

The Future Belongs to Everyone!



"I firmly believe that the best public spaces should be for the community, and the opportunity to move the new Central Library to the lakefront provides those best public spaces for our residents." - HCLS President & CEO Tonya Aikens

Introducing the New Lakefront Library

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

1

The new Lakefront Library will be on the most important and valuable undeveloped site in Howard County. The lakefront is the community's heartbeat and gathering place. Placing the new

Library there provides more public space and is a tangible representation of commitment to and investment in County residents and visitors. Thomas Heatherwick's design of the Lakefront Library will complement the dynamic architecture of iconic architect Frank Gehry.

2

A new, larger Central Library Branch has always been a part of the Downtown Columbia Plan since it was unanimously adopted by the County Council in 2010.

The current branch is undersized not only for current residents but also for the anticipated population growth called for in the Plan. A minor renovation in 2016 addressed structural, end-of-life, interim fixes, and transformed staff space into public space.



**HOWARD COUNTY
LIBRARY SYSTEM**
Public Education for All

3

The Lakefront Library design includes a parking structure with approximately 500 parking spaces, more than double than what are on the site today and the first truly public parking lot/garage at the Lakefront (current parking is owned by Whole Foods).



4

This investment in public education for all comes from a variety of sources, including private donors, the State of Maryland, grants, General Obligation (GO) Bonds, and Tax Increment Financing (TIF). (TIF revenue generated by the area's development is intended for the creation of public spaces, transit improvements, parks, and parking.) This funding mix requires less County funding than when the library was in the Merriweather District.



- The Library building: \$94M
- Site work and public parking: \$38.5M
- Library Park and transportation improvements: \$10.3M



5

Learn more about the project at hclibrary.org/about-us/downtown-columbia-branch and voice your support through written testimony or at County Council hearings on April 25 and May 11.



Scan QR Code for latest information.