branch library construction and the Main Library north building renovation feasibility study may be postponed. The funds requested in the Library’s ATB 1 submission originated from the Library Fund or the Library Fund Reserves.
May 1, 2020

TO: Library Commission

FROM: David Farnan, Library and Arts Director
       Jennifer Phares, Deputy Library Director

SUBJECT: Draft Library Phased Reopening Plan

OVERVIEW
The Library will follow City guidance and make decisions to resume library programs and services based upon health and safety, and current budget and staffing restrictions. The City has identified the following phases for resuming services at City facilities.

Phase 1 – “Limited Travel:” This phase will respond to the initial “Safer at Home” easing issued by the state. The goal is to retain 60-65% social distancing.

Phase 2 – “Open-Limited:” This phase will begin to reopen city facilities and services in accordance with public health guidance.

Phase 3 – “Open-except large gatherings and vulnerable populations:” This phase will re-open many city services and facilities, with restrictions on gatherings and protections for vulnerable populations.

Phase 4 – “Fully Open:” This phase will return services to the new normal.

Library staff are developing a phased plan for resuming library services (see below). City Council will review and provide direction on all department plans during the May 5, 2020 City Council Meeting.

Draft Boulder Public Library Phased Plan for Resuming Services

DURING PHASES 1 and/or 2

- Patron pick up of current items on hold by appointment from tables outside the Main Library.
- Call Center open to receive requests for pick up appointments. Pickup appointments may also be available on the library website.
- Returns will not be accepted.

Duration: First two to three weeks upon implementation, limited hours including one each evening and weekend times.
• Patrons will be permitted to place new holds on the Main Library’s items and arrange for pick up by appointment as above.
• Returns will be accepted in the outdoor book return bins. Items will be held in quarantine for 72 hours. They will be checked in and put back into circulation after the quarantine period.
• Pending staffing availability home delivery of library materials may be provided by request.
• Carnegie Archive may resume reference services by telephone and email.

**Duration:** Subsequent two to three weeks, limited hours including one each evening and weekend times

**DURING PHASE 3**

• Patrons permitted to access the Main Library building for holds/materials pick-up, materials return and limited public computing.
• Staff will be available to retrieve items from closed collections stacks.
• No meeting room, theater of story time/play area use.
• No in-person programs.
• Carnegie Archive may resume by appointment only service on a limited basis.

**Duration:** Until phase 4 is permitted, limited hours may be expanded depending upon staff availability.

**DURING PHASE 4**

• Open public access to Main Library.
• Limited meeting room use.
• Limited, small public programs observing any health and safety requirements (e.g., storytime in large meeting room with limited maximum capacity, perhaps with preregistration required).
• Other library facilities open as health, safety, and budget restrictions permit.
NORTH BOULDER BRANCH LIBRARY PROJECT UPDATE

The project team received a detailed design development budget for the North Boulder Branch Library in the middle of April. This budget presented a professional cost estimate required to fund the full vision plan for the library and site development. The project construction total, along with project soft costs, exceeds available funds by about $2.4 million. This gap had been identified for some time in previous cost estimate work. In order to pursue the whole vision plan for the project, the library was hopeful that the gap would be bridged through one or more possible funding sources (capital fundraising through the Boulder Library Foundation, a disbursement from the City’s General Fund, or through the creation of a library district). However, with the onset of the COVID-19 health crisis, it become apparent that the project funding would not likely be increased. In order to right-size the project to fit available funding, the project team has been heavily focused on modifying the design development set and the library site plan to bring cost estimates in line with available project funding. In recent conversations, the project team has focused on the priority of completing the building nearly in its entirety, preserving the ability for the library to provide core services and programs and maintain the footprint necessary to provide vital community resources such as a generous maker space, community meeting spaces, and the ability for the BoulderReads program to have a prominent new home at this location. In addition, the project team has to ensure that the design development plan meets the standards for site review criteria at the City of Boulder.

The associated value-engineering work was focused on cost savings in four main areas:

- Reduced sitework/earthwork
- Planning for the building to be net zero ready versus net zero from day one
- Reducing or selecting different interior and exterior finishes
- Removing outdoor amenities including the playground, the outdoor learning garden, and the outdoor maker space. These can be added at a later date when funding is available.

This value engineering work, along with an additional generous commitment from the Boulder Library Foundation, has brought the project into alignment with allocated and available funding. The project team is working with consultants to modify site review documents to reflect this new value-engineered building and site plan. The team will submit revised documents to Planning & Development Services (P&DS) on May 11, 2020. A P&DS review process will follow culminating with a hearing before Planning Board, likely to be held in July 2020. This will conclude the site review process for this project and the project team will move on to Technical Document Review which will likely take three months and will overlap with creating the construction documents set. The project team expects to release a public bid for contractors near the end of the year. Construction is slated to being in the first or second quarter of 2021.
In addition to this work, the project team continues to coordinate outreach and engagement with important stakeholders- the youth and families in north Boulder. The team has been working with Growing Up Boulder (GUB) to hear about the priorities and ideas of these north Boulder families, many of whom are part of underrepresented communities. Students at Crest View and Foothills Elementary Schools have been studying the NoBO library plans and the schools have aligned curriculum around this project. Before and during at-home learning, students have been hard at work researching precedents, developing their best ideas, and they are ready to present their recommendations at an interactive virtual share out event on May 6, 2020. The project team is excited to hear this feedback and will work during the next phase of the planning to incorporate ideas where able, or to document ideas around outdoor amenities to incorporate at a later time. The students and families have been so enthusiastic about this project, a good number of them have written letters of support to City Council, the Planning Board, and to the Library Commission. Input received from the GUB/Library collaboration will be shared with the Library Commission when available.

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE MEASURES
The 2019 Q4 Library performance measures, 2019 meeting room performance, and the 2019 study room performance reports are posted on the library website.
Commission Memo  
Meeting Date: May 6, 2020 – via Microsoft Teams

1. Items from Commission (verbal)
   a. Ongoing outreach efforts (All)
      i. Outreach to Council Members & Candidates;
         1. Discussions with Aaron Brocket, email response from Rachel Friend, other email or outreach
   b. ALA – Engaging Library Supporters During COVID-19 Pandemic – ongoing webinars

2. Updates from Commissioners Representing the Commission in other Venues (verbal)
   a. BLF Update (Jane / Joel);
      i. Update on HALO
   b. Champions – joint efforts

3. Update on Emails & Phone Calls to Library Commission

A)
On Apr. 29, 2020 11:43 AM
juana@lawrenceandgomez.com
To:Alycia Murray
Cc:Farnan, David, bpl-com@boulderlibrary.org

Hi, Alycia,

Yes, there will be items on the agenda besides the action items that require a vote. In the past, our agenda has been published on the Friday or Monday ahead of the meeting.

Juana

On Wednesday, April 29, 2020, 11:27:47 AM MDT, Alycia Murray <alyciamurray@gmail.com> wrote:

Thank you, Juana. I appreciate that and I appreciate your work as acting chair, as well as your past (and ongoing) work with Boulder Library Champions to determine whether or not Boulder Public Library should stay with the City or create its own district.

I would think that during this time, when 70% of library staff has been furloughed and patrons, especially the most vulnerable, may have great difficulty receiving any remote services AND with tax revenues devastated, the Commission would indeed have MUCH to talk about at this meeting.

Given that, I sincerely hope the Commission adds additional agenda items at the meeting to discuss what the Commission is trying to do to assist David Farnan and all BPL staff during this difficult time, and what David Farnan and remaining BPL staff are doing to serve Boulder at this time, in particular Boulder's most vulnerable populations. Of course, it would also be interesting and quite relevant to hear beginning discussions on how the library might operate to provide additional services beyond the remote ones now being provided in our "novel Coronavirus" world.
Thank you for your time and attention and I look forward to receiving information on attending the meeting.

Best regards, Alycia Murray

On Wed, Apr 29, 2020 at 10:07 AM <juana@lawrenceandgomez.com> wrote:

Hi, Alycia,

Yes, you will be able to listen into our meeting next week.

You will receive an invitation with login and call-in information.

Cheers,

Juana

On Wednesday, April 29, 2020, 9:45:45 AM MDT, juana@lawrenceandgomez.com <juana@lawrenceandgomez.com> wrote:

Hi, Alycia,

The library commission is using a Microsoft product called Teams, not Zoom. It is being investigated how, in the future, we might allow for real-time public comment, for folks to weigh in, or to listen in.

You will be able to hear next week’s proceedings later, as the meeting will be recorded and will be shared publicly. The only order of business for May 6 is the seating of a new commissioner and then the election of officers by and from among the commissioners.

Thank you for your interest.

Juana

On Wednesday, April 29, 2020, 9:17:37 AM MDT, Alycia Murray <alyciamurray@gmail.com> wrote:

Thank you for your reply, Juana. I’d really like to attend via Zoom or another platform and hear what you all are talking about. I do believe it is an open, public meeting. I don’t even have to talk (can be muted the whole time).

Sincerely, Alycia Murray

On Wed, Apr 29, 2020 at 8:35 AM <juana@lawrenceandgomez.com> wrote:

Hello, Alycia,

Please write an email to the Commission with your concerns and we will read them into the record.

bpl-com@boulderlibrary.org

Council and the City administration have not given us or other boards the capabilities for allowing live public comment at this time.
Best regards,

Juana Gomez, Acting Chair, Boulder Library Commission

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Alycia Murray <alyciamurray@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Apr 28, 2020 at 11:27 AM
Subject: Hi! How can I attend the Library Commission's May 6 meeting?
To: <tim@engagecolorado.com>

Hi, Tim. Can you tell me how to attend the May 6 meeting?

Thanks so much!

Alycia Murray
Librarian
Thrice-monthly (on average) sub in BPL
Boulder citizen

B)

On Wednesday, April 29, 9:37 AM
From: Steven Frost to JJ Pennell

JJ,

Thank you so much for your email. We appreciate your thoughts and will take them into account as we move forward.

North Boulder has grown a great deal in the last few years and this library has been in the works for 20+ years. We love the little corner library but its limited hours and size doesn't match the energy and population of NoBo.

When the city decides to create a new building or library branch there are many ways that they fund it. Some money comes from the Boulder Library Foundation, some from investments, and some from taxes. While I'm impressed with your concern for the environment, the money being used to build the new library was saved/set aside specifically for the library and is difficult or illegal to use for other purposes.

I am happy to report that the environment is a primary consideration of the new location's design. It will be a very green building which will use much less energy to heat and cool than most buildings in Boulder. In accordance with city regulations, it will also use as many low impacts and locally sourced materials as possible. Our hope is that visitors to the library will be inspired by many of the building's environmentally-focused innovations and try them in their own work or home.
I understand that you are concerned about safety in the new library and so are we. That's why our staff is trained to handle the many situations that can arise in a public space. The library is open to everyone rich or poor, housed or un-housed. All library patrons are treated with respect and dignity whether they live in a nice house or are experiencing homelessness. This is one of the things that I love most about libraries.

Thank you for your email.

Steven Frost
Boulder City Library Commissioner

Submitted at 04/27/20 8:55 PM
Your Name:  JJ Pennell
Email:  Jbpennell01@bvsd.org
Message:  Dear Boulder City Council,

My name is JJ Pennell. I am a fifth grader at Crestview Elementary in north Boulder. I am writing to tell you that I think that we should not build the North Boulder library. I love libraries but I think that this one is not the best idea. Here are my reasons:

My first reason is that there is already a library nearby so why would you put in another one.

My second reason is that they are spending a lot of money into building this library and that money should be spent on something more useful such as something to reduce world pollution or help global warming, something that's necessary.

Another important reason is that the location that the library would go is right next to a homeless shelter so during the day homeless people would hang out at the library which could make some people become uncomfortable.

A lot of kids would be going there and that makes the place really unsanitary because the place would be filled with germs which could lead to people getting sick and not wanting to go back.

The place would be wasting paper because they would have to make new books which takes a ton of paper.

In conclusion I think that we should not have this library. I hope that these reasons help you decide.

Sincerely,

JJ
D) Submitted at 04/30/20 9:45 AM  
Your Name: Emmy Valentine  
Email: bouldervalentines@gmail.com  
Message: Dear Library Commission, 

I live just outside of North Boulder and attend Crest View Elementary and I would LOVE to have a library close to me. I'm not the only one, a bunch of people think it is a great idea to have a Library in North Boulder. Also this isn't just going to be a library it is going to be a space for kids to learn and have fun! Even if there are a few people that don't want this library built, there are so many more that do. The kids that had the opportunity to get their ideas out there and in this project are going to be very disappointed that they don't get to anymore, I hope you do end up building the library. 

Sincerely, Emmy  

C) Submitted at 04/30/20 10:31 AM  
Your Name: Elsa Dean-Kendall  
Email: patricadean8@gmail.com  
Message: Dear City Council, Planning Board and Library Commission,  

My name is Elsa and I'm currently in fifth grade at Crestview Elementary. I know due to the Coronavirus and reduced tax revenue, budgets are probably a lot tighter. It's not going to be the easiest option to go forward with this project, but sometimes it's not the easiest route that's the best for everyone in the long run.  

A library can open up so many opportunities. I was fortunate enough to live near the main Boulder library before we moved to North Boulder. Up here there is not a decent sized library. At the NOBO corner library you can't really get all those connections and fundamental experiences needed to really build a community. Libraries can open up so many opportunities, you can really learn something new everyday it's not just an expression. There's so much out there to learn and it's an amazing privilege that everyone should have. Not everyone is able to go to one of the bigger library branches in Boulder. This means they miss out on story time and a lot of the activities they have at the bigger branches. Story time can help kids get interested in a lot of different books at an early age and the bigger libraries have activities to keep kids interested like Legos, games, crafts and the maker’s space. Libraries in community spaces can build fond memories. I remember going down for Story Time, plays, movie making and other activities. It taught me how to read and gave me all of those amazing experiences that libraries offer. Libraries aren't just places with books. They are places where people gather, learn and collaborate together. As Boulder continues to grow without a North Boulder library that can function as a community space the opportunities of knowledge are taken away from more and more people. Most kids can't just go downtown so instead of picking up one of those books they have read for the millionth time they will just watch T.V or do something else. If you do decide to build the new NoBo library there will be so many opportunities for Knowledge and connections. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and listen to my opinion. I really hope that the new NoBo library is built and I can continue building memories together with my friends as a community.  

Sincerely, Elsa Dean-Kendall