

# LOUSSAC LIBRARY: Your Library. Your Future.

## Z.J. LOUSSAC LIBRARY GENERATIONAL RENEWAL

- A once in a generation renovation of a vital and beloved institution.
- \$10M for phase one; \$50M for future phases
- The project has strong community support and was the leading recommendation from the 2010 Library Community Plan.
- Across the country, communities that have invested in modernizing their libraries have seen great returns in educational opportunities and economic development; this renovation will allow the Loussac to step into a much-needed role for Anchorage.
- By phasing the project, we can immediately address critical needs and keep the building open to the public throughout the renovation.



## OVERVIEW

### PRE DEVELOPMENT

A facility master plan was completed in December 2012. RIM Architects and a team of designers, planners and library experts from across the country worked with our community to develop an inspiring long-term vision for the facility. The plan addresses the Library's goals to improve technology and educational opportunities in support of community initiatives, such as the United Way's 90% by 2020 and Anchorage Economic Development Corporation's *Live. Work. Play* campaigns.

The project will be spread out over multiple phases, which allows the library to remain open throughout the renovation and provides a more manageable time line for fundraising. The Library will use the first phase of construction to build community support and awareness to launch future phases.

### PHASE ONE: \$10M. Construction start: 2014

#### 2013 State Capital Request: \$8M (included in Mayor's Anchorage Package)

The first phase will address the most immediate needs for building safety and efficiency: a more welcoming entrance, an expanded lobby, the library circulation desk moved to first floor, a beacon tower to make the entrance more identifiable, an elevator directly from lobby to 4th floor, café on 1st floor, and a drive-up indoor book drop.

### FUTURE PHASES: \$40M Public Funding. \$10M Private Donations.

Future phases will continue to address building safety and efficiency needs: seismic, ADA and life safety upgrades, energy efficiency improvements, and RFID automated materials handling. They will also address the heart of the building: renovation of the children's area, expansion of Teen Underground, installation of a computer learning lab, a way finding package, new furnishings and fixtures, an A/V upgrade to the Wilda Marston Theatre and overall exterior and interior refinishing. After the first phase, the remainder of the project can be split into 1-2 phases with design work beginning as early as 2014 and construction in 2015.

## STATEWIDE IMPACT

An investment in the Loussac Library has statewide impacts. Programs housed at the Loussac, such as The Ready to Read Resource Center, Interlibrary Loans, book donations, and the 800# reference hotline, provide materials, training and support to rural libraries across the state.

Project info can be found at [www.LoussacFuture.org](http://www.LoussacFuture.org)

Sign up for project newsletter by emailing [Loussac@anchoragelibraryfoundation.org](mailto:Loussac@anchoragelibraryfoundation.org)



# THE FUTURE OF THE Z.J. LOUSSAC LIBRARY

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



The Loussac Facility Master Plan received thoughtful and creative input from thousands of community members through two community workshops, an online survey, an online discussion forum and seven focus groups for specific user groups, such as Alaska Natives, senior citizens, recent immigrants and the business community.

Recurring themes center on the library becoming a “third place” for community gathering and dialog across generations, more opportunities for teaching and training, better way finding, and using the building to showcase Alaska history and culture.

## BALANCE OF TRADITIONAL AND NEW ROLES FOR THE LIBRARY

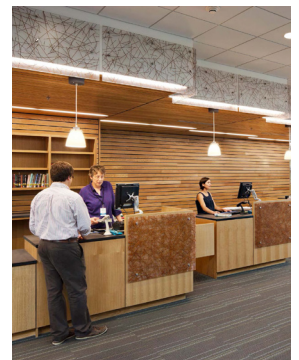
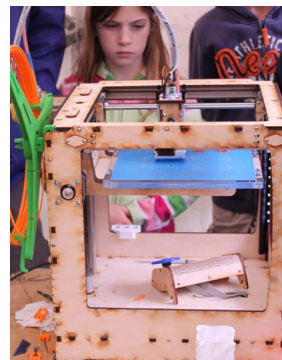
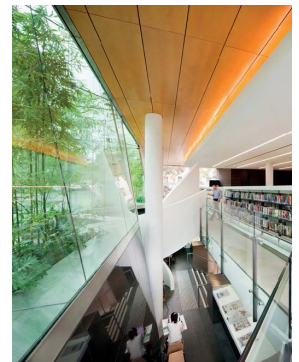
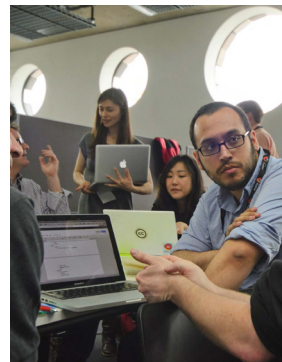
While the community wants the renovated building to take on new roles, there is also strong support for the Library’s traditional services such as checking out books and taking kids to story times. The Facility Master Plan maintains a balance of the following for the facility:

- Balance of new and traditional media
- Welcoming and comfortable
- Be true to place
- Ensure access to information
- Library as icon of civic life
- Range of social and solitary
- New entryway
- Community hub

## LEARNING LABS, MAKERSPACE, AND A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

The newly renovated Loussac Library will be a dynamic and interactive hub for community engagement, featuring:

- Opportunities to [learn, share, teach and collaborate](#) using advanced technology and traditional methods.
- More [spaces for community gathering](#), meeting facilitation and group work.
- New [partnerships to expand programs](#) and services.
- An [attractive, easy to navigate building, with increased natural light](#) for a safe and welcoming experience for users of all ages and backgrounds.
- More [energy efficient](#), which will reduce annual operating expenses
- Improved [efficiency of operations](#), which allows library staff to offer increased direct service to the public.



## STRONG RECORD OF COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

The Municipality of Anchorage, the Library and Anchorage Library Foundation raised \$14M between 2006-2010 for four new neighborhood libraries and Teen Underground at Loussac. Past major funders include: the State of Alaska, Rasmuson Foundation, BP, Anchorage voters through a bond, the Denali Commission, the Gottstein Foundation, the Atwood Foundation, the Crews Family, the Chugiak-Eagle River Foundation and Municipal Light and Power. It is anticipated that many of these donors will continue their support for the Loussac renovation. Target, Walmart, Rasmuson Foundation, Wells Fargo, the Alaska State Library, the Municipality of Anchorage, and the Alaska Humanities Forum have provided grants for Library projects within the past year.