

FIND YOUR PLACE

A new central public
library for the city of
Omaha, NE


OPL Central Public Library Community Share Out

June 06, 2022



APMA

1. Discovery
2. Engagement
3. Design



01
Discovery

The Washington Post

Opinion: The golden age of public libraries dawns again



The Deichman Bjørnvika library in Oslo has six floors held up by three towers, leaving an open atrium at the building's center. It was named public library of the year in 2021. (Sigrid Harms/picture alliance via Getty Images)

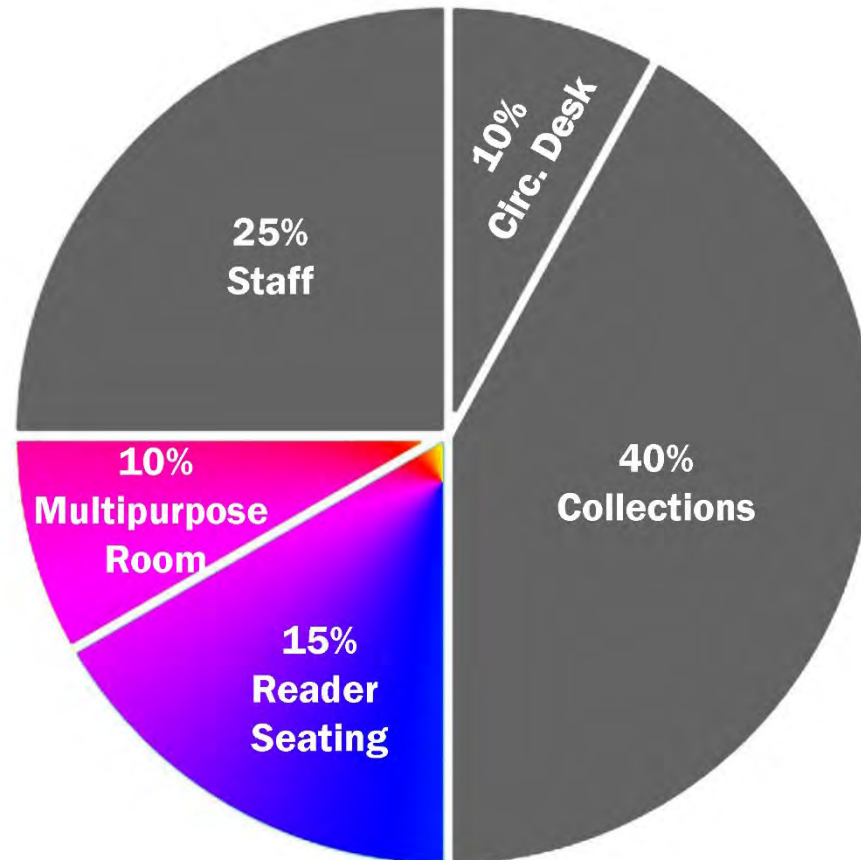
By Editorial Board

January 1, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. EST



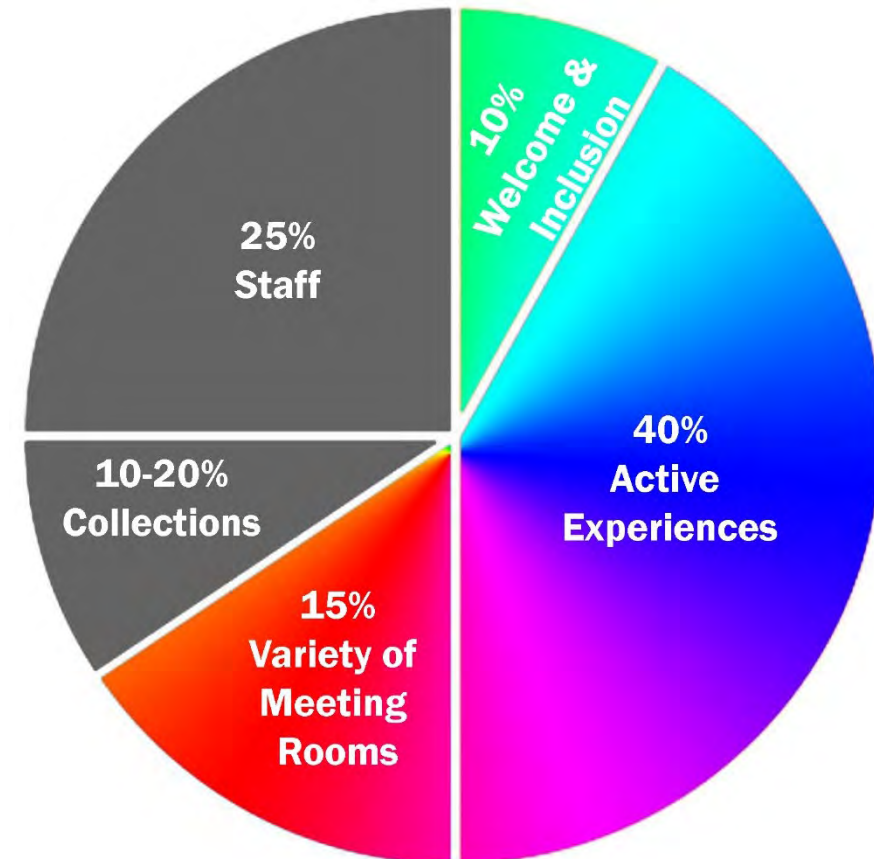
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/01/01/public-libraries-golden-age/>

20th Century Library



Approach to Design:
Applying Standard Practices to Create
Departments: Reference, Adults & Children

21st Century Library



Approach to Design:
Applying Customized Placemaking Techniques to
Create Conditions for the Community to Flourish

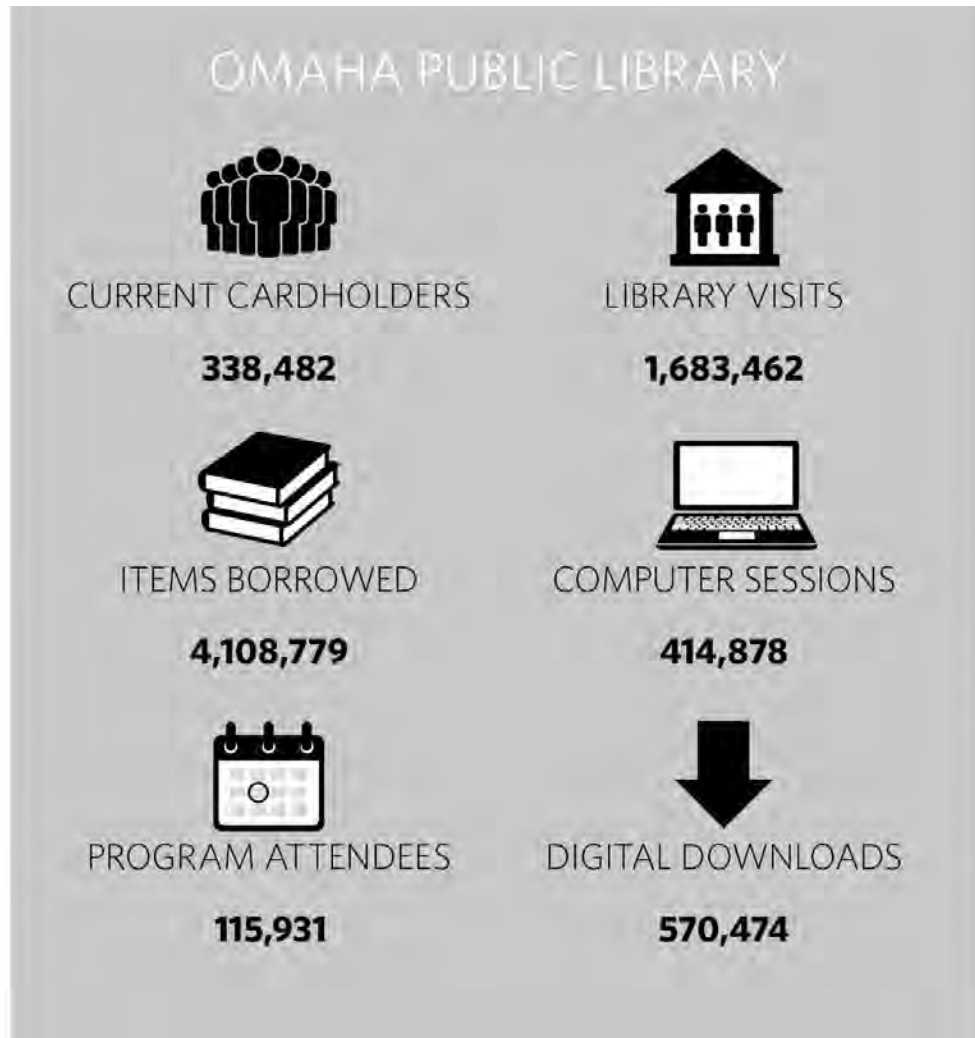
Discovery | Strengths of OPL



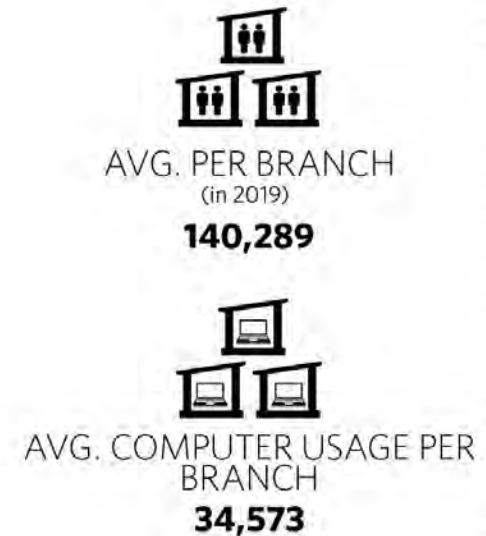
Discovery | Strengths of Do Space



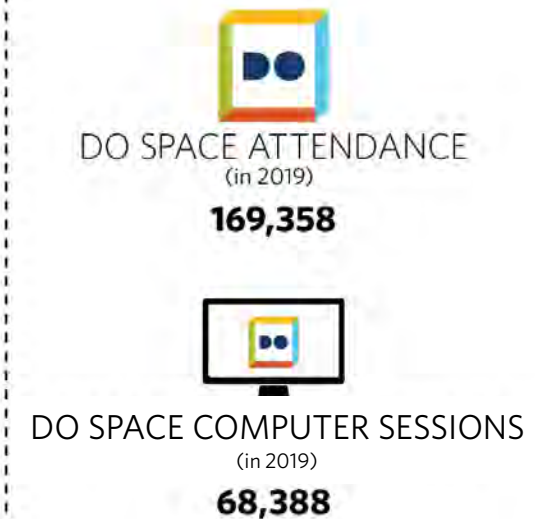
Discovery | Service Stats (2019)



PER BRANCH



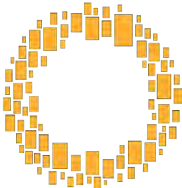
DO SPACE



Discovery | Stakeholders



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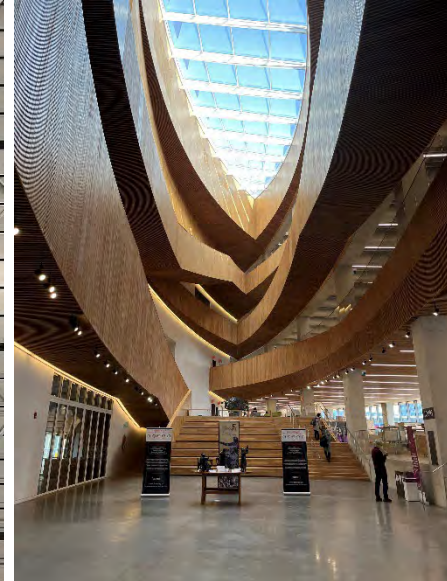


Heritage
Omaha

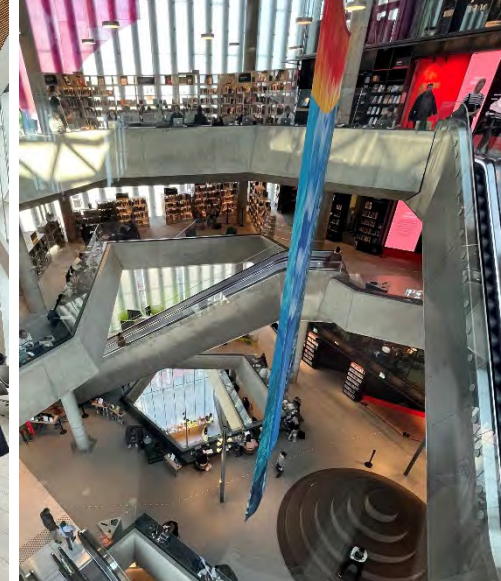
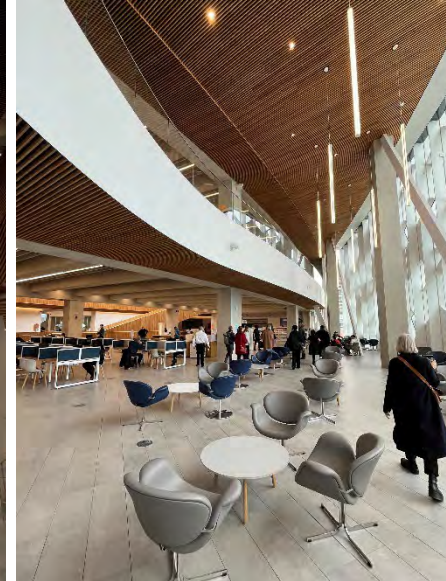
Discovery | Library Tours



Hunt Library | Tour of Hunt Library – Raleigh, N.C.



New Central Library | Tour of Calgary Central Library – Calgary, Alberta



Deichman Bjørvika | Tour of Deichman Library – Oslo, Norway

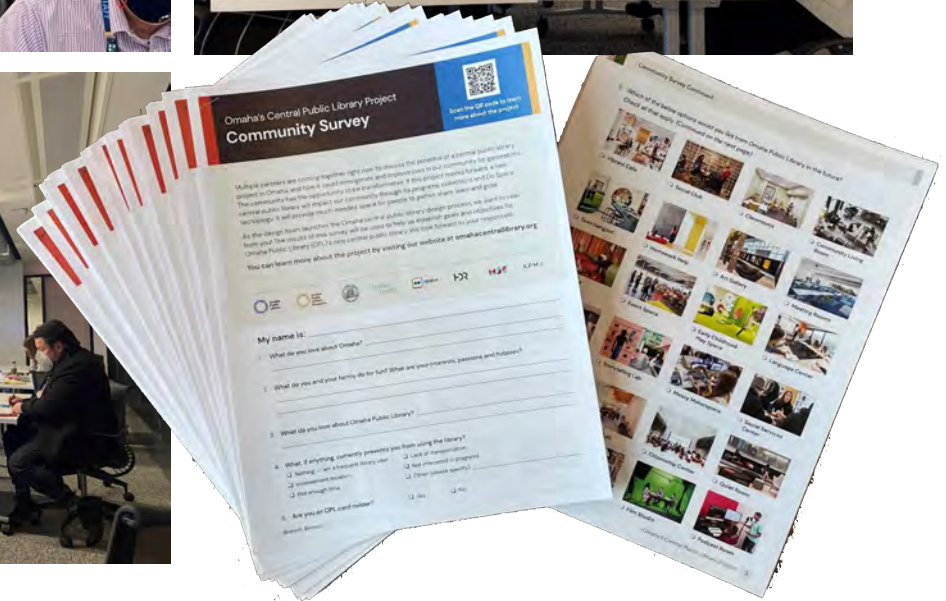
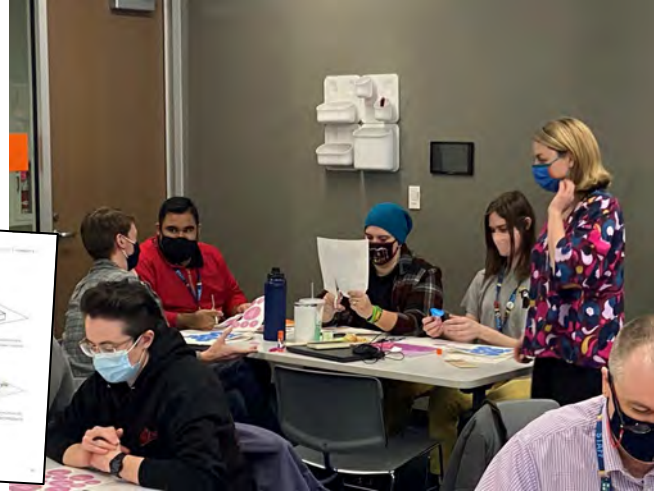




02

Engagement

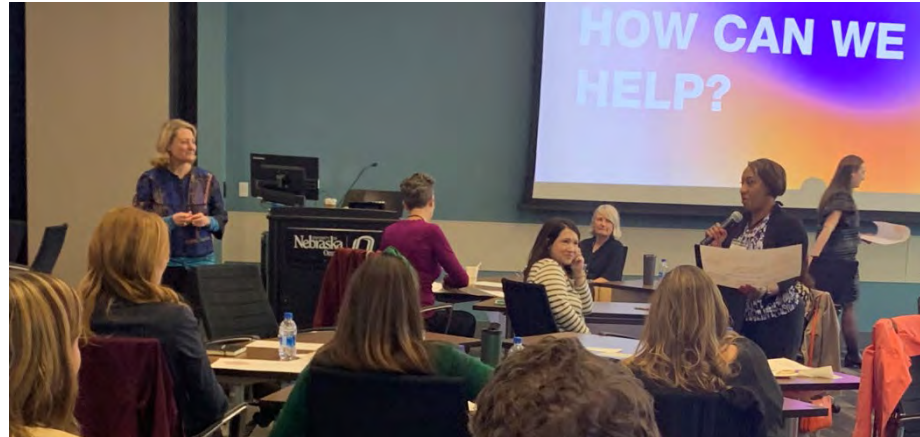
Engagement



Community Engagement | Community Partners



Community Partner Survey
March 15, 2022
53 Participants



Community Partners' Breakfasts
April 4-5, 2022
94 Participants



One-on-One Zoom Conversations
March 16-April 29, 2022
18 Participants



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Community Engagement | Participating Partner Organizations

AARP Nebraska

AIM Institute

All Kinds Accessibility

American Institute of Graphic Arts

American Society of Landscape Architects

Autism Action Partnership

Barbara Weitz Community Engagement
Center

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Midlands

Bike Walk Nebraska

Buffett Early Childhood Institute

Canopy South

Center for Holistic Development, Inc.

Collective for Hope

Creighton University

Dundee Book Company

Durham Museum

Film Streams

Fontenelle Forest

Friends of Omaha Public Library

Front Porch Investments

Google

Great Plains Black History Museum

Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce

Greater Omaha Genealogical Society

Growing Hearts Collaborative

Habitat for Humanity

Heartland Bike Share

Heartland Family Service

Heartland Workforce Solutions

Humanities Nebraska

Institute for Holocaust Education

Intercultural Senior Center

Ja Keen Fox Solutions

Jewish Federation of Omaha

Joslyn Art Museum

Kids Can Community Center

Kiewit Luminarium

Latino Center of the Midlands

Lauritzen Gardens

Learning for ALL

Legal Aid of Nebraska

Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska

Maha Festival

Metro Omaha Education Consortium

Metro Omaha Raise Me to Read

Metro Transit

Metropolitan Area Planning Agency

Metropolitan Community College

Millard Public Schools

Munroe-Meyer Institute

Nania Arts

Natural Healing Omaha

Nebraska Arts Council

Nebraska Early Childhood Collaborative

Nebraska Legislature

Nebraska Methodist College

Nebraska Shakespeare Festival, Inc.

No More Empty Pots

Nonprofit Association of the Midlands

North End Teleservices

Omaha 100

Omaha by Design

Omaha Community Foundation

Omaha Girls Rock

Omaha Lit Fest

Omaha Public Power District

Omaha Public Schools

Omaha STEM Ecosystem

Omaha Symphony

Omaha Zoo Foundation

Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium

One Omaha

Open Door Mission

The Reader

Refugee Women Rising

Rose Theater

Siena Francis House

Table Grace Ministries

Three Rivers Library System

Union for Contemporary Art

United Way of the Midlands

University of Nebraska - Omaha

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Urban League of Nebraska

Vic Gutman & Associates

The Wellbeing Partners

Westside Community Schools

WhyArts Inc.

Wild Roots People's Clinic

Women's Center for Advancement

Women's Fund of Omaha



Omaha Public Library



Omaha Public Library Foundation



Heritage Omaha



Partner Engagement | Community Partner Survey

What do you address in your work?

JOB SKILLS & WORKFORCE

INEQUITY TRANSPORTATION

ARTS & CULTURE **DIGITAL DIVIDE**

DIVERSITY & INCLUSIVENESS

EDUCATION LANGUAGE BARRIERS
AFFORDABLE HOUSING

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HOMELESSNESS **CHILDCARE** **POVERTY**

SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE

DRUGS & ADDICTION **MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES**

DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT

Community Engagement | Community Partner Survey

What spaces and places would support your organization at the library?



83% Meeting rooms



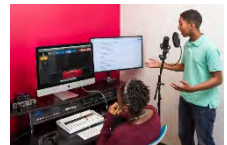
65% Classrooms



64% Event Space



44% Community Living Room



44% Podcast Room



39% Vibrant Cafe



37% Film Studio



37% Quiet Room



37% Study Rooms



35% Art Gallery



35% Business & Career Center



33% Storytelling Lab



31% Citizenship Center



31% Early Childhood Play Space



31% Homework Help



31% Social Services Center



31% Tech Training Lab



29% Childcare



29% Co-Working Space



29% Language Center



27% Teen Hangout



25% Messy Makerspace



25% Social Club



25% Vibrant Bookstore



23% Tech Arts Lab



21% Business Incubator



19% Community Theater



19% Nooks



19% Printmaking Studio



17% Music Studio



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Community Engagement | Project Microsite : omahacentrallibrary.org

Omaha's Central Public Library Project

[Inspiration](#) [Collaboration](#) [FAQs](#) [News](#) [Connect](#)



Let's dream of what a world-class central public library might look like, of what it might mean for the future of Omaha, and for each of us.

Modern public libraries contain all the things everyone loves about traditional libraries, and they offer more – like greater access to technology, services and creative spaces. The public libraries of today buzz with activity and potential. What does Omaha need from public libraries tomorrow and well into the future?

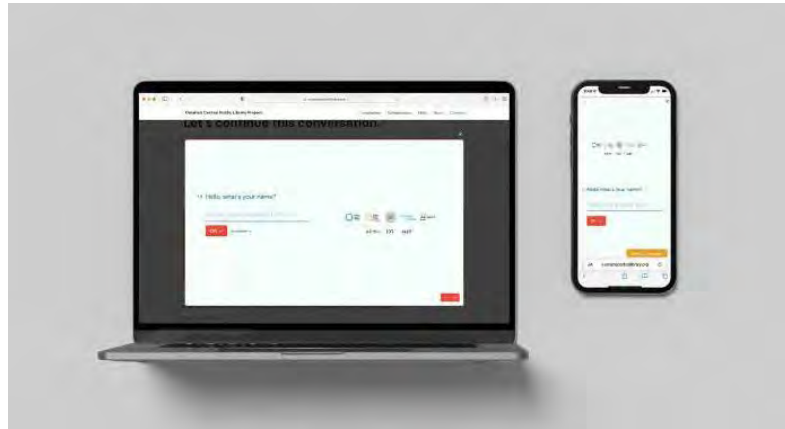
Let's get inspired. Let's dream of a central public library that is accessible, inclusive and, most of all, transforms our city.

[TAKE A LOOK](#)

[Select Language](#)

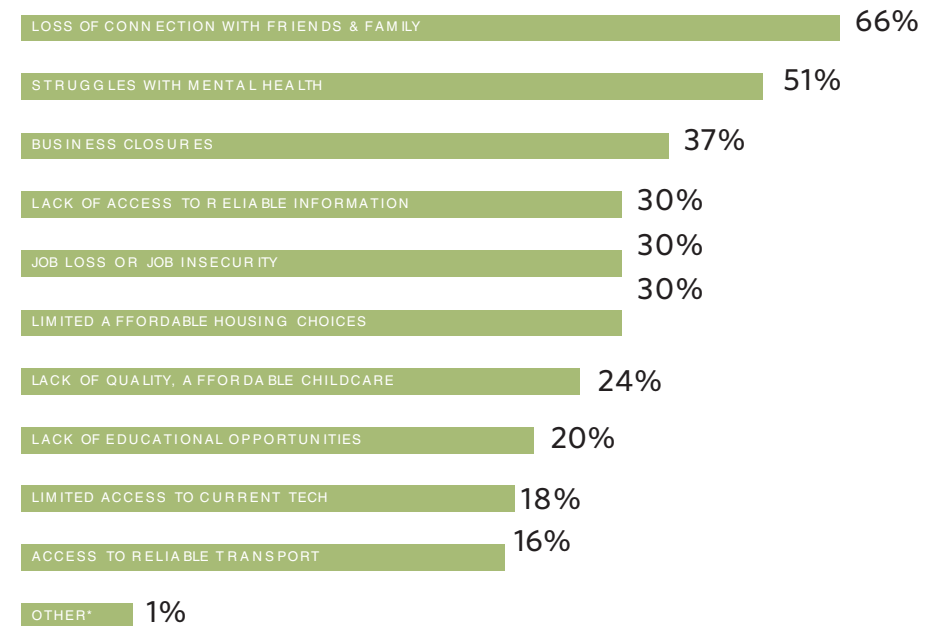
TOTAL RESPONSES:

1,632



A total of 1,496 people responded to the online English language survey; 3 people responded to the online Spanish language survey; and a total of 116 people filled out paper surveys.

PROMPT: "DUE TO THE ONGOING COVID-19 PANDEMIC, WHAT CHALLENGES DO YOU, YOUR NEIGHBORS AND COMMUNITY FACE?"



*Additional responses included: inability to travel far from residence; no challenges faced; fear of illness; lack of quality jobs; lack of youth programming; lack of free gathering spaces; and inflation



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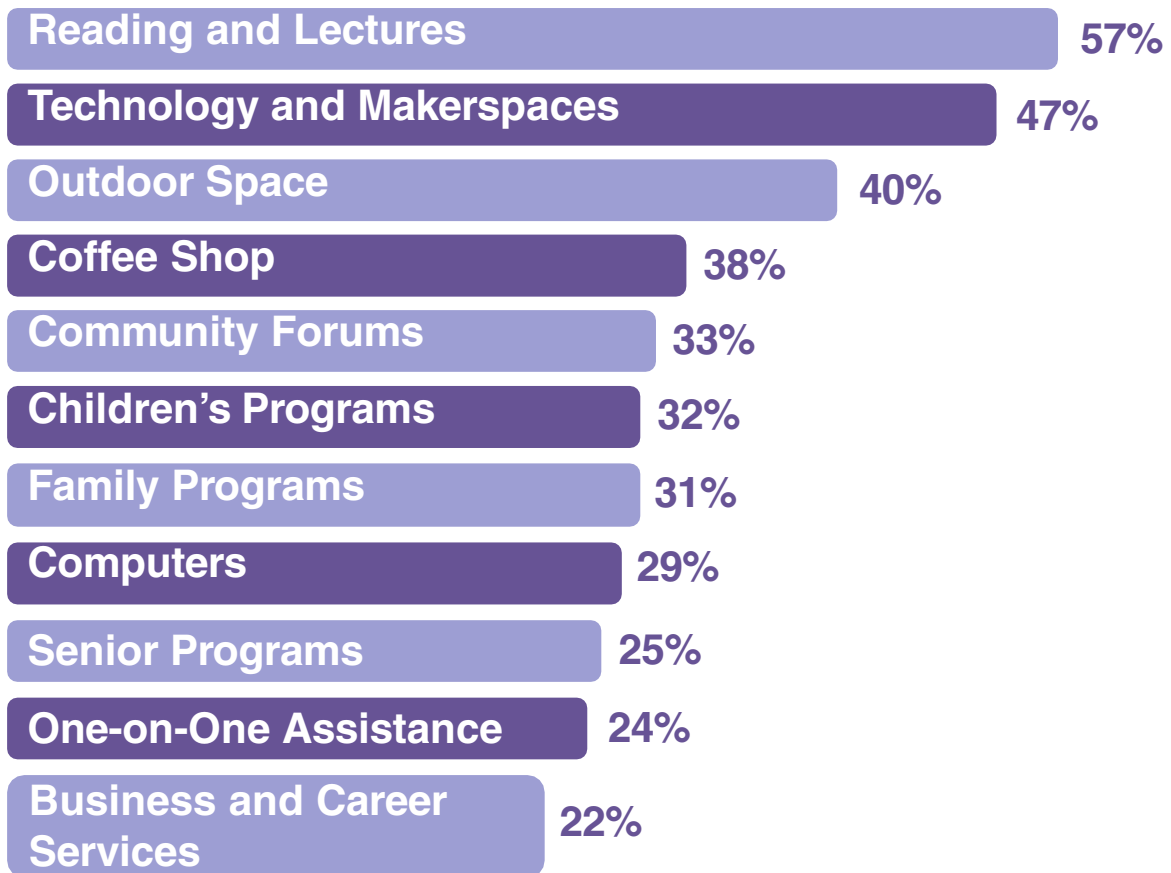


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Community Engagement | Community Survey

What **programs** are you most interested in taking advantage of at the library?



Community Engagement | Community Survey

What spaces would you like to see in your future Omaha Public Libraries?



54% Vibrant Cafe



45% Meeting Rooms



45% Quiet Room



44% Event Space



41% Art Gallery



40% Community Living room



36% Messy Makerspace



35% Classrooms



35% Tech Arts Lab



35% Study Rooms



35% Vibrant Bookstore



33% Language Center



33% Tech Training Lab



32% Social Services Center



32% Social Club



30% Co-working Space



30% Homework Help



29% Printmaking Studio



29% Citizenship Center



29% Business & Career Center



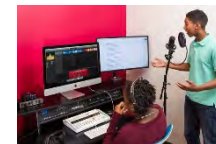
29% Early Childhood Play space



28% Nooks



27% Teen Hangout



24% Podcast Room



24% Storytelling Lab



22% Music Studio



20% Film studio



19% Childcare



17% Community Theater



16% Business Incubator

Discovery | Places & Spaces



- COFFEE/TEA TASTING
- MEETING WITH A FRIEND
- BEER/WINE TASTINGS
- HOMESCHOOL FAMILY MEET-UPS
- CROSSWORD PUZZLES
- ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD
- QUILTING/SEWING
- SNACKING
- WORK REMOTELY
- PLAYS/PERFORMANCES
- CHILDREN'S PLAYS
- BIRTHDAY PARTIES
- JANE AUSTEN TEA PARTY
- COMMUNITY MEETINGS
- PANEL DISCUSSIONS
- FAMILY FUN NIGHT
- LOCAL POLITICIAN VISITS
- CONCERTS
- CONVERSATION CIRCLES
- PLAY CHESS
- REGISTER TO VOTE
- CURRENT EVENTS CONVERSATIONS
- COLLEGE FAIR
- BOOK BASH
- DEBATES
- OPEN MIC POETRY SLAM

- MEET WITH A FRIEND
- PICK-UP GAMES
- FOOD TRUCKS
- JANE AUSTEN TEA PARTY
- CONCERTS
- FILM SCREENINGS
- DRONES PLAYGROUND
- DANCE LESSONS
- PLAY CHESS
- SUMMER READING
- OUTDOOR YOGA
- GARDEN
- PLAY
- PROTEST MEET-UPS
- ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD
- STORYTIME
- STORYTELLING WALK
- PLAYS/PERFORMANCES
- LITTLES LAB
- BUILD CLUB
- ROBOT RUMBLE

- BROWSE SEED LIBRARY
- SCIENCE EXPERIMENT
- LIVE ANIMALS
- COMMUNITY MEETINGS
- FUNDRAISERS
- PANEL DISCUSSIONS
- LECTURES
- SUMMER READING
- FILM SCREENINGS
- SMASH TOURNAMENTS
- TEEN LOCK-INS
- DANCE LESSONS
- COLLEGE FAIR
- STORYTIME
- GENEALOGY PROGRAMS
- SRP PROGRAMS
- JOB FAIRS
- DEBATES
- AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
- TEEN DISCUSSIONS
- COMPUTER CLASSES
- ZUMBA CLASS
- MARKETING CLASSES

- MEDITATION CLASS
- HOMESCHOOL FAMILY MEET-UPS
- PARENTING WORKSHOP
- ESL CLASS
- MENTORSHIP PAIR-OFF
- MEMOIR WRITING
- BOOK CLUB
- GENEALOGY PROGRAMS
- GAMING TOURNAMENT
- SRP PROGRAMS
- TEEN POETRY WORKSHOP
- TECH CLUB MEET-UP
- ROBOT RUMBLE
- DRAWING WORKSHOP
- WRITING WORKSHOP
- LUNCH & LEARNS
- INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS
- SKILL SHARING SESSIONS
- PLAY
- ACTIVITY SHEETS
- LEGO CLUB
- CHILDREN'S PLAYS
- TODDLER CALMING

- PARENT-CHILD READING
- EARLY LIT EDUCATION
- SUMMER READING
- HEALTHY SNACK DEMO
- COOKING CLASS
- RECIPE SHARE
- CUPCAKE WARS
- ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD
- SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAMS
- STUDYING
- MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
- HOMEWORK HELP
- EBT ASSISTANCE
- CLIENT MEETINGS
- VETERANS ASSISTANCE
- FAMILY VISITATION
- BOOK CLUB
- ANIME CLUB
- STUDYING
- BROWSE FOR BOOKS
- WRITING

- RESEARCHING
- WORK ALONE, TOGETHER
- SELF-PUBLISHING
- MEMOIR WRITING
- RECORD YOUR STORY
- IDEA BOARDS/BOX
- STORYTELLING IN THE ROUND
- SHOW & TELL
- VIRTUAL REALITY EXPERIENCE
- GALLERY EXHIBIT OPENING
- LEARN ABOUT NEBRASKA HISTORY
- GENEALOGY PROGRAMS
- RESEARCHING
- DIG THROUGH ARCHIVES
- GUIDED AUDIO TOURS
- QUILTING/SEWING
- POTTERY THROWING
- ART MAKING
- LITTLES LAB
- OPEN MAKERSPACE USE
- SENIOR MAKERS CLUB
- MAKERSPACE BASICS WORKSHOP
- BUILD CLUB
- DESIGN IT! PROTOTYPE CLASS
- OPEN INVENTION STUDIO

- FAMILY CRAFTING ACTIVITY
- SCIENCE EXPERIMENT
- ETSY WORKSHOP
- TECH CLUB MEET-UPS
- OPEN MAKERSPACE USE
- CIRCUIT JAMS
- 3D PRINTING/LASER CUTTING
- ROBOT RUMBLE
- DIGITAL PRODUCTION
- CONVERT OLD MEDIA
- PODCAST RECORDING
- FILM MAKING
- DJ WORKSHOP
- RECORDING
- WORK REMOTELY
- EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
- INTERVIEW CLOTHING LENDING
- RESUME WRITING
- CAREER SPECIALISTS
- JOB SEARCHING
- CLIENT MEETINGS
- COPY/PRINT STATIONS
- KID CODERS
- ONE-ON-ONE TECH HELP
- TECH BAR
- BASIC TECH HELP

20th Century Process

INDUSTRY STANDARDS TO INFORM SOLUTIONS

BASED ON SERVING COMMUNITY THROUGH OBJECTS SUCH AS MATERIALS, COLLECTIONS, AND READER SEATS

MASTER FACILITY PLAN THAT IS BASED ON NATIONAL TRENDS, BENCHMARKS, AND STANDARDS THAT IS NOT SPECIFIC TO COMMUNITY CONDITIONS AND LIBRARY'S STRATEGIES

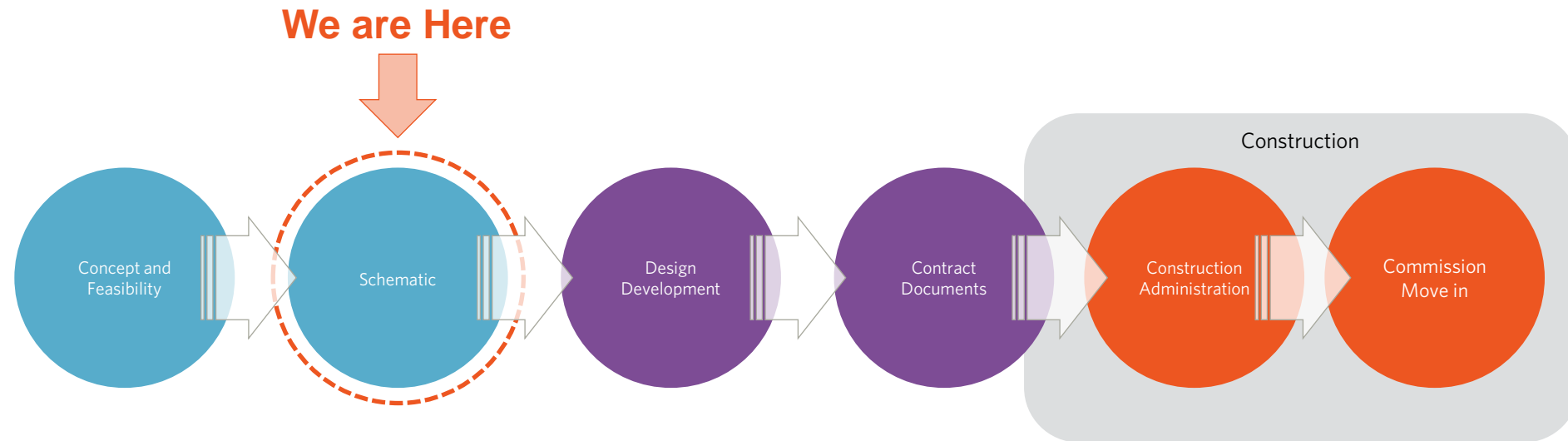
21st Century Process



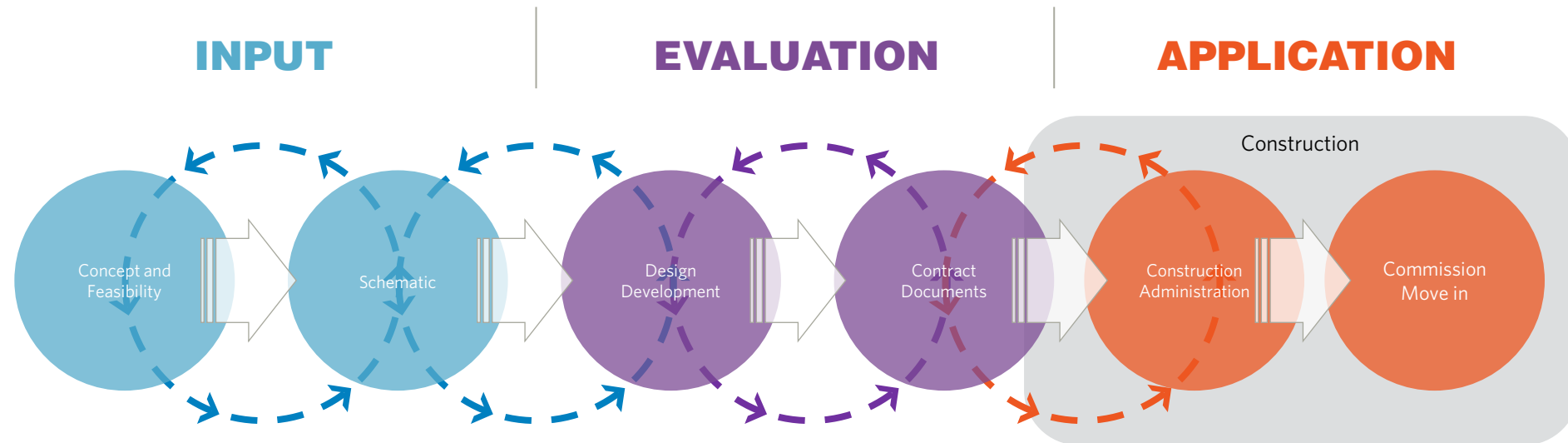
“A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert.”

- Andrew Carnegie

Building Project | Current Phase



Building Project | A Process of Input, Evaluation, Application





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Design | Pillars

LIBRARY

DESIGN

SUSTAINABILITY

COMMUNITY

Find your place...

your *place* in a book, your hidden skill, your ability to do, your *place* in our community. Your *place* now and in the future.

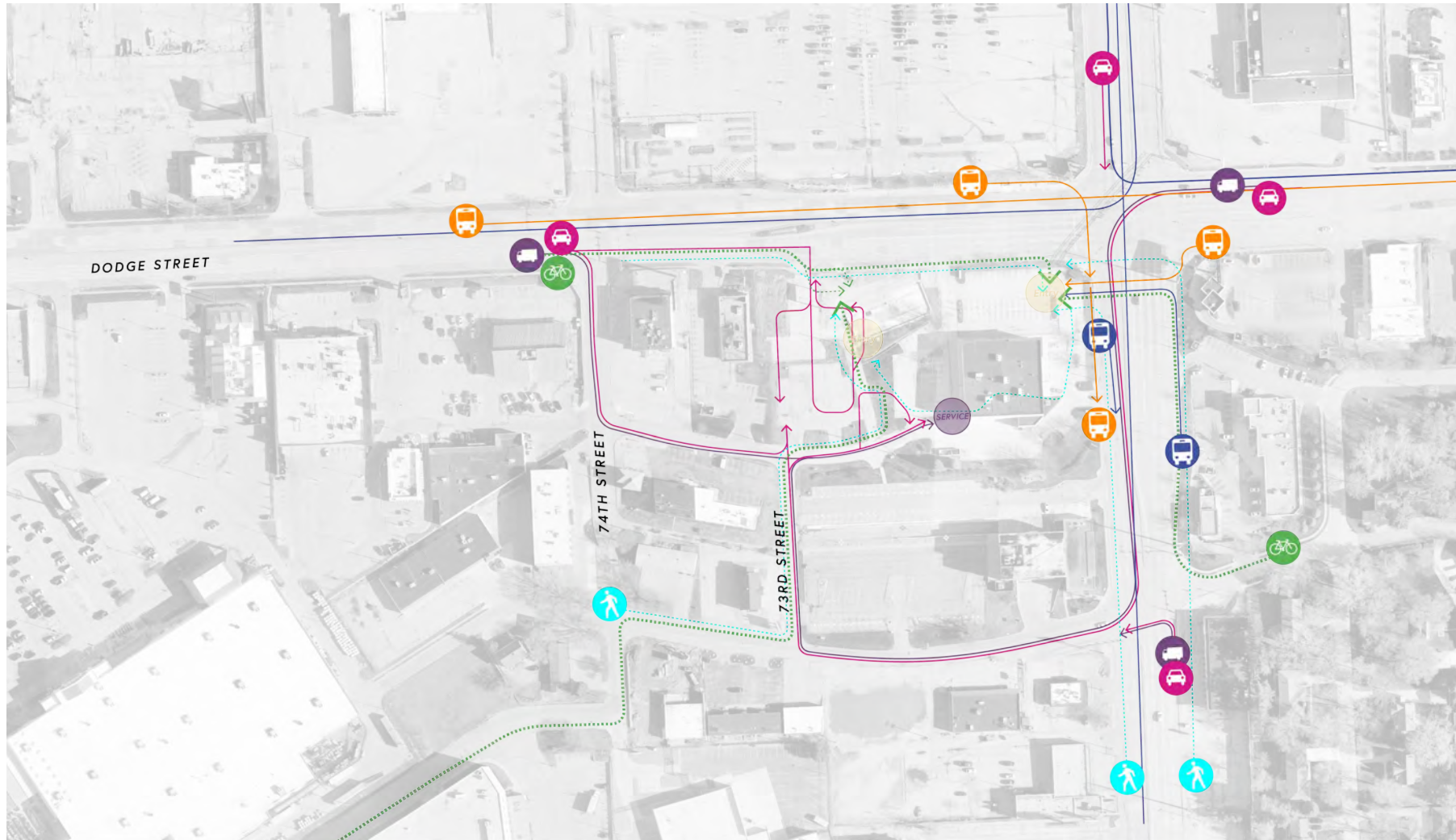
Lift the edge and find your *place*.

About the Place | 72nd & Dodge



It was once said “downtowns are the heart of our cities, but neighborhoods are their soul.”

Site Plan | Dodge Street Level



SITE ACCESS

- PEDESTRIAN WALKING PATH 
- BIKE ACCESS ROUTES 
- BRT ROUTES 
- TRANSIT ACCESS ROUTES 
- VEHICULAR ACCESS ROUTES 
- SERVICE DISTRIBUTION DELIVERIES 

Site Plan | District



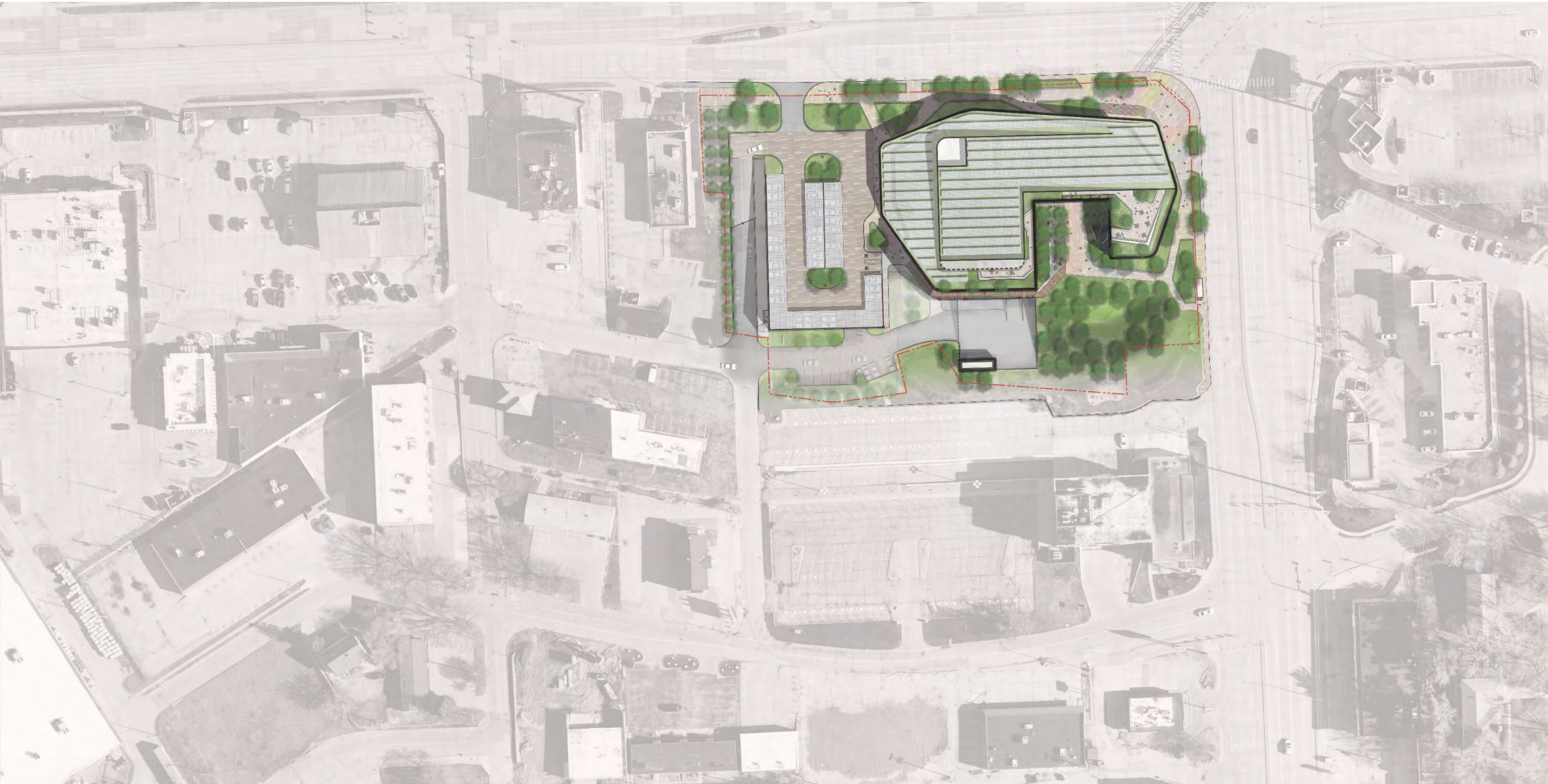
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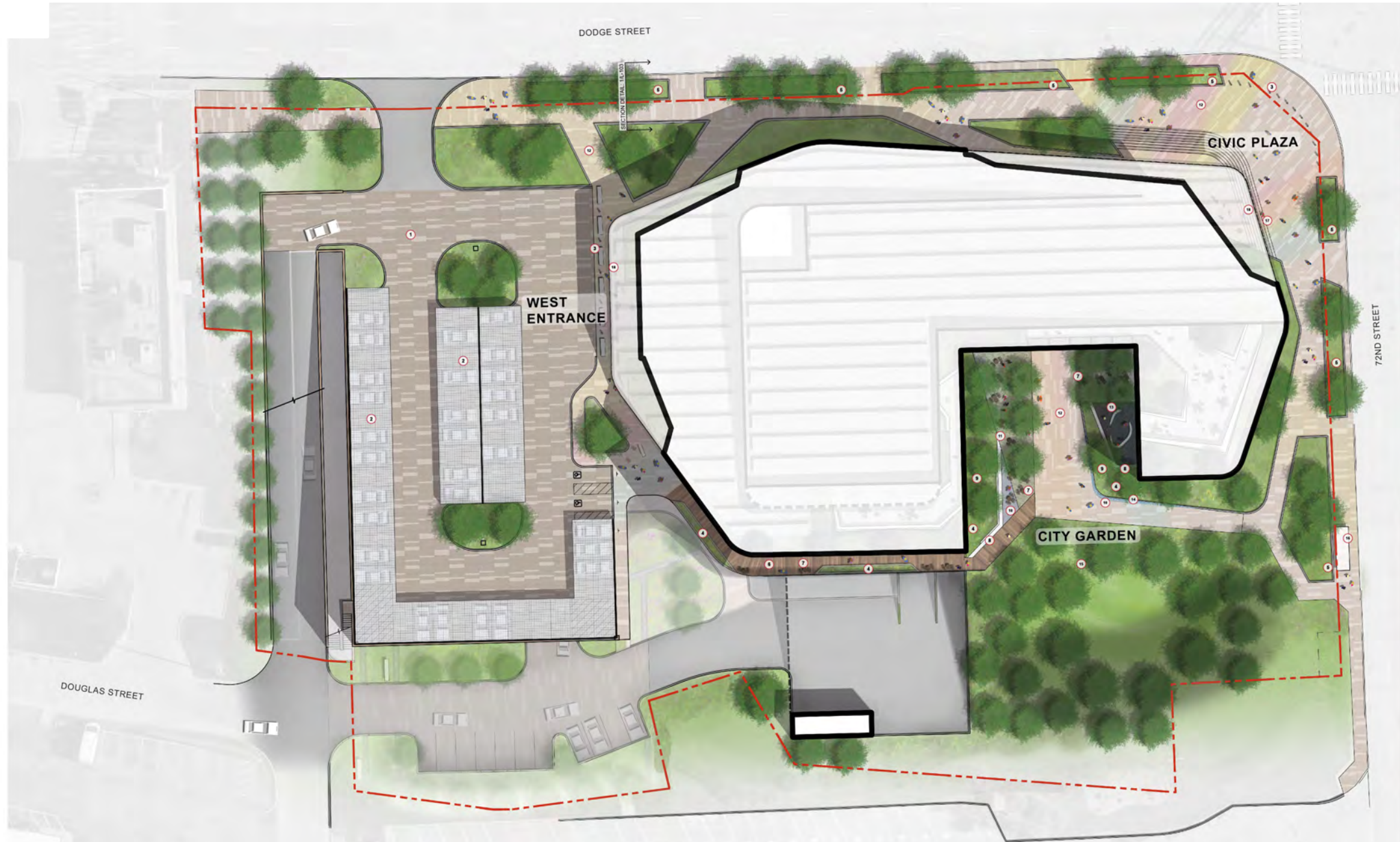
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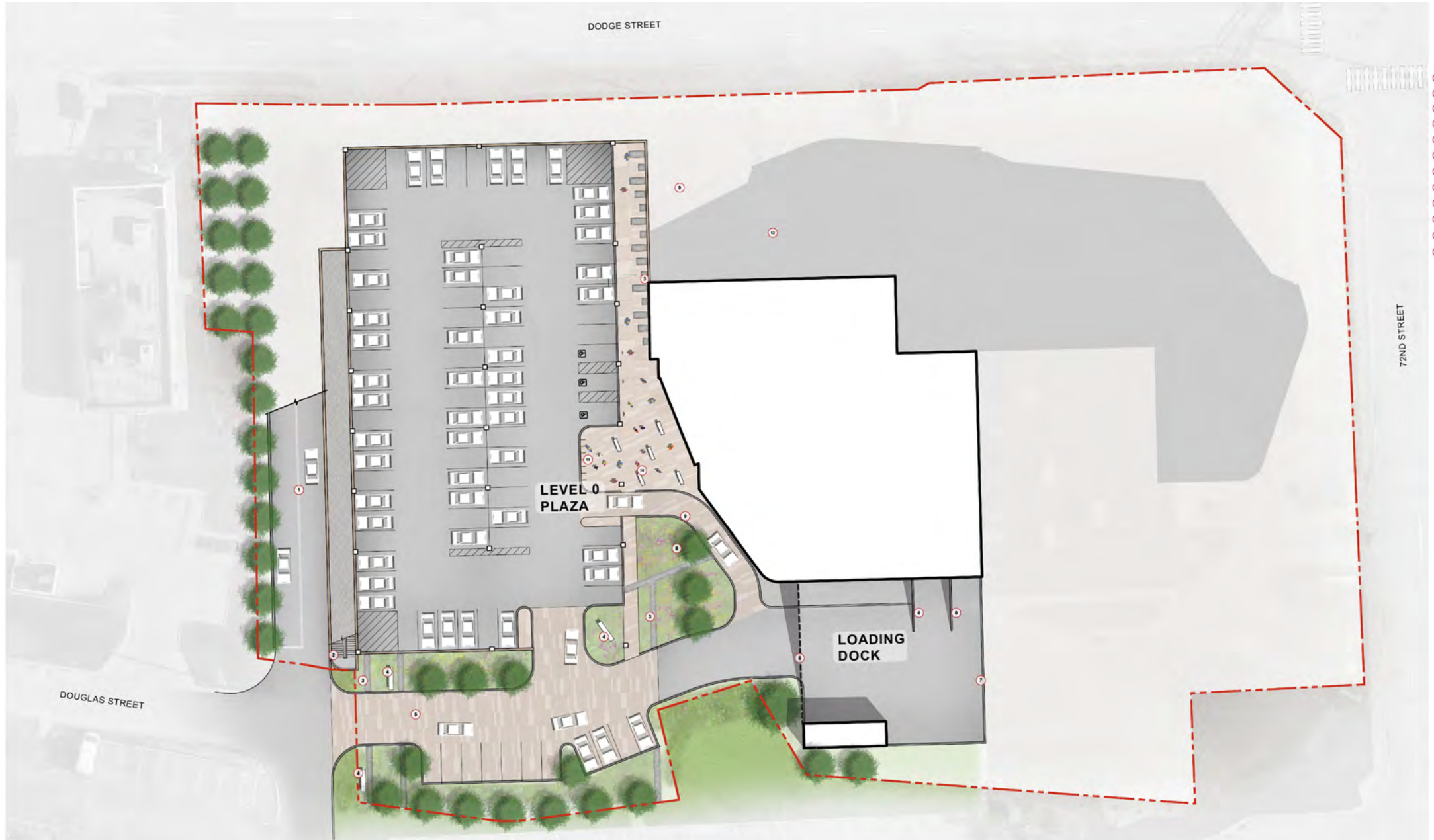
Site Plan | Dodge Street Level



LEGEND

- 1 PARKING DECK LINEAR PAVERS
- 2 PV PANEL CANOPIES
- 3 DEFENSIBLE BOLLARDS & BENCHES
- 4 NATIVE POLLINATOR PLANTERS
- 5 STORMWATER FILTRATION PLANTERS
- 6 BOARDWALK
- 7 MOVABLE SEATING
- 8 PRE-CAST CUSTOM BENCH
- 9 BERMED PLANTING AREA
- 10 CRUSHED AGGREGATE
- 11 PERMEABLE STONE PAVERS
- 12 LINEAR PAVERS
- 13 CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY ZONE
- 14 WATER WALL
- 15 TERRACED OPEN LAWN
- 16 FUTURE TRANSIT STOP
- 17 GRAND CIVIC STAIR
- 18 BUILDING CANOPY

Site Plan | Douglas Street Level



LEGEND

- ① PARKING RAMP TO LEVEL 1
- ② EXIT STAIR
- ③ STONE LANDSCAPE ACCENTS
- ④ ENTRANCE SIGNAGE
- ⑤ CUSTOM MOTORIZED SLIDING GATE
- ⑥ +/- 3.5' CIP RETAINING WALL
- ⑦ LOADING DOCK RETAINING WALL +/- 8'
- ⑧ NATIVE PLANTINGS
- ⑨ BUILDING CANOPY
- ⑩ PRE-CAST CUSTOM BENCHES
- ⑪ BIKE RACKS
- ⑫ LEVEL 1 FOR REFERENCE

Building | Architecture Concept



Building | Architecture Concept



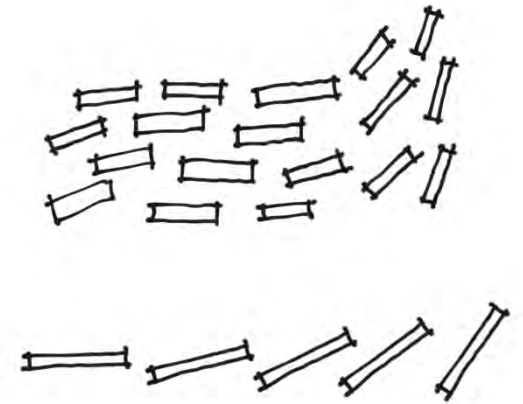
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“The whole is greater than the sum of the parts.”

– Aristotle



OMAHA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Building Architecture | North Elevation



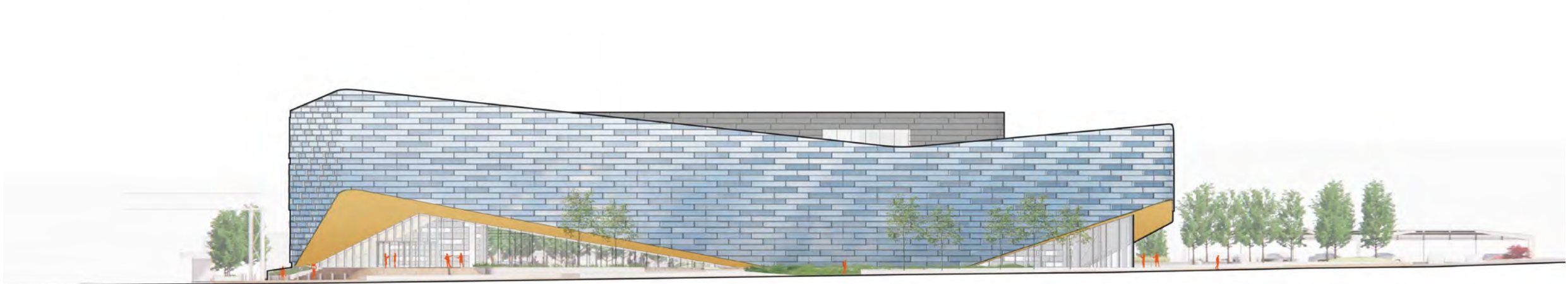
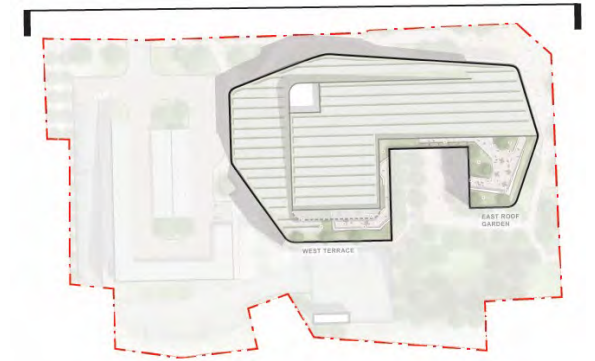
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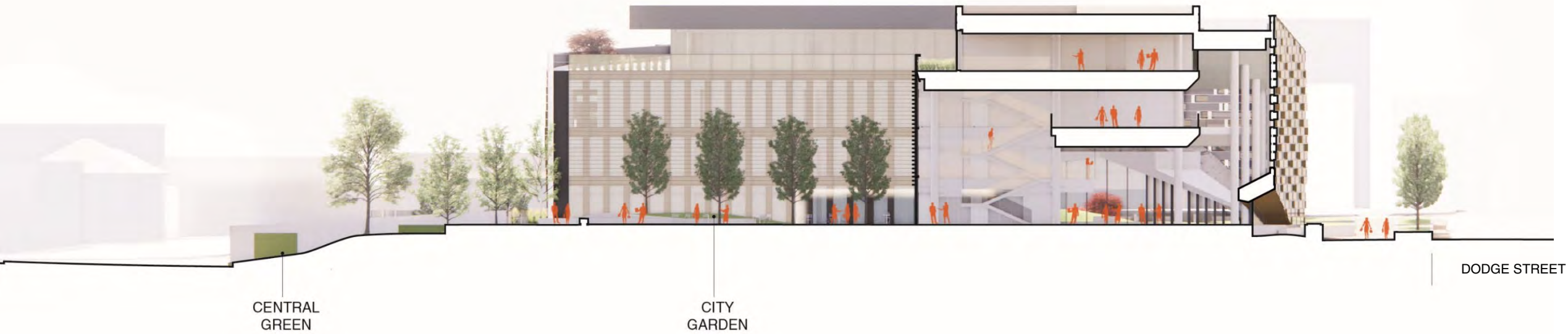
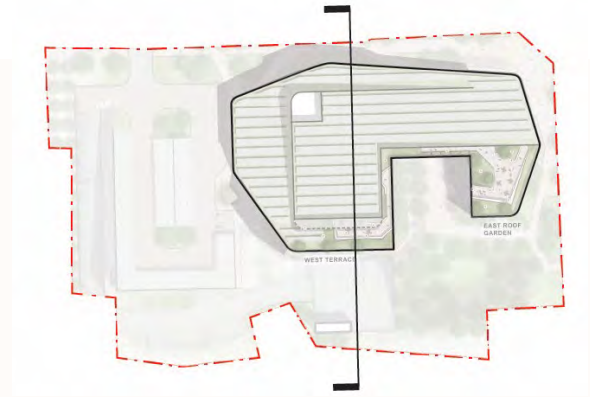


Heritage
Omaha



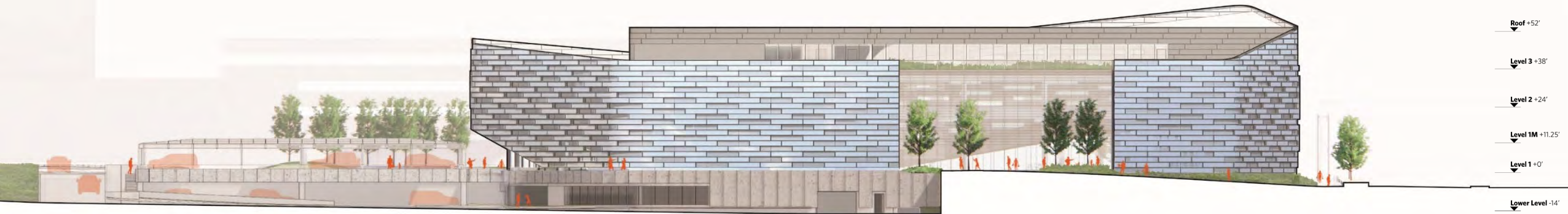
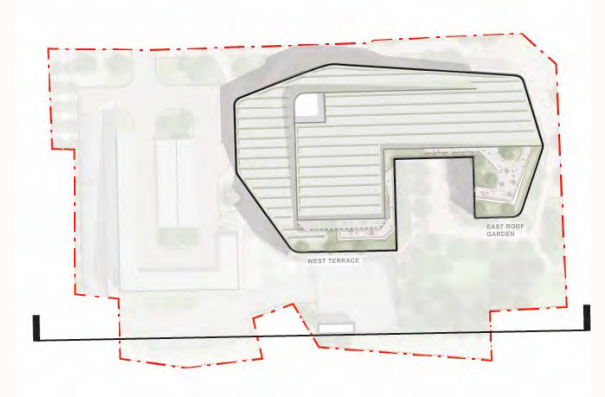


Building Architecture | East Building Section

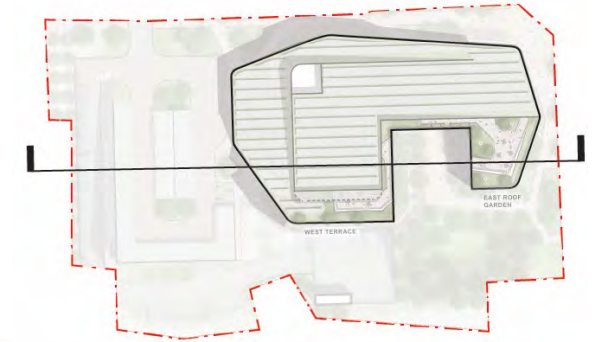




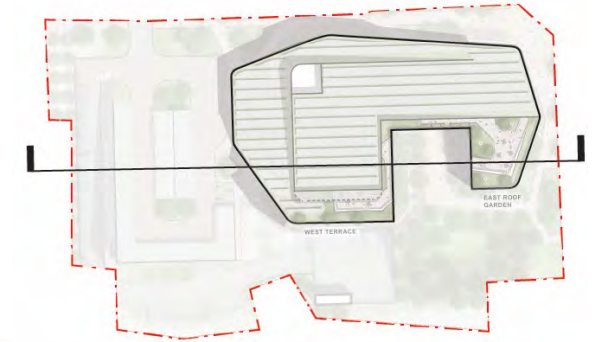
Building Architecture | South Elevation



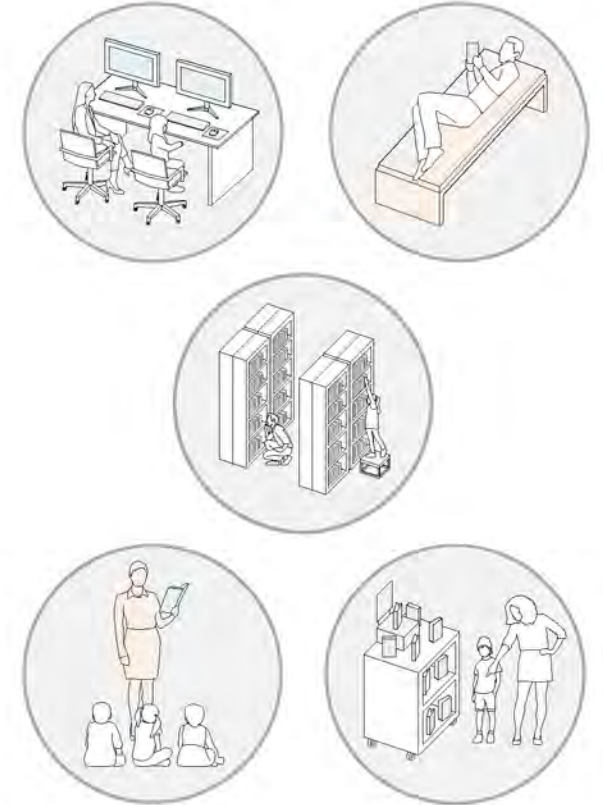
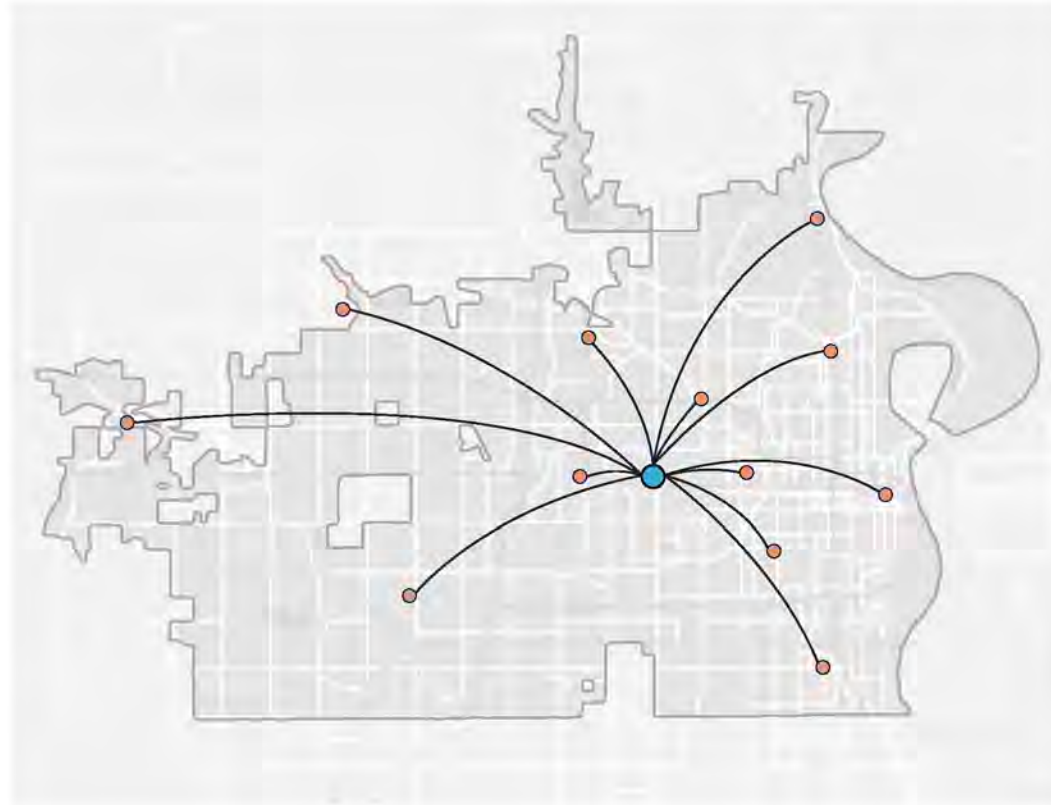
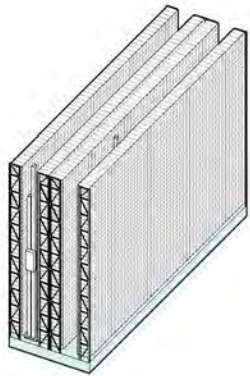
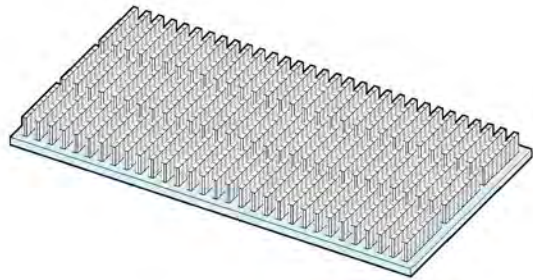
Building Architecture | South Section



Building Architecture | South Section



Building Systems | Collections Hub (Automated Storage and Retrieval System)



DOUBLE COLLECTION CAPACITY

Traditional shelving throughout the branches, supplemented by compact vertical storage.

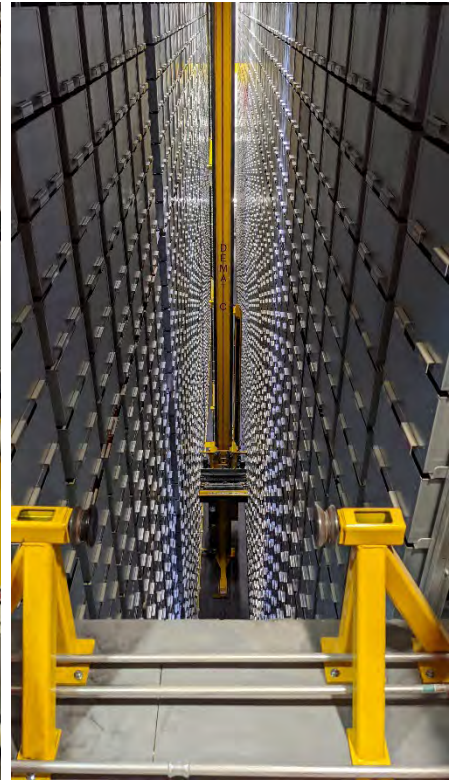
SUPPORTING THE BRANCHES

Central storage space provides efficient access to titles, delivered to a patron's branch of choice.

DYNAMIC COLLECTIONS, DISPLAYS, PROGRAMMING, & SERVICES

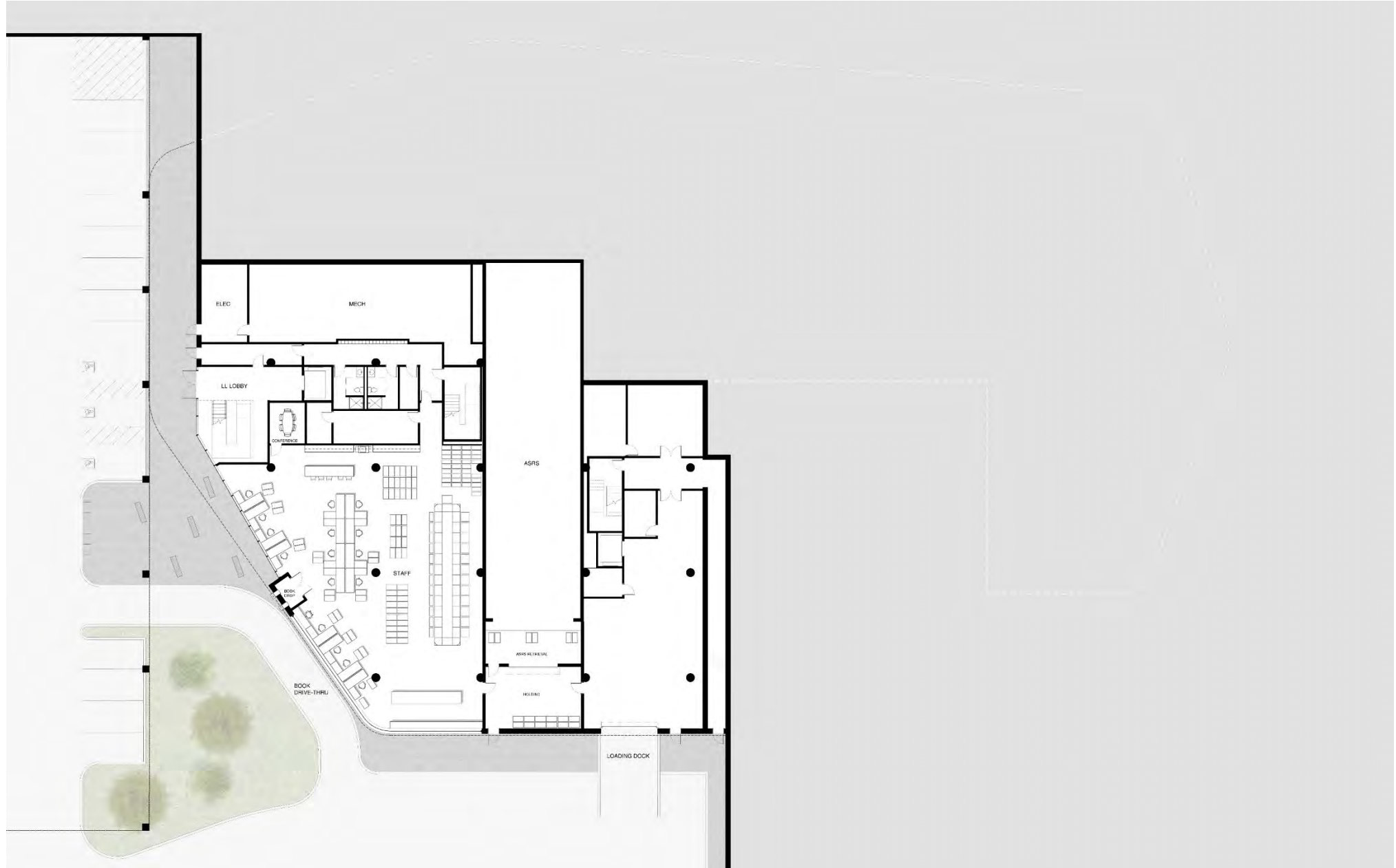
Utilizing flexible space to engage and inspire users.

Building Systems | ASRS (Automated Storage and Retrieval System)

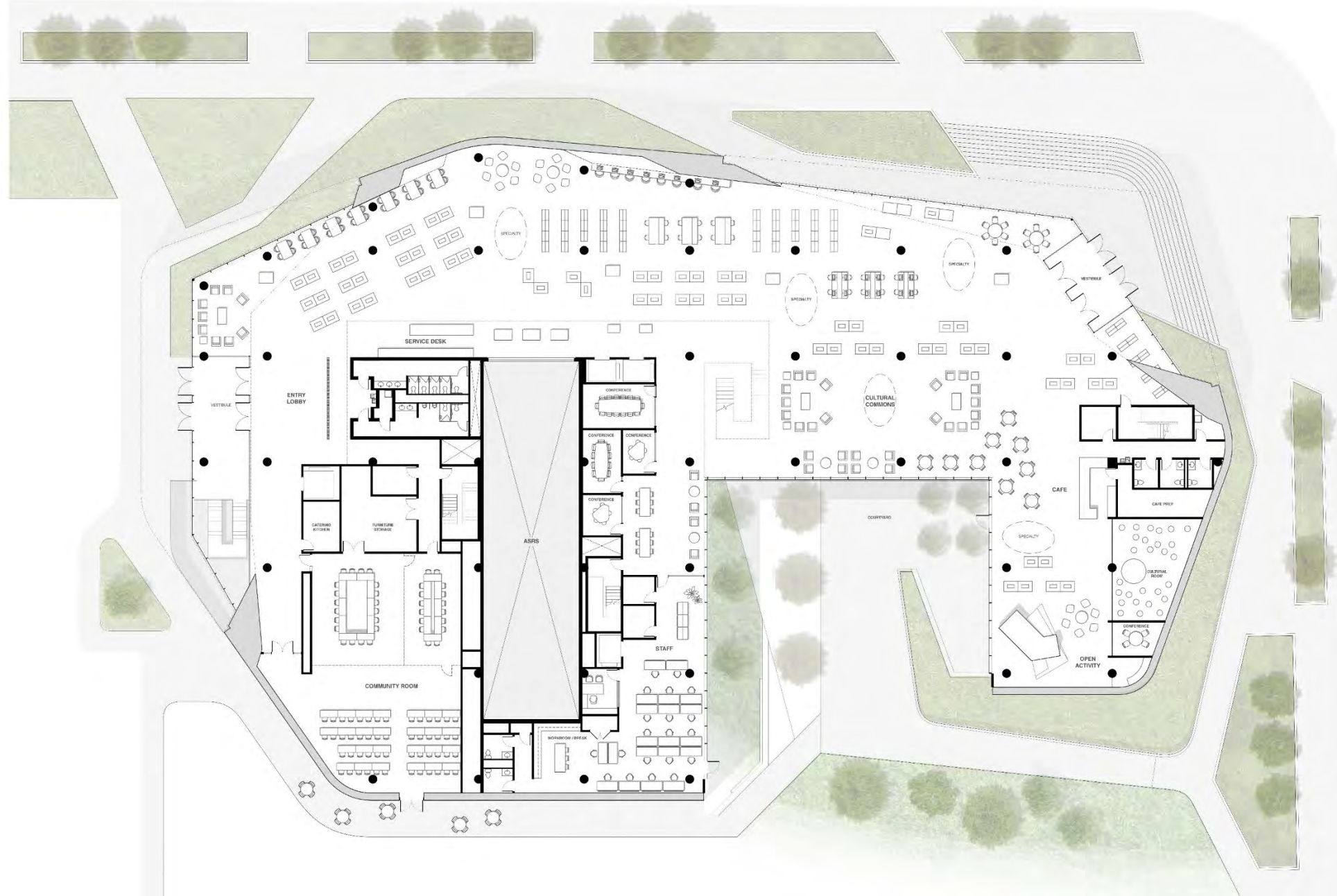


James B. Hunt Jr. Library, Raleigh, NC

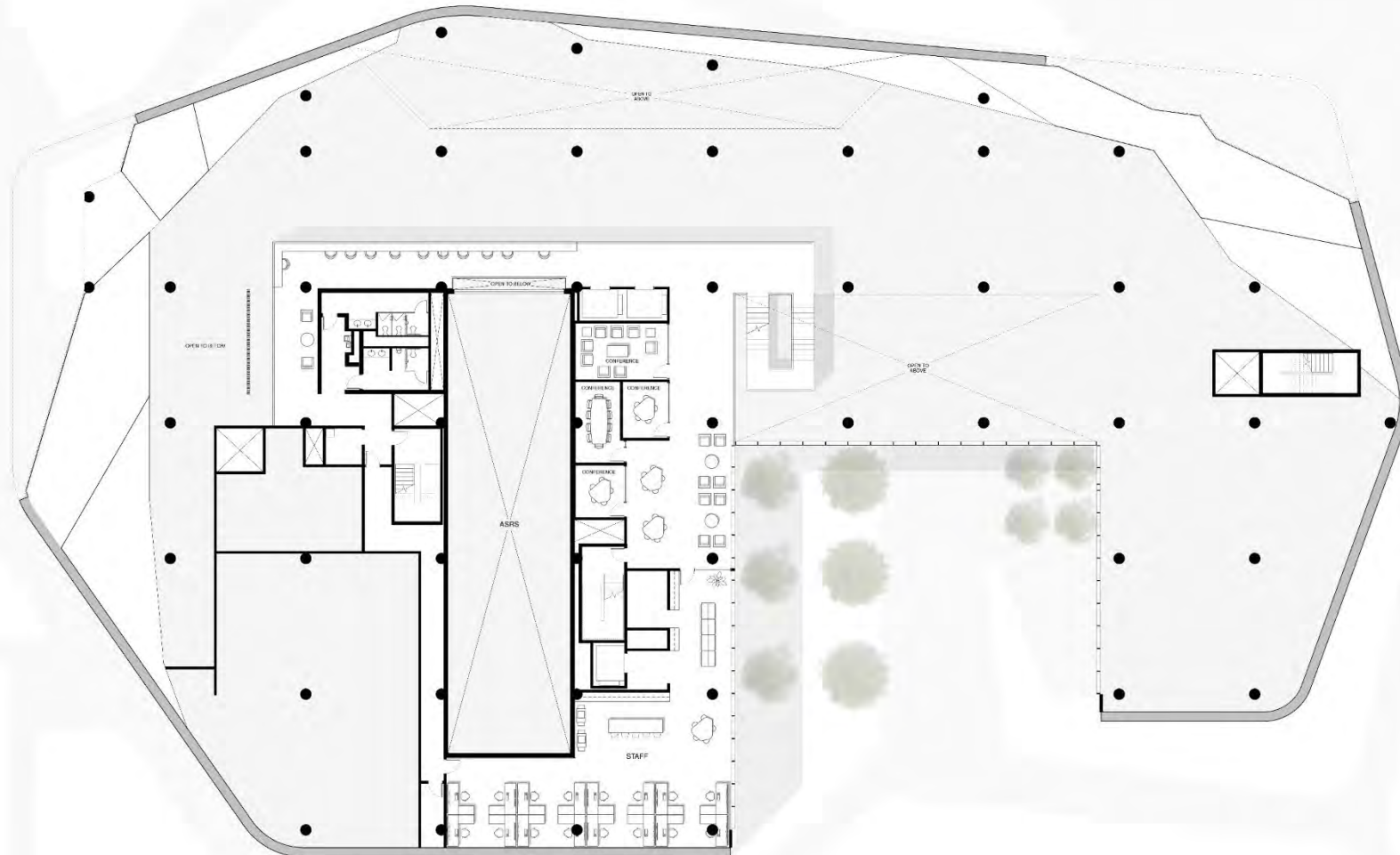
Building Interior | Lower Level Plan



Building Interior | First Level Plan



Building Interior | Mezzanine Level Plan





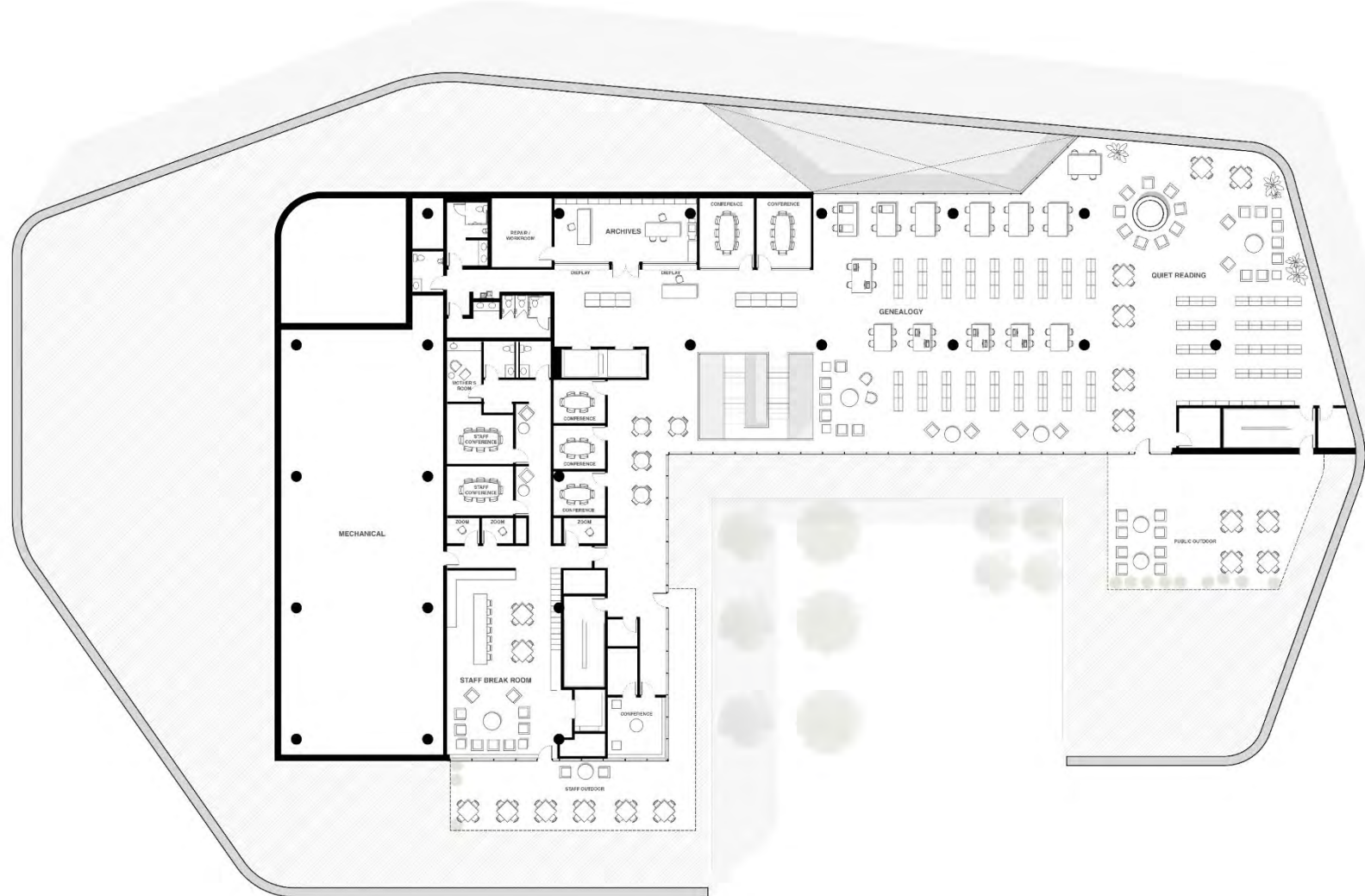
Building Interior | Second Level Plan







Building Interior | Third Level Plan





What activities will you, your friends and families enjoy?

What ideas should the design team continue to explore?

FIND YOUR PLACE

A new central public
library for the city of
Omaha, NE



Omaha
Public
Library



Omaha
Public
Library
foundation



Heritage
Omaha



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