



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Richfield, Minnesota

City Council Work Session

January 9, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Supple called the work session to order at 5:45 p.m. in the Bartholomew Room.

Council Members Present: Mary Supple, Mayor; Sean Hayford O'leary; Ben Whalen, and Sharon Christensen

Council Members Absent: Simon Trautmann

Staff Present: Katie Rodriguez, City Manager; Chris Swanson, Management Analyst; Dustin Leslie, City Clerk; Karl Huemiller, Recreation Services Director

Guests Liz Veaderko, Project Manager – Design and Construction Division Manager – Facility Services; Scott Diumstra Director – Libraries Department; Margo Geffen, Director – Facility Services Department; Christi Duffy, Design and Construction Division Manager; Matthew Krontoriad, Principal Architect from MSR Design; Scott Berger, Architect and Project Manager from MSR Design; David Hough, Hennepin County Administrator; and Debbie Goetel, Hennepin County Commissioner.

ITEM #1	UPDATE ON HENNEPIN COUNTY SOUTHDALE LIBRARY PROJECT
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City Manager Rodriguez introduced the guests from Hennepin County.

Veaderko and Krontoriad gave the presentation covering the following: library location, project schedule, library use overview, feedback received, partnerships, challenges and opportunities, regional trail connections, and preliminary site plan.

Mayor Supple asked if the 2nd floor would be at-grade. Krontoriad confirmed that it would be at-grade.

Council Member Hayford O'leary asked if the square footage would be the same as the old library. Krontoriad confirmed that the public facing part of the library would be the same square footage.

Veaderko and Krontoriad continued with the presentation covering possible transit options, outdoor activities, landscaping, and design initiatives.

Mayor Supple spoke about opportunities to work with Edina to share the Arts Center.

Council Member Hayford Oleary stated he liked that the library would be staying in the same location rather than moving to the Southdale mall. He also stated he was disappointed in the site plan which seemed too car oriented. He further stated that he would like to see the building closer to the street so it would be more accessible for pedestrians. He also said he was happy about the trail connections.

Council Member Hayford Oleary and County Administrator Hough spoke about feedback received from the Edina Planning Commission and Edina City Council.

Council Member Christensen asked where the current library collection would be housed during construction. Veaderko stated they would be put in storage. County Administrator Hough stated staff would investigate options for a possible pop-up library.

Council Member Whalen spoke about how youth groups could use the space and that he hoped conversations about programming would include after school programs. He also spoke about sustainability and parking.

Council Member Whalen and County Administrator Hough spoke about mixed-use options like housing for the extra spaces. Administrator Hough stated they looked at the possibility but would have to relinquish the property for there to be housing.

Mayor Supple spoke about the green spaces and was happy with how they would be utilized. She also said she was excited about the geothermal heating.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Supple adjourned the work session at 6:48 pm.

Date Approved: January 23, 2024



Dustin Leslie
City Clerk



Mary B. Supple
Mayor



Katie Rodriguez
City Manager