



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

Executive Summary

As a result of the Small Group Work Activity
Thursday, Mar. 19, 2026 • Together O'Fallon Community Workshop #3

OVERVIEW

On March 19, 2026, community members participated in the third Together O'Fallon Community Workshop at the Knights of Columbus. The session opened with welcome remarks and an overview of the process by engagement team member Todd Reichelt, followed by an informational presentation from Library Director Ryan Johnson. Engagement team member David Vail introduced and facilitated the small-group work activity.

During the small-group activity, participants reviewed five potential library options and ranked them according to preference. Each table worked collaboratively to reach a consensus ranking. In addition to ranking the options, participants discussed potential improvements, suggested additional amenities, and provided feedback to help guide future planning decisions.

OPTIONS AND RANKINGS

Participants reviewed five potential library options, each representing a different level of investment and service expansion. The Status Quo maintains the existing 17,000 square foot facility with no additional cost. Option A (Base Library) expands the facility to approximately 30,000 square feet at an estimated cost of \$17.25 million. Option B (Enhanced Multipurpose) increases the size to approximately 34,000 square feet with an estimated cost of \$19.75 million. Option C (Expanded Services) further expands the library to approximately 38,120 square feet at an estimated cost of \$22.32 million and introduces additional service offerings. Option D (Comprehensive Library) represents the largest investment, at approximately 40,020 square feet and an estimated cost of \$25 million, incorporating the full range of proposed amenities.

Each table ranked each option. Then the rankings were converted into a weighted scoring system where a rank of 1 received 5 points.

Total points by option:

- Status Quo: 13
- Option A: 18
- Option B: 31
- Option C: 38
- Option D: 35

Option C (Expanded Services) received the highest total score, indicating it was the most preferred option among participants. This option reflects interest in expanding services while maintaining a balanced approach to cost and space.

KEY THEMES FROM FEEDBACK

Participant feedback revealed several consistent priorities across groups:

- Flexible, multi-use spaces that can adapt to different needs over time
- Community-centered design that supports gathering, collaboration, and events
- Expanded services such as makerspaces, sensory spaces, and café-style offerings
- Inclusive and accessible environments that serve a wide range of users
- Outdoor and extended-use spaces that support programming beyond the building
- Questions were also raised regarding programming, operations, and the future use of the existing facility.

CONSENSUS

The results of Community Workshop #3 indicate strong support for a new library that expands services while maintaining flexibility and thoughtful planning.

Option C emerged as the leading choice, reflecting a preference for enhanced services, adaptable spaces, and a facility that supports a wide range of community needs. Participants also emphasized the importance of balancing new features with cost awareness and long-term sustainability.