

PLANNING TIMELINE

The Concord Free Public Library Corporation is dedicated to collaborating with all stakeholders – the Town of Concord, patrons, Library staff, community organizations and Concord-based educational institutions.

This timeline reflects our work to date.

September 2011

- Public visioning session held at CCHS to find out what patrons like about the Library now and what they want in the future.

May 2013

- Opportunity to purchase the Heywood-Benjamin House (directly next door to the Library)
- Library Corporation made an offer with the support of Library Director and after meeting with and receiving encouragement from Town Manager as well as consulting on building codes and zoning with Building Commissioner and Director of Planning and Land Management

June 2013

- Purchased Heywood-Benjamin House (no Town funds required)
- Presentation at Library Committee meeting (6/12/13)

September 2013-May 2014

- 9-month Task Force with representatives from Library Corporation, Friends of the Library, Library Committee, staff, patrons, and a wide variety of town groups to consider potential of expanded and enhanced services with additional space
- Met with Town Manager and Town Treasurer to discuss financial assumptions, responsibilities, and potential timeline for additional space (2/12/14)

May-September 2014

- Rented Heywood-Benjamin house (covers all Corporation costs; no Town costs)

October 2014-January 2015

- Focus groups conducted by Library Director to gather input for long-range plan (see list)
- Town Manager invited to Library Corporation meeting for an update (12/10/14)

February-December 2015

- League of Women Voters presentation with Friends of the Library and Library Committee chairs (2/6/15)

January 2016-April 2016

- Update at Library Committee meeting (2/23/16)

July-August 2016

- Met with Select Board Chair to give an update (7/7/16)
- Met with Town Manager and Town Treasurer to give an update; discussed timing for requesting Town funds for operational expenses (staff and utilities) (8/4/16)



September-December 2016

- Attended Select Board meeting to provide update and share preliminary architectural concepts. Meeting open to the public. (9/26/16)
- Joint meeting with Library Corporation, Friends Board, and Library Committee to engage all Library groups. Meeting open to the public (10/20/16)

February 2017

- Met with Town Manager to give an update; reviewed timing for requesting Town funds for operational expenses (staff and utilities) (2/22/17)

November 2017

- Met with League of Women Voters to discuss the project plans (11/3/17)

June 2017

- Started paying real estate taxes during our fiscal year ending on 6/30/17

January 2018

- Informal meeting with HDC to share preliminary plans (1/18//18)

March 2018

- Invited neighbors to an event to learn more about the expansion project (03/28/18)
- Hosted a Community Engagement event on children's services (03/30/18)

April 2018

- Public forum to learn about the project/updates (4/2/18)
- Requested \$150,000 for FY 2019 from Town as part of Capital Program's Debt Authorization Plan (and plan to request \$500,000 for FY 2020) to support energy efficient systems, furniture, fixtures, and equipment. (Town pays utilities but Corporation is committed to providing a sustainable energy system.)

May 2018

- Presentation at Newbury Court to share a project update with residents (5/2/18)

June 2018

- Hosted an event at Fowler to update public on the expansion plans (6/18/18)

September 2018

- Submitted CPA Application (9/21/18)

October 2018

- Updated the Commission on Disabilities on project plans and get input (10/11/18)
- Second Public Forum to update the community on expansion plans (10/18/18)



Focus Groups
October 29, 2014-January 7, 2015

Representatives of the following groups and organizations participated in focus groups to discuss the future of the Library and help to inform the long-range plan:

<u>Cultural and Service Organizations</u> Concord Band The Umbrella Minuteman Arc Friends of the Performing Arts Rotary Club	<u>Educators (4 sessions)</u> First Connections Fenn School Concord Recreation Department Concord Academy Concord Police Department (Safety Officer) Concord Adult Education Concord Middle School Willard School Thoreau School Alcott School CCHS Learning Commons Librarian Youth Coordinator Concord Carousel Preschool Concord Children’s Center Play and Learn Together	<u>Senior Management Team</u> Town Manager Fire Chief Director of Concord Municipal Light Plant Director of Planning and Land Management Director of Public Works Chief Information Officer	<u>Community at Large (2 sessions)</u> League of Women Voters Library Committee Friends of Concord Free Public Library Library Corporation (Trustees) Patrons
<u>Teens</u> High school students	<u>Concord Free Public Library Staff</u>	<u>Seniors (2 sessions)</u> Council on Aging Newbury Court	<u>Historical Collaborative</u> Orchard House Concord Art Association First Parish Church

