

MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE

COUNTY/CITY BUILDING

555 SOUTH 10TH STREET

Room 303

Monday, June 9, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

Meeting Notes

- **Welcome and Introductions**

Bethany	College View	Country Club	Clinton	East Campus	Everett	Havelock
	Tracy Corr		Pete Smith	Paul Johnson; Tut Kailech	Kathy Linsenmeyer; Midge Pace	Nick Hernandez
Hartley	Indian Village	Irvingdale	Meadowlane	Prescott	Witherbee	Woods Park
	Andy Gueck	Isaac Remboldt	Kay Wenzel	Mary Unger	Julie Floodman; Mary Schwab;	Randy Smith
Eastridge						
Natalie Baskin						

- Other Attendees: Ryan Wieber (Libraries), Jon Carlson (Mayors Office); Sarah Mason (LLHDC) Angelina Stovall (LLCHD), Rachel Redepenning (LLHDC)

- **Mayor Gaylor Baird Comments**

- Reminder [Uncle Sam Jam](#) July 3rd:
 - Very excited to announce that we have a **new home** for Uncle Sam Jam this year at Haymarket Park!
 - We have been at Oak Lake Park the last few years, which was a wonderful location but posed some parking, traffic management, and security issue.
 - Haymarket Park is a **popular venue** with plenty of seating, parking, restrooms, concessions, and a playground for kids and families.
 - The City's **free** Uncle Sam Jam is a festive opportunity for our community to come together and celebrate our nation's independence with a night filled with live music from **Soul Dawg**, fireworks, and fun.
 - 6 p.m. – ballpark opens
 - 7:15 p.m. – Soul Dawg first set
 - 8:20 p.m. – Flag lowering ceremony
 - 8:30 p.m. – Soul Dawg second set
 - 10:00 p.m. – Fireworks
 - In addition to onsite parking, StarTran will provide free public shuttle bus service between Haymarket Park and four nearby locations.
 - lincoln.ne.gov/unclesamjam
- [Summer reading challenge](#) underway (20% higher participation already), sign up at any library or online to participate and be eligible to win prizes (adults and kids can participate)
- [Splish Splash Story Time](#): Join us for storytime at a City of Lincoln pool! We'll read, sing, and dance together (like usual), then enjoy a half hour of free swim fun. Geared for ages five and under with their adult. This program is co-sponsored by City of Lincoln Libraries

and Lincoln Parks and Recreation. Children two and under must wear a swim diaper. Children five and under must be within arm's reach of a parent or guardian. All children must be accompanied by someone 16 years of age or older.

- [Family Fun Nights at the Pool](#) \$5 whole family 6-8 pm, different pool Monday-Friday.
- [Wild Wednesday Food Truck Series](#) every other Wednesday under Rosa Parks on 6th and L streets 11am until food sells out

- **Central Library Proposal (Ryan Wieber)**

- See attached slides for more details.
- Downtown library (Bennet Martin) was built in three phases and not the most efficient design. The 62,000 square feet (including inaccessible basement level) is older, challenging for renovations, inefficient design for a modern library, and limited for programming space.
- Estimate of \$57 million to renovate current building, building new at Pershing site is \$70 million with underground garage for 50 stalls needing a public bond issue, only \$46.2 million to renovate the former SCC building at 1111 O Street
 - 35% reduction in total cost for library without a levy increase
 - Solves central library replacement that has been identified for 20 years
- New building (1111 O Street) will be opened up with visibility out to street, located along bike and bus routes with ample parking in adjacent city garage, connected to skywalk, and is accessible.
- Designs shown in attached slides are conceptual and yet to be finalized with the design team which includes local firm BVH.
- Programming:
 - First floor staffing towards the back, coffee shop, children's area, maker space lab
 - Second space adult space and study/meeting spaces
 - Third floor a 300 seat auditorium
- Loud library where we control the noise where necessary, covered outdoor space
 - Wood elements to help soften the space
- Books still important in this library and will be easy to find (only about 30% of checkouts digital, rest physical copies)
- Funding: Paid for through \$23 million municipal infrastructure bonds to be voted on later this year, \$5.2 million interfund loan to purchase building, \$18 million private contributions (1/3rd way to this goal)
- Timeline: [upcoming engagement session](#) through the early summer, City Council votes on CIP changes and bond issuance in July, Spring 2026 internal demolition begins, final designs in 2026, construction through 2028, grand opening Spring 2028
- Raised flooring planned which allows flexibility to shift cables, HVAC systems, etc.
- Name Bennett Martin isn't necessarily attached to the new facility as the old building name was a result of a generous donation for the existing building
- Coffee shop will be privately run, business yet to be selected, but looking for the right partner to compliment the library
- No plan yet for moving the library materials, companies specialize in this though
- Idea for post office drop box proposed by roundtable member; one exists at corner of existing building; another idea for aquarium
- Facilities Master Plan put together a few years ago for entire library system. This project will be spring board for all libraries in the future.

- **Announcements**

- **Climate Up Closer talks** on 6/27 (7 pm) and 6/28 (10:30 am, 1:30 pm, 8 pm). See attached flyers for details.

- The next **Youth Sports Sign-Up Fest** is coming up on June 28 from 12 to 4 p.m. at Peter Pan Park in partnership with Everybody Gets a Chance's Annual Community Event. This event will help families get their children involved in sports by providing an easy, accessible way to sign up for affordable sports programs before deadlines hit or late fees apply. The combined event will include live music, food, sports games, a dunk tank, and more! The Youth Sports Sign-Up Fest will feature local sports programs with affordable fees and/or financial aid options, as well as resources to support young athletes. Learn more: www.lincoln.ne.gov/SportsSignUp. This initiative is led by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department and Lincoln Community Learning Centers, in collaboration with Everybody Gets a Chance. For questions or to receive printed copies of the event flyer to share, contact Rachel Redepinning: RRedepinning@lincoln.ne.gov
- Fourth of July Parades in Indian Village and East Campus
- Meadowlane Movie Night on June 28th at Herbert Park, still selecting movie
- 40th and A and College View Garage Sales this weekend
- UNL East Campus Discovery Days 2nd Saturdays of June-August
- NeighborWorks Week this week celebrating community (Thursday bike tour, Saturday clean up for Malone/Hawley, movie night in the backyard)
- International Speedster Reunion next week
- July 1st Irvingdale ice cream social outside the Irving Rec Center
- KZUM will do advertisements for neighborhoods; reach out to Isaac with Irvingdale Neighborhood.
- **Future Agenda Ideas**
 - Pete Smith retired arborist gave Witherbee tree tour and discussed loss of tree canopy. Could share on this topic.
 - Street projects.
 - Emotional Wellbeing program being launched by LLCHD with Credible Minds.
 - Comprehensive Plan Update.
- **Adjourned at 6:30 pm**

Next Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable Meeting
July 14 2025, 5:30 p.m.
City County Building Room 303

A LIBRARY FOR LINCOLN'S FUTURE

SUMMARY PRESENTATION | JUNE 2025





21ST CENTURY LIBRARIES POWER 21ST CENTURY CITIES

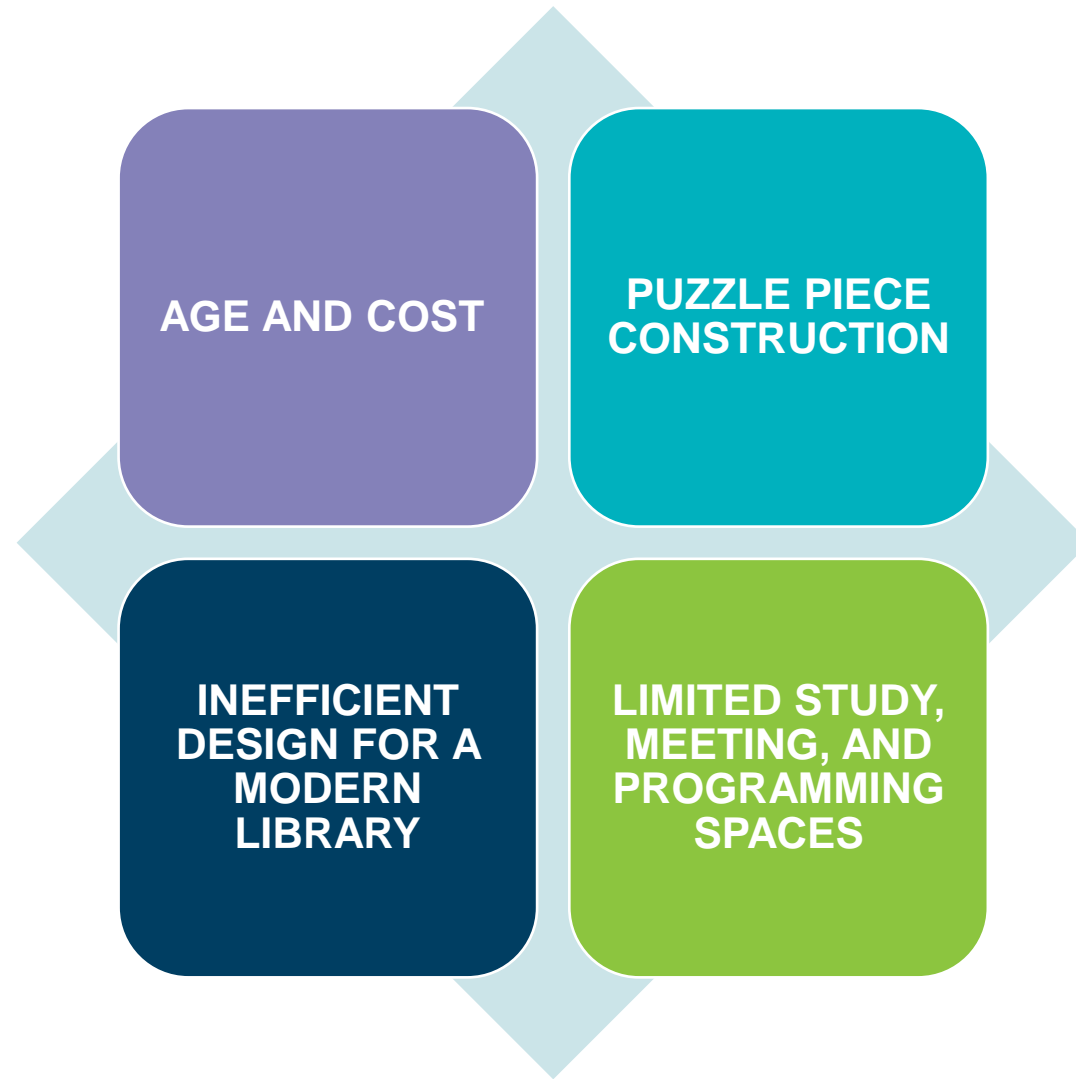
- Catalyst for innovation and creativity
- Hub for community connection
- Lifelong learning
- Digital literacy and technology access
- Culture and arts

VISION FOR A MODERN LIBRARY

- Interactive children & teen area
- Makerspace and digital creativity spaces
- Spaces designed with flexibility in mind
- Study and conference rooms
- Community rooftop auditorium and covered terrace
- Retail coffee shop
- Available partner spaces

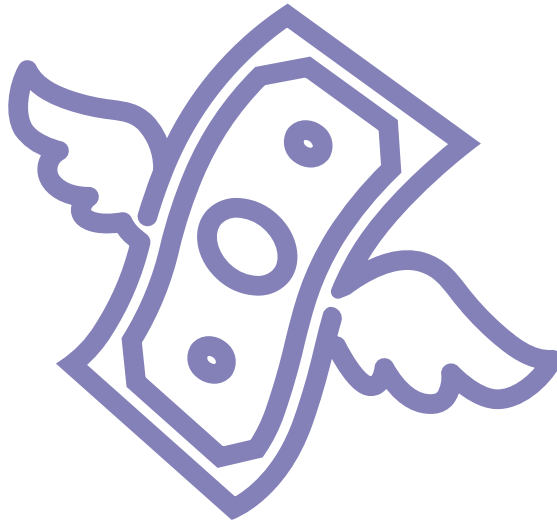
**WHY WE NEED A
NEW CENTRAL
LIBRARY:**

**BENNETT MARTIN
CAN'T MEET OUR
NEEDS**



COST OF STAYING

The cost to renovate and transform Bennett Martin Library into a modern library is estimated at **\$57 million** in 2028 dollars.



COST OF BUILDING NEW AT PERSHING

Building a new library at the Pershing site was quoted at **\$70 million**, including an underground garage with 50 stalls.

OUR PROPOSAL



Reduces Costs by 35%



Creates a Modern Library



Dedicated Parking



Reduces needed City investment by more than \$40 million

IDEAL LOCATION: 1111 “O” St.

- Retains our main library within the city center
- Superior visibility along the “main street” of Lincoln
- Revitalizes a core block of downtown and repurposes it for vibrant community use
- Connectivity for all modes of transportation – located along a bike trail and bus route AND has accessible and ample parking



SAFE AND CONVENIENT PARKING

- No new construction needed
- Dedicated parking for library patrons
- Connected directly to the building and skywalks



EXTERIOR NORTHEAST PERSPECTIVE



EXTERIOR NORTHEAST FACADE



SECTION PERSPECTIVE CUTTING NORTH - SOUTH THROUGH ROOFTOP MULTIPURPOSE ROOM



ROOFTOP MULTIPURPOSE ROOM INTERIOR PERSPECTIVE



ROOFTOP MULTIPURPOSE ROOM COURTYARD PERSPECTIVE



SECTION PERSPECTIVE CUTTING EAST - WEST THROUGH ROOF TOP MULTIPURPOSE ROOM





COMMUNITY CORE INTERIOR PERSPECTIVE



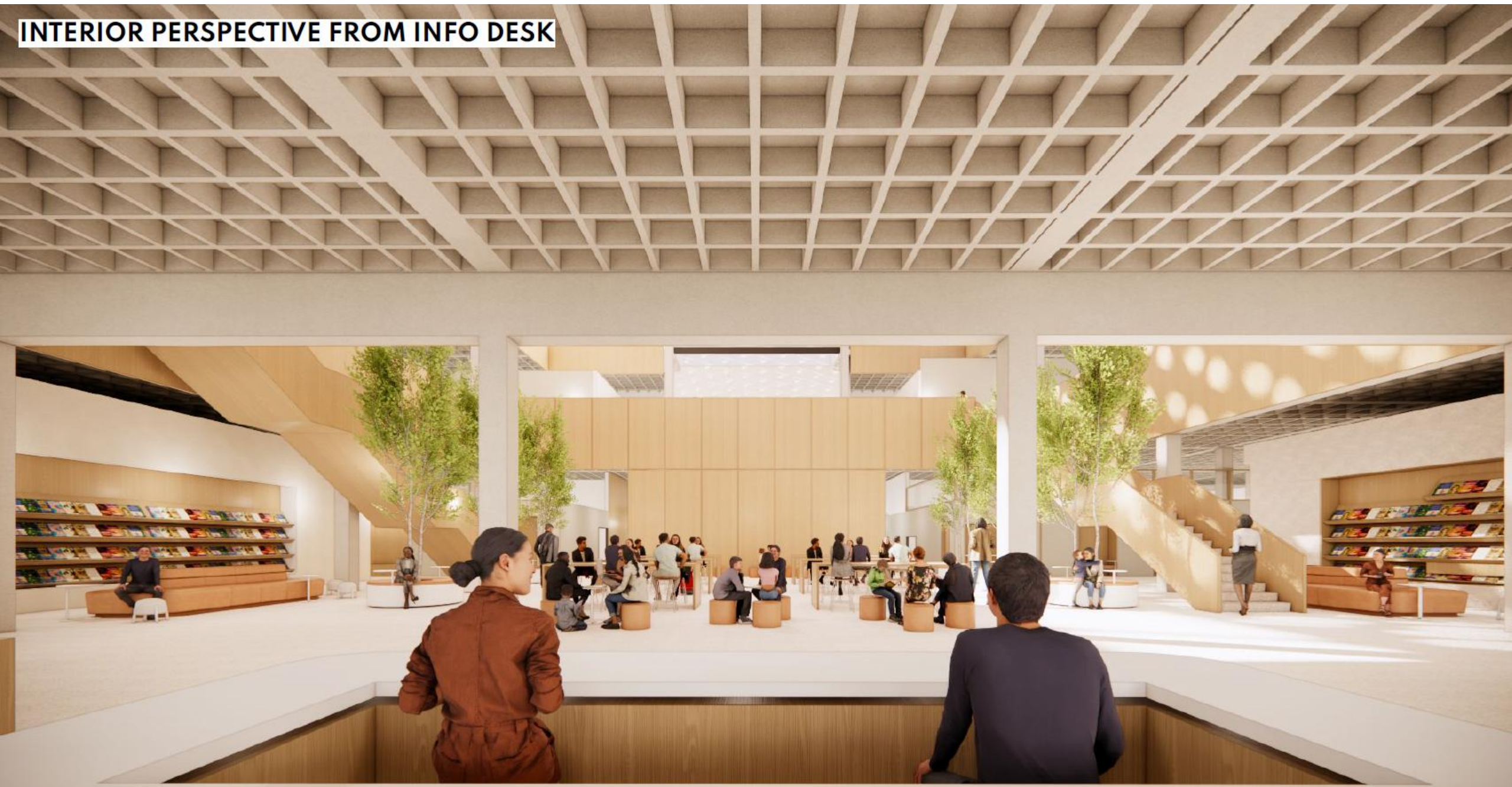


COFFEE SHOP INTERIOR PERSPECTIVE



ENTRY PERSPECTIVE AT BOOK PORCH

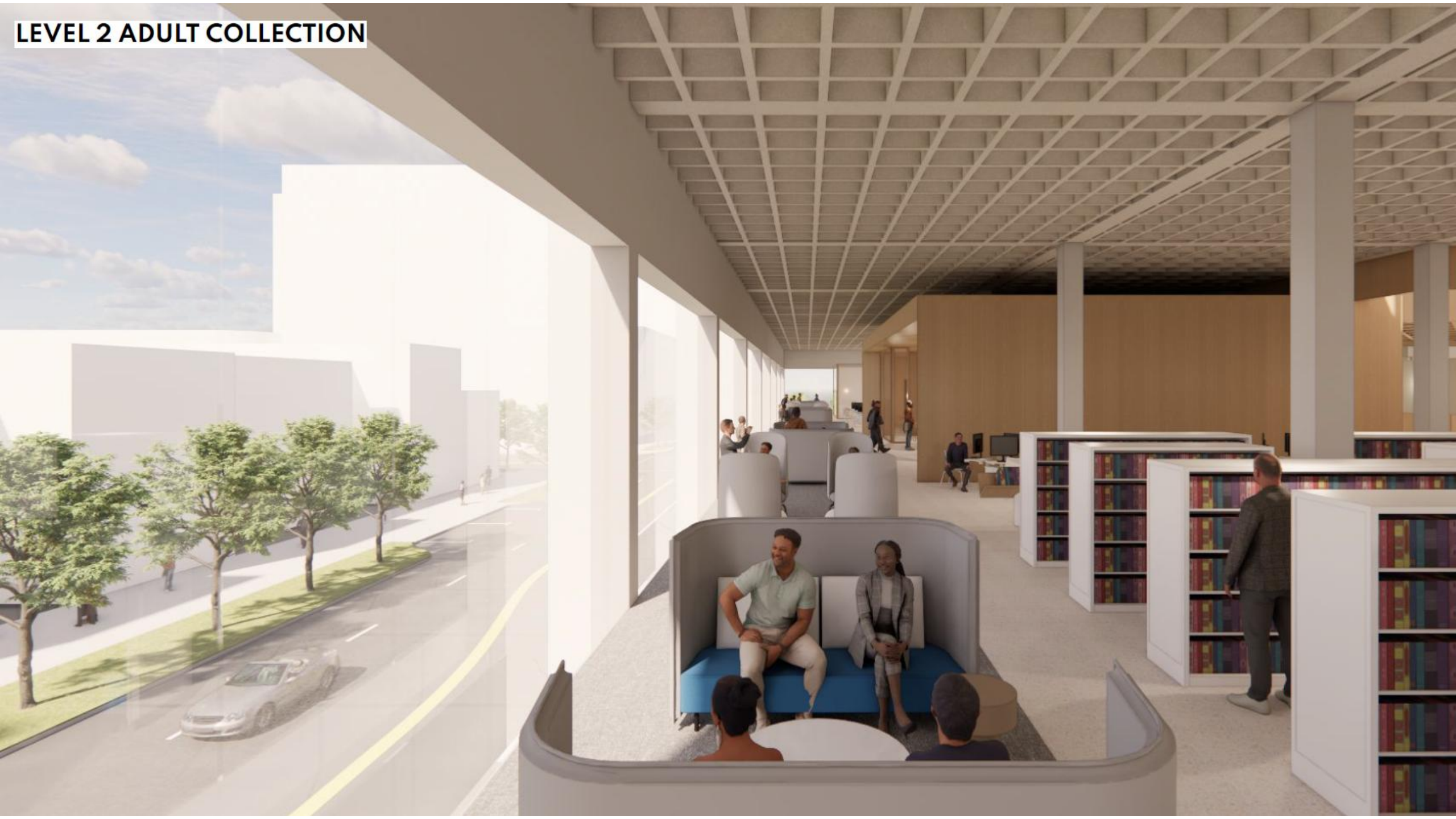
INTERIOR PERSPECTIVE FROM INFO DESK





INTERIOR PERSPECTIVE AT CHILDREN COLLECTION

LEVEL 2 ADULT COLLECTION



LEVEL 2 MEETING ROOM PERSPECTIVE



LEVEL 2 MEETING ROOM PERSPECTIVE



WHY THIS IS THE RIGHT SOLUTION

- Reduces projected total cost for the Central Library by 35% -without a levy increase
- Revitalization and investment in our central business district
- Dedicated parking for patrons
- Solves a central library building replacement that has been identified for over 20 years



HOW WE WILL PAY FOR IT

SOURCE	AMOUNT
Municipal Infrastructure Bonds	\$23,000,000
Interfund Loan (for building purchase)	\$5,200,000
Private Contributions	\$18,000,000
TOTAL	\$46,200,000

TIMELINE

01

Announcement:
May 2025

02

**Public
Engagement:**
May-July 2025

03

**City Council
Introduction
and Approval:**
July 2025

04

**Internal
Demolition:**
Spring-Fall
2026

05

Final Design:
2026

06

Construction:
2026-28

07

Grand Opening:
Spring 2028

THANK YOU!



THIS WEEK!

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

NeighborWorks
Week
JUNE 7th - 14TH, 2025

Thursday, June 12th

Bike Tour through Malone/Hawley, Clinton,
and University Place Neighborhoods to learn
about the Northeast Radial Highway

Ride starts at 5:30pm at 4442 Gladstone St
Scan QR Code to Register

Saturday, June 14th

Neighborhood Cleanup for the
Malone/Hawley Neighborhood

Time: 9 am - 12 pm

Location: Sower Church (2640 R Street)

Saturday, June 14th

Family Movie Night featuring The Lego Movie

Time: Gate opens at 8 pm & movie starts at
sunset (9pm)

Location: NeighborWorks Lincoln Back Yard
2530 Q Street



DETAILS



Ideas, questions, or looking to get involved?

Tut Kailech - Community Builder, NeighborWorks Lincoln

Email: tut.kailech@NWLincn.org

NeighborWorks®
LINCOLN

Climate Up Close.

2025
Nebraska tour
June 26-29

Talk with a climate scientist face-to-face.

See us in Nebraska! Learn more at www.climateupclose.org

Friday **6/27** 7 pm **Saint Paul United Methodist Church**
1144 M St, Lincoln, NE, 68508

Saturday **6/28** 10:30 am **Unitarian Church of Lincoln**
6300 A Street, Lincoln, NE, 68510

1:30 pm **Pioneers Park Nature Center**
Sponsored by Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center
3201 S. Coddington Ave, Lincoln NE 68522
Free with registration preferred:
springcreek.audubon.org/events/climate-close

8 pm **Branched Oak Observatory**
Free with registration required:
tinyurl.com/ClimateUpCloseAtBOO
14300 NW 98th Street Raymond, NE 68428
Followed by stargazing until 11pm

**Meet a panel of climate scientists and
put your questions to them yourself.**

Where is the boundary of climate knowledge?

How has climate change impacted
extreme weather?

What does the future hold?

www.climateupclose.org • climateuc@gmail.com



Climate Up Close is a group of climate scientists committed to making the essentials of climate science accessible to a broad audience. We equip Americans to make informed judgments about climate change by seeing the evidence for themselves and putting their questions directly to climate scientists. Climate Up Close is non-partisan and non-prescriptive. Our scientists volunteer their time, our events are free and open to the public, and our tours are supported by small donations.

Our presenters

Current scientist members (left to right) include Dr. Nadir Jeevanjee (NOAA), Dr. Aaron Match (Cornell University), Dr. Nathaniel Tarshish (Harvard University), and Dr. Andrew Williams (Princeton University).

THE THIRD ANNUAL

COMMUNITY EVENT

PRESENTED BY
EVERYBODY GETS A
CHANCE



06/28/25

EGCNEBRASKA.ORG

12-4 PM

PETER PAN
PARK

Join us for a day of Live Music, Food, Vendors,
Basketball, Skate Contests, Husker Players,
Volleyball, Sports Sign-Ups, a Dunk Tank,
Scholarship Announcements, 360 Photo
Booth, Tennis, and a whole lot of fun

**NEW
PARTNER!**

YOUTH SPORTS SIGN-UP



Lincoln-Lancaster County
Health Department



LINCOLN
COMMUNITY
LEARNING CENTERS

Sign up for sports programs all in one place.

Find low-cost and financial assistance options.

Get resources that your child needs to play on a team.

Learn more:



[lincoln.ne.gov/
SportsSignUp](https://lincoln.ne.gov/SportsSignUp)



EL TERCER ANUAL

EVENTO COMUNITARIO

PRESENTADO POR
EVERYBODY GETS A
CHANCE



06/28/25

EGCNEBRASKA.ORG



12-4 PM

PETER PAN
PARK

Únete a nosotros para un día de Música en Vivo, Comida, Vendedores, Baloncesto, Concursos de Patineta, Jugadores de Husker, Voleibol, Inscripciones para Deportes, Tanque de Inmersión, Anuncios de Becas, Cabina de Fotos 360, Tenis, y un montón de diversión.

**¡NUEVO
SOCIO!**

INSCRIPCION A DEPORTES PARA NIÑOS Y JOVENES



Lincoln-Lancaster County
Health Department



LINCOLN
COMMUNITY
LEARNING CENTERS

Regístrate en programas deportivos todo en un solo lugar.

Encuentra opciones de bajo costo y asistencia financiera.

Obtén los recursos que tu hijo necesita para jugar en un equipo.

Más información:



[lincoln.ne.gov/
SportsSignUp](https://lincoln.ne.gov/SportsSignUp)

