



NEWS RELEASE
North Olympic Library System
2210 South Peabody Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 5, 2024
Contact: Noah Glaude, Executive Director
360.417.8500 x7717; NGlaude@nols.org
Re: Sequim Library Moves to Temporary Location during Construction Project
Attached: *EmilySly_NoahGlaude.jpg; SequimLibrary_Rendering.jpg*

The North Olympic Library System (NOLS) is excited to announce the Sequim Library Expansion and Renovation Project is entering its next phase in preparation for construction. Staff and professional movers who specialize in relocating library materials will soon be packing up approximately 50,000 items in the Sequim Library's collection and moving to the temporary location, 609 W. Washington St., near the former JCPenney store.

The library will remain open at its current location, 630 N. Sequim Ave., through Saturday, March 9. A Send-Off Celebration open house with refreshments will be held that day from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. to share memories and celebrate the last day before the move. "We're extending due dates in Sequim so nothing will be due during the closure and there are no late fees," said Emily Sly, Sequim Library manager. "Keep your borrowed items at least until the temporary location opens on April 1."

Sequim Library service and book drops will be unavailable during the three-week move, from March 10-31. The NOLS Bookmobile will make frequent visits to Sequim during the closure so people can borrow library materials. Find it stationed in the parking lot at the former JCPenney from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Mondays and Saturdays, and 10 a.m. to noon on Thursdays. Returns are unable to be accepted at the Bookmobile.

The temporary location opens at 10 a.m. on Monday, April 1, and will offer browsing, checkouts, public computers, printing, newspapers, magazines, Wi-Fi, seating and programs for all ages. Walk-up book drops will be available beginning that day.

NOLS plans to select a contractor for the renovation and expansion project in March for construction to begin in late April. The remodeled library is expected to open in spring 2025. “Thanks to lots of hard work and generous support from donors and grants, this project is finally happening for Sequim residents,” said NOLS Executive Director Noah Glaude. “The need for more space and improved infrastructure was identified decades ago. We overcame many challenges to get to this point, and I’m so happy that we’re building a space to support community gatherings, future readers and lifelong learners.”

Reports and studies for the past 30 years all concluded that more space was needed at the Sequim Library. In 1990, a report from the Friends of Sequim Library stated, “there is inadequate space to meet even the present needs of the community, much less those of the future.” In 2001, a feasibility study for expansion and modifications to the Sequim Branch provided documented evidence that supported the need for more space, and quantified those needs. A 2014 needs assessment and feasibility study found that the building was too small to meet operational needs and juxtaposes conflicting uses in too-cramped spaces.

Construction is estimated to cost around \$6.2 million, bringing the total project cost to about \$9.5 million. The project is about \$3 million away from its funding goal, and the Sequim Library continues to fundraise and apply for grant opportunities. Gifts of \$250 or more will be recognized on a donor wall in the new building. For larger donations, several opportunities exist to name key areas, from quiet study rooms to the outdoor stage.

For more information about the move, or to donate to the project, visit nols.org/sequim, call 360.417.8500, email Discover@nols.org.



Sequim Library Manager Emily Sly, left, with Noah Glaude, executive director of the North Olympic Library System.



Rendering by SHKS Architects of the expanded and renovated Sequim Library, projected to open in spring 2025.

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