

O'FALLON PUBLIC LIBRARY

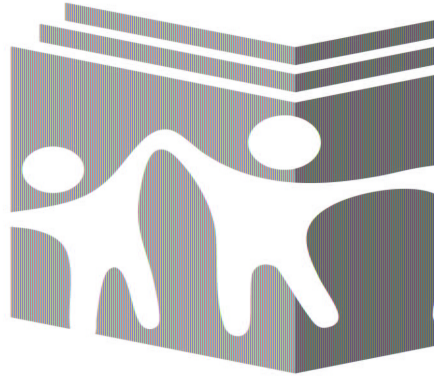
Community Engagement

Session 2

February 5, 2026



TOGETHER O'FALLON
BE A PART OF WHAT'S NEXT
O'FALLON PUBLIC LIBRARY



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Welcome!

Community Workshop #2

Feb. 5, 2026

**Please introduce yourself
to others at your table**

**Put on a nametag
Sign in at your table**

Why We Are Here:



**Engage in meaningful
dialogue and discussion**



**Gather community
feedback**



**Inform a plan for the
future of our library**

Engagement Team

- Lexi Baysinger
- Sara Belvin
- Rebecca Corless
- Melissa Doetsch
- Melissa Fanning
- Emily Fieker
- Diane Gederman
- Jennifer Goetz
- Cathy Green
- Regina Ireland
- Ankur Patel
- Eric Pratum
- Todd Reichelt
- Allison Schaal
- Cari Schaefer
- Larry Strube
- David Vail
- Gabriella Wells





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O'FALLON PUBLIC LIBRARY

OUR CHARGE

- **Listen** to community ideas and concerns about a new library.
- **Identify** what residents value most in library services and spaces.
- **Foster** open, two-way dialogue with the community.
- **Build awareness** and strengthen relationships with key stakeholders.
- **Keep planning grounded** in what matters most to the community.

Library Board

- **Suzanne Rupright - President**
- **Linda Mitchell - Vice-President**
- **Doug Distler - Treasurer**
- **Charla Morton - Secretary**
- **Liz Jennings - OMA Officer**
- **Renee Kruep**
- **Vern Hamm**
- **Judy Nicholson**
- **Beth Rowling**
- **Paige McIntosh - Student Trustee**



Community Engagement Workshops

- **PARTICIPANTS** •
Any Resident
Can Participate

- **WORKSHOPS** •
Designed And Led By
Engagement Team

- **TOPICS** •
Relevant To The Library
Planning Process

- **DISCUSSION** •
Dialogue In Small
Group Setting

Session Documentation

**Data/Informational
Presentation**

**Small Group Work
Activity**

Verbatim Responses

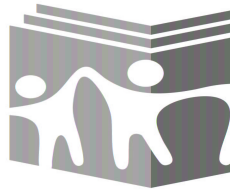
Executive Summary

Consensus Points

**Collective Decisions Used In
Formation Of Recommendations**

Have A Question or Comment?

- Complete a form
- Call: 618-206-4342
- Email: ryan@ofpl.info
- Ask during small group work time



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The form is titled "I HAVE A QUESTION!" in bold, black, uppercase letters. Above the title is a QR code on the left and the "TOGETHER O'FALLON BE A PART OF WHAT'S NEXT O'FALLON PUBLIC LIBRARY" logo on the right. Below the title is a line of text: "I would like to be contacted by a *Together O'Fallon* representative who can respond to this question/comment:". This is followed by five horizontal lines for writing. Below these lines is a smaller line of text: "Your question or comment may be directly related to the community engagement project or any other matter regarding the library." At the bottom of the form are four fields for contact information, each with a label and a horizontal line for input: "Name:", "Address:", "Phone:", and "E-Mail:".

Sign In



**Community Engagement Session #1 | 6:00 p.m.
February 5, 2026**

Sign-in Sheet | Table # ___

Please sign in as a record of your participation in this session.

Name	Mailing Address	Phone Number	Email	Check All That Apply
1.				<input type="checkbox"/> Library Card Holder <input type="checkbox"/> Staff <input type="checkbox"/> City Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
2.				<input type="checkbox"/> Library Card Holder <input type="checkbox"/> Staff <input type="checkbox"/> City Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
3.				<input type="checkbox"/> Library Card Holder <input type="checkbox"/> Staff <input type="checkbox"/> City Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
4.				<input type="checkbox"/> Library Card Holder <input type="checkbox"/> Staff <input type="checkbox"/> City Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
5.				<input type="checkbox"/> Library Card Holder <input type="checkbox"/> Staff <input type="checkbox"/> City Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
6.				<input type="checkbox"/> Library Card Holder <input type="checkbox"/> Staff <input type="checkbox"/> City Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
7.				<input type="checkbox"/> Library Card Holder <input type="checkbox"/> Staff <input type="checkbox"/> City Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
8.				<input type="checkbox"/> Library Card Holder <input type="checkbox"/> Staff <input type="checkbox"/> City Resident <input type="checkbox"/> Business Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Together O'Fallon Session #1 Recap

- **Nearly 60 community members participated in the first to help inform long-term planning for the O'Fallon Public Library.**
- **Small groups completed two activities focused on identifying key needs and important questions.**



Together O'Fallon Session #1 Feedback

- **More flexible space is needed**
- **Location, access, and visibility matter**
- **Programs and services are highly valued**
- **Staff and service culture are a key strength**
- **Clear communication about funding and access is essential,**

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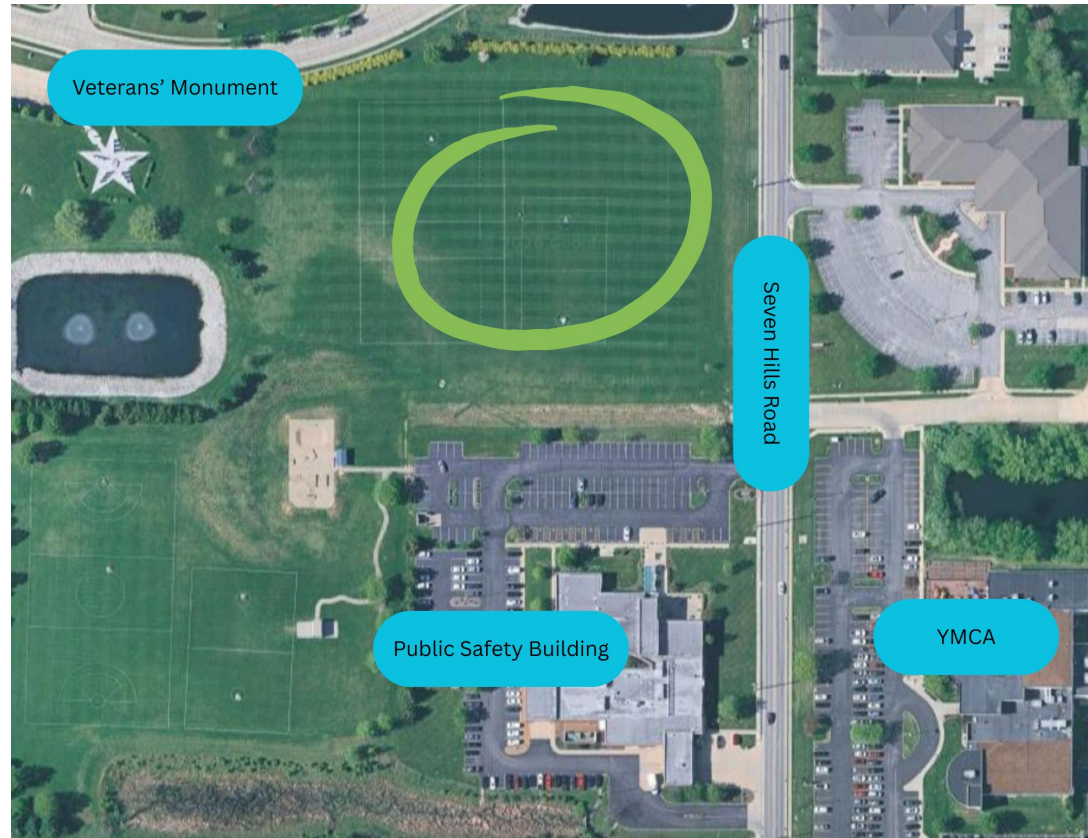
**Areas of
Community
Interest**



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Space & Location

- **Master Plan Study calls for a 40k sq. ft. facility**
- **Location off Seven Hills Road has clear visibility, easy access, and parking**



Programs & Services

- **422 programs and 8,818 attended these programs last fiscal year**
- **Limited space means turning away attendees and declining new opportunities**
- **New space enables us to meet demand**



Features & Amenities

- Reimagined children's spaces
- Flexible, accessible design
- Spaces that balance energy and quiet
- A safer, higher-functioning facility



What the Library Costs Today

- **Median home value is \$275,000**
- **That house pays \$130/year in property taxes to the library**
- **That's \$11/month**



Stewardship and Tax History

- The library's current tax rate is \$0.1380
- Since 1999:
 - Population +45%
 - Inflation +81%
 - Library tax rate **-32%**



What a New Facility Would Mean Financially

- The median home would go from paying \$130 annually to \$280 annually
- That's an increase of \$12 per month



How Do We Compare to Our Peers?

Town/City	Population	Median Income	Total Tax Rate	Library Tax Rate	% of Total
Mascoutah	8,754	\$93,902.00	7.4299	0.2448	3.29%
Lebanon	4,691	\$84,766.00	8.5262	0.1922	2.25%
Smithton	4,006	\$114,453.00	8.1805	0.1789	2.19%
Maryville	8,221	\$100,813.00	6.5472	0.1706	2.61%
Glen Carbon	13,842	\$92,434.00	7.0445	0.1601	2.27%
Troy	10,960	\$97,825.00	6.4536	0.1463	2.27%
Edwardsville	26,808	\$92,671.00	7.1391	0.1462	2.05%
O'Fallon	32,289	\$102,793.00	7.2894	0.1380	1.89%

Per Resident Investment

- We currently invest **\$43.28** per resident
- The proposed increase could take us to **\$90** per resident



A Conservative Assumption

- **The figures assume ZERO growth to Equalized Assessed Value (EAV)**
- **Every new rooftop helps share the load for the years ahead**



Now We're Turning It Over To You



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Small Group Work Activity

- 1. Select a Recorder and Spokesperson**
- 2. Recorder Responsibilities**
 - Complete the information on the group's worksheet
- 3. Spokesperson Responsibilities**
 - Facilitate Discussion
 - Keep Group Focused/On Task
 - Report Group's Information

Small Group Worksheet

- **Information recorded should reflect consensus/ general agreement of group members**
- **Monitor progress to complete all tasks in allotted time**
- **Group recorder will document on the worksheet**



Small Group Work Activity

TASK: CREATE YOUR LIBRARY

Your goal is to build library branch you would most want to visit without exceeding space or budget.

Base Library (already included):

- 30,000 sq ft
- \$17,250,000
- Includes core library spaces (collections, staff areas, restrooms, study rooms, collaboration room, teen room, children's area)

Total amount you can add-on:

- Up to 10,000 additional sq ft
- Up to \$7,750,000 additional cost

Table #: _____
Spokesperson: _____
Facilitator: _____



Small Group Work Activity WORKSHEET CES #2 • Feb. 5, 2026

INSTRUCTIONS

- Each group should select a recorder and a facilitator.
 - Recorder responsibilities:
 - Complete the information requested on the table's worksheet – the PINK copy on your table.
 - Complete the information in the box in the upper left corner before you begin.
 - The PINK worksheet will be collected at the end of tonight's session.
 - Facilitator responsibilities:
 - Facilitate discussions and keep the group focused on completing the work in the allotted time.
 - Share the group's information with the room at the end of the work activity time.
- Please make sure the information recorded on the group's worksheet reflects the collective thought/decision or general agreement of everyone at the table, not just the opinion of one or two individuals.

TASK: DESIGN YOUR LIBRARY

Work as a team to choose amenities to add to the Base Library. Your goal is to build the branch you would most want to visit without exceeding space or budget.

- Base Library (already included):
- 30,000 sq ft
 - \$17,250,000
 - Includes core library spaces (collections, staff areas, restrooms, study rooms, collaboration room, teen room, children's area)

- Total amount we can add-on:
- Up to 10,000 additional sq ft
 - Up to \$6,250,000 additional cost



5:00

Small Group Work Activity Reporting



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THANK YOU!

Community Engagement Session #3
March 19, 2026
Knights of Columbus
6:00 p.m.



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