

# Sharing Knowledge, Improving Lives



South Burlington Public Library



**a campaign to enrich our new library**

In a community that values education and informed citizens, that encourages debate and seeks civic engagement, our public library is a place to learn and to share.

In a city that welcomes newcomers and celebrates its diversity, and is proud to offer residential housing at every economic level, our library offers resources and innovative programming for all ages, beliefs and backgrounds.

In a place that is as beautiful as it is vibrant, that cherishes mountain views and sustainability, our library enables us to participate in the arts, pursue our passions and share knowledge with one another.

Our library is the heart of South Burlington.

**Now it can be its center.**





TIME

GREEN UP VERMONT

Check It Out!

VERMONT DIGITAL NEWSPAPER PROJECT

EXPIRES: \_\_\_\_\_

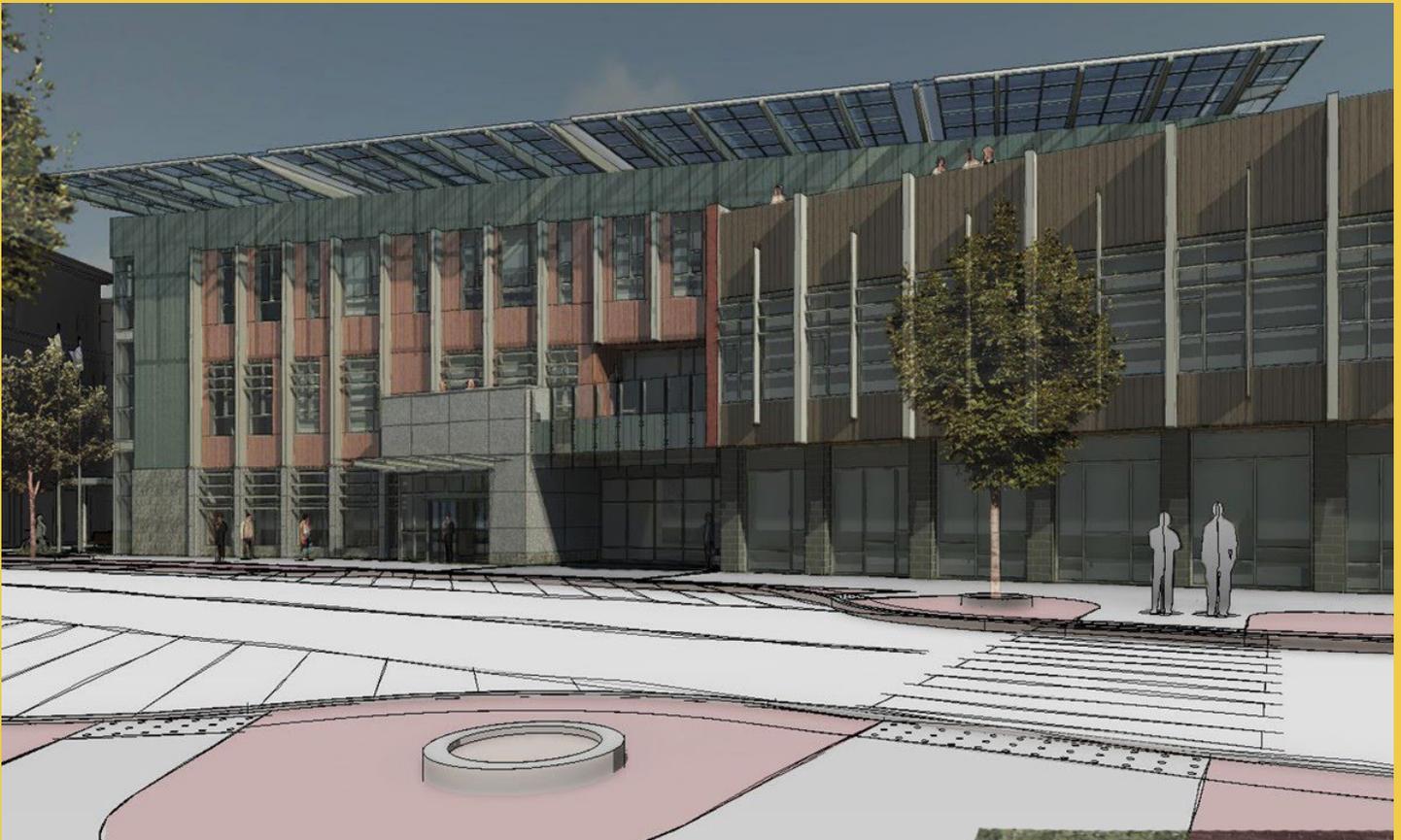
## **A New Day**

On November 6, 2018, our community voted overwhelmingly to establish a new, beautifully designed library as the anchor to City Center. Our idea, long in the making, is becoming reality.

After months of community engagement and architectural planning, the library will reflect our hometown and have a significant social and economic impact. It will enable us to increase the breadth and depth of our book and media collections as well as expand programming for all ages. We will make more computers and technology available to residents, and create flexible performance and meeting spaces. Groups ranging from book clubs to English language learners' conversation groups, not-for-profit organizations and many others will have a place to gather. The library, where items in circulation top more than 150,000 annually and thousands of community members access 400 youth and adult programs each year, will draw people to City Center and give them reasons to stay and spend more time there.

With more than 70 percent of citizens voting "Yes," the community approved bonding for the cost of the design and construction of the new library, as well as the co-located city hall and senior center.

**We each have the opportunity to make our own mark on the library — to make a gift that will help the library realize its full potential through enhanced collections, gathering spaces and technology. Partnering with individuals, families, businesses and foundations, we have imagined the future of our library — and now we can create it.**



## Our philanthropic goal of \$1.4 million will ensure that:

We **create warm, vibrant and inviting special spaces**, including our living room, children's and tween area, teen space, and reading terrace, with furnishings that will ensure our library meets all the community's needs.

We **build relevant, accessible collections** unprecedented for our community, including a game-changing, up-to-date opening day collection that features multiple copies of best sellers, expanded selections of books and other media, and a "library of things" such as ukuleles and binoculars.

We **provide broad access to state-of-the-art technology**, including audiovisual capabilities in the auditorium, conference rooms, and a digital lab for distance learning as well as computers and other electronic tools for use both at the library and for circulation.

Together, we can create the best possible cultural home for our community and serve families for generations.



## A Visionary Gift

A bequest from Paul O. Blanchette was the founding gift to our new library, making up a third of our philanthropic goal. He passed away in 1996, leaving a generous contribution to the City of South Burlington to construct a new library. The gift has been held in an endowment, with proceeds supporting the library's non-fiction collection until a new library could be built, as Mr. Blanchette directed.

A career librarian from Washington, D.C., Mr. Blanchette moved to South Burlington in the 1970s to care for his father. He was a frequent user of the library. "He was a real scholar and a lovely gentleman," a library staff member said of him in an article in *The Other Paper*. We are very grateful for his foresight and support.



## A Community Anchor

Libraries have always been centerpieces of cities, often defining downtowns and revitalizing communities. They are as lively and active as the communities they serve. Libraries are education centers, civic centers and technology hubs. Nationally, more than 25 percent of people who visit a library each year use a computer or access free Wi-Fi, often to make business or employment connections. Libraries provide space and resources for exploration, discovery and growth. They open up the world and give people hope.

In Vermont, while libraries are not funded by the state, according to state law they are considered “essential to the general enlightenment of citizens in a democracy.” The law also states that “every citizen in the State of Vermont should have access to the educational, cultural, recreational, informational, and research benefits of a free public library.” In South Burlington, the list of desired attributes for a new library developed by residents during our visioning process made it clear what our community values. We seek to increase connections among people, offer knowledge and community resources, and enable the communication of ideas that will improve our lives.

**You, your family, or your business can have an enduring impact on our community. In making a gift to support our library, you will be supporting your friends and neighbors for years to come.**



*The foundation of any business is the need for a quality workforce with all employees having the education and training to carry out their roles. A comprehensive public library provides everyone access from an early age to the basic building blocks needed for educational success and thus contributes greatly to the success of our businesses and employees.*



Michael Keller, CPA, co-managing partner, Gallagher, Flynn & Company, South Burlington

### **Now Is Our Time**

The South Burlington Public Library will be a destination for all ages, a place where people can find refuge in a quiet corner, or a place where one can visit to explore, experience, learn and share. It will be ADA accessible and LEED compliant, and will provide ample room for the library staff's needs.

Perhaps you remember discovering books and a place to explore new ideas when you were a child, or want to honor a relative or individual whose love of knowledge and curiosity inspired you. You may be grateful that you can take your children to story times, participate in a knitting group, or learn to use technology. You may enjoy the sense of community at the library.

Your investment in this enduring endeavor will be multiplied many times over. A young girl may make her first model robot in a library program and grow up to engineer new medical devices. An unemployed sales executive may launch a startup company using the technology we provide. Or a grandmother may learn to speak English in a library discussion group. The impact of your gift will be felt by those whose lives are saved by new devices, who are hired by the entrepreneur, and who hear the grandmother's stories.

The words we use to describe our new library include: welcoming, relaxing, accessible, well-lit, colorful, open, spacious, stimulating, flexible and beautiful. With the bold thinking, creativity and commitment to excellence that are hallmarks of South Burlington, the possibilities of our new library are boundless.

Please join us with a gift to celebrate South Burlington and build our future. Your generosity will enrich our community  
— **today and tomorrow.**

# In terms of square footage, we have been lagging.

City	Population	Square Footage	Sq. ft. per Capita
Essex Junction	9,881	14,748	1.5
Montpelier	14,645	18,449	1.3
Barre	16,694	20,000	1.2
Burlington	42,211	48,348	1.1
Rutland	22,041	24,167	1.1
Williston	9,569	9,507	1.0
<b>South Burlington</b>	<b>18,743</b>	<b>7,800</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Essex	20,724	6,000	0.3

*\*Vermont Department of Libraries, Annual Report, Fiscal 2017*

A variety of sources put adequate library square footage at 1.0 to 1.5 square feet per capita. Today, we have 7,800 square feet of space. With a population of nearly 19,000, that is just 0.4 square feet per capita — one of the lowest ratios in the state. Our new library will be 24,000 square feet, or 1.3 square feet per capita, placing us on par with new libraries throughout New England, including Tiverton, Rhode Island, which with a population of 15,780 built a 24,000-square-foot library in 2015, and South Hadley, Massachusetts, which with a population of 17,514 built a 22,000-square-foot library in 2014. Our new library will be at the optimal level today and give us room to grow as our city grows!





“*The programs offered by our library are critical to all South Burlington citizens so they can pursue lifelong learning in the humanities and be fully engaged as active participants in the economic, political, and cultural affairs of the city, state and nation.*”

Kathleen A. Kelleher, South Burlington resident and former Vermont Humanities Council board member



# Make Our New Library Shine

**Auditorium seating** for 100 will enable us to host more concerts, small theatrical events and popular author visits. Philanthropic gifts will ensure high-quality seating, a flexible stage and state-of-the-art technology.

In the **living room**, gifts will help ensure comfortable, innovative seating for community members to use as they visit by the fire, where we will have enhanced collections of current newspapers and magazines, large-print books and new releases.



In the **children's area**, giving will enable us to create a dynamic enchanted forest with a large tree, reading nooks, and mural, as well as outfit a fun, hands-on early learning room for ages 0-5, a kids' make-and-do activity space, and a comfortable tween corner with a sense of privacy.

Imagine well-lit, quiet **reading areas** and a sunny terrace; movable study tables; and more than 43,000 fiction and nonfiction books and other materials, including DVDs, and CDs — all of which your gifts can make possible.

We will create a **digital lab** for training, gaming, and online courses. It will enable robotics instruction, music appreciation, language learning and more. We envision a digital lab with 10 laptops on a movable rack, tables where groups can gather for instruction or online education, and a projector and screen to enable online conferencing. Gifts will provide the technology infrastructure to make it a reality.

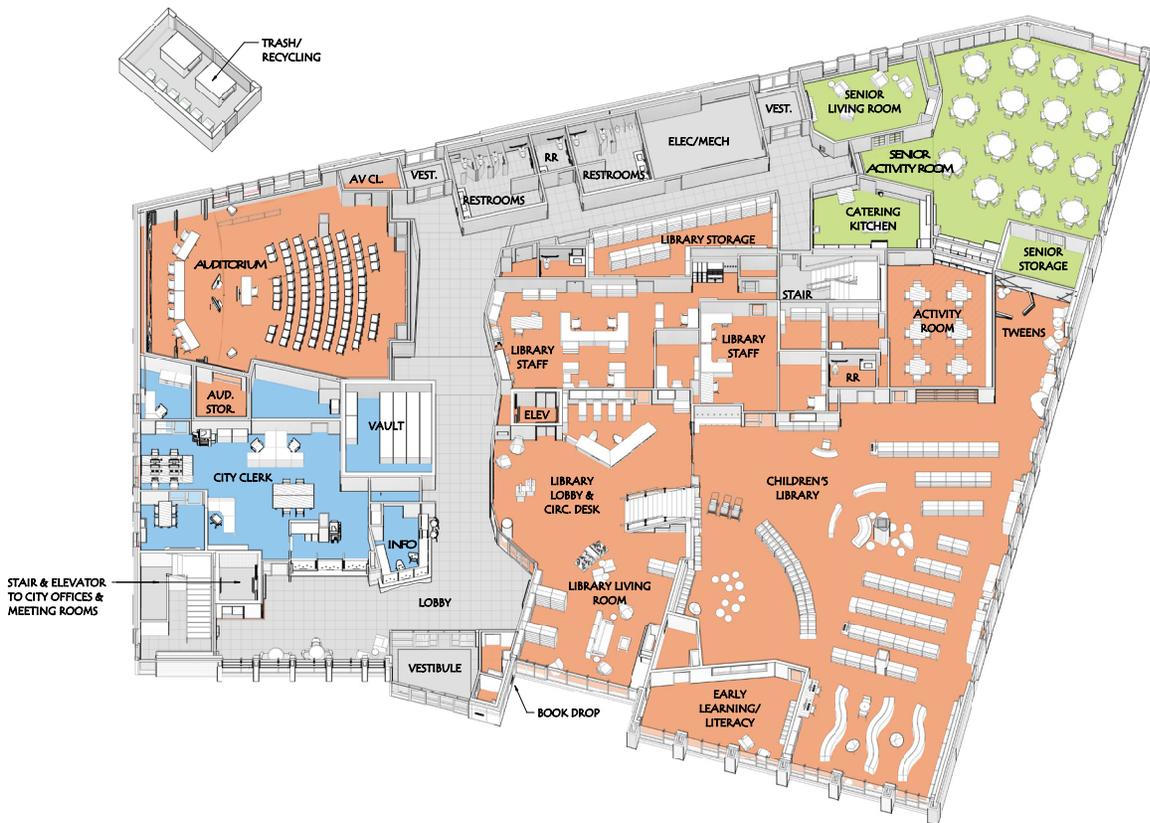
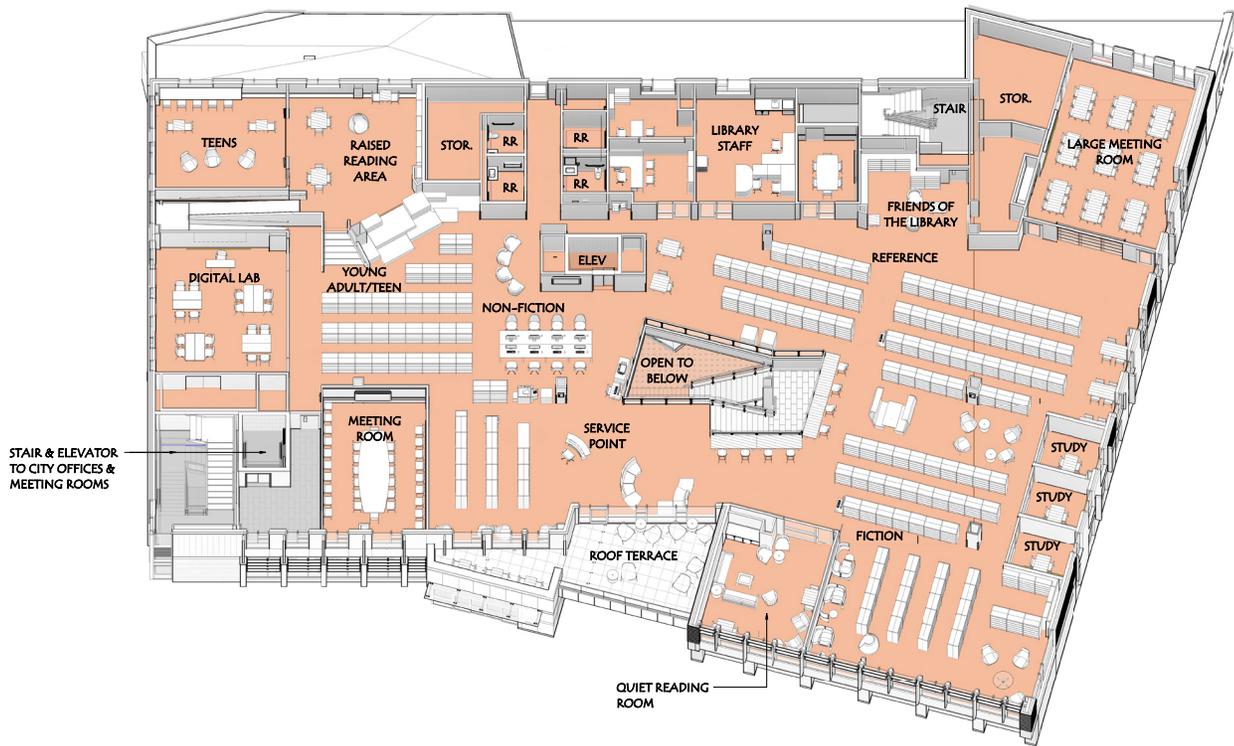
Flexible seating and high-quality furniture will prepare our **small and medium meeting rooms** for a variety of purposes, including group study, tutoring, support groups, small business incubators, committee meetings, genealogy classes, intergenerational mentoring and book discussion groups.



Your gift can help **teens** realize their vision for **their space**: easy-to-move furniture, a graffiti wall, an electronics charging station, and shelves of young adult fiction and graphic novels.

Philanthropy will enable us to outfit our **large multi-purpose meeting room / maker space** with high-quality furnishings that can flexibly accommodate events and activities for 50, such as children's programs, community receptions, author fairs, do-it-yourself events, humanities lectures and more.





# Great Space, Great Potential

## **What Are Your Goals for the New Library and How Can We Help You Achieve Them?**

We are eager to hear about your personal or business mission and to discuss how your generosity can benefit the South Burlington community in a way that is most meaningful to you.

## **Let Us Honor Your Commitment to the South Burlington Public Library**

Naming opportunities are available within the library to celebrate, honor and remember those whose lives have impacted our community and those whose generosity has helped to make the realization of our library's potential possible.



*All around the country, public libraries are crucial centers of community activity, places where people from diverse backgrounds and with varied interests cross paths and connect. They are institutions devoted to community, equality and the free exchange of ideas. Public libraries are America at its best.*

Jason Chin, Caldecott honoree and South Burlington resident



## Make a Gift to the South Burlington Public Library

Tax-deductible contributions to the South Burlington Public Library capital campaign may be made in many ways, including by cash or check to the South Burlington Library Foundation or by using a credit card online.

Gifts may be made over time, through monthly pledge payments over a 12-month period or annually over three years.

We encourage gifts given in honor of individuals or special occasions as well as gifts given in memory of loved ones. We would be pleased to notify others of these remembrances.

The South Burlington Library Foundation is able to accept a transfer of assets such as stocks, mutual funds or bonds, including direct transfers from qualified IRAs, advised funds, and family foundations or trusts. We also hope you will consider including the library in your will or estate plan.

For more information about the Capital Campaign, please contact [info@southburlingtonlibraryfoundation.org](mailto:info@southburlingtonlibraryfoundation.org).

Please visit [www.southburlingtonlibrary.org](http://www.southburlingtonlibrary.org) for more information about the library or contact Library Director Jennifer Murray at 802-383-1791 or [jmurray@SouthBurlingtonVT.gov](mailto:jmurray@SouthBurlingtonVT.gov).

