

# Lakewood Libraries Feasibility Study

Public Comment as of October 24, 2022

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## Project Update Requests

As of October 24, 61 community members have requested to receive updates on this project. 567 survey respondents requested library updates.

## Public Comments

As of October 24, 19 public comments have been received.

#	Name	Attachment	Date
1.	Schoch, Jack		7/28
2.	Cook, James		7/30
3.	Wilkerson, Richard		8/11
4.	Iverson, Sharon		8/11
5.	Linda, Suzanne		8/11
6.	Johengen, Janet		8/11
7.	Kampbell, Robert		8/11
8.	Nelson, Cindy		8/17
9.	Chambers, Randy and Suzanne		9/15
10.	Henrichsohn, Karen		9/29
11.	Boothe, Jerry		9/29
12.	Thompson Triquart, Harriet		9/30
13.	Sutton, Robin		9/30

#	Name	Attachment	Date
14.	Linda, Suzanne		10/4
15.	Peters, Susanne		10/5
16.	Arthur, Janne		10/11
17.	Pessemier, David		10/20
18.	Ernst, Will		10/22
19.	Gardner, John and Cindy		10/22

**From:** JACK SCHOCH [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2022 6:34 PM  
**To:** LakewoodCAC <[lakewoodcac@piercecounitylibrary.org](mailto:lakewoodcac@piercecounitylibrary.org)>  
**Subject:** Lakewood Library

Hello,

This is in regard to the library we no longer have in Lakewood. My wife and I started using the library almost 20 years ago, shortly after we move here. She's been gone for 9 years now and I still go there. You've always had friendly and helpful staff over the years and they've made it fun to go there. I hope that plans are being considered to rebuild at the same location. If there's anything I can contribute, in this regard, let me know. Jack Schoch

#### Customer comment



Stephanie Genna [REDACTED]  
 To: LakewoodCAC

Follow up.



Sat 7/30/2022 9:37 AM

Hi there,

I'm passing along a message from Lakewood customer, James Cook; he called to say that longer hours at Tillicum would be a great help. He mentioned 11-6 but said that any additional hours would be better. And he would also like to be able to buy books from the Friends again as well.

Mr. Cook did not specifically request a response, but left his phone number [REDACTED]

I did mention to him that there is a committee and there are meetings taking place that are open to the public, but he wasn't sure he would be able to attend.

Best,

*Stephanie Genna, she/her*

Customer Experience Assistant

RE: Lakewood Library Closure

 RICHARD WILKERSON [Redacted]  
To  LakewoodCAC  
Thu 8/11/2022 11:32 AM

  Reply  Reply All  Forward 

 Follow up.

All,

My position is that the City of Lakewood should not allow it's citizens to be taxed for library services not located within the city limits. No taxation without representation.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Ric Wilkerson

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Library

 Sharon Iverson [Redacted]  
To  LakewoodCAC  
Thu 8/11/2022 12:59 PM

  Reply  Reply All  Forward 

 Follow up.

I am a long time Lakewood Library member and supporter and have been very uncomfortable with the thought that the city might be in favor of tearing down our existing building and it would be a travesty!~ We have so few buildings here already, with a past history, and this needs to be fought for and taken the time to restore, exhibit the mindfulness for us, the Lakewood citizens.

Having said that I also think that it is high time for Lakewood to become the "Lakewood Library" independent of Pierce County as many other places have had their independence, so why not us also?

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Iverson

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Lakewood Library Email Updates

 Suzanne Linda [Redacted]  
To  LakewoodCAC  
Thu 8/11/2022 1:19 PM

  Reply  Reply All  Forward 

 Follow up.

Please add/keep me on the mailing list for any (and all) updates regarding the Lakewood Library location. We are seriously missing this valuable resource, and are very invested in its reopening--in whatever form that may take.

Thank you!  
Suzanne Linda

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### Lakewood Library



To LakewoodCAC

[Follow up.](#)

Reply Reply All Forward

Thu 8/11/2022 1:55 PM

Hello,

Please preserve and restore the Lakewood Library building so it can remain a library for future generations. Shame on Pierce County for not maintaining this classic building!

I support Lakewood's de-annexation from the Pierce County Library District.

Would like to receive updates to this via email.

Thank you,

Janet Johengen

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### Lakewood Library



ROBERT KAMPBELL To LakewoodCAC

[Follow up.](#)

Reply Reply All Forward

Thu 8/11/2022 3:22 PM

I personally don't want to drive by another vacant building in Lakewood. The library was donated and should have been kept up and not let go to the state it's currently. The estimate to bring it up to speed is totally out of line. I've been a contractor for 50 years and know costs.

Sent from my iPhone

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### Comment



Cindy Nelson To LakewoodCAC

[Follow up.](#)

Reply Reply All Forward

Wed 8/17/2022 4:35 PM

How about you relocate into the old Gottschalks/G.I. Joe buildings at the Lakewood Towne Center? They've been sitting there for years and years just rotting away. It would be close to the old Library so it wouldn't be much of an inconvenience to anyone. My 2 cents

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Randy and Suzanne Chambers [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 15, 2022 7:47 PM  
**To:** Pierce County Library <[piercecountylibrary@piercecountylibrary.org](mailto:piercecountylibrary@piercecountylibrary.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: News from Your Library

Where is our Lakewood Library? If you can't move it or build it in the town center then please rebuild it at the old spot with more floors if needed but do not leave us in limbo. University Place and Steilacoom branches are not options. You have dissolved our Lakewood library without a replacement. That is wrong!!!

This advertisement News is touting something offered at your local library. Which Library? Certainly not at the Lakewood Library. We have been over 3 months now with no local library. As homeowners; we pay our taxes for a local library. A fund for a replacement should have been available before abruptly closing our Library. We will not quietly go away. We want a functional library in Lakewood. Tell us your plans. One of your employees at Lakewood Library said you might make the old library site a community center of some kind. If this building is not safe enough for a library how dare you expose children or teens to the hazards. Seems to me a rebuild is in order. The building should be torn down if it is in such a deteriorated condition. Find us a temporary site in the town center and rebuild on the old land. Who handles the finances for the library? This should not be an issue. Give us some plausible answers.

Sincerely, Suzanne Chambers

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**From:** Karen Heinrichsohn [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 29, 2022 1:04 PM  
**To:** LakewoodCAC <[lakewoodcac@piercecountylibrary.org](mailto:lakewoodcac@piercecountylibrary.org)>  
**Subject:** Security of Lakewood Library

Library Committee:

I am very glad to read you are in the process of securing the library with cyclone fencing.

I walk through Lakewood every day with my dog and it is horrible to see what is happening there in front of the library. Yesterday, there were at least ten people gathered, loitering, littering and one particular person seems extremely unstable and honestly I feel nervous each day when I walk by. Like is this the day someone is going to become volatile and snap? I'm not unsympathetic to people who don't have homes, but I do become increasingly upset when they are disrespectful of property, and create a sort of gang feeling so that I, a tax paying homeowner and resident of Lakewood, feel unsafe walking by the library. I should not have to feel afraid in my neighborhood. Sometimes I think I will just alter my walking route, but no! Why should I have to do that??

Please help me understand why there is no enforcement of the sign in the parking lot of the library that clearly states: No loitering, no camping etc. (sign attached for reference). People loiter there ALL DAY AND NIGHT.

I grew up here and left the area for college and other pursuits. I've lived up north in Seattle and in Redmond. Over the years of living up there, I have seen how quickly a problem can accelerate when it is not addressed, so it is my hope that something will be done to address the vagrancy out front of the library. The more people ignore it, the worse it becomes until it becomes completely unsolvable. My niece was recently in town from the East Coast, and I wanted to show her the beautiful historic building and peek through the windows since she has an interest in architecture, but there was no way we felt safe doing so.

If there is an audience more suited to hearing my concerns (Police Department, City Council, Mayor?) - let me know.

Thanks for listening,

Karen Heinrichsohn

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**From:** JERRY BOOTHE [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 29, 2022 3:39 PM  
**To:** LakewoodCAC <[lakewoodcac@piercecountylibrary.org](mailto:lakewoodcac@piercecountylibrary.org)>  
**Subject:** To whom it may concern

An analyst with BERK Consulting .....ok, but if you want the job to be the best, remember, don't go with just one analyst from one company. It is best to get many appointments as possible with other consulting firms. Believe me, it's not that hard, all you do is pick up the phone, get a time for evaluation and meet them.

Forgive me if you already have done this. Just want the best analyst with the best price with our interests at hand.

Thank you,

Jerry Boothe  
Lakewood Resident

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**From:** WilliamHarriettAnne Triquart [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 30, 2022 10:46 AM  
**To:** LakewoodCAC <[lakewoodcac@piercecountylibrary.org](mailto:lakewoodcac@piercecountylibrary.org)>  
**Subject:** Library

Wondering why library is in a state of disrepair??? Would we let out homes go as apparently the library has? What became of our taxes for maintenance? Wondering???  
Harriett Thompson Triquart

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Robin Sutton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 30, 2022 8:30 PM  
**To:** Pierce County Library <[piercecountylibrary@piercecountylibrary.org](mailto:piercecountylibrary@piercecountylibrary.org)>  
**Subject:** You're just placating us

The fact of the matter is, you've already decided the fate of our beloved Library. Why placate us into believing our opinion is important?

You're reeling from bad decisions from your BOD when Covid hit. Sad we have to live with your poor management decisions. Justify it as you wish.

Robin

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** Suzanne Linda [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 4, 2022 1:55 PM  
**To:** LakewoodCAC <[lakewoodcac@piercecounyalibrary.org](mailto:lakewoodcac@piercecounyalibrary.org)>  
**Subject:** Thoughts after Meeting 4

Hello!

I would very much like to take a moment to thank each of the members of the CAC for your thoughtfulness and dedication to the task before you!

I have been one of the silent lurkers on each of the Zoom meetings, and I am so encouraged by the general consensus that seemed to appear during the most recent one (of keeping the downtown library in the current location and not necessarily tying it to the creation of a senior center). While I have no emotional connection to the current building, I certainly feel the current location is a rare and irreplaceable gem in its peaceful yet practical proximity to downtown Lakewood.

I will sadly be traveling on the day of the last meeting, but am relieved to know that the final decision is in your incredibly capable hands.

Many thanks and best wishes,  
Suzanne

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**From:** Susanne Peters [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 5, 2022 1:44 PM  
**To:** LakewoodCAC <[lakewoodcac@piercecounyalibrary.org](mailto:lakewoodcac@piercecounyalibrary.org)>  
**Subject:** New Lakewood Library location

Unfortunately, I have not been able to attend the Library Advisory meetings, but in case no one has done so far, I would like to suggest the old QFC location as new location for the library.

That location has been vacant and in disrepair for many years. However, it is centrally located at the intersection of Bridgeport and Gravelly Lake. The CVS and U.S. Bank are already there. There's not only room for the library, but also additional small support businesses. In addition, there is also plenty of parking available.

That project could also revitalize this whole area by the Best Western hotel where the city already rebuilt the road in front so beautifully.

Sincerely,

Susanne Peters  
6418 93rd St SW  
Lakewood, WA 98499

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**From:** janne arthur [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 11, 2022 11:20 AM  
**To:** LakewoodCAC <[lakewoodcac@piercecounitylibrary.org](mailto:lakewoodcac@piercecounitylibrary.org)>  
**Subject:** Demolition of Lakewood Library

I saw that its going to be torn down. It's bull\*\*\* and you know it. Fix the d\*\*\* roof. Lakewood is falling apart apparently doesn't understand how to fix a roof. Appalling, no respect for great architecture. Just say \*\*\* you to Lakewood. Is this what you think of us.? To take a gift and ignore repairs and just tear it down let's go to your house and have the Committee's tear it down.

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**From:** D. L. P. [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2022 5:42 AM  
**To:** LakewoodCAC <[lakewoodcac@piercecounitylibrary.org](mailto:lakewoodcac@piercecounitylibrary.org)>  
**Subject:** Lakewood Library Log?

Ever since I can remember (72 yrs old), the slice of an old growth tree depicting relevant growth rings with the appropriate year noted by a line or string should be kept.

My step mother's (Jo Marie Pessemier) older brother (Richard "Dick" Coblentz) was part of the team which felled this tree.

I truly hope this piece of history can be saved.

Thank you,

David Pessemier

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## Temporary location and structure for Lakewood Library



William Ernst [REDACTED]

To LakewoodCAC

Cc william Ernst



Reply

Reply All

Forward



Sat 10/22/2022 7:59 AM

Follow up.

Hello,

I see with interest the decision to construct a temporary library a few blocks north of the now decommissioned former location in Lakewood.

I am sure significant thought and planning supported this decision, however, the description "temporary" leads me to think that this new facility may likely, by default, become permanent. Perhaps it should and if not, why not? The effort, including budget and community commitment, expended toward the next location is not trivial, and it may not readily be repeated towards a permanent location given the challenges of generating funds and motive force for another initiative, and future unknowns.

In short, why isn't the "temporary" location instead considered, announced and built as "permanent?" I and I'm sure others would appreciate learning more about the longer term plan and vision for what, then, would be a permanent library location for Lakewood. Information broadcasted through the Suburban Times vehicle would be great! No need to respond to me alone in a reply email.

Thank you for any reply to this question.

Best,  
Will Ernst

## Interim library



John [REDACTED]

To LakewoodCAC



Reply

Reply All

Forward



Sat 10/22/2022 1:29 PM

Follow up.

I have noticed with interest your plans to build an interim library in Lakewood. I am worried about the term interim, does that mean you're purchasing land and building facilities on it then leaving them? Or are you leasing the property and having someone else build a the facility for you? If you are spending the money to build an interim library and abandoning the building it seems like a terrible waste. Where are you getting the money? Actually, your interim location choice seems like an ideal location for a permanent Library.

Regards,  
John and Cindy Gardner  
[REDACTED]