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Public Forum: View Renovation Plans for Washington-Centerville Public Library

[Centerville, Ohio] Washington-Centerville Public Library (WCPL) invites community members to preview plans for its upcoming renovation project at a public forum. During this forum, Director Fultz and representatives from the architectural firm LWC will present the renovation blueprints and answer community questions.

Date: Tuesday, November 19

Time: 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Location: Centerville Library Community Room

WCPL has announced plans for a comprehensive renovation project aimed at improving facilities and expanding services for community members. The renovation work is expected to commence in March of 2025 and is tentatively scheduled for completion by early summer 2026.

The project will be done in phases so that the library can maintain essential services, including materials hold pick-ups, Wi-Fi, some information stations, scanner and copier access, and a small sampling of most collections. The library will suspend regular programming and meeting room reservations, but they will be available at the Woodbourne Library location.

"People use libraries very differently today than they did 30 years ago when the Centerville Library was built," says Library Director Liz Fultz. "The enhanced facilities will position us to better serve our patrons for years to come."

While not expanding the building footprint, square footage that is currently designated for staff use will be opened for patron usage. The renovation plans include adding meeting rooms, replacing original flooring and furnishings, creating outdoor spaces, relocating Creativity Commons from RecPlex, and providing a dedicated teen area.

The estimated cost of the renovation is \$5.5 million. The library is not asking taxpayers for additional funding, as the project will be funded through carefully saved resources. In fact, the Washington-Centerville Public Library has not asked for an increase in local taxpayer funds since 2011. The last renewal levy was in 2021.

“We pride ourselves on good management of public funds,” says Fultz. “We take our community’s trust very seriously and are proud of receiving consistently high national rankings while working within our budget.”

Throughout the project, the library will share updates on the website, (wclibrary.info) and will share posts frequently on social media.

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