

Accessibility and Equity

It is very important to the City and the Design Team that the new Library Commons is designed to be as **accessible** and **equitable** as possible. The plans are being reviewed by an accessibility expert and consultant, **Studio Pacifica**, who's team will provide input and recommendations for both Code-related requirements and general equity considerations. Reviews are happening at each phase of design, and they will be providing services during construction, to make sure the design intent is fully realized.

“At Studio Pacifica, we believe everyone deserves to live their best, barrier-free life. As architects and accessibility consultants, we collaborate with built environment teams to make sure people of all abilities and ages have integrated access to their communities.”



Karen Braitmayer, president of Studio Pacifica, shown with a student during a school design process meeting.



— Mount Vernon Library Commons —

Monthly Update
 December 2021

MVLC | LANDSCAPE SITE PLAN - SE ENTRY PLAZA



MVLC | SWIFT COMPANY

100% DESIGN DEVELOPMENT - LANDSCAPE | November, 2021 4

Design Development landscape plan rendering at the southeast entry plaza. Part of the plaza will be enclosed with a operable overhead door to create a Winter Garden, a space that is unheated but can be used for gathering or events. This space also has an artistic screen separating the garage entry from the plaza.

Design Development Nearing Completion

We are nearing the completion of the second phase of design, Design Development. The goal of this phase is to finalize the major design elements such as the plan, the materials and systems, and operations and maintenance coordination with the owner.

We have been working to coordinate the architectural design with all of the consultant plans, working together in a 3-D model that helps detect where conflicts occur; collaborating in real time to resolve the design.

The Design Development documents and cost estimate will be delivered to the City in early December as well as a second update to City Council.



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100% DESIGN DEVELOPMENT - LANDSCAPE | November, 2021 2

Landscaping plan, proposed plants, and section showing street trees and underground soil cells, by The Swift Company, landscape architects

Month in Focus

This month The Swift Company, landscape architects, presented the **landscape design** to City Parks and Enrichment and Development Services staff for review and input. The overarching goals are to provide **native, low-maintenance plantings** that will provide texture, color, and shading for the building and site plaza areas.

The required street trees are installed with below-grade soil cells, which provide additional growing area for tree roots. This gives them the space they need to grow and remain healthy and protect the sidewalks from root damage.

The roof terrace on the east end of the second parking level will also have a small planting area for visitors and Library Commons patrons to enjoy. Irrigation will be provided, but plants are also chosen for their tolerance for drought.

Landscaping plans also include seat pods and bike racks at various locations on site and in the garage.



Current Activities

- Weekly Owner Meetings
- Owner's Review of 50% Design Development Drawings
- Review by Accessibility Consultant
- Kitchen Design Review with Caterers
- Lighting Design
- Furniture Selection Coordination
- Alternative Material Research and Carbon Tracking
- Review of Waste/Recycling Service
- Access Control and Security Systems Coordination
- Landscape Design Review with Parks & Enrichment
- Communications Review with City IT Department
- Mechanical Systems Overview with Owner
- Preparation of 100% Design Development Drawings



Proposed planting palette for landscape areas.

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