



ENRICHING OUR COMMUNITY, EXPANDING OUR WORLD.

April 2015

Dear Peaks Island community members,

Many of you attended the public forum last fall to offer input on the plan for the renovation of the Peaks Island Branch Library and community room, and it was inspiring to see so many people come together and express their dedication to these shared spaces. We all came away from the forum energized by how this project might serve the current and future needs of all Peaks Islanders.

We are writing to update you on the status of the project, to reaffirm the Library's commitment to this endeavor, and to describe some of the next steps we will be taking.

Since the forum, a committee of islanders, PPL staff, and City Recreation Division staff has continued to refine a renovation plan that is both creative in its vision and practical in its scope. (Those plans are still posted for comment in the Library lobby.) The proposed plan will improve energy efficiency and make all spaces – untouched since 1979 – more functional.

The budget for this project is on the reverse of this letter. During the City's Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) process, we requested \$500,000 of support, planning to raise the remainder through gifts and grants. This year, the City must grapple with a critical and costly upgrade to emergency communications systems, so most other projects, including the Peaks renovation, will have to wait until next year for consideration.

While disappointing, we believe this delay will allow us to build additional support for the project that will help us in the competitive CIP process. We are encouraged by the broad support the project has from Peaks residents, individual City Councilors, and our partners in the Recreation Division. The Library's Board and staff remain committed to this undertaking, and City has already been notified that the Library intends to resubmit the project for CIP consideration this fall. We have also shared with the City that the Library and our committee will spend the next eight months engaging proactively with the Peaks Island community to deepen commitment to the renovation.

You will hear more from us in the coming months about how to help support and advocate for this exciting project. We look forward to working with all of you to realize the vision of an "island living room" where all Peaks Island residents can come together and feel welcomed, engaged, and informed.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Podgajny, Executive Director
Portland Public Library

Kathryn Moxhay, President
Friends of Peaks Island Library

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The projected project budget for the Peaks Renovation appears below. Reflected in the budget is the Library's intent to submit the project for consideration in fall 2015 for funding under the City's Capital Improvement Project (CIP) process.

Projected expenses

Construction	\$500,000
Library furnishings, fixtures, equipment	\$85,000
Project administration (permitting, moving, contingency, etc.)	\$65,000
TOTAL projected expenses	\$650,000

Projected funding

City of Portland CIP request	\$500,000
Pledged gifts and grants	\$150,000
TOTAL projected funding	\$650,000