

Why do we need to renovate the North Lake County Public Library and what are the benefits to the community?

- There has not been a major renovation of the library in the 30 years since it was built.
- The library was built before the Americans with Disabilities Act took effect. Several areas of the library are not ADA compliant including the main entrance.
- The carpeting, restrooms, and electric have not had an upgrade in those 30 years.
- The staff lack a good line of site to the entry doors, the public computers, and generally around the library. Activity in the foyer goes unmonitored unless there is a complaint. This poses a security risk in that the staff does not know who is coming through the doors until they are literally at the desk.

- The library will be more accessible for all patrons especially those in wheelchairs.
- The library will be more open and bright:
 - Larger windows will help add natural light
 - Shorter shelving will improve accessibility to materials while also allowing one to see more of the library. This will not decrease the collection.
 - The space will all be one level from east to west wall. There will no longer be a ramp dividing the building.
- The children's area will be nearly doubled to allow more space for play and programming. Additional computers will be added in the children's area.
- Three additional stations will be added to the public access computers with improved accessibility for wheelchairs.
- Additional, comfortable seating will be placed throughout the library to allow for spaces to read, use devices and study. We want to encourage patrons to stay and enjoy the library.
- The atrium will have larger windows to provide an even better view of the lake, and seating will be improved.
- A dedicated Makerspace will allow patrons the use of our new 3D printer and other STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) related activities.
- New flexible small meeting spaces will be added that can covert to two small rooms or one longer room with seating for 10-15.
- A space for a coffee and book sale shop will be added.
- There will be an addition of a single-stall, accessible private bathroom.

The renovation of the library will help to make it a "Third Place" for people in the community. We have home and we have work, but we need that "third place" where we can gather with friends; where children can play together; where we can meet new people and participate in activities and programs. My hope is that the library becomes a community hub in Polson where everyone feels welcome and it is okay to stay all day and not spend a dime. There is no pressure and no expectations. We are a place of learning, resource and relaxation and all are welcome!