

SHERBORN LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE

April 2020

During the current COVID-19 health emergency, the Library continues to fulfill its mission to *provide the community with access to information and to promote life-long education, recreational reading, and cultural advancement* while complying with the applicable public health directives adopted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. To learn more, visit the Sherborn Library website – sherbornlibrary.org

The FAQs are created in an effort to help the Sherborn community understand what is happening with the Library project.

WHAT UPDATES/PROGRESS ON THE PROJECT CAN BE REPORTED?

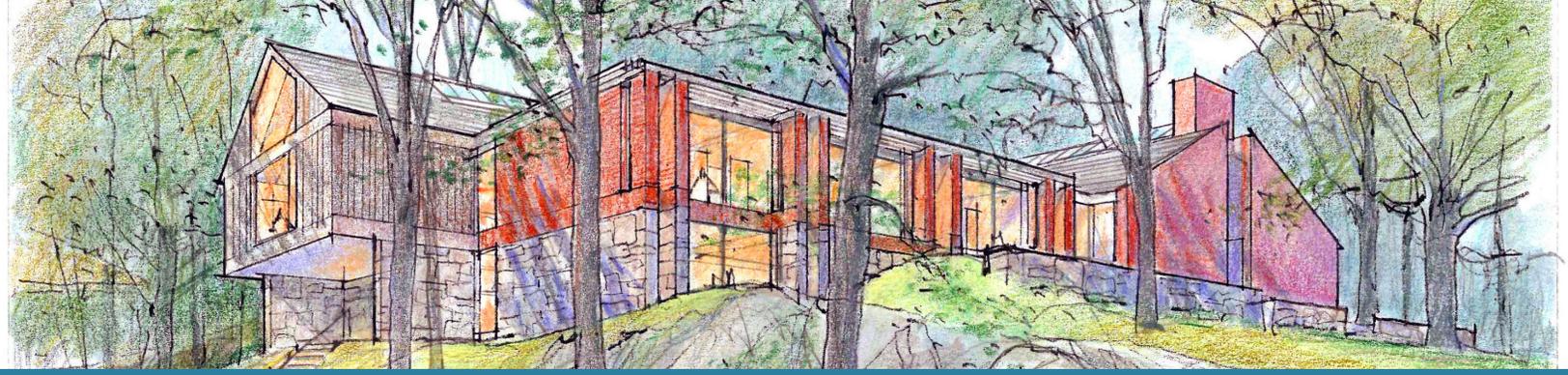
- The Town's new Owner's Project Manager ("OPM"), CHA, has been working closely with the Town and the Design Team to help move the Library project forward.
- The Town is currently negotiating an agreement with the Surety (the "Takeover Agreement"). The Takeover Agreement will govern the relationship between the Town and the Surety and provide a roadmap for the completion of the Library project. The Takeover Agreement requires agreement on the remaining scope of work as well as the amount the Town will be expected to pay for that work.
- The Department of Public Works Director has secured the Library building and is working to maintain security on the site.
- In response to construction delays, the MBLC has extended the completion date on the Town's contract. The Town is grateful to the MBLC for their understanding and willingness to work through these project challenges with us.
- We are hopeful that the Surety's election, along with a successfully negotiated Takeover Agree-

ment, will result in a restart of the Library project as quickly as possible once the Commonwealth allows municipal library construction, currently deemed non-essential work, to resume.

HOW HAS THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS RESPONDED TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners ("MBLC") has issued several press releases. Of note:

- Acknowledging the crisis and its impact on Massachusetts and in an effort to support and protect the Commonwealth's municipal libraries, their dedicated staff members, Trustees, and the patrons they serve and to assist them in their future recovery efforts, the MBLC voted to suspend some requirements for the State Aid to Public Libraries Program and revised the Five-Year Waiver Policy and the Library Closure Policy.
- The MBLC has suspended the need for monthly construction project updates.
- On April 6th, the Chief Secretary of Personnel and Administration in Governor Baker's office stated "In our intention of the order and of the reading of the



SHERBORN LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE

April 2020

order, Library construction, if not part of a State College Campus or being performed under the care and oversight of The State Division of Capital Asset Management, is deemed non-essential work at this time.”

WHAT EFFORTS ARE IN PLACE TO ADVANCE COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT?

- The Town continues to do everything possible to ensure that the project gets done correctly and with the expected high level of workmanship.
- The Library Building Committee, Select Board, and Library Trustees continue to meet regularly, and an advisory group consisting of members of the Select Board, Library Trustees, Library Building Committee and key Town employees also meets regularly.

ARE THERE ANY LOCAL MEETINGS I COULD ATTEND TO LEARN MORE?

Meetings of the Select Board, Library Trustees, and Library Building Committee are open to the public. Times and information about these meetings – [including information needed to join virtual meetings via the Zoom platform](#) – are posted on the Town website. Select Board meeting minutes are posted on the Town website; minutes from meetings of the Library Trustees and of the Library Building Committee are posted on the Sherborn Library website.

WHERE CAN I FIND THE LATEST INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIBRARY PROJECT?

- Sherborn Library website – sherbornlibrary.org
- Town of Sherborn website – sherbornma.org

WHERE CAN I VISIT THE LIBRARY DURING CONSTRUCTION?

In response to the COVID-19 health emergency, the Library – in its temporary home at the Sherborn Community Center - was closed to the general public beginning March 13th. While the Library is closed, patrons can access millions of eBooks and databases for free, and some programming options are being offered remotely. In general, during this period of closure, due dates for items have been extended, fines will not accrue, and items can be requested through the Minuteman catalog (staff will fulfill these holds once the Library reopens). To learn more about available digital resources and remote programming, visit the Sherborn Library website – sherbornlibrary.org

For information about the Sherborn Community Center, visit the website – sherborncommunitycenter.com.