A Community Hub for People of All Ages

The Crozet master planning process established a new and expanded public library in downtown Crozet as a critical community priority. Based on their input into the master planning process, citizens strongly preferred to place the new library in the heart of downtown to provide a focal point for community activity and expand opportunities for economic vitality for existing and new downtown businesses.

As demonstrated in other communities, today’s public libraries are more than technology centers, book repositories, and quiet reading spaces, they are also focal points for community gathering places and activity centers.

The primary mission of the new facility is to serve the library needs of the defined Western Albemarle service area with a concerted focus on both existing and emerging technologies and solutions that will support the library’s programming and best serve its patrons.

The planning and design team worked closely with community members to preserve and enhance the existing character of downtown Crozet and to incorporate features and elements into the library project that will represent and honor Crozet’s heritage.

Construction of the library supports a host of infrastructure projects that have multiple benefits for the public including the sidewalk project, shared public parking for downtown, construction of Main Street, and the streetscape project.

The library project uses public investment to stimulate downtown activity and economic vitality and represents a significant commitment to revitalization directly in the heart of downtown Crozet.

Proposed Features and Services

- Teen area with computers, study area and lounge
- Community meeting/multi-purpose room to seat 70 including AV and projection equipment
- Public computers for research and job seekers
- Children’s area with computers and furniture to scale
- Fireplace area with lounge chairs, study carrels, places to collaborate
- Formal conference room with conference table seating up to eight available to local non-profits during library hours
- Meditative reading area with mountain views
- Service desk with four self-check out units
- Adult area with 50% increase in book collection
**Going Green with LEED Certification**

In February of 2007, the Board of Supervisors supported pursuing LEED Certification for the Crozet Library and other County buildings. LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and is a nationally accepted rating system for the design and construction of green buildings. The new Crozet Library is the County’s first completely new building designed to be LEED Certified, and is expected to achieve LEED Silver Certification, primarily through high-efficiency mechanical systems, use of environmentally-friendly materials, and provision of natural light.

**Fundraising**

Albemarle County, the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library, and the Crozet / Western Albemarle community have entered into an innovative public-private partnership to accomplish this new library construction. Albemarle County funded purchase of the land, site preparation, and building construction. Private funds will be raised to turn the building into a library, providing books, shelves, chairs, tables, A/V equipment and all other furnishings. Those funds are being raised by Build Crozet Library, as a conduit to Friends of the JMRL, a nonprofit organization. The estimated cost to be raised privately is $1.6 million.

Donate today at: [BuildCrozetLibrary.org/give](http://BuildCrozetLibrary.org/give)

**Crozet/Western Albemarle Library Timeline**

*Summary of major project milestones in developing Albemarle County’s newest library*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DECEMBER 2004</td>
<td>Albemarle County Board of Supervisors (BOS) approves Crozet Master Plan which calls for new 22,500 sf library to be constructed in downtown Crozet</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARCH 2006</td>
<td>Albemarle County purchases downtown Crozet property (Harris) to allow construction of new Main Street (later named Library Avenue)</td>
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<td>SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2006</td>
<td>Stakeholder meetings discuss design plans, estimate costs, and site selection</td>
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<td>SEPTEMBER 2006</td>
<td>Grimm + Parker Architects selected</td>
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<td>DECEMBER 2006</td>
<td>Albemarle County purchases downtown Crozet property (Amato) for new library site</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARCH 2007</td>
<td>Albemarle County BOS approves construction of 20,000 sf building with 15,000 sf dedicated for library programming at estimated cost of $8.5 million, including agreement with community raising $1.6 million in funds for interior furnishings</td>
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<td>MARCH 2008</td>
<td>Structures on library property removed as part of site preparation</td>
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<td>MAY 2008</td>
<td>Albemarle County BOS establishes Crozet Library Steering Committee, a team of community members, elected officials, and library staff</td>
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<td>SEPTEMBER 2008 – JUNE 2009</td>
<td>Multiple presentations and work sessions take library from concept through schematics.</td>
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<td>JULY 2009</td>
<td>Albemarle County BOS approves library schematic design; however recession delays plans for construction</td>
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<td>AUGUST 2009 – OCTOBER 2010</td>
<td>Multiple required submissions: site development plan, building permit application, parking lot plans, sidewalk dimension waiver, water protection ordinance application</td>
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<td>SPRING, 2011</td>
<td>Library Avenue/Alley to the Square completed</td>
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<td>MARCH 2011</td>
<td>County officials approve site development plan</td>
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<td>MARCH 2012</td>
<td>Construction bids opened</td>
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<tr>
<td>APRIL 2012</td>
<td>BOS accepts $5.81 million construction bid from MB Contractors of Roanoke</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUNE 26, 2012</td>
<td>Library groundbreaking; community-based committee launches fundraising campaign for furnishings</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Laying of cornerstone</td>
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<tr>
<td>JULY 2013</td>
<td>Library construction scheduled to be completed</td>
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<tr>
<td>AUGUST 2013</td>
<td>New Crozet / Western Albemarle Library scheduled to open</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Sources:** Albemarle County files, Crozet Gazette and Daily Progress reporting as documented by Cvillepedia ([www.cvillepedia.org/mediawiki/index.php/Crozet_Library](http://www.cvillepedia.org/mediawiki/index.php/Crozet_Library))
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
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| **Adult Area**                | - Best sellers display  
- Over 50% increase in books  
- Bookcases are designed to make finding books easier  
- Bookcase end caps have directions, displays and are made with recycled material |
| **Adult Computers**           | - Bank of public computers for research and job seekers  
- Area close to bookcases and catalogs  
- Printer available  
- Reading tables |
| **Children’s Area**          | - Differentiated space to hold programs in library  
- Furniture made especially for children  
- Bank of computers for children  
- Space for parents to read to children |
| **Community Meeting Room**   | - Multipurpose room seats 70  
- Can be arranged to accommodate meeting needs  
- Free to local non-profits groups during library hours  
- Projection and AV equipment, speakers and mobile podium |
| **Fireplace Area**           | - Lounge chairs around hearth  
- Next to newspaper and magazine area  
- Adult study carrels  
- Great place to meet friends and discuss books |
| **Formal Conference Room**   | - Seats eight in enclosed room  
- Executive chairs and conference table  
- Flat screen TV and marker board  
- Free to local non-profits groups during library hours |
| **Foyer**                    | - Displays of current library programs  
- Displays of Crozet History  
- Displays of new books  
- Community events announcement screen |
| **Meditative Reading Area**  | - View the Shenandoah while reading or studying  
- Quiet area  
- Reading desks and lounge chairs |
| **Service Desk Area**        | - Local wood/locally built  
- Four self check out units  
- Recommended books display  
- Reference and research tools |
| **Staff Work Area**          | - New space for professional program design  
- New space for program materials  
- New space for volunteers  
- Office system designed to support improved library operation |
| **Study/Tutorial Room**      | - Enclosed room for eight  
- Flat screen TV  
- Marker board  
- Can be reserved for home schooled group tutorial room |
| **Teen Area**                | - Teen study area  
- Bank of teen computers  
- Lounge/reading area  
- Teen bookcases |