



Customer Comments

February 2022

The following comments were received by the Library during the month of February 2022. Where the customer requested a personal reply by phone or email, it was provided. Customer comments and responses are posted on the Library's website.

RECEIVED BY E-MAIL

Comment:

I just read with dismay that the proposed (Sequim Branch) library only will be expanded by 2000 square feet. That is better than nothing but way short of the needed tripling of space. I don't even know what to else to say.

Response:

Thanks for your message. I wholeheartedly agree. A much larger Sequim Library building would be an asset to the community and would better serve everyone using the library.

NOLS is looking at ways to expand and improve the space within the current budget of this project. The scope of this expansion and renovation is focused on addressing the most critical needs – public bathroom access, meeting room space, staff work areas and in-general more overall space/seating. Here's a link to the [project webpage](#).

Some background:

NOLS has been working on securing funding to expand the too-small Sequim Branch for over a decade. The community was very supportive of a bond measure in 2018 to construct a brand new 17,000 sf library (about 3x the size of the current building), but the ballot measure narrowly failed to meet the 60% threshold to pass. So, unfortunately an adequately-sized library was not funded.

In 2021, NOLS was awarded a \$2 million matching-funds grant from the Washington Department of Commerce to address the most critical needs at the library. We're currently in the early design process with the architect, and going through the process of prioritizing project areas to meet our identified budget. We anticipate adding around 2,000 square feet to the existing 6,000 square feet building (and fully renovating the existing space). The project scope is based on available funding – if we can afford to add more space, we will.

We'll be launching a community fundraising campaign to support the project this spring and welcome contributions big and small to help fund the expansion. Community support is critical – through volunteer time and financial contributions.

If you're interested in supporting the project or further questions, please let me know. I'd be happy to chat further.