BARABOO PUBLIC LIBRARY EXPANSION

# **VOICE YOUR OPINION**

## Baraboo Public Library Expansion Project What You Need to Know

#### Why expand the Baraboo Public Library?

- More than a generation since the last remodel/expansion and 50% increase in area population
- Outdated building struggles to meet the needs of 3000+ visitors per week
  - Current facilities are not up to current ADA standards

#### What will an expanded Baraboo Public Library offer?

- Increased spaces for children, teens, and adults
- More meeting rooms and study rooms for public use
- Larger community event/program space that will be available after library hours for public use
- A friendly and respected community asset that will help attract and retain young families and a skilled workforce
- An enhancement to the vibrancy and aesthetics of the downtown
- Foundation to build community partnerships for economic and social development in the Baraboo area

#### What does the Baraboo Public Library do for the community?

- Serves as a safe, welcoming community space for 3000 visitors weekly
- Brings people, information, and ideas together
- Educates people of all ages to make our community stronger

#### Why is 2021 the best time to expand the Baraboo Public Library?

- Library has spent over \$700,000 and thousands of volunteer and staff hours on expansion efforts since 2001. The longer the efforts continue, the more will have been spent.
- Sauk County annual funding will increase as we begin to regain County residents who have been seeking better library amenities in neighboring communities
- Construction costs increase 4% per year and repair/replacement costs for antiquated infrastructure is on the rise. Project cost in 2021: \$10.4 million vs. cost in 2028: \$14.7 million!
- The Library has made all preparations to expand, and are virtually "shovel ready" pending Common Council approval

#### Why do we need your help NOW?

July 10—City of Baraboo department heads and Common Council members meet to discuss the City's large project goals for the next several years, and set priorities for capital projects. From this session, an updated Capital Improvement Plan schedule will be drafted. No public comment at this meeting. July 23—The Common Council Finance Committee and the Common Council as a whole will examine and approve the updated Capital Improvement Plan schedule.

These are public meetings. Your <u>presence</u> makes a powerful statement. We need you to express your opinion to your Common Council representative <u>before</u> the July 10 meeting.

### What can *I* do to help the Baraboo Public Library expand? Contact your Common Council representative today!

- Ask that the Library expansion project be returned to 2021, instead of being postponed to 2028
- Share your favorite reasons why this should be done (from the other side of this page)

#### **City of Baraboo Common Council Representatives**

**Phil Wedekind** (Wards 2 & 12) Phone: (608) 356-8147 1017 Fourth Street, Baraboo, WI 53913

**Tom Kolb** (Ward 3) Phone: (608) 356-6080 412 First Street, Baraboo, WI 53913

Michael Plautz (Wards 4 & 5) Phone: (608) 355-7578 615 Effinger Road, Baraboo, WI 53913

Scott Sloan (Ward 6) Phone: (608) 434-0196 315 Russell Street, Baraboo, WI 53913

Joel Petty (Council President) (Ward 7) Phone: (608) 356-7214 329 Second Avenue, Baraboo, WI 53913

**John Ellington** (Wards 8 & 9) Phone: (608) 963-2183 615 West Street, Baraboo, WI 53913

John Alt (Ward 10) Phone: (608) 356-7632 138 8th Avenue, Baraboo, WI 53913

Heather Kierzek (Ward 11 & 14) Phone: (608) 963-5095 1118 19th Street, Baraboo, WI 53913

**Dennis Thurow** (Wards 1 & 14) Phone: (608) 356-7916 1104 Ash Street, Baraboo, WI 53913





Find out more on the Baraboo Public Library website: https://www.baraboopubliclibrary.org/expansion