



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 25, 2024
Contact: Noah Glaude, Executive Director
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Re: North Olympic Library System unveils sneak peek of new Sequim Library
Attached: *ChildrensArea.jpg, ActivityandMeetingRoom.jpg*

The North Olympic Library System (NOLS) has released a video tour showcasing the architectural renderings of the new Sequim Library, which is currently under construction. The expanded facility will nearly double the library's size from 6,000 to 10,000 square feet, addressing the needs of the growing community and making critical infrastructure improvements. The video tour and construction updates with photographs of the building site are available at NOLS.org/Sequim.

Originally built in 1983 for a population of approximately 13,300, the Sequim Library had become too small to adequately serve the more than 32,000 current residents in Sequim, Agnew and Carlsborg. Assessment studies in 2001 and 2014 confirmed that a larger library was needed. In 2018, a bond measure to fund the new library received 58.6% of the vote, just shy of the 60% needed for approval. Despite this setback, NOLS secured alternative funding through grants, timber revenue from DNR managed state trust lands, and community donations to move forward without a new bond or levy.

"We couldn't wait any longer for a new library, so we found creative and cost-effective ways to get the project underway," said Noah Glaude, NOLS Executive Director. "The video tour gives viewers the experience of walking through the future library, revealing how well the new facility

will serve the community for decades. We're excited to show everyone what their support is helping to build."

The expanded library will feature increased space for collections, ADA-accessible bathrooms, and a fire sprinkler system. It will also offer enhanced broadband and technology access, dedicated children and teen areas, study and conference rooms, and flexible space for educational, cultural and civic events.

Construction on the new library began with Hoch Construction of Port Angeles in late April 2024. Additional foundation has been poured and framing of the expanded structure is in progress. New sewer lines have been installed and utility work was completed along Sequim Avenue to connect a new water line for the fire suppression system. The project is progressing as scheduled, with a grand opening anticipated in spring 2025.

NOLS has raised 59% of its \$10.6 million goal, thanks in part to over 220 donors who have contributed a total of \$1.4 million toward the project. NOLS continues to seek donations in any amount. Gifts of \$250 or more made by November 1, 2024, will be recognized on a donor wall in the new library. Naming opportunities for significant spaces, such as the Activity and Meeting Room (\$500,000), Outdoor Stage (\$200,000), and Study Rooms (\$50,000 each), are also available.

"We're inviting the community to help us complete this important project," Glaude added. "Together, we can create a vibrant hub that will serve Sequim for generations to come."

To watch the video tour, read construction updates or support the new Sequim Library, visit NOLS.org/Sequim.



The new Sequim Library will have a Children's Area with access to an enclosed outdoor play space.



The Activity and Meeting Room will have adjustable glass partitions to create flexible spaces for community gatherings and free library programs.

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