



The Most Livable
City in America

CITY OF SAINT PAUL
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PAYNE MARYLAND PROJECT UPDATE

CONSTRUCTION TO PROCEED:

A major break through for the Payne-Phalen Community was the opening of new bids for construction of the Payne Maryland Community Center and Library. The bids were within budget, and the project is proceeding toward construction.

Here are the major program spaces that the new center will include:

Library – the size of the old Arlington Hills building, but with improved organization.

Education Rooms – two flexible meeting/education rooms.

Community Room – the largest of any in the City's Recreation Center system.

Fitness Center – a workout center and walking track (the track is over the gymnasium)

Gymnasium – double size for simultaneous uses, or for major competition use.

Teen Center – incorporating new technology connections for learning, activities, and creative expression.

Town Square Plaza – parking area in front of building will double as outdoor event center

Field Space – small size open soccer field for sports activities.

Children's Play Area

Open Space and Volleyball Courts

The building design features a highly visible corner tower with window framing reminders of the arched-top windows in the historic Arlington Hills Library building. The exterior is clad in brownish brick and dark brown metal panels connecting it to many of the buildings on Payne Avenue. [Views of the building exterior](#) have been exhibited at community meetings and in the local newspapers.

The building interior will incorporate many high-quality materials, including ceramic tile and cork flooring, vibrant paint and wallpaper coverings, and innovative lighting. One of the exciting materials used to accent the corridor spaces is wood reclaimed from tree removal projects.

People will find the building to be highly useable with their computers and mobile devices, as the entire building will be wired for internet connections through our new fiber-optic cable. Energy costs will be reduced through our geothermal well-field system for heating and cooling.



CAPRA Accreditation

An Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer



National Gold Medal Award

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

Construction contracts have been recommended for award to the contractors. Actual contract documents should be in their hands by the last week in March, and construction will begin in April after construction materials are ordered.

Construction is expected to take about 9 – 10 months, which will mean we will be installing equipment and furnishings in late December. Unless there are construction issues, building occupancy is anticipated in January 2014.

PROJECT START OPEN HOUSE:

The Payne Phalen District Five Planning Council and Saint Paul Public Libraries and Parks and Recreation are hosting an [Open House](#) and meeting **Monday March 4, 2013 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Arlington Hills Lutheran Church**. At the Open House portion plans and images of the new facility, as well as samples of the construction materials planned will be on display. City staff and the interior designer from HGA Architects and Engineers will be available to discuss the plans and answer questions.

During a second portion of the meeting, Saint Paul Public Libraries will work with community members to decide a process for studying re-use of the existing Arlington Hills Library building. The existing building, a “Carnegie” library, is on the National Register of Historic Buildings.

Please come this evening to join in the excitement of the new building, and to participate in the library reuse discussion.

WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING?

The duplexes at 680 and 684 Rose Avenue have been purchased by the City to become part of the Payne Maryland project. The buildings at this time have been secured and cleaned of hazardous materials, and demolition will proceed this spring.

The community celebrated the re-opening of the Kendall Hardware, now anchoring the south end of Payne Avenue, last October. Wow! What a nice store! I hope you have all found this new location to meet all your hardware and service needs. Too bad they couldn't retain the squeaky floors, but the store cat is still there to greet you.

INTERNET:

A special task for this project is to bring high-speed internet connectivity to the site. The good news is that the new high-speed fiber-optic cable has been brought as far north as Case Avenue and is waiting on progress with the project before it is run the last distance to Maryland Avenue.

MARYLAND AVENUE TURN LANES:

Ramsey County Public Works is continuing their engineering work on plan development, which will add a lane to the south side of Maryland along our project. The current Federal funding grant will have construction in 2014. For more information, call Jerry Auge of Ramsey County Public Works Engineering at (651) 266-7117.