



# Wheaton Library/Community Recreation/Gilchrist Center

Community Workshop Input Questions and Answers  
June 5, 2013

What would make this project a success from the view point of.....

## Your Community and Neighborhood?

1. Become a “magnet” for people in many communities
2. Iconic architecture that is attractive with a central focal point, such as an atrium
3. Cater to diverse parts of Wheaton, evolve into a place where the community can unite
4. Carefully integrated parking that accommodates large numbers of people without creating more traffic problems or thru-way traffic through Hermitage Avenue
5. Multi-level parking
6. Connect to Brookside Gardens and Wheaton Regional Park, metaphorically
7. Pedestrian friendly with the opportunity for free shuttle to Metro and bicycle parking
8. Weather shelter at bus stop
9. Safety features such as outdoor lighting and security systems
10. Childcare providers that support success for young children, a place where kids can exercise and learn
11. A place that may serve as a safe outing for kids and teenagers
12. Conference spaces that can be rented for events, guest speakers, social events, and community meetings
13. Classrooms for Gilchrist Center, assistance in achieving citizenship, and help with obtaining a driver’s license
14. Welcoming for kids of all ages and people from other countries
15. Enhances public education with programs for kids
16. A respite from traffic on Georgia Avenue
17. “Bridge” the divide from the west side of Georgia Avenue

## Both Users and Employees?

1. Welcoming and inviting, flooded with natural light from large windows
2. Expand free parking
3. Become an oasis that utilizes outdoor spaces for reading
4. Farmer’s Markets, community gardens and children’s play
5. Easy to use with distinct signage and clear access to information desks
6. Clarity in “flow” to the facility
7. Quiet and comfortable
8. Separate reading rooms from technology to ensure a quiet atmosphere
9. Interesting indoor and outdoor details such as skylights, opening roofs, atrium spaces, terraces and courtyards
10. Staff lounges adjacent to work areas with lunch rooms and windows
11. Coffee shop or café



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12. Draw in youth with music, technology, and game areas
13. Interactive multimedia and advanced computer equipment
14. WiFi capabilities
15. The opportunity for group fitness classes or music classes from Strathmore
16. Large sections of books in other languages to aid in the efforts of the Gilchrist Center
17. Private spaces for study and more rooms for Gilchrist
18. Multilingual staff that can accommodate patrons that speak other languages
19. Track, indoor courts, and fitness spaces
20. Auditorium to encourage theatre and public lectures
21. Maintains and expands the bookstore
22. A great place for research and study
23. Pull in the art community with galleries for art, theatres, and exhibitions

## County and Tax Payers?

1. Become a "Crown Jewel" of Wheaton that increases the value of the community
2. Light, bright, visible, inspirational, and enjoyable
3. Self-sustaining with utilization of "green" technologies such as geothermal or solar power
4. High LEED certification
5. On budget, on time with accessible project reports (learn from Silver Spring Metro Transit challenges)
6. Become a place that unites many activities; a place where people want to live, work, and play
7. Integration of art and technology into recreation and learning
8. Interface with new Wheaton High School
9. Large focus on bringing in young kids and teenagers
10. Something that shows a direct benefit to the community
11. Low operating costs and returns on investment
12. Attracts business professionals
13. Serves as an emergency shelter in the event of power outages or extreme weather occurrences
14. Improvement of resident access
15. Open Martin Lane and connect to Amherst Lane
16. "Lean Forward" with the design, try to anticipate future technology, etc.