

Next Steps

Where do we go from here?

- The Library will develop a project timeline.
- The San Juan Island Community Foundation is partnering with the Library to develop a comprehensive fundraising plan to support pre-construction and construction costs for the entire building project.
- The library will hire a Development Director to assist with fundraising for the building project and to grow philanthropic support for sustaining library programs and services far into the future.
- The design teams will remain engaged with the library team to assist with any documentation, visualization or design strategy needs while project budgets and cost estimates are established.
- The Steering Committee will continue to gather feedback and maintain project momentum.
- The library will continue to host informal gatherings to share progress as available.

We invite you to share your feedback and ideas about the new library building. We look forward to hearing from you.

Scan the QR code to access the feedback and next steps page:



www.sjlib.org/aboutus/library-building-project/

Thanks!



san juan island
LIBRARY

SJIL Leadership

Laurie Orton
Anthony Morris

SJIL Board

John Aschoff
Cheryl Kringle
Karen Vedder
Barbara Sharp
Boyd Pratt

Steering Committee

Beth Helstien
Paul Fischburg
Steve Bowman
Steve Ulvi
Susan Hall
Tanja Williamson
Anthony Morris
Boyd Pratt
John Aschoff

fivedot

SiteWorkshop
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

allied8
ASPIRE CONNECT DESIGN



Review of the Community Engagement Process, Outcomes, and Next Steps.

Over the past 6 months, our community came together to envision a new library for San Juan Island. We talked, we designed, we learned and we collaborated.



See how the community collaboration shaped the design →

Oct 22nd
2025

FIRST PUBLIC MEETING

The community participated in an exercise designed to collect valuable insight about the needs and desires for the future library. As a result of gathering more than 230 community responses, the library team identified the following values as core to the project:

VALUES

Intergenerational

Foster interactions between different age groups that influence creativity, knowledge exchange, problem solving, and collective well-being.

Sustainability

Create a lasting project that will serve future generations on multiple levels: Social, Economic, Environmental.

Reflection of Place

A new facility will be a reflection of the community's history, future and also of the island itself.

Cultural and Historic Celebration

Acknowledgment of the Indigenous history rooted in the San Juan Islands. Intentional paths to celebrate this.

Placemaking

A place where all are welcome and public services are provided. A place of pride for the community and where community feels welcome to gather, engage, focus, learn and play.

Plan for Future

Flexibility, planning for future generations' needs with programs and spaces. Opportunities for expansion.

Collaboration with Community Partners

Intentional paths to meeting community needs with SJI partners. Together is stronger.

Maintain & Improve What People Already Love

Assurances that the cozy, helpful, active and joyful environment currently felt by the community will migrate to the new space and even be improved.

Nov 18th
2025

PUBLIC DESIGN MEETING

This meeting engaged the community in a participatory design exercise that helped define the library program and revealed site perceptions and priorities.

Dec 16th
2025

DESIGN CHARETTE

The Design Team, Library Staff & Library Board convened to continue developing the design ideas from the public design meetings. We analyzed the results of this exercise and used it as key inputs for the design of the new library.

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DESIGN IDEA 1

17,000 square feet - 61 parking spaces

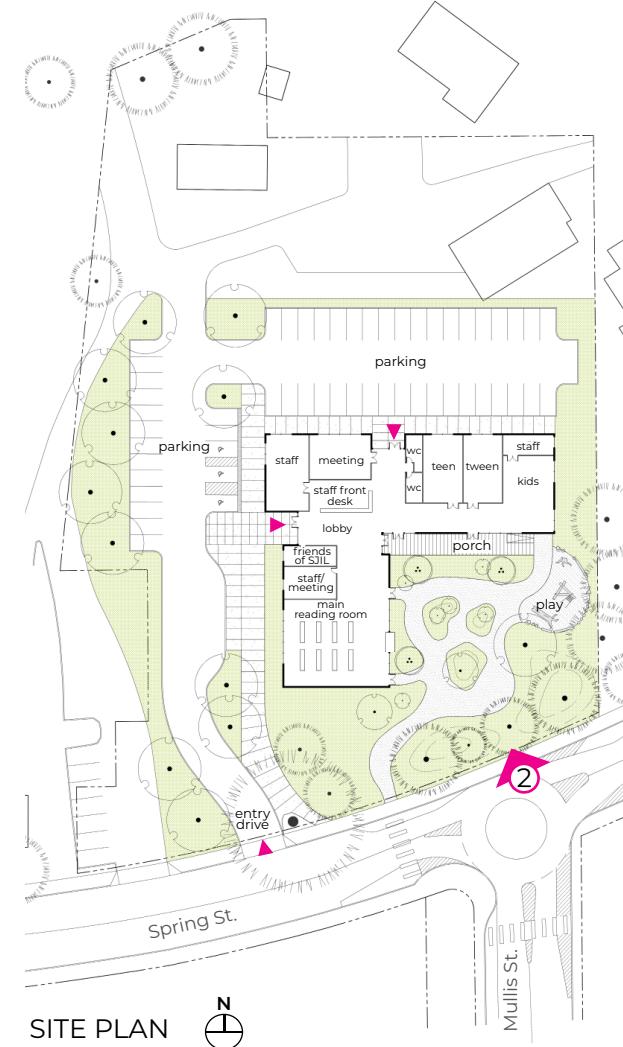


About this Design:

- Car circulation uses the existing easements- allowing for more of the property to remain landscaped.
- The U-shaped building opens out to the street.
- A large, park-like area to the south of the library.
- Use of the entire site, including the north parcel.
- The existing grove of trees at the west of the site remains.
- The playground occurs near the grove of trees, separate from the main outdoor gathering area.
- A large meeting room/ auditorium that is accessible after hours.
- 3 additional meeting rooms.
- A Makerspace.
- The building can be entered from the south or the north.
- The reading room has plenty of west and south facing windows for natural light.
- A study room for tweens.

DESIGN IDEA 2

14,000 square feet - 54 parking spaces



About this Design:

- Car circulation and parking occurs entirely on the property.
- A smaller courtyard/ plaza.
- The playground is adjacent to the main outdoor gathering space.
- The north parcel of the property is reserved for sale or partner opportunities, or could be available for future building expansion.
- The L shaped building can be entered from the west or the north.
- The reading room has plenty of east facing windows for natural light.
- One large and small meeting room.

