



Dallas Public  
**LIBRARY**

# **LIBRARY STRATEGIC + FACILITIES PLAN**

**DALLAS CITY COUNCIL  
BRIEFING**

**17 April 2024**



# AGENDA

1. Project Purpose + Process
2. Participation
3. Strategic Plan Themes + Recommendations
4. Facilities Plan Themes + Recommendations
5. Summary of Recommendations
6. Q+A

**“I love the library and all of its services and programs and materials. You are the gem of our city. Thank you!”**

***– community survey respondent***



## Group 4 Architecture, Research + Planning

*Prime consultant + facility planning lead*



## buildingcommunityWORKSHOP

*Community engagement + architecture collaborator*



## Susan Kent

*Library strategy*



## Carson Block

*Library technology*



# Project Objectives

- 5-year Strategic Plan to guide library services, operations, technology, and partnerships
- 20-year Facilities Plan to guide investments in library spaces and buildings
- Engage library users, staff, stakeholders, and community residents
- Equity and inclusion lens
- Advance City goals

Project Purpose + Process

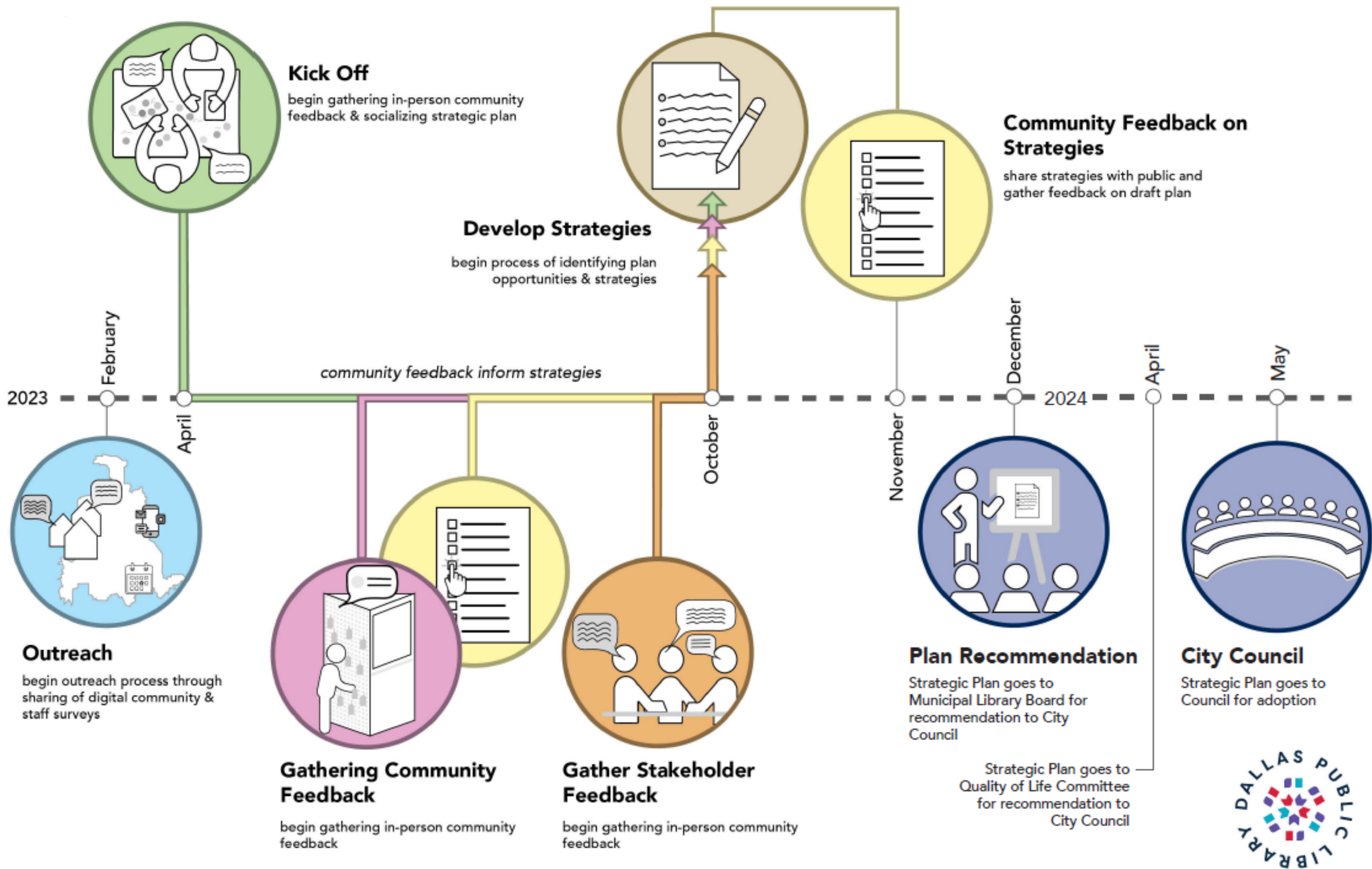




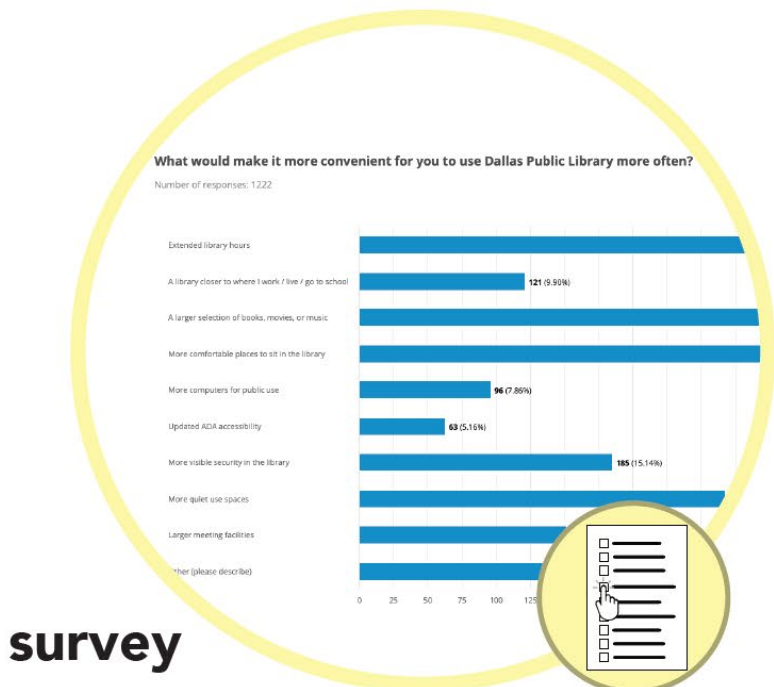


Dallas Public Library Strategic + Facilities Plan

# Planning Process







survey

**~2,800** community survey responses

**419** staff survey responses



feedback stations

**30** feedback stations

**531** feedback station responses

**17** outreach boards

**1,062** outreach board responses



workshops

**5** kick off meetings

**69** kick off meeting participants

**6** staff workshops

**8** focus groups

**2** listening sessions



meetings

**12** stakeholder interviews

**2** city departments

Tuesday, April 11 martes 11 de abril 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Hampton-Illinois Branch Library 2951 South Hampton Road Dallas, TX 75224
Tuesday, April 18 martes 18 de abril 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Prairie Creek Branch Library 9609 Lake June Rd. Dallas, TX 75217
Tuesday, May 2 martes 2 de mayo 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Bachman Lake Branch Library 9480 Webb Chapel Rd., Dallas, TX 75220
Saturday, May 13 sábado 13 de mayo 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.	Fretz Park Branch Library 6990 Belt Line Road Dallas, TX 75254
Saturday, May 20 sábado 20 de mayo 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.	Lochwood Branch Library 11221 Lochwood Boulevard Dallas, TX 75218

outreach

**18** neighborhood associations visited

**610,672** emails sent

**2,010** social media engagement

**12** community events

**65** community & stakeholder meetings

**4,950** community & stakeholder responses





## Value of the Library

- Dallas communities value DPL as an essential service
- DPL inspires curiosity
- DPL connects people
- DPL builds equity
- DPL strengthens communities
- DPL advances lives



Prairie Creek



## DPL inspires curiosity

- DPL is cherished for inspiring curiosity and a love of lifelong learning
- Communities want even more access to these programs and services today and in the future



## DPL connects people

- The Library is a valuable place for connecting with resources, DPL’s staff, and other community members







## DPL builds equity

- DPL provides welcoming and inclusive service
- The Library is a champion for digital equity and inclusion
- DPL is a valued partner for the City in working toward equity goals







## DPL strengthens communities

- Library spaces are essential for communities to work, study, and gather
- Demand for library space is growing





## DPL advances lives

- The Library supports children and youth in learning success
- DPL helps adults achieve educational and career goals







Vision:

**“Limitless possibilities start at Dallas Public Library.”**

Mission Statement:

**“Dallas Public Library strengthens communities and builds equity by connecting people, inspiring curiosity and advancing lives.”**

Values:





## CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING AND DISCOVERY

Dallas Public Library’s programming will focus on meeting specific community needs and filling recognized gaps in city services.

## PROVIDE CUSTOMER-RESPONSIVE TECHNOLOGY

Dallas Public Library will adopt customer and future-focused technology improvements that ensure stable service for Dallas residents.

## CULTIVATE A VIBRANT MATERIALS COLLECTION

Dallas Public Library’s physical, electronic and special collections will adapt to reflect the needs of an increasingly diverse community.

## REDUCE BARRIERS TO ACCESS

Dallas Public Library will ensure all community members have equitable access to its physical facilities, digital presence, collections, programs and services.

## PROVIDE INSPIRING AND WELCOMING FACILITIES

Dallas Public Library’s buildings will be community-focused to adapt to the current and future needs of Dallas’ neighborhoods and residents.

## MAKE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Dallas Public Library will be a neighborhood center for information and participation in civic life by leveraging partnerships and collaborating with other organizations to bring services directly to residents.

## COMMUNICATE THE LIBRARY’S VALUE

Dallas Public Library will tell stories that highlight the Library’s service to the community and amplify the Library as a vital city institution.

## DEVELOP FUTURE-READY STAFF

Dallas Public Library will create opportunities for library staff to grow and innovate.





	Equity Indicators	City Priorities
Create opportunities for learning and discovery	5 – Unemployment 15 – Kindergarten Readiness 16 – Third-Grade Reading Proficiency 22 – Adults With No High School Diploma	Workforce, Education & Environment  Quality of Life
Provide customer-responsive technology	29 – Internet Access	Workforce, Education & Environment
Cultivate a vibrant materials collection	30 – Government Services Satisfaction	Quality of Life
Reduce barriers to access	30 – Government Services Satisfaction	Racial Equity Plan
Provide inspiring and welcoming facilities	30 – Government Services Satisfaction	Quality of Life







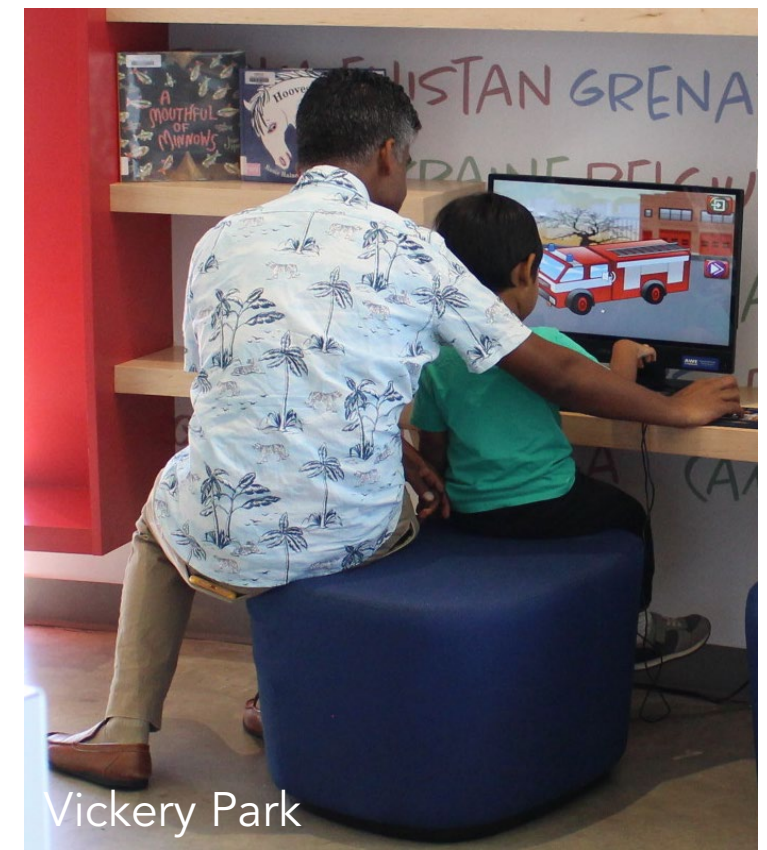
## Seeking ways to better serve patrons' diverse technology needs

### 1. Advance technology equity

- Essential tech + support services
- Regional tech needs approach
- Improving Internet and Wi-Fi speeds
- Expanding laptop and hotspot lending

### 2. Meet evolving patron tech needs

- Agility and responsiveness are key
- DPL taking greater responsibility for emerging patron needs (*e.g., current network project*)







## PROVIDE INSPIRING AND WELCOMING FACILITIES

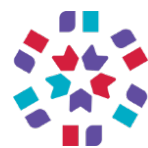
“Dallas Public Library’s buildings will be community-focused to adapt to the current and future needs of Dallas’ neighborhoods and residents.”



### *Libraries in Dallas are Places:*

- *To read, work, and study*
- *For collaborative learning and work*
- *That inspire children’s curiosity + love of learning*
- *For teens and tweens to engage + develop skills*
- *To create and share cultural arts + experiences*
- *Both inside and outside library buildings*





Libraries in Dallas provide:

Places to read,  
work, and study



Pleasant Grove



Fretz Park





Libraries in Dallas provide:

Places for  
collaborative  
learning and work







Libraries in Dallas provide:  
  
Exciting places that  
inspire curiosity  
and help build  
a lifelong love  
of learning



Bookmarks at NorthPark Center







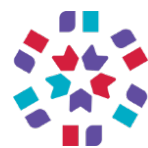
Libraries in Dallas provide:

Places for teens  
and tweens  
to engage and  
develop social skills



Forest Green





Libraries in Dallas provide:

Space to create and share cultural arts and experiences



Prairie Creek



Podcast Studio, Central Library







Libraries in Dallas provide:

Active outdoor  
spaces that extend  
access and  
service capacity



Vickery Park



Vickery Park







## Strong Foundation

- Branch space has kept up with population growth over time.
- DPL's 29 branches are well distributed for citywide access.
- Larger branches provide more depth and diversity of service.
- Most branches are generally in good condition.







## Build the Future

1. Continue adding branch space for growing population.
2. Expand or replace smaller + older branches to expand service.
3. Explore partnerships that improve outcomes.
4. Continue to keep facilities fresh and well-maintained.







## Reinvent + reinvest in Central Library

- Restore to good condition
- Improve building performance + resiliency
- Modernize library service + operations
- Provide a positive experience + impact consistent with other major urban libraries



*opportunity to create engaging wayfinding*



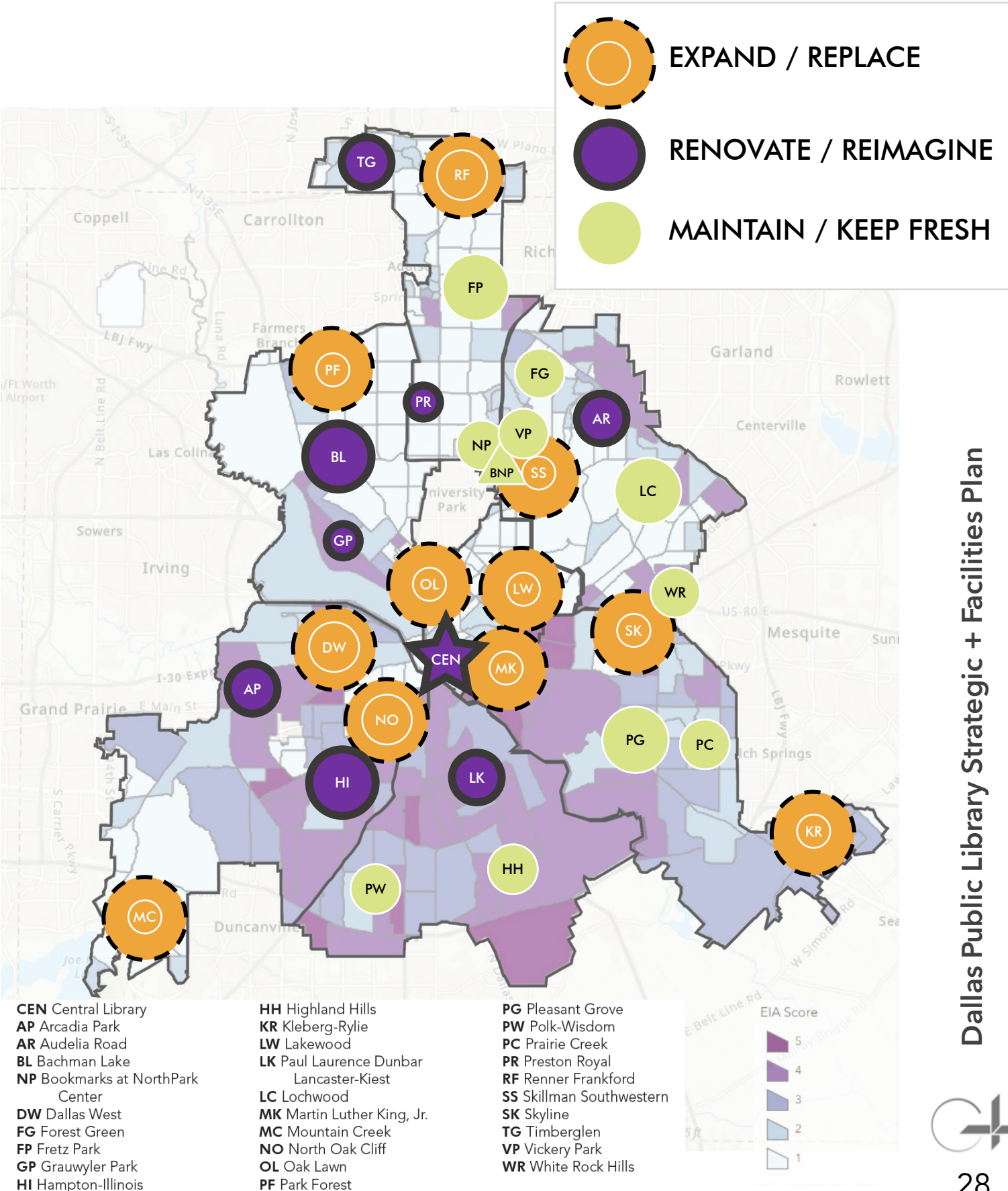


# Library Facilities Plan

## Facilities Plan Themes + Recommendations



Library Location		Recommended Strategy
CEN	Central	Renovate / Reimagine
AP	Arcadia Park	Renovate / Reimagine
AR	Audelia Road	Renovate / Reimagine
BL	Bachman Lake	Renovate / Reimagine
NP	Bookmarks at NorthPark Center	Maintain / Keep Fresh
DW	Dallas West	Expand / Replace at 35,000+ SF; joint facility opp'y
FG	Forest Green	Maintain / Keep Fresh
FP	Fretz Park	Maintain / Keep Fresh
GP	Grauwyler Park	Renovate / Reimagine
HI	Hampton-Illinois	Renovate / Reimagine
HH	Highland Hills	Maintain / Keep Fresh
KR	Kleberg-Rylie	Expand / Replace at 25,000-30,000 SF
LW	Lakewood	Expand / Replace at 30,000+ SF
LK	Lancaster-Kiest	Renovate / Reimagine
LC	Lochwood	Maintain / Keep Fresh
MK	Martin Luther King, Jr.	Expand / Replace at 35,000+ SF; joint facility opp'y
MC	Mountain Creek	Expand / Replace at 25,000-30,000 SF
NO	North Oak Cliff	Expand / Replace at 20,000+ SF
OL	Oak Lawn	Expand / Replace at 30,000+ SF
PF	Park Forest	Relocate + Replace at 20,000+ SF
PG	Pleasant Grove	Maintain / Keep Fresh
PW	Polk Wisdom	Maintain / Keep Fresh
PC	Prairie Creek	Maintain / Keep Fresh
PR	Preston Royal	Renovate / Reimagine
RF	Renner Frankford	Expand / Replace at 30,000+ SF
SS	Skillman Southwestern	Expand / Replace at 30,000+ SF on alternate site
SK	Skyline	Expand / Replace at 30,000+ SF; joint facility opp'y
TG	Timberglen	Renovate / Reimagine
VP	Vickery Park	Maintain / Keep Fresh
WR	White Rock Hills	Maintain / Keep Fresh







1. New DPL mission statement and values
2. New 5-year DPL strategic goals
3. Expand 11 library branches to accommodate population growth; some may require relocation; consider shared facility opportunities with partners
4. Renovate and modernize 8 library branches
5. Renovate J. Erik Jonsson Central Library
6. Continue proactive maintenance at all library facilities

*Draft report available at <https://dallaslibrary2.org/strategicdirection/>*









THANK YOU!

