

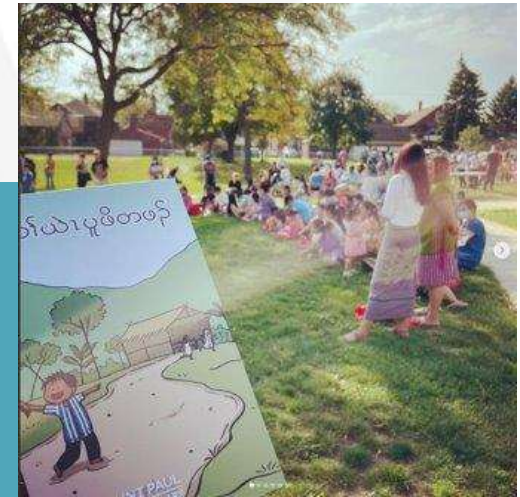
# **Libraries as Neighborhood Resilience Centers**

**SPPL Capital Investment Vision and Process – Feb 2022 update**



# Facilities Vision

Imagine gathering spaces in our communities for neighbors to meet and connect, for job seekers to access Wi-Fi and resume help, for children to discover and learn through play, and for community members to work, study, and access services. These free, accessible spaces that welcome everyone exist in our public libraries. They are **neighborhood resilience centers**.



# Investment Needs

**Transform three neighborhood locations** that are outdated, in poor condition, struggle to support high use, and have not been renovated in more than 30 years.

**Improve technology and play and learn space** at all locations.

Hamline Midway Library



Hayden Heights Library



Riverview Library



# Co-Creating a Community-Centered Vision

*Where we have been...*



Launch new mission, vision, values, and strategic direction for SPPL



Share SPPL Facilities Direction with City leaders & the public

Secure \$500K CIB for design development

Select LSE as architecture partner for schematic designs

Secure \$8.1M CIB for Hamline Midway transformation

**2018**

**2019**

**2020**

**2021**

**2022**

3,000 participants in equity-focused community learning process

1,680 surveys completed on library facilities wants, needs, and dreams

60 participants in in-person neighborhood forums

60 participants in virtual Hamline Midway neighborhood forum

47 youth participate in youth-led youth engagement partnership with Youth Leadership Initiative and Right Track+

35+ letters and testimonials to CIB Committee



# Youth Engagement

- Youth voice is essential to equitable facilities design. This process ensured youth voices and perspectives are included in library designs.
- 47 neighborhood teens worked with the Youth Leadership Initiative (YLI), Right Track+ Interns, and SPPL staff
- Youth provided insight to inform schematic designs on:
  - Building renovation
  - Programs & services
  - Access
  - Engagement
- We are engaging youth throughout the design process.



# Youth Suggestions

- Expand space & hours to accommodate a variety of needs.
- Make the library more vibrant, comfortable, and welcoming.
- Increase access and usability by addressing layout, service, and transportation issues.
- Create & market to more teen-specific programs.
- Increase the collection of teen materials.
- Provide ongoing opportunities for youth to hear from each other and give input to the library.



# Next Phase: Design Process

- **Scope**

- Complete community-informed schematic and development design for all three priority locations

- **Timeline**

- Q1-Q3 2022



# Firm Introduction



- Extensive relevant library experience and expertise
- Extensive relevant sustainability experience and expertise
- Minneapolis-based, Black-owned business
- Commitment to equity is deeply embedded into our practice

**LSE**  
ARCHITECTS



# Select | Relevant



George Latimer Central Library -



Sumner Library - HC



Sun Ray Library



Adams Spanish Immersion



Oxboro Library - HC



Highland Library - Before and After



Webber Park Library - HC



Midway YMCA



North High School

# Key LSE Team



**MOHAMMED LAWAL**  
CEO/Principal  
Architect & Design



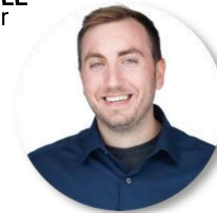
**JENNIFER  
ANDERSON-TUTTLE**  
Principal Director  
Public Sector



**RANDY KLING**  
Sr. Project Architect /  
Manager



**KEON  
BLASINGAME**  
Project Manager



**CHRIS LAABS**  
Project Architect /  
Manager



**TUNDE OLUSANYA**  
Design / Modeling



**NICOLE  
BAUKNIGHT**  
Documentation



**SUSAN  
JACOBSON**  
Interior Design



**ROSS  
ANDERSON**  
Interior Design



**PHIL RAMSAY**  
Specifications

Support and resources from a firm of 50+



# Design Team

Sub-Consultant team selected for expertise and experience in:

- Library Design
- Equity and Inclusion
- Historical Buildings
- Sustainable Design



# Design Team



**SAINT PAUL  
MINNESOTA**



**SAINT PAUL  
PUBLIC LIBRARY**



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**TRICIA HEURING**  
Founder Public Functionary  
Adjunct Professor MCAD

## STRUCTURAL



## CIVIL

**PIERCE PINI &  
ASSOCIATES, INC.**

## MEP & ENERGY MODELING



## LANDSCAPE



**ASAKURA  
ROBINSON**

## HISTORICAL



**NEW HISTORY**

## COST ESTIMATING



## ACOUSTICS



**KVERNSTOEN, RÖNNHOLM & ASSOCIATES**  
CONSULTANTS IN ARCHITECTURAL ACOUSTICS

# Key Engagement Team



**TRICIA HEURING**  
Community Engagement Strategist



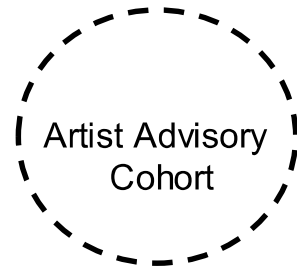
**MOHAMMED LAWAL**  
CEO/Principal Architect & Design



**JENNIFER ANDERSON-TUTTLE**  
Principal Director Public Sector



**SAM ERO-PHILLIPS**  
Project Designer



# IAP2 spectrum



	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decision.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

# Process for Engagement



**Library Design Project Ambassadors** - IAP2 Level Involve | Collaborate  
Comprised of invited City representatives, neighborhood groups, associations, and youth leadership teens

**All Inclusive Community Engagement** - IAP2 Level Involve  
Series of progressive Open House Meetings

**Community and Library Users** - IAP2 Level Involve  
Series of progressive Surveys

**Artist Advisory Cohort** - IAP2 Level Collaborate | Embedded in the Design  
Co-facilitators of engagement, lead ideation on engagement sessions and create creative encounters within the community

# Artist Advisory Cohort



The Artist Advisory Cohort will participate in the ongoing community engagement effort for the design of the Hamline Midway, Hayden Heights and Riverview libraries. This includes regular meetings and events with stakeholders, and examining data collected to date through previous engagement efforts. They will co-facilitate and lead ideation on creative engagement sessions with LSE for community feedback. They will identify points of particular relevance, whether tensions, connections or opportunities, and develop creative encounters for further public conversation around those points. They will also reflect on their own experience as Saint Paul artists and community members to creatively inspire dialogue about the future of libraries as cultural hubs.

The artist advisory cohort will review and represent community interest in late-stage design review and provide recommendations for arts engagement and/or incorporation of public artworks in future phases of the project.





## **Cohort Lead and Arts Consultant**

### **Tricia Heuring**

Tricia Heuring is a Thai American curator, public art consultant, and educator. Her practice has been shaped by creating opportunities and community for emerging, BIPOC artists in the Twin Cities. As a co-founder of Public Functionary, a Northeast Minneapolis-based multidisciplinary arts platform, she supports under-resourced artists in building economic sustainability through studio practices and exhibitions. Advocating for an equitable and inclusive MSP arts sector has led to consulting and teaching with civic, grant-making, public art, and academic organizations. As a thought leader in the arts, she has been a speaker at TedxUMN, MCAD, Pollen Midwest, Walker Art Center, Common Field, Springboard for the Arts, Creative Mornings, American Swedish Institute, The Coven, among others. Tricia is a graduate of Macalester College and holds an M.A. in arts management from St. Mary's University.



## Artist Advisory Cohort

**Rebekah Crisanta de Ybarra** (Maya-Lenca Nation) is a multidisciplinary artist, musician, and culture bearer whose work is rooted in Indigenous Futurisms. She has extensive experience in community-based social practice, public arts, creative place-making, and intergenerational arts education with Twin Cities nonprofits, schools, and libraries. She is a 2021-22 Jerome Hill Artist Fellow. Previously she has been a recipient of the Knights Art Challenge as an artist/curator creating Electric Machete Studios Latinx art and music production house and gallery. She has also worked with Creative CityMaking public art projects for building equity in the Minneapolis departments of Regulatory Services, and with Forecast Public Art creating temporary murals for the Flint Hills Festival. She is currently working with Public Art St. Paul and the City of St. Paul on a public art project honoring the West Side Flats history and Wabasha corridor.



## Artist Advisory Cohort

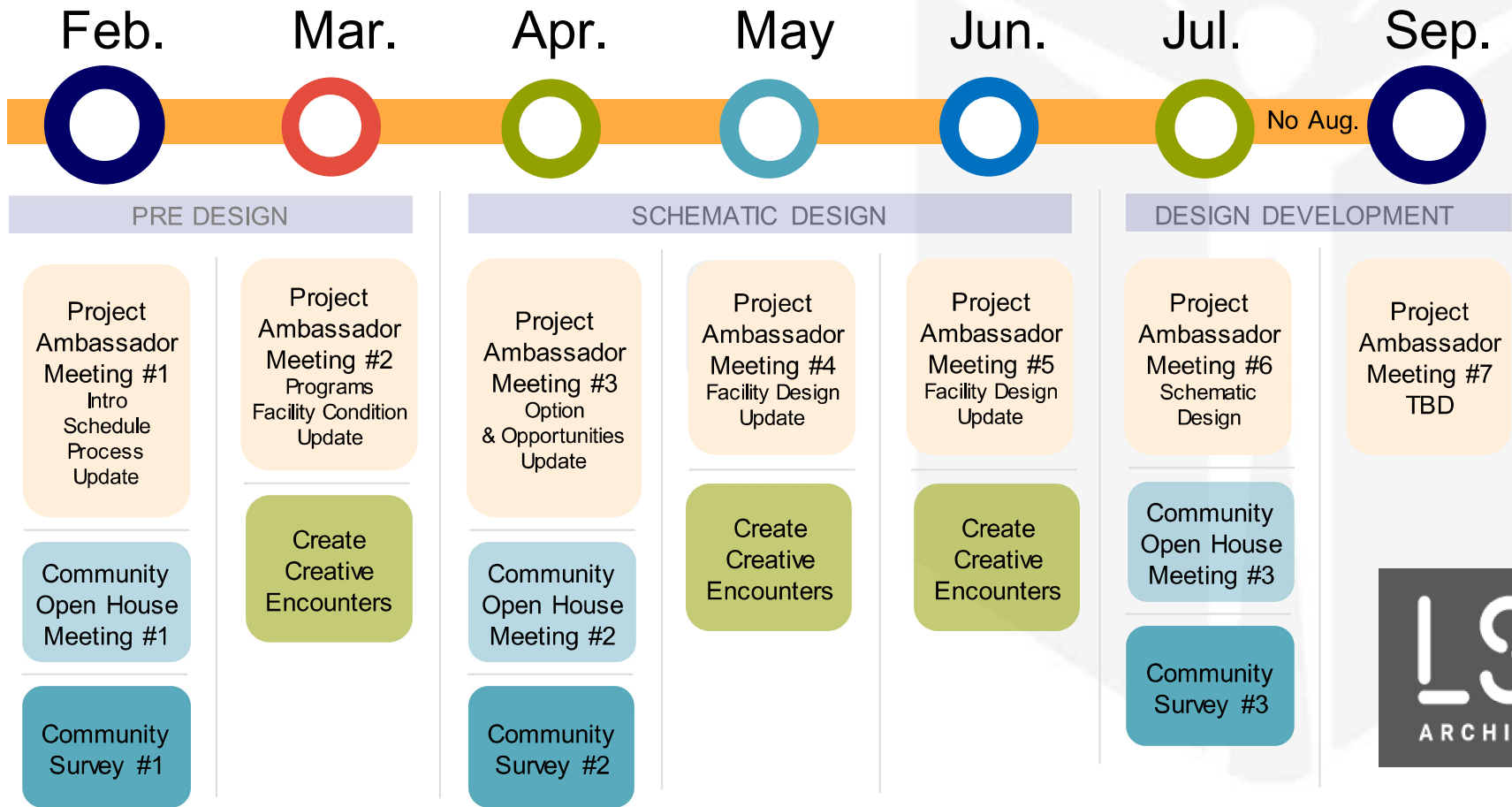
**Bayou Bay** is an artist and designer born in St. Paul. Bayou creates murals, art installations, digital illustrations, digital and print materials for artists and organizations, woodwork, and works as a teaching artist. Bayou's art and design embody themes of nature from the micro to the cosmic, black and collective liberation, healing trauma, time, portals, geometry, setting intentions for affirmations, asking questions, symbols, and identity exploration. Bayou has created and co-facilitated art-based workshops, events, community gathering, and exhibitions with the Million Artist Movement, Kulture Klub Collaborative, Cultural Wellness Center, Northern Lights, Black Table Arts, Public Functionary, Jungle Theater, Exposed Brick Theatre, and Hennepin County Libraries. Bayou was a member of the Northern Lights Program council for two years helping reshape and reform how Northern Lights MN programmed and selected artists for the Northern Spark art festival. Bayou has held an artist residency at the Bell Museum from 2019-2021 focused on climate change, was selected as a 2019-2020 curatorial fellow at MIA, and has received several grants in collaboration with community organizations and artists throughout the Twin Cities.



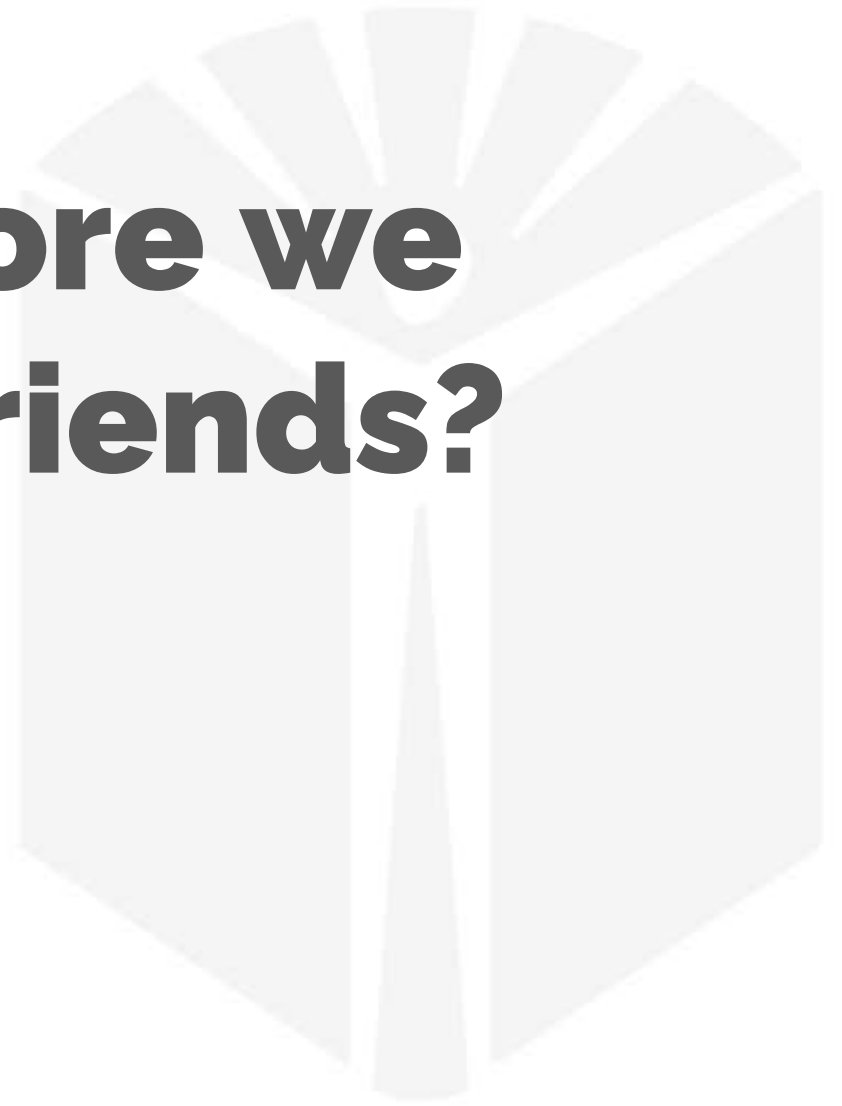
## Artist Advisory Cohort

**Xee Reiter** is a self-taught artist specializing in watercolor, pen, and ink illustrations. As a first-generation Hmong American, you can largely find cultural influences in her works. Her artistic exploration includes but is not limited to portraiture, art journaling, mural art, typography, and calligraphy works. Xee lives in Saint Paul, Minnesota with her husband and three kids. You'll find her with sketchbooks, pens, and pencils doodling across the cities, from park trails to Hmong Village, as well as in her own backyard where she has started a mini urban farm and garden, complete with chickens and a wide variety of plants and vegetables. She has worked with local organizations such as TPT PBS, Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Public Radio, The Ordway, and Hmong Museum to connect community through her artistry.

# Community Engagement Timeline



**Questions before we  
move to The Friends?**





## **Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library**

**Campaign Readiness Assessment and  
Feasibility Study  
Library Board Presentation  
February 2, 2022**

# Our Study Objectives

## The study:

Moves questions from the “we think we know” column to the “we know” column

Lets us know if we are ready both internally and externally to launch a campaign

Remove as much of the guesswork as possible from our campaign planning



## Our Process

- ▶ Internal campaign readiness assessment (January 2022)
- ▶ Community Listening Sessions (February 2022)
- ▶ Talking to donors and testing the case (March-April 2022)
- ▶ Focus Groups (March-April 2022)
- ▶ Findings and Recommendations (May 2022)
- ▶ Case Summary Development
- ▶ Campaign plan

# Feasibility Study Task Force

Ray Eby	Pondie Nicholson Taylor
Heidi Gesell	Deepa Nirmal
John Huss	Dan Stoltz
Bridget Manahan	Jai Winston
Beth McCray	Jennifer Wolf
Ty Silberhorn	Chuck Wright



# Thank you!

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# 2022 and Beyond

- Complete community-informed schematic and development design for all three priority locations.
- To the extent possible, seek State and/or Federal funds to support priorities laid out in the case statement for capital investment.
- The Friends of SPPL complete feasibility study for future capital campaign.
- Hamline Midway: complete construction documents and award the construction contract (earliest: late 2022).

# How to Get Involved



- Review and bookmark [Transforming Libraries | Saint Paul Public Library \(sppl.org\)](https://www.sppl.org/transforming-libraries)
- Sign up for the e-newsletter for updates on Transforming Libraries
- Q1 2022 – opportunity for community members to:
  - Inform schematic designs of three priority sites
  - Inform fundraising case statement – the WHY

**Questions?**

