



Carnegie Library Frequently Asked Questions

Why does the Carnegie Building require a building expansion?

An expansion, as well as American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance, is required for the Carnegie Library to continue as a public facility that will serve the residents of Manitou Springs for the next 100 years. Since the Carnegie Library opened its doors in 1911, Manitou Springs has quadrupled in size, whereas the footprint of the Carnegie Building has remained the same.

Is public comment for the Carnegie Library closed?

Public comment for the three preliminary concepts closed on July 15th, **but** the design process is far from over. The ongoing conceptual drawing process was taken to the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PARAB), and City Council, where each board will provide feedback. This feedback will be used for a final design, which will be given to City Council for final approval.

Throughout the feedback process for HPC, PARAB, and City Council, public comment is allowed and encouraged so we can continue to develop a design that best serves and resembles the community of Manitou Springs. You can submit feedback directly to carnegielibrary@manitouspringsco.gov, or in-person at any meetings, open houses, or board and commissions sessions discussing the library.

How do we stay up to date with information regarding the Carnegie Library Design Process?

The Carnegie Library webpage (<https://www.manitouspringsgov.com/633/ Carnegie-Library>) is regularly updated with information regarding the design process, as well as contact information for City Staff, the Preserve and Renew Our Carnegie Library Task Force, and many other stakeholders in this process.

How much does each design cost?

Due to the ongoing design process, current cost estimates are in the works for the conceptual designs. Once the designs move into their final stages, final cost estimates will be presented.

How will the City pay for the Carnegie Library expansion?

In collaboration with the Task Force, the City will take a multi-pronged approach to fundraising. Grants, private and public donations, a strategic capital campaign, MACH funding, and many other options are all funding sources that may pay for the Library expansion.

Are libraries still useful today?

Absolutely! Libraries provide equity of technological access, safe spaces, learning, and research. Libraries are a beacon for free speech and a necessity in our community, and communities around the World. The equitable access for all includes, but not limited to, bridging the Digital Divide, availability of library materials (both electronic and physical), and study/meeting rooms. Our library is an important part of our children's future.

Where can I view the most current designs?

The most current designs are available on the Carnegie Library webpage on the City's website. You can view it here: <https://www.manitouspringsgov.com/633/Carnegie-Library>

How big are the proposed additions?

All proposed additions are based off the original Thorp rendering as a baseline for square footage, along with Pikes Peak Library District (PPLD) and stakeholder feedback. The Thorp designs were approximately 3,225 square feet of additions.

Will the historic architecture be respected?

All designs are required to respect the already standing historic architecture. In addition, all designs require approval from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board due to the surrounding park and the Historic Preservation Commission to ensure that the proposal meets the City's Design Guidelines, which are based on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

What about the trees in the area, the sledding hill, and greenstone wall?

Each design has a different effect on the surrounding landscape/park in the area. Before any work moves forward, a qualified arborist will evaluate and assess the few trees that may be impacted by the expansion.

The sledding hill may be impacted as well, but a generous amount will remain for traditional sledding.

The greenstone wall surrounding the Carnegie Library building will remain intact with all proposed designs.