



**DENVER
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

2023 Highlights & What's to come in 2024

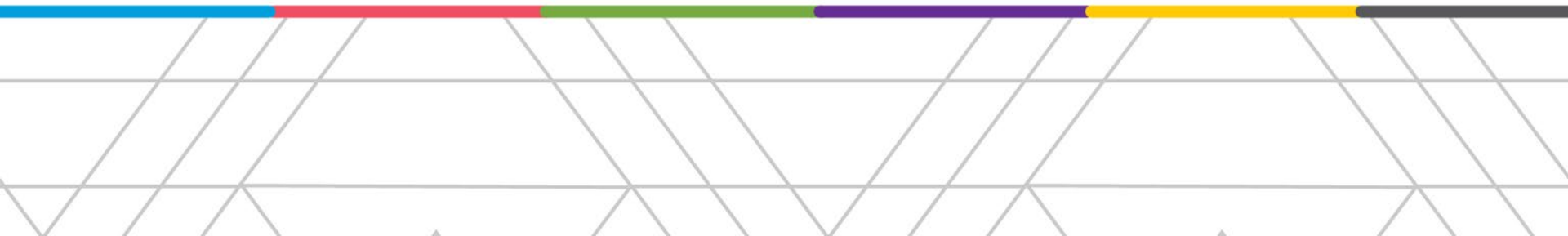
February 21, 2024

Michelle Jeske, City Librarian

Cole Hwa Davis

Annie Kemmerling

Rachel Fewell



Agenda

- I. General 2023 Highlights
- II. Strong Library, Strong Denver: Year 1
 - A. What to expect in 2024
- III. Bond Projects Update
 - A. Elevate Denver
 - B. RISE Denver
 - C. Central Library
- IV. Q&A



2023 Highlights

- ★ Year one implementation of Strong Library, Strong Denver, supported by the DPL Fund
- ★ Held first in person Staff Day since 2019
- ★ Bond Projects Progress
 - Shifted services at Central to newly completed Park View event space
 - Completed renovations at Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library
 - Kicked off renovations at Athmar Park and Pauline Robinson Branch Libraries
- ★ Completed several Strategic Roadmap actions including:
 - Free printing and copying at all library locations
 - Increased children's collection on bookmobiles
 - Added new teen spaces

2023 Highlights



Strong Library, Strong Denver: Year 1

- ★ Extended service hours at 17 branch libraries
 - Five branches are now open 7 days a week; the rest are open 6 days a week
 - Increase total services hours by 16%
- ★ Hired 98 internal and public facing staff
- ★ Facility improvements at Westwood Branch Library
- ★ Funded a portion of the Blair-Caldwell renovation
- ★ Adjusted pay for 76% of eligible employees bringing practices into alignment with market rates and experience

**STRONG
LIBRARY,
STRONG
DENVER**

Strong Library, Strong Denver: Year 1

- ★ Substantially reduced wait times for extremely popular e-book titles - resulting in a 50% reduction in customer wait times
- ★ New digital resources for cardholders: The New York Times online, TheShelf TV, Tutor.com, Freegal Music+, Statista, Craftsby and Craftsby en Español
- ★ Added 1,000 Launchpads across DPL branches
- ★ Funded new Teen Library and Cafe space at Central

The
New York
Times



Looking Ahead to Year 2

- Improvements to digital accessibility, network infrastructure and security.
- Added funding for both physical and digital collections material keeps wait times low and expands selection
- Refreshes happening at Woodbury and Park Hill branch locations.
- The DPL Fund will be supporting the continuation of our Plaza program.
- New online dashboard to demonstrate progress, accountability and share impact stories
- Increased staffing to support the full reopening of our Central Library!

DPL Renovations



Bond Projects - Elevate Denver



Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library

- Underwent a \$3.7 million renovation (supported by the DPL Fund)
- Renovation Scope:
 - First-floor renovation incorporating a new teen space
 - Reimagined children's area
 - New study rooms with amenities
 - Relocation of the circulation desk and new book drop
 - New public art installed on the first floor, which will feature the work of a local artist Sam McNeil
- The library officially reopened to the public on August 8, 2023



Bond Projects - Elevate Denver



Athmar Park Branch Library

- Renovation construction is in progress
- \$4,503,745 includes all funding sources (Originally \$2,415,627)
- Project Scope:
 - Building additions such as new study rooms and meeting spaces
 - Increasing branch square footage
 - The branch will also receive cosmetic refreshes such as new interior furniture, carpeting, and paint.
 - There will also be improvements to the buildings' infrastructure including the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system
 - Improvement in the Information Technology system



Bond Projects - Elevate Denver



Pauline Robinson Branch Library

- Renovation construction is in progress
- \$3,673,080 including all funding sources (Originally \$1,523,185)
- Project Scope:
 - Increase square footage with an addition to improve the existing restrooms, book drop, community room, staff spaces, youth spaces, flexible learning areas, and shelving
 - Exterior improvements including: landscaping, sidewalks, exterior lighting, parking lot, facade restoration; building system updates to HVAC, electrical, IT, communications, lighting, surveillance, access controls, and life safety
 - Provide new interior finishes, furniture, fixtures, and signage



Bond Projects - Elevate Denver



Ross-Barnum Branch Library

- Wrapped up the design phase for renovation. Closure for renovation will be the next phase.
- \$4,231,700 including all funding sources (Originally \$1,543,515)
- Project Scope:
 - Making the basement accessible with elevator installation and life safety improvements; addressing exterior with landscaping, sidewalk, exterior lighting signage, and repairing the facade
 - Exploring redesign of entrances
 - Improving HVAC systems life safety system, surveillance and access control, electrical, IT, communication systems, and ADA compliance
 - Updating interior spaces with new finishes, furniture, and fixtures restrooms



Bond Projects - Elevate Denver

Schlessman Family Branch Library

- Currently, the project is in the design phase process
- \$4,468,330 including all funding sources (Originally \$3,004,044)
- Project Scope:
 - Increase square footage
 - Updating/relocating community room
 - Exploring new arrangements for flexible learning spaces
 - Redesigning the children's area
 - Modifying material shelving arrangement
 - Redesigning staff rooms
 - Exploring new arrangements for computers/mobile device access
 - Exterior improvements to research and repair leaking titanium façade panels, replacing the roof, addressing landscaping, sidewalk and exterior lighting
 - Improvements to building systems including HVAC
 - Reducing solar gain on east and south curtain wall, life safety, surveillance and access controls, electrical, data, and communication systems
 - Provide new interior finishes, furniture, fixtures, and signage
 - Compliance with current ADA requirements



Bond Projects - Elevate Denver



Ross-Broadway Branch Library

- Currently, the project is in the schematic design process
- \$2,385,069
- Project Scope:
 - Increase square footage with an addition in order to improve the community room, restrooms, children's area, flexible learning spaces, shelving and computer/mobile device access, and staff spaces
 - Exterior improvements to landscaping, sidewalk, exterior lighting, entrance redesign, repair/restoration of facade and oak window frames
 - Redesign/relocation of exterior book drop
 - Improved building systems including HVAC, life safety, surveillance, access control, IT, communication systems, and lighting
 - Interior finish updates including paint, carpet, tile, ceilings, furniture and fixtures, new signs, and ADA-compliant spaces



Bond Projects - RISE Denver



Lena Archuleta Branch Library in Westwood

- \$13,880,000 for the building construction
- Includes site acquisition, collections and technology
 - The project is in the construction phase
 - Construction anticipated to be complete Q2 2024
 - Branch opening Q3 2024
 - Collaboration between DPL and Lifespan Local (early learning center, hydroponic space, community kitchen, and youth space)



Bond Projects - RISE Denver



Globeville

- \$12,000,000 for the building construction, site acquisition, collections and technology
- The City has signed a LOI for 4995 Washington St
- ~10,000 sq ft
- Engaged in design work
- Design phase is on pause as the City of Denver and the Office of Housing Stability (HOST) work through financing options for the overall housing project



Bond Projects - RISE Denver



Hampden Branch Library

- Currently project is in the schematic design phase
- \$3,440,000
- Project Scope:
 - Adding 4,000 sq ft to the branch
 - Expand community spaces, public computers, increasing the collection, and expanding the ideaLAB and teen space



Central Library Renovation



Our Partners



Central Library Scope

Renovation includes significant upgrades to address safety and security issues, correct deferred maintenance, and reconfigure the building for modern library programs, services and resources

- Budget: \$60M
 - Elevate Denver Bond, Strong Library, Strong Denver, DPL Friends Foundation and other sources

Completed

- ★ Contemporary large programming space on the first floor with views of Civic Center Park
- ★ Reimagined and relocated Children's Library
- ★ Renovated public restrooms on all floors and all-gender restroom on the first floor
- ★ Modernized elevators

In Progress

- ★ Brand new teen space
- ★ Grand hall renovation with relocated, centralized service points
- ★ Additional meeting rooms on the second floor
- ★ Deferred building maintenance

Timeline

- 2017 Elevate Denver GO Bond
 - Central Library and 10 branch renovations approved by voters
- 2018 - 2020
 - Design
 - 50+ Community and staff meetings
- 2020
 - DPL system closes due to COVID
 - While closed, Central Library renovation construction begins
- 2021 - 2024
 - Construction continues
 - Limited public services open at the Central Library (ongoing)
 - In 2022, voters approve Strong Library, Strong Denver
 - Some scope is added back to the Central renovation project

What to expect in 2024

- 2024

- Q2 Elevate Denver Bond completion
- Q2-Q3 Added scope construction
- Recruitment begins to hire 50 staff members

- Fall 2024

- Short closure to move services, tear down temporary first floor public services, and set up furniture and IT
- Fully reopen the Central Library!





Former children's storytime
room



New Children's Library opened in
April 2022

Side-by-side
Rendering
to
Actual





The Commons:
Rendering to
Actual



New first floor Park View event space looking out over Civic Center Park
Currently used to provide public service, while construction occurs elsewhere



**Keep up to date with the
renovation**

<https://www.denverlibrary.org/central-renovation-updates>



Questions?