



Rendering of the art site, view looking towards the northeast corner

Holgate Library Exterior Site Enclosure Artwork Supplemental Materials

Site Address: Holgate Library, 7905 SE Holgate Blvd, Portland, OR 97206

Project Scope: One artist/artist team will be selected to create a site-specific 2-dimensional wall-mounted artwork that will be installed on the south and west walls of the Exterior Site Enclosure

Project Budget: \$25,000, with separate allocation of up to \$115,000 for materials, fabrication and installation

Deadline: Thursday, November 3, 2022 at 5:00pm PDT

More About the Library Capital Bond Projects

The new construction of Holgate Library is part of the [first phase](#) of the [Library Capital Bond Projects](#). Approved by voters in 2020, the bond project will include expansions and renovations to seven branch libraries; building a destination library in East County; adding gigabit speed internet to all libraries; and creating a materials handling and distribution center, also known as the Operations Center. Based on the [Multnomah County Library \(MCL\) project sequencing](#), all building projects are anticipated to be completed by the end of 2025. Some of the first projects include Albina, North Portland, Midland and Holgate libraries.

[The new MCL Operations Center](#) was the first real estate purchase for the bond. This building leads the way for the additional bond projects and will be located near the intersection of NE Glisan and NE 122nd Avenue in the Mill Park neighborhood of east Portland, Oregon, not far from the new Holgate Library. After the Operations Center, Holgate Library will be one of the first locations to reopen, currently scheduled for late spring/early summer 2024. The Exterior Site Enclosure artwork at Holgate Library is one of two public art elements intended for the new site.

Since the scope of the bond project is substantial and will impact different communities with different needs, MCL has made a strong [commitment to community engagement](#) throughout this process to ensure that each community will be authentically engaged in the building and service design of each library. Additionally, the bond project is being guided by [Capital Planning Project Principles](#) as well as the following library pillars: free access for all, a trusted guide for learning, the leading advocate for reading and a champion for equity and inclusion. As part of this work towards equity and inclusion, the architecture teams for all of these projects are being led by women of color.

More About the Holgate Library Project Team

As part of the Library Capital Bond Projects, Holgate Library renovations are being led by Multnomah County Library. Construction is being overseen and coordinated in conjunction with [Swinerton](#), specifically the local Portland office. RACC is stewarding the public art elements allocated by Multnomah County's Percent for Art Program.

Holgate Library's design team includes [Bora Architecture & Interiors](#) and [Colloqate Design](#). Bora believes in design as an expression of care. They are committed to creating authentic, inclusive and healthy places that unite people and the planet. Colloqate is a nonprofit [Design Justice](#) practice focused on building spaces of racial, social, and cultural justice.

The whole design team is committed to the principles of Design Justice. The team believes that to design is to have an unyielding faith in the potential for a just society. It is an act of individual and collective hope that has the potential to express collective values and amplify community power through the processes and outcomes of design. However, historically, the design profession has excluded justice and equity as part of the design process and has further marginalized the very groups who are most experienced to speak for their communities' needs.

Because of this, community engagement has been and will continue to be a central component of this project. Many members of communities who will be served by this new library space have raised art as an opportunity to build a sense of belonging and representation.

Design Concept and Approach

Embodying Multnomah County Library's mission to enable communities to learn and create in welcoming, inclusive and healthy spaces, the new Holgate Library is designed to foster a culture of civic pride, with purposeful, sustainable, and socially just experiences to empower communities of Multnomah County. The new building is updated with a balanced ratio of space for the library collection, seating, and library programming and activities.

The new site and building are conceived using a Design Justice based methodology to be safe, nimble and resilient, providing flexibility and adaptability that enable library staff to innovate and create inspiring spaces and experiences that will serve communities now and into the future. The new Library design prioritizes connection to nature, integrating art, and creating spaces of belonging and joy.

The new Holgate Library sits prominently along SE Holgate, maximizing its civic and community presence with parking to the north of the building. The distinctive inward fold gesture along the building façade frames respective outdoor spaces for library programming, community gathering and interaction. Canopies extend to welcome and receive patrons, providing cover from weather at entry points, on the north from parking and south from Holgate Boulevard.

The deliberate offset of the folds on the north and south echoes the duality of the site context and evokes a nimble and resilient form of a butterfly, a universal symbol of resilience, hope, beauty and transformation. The butterfly fold concept is adopted as a design language connecting across multiple scales of the design from building to site. At a more intimate pedestrian scale, the primary exterior building material is a custom folding chevron-shaped metal panel. The folding building skin creates a dynamic constantly changing play of light and shadow, creating interests along the building façades. Larger areas of glass offer visibility into the children's library and flexible meeting spaces on the ground floor to activate and connect the inside and outside spaces. Inspired by the shimmering hues and pattern of butterfly wings, an artful screen element made up of small resin disks frames the opening at the main stair creating animated moments of color and light in the lobby.

The following key architectural design strategies are incorporated into the design to meet the project goals and priorities:

- Building situated for best passive solar orientation along north and south
- Strategic use and placement of glass on facades to maximize views and daylight
- Internalize core and shell strategy to maximize future program flexibility, as well as daylight and views
- Exposed low embodied carbon, sustainability-certified mass timber structure
- High-performance building envelope with continuous exterior insulation on walls and a highly insulated roof
- Centralized lobby with skylight creates a common arrival experience with aligned entrances from north and south for easy wayfinding
- Floating service points spread through the building, creating beacons for patrons to find assistance
- After-hour use of flexible program/meeting rooms on the ground floor with access to restrooms
- Prominent open stair encouraging use. Elevators are equally accessible and visible in lobby
- Clerestory window above open stair to bring daylight into the center of the building
- All User inclusive restrooms while providing separate single-user restrooms as an option

Community Engagement and Participatory Design

As the project design leads, Bora Architecture and Interiors and Colloqate Design have steered the community engagement effort thus far and are able to support an artist/artist team in any public meeting and/or design review process they wish to embark on. Practically, this may manifest by exchanging information and feedback already acquired, connecting the artist(s) with the library's Black Cultural Library Advocates, We Speak Your Language staff (in Chinese, Vietnamese, Russian and Spanish), location staff and other possibilities through online outreach and sharing about artist-led sessions through their communication channels.

The design team is also able to reach out to the Community Design Advocates (CDAs) who worked on the project and are able to spread the word to their communities. Several of these advocates have expressed interest in staying involved in the art process on this project. If the artist/artist team would be interested in connecting with these advocates to support their work, we can reach out to gauge interest.

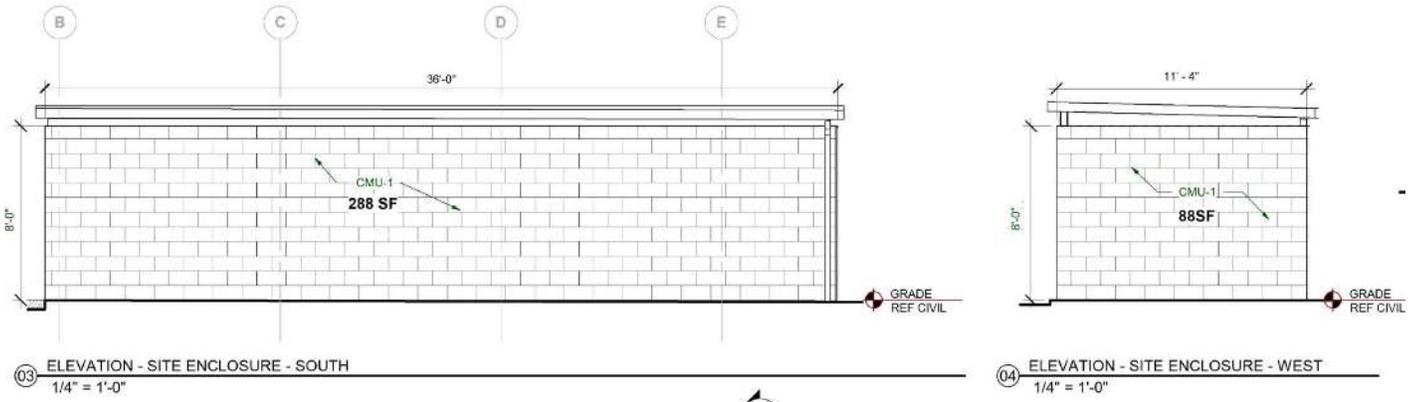
As a result of the community engagement sessions that have already taken place, the overall design concept for Holgate Library is the butterfly. A visual representation of this concept can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

So far, the following design priorities have emerged during engagement and conversations with community members and stakeholders within Multnomah County Library, Multnomah County and the Library Capital Bond Program Management Office:

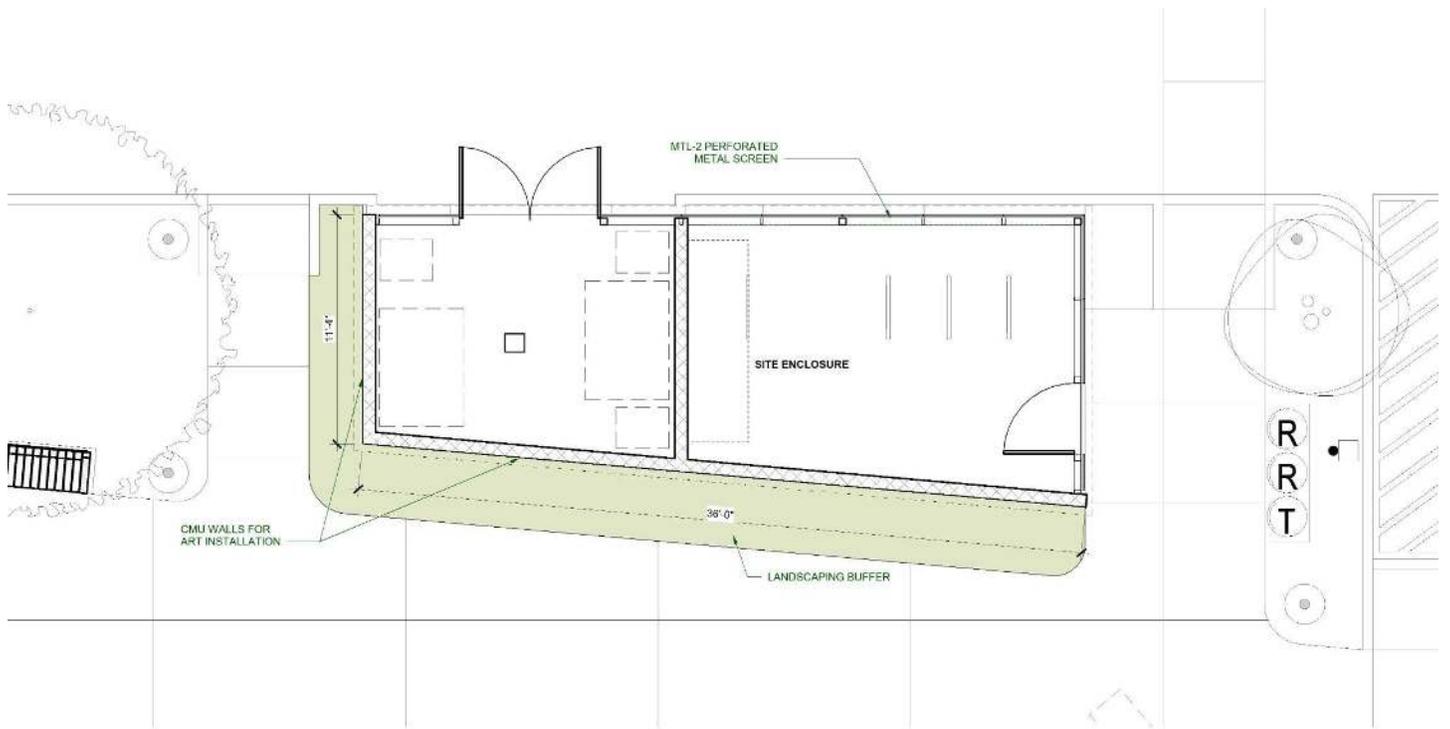
- Flexible use of space and building infrastructure serving current and future needs
- Support unique service offerings to support the evolving needs of the community
- Create a safe environment that promotes calm, wellbeing, dignity, pride and empowerment
- Create welcoming and joyful spaces that connect to nature with good daylighting and acoustics
- Easy to navigate building with universal wayfinding and signage to serve the diverse communities
- Provide after-hour access to services including community and library information, book holds, community meeting space, technology, and restrooms
- Accessible and inclusive design that supports a spectrum of needs and abilities
- Integrate art into building design
- Outdoor space for activities and library programming
- Create interactive spaces for teens
- Durable and sustainable healthy materials
- A functional, effective, and comfortable space that maximizes librarians and staff time and enhances morale and wellbeing
- Incorporate a state-of-the-art Automatic Materials Handling System allowing more time for staff to assist and support patrons

More About the Project Site

Below are images of the art site from different viewpoints.



Rendering of the art site elevations, south and west sides



Rendering of the art site from above

Site Plans and Other Resources

[Holgate Library Community Feedback Design Principles](#)

[Holgate Library Sustainable Features](#)

[Holgate Library Site Plan](#)

[Holgate Library Site Enclosure Rendering](#)

[Holgate Library Exterior Site Enclosure Plan - Enlarged](#)

[Holgate Library Exterior Site Enclosure Elevations](#)

[Exterior Site Enclosure Artwork Examples](#)

[Holgate Library Exterior Color Options](#) (public voting ends 10/14)