Community Advisory Committee Members

David Anderson
Sherwanda Beck-Atkinson
Amelia Escobedo
Bob Estrada
Ron Irwin
Lianna Olds
Josette Parker
Darwin Peters II
Ginny Rawlings
Tim Rhee
Chelsey Tschosik
Bob Warfield

Pierce County Library System

Mary Getchell, Marketing and Communications Director & Project Manager

City of Lakewood

Becky Newton, Economic Development Manager

Consultant Team

Brian Murphy, Project Manager
Michelle Ellsworth, Meeting and Engagement Support
Rebecca Fornaby, Engagement Lead
Katherine Goetz, Financial Analyst
Review of CAC Charge

Advise on how the Library System can provide quality services in a safe, welcoming space for Lakewood and Tillicum residents.

- **Review existing community input** and additional public engagement efforts.
- **Review facility history and current conditions** of both the Lakewood Library and the Tillicum Library.
- **Develop an Evaluative Framework and decision-making process** for considering long-term facility options.
- **Make directional recommendations** to the Lakewood City Council and the Pierce County Library System’s Board of Trustees in the fall of 2022.
Phases of Work

**CAC Process**
- Info Gathering & Discussion
- Recommendation Development

**Policy Maker Process**
- Review
- Make Decision
- PCLS Board of Trustees

**Tactical Planning & Implementation by PCLS**
- Site Selection, Full Cost Estimation
- Public Engagement & Financing Strategy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Public</th>
<th>CAC</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide comments and survey input</td>
<td>Provide comments</td>
<td>Serve as champions</td>
<td>Support policy maker decision making</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review, discuss, recommend</td>
<td>Serve as champions</td>
<td>Engage broader community</td>
<td>Implement policy maker direction</td>
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<td>Provide information</td>
<td>Support policy maker decision making</td>
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<td>Facilitate CAC process</td>
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<td>TASK 1</td>
<td>Project Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ongoing Project Coordination and Communication</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK 2</th>
<th>Meeting Design and Facilitation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisory Committee Kickoff</td>
<td>Meeting #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Evaluative Framework</td>
<td>• Community Input</td>
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<td>• Contemporary libraries</td>
<td>• City considerations</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Options identification</td>
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<th>TASK 3</th>
<th>Financial Scenarios</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Gathering and Cost Evaluation</td>
<td>Summary of Findings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>TASK 4</th>
<th>Community Engagement and Report Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Outreach &amp; Engagement</td>
<td>Review Additional Community Input</td>
</tr>
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<td>11/17 Presentation of Recommendations</td>
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What we heard from the Lakewood community
Engagement Methods

- **Community Survey**
  - Received 2,061 responses
  - Open July 22 - August 19
  - Advertised on social media, a mailer, email marketing, and news media, including:
    - Patch
    - The News Tribune
    - The Senior Scene
    - The Suburban Times

- **Interviews** with organizations, including:
  - Boys & Girls Club
  - Emergency Food Network
  - Lakewood Community Senior Center
  - The Rainbow Center
  - Pierce College
  - Nourish

  Stakeholder input is integrated into the following slides.

- **Tabling and Presenting at Events**
  - SummerFEST
  - Lakewood Farmers Market
  - Clover Park Rotary Club presentation
  - Lakewood Rotary Club presentation
  - Lakewood Youth Council presentation
Community Priorities

More than 2,000 survey responses, tabling at local events, and interviews with multiple organizations.

Community Priorities

- Desire for spaces with updated technology and additional programming for all ages.
- A convenient location accessible via Pierce County Transit and with adequate parking, integrated in the community and near underserved and lower-income neighborhoods.
- A well-maintained, safe, clean library with adequate lighting.
- Some interest in the preservation of the existing Downtown Library and the “big log.”

“I love having a local, easily accessed library that is connected to a bigger system.”

“Ideally better integrated within Lakewood community, close to City Hall in Town Center.”

“Better connections to transit and walking access.”

“The dense, urban nature of the current location provides more people with access to library resources.”
Desires for Library Services

- **Contemporary library design** focused on equity, access, and inspiration
- **Flexibility of spaces** for all ages and abilities, adapting to many uses
- **Changing library space requirements**, due to the shift in mobile computing and eBooks
A summary of what matters most: overall
What matters most: availability of services to serve the Lakewood community

- Lakewood should continue to be served by a Downtown Library and a Tillicum Library.
- To do this, the CAC supports a substantial investment:
  - The CAC would like to see fundraising efforts that would reduce this cost to taxpayers.
  - A bond between $17.2 million and $26.5 million (in 2022 dollars) may be required to support investment in both locations. This would cost the average Lakewood homeowner between $6 and $8 per month or $72 and $96 per year*.
- Sustainable maintenance of the building and robust operating hours are critical to serving the community well.
- Partnerships with other providers may offer a cost-effective way to provide additional services for the good of the community.

* Will depend heavily on property costs, construction costs, bond rates, etc. at the time of issuance and underwriter verification.
Evaluative Criteria

**Service Suitability**
1. Service suitability for contemporary library services
2. Service suitability for senior services
3. Flexibility to adapt to future service models

**Location**
1. Accessibility by foot or transit
2. Parking capacity
3. Stimulus to economy and investment in the neighborhood

**Practical Feasibility**
1. Implementation timeline (how quickly it could be done)
2. Ownership of the building by the Library System (as opposed to leasing)

**Cost**
1. Affordable capital cost
2. Affordable operating costs
   - Robust operating hours
   - Maintenance and sustainability
What matters most: community values

Service Suitability
1. **Service suitability for contemporary library services**
2. Service suitability for senior services
3. **Flexibility to adapt to future service models**

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1. **Accessibility by foot or transit**
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Practical Feasibility
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Cost
1. **Affordable capital cost**
2. Affordable operating costs
   - Robust operating hours
   - Maintenance and sustainabilty

“**Service Suitability** is the criteria I value most. The services a library offers are the heart of why people use it.”
Recommendations: Downtown
What matters most: Downtown

- The **Downtown library** is valued for:
  - Its location: central to the Downtown and accessible by foot or transit.
  - Its long tradition of providing library services to the community.
  - The character of the building, to which many have an emotional attachment.

"I love having a local, easily accessed library that is connected to a bigger system."

"Ideally better integrated within Lakewood community, close to City Hall in Town Center."

"Better connections to transit and walking access."

"The dense, urban nature of the current location provides more people with access to library resources."

"[The Library] is in a great location and serves the needs of the community."
The CAC’s preference is to keep the library at the same location, building a new library on the current site.

- New construction is cost-effective compared to renovation.
- A new building best supports contemporary library services and future flexibility.
- The centrality and accessibility of the current site are valued.
- The Library System owns the property.
- Retention of elements of the existing building’s character would be desirable.

If this is not possible, the CAC recommends building a new library in an equally accessible location.
Recommendations: Tillicum
What matters most: Tillicum

- The **Tillicum library** is valued for:
  - Services provided to an otherwise underserved community.
  - The proximity to Tillicum Elementary School and other locations within the Tillicum business district.
  - The mix of services currently provided in one location.

“Having a Tillicum library is **essential to an underserved community.**”

“We have a **desperate need** for a new building in Tillicum.” – Nourish

“The location in Tillicum library is **perfect for school kids** to use after school let out for the day. The Tillicum library is inside the community center which is **ideal for senior citizens**. I am a senior citizen I do not have ride the bus to another library.”

“A library in Tillicum . . .gives **access** to the members of that community that may not have a way to reach a library in Lakewood proper. The community is locked by the base and the freeway so residents without vehicle access are dependent on resources located in their community.”
Recommendations: Tillicum

**If the property where the library is currently located can be acquired**

The CAC recommends **renovating the existing building or rebuilding on the existing site.**

- Strive to retain space for other service providers.

**If this is not financially or practically feasible**

The CAC recommends **pursuing a location near the existing library.**

- Seek opportunities to co-locate with other service providers.

The CAC recommends **building on the parcel currently owned by the City.**

- Make investments to improve safe access, which is a concern to CAC members.
- Seek opportunities to co-locate with other service providers.
Thank you!