Damascus Library Refurbishment





Architect, Civil, Structural: SHELADIA ASSOCIATES INC. 2099 GAITHER ROAD, SUITE 410, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850 USA



Client:

MONTGOMERY COUNTY MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERIVCES,
DIVISION OF BUILDING DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

Summary of Design

Exterior Improvements

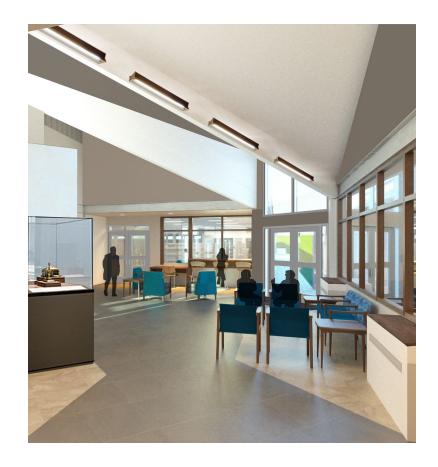
- Enhancement of the façade with a fresh coat of paint on the existing standing seam metal roof panels and replacement of damaged roof accessories.
- Restoration and repair of exterior masonry walls to ensure structural integrity and aesthetic appeal.
- Replacement of exterior glazing, including leaking windows and storefront systems, with energy-efficient and weather-resistant materials.
- Installation of a new perimeter fence, dumpster enclosure, and mechanical equipment enclosure to enhance security and organization



Summary of Design

Interior Improvements

- Comprehensive redesign of the main lobby and vestibule to enhance accessibility and user experience.
- Interior drywall repairs, repainting, and refinishing for a refreshed and modernized aesthetic.
- Facility-wide reflooring and repainting to create a cohesive and contemporary look.
- Installation of new lighting fixtures in areas where required to improve visibility and energy efficiency.
- Full replacement of outdated furniture to align with modern ergonomic and functional standards.
- Implementation of ADA-compliant features, including appropriate writing surfaces at service desks, self-checkout stations, catalog areas, and other service points to ensure accessibility for all users.
- Reorganization and modernization of the library staff kitchenette for improved efficiency and convenience.
- Addition of ADA-compliant lactation room, gender neutral restrooms, and staff restrooms.



Beyond Books

The Damascus Library Refurbishment transforms the space into a modern, inclusive hub with enhanced accessibility, technology, and wayfinding. It features quiet study zones, social spaces, and youth-friendly areas, fostering learning, creativity, and community engagement beyond traditional book collections.









Design Intent

The goal of this renovation is to create a **vibrant**, **dynamic**, and **inclusive** library space that fosters community engagement while accommodating the needs of **teens**, **children**, and adults. The design prioritizes **open**, **expansive spaces** that allow library staff **uninterrupted visibility** across all functional zones, enhancing safety and accessibility.

A seamless flow is established through the organic carpet patterns and color-coded wayfinding, intuitively guiding visitors to designated areas from the entrance foyer. This transformation integrates 21st-century technology, prioritizing accessible design upgrades, and strategically reducing long-term operational and maintenance costs through an efficient layout and durable, user-friendly materials.



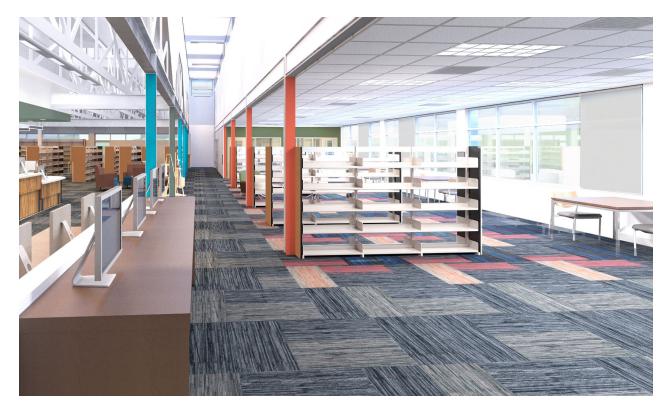
Design Features

ADA Accessibility upgrades:

- Re-Designed Front entrance with ADA door activation buttons
- ADA accessible Water Fountains
- Elimination of excessive door thresholds
- Addition of a gender-neutral, fully ADA-compliant restroom to support inclusivity and accessibility.

Meeting Rooms / Collaboration Spaces:

Reconfigure the existing quiet room into two study rooms, one collaboration room, and one quiet study room to better accommodate users' diverse needs.



Design Features

Children's Area:

The renovation plan includes repairs, repainting, and refinishing to create a fresh, engaging environment for both young and older children. A full furniture replacement will introduce playful, functional, and interactive elements to enhance the space for youth.





Design Features

Adult Area:

The color scheme is strategically designed to define and differentiate each space, aiding users in navigating the library effortlessly. This will be complemented by accent carpet tiles and specified accent colors on the flange sides, reinforcing the visual identity of each zone. Beyond aesthetics, this approach enhances wayfinding for diverse user groups with varying skill levels, ensuring an intuitive and inclusive experience for all visitors.



Thank You!