

Reston Town Center North Community Meeting

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Comment Cards Submitted Separately

1. Instead of reinventing the wheel, I'd like to see the new library reflect the "best practices" of other library systems, near (Loudoun County) and far (Library of Birmingham, UK) and to provide more community events, such as performances by local school children (as B & N did). This is a great opportunity to transform the library into a vibrant, integral, and essential part of the community.

2. Why not move the shelter to be next to Human Services?

3. Suggestion:

Consider a two-phased RFP (Examples: Alexandria Carlyle Department, D.C. Center and Princeton University)

Phase I: Development Guidelines Only Including:

- Block-by-Block Land Use & Development Standards
- Streetscape
- Public Space/Place Making
- Energy Conservation
- Environment
- Connection

Phase II: Development Proposes for Each Block of Public Facility

Selection of a Development Partner

4. Shelter should be a full day facility with life skill training classes, etc. Not just an overnight facility. Relocate north adjacent to Public Health and Human Services.

5. Library currently has 150+ parking spaces, 30 reserved for staff, volunteers, and friends. There are 120+ parking spaces for patrons. Lots are often full. Will the new shared facility provide the same level of parking?

Most library patrons live within five to fifteen minutes of the current location and will not use metro to go to the library. Has this been factored into parking planning?

6. More detail re: Maker space

- Current maker space is Nova Labs
- Consider contracting with Nova Labs for maker space programs and support (easy to buy equipment, challenging to provide appropriate education and

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guidance and to appropriately maintain equipment (3D printers, woodshop equipment, CNC printers/cutters, etc.))

- Nova Labs named one of the top independent maker spaces in the county by MAKE magazine and sponsors the annual Nova Mini Maker Faire held at South Lakes High School and Langston Hughes Middle School each March.
- Recommend analysis of whether a library maker space would be redundant or if the need could be better defined and then supported by a partnership with Nova Labs
- Nova Labs has a very strong youth robotics program. Recommend review of what they already offer and analysis of need to assess if they could provide either additional programs at the library or serve as a satellite location for the library youth “maker”/youth robotics activities.

7. Vehicle access for friend sales

Committee: Library/Shelter/Finance

Shelter: Job Training

8. I realized during the discussion that a great asset in this area would be areas (indoor and outdoor) between and around developments where folks can hang out – so you can sit and read near the library, or have a cup of coffee, etc. So extending the community functions into appropriate and attractive (and open and safe) public informal spaces. Just a thought.....

Also with this new development, it is time for Reston to have a free or a dollar (\$1.00) “circulator trolley”☺.

For the Library, emphasis on BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS. I also second what many have said regarding:

- More small meeting rooms (for people to work together)
- Dedicated children’s area (with dedicated staff, computers, and story room)
- Better/Larger/More community lecture, performance, program rooms
- Homework areas.

9. Since every block is likely to have underground parking, might these underground garages be integrated by building underground roads so the surface would be open for pedestrians? This would add open space to a high density development.

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10. Library Request: Please add a curbside drop off for book returns (i.e., like the Post Office drop box). With underground parking it will be hard to just run in and drop off a book.
Thanks.

11. Can the library be larger? Reston is growing and shouldn't be limited by established size for regional libraries.

12. I would prefer it if the homeless shelter was not next to the library. Would it be possible to relocate it to block #9? I know many people do not like the loitering they see at the library. Relocating the shelter would reduce the likelihood of loitering, especially if a recreation room/lounge could be built into the shelter.

13. Community Meeting Reston Town North: Integrated planning enables much more diversity and flexibility of functions in a given complex (Brian Berry, human geographer (*sp?*)). Might the separate organizations in the overall plan coordinate their functions to offer better, more efficient and diverse offerings? For Example:
 - INOVA provide medical beds for shelter under contract with the County?
 - Library adjacent to meeting rooms and coffee shops that are multipurpose?
 - General purpose room most of the year provides hypothermia shelter during severe weather.
 - If each major building employed underground parking and access turn offs from peripheral roads, then there would be no need for surface roads in the development, and the space could be open park lands and for recreational use.

14. Satellite Libraries: Lake Anne / Tall Oaks / Hunters Woods