



Customer Comments

December, 2018

The following comments were received by the Library during the month of December, 2018. 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: Suggestion - I would like to be included in discussion about future plans for the new library. I am a retired contractor and I have insight into the cost of construction. I would like to know why it costs twice as much per square foot to build the library as it did to build the new city hall in 2013. Thanks.

Response:

Thanks for your interest in the Sequim Branch project. During 2017-2018 NOLS worked with [SHKS Architects](#) to conduct a community involved planning process, and develop schematic designs for a proposed Sequim Branch expansion. The schematic designs for two different approaches to expanding the Sequim Branch were analyzed by [WV Partnership](#), who prepared detailed cost estimates. Their complete cost analysis is included as Appendix D (beginning on page 38) of [SHKS's final report on the conceptual design process](#). The final report, as well as a large body of other background information about the proposed project and ballot measures, is available on the [Library's webpage](#).

I'm certainly not qualified to respond to your specific question about the difference in cost between the 2013 Civic Center project and the proposed Library project (which was cost estimated for construction in 2020). I do know that there are some specialized construction issues for libraries, related to load bearing requirements for library collections and other use factors, which differ from construction of buildings that are primarily comprised of office space. I would also imagine that inflation and increases in materials costs would impact cost estimates over a seven year time span.

As you are probably aware, the November 2018 ballot measure that would have approved construction bonds/levies for the proposed project failed by an extremely narrow margin. At present the NOLS Board has not discussed or made any decision about next steps in addressing the space and facilities issues at the Sequim Branch Library. As with all previous planning activities undertaken in connection with this project, public involvement will continue to be encouraged and welcome as NOLS and the community move forward together.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information.