Library postpones Gahanna Design Presentation meeting scheduled for Dec. 10
New date to be announced after the New Year holiday

COLUMBUS—Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) has postponed the Dec. 10 Design Presentation meeting for its new Gahanna Branch. The new date will be announced after the New Year holiday. Library leaders and architects from NBBJ need more time for the design process. Additionally, with the approaching holidays, leaders from both organizations agreed to push back the date for the meeting.

An initial listening meeting to solicit community feedback about the new branch was held Aug. 8. CML also conducted a survey of Gahanna Branch customers asking what they would like to see in their new branch, scheduled to be built on the site of the current branch (310 Granville St.) within the next few years.

In June 2018, after the success of Phase I of CML’s 10-project building program, CML’s Board of Trustees authorized the organization to move forward with four additional building projects:

- A Karl Road Branch rebuild on its existing site
- A Hilltop Branch renovation and expansion
- A Reynoldsburg Branch rebuild, site to be determined
- A Gahanna Branch rebuild on its existing site

These four projects represent Phase II of CML’s aspirational building program, which was developed in 2009 to address and prioritize the needs of its aging locations and the evolving community demands upon them. Phase I renovated or rebuilt 10 of CML’s 23 locations, including its Main Library.

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CML understands that great libraries create stronger communities, and each branch is an essential hub that reflects the unique needs of the neighborhood it serves. Some of CML’s 21 locations are 30 to 40 years old and inadequate to meet the demands of a growing 21st century community. Demands and expectations will continue to grow, along with the population of Franklin County.

CML’s aspirational building program is the result of a community-wide process that will continue to serve the needs of Franklin County well into the future. The plan is a multi-phased comprehensive blueprint that reinvents and revitalizes the entire 600,000 square feet maintained by the library.

In addition to being a vital community asset, Columbus Metropolitan Library strives to minimize its environmental footprint. With each new building or renovation project, CML plans to use sustainable building materials, incorporate glass for natural light to reduce energy costs and introduce other design and building elements friendly to the natural environment.

Phase I of CML’s aspirational building program transformed and significantly upgraded seven urban branches (Driving Park, Whitehall, Parsons, Martin Luther King, Northside, Northern Lights, Shepard) and two suburban branches (Hilliard and Dublin). In addition, changes to Main Library represented a major investment in downtown Columbus and the Discovery District.

Phase II will transform and significantly upgrade four additional branches (Karl Road, Hilltop, Gahanna and Reynoldsburg).

Visit columbuslibrary.org for more information and to track progress of CML’s ambitious building program.

Columbus Metropolitan Library has served the people of Franklin County, Ohio since 1873. With its Main Library and 22 branches, CML is well known for signature services and programs like Homework Help, Reading Buddies, Summer Reading Challenge and Ready for Kindergarten. The library’s Strategic Plan supports the vision of “a thriving community where wisdom prevails,” which positions CML to respond to areas of urgent need: kids unprepared for kindergarten, third grade reading proficiency, high school graduation, college and career readiness and employment resources.

CML was named a 2011 National Medal Winner by the Institute for Museum and Library Services for work in community service, the highest honor for libraries and museums. CML was also named 2010 Library of the Year by Library Journal.

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