



Downtown Library

Public Input Schedule

Background:

On January 7, 2025, the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) Assembly authorized the signing of agreements between the MOA and the Anchorage Library Foundation (ALF) for the construction and operations of a Downtown Library as a branch of the Anchorage Public Library (APL) system.

MOA personnel quickly began working under term contracts with GHD Architecture and Coffman Engineers. There is a deadline at the end of 2026 to expend the construction money.

Design and construction are funded by a grant from the State of Alaska. The operations will be funded by a trust held by ALF set up after a bequest from Janet Cameron Goetz.

Scope of Public Input:

While many of the structural elements are locked in due to the building constraints, the library is seeking public input on how the public would use the downtown library. This would inform the type of materials within the library, staffing priorities, programming options, and more.

Sample questions for public input will include:

- How will you use the downtown library?
- What age of household members will come with you to the library?
- Would you go to the downtown library for an event? What type of event would you like to go to at the library?
- What type of connectivity do you need at the downtown library? (i.e. WiFi for a personal device, a desktop computer to access, charging ports for personal devices, etc.)
- What types of materials and/or resources would you check out from the downtown library?
- If you had to place a hold for later pick up, how long would you wait for an item at the downtown library?
- Would you use the downtown library to meet with other people? What size of groups?

Plans and feedback available here: bit.ly/APLDowntownLibraryProject

Schedule for Public Input:

- June 11, 2025 — Draft report sent from GHD to APL staff.
- Late June 2025 — Draft report shared with Friends of the Library, Anchorage Library Foundation, and Historic Preservation Commission.
- July 7, 2025 — Library website is updated with project information and survey questions.
- Early July 2025 — Information shared through Anchorage Downtown Partnership.
- July 9, 2025 — Library staff attend Downtown Community Council.
- July 11, 2025 — Library Staff available with project boards at the Fridays on Fourth concert
- Week of July 14, 2025 — Cost estimates for project available.
- July 24, 2025 — Public Input closed
- August 1, 2025 — Public Input reviewed and collated to be shared with GHD.