

Reston Town Center North Community Meeting

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Team: Katie and Vin

Library Feedback

- Library drop off (no car)
- See if we are keeping up with ideas for new libraries – other jurisdictions
- New libraries serve more than traditional groups
- Other meeting areas/uses outside the main areas into neighboring areas
- Look at university libraries
- Architectural review (independent)
- Assessment of what school libraries are missing, so this library can be complimentary
- Drop-off area off the main road so people can be dropped off (Kiss and Read)
- Computer lab off to the side for classes
- Library that works together with other organizations/companies; not a stand alone
- Temporary library – close to original location, particularly to pick up books
- Space for friends of library to do sorting/sales (year round)
- Temporary library – has enough space for kids
- Temporary library – invest in mobile library model, temporary transportation that can take books to people → kids
- Reston Library is dark; make it brighter with windows
- Be open to the idea of a two-level library
- Entrance from Town Center side – at least two entrances
- Pedestrian entrances from all sides
- Different kinds of shelving to consider – space constraints
- Wish list from friends of library staff: books, equipment, funds
- Increase supply of hard copy books
- Glassed-in quiet space (2-person spaces for tutoring)
- Larger DVD collection and books on tape
- Laboratory for multimedia AV (photo editing, sound editing, etc.)
- Separate children's section; closed off wing, so adults can read quietly
- Access so you can use meeting rooms at night
- Comparing ourselves to others to find best practices

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Topic: Shelters

- Mixed/phased affordable housing throughout the entire area
- Family shelter with access to other amenities
- Ask homeless shelter residents what they need
- Ask nonprofits what is needed
- Temporary facility – Cameron Glen? Explore commercial properties
- Families integrated into community – multiple locations, not just one space – so that families can take advantage of other services/amenities throughout Reston
- Ask schools
- Adjacent services
- Need daytime space
- Daytime programming
- Expand (double) medical respite area
- Hospital beds
- Cost savings
- Outdoor area with benches with shelter
- Increased the size of the shelter
- How was the size determined? It should be bigger
- Flexible space – can grow during hypothermia season

Topic: Overall Project

- Integration with other areas, particularly transportation; very difficult to negotiate intersections (walking and biking)
- Auto traffic below ground, parking deck level (like Wiehle)
- Design the park so that residents can walk all the way through the park (one end to the other)
- Look at the shape of the park – it doesn't look integrated
- Be aware of high density – outdoor areas for kids
- Plan for small dog parks to be integrated and scattered through Reston – specific areas for dogs → walkable to get to
- Keeping track of public comments – who will be the architectural overseer of all nine RFPs?
- Transit connections

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- Can't have rounded-off street corners; cars just roll over those and it's dangerous. Have square intersections; traffic calming designs
- Roads and parking underneath as much as possible
- Architectural goals need to be included in all RFPs so it is all consistent
- Urban planning/streetscaping
- Energy conservation (solar panel, LED street lighting) needs to be considered in site planning
- Street lighting so people will walk
- Planning for public arts – work with IPAR in planning
- Make Blocks 1 and 2 more connected with the Home Depot area
- Underpass to Trader Joe's