



Main Library Vision and Concept Study

LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES

July 17, 2012

table of contents

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	3
RECOMMENDATIONS	4
REGIONAL LIBRARY COMPARISON	5
SPACE NEEDS	7
PRELIMINARY BUDGET	20
SITE ZONES	21
SITE INFORMATION	27
APPENDIX	i

project description

In the summer of 2011, the City of Lincoln Library Board embarked on a mission to re-conceive a Main Library for Lincoln. While a new Main Library had been included in the City of Lincoln Capital Improvements Plan, the Comprehensive Plan, and the Downtown Master Plan for a long period of time, no specific plans were made to identify what this new library would be and how it would meet the changing needs of the Lincoln's citizens. No specific time frame was identified for this project. The Board enlisted the services of Sinclair Hille Architects (SHA), Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle, Ltd. (MS&R), and S.R. Kent, LLC to assist them in creating a Vision and Building Concept Study for a new Main Library. The specific objectives of the Study are:

- Prepare a building concept describing services appropriate for a Main Library in Lincoln, Nebraska
- Estimate necessary size of spaces and cost of a building housing such services
- Evaluate up to four possible sites for building or building re-use

This report is the compilation of a six month long process which involved gathering relevant information via public input and research from a variety of stakeholders. It also provides a glimpse of what and where a new Main Library could be in the downtown area. Several potential building sites were studied and the results of that investigation are presented herein.

With this study, the City of Lincoln Library Board has taken the necessary steps toward creating a flexible world-class library that will service the citizens for generations. More importantly, they have reaffirmed that libraries matter.

In addition to the design team, many individuals were involved in the process of completing this report. Please refer to the list at the right of this page for a full list of these participants.

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS

Maja Harris, President
Kathy McKillip, Vice President
April Stevenson, Treasurer
Marthaellen Florence
Herb Schimek
Herb Friedman
Donna Marvin

DOWNTOWN LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Maja Harris, President, Library Board
Kathy McKillip, Vice President, Library Board; Committee Chair
Herb Schimek, Library Board

Norm Langemach, President, Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries
Ed Tricker, Trustee, Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries
Gail McNair, Executive Director, Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries

Pat Leach, Library Director
Greg Mickells, Assistant Library Director
Julie Beno, Public Services Supervisor for Bennett Martin Public Library

Report Funded By:

Lincoln Community Foundation
Woods Charitable Fund
Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries

recommendations

SITE

The recommendation of the project team is that the Lincoln City Libraries* locate its new Main Library on the site of the existing Pershing Center. This new Main Library may be either a comprehensive renovation of the existing structure, or the construction of an entirely new structure.

The Pershing Center site must be obtained through a competitive proposal process to be administered by the City of Lincoln in the summer and fall of 2012. The Library will prepare a proposal for control of the site with the intent of being awarded the right to develop the site for a Main Library. In the event that the Library is not awarded the Pershing Center site, the Library will pursue another downtown Lincoln site for a new Main Library as identified by the site selection process.

The Pershing Center site was selected over a number of other downtown Lincoln sites for its location, its proximity to other downtown and civic buildings, institutions and activities, and its possible availability. This site also meets the parking demands required of a new Main Library facility that are defined within this Study.

SPACE NEEDS

A space needs analysis was completed and is comprised of two elements, a narrative description of spaces envisioned for a new Main Library, and a quantitative analysis of the space that will likely be required to accommodate those spaces. The goal of the needs analysis is to define a library that is forward looking and able to meet the rapidly evolving needs of our community. This future will require a building able to adapt to changing print collections, able to house a varying (and likely increasing) number of partners, and allow the library to expand and adapt its service offerings. In short, the library building must be flexible and adaptable in the delineation of library and partner spaces.

The result of the space needs analysis is that a new Main Library should be a structure of approximately 107,000 gross square feet. The existing Bennett Martin Public Library is approximately 64,000 gross square feet.

**Lincoln City Libraries is comprised of the staff of the Lincoln City Libraries, the members of the Library Board of Trustees, and the Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries.*

regional library comparison

BENCHMARKING

The consultants worked with the Lincoln City Libraries management to determine the libraries included in this benchmarking study. The following criteria were used to select a small cohort (ten) of libraries. The criteria included:

- Public libraries serving similar size populations and/or
- Public libraries having a Main Library and branch libraries and/or
- Public libraries located in communities with a major university and/or multiple colleges.

The 2011 Public Library Data Service Statistical Report, published by the American Library Association was used as the source for the data. Data for each library was reported to American Library Association by that institution. Refer to the charts at the right of this page and on the following page for the published data.

For benchmarking purposes, several key elements were called out. These elements are important variables to consider in addressing strategies for a library's future.

In terms of square footage of library space, Lincoln falls in the mid-point of the institutions studied with a total .669 square feet of library space available per capita (the total square footage of Main Library and branches divided by the population). However with the Lincoln Main Library at 67,910 square feet, it falls to third from the bottom of the comparable institutions.

In terms of revenue, Lincoln is funded at \$29.28 dollars per capita, at the midpoint of comparable institutions. Lincoln spends \$4.68 per capita on library materials, the fourth from the top. It is also at the midpoint for hours open per year and number of total staff full-time equivalents.

Circulation, the number of library materials check out, in Lincoln falls at 11.79 per capita, the fourth highest as is holdings, the size of the library's total collection at 3.17 per capita. At 5.59 visits per capita, people coming to a library, Lincoln is fourth lowest.

POPULATION AND SIZE

LIBRARY	POPULATION SERVED	CENTRAL LIBRARY SQ. FT.	NUMBER OF BRANCHES	ALL BRANCHES COMBINED SQ. FT.	CENTRAL & BRANCHES TOTAL SQ. FT.	SQ. FT. PER PERSON
OMAHA NE	489,732	122,490	11	182,762	305,252	.623
JOHNSON COUNTY KS	421,500	99,547	12	190,158	289,705	.687
WICHITA KS	372,186	89,000	8	62,639	151,639	.407
LEXINGTON KY	296,545	110,400	5	94,762	205,162	.691
LINCOLN NE	281,531	67,910	7	120,490	188,400	.669
SAINT PAUL MN	278,384	93,000	12	185,039	278,039	.998
LUBBOCK TX	269,140	72,100	3	31,996	104,096	.386
CHANDLER AZ	252,856	64,000	3	60,500	124,500	.492
DES MOINES IA	198,682	110,000	5	63,577	173,577	.873
SIOUXLAND SD	192,697	62,000	11	57,400	119,400	.619
BOULDER CO	103,600	92,164	3	21,450	113,614	1.090

INCOME AND STAFF

LIBRARY	TOTAL REVENUE	REVENUE PER CAPITA	TOTAL PAID STAFF (FTE)	TOTAL SERVICE HOURS PER YEAR
OMAHA NE	\$12,720,719	\$27.72	174.8	32,468
JOHNSON COUNTY KS	\$20,567,871	\$48.80	267.8	37,136
WICHITA KS	\$8,350,288	\$21.84	102.3	24,726
LEXINGTON KY	\$15,073,860	\$50.83	165.4	20,748
LINCOLN NE	\$8,357,622	\$29.28	107.5	24,232
SAINT PAUL MN	\$16,305,419	\$57.20	162.0	34,129
LUBBOCK TX	\$3,503,871	\$13.01	52.50	11,908
CHANDLER AZ	\$6,762,327	\$28.84	77.8	12,740
DES MOINES IA	\$7,667,405	\$38.59	94.93	15,997
SIOUXLAND SD	\$5,995,093	\$31.66	91.8	23,037
BOULDER CO	\$7,215,161	\$73.50	75.1	10,654

Based on data from the Public Library Data Service 2011, American Library Association. Some information has been updated as reported online by the PLDS in May 2012.

LIBRARY ACTIVITY

LIBRARY	ANNUAL CIRCULATION	CIRCULATION PER CAPITA	ANNUAL VISITS	VISITS PER CAPITA
OMAHA NE	3,148,969	6.86	2,401,214	4.90
JOHNSON COUNTY KS	6,490,670	15.40	2,750,890	6.52
WICHITA KS	2,304,924	6.03	1,1164,091	3.12
LEXINGTON KY	2,860,711	9.65	1,957,471	6.60
LINCOLN NE	3,364,288	11.79	1,527,167	5.52
SAINT PAUL MN	2,932,513	10.29	2,437,261	8.75
LUBBOCK TX	951,150	3.53	583,932	2.16
CHANDLER AZ	3,267,996	13.94	1,432,067	5.66
DES MOINES IA	1,520,381	7.65	1,344,334	6.76
SIOUXLAND SD	1,906,372	10.37	1,181,109	6.12
BOULDER CO	1,363,545	14.11	988,491	9.54

LIBRARY MATERIALS

LIBRARY	HOLDINGS (COLLECTION SIZE IN ITEMS)	HOLDINGS PER CAPITA	EXPENDITURES FOR LIBRARY MATERIALS	MATERIALS EXPENDITURES PER CAPITA
OMAHA NE	1,473,044	3.21	\$1,430,796	\$3.12
JOHNSON COUNTY KS	1,152,883	2.74	\$2,496,644	\$5.92
WICHITA KS	1,093,226	2.86	\$867,076	\$2.27
LEXINGTON KY	542,159	1.83	\$1,355,745	\$4.57
LINCOLN NE	903,992	3.17	\$1,335,854	\$4.68
SAINT PAUL MN	1,000,219	3.51	\$1,381,791	\$4.85
LUBBOCK TX	408,364	1.52	\$318,846	\$1.18
CHANDLER AZ	426,075	1.82	\$904,026	\$3.85
DES MOINES IA	575,052	2.89	\$764,238	\$3.84
SIOUXLAND SD	329,869	1.74	\$638,435	\$3.37
BOULDER CO	392,506	4.00	\$785,258	\$8.00

Based on data from the Public Library Data Service 2011, American Library Association. Some information has been updated as reported online by the PLDS in May 2012.

space needs

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Public libraries in the twenty-first century are more needed and relevant than ever. Traditionally the repository for a collection of printed materials curated and collected by the library, the public library now serves an ever increasing list of needs and services. The quality of the public library is now assessed by its ability to connect patrons to the world, and its ability to be a partner in addressing (often in conjunction with other agencies and institutions) local cultural and social issues. Accordingly, libraries across the country are experiencing a rapid and sustained increase in the use of their facilities, collections and services. Unfortunately, many library buildings, designed for the traditional role of library service, limit their institution's ability to address local needs.

The following program narrative outlines spaces and functions to be included in a new Main Library in Lincoln. Together with the outcome of the site selection process and public input, this document forms the basis for initial planning for a new Main Library.

The goals for a new Main Library are primarily rooted in the ability of the new facility to adapt to change. The constant in public library service for decades has been change. This change has accelerated significantly in recent years. Fundamental changes in patrons' interaction with the library include increasing use of electronic materials, the increasing and heavy use of the library as a social gathering space, the beginnings of the migration of print collections (books) to electronic (e-books), and libraries moving quickly to becoming partners in addressing local issues.

The following Space Needs Narrative roughly outlines the spaces required for a twenty-first century Main Library for Lincoln City Libraries to address these needs as well as to adapt to future needs. The building will be open, flexible, active, adaptable and will project the civic presence required of a vital Main Library. The spaces and functions outlined are intended to serve as a starting point for assessing the required size of a new facility as well as how the functional spaces might be arranged, and is not intended to serve as a building program.

Public libraries have the ability to positively affect their communities more than ever, and in an increasing number of ways. A new Main Library for Lincoln City Libraries, designed to accommodate the changing needs of the community and library services, will allow Lincoln to continue to provide its residents with superior library services for decades to come.

GOALS

The goals for this conceptual building program narrative are:

- › Draft a vision for the future of a Main Library
- › Identify major functional areas of the library and their qualities and characteristics
- › Explore the boundaries of what public libraries will become in the future and create a building program that will allow a Main Library to continually adapt to change
- › Establish an approximate floor area for a new Main Library for use in site selection and developing a building concept
- › Create the programmatic foundation for an expanded Main Library that does not require additional staff to operate, and that allows more staff interaction with patrons.
- › A new Main Library will have service points in four areas of the library – Circulation and Information services at the Entry plus service points at the Adult Area, Children’s Area and Teen Area.

A new Main Library will consist of the following functional areas:

1. ENTRY AND BUILDING CIRCULATION
2. MEETING ROOMS
3. MARKETPLACE
4. LEARNING AND DOING
5. PARTNER SPACE
6. ADULT AREA
7. CHILDREN’S AREA
8. TEEN AREA
9. SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
 - Heritage Room*
 - Polly Music Library*
 - History of Books and Reading Exhibit Space*
10. STAFF
11. SERVICE
11. EXTERIOR PROGRAM AREAS
12. PARKING

1. ENTRY AND BUILDING CIRCULATION

Qualities

Inspiring building entry. Open and inviting.
 Exceptional relationship to site and surroundings.
 Significant civic presence in Lincoln.
 Building entry easily accessed from parking.
 Library entry very visible from Building Entry Lobby.
 Strong visual presence for Library Entry.
 Multifunctional and adaptable Library Service Desk at or very near Library Entry.
 Adequate self check machines (at Entry and spread throughout the library)
 Public Café
 Circulation Workroom in support of Service Desk.
 Allowance for possible future Automated Material Handling System

Elements

- 1.1 Building Entry Lobby**
 Entry into the building from parking and pedestrian approaches to building.
 Access to the Library Entry and to the Meeting Room Prefunction Area.
 Includes space for patrons to wait to meet people or be picked up.
- 1.2 Library Entry Lobby**
 Entry Area from the Building Lobby into the Library.
- 1.3 Customer Service Point**
 Flexible, movable multipurpose service point—help and circulation.
 Service desk to also serve Marketplace area. Promote self check.
- 1.4 Self Check**
 Appropriate number of self check machines. Includes shelving to house held materials. Adjacent to Service Point.
- 1.5 Café**
 Appropriate level of food and beverage service. Dependent to a large degree on the location of the library and nearby food service. Service to be via contract with a private entity in order to provide an opportunity for economic growth.
- 1.6 Friends Book Store**
 Display space for sale of donated books and other library related items.
 May be combined with Café.
- 1.7 Circulation Workroom**
 Consider expansion space for future Automated Material Handling system installation.

2. MEETING ROOMS

Qualities

Variety of meeting spaces for community and local business and organization use.
 Large Auditorium for 250 or more.
 Variety of meeting rooms of different sizes.
 Supporting kitchen.
 Adequate table and chair storage.
 Accessible from building entry and lobby after hours.
 Create separate identity for meeting suite area.
 Design meeting spaces to be easily adaptable for various purposes including the library’s children’s programming.

Elements

- 2.1 Auditorium Seating for 250(+)**
 Raked seating with stage.
 Depends somewhat on location of library and other nearby available venues.
- 2.2 Meeting Room—Seating for 100 (divisible)**
- 2.3 Meeting Room—Seating for 30**
- 2.4 Meeting Room—Seating for 30**
- 2.5 Gathering Space/Black Box Theater**
 Very flexible flat floor theater for a variety of traditional, non-traditional and experimental performance activities and community gatherings. Theater seating and round table seating could both be accommodated in this space.
- 2.6 Prefunction Area**
 Entry lobby and gathering area for Auditorium and Meeting Rooms.
- 2.7 Storage**
 Table and Chair Storage.
- 2.8 Service Kitchen**
 For catered events including sink, refrigerator and counter space.
- 2.9 Auditorium Control Room**
 If Auditorium is included in the program.
- 2.10 Green Rooms**
 If Auditorium is included in the program.

3. MARKETPLACE

Qualities

The heart of the library building.
 First secure library space entered from the Building Entry Lobby.
 Houses most popular materials.
 Serves as major hub for short visits to the library.
 Major functional areas of the library are visible and accessed from this area.

Elements

3.1 Internet Stations

Short term internet stations primarily used for e-mail and social networking.
 New technology. Listening stations. Viewing stations.

3.2 Browsing, New Books, Popular Materials

New Books, Popular Materials, Seasonal Materials.

3.3 Audio/Visual Collection

House Audio and Visual collections.
 DVD collection to initially expand (up to 25%) and then decrease over time with the increase in electronic audio and visual file transfers. CD collection to be housed in adult services collection.

3.4 – 3.7 Study Rooms

Study Rooms (4) for small group work in very visible area of the library – two to seat two patrons and two to seat four patrons.

3.8 Display / Gallery

Display area for seasonal and rotating exhibits.
 Develop art program for spaces throughout a new Main Library.

3.9 Seating

Lounge seating for waiting. Provide 4 lounge seats.

3.10 Copy Area

Small area for copiers and other public equipment.

4. LEARNING AND DOING

Qualities

Flexible space (quantity and use) for the Library to test new ideas, encourage collaboration, provide technology to create new types of content, offer various non-traditional, community focused services and equipment.
 Create flexible access to the space—variable from the library and from outside the library.
 Moveable boundaries between this space and library functions to allow for future changes.
 Highly visible.
 Allow for creation of a separate identity for Learning and Doing spaces.
 Create physical link from some Learning and Doing spaces to meeting room/black box theater area.
 Showcase new technology.

Possible Elements

Interest Will Change With Time

- Music Production
- Video Production
- 3D Printing
- Laser Cutting
- Physical Project Area
- Digital Download Stations and E-Reader Loading
- Digital Innovation Center
- Virtual Reality Development and Exploration
- Business Incubation
- Collaboration with UNL
- Local Social Programs and Organizations
- Long Term Partners and Short Term Users
- (specific uses to be identified during the design process)

5. PARTNER SPACE

Qualities

Provide space for external partners to share space with a Main Library.
 Partner space ideally split—a portion of the space to open directly into the library and a portion of the space to open directly to the building lobby or to the building exterior.
 Partner's missions to complement the mission of the Library.
 Allow for creation of clear identity for partner spaces.
 Allow for flexibility on boundaries and separation of Partner Spaces.

Possible Partners

- Cultural Institutions
- Social Organizations
- Retail
- Housing
- (specific partners to be identified during the design process)



6. ADULT AREA

Qualities

Houses adult collections in low (66" max height) shelving ranges.
Very visible and easily accessed from the Marketplace.
Open, light filled, inviting.
Variety of seating and study areas.
Fiction (active) and Non-Fiction (more quiet) areas separated.

Elements

6.1 Customer Service Point

Small, flexible, function and very visible service point for inquiries for help.

6.2 Public Access Computers

For longer term computer use. 50 public access computers.

6.3 Collection

Adult Non-Fiction
Adult Fiction
Adult Large Print
Biography
Reference
Books on CD
Literacy
World Language Collection
Newspapers
Magazines
Other (Information and Programs, Nebraska Newsletters, Local Government Information)

6.4 Seating

Lounge seating (20)
Study seating at two person tables (2 two person tables)
Study seating at four person tables (8 four person tables)

6.5 Study Rooms

Study Rooms for small group work in very visible area of the library.
Two person study rooms (4)
Four person study rooms (4)
Ten person study rooms (2)

6.6 English Language Learning Room

Study seating for four.

Notes: Plan for a twenty percent reduction in the size of the Adult Fiction and Non-Fiction collections and a fifty percent reduction in the size of the Adult Reference Collection (as compared to existing collection).

Shelving to be 66 inches high, maximum.

7. CHILDREN'S AREA

Qualities

Houses children's collections in a variety of appropriate storage and shelving types.
Very visible and easily accessed from the Marketplace.
Open, light filled, inviting.
Variety of activity, seating and study areas.
Preschool and youth areas separated.
Interactive learning space and development play area to be a visually significant element of the Children's Area.
Library will conduct Storytime activities in the Public Meeting Rooms (Section 1). Provide ability to move furnishings in Children's area to create open area for activities for up to 100 children.
Children's collection planned for no growth.

Elements

7.1 Customer Service Point

Small, flexible, function and very visible service point for inquiries for help.

7.2 Public Access Computers

For longer term computer use. 12 public access computers.

7.3 Collection

Youth Services Non-Fiction
Youth Services Fiction
Youth Services New Materials
Youth Services DVDs
Games, Playaways
Spoken Word and Picture Books on CD
Juvenile Picture Books
Juvenile Chapter Books
Juvenile First Readers
Display
Paperbacks
Board Books
Magazines

7.4 Seating

Lounge seating (6)
Study seating at two person tables (2 two person tables)
Study seating at four person tables (6 four person tables)
Study seating at six person tables (1 six person tables)

7.5 Interactive Learning Space

Developmental play area.

7.6 Family Restroom and Children's Restroom

7.7 Open Small Group Area

Open small and flexible area for various group activities for up to 30 people.

7.8 Youth Services Storage Room

Plan for no print collection growth.

8. TEEN AREA

Qualities

Destination for area teens.
Houses teen collections and activity areas.
Very visible and easily accessed from the Marketplace.
Open, light filled, inviting.
Variety of activity, seating and study areas.
Visually distinct from and physically separated from children's areas.
Acoustically separated from other library areas.
Allow for flexible space for teen programs.

Elements

8.1 Customer Service Point

Small, flexible, function and very visible service point. Teen Service Point designed to be easily moveable.

8.2 Public Access Computers

For longer term computer use. 10 public access computers.

8.3 Collection

Books
Graphic Novels
Magazines
Games

8.4 Seating

Lounge seating (4)
Study seating at four person tables (6 four person tables)
Other informal seating (booths, etc.) (15 seats)

8.5 Learning, gaming and interactive area and equipment

Include a series of large monitors for a variety of activities.

8.6 Success Center

Space for teens to learn about jobs and careers and to receive homework help.

8.7 Media Studio

Adjacent to Polley Music Collection. Creative space, technology and equipment.

9. SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Qualities

Visible within the public area of the library.
 Spaces with separate and distinct identities to house two different special collections.
 Provide small furnishing or kiosk type customer service points in each collection area.
 Design the Polley Music Library and the Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors to allow for shared components within the two collections and with the adult services collection—and locate adjacent to the adult services collection. The Printed Word Exhibit Space should be located near and visible from the building entry.

Elements

- 9.1 Polley Music Library**
 Allow for appropriate amount of continued growth of the collection adjacent to Teen Media Studio.
- 9.2 Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors**
 Allow for space for seating for lectures and other presentations with seating for 20.
- 9.3 History of Books and Reading Exhibit Space**
 Display and reading space for collections and exhibits documenting and exhibiting the history of the printed word and the book. Provide security and environmental controls suitable to host valuable and sensitive traveling exhibits. Design and locate display/exhibit area so that it can be closed off visually from the remainder of the library between exhibits.

10. STAFF

Qualities

Staff spaces consolidated to one or two primary staff areas.
 Staff spaces open for collaboration and flexibility.
 Administration Offices, Collection Development and Technical Services and Virtual Services may be relocated to another Library facility if it proves advantageous to do so.
 Staff areas to accommodate the current number of staff FTE. Expanded library assumes no increase in staff.

Elements

- 10.1 Administration Offices** (Total Staff: 7)
- 10.2 Collection Development and Technical Services** (Total Staff: 12)
- 10.3 Virtual Services** (Total Staff: 5)
- 10.4 Main Library Staff and Youth Services Staff** (Total Staff: 34)
- 10.5 Foundation Offices** (Total Foundation Staff: 2)
 Note: Easy public access to Foundation Office is needed.
- 10.6 Staff Restrooms and Lounge**
- 10.7 Storage**
- 10.8 Copy and Work Area**

11. SERVICE

Qualities

Public and Non-Public spaces in support of the building and its use.

Elements

- 11.1 Public Restrooms**
 Per Building Code and divided per floor as appropriate
 Staff restrooms
- 11.2 Stairs**
 Egress stairs as required
- 11.3 Elevators**
 Elevators and Elevator Machine Rooms as required
- 11.4 Mechanical, Electrical and Data Rooms**
 Mechanical, Electrical and Data Rooms as required
- 11.5 Janitor's Closets**
- 11.6 Other**
 Allowance for other required support spaces

12. EXTERIOR PROGRAM AREAS

Qualities

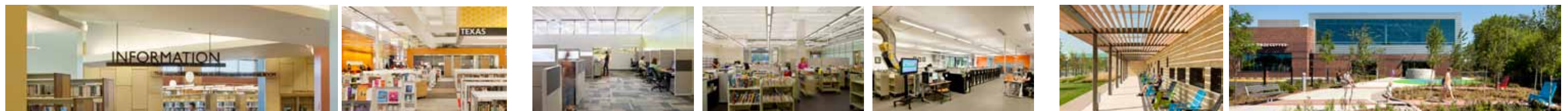
Exterior program areas both related to and unrelated to library activities.

Elements

Children's activity and education areas.

13. PARKING

On site parking for (minimum) 200 cars



PROGRAM SPACE COMPARISON

A comparison of the program space between the existing Bennett Martin Public Library facility and the proposed new facility is important in that it reflects changes in how libraries are used. The charts show increase in space for library customers in seating, computer availability and meeting room space, and a reduction in space for staff. The charts on this and the following pages represent the results of analysis of existing programmatic areas within the Bennett Martin facility as well as projected programmatic areas for spaces needed to create a flexible work-class library that will serve the citizens for generations.

PROGRAM SPACE	EXISTING GROSS SQ. FT.	PROPOSED GROSS SQ. FT.	PERCENT CHANGE
ENTRY AND BUILDING CIRCULATION		5,500	100%
MEETING ROOMS	3,354	11,924	255.5%
LEARNING AND DOING		5,500	
PARTNER SPACE		5,500	
ADULT SERVICE AREA	21,758	22,115	1.6%
CHILDREN'S SERVICE AREA	1,950	6,702	243.7%
TEEN AREA	200	2,684	1,242.0%
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	4,747	9,309	96.1%
STAFF	14,233	8,019	-43.7%
NON-ASSIGNED SPACES		14,212	
SUBTOTAL		95,790	
NET TO GROSS RATIO		11,496	12%
TOTAL	64,043	107,285	

SPACE NEEDS SUMMARY

1	ENTRY AND BUILDING CIRCULATION	spaces	sq ft/space	total	NOTES
1.1	BUILDING ENTRY LOBBY	1	400	400 sf	
1.2	LIBRARY ENTRY LOBBY	1	800	800 sf	
1.3	SERVICE POINT	1	400	400 sf	<i>conciierge type customer service desk</i>
1.4	SELF CHECK	1	500	500 sf	
1.5	CAFÉ	1	1,200	1,200 sf	
1.6	FRIENDS AND BOOKSTORE	1	200	200 sf	
1.7	CIRCULATION WORKROOM	1	1,500	1,500 sf	
TOTAL NET ASSIGNED AREA				5,000 sf	
NON-ASSIGNABLE SPACE ALLOWANCE				500 sf	
TOTAL AREA				5,500 sf	

2	MEETING ROOMS	spaces	sq ft/space	total	NOTES
2.1	AUDITORIUM	1	3,600	3,600 sf	
2.2	MEETING ROOM	1	1,600	1,600 sf	
2.3	MEETING ROOM	1	480	480 sf	
2.4	MEETING ROOM	1	480	480 sf	
2.5	GATHERING SPACE/BLACK BOX THEATER	1	2,500	2,500 sf	
2.6	PREFUNCTION AREA	1	1,200	1,200 sf	
2.7	STORAGE	1	480	480 sf	
2.8	SERVICE KITCHEN	1	150	150 sf	
2.9	CONTROL ROOM	1	150	150 sf	
2.10	GREEN ROOMS	2	100	200 sf	
TOTAL NET ASSIGNED AREA				10,840 sf	
NON-ASSIGNABLE SPACE ALLOWANCE				1,084 sf	
TOTAL AREA				11,924 sf	

COLLECTIONS

3	MARKETPLACE	spaces	sq ft/space	total	existing lin ft	change	proposed lf	lin ft/unit	single faced section	sf per unit	square ft	NOTES
3.1	INTERNET STATIONS	35	36	1,260 sf								
3.2	BROWSING, NEW BOOKS, POPULAR MATERIALS			600 sf					40	15	600	provide equivalent of 20 shelving units for display of new materials
3.3	AUDIO / VISUAL COLLECTION											
3.3A	DVDs			255 sf	153	0%	153	9	17	15	255	
3.3B	CDs			0 sf	90	0%	0	2	0	15	0	90 bins existing, 2 bins per unit plus 4 shelving units
3.4	STUDY ROOM	1	60	0 sf								
3.5	STUDY ROOM	1	60	0 sf								
3.6	STUDY ROOM	1	120	0 sf								
3.7	STUDY ROOM	1	120	200 sf								
3.8	DISPLAY / GALLERY	1	200	200 sf								
3.9	LOUNGE SEATING	4	40	160 sf								
3.10	COPY AREA	1	150	150 sf								
	TOTAL NET ASSIGNED AREA			2,825 sf								
	NON-ASSIGNABLE SPACE ALLOWANCE			1,500 sf								
	TOTAL AREA			4,325 sf								

4	LEARNING AND DOING	spaces	sq ft/space	total	existing lin ft	change	proposed lf	lin ft/unit	single faced section	sf per unit	square ft	NOTES
4.1	ALLOWANCE	1	5,000	5,000 sf								
	TOTAL NET ASSIGNED AREA			5,000 sf								
	NON-ASSIGNABLE SPACE ALLOWANCE			500 sf								
	TOTAL AREA			5,500 sf								

5	PARTNER SPACE	spaces	sq ft/space	total	existing lin ft	change	proposed lf	lin ft/unit	single faced section	sf per unit	square ft	NOTES
5.1	ALLOWANCE	1	5,000	5,000 sf								
	TOTAL NET ASSIGNED AREA			5,000 sf								
	NON-ASSIGNABLE SPACE ALLOWANCE			500 sf								
	TOTAL AREA			5,500 sf								

COLLECTIONS

6	ADULT AREA	spaces	sq ft/space	total	existing lin ft	change	proposed lf	lin ft/unit	single faced section	sf per unit	square ft	NOTES
6.1	SERVICE POINT	1	200	200 sf								
6.2	PUBLIC ACCESS COMPUTERS	40	50	2,000 sf								
6.3	COLLECTION											
A	ADULT NON-FICTION			8,387 sf	9,696	-16%	8,026	36	223	15	3,344	
B	ADULT FICTION			3,830 sf	4,788	-20%	3,830	15	255	15	3,830	
C	ADULT LARGE PRINT			60 sf	48	0%	48	12	4	15	60	
D	BIOGRAPHY			1,420 sf	852	0%	852	9	95	15	1,420	
E	REFERENCE			258 sf	309	-50%	155	9	17	15	258	
F	BOOKS ON CD			770 sf	462	0%	462	9	51	15	770	
6.4	SEATING											
A	LOUNGE SEATING	20	20	400 sf								
B	STUDY SEATING AT 2 PERSON TABLES	4	80	320 sf								
C	STUDY SEATING AT 4 PERSON TABLES	6	150	900 sf								
6.5	STUDY ROOMS											
A	TWO PERSON STUDY ROOMS	2	60	120 sf								
B	FOUR PERSON STUDY ROOMS	6	120	720 sf								
C	TEN PERSON STUDY ROOMS	2	300	600 sf								
6.6	ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING ROOM	4	30	120 sf								
	TOTAL NET ASSIGNED AREA			20,105 sf								
	NON-ASSIGNABLE SPACE ALLOWANCE			2,010 sf								
	TOTAL AREA			22,115 sf								

COLLECTIONS

7	CHILDREN'S AREA	spaces	sq ft/space	total	existing lin ft	change	proposed lf	lin ft/unit	single faced section	sf per unit	square ft	NOTES
7.1	SERVICE POINT	1	150	150 sf								
7.2	PUBLIC ACCESS COMPUTERS	12	50	600 sf								
7.3	COLLECTION											
A	YOUTH SERVICES NON FICTION			840 sf	504	0%	504	9	56	15	840	
B	YOUTH SERVICES FICTION			750 sf	450	0%	450	9	50	15	750	
C	YOUTH SERVICES NEW MATERIALS			240 sf					16	15	240	14 existing sections - plan for 16
D	YOUTH SERVICES NON FICTION VIDEOS			78 sf	78	0%	78	15	5	15	78	
E	YOUTH SERVICES FICTION VIDEOS			150 sf	120	0%	120	12	10	15	150	
F	BAGS, GAMES, PLAYAWAYS, SPOKEN WORD			60 sf	36	0%	36	9	4	15	60	
G	SPOKEN WORD & PICTURE BOOKS ON CD			70 sf	42	0%	42	9	5	15	70	
H	JUVENILE PICTURE BOOKS			653 sf	261	0%	261	6	44	15	653	to seat up to 75
I	JUVENILE CHAPTER BOOKS			75 sf	30	0%	30	6	5	15	75	establish quantity
J	JUVENILE FIRST READERS			143 sf	57	0%	57	6	10	15	143	establish quantity
K	DISPLAY			75 sf	48	0%	48	6	5	15	75	30 existing titles
7.4	SEATING											
A	LOUNGE SEATING	6	20	120 sf								
B	STUDY SEATING AT 2 PERSON TABLES	2	80	160 sf								
C	STUDY SEATING AT 4 PERSON TABLES	6	150	900 sf								
	STUDY SEATING AT 6 PERSON TABLES	1	200	200 sf								
7.5	INTERACTIVE LEARNING SPACE	1	150	150 sf								
7.6	FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S RESTROOMS	3	60	180 sf								
7.7	OPEN SMALL GROUP AREA	1	200	200 sf								
7.8	YOUTH SERVICES STORAGE ROOM	1	300	300 sf								
	TOTAL NET ASSIGNED AREA			6,093 sf								
	NON-ASSIGNABLE SPACE ALLOWANCE			609 sf								
	TOTAL AREA			6,702 sf								

COLLECTIONS

8	TEEN AREA	spaces	sq ft/space	total	existing lin ft	change	proposed lf	lin ft/unit	single faced section	sf per unit	square ft	NOTES
8.1	SERVICE POINT	1	100	100 sf								
8.2	PUBLIC ACCESS COMPUTERS	10	50	500 sf								
8.3	COLLECTION											
A	TEEN COLLECTION			390 sf	195	100%	390	15	26	15	390	
8.4	SEATING											
A	LOUNGE SEATING	4	20	80 sf								
B	STUDY SEATING AT 4 PERSON TABLES	6	150	900 sf								
8.5	LEARNING, GAMING AND INTERACTIVE	4	30	120 sf								
8.6	SUCCESS CENTER	1	150	150 sf								
8.7	MEDIA STUDIO	1	200	200 sf								
	TOTAL NET ASSIGNED AREA			2,440 sf								
	NON-ASSIGNABLE SPACE ALLOWANCE			244 sf								
	TOTAL AREA			2,684 sf								

COLLECTIONS

9	SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	spaces	sq ft/space	total	existing lin ft	change	proposed lf	lin ft/unit	single faced section	sf per unit	square ft	NOTES
9.1	POLLEY MUSIC LIBRARY											
A	COLLECTION			1,245 sf	996	25%	1,245	15	83	15	1,245	
B	STUDY SEATING AT 4 PERSON TABLES	2	150	300 sf								
C	LISTENING STATIONS	3	30	90 sf								
D	PUBLIC ACCESS COMPUTERS	2	40	80 sf								
E	STORAGE ROOM	1	80	80 sf								environmentally controlled
F	OFFICE	1	150	150 sf								
	TOTAL AREA			1,945 sf								
9.2	JANE POPE GESKE HERITAGE ROOM OF NEBRASKA AUTHORS											
A	COLLECTION			854 sf	820	25%	1,025	18	57	15	854	
B	FILE CABINETS	4	10	40 sf								
C	DISPLAY	4	20	80 sf								
D	LOUNGE SEATING	2	20	40 sf								
E	STUDY SEATING AT 4 PERSON TABLES	3	150	450 sf								
F	MAP CASE	1	40	40 sf								
G	DISPLAY CABINETS AND SHELVING	16	20	320 sf								
H	OFFICE	1	200	200 sf								
	TOTAL AREA			2,024 sf								
9.3	THE PRINTED WORD EXHIBIT SPACE											
A	COLLECTION			833 sf	0	25%	1,000	18	56	15	833	
B	DISPLAY	1	3,000	3,000 sf								
C	LOUNGE SEATING	8	20	160 sf								
D	STUDY SEATING AT 4 PERSON TABLES	2	150	300 sf								
E	OFFICE	1	200	200 sf								
	TOTAL AREA			4,493 sf								
TOTALS												
	TOTAL NET ASSIGNED AREA			8,463 sf								
	NON-ASSIGNABLE SPACE ALLOWANCE			846 sf								
	TOTAL AREA			9,309 sf								

10	STAFF	spaces	sq ft/space	total	NOTES
10.1	ADMINISTRATION				
A	DIRECTOR	1	250	250 sf	
B	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	1	200	200 sf	
C	ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE	1	120	120 sf	
D	SENIOR OFFICE ASSISTANT	1	100	100 sf	
E	OFFICE SPECIALIST	1	100	100 sf	
F	ACCOUNTANT	1	120	120 sf	
G	ACCOUNT CLERK	1	100	100 sf	
10.2	COLL DEV AND TECH SERV				
A	LIBRARY COORDINATOR	1	120	120 sf	
B	COLLECTION MANAGER	1	100	100 sf	
C	LIBRARIAN	1	60	60 sf	
D	LIBRARY SERVICE ASSOCIATES (6)	1	100	100 sf	
E	PARAPROFESSIONALS (3)	1	100	100 sf	
F	CATALOGING WORK AREA	6	200	1,200 sf	
G	PROCESSING AREA	2	150	300 sf	
H	TRANSITIONAL BOOK STORAGE	1	400	400 sf	
I	BOOKSALE BOOKS	1	400	400 sf	
10.3	VIRTUAL SERVICES				<i>provide space for half</i>
A	LIBRARY SYSTEMS COORDINATOR	1	120	120 sf	
B	LIBRARY MANAGER	1	100	100 sf	
C	NETWORK SPECIALIST	1	100	100 sf	
D	SYSTEMS SPECIALISTS (2)	2	60	120 sf	
E	WORK AREA	1	200	200 sf	
F	SERVER ROOM	1	300	300 sf	
G	SECURE STORAGE	1	150	150 sf	
10.4	MAIN LIBRARY STAFF and YOUTH SERVICES				
A	LIBRARY COORDINATORS	2	100	200 sf	
B	LIBRARIANS (3)	3	60	180 sf	
C	LIBRARY SERVICE SUPERVISOR	1	60	60 sf	
D	LIBRARY SERVICE ASSOCIATES (13)	3	60	280 sf	<i>includes 100sf work area</i>
E	LIBRARY AIDES (12)	1	60	60 sf	
F	PARAPROFESSIONALS (3)	3	60	180 sf	
10.5	FOUNDATION OFFICE				
A	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	1	120	120 sf	
B	RECEPTION AND SMALL MEETING	1	100	100 sf	
10.6	STAFF RESTROOMS AND LOUNGE	1	1,000	1,000 sf	<i>including staff lockers and coat area</i>
10.7	STORAGE	1	150	150 sf	
10.8	COPY AND WORK AREA	1	100	100 sf	
	TOTAL NET ASSIGNED AREA			7,290 sf	
	NON-ASSIGNABLE SPACE ALLOWANCE			729 sf	
	TOTAL AREA			8,019 sf	

11	NON-ASSIGNED SPACES	spaces	sq ft/space	total	NOTES
11.1	PUBLIC RESTROOMS	4	300	1,200 sf	
11.2	STAIRS	3	600	1,800 sf	
11.3	ELEVATORS	3	240	720 sf	
11.4	MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL AND DATA ROOMS	1	8,000	8,000 sf	
11.5	CUSTODIAL CLOSETS	2	100	200 sf	
11.6	OTHER	1	1,000	1,000 sf	
	TOTAL NET ASSIGNED AREA			12,920 sf	
	NON-ASSIGNABLE SPACE ALLOWANCE			1,292 sf	
	TOTAL AREA			14,212 sf	
SUBTOTAL - MAIN LIBRARY				95,790 sf	
	OTHER NON-ASSIGNABLE SPACE ALLOWANCE			11,495 sf	<i>increases the gross square feet by a factor of 12% to include wall thicknesses, code clearances, etc. required in finished building</i>
MAIN LIBRARY TOTAL GROSS SQUARE FEET				107,285 sf	

preliminary budget

As stated in the Recommendations on page 4 of this Study, Pershing Center has been identified as the preferred site for a new Main Library. Two options are being considered for the site—a comprehensive renovation of the existing structure and demolition of the existing structure with a new structure built in its place. Projected budget figures for each of these options are indicated in the charts on this page and are based on construction costs for 2012.

PERSHING CENTER—COMPREHENSIVE CONVERSION

EXISTING BUILDING RENOVATION	107,285	
TOTAL	107,285	
LAND and BUILDING ACQUISITION		
BUILDING AND LAND ACQUISITION COST	\$0	
TOTAL	\$0	
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION / RENOVATION COSTS		
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION - LIBRARY	\$20,384,150	\$190/sf renovation
RENOVATION - LOWER LEVEL	\$1,650,000	55,000sf at \$30/sf
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION - ADDITIONAL LOWER LEVEL PARKING	\$3,600,000	36,000sf at \$100/sf
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY	\$2,563,415	10%
CONSTRUCTION ESCALATION	\$3,845,123	15% - 3 years to mid point construction
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION	\$32,042,688	\$298/sf total
FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT		
FURNITURE	\$3,218,550	30.00/sf all new furniture and shelving
AUDIO VISUAL / COMP / TECH	\$500,000	
SIGNAGE	\$160,928	\$1.50/sf
TOTAL	\$3,879,478	
SITE COSTS		
SITE WORK	\$500,000	Additional site and utility work allowance
TOTAL	\$500,000	
OTHER COSTS		
MOVING	\$50,000	
TEMPORARY SPACE	\$0	
LEGAL, CLOSING and OTHER FEES	\$50,000	
PROFESSIONAL FEES - Architecture and Engineering	\$2,563,415	8%
PROFESSIONAL FEES - Survey and Soils Testing	\$50,000	
CONSTRUCTION TESTING	\$50,000	
PROFESSIONAL FEES - Reimbursable Expenses	\$50,000	
TOTAL	\$2,813,415	
PROJECT SUBTOTAL	\$39,235,580	
PROJECT CONTINGENCY	\$980,890	2.5%

PERSHING CENTER—NEW CONSTRUCTION

NEW BUILDING CONSTRUCTION	107,285	
TOTAL	107,285	
LAND and BUILDING ACQUISITION		
BUILDING AND LAND ACQUISITION COST	\$0	
TOTAL	\$0	
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION / RENOVATION COSTS		
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION - LIBRARY	\$22,529,850	\$210/sf new construction
RENOVATION - LOWER LEVEL	\$1,650,000	55,000sf at \$30/sf
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION - ADDITIONAL LOWER LEVEL PARKING	\$3,600,000	36,000sf at \$100/sf
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY	\$2,777,985	10%
CONSTRUCTION ESCALATION	\$4,166,978	15% - 3 years to mid point construction
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION	\$34,724,813	\$323/sf total
FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT		
FURNITURE	\$3,218,550	30.00/sf all new furniture and shelving
AUDIO VISUAL / COMP / TECH	\$500,000	
SIGNAGE	\$160,928	\$1.50/sf
TOTAL	\$3,879,478	
SITE COSTS		
SITE WORK	\$500,000	Additional site and utility work allowance
TOTAL	\$500,000	
OTHER COSTS		
MOVING	\$50,000	
TEMPORARY SPACE	\$0	
LEGAL, CLOSING and OTHER FEES	\$50,000	
PROFESSIONAL FEES - Architecture and Engineering	\$2,777,985	8%
PROFESSIONAL FEES - Survey and Soils Testing	\$50,000	
CONSTRUCTION TESTING	\$50,000	
PROFESSIONAL FEES - Reimbursable Expenses	\$50,000	
TOTAL	\$3,027,985	
PROJECT SUBTOTAL	\$42,132,275	
PROJECT CONTINGENCY	\$1,053,307	2.5%

site zones

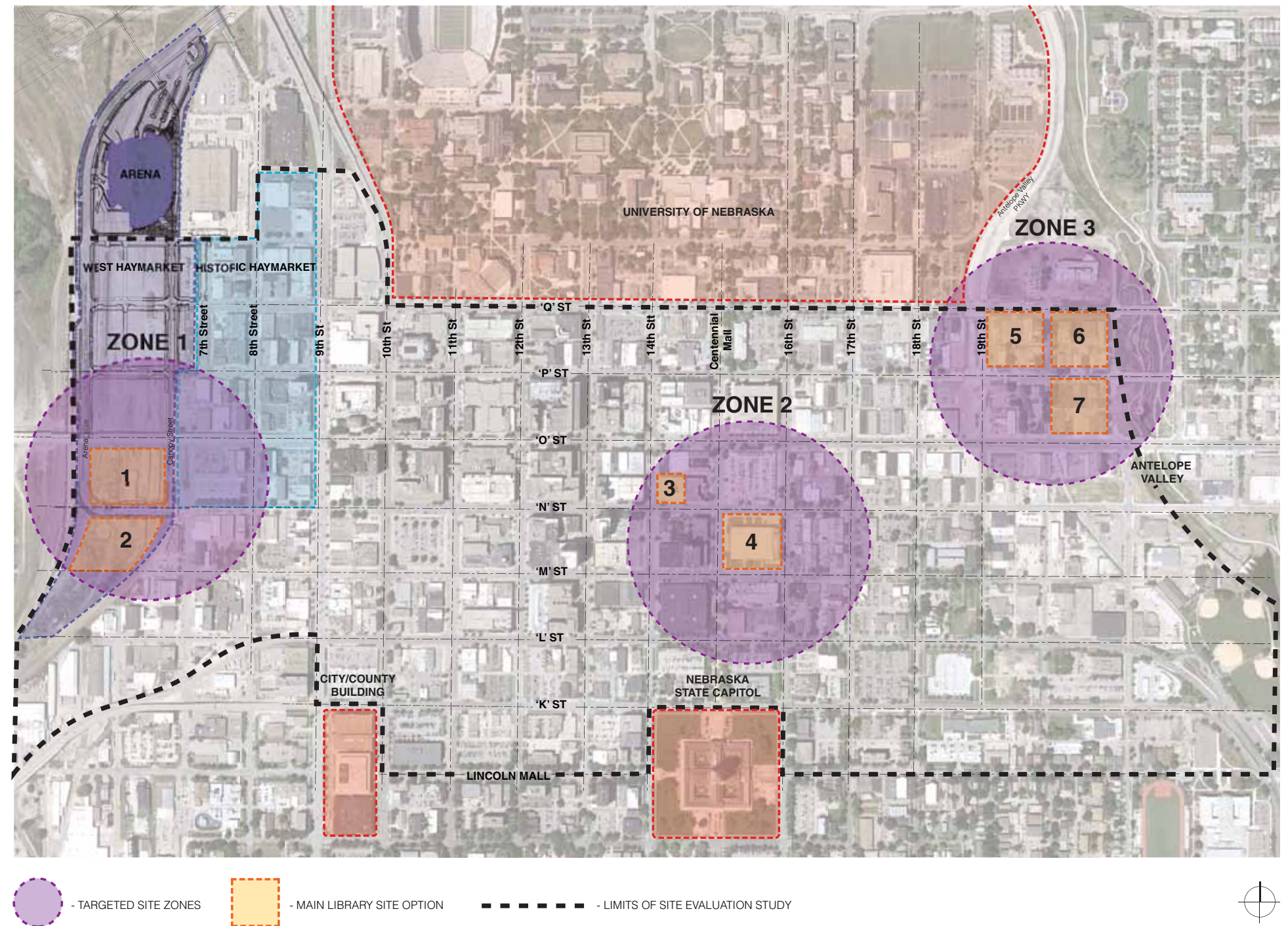
A key component to the Vision and Building Concept Study was the exploration and evaluation of possible sites for a Main Library. Both the potential of renovation of an existing building and the construction of a new building were considered as each specific site was reviewed

The design team and Library committee discussed land acquisition logistics for nearly every site within the heavy black dashed area indicated on the map to the right. Initially several factors were used as a starting point for narrowing down the field of downtown sites and to establish specific hot zones where positive site elements came together. These factors included the following and each is displayed graphically on the following pages:

- proximity of each site to both downtown residents and downtown workplaces
- proximity of each site to public transportation including bus routes and bus stops
- proximity of each site to bicycle lanes and city bike/walking trails
- proximity of each site to parks/green space/ plaza space
- proximity of each site to public parking facilities
- study of transportation patterns, one way streets and pedestrian malls
- identification of property already owned by the City of Lincoln (this would potentially result in a zero land acquisition cost).

One result of the Study's Programming process was the realization that a new Main Library be located on a full city block. Accommodating both onsite parking for the facility as well as a service area of a maximum of two stories for the public can only be accomplished with a parcel of this size. Assembling ownership of several individual properties to create a congruent city block can be an extremely time consuming and potentially expensive process. Many blocks within the site evaluation area were removed from consideration because of this reality.

In the end, three target zones within the downtown area were identified that possessed the qualities needed to meet the needs for a Main Library. These zones are indicated in the map at the right. Zone 1 has been named West Downtown. Zone 2 is Central Downtown and Zone 3 is Antelope Valley. Within the three zones, a total of seven sites were given serious consideration and are identified on the map. The outcome of the analysis for each zone is included in narrative form on the following pages. If in the event that Lincoln City Libraries is not selected for development of the Pershing Center, both site Zone 1 and site Zone 3 offer potential opportunities for a new Main Library. The following pages provide insight into the evaluation of each of the three target zones and their associated sites.



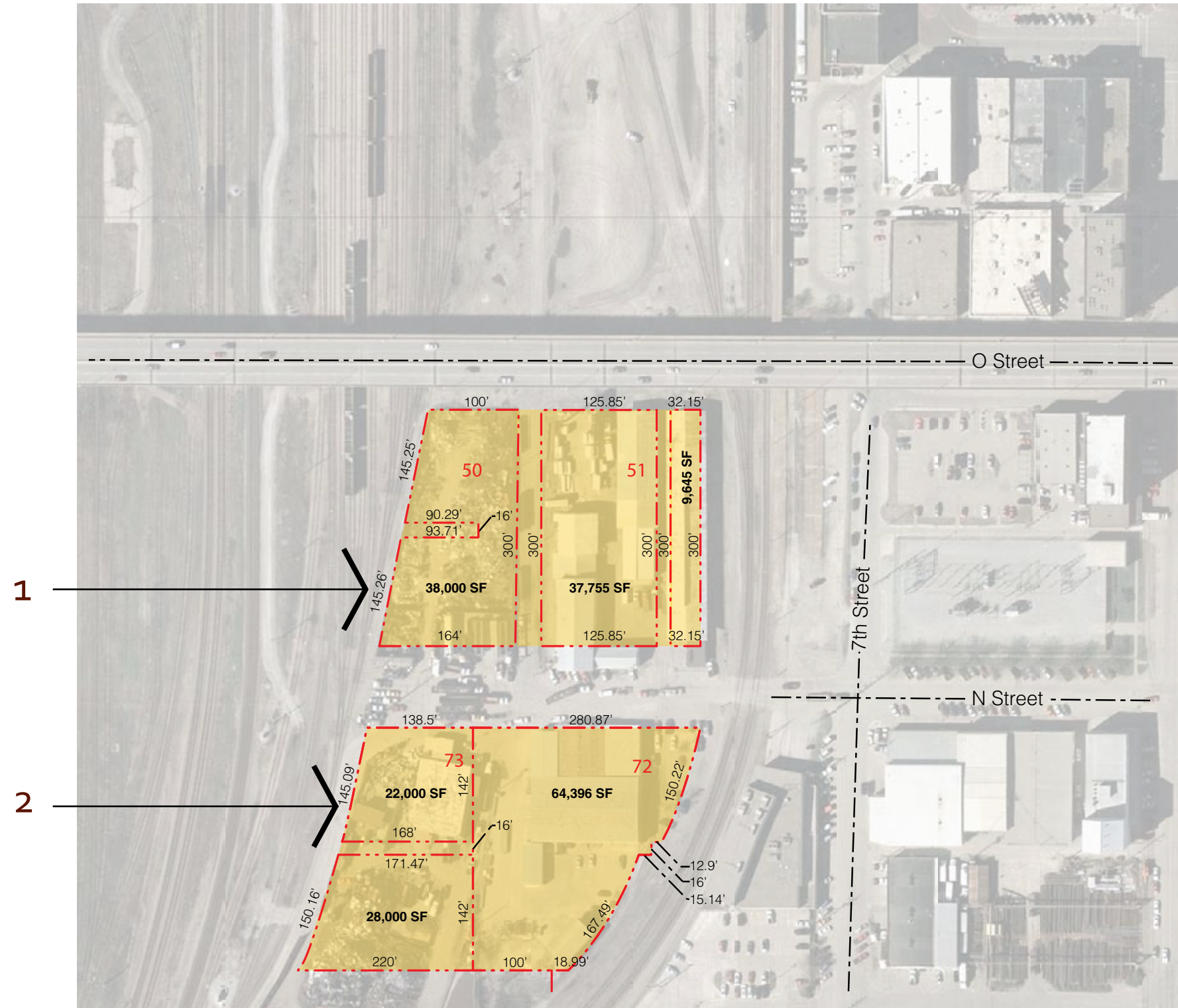
ZONE 1—WEST DOWNTOWN

After years of planning, a positive bond issue vote, and a swell of public support, construction began in 2011 for a new basketball/entertainment arena for Lincoln. With completion anticipated in the fall of 2013, it is one of the first projects to take shape in a newly developed area west of the existing downtown now known as West Haymarket. This project has had a domino effect on new construction and renovation projects in the west downtown area and the existing historic Haymarket. Located north of O Street, the West Haymarket development's eastern boundary is 7th street and extends west two blocks onto the former railroad yard. Refer to the West Haymarket Master Plan document located in the appendix for a graphic representation of the development's boundary.

While the sites within the West Haymarket redevelopment area are slated for private development, consideration was given to the concept of a Main Library leasing space within a privately owned West Haymarket building. The Library has not ruled out this option and understands that much discussion and negotiation would need to occur if the Library decided to pursue this option should they not be selected for Pershing Center redevelopment.

In order to proceed with the more traditional concept of the City of Lincoln owning a Main Library property, two sites were considered south of the existing Harris Overpass (West O Street). Combined with the private development anticipated in the West Haymarket, locating a Main Library in this zone could potentially expand the revitalization occurring in the West Haymarket. The City of Lincoln owns two large parcels of land that, after the reconstruction of the roadways in and out of the West Haymarket, will be located on the major roadway connecting West Haymarket and downtown. Another positive for these sites includes their proximity to the existing trails systems. Distance from the established population base of the downtown residents and workforce is a concern for these sites as well as the traffic patterns of both 9th and 10th streets that might discourage pedestrians from walking to the sites.

The uncertainty of how the West Haymarket with actually develop led the committee to reserve judgment on these sites. At this time, these sites are still in transition, but might develop into a potential location for a Main Library if the Library is not selected for development at Pershing.

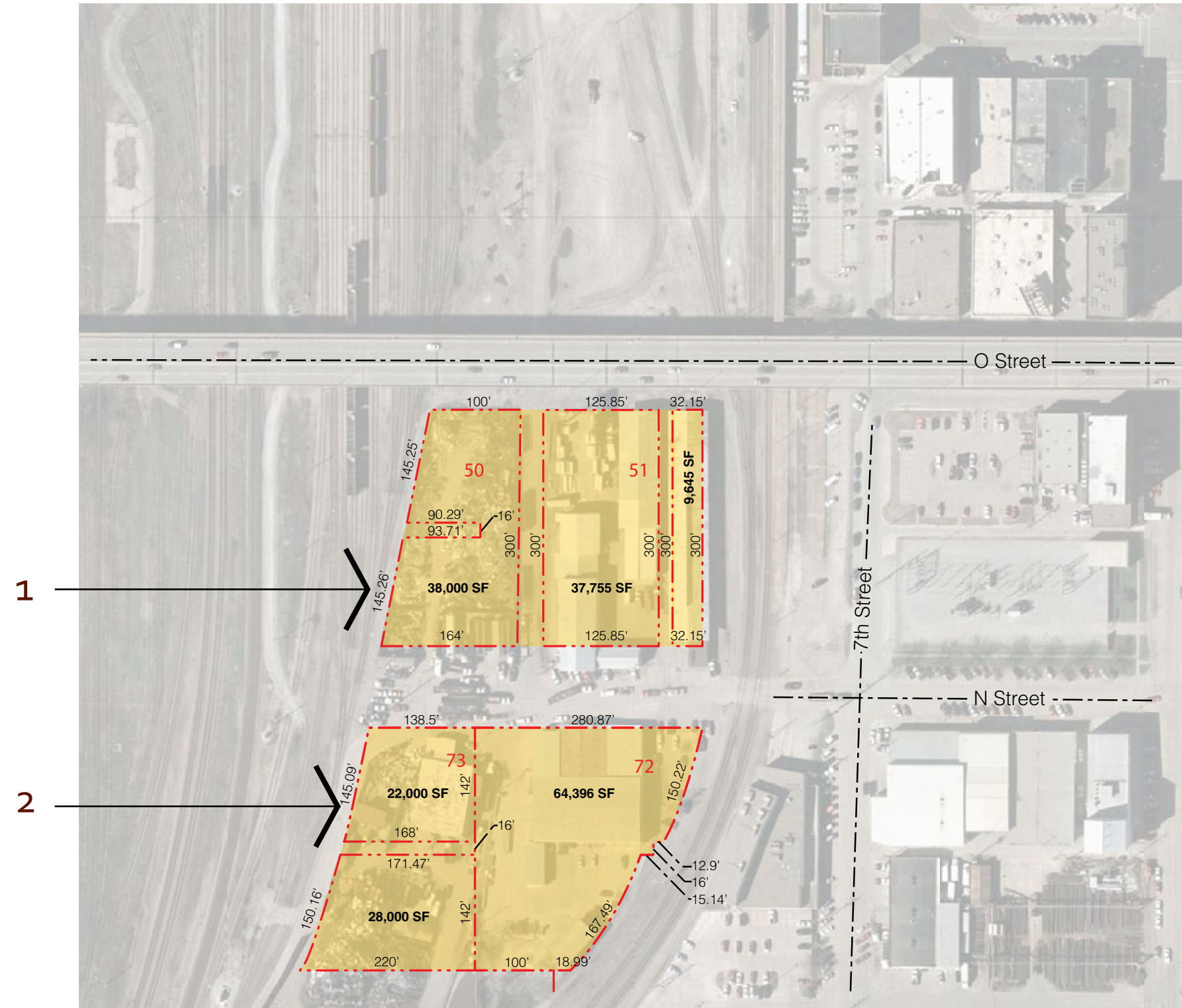


ZONE 1 **BLOCKS 50, 51, 72, 73**

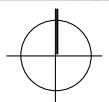
ZONE 1—WEST DOWNTOWN

SITE #1	
TOTAL SITE AREA (SF)	110,000
EXISTING ZONING	I-1
LAND OWNERSHIP	JPA

SITE #2	
TOTAL SITE AREA (SF)	117,000
EXISTING ZONING	I-1
LAND OWNERSHIP	JPA



ZONE 1 **BLOCKS 50, 51, 72, 73**



ZONE 2—CENTRAL DOWNTOWN

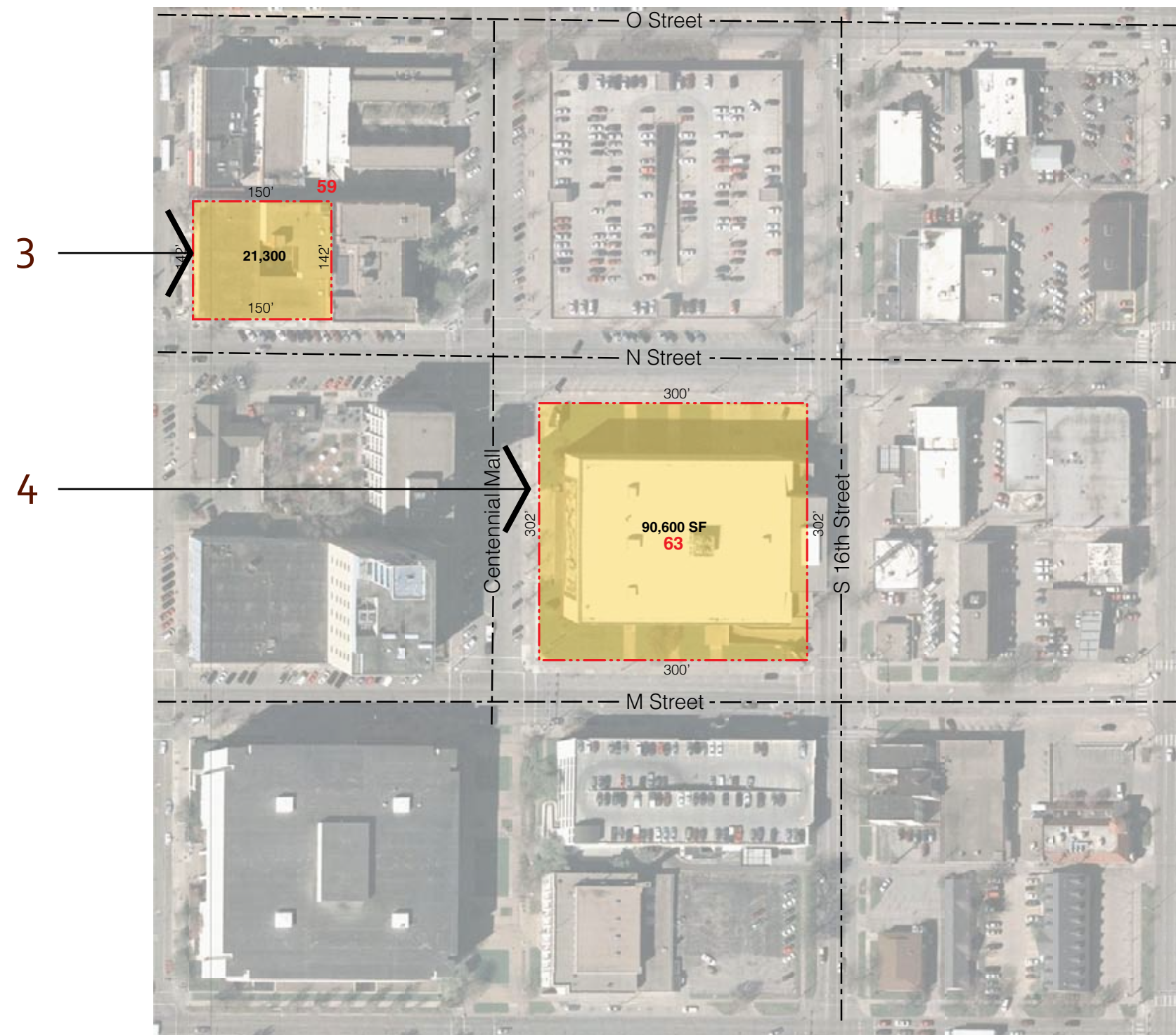
The Central Downtown zone met nearly all of the site requirement criteria, and two specific sites within this zone were considered as top contenders for a new Main Library. Two key factors emerged as benefits of locating a Main Library in this zone—City of Lincoln property ownership and close proximity to the residential and business library customers.

The first site to be considered was the existing Bennett Martin Public Library site. While serving the needs of a Main Library for many years, more recent and necessary upgrades in library service, technology and programmatic needs have made this building unsuitable to remain as a viable Main Library for Lincoln. The existing square footage of just under 65,000 sf does not meet the amount of space needed to carry out the vision for the library of the future. Located on four floors plus a basement, the existing Bennett Martin facility presents challenges for library programming and staffing. The building and site are landlocked by an historic building to the east and private development to the north which both greatly hinder the ability to expand the space to meet the needs of the library customers. Bennett Martin Public Library was therefore eliminated from further consideration.

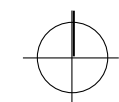
The second site to be reviewed within Zone 2 was the existing Pershing Center building and site. There are several reasons why this site would be a great new home for a Main Library. Proximity to downtown customers, public transportation, and bike traffic were all important location factors. Pershing sits on an entire city block which was noted as a requirement based on programmatic needs. If the building was to be renovated and the existing seating bowl removed, the existing structural system is conducive to adding a second floor to create program space. Underground parking was already available under the existing building and could be utilized in either a renovated or new construction design. With the addition of onsite stalls, the required parking stall counts could be achieved on this site. Both the location of the block on the existing Centennial Mall and the amount of open space on both the north and south sides of the existing building allows for the possibility of outdoor education opportunities and outdoor program space for a Main Library. Renovation and reuse of existing structures is a more environmentally sensitive solution than demolition and new construction.

Aesthetics of the existing Pershing Center need to be addressed if a Main Library is to be relocated onto this site. Creating a Main Library that is welcoming, inviting, and modern requires that the existing Pershing Center be completely renovated on both the interior and the exterior. Refer to the Appendix for conceptual imagery of how the Pershing Center might be transformed into a new Main Library. Actual design of a Main Library is not included within the scope of this Study.

Urgency to study this site in depth was prompted by the release of the Invitation for Redevelopment Proposals (IFRP) by the City of Lincoln Urban Development Department for the Pershing Auditorium. The Downtown Library Development Committee determined that the Pershing Center site is very viable and directed that the study consultants explore this site in depth.



ZONE 2 **BLOCKS 59, 63**



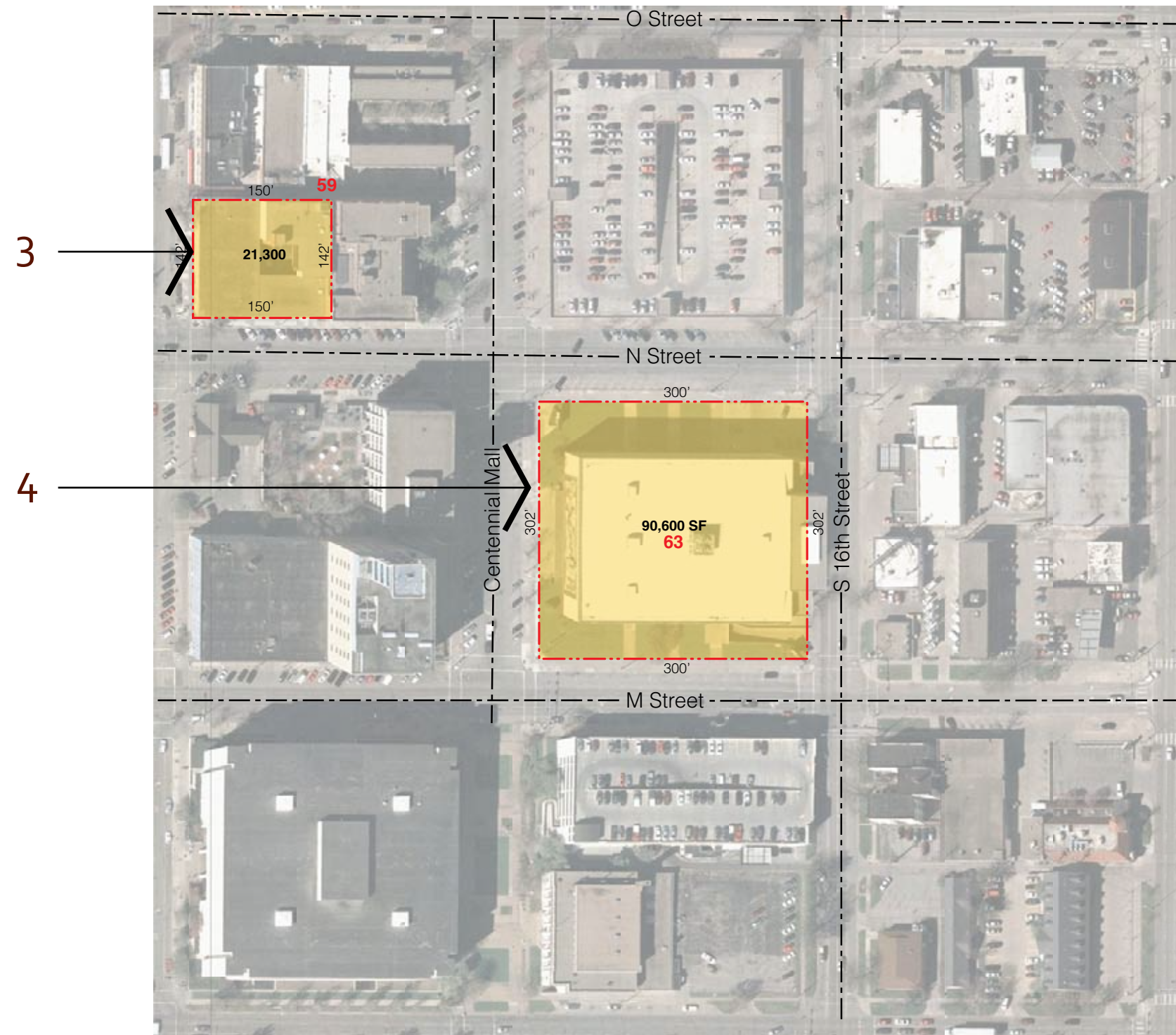
ZONE 2—CENTRAL DOWNTOWN

SITE #3—BENNETT MARTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

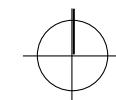
TOTAL SITE AREA (SF)	21,300
EXISTING ZONING	B4
LAND OWNERSHIP	CITY OF LINCOLN

SITE #4—PERSHING AUDITORIUM

TOTAL SITE AREA (SF)	90,600
EXISTING ZONING	P
LAND OWNERSHIP	CITY OF LINCOLN



ZONE 2 **BLOCKS 59, 63**



ZONE 3—ANTELOPE VALLEY

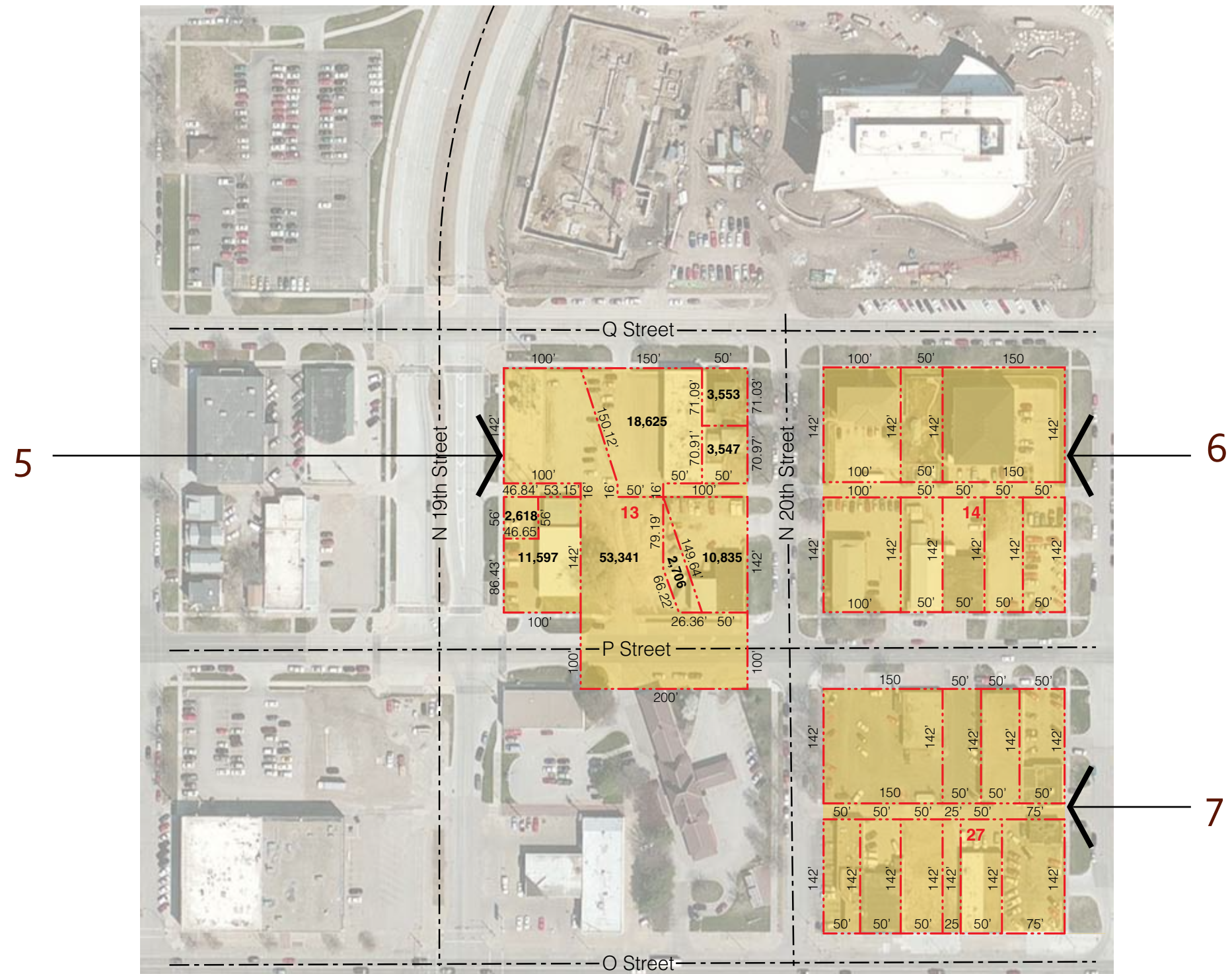
Zone 3 for a Main Library site selection is in the newly created Antelope Valley in east downtown Lincoln. Three blocks within Antelope Valley were targeted as meeting the largest number of site criteria for this Study. All were bounded by major thoroughfares on both the north and south sides of their block and were easily accessed by public transportation. The new 19th Street parkway will border one of the blocks on its west side. All were within a block of existing city bike/ pedestrian trails. Property ownership varied on each block. All were comprised of several parcels and included a mix of both public and private ownership.

The potential expense of and time required to assemble one complete block within Antelope Valley discouraged the committee from giving Zone 3 further consideration at this time.

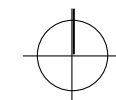
SITE #5	
TOTAL SITE AREA (SF)	110,000
EXISTING ZONING	B4
LAND OWNERSHIP	CITY/PRIVATE

SITE #6	
TOTAL SITE AREA (SF)	90,800
EXISTING ZONING	B4
LAND OWNERSHIP	PRIVATE

SITE #7	
TOTAL SITE AREA (SF)	90,200
EXISTING ZONING	B4
LAND OWNERSHIP	PRIVATE

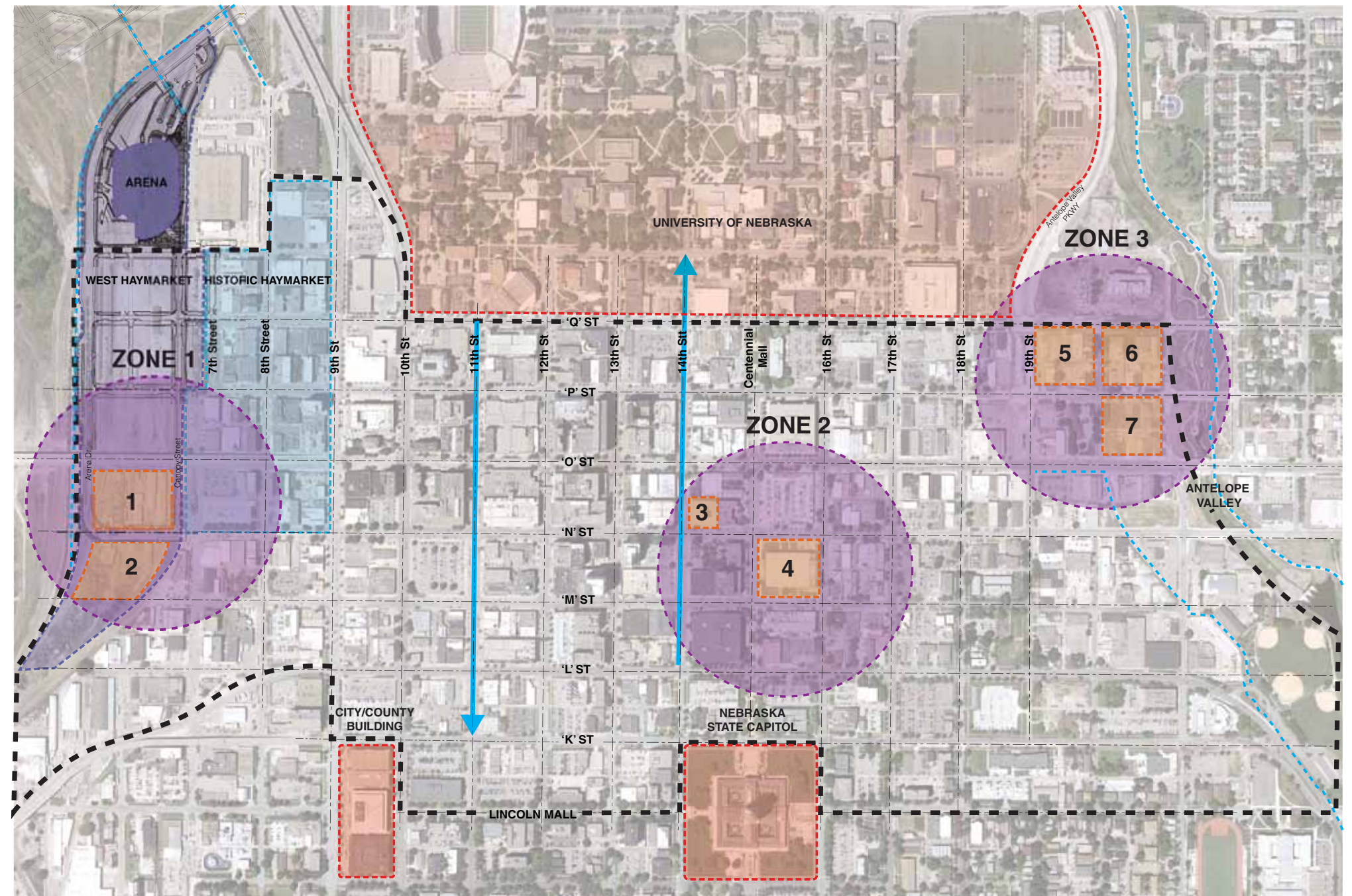


ZONE 3 **BLOCKS 13, 14, 27**



site information

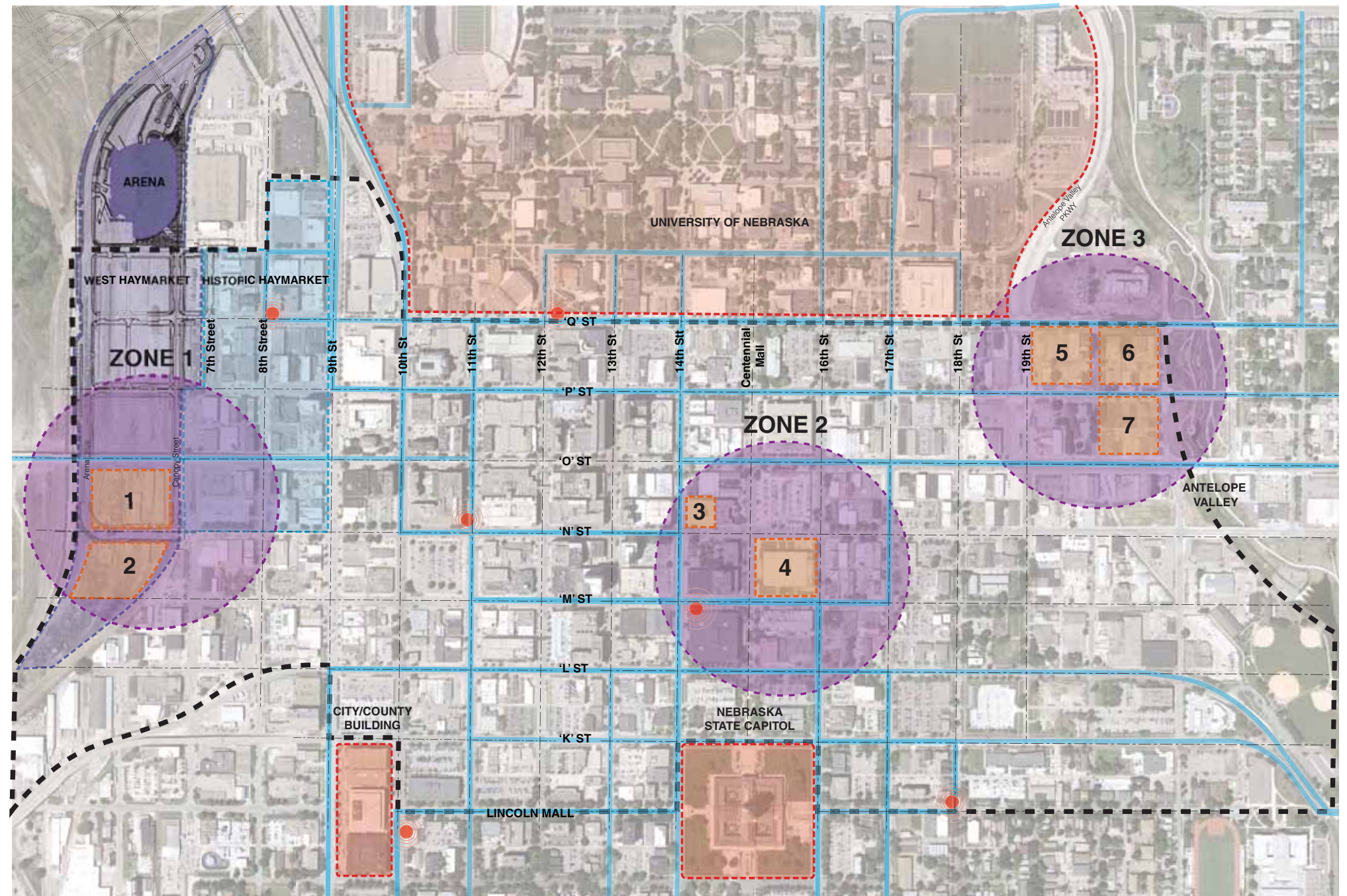
BICYCLE LANES/PATHS



— BICYCLE LANES - - - BICYCLE PATHS - - - - - LIMITS OF SITE EVALUATION STUDY



BUS ROUTES



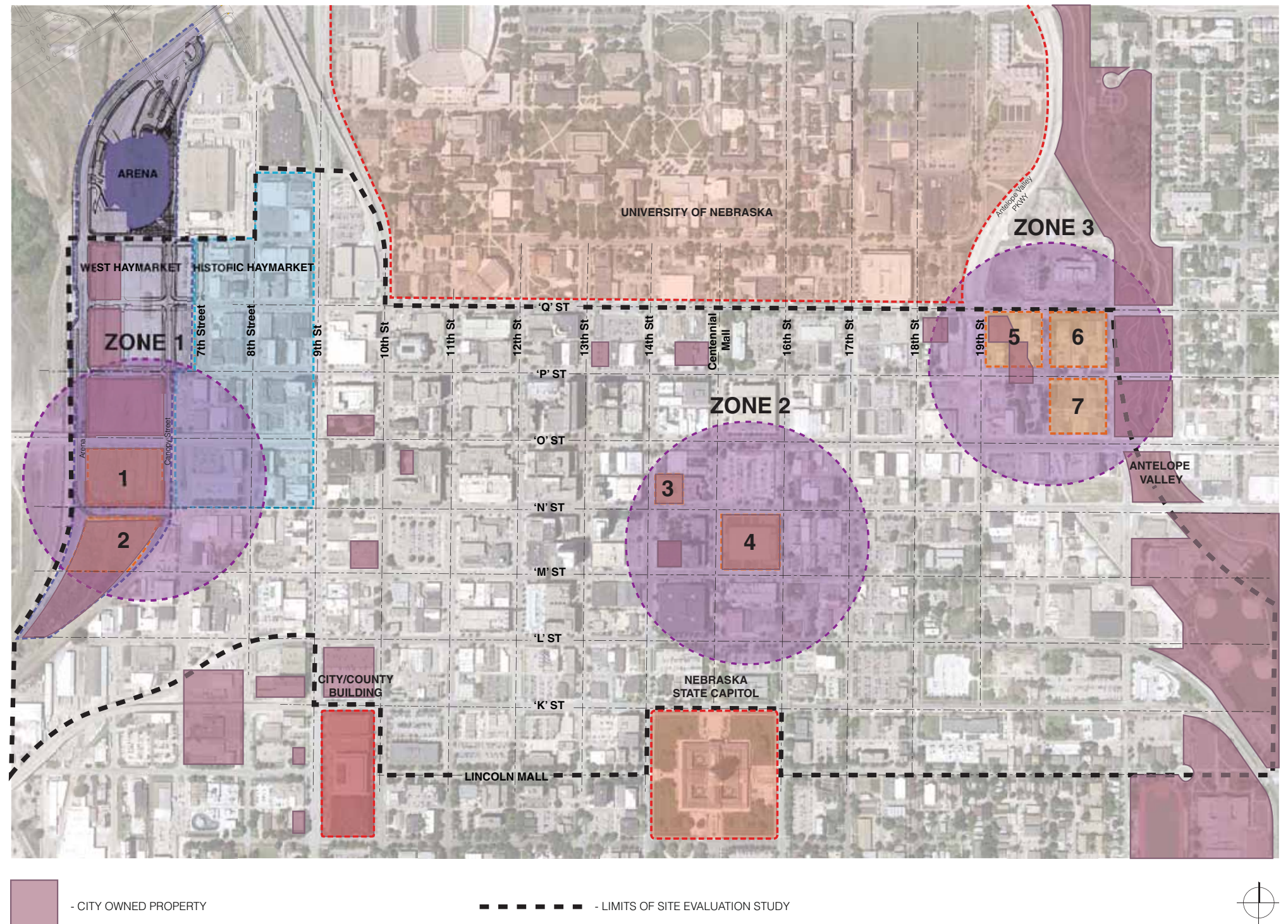
- BUS STOPS

- BUS TRAFFIC

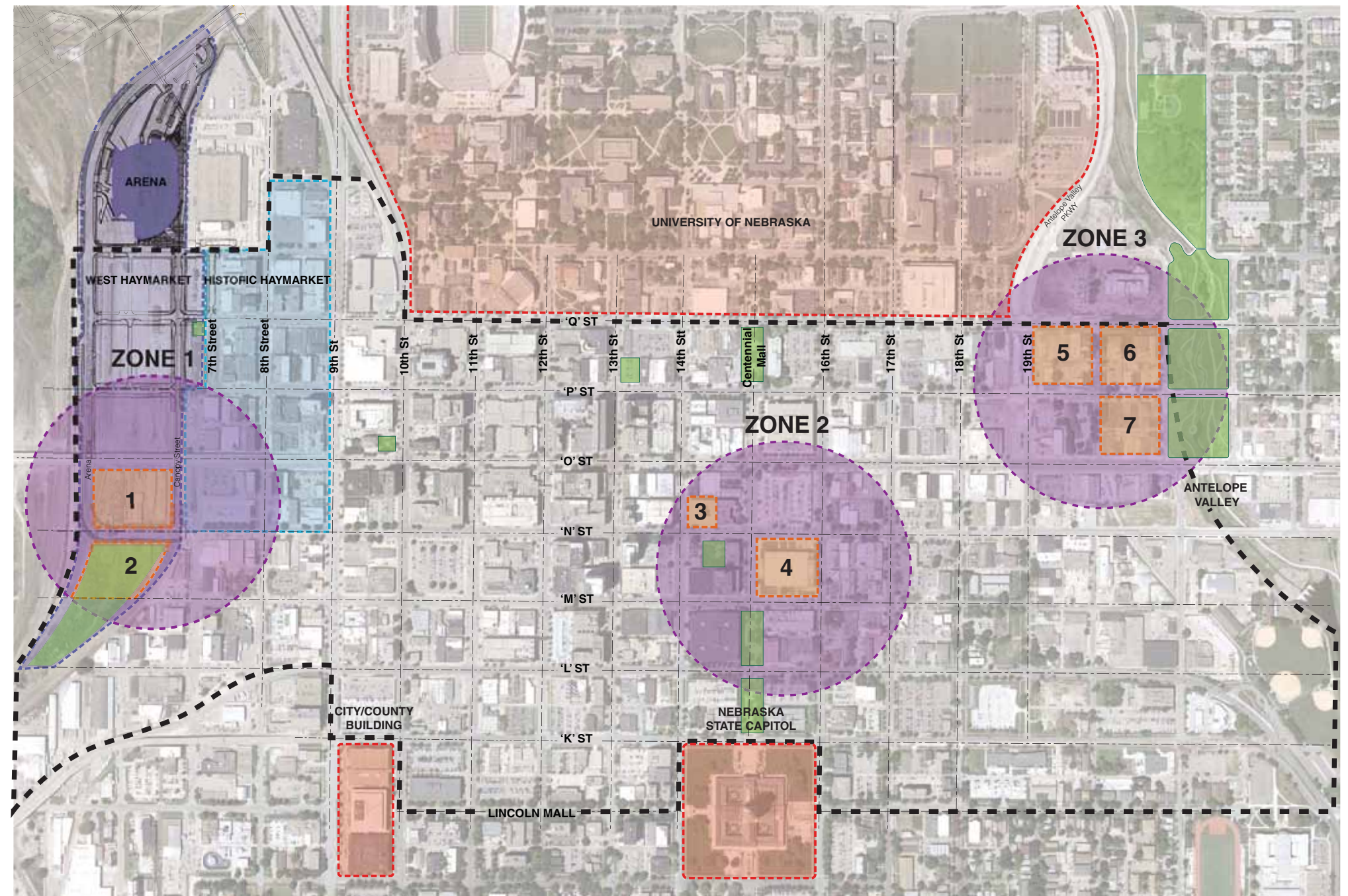
- LIMITS OF SITE EVALUATION STUDY





CITY OWNED PROPERTY



GREEN SPACE



 - PARKS / GREEN SPACE / PLAZA SPACE

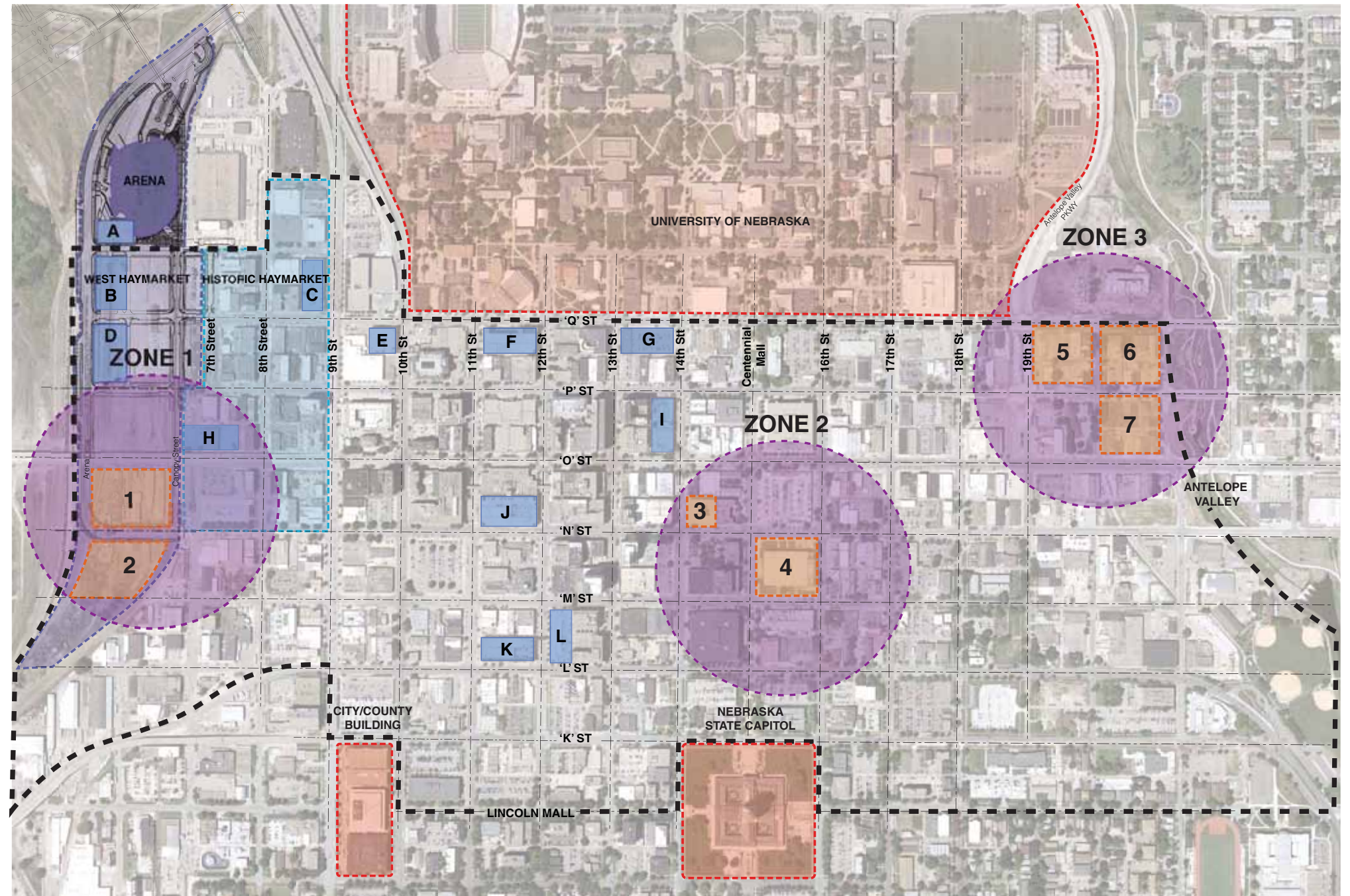
 - LIMITS OF SITE EVALUATION STUDY



PUBLIC PARKING

PUBLIC PARKING FACILITY KEY

A	ARENA GARAGE
B	FUTURE GARAGE
C	HAYMARKET GARAGE
D	FUTURE GARAGE
E	MARKET PLACE GARAGE
F	QUE PLACE GARAGE
G	BLOCK 38 GARAGE
H	FUTURE GARAGE
I	UNIVERSITY SQUARE GARAGE
J	CENTERPARK GARAGE
K	CARRIAGE PARK GARAGE
L	CORNHUSKER SQUARE GARAGE

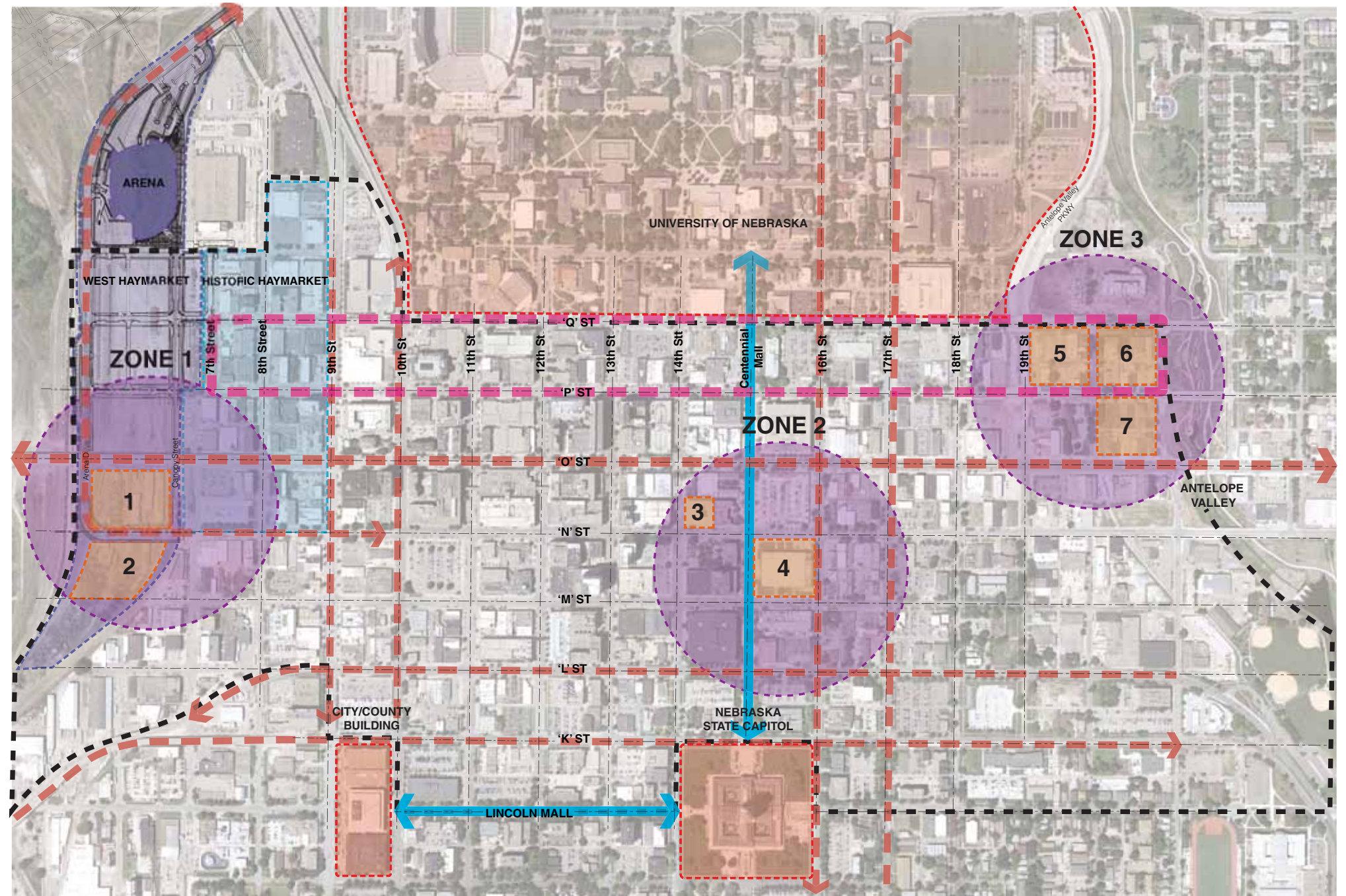


- PUBLIC PARKING FACILITIES

- LIMITS OF SITE EVALUATION STUDY

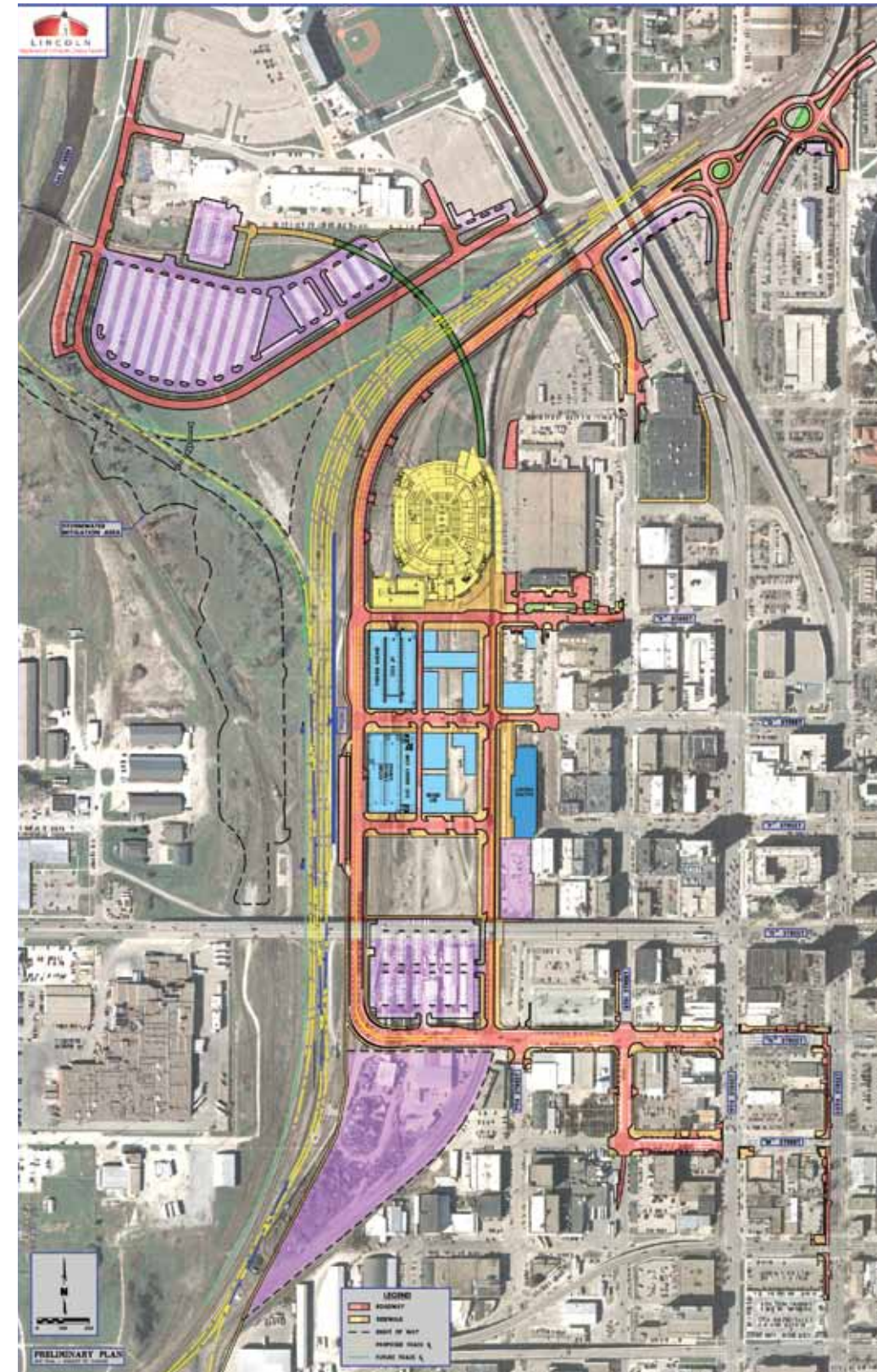


MAJOR VEHICULAR TRAFFIC PATTERNS



— MALL — P STREET LOOP — TRAFFIC PATTERN — LIMITS OF SITE EVALUATION STUDY

appendix—west haymarket master plan



March 2012

appendix—pershing concept images

PERSPECTIVE RENDERING



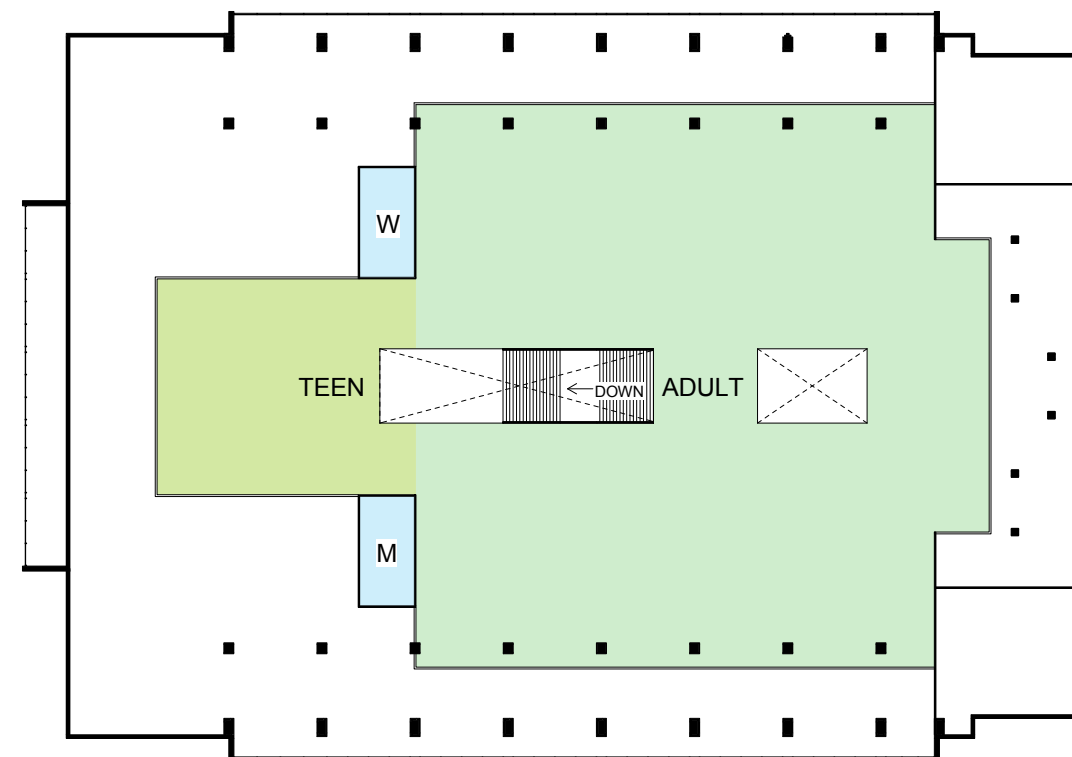
PERSPECTIVE RENDERING






FIRST FLOOR PLAN

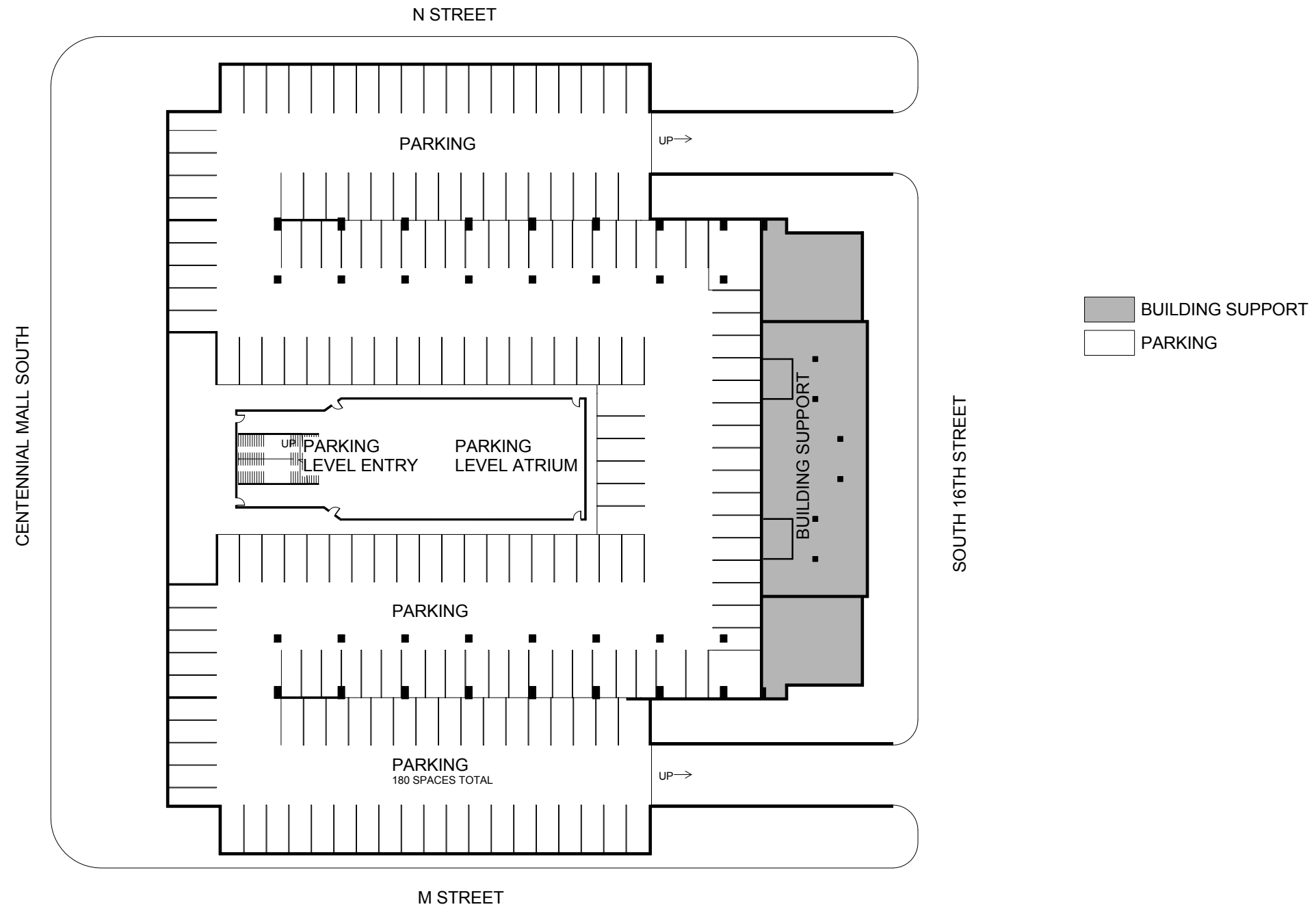


SECOND FLOOR PLAN



-  ADULT
-  RESTROOM
-  TEEN

PARKING LEVEL



appendix—public input

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & VISIONING

Several public meetings and a staff meeting along with a public survey and a staff survey were key parts of the comprehensive visioning and community engagement process. There were several themes that carried through the meetings and surveys that articulated the importance Lincoln's residents place in their Lincoln City Libraries and how they see a Main Library in the future. One comment, in particular, seemed to sum up the ideas expressed by many of the respondents to the survey and participants in the meetings. They wanted a new Main Library to be seen as "Lincoln's living room"!

Other oft-repeated ideas called for a new Main Library to be:

- an inviting, comfortable, welcoming, light-filled space
- located in the center of Downtown where there was ease of access for pedestrians, public transportation and convenient, on-site parking
- a place for community events with spaces that could accommodate multiple size meetings, performances, lectures, etc.
- a center for families and children with collections, technology, and programs for young children and their parents
- a center to access the latest in technology
- a special place for teens to use library collections, technology and enjoy programs
- environmentally friendly

The appendices to this report include notes from these meetings.

STAFF COMMENTS

February 2, 2012, staff input meeting regarding vision for Main Library. Approximately 30 staff members attended.

Facilitated by Susan Kent and Jack Poling.

What will the public libraries of tomorrow have?

- › Flexibility – Adapt to uncertain future
- › Seniors – Accessible; easy to use lighting, height of shelves, quiet space
- › Place for Community events, meetings
- › Space for Community partners to use, cultural, education, social services
- › (Permanent/Temporary)
- › Outdoor space for programs
- › Library as anchor organization – library + service organizations
- › Service points that library can afford to staff
- › Visibility
- › Drive through book drop
- › Pedestrian friendly intersection
- › Public transportation
- › Parking (validation)
- › Technological sophisticated – for back of house
- › Download stations
- › Raised floor
- › (Process redesign for Tech Services/Admin) should T.S. be in Library? (maybe in less expansive space)

Does the Downtown Library & Main Library have to be the same?

- › Focal point in Downtown
- › Point of pride
- › Special collections
- › Downtown needs a library; a different library
- › Change from physical to virtual items
- › More welcoming space
- › More efficient
- › More comfortable
- › Shelving on wheels

Downtown is expanding. Where should the library be located?

- › Impact of changes to branch libraries
- › Politics/Downtown
- › Special collections – accessibility
- › University students/faculty – use what's not available at University electronic databases – instruction

PUBLIC MEETING 1—COMMENTS

February 2, 2012, public input meeting regarding vision for Main Library.
Approximately 55 members of the public attended the session from
12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Facilitated by Susan Kent and Jack Poling.

Prime Issues identified by attendees:

- › Access – pedestrian, cars, public transportation
- › Vital downtown library, centrally located to 28,000 people who work downtown
- › Coffee!
- › Longer hours
- › More computers
- › Security
- › Meeting space of various sizes with AV
- › Green Roof
- › Periodicals
- › Teen space – sound proof
- › Capacity for children’s programs
- › Book drop off currently inconvenient, wrong side of street
- › What is Downtown?
- › Central
- › Lincoln deserves “monument,” important to community
- › Environmentally friendly
- › Partnerships with other community organizations
- › Physical books – e-books
- › Relationships – schools, vocational training, University??
- › Supporting great books, intellectual discussions
- › Transit shuttle
- › Beautiful building
- › Accommodate special collections - better location, visibility, space for Heritage Room & Polley
- › Outdoor space
- › Easy pick up of books – drive up window
- › Download stations for e-books, audio
- › Study areas – quiet, safe, visible
- › Books sale area
- › Rental space for events
- › Gallery/exhibition space
- › Layout, good sense of where things are
- › Free parking

PUBLIC MEETING 2 —COMMENTS

February 2, 2012, public input meeting regarding vision for Main Library.
Approximately 25 members of the public attended the session from
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Facilitated by Susan Kent and Jack Poling.

Prime Issues identified by attendees:

- › Downtown shuttle bus
 - › Browsing digital?
 - › Question about going downtown for some people
 - › Geothermal
 - › Outdoor space
 - › Center for community conversation
 - › Literate community
 - › Lincoln's living room
 - › Place for babies
 - › Is current location desirable?
 - › Art as part of building
 - › WOW factor - but useable
 - › Capitol view
 - › WiFi all over downtown sponsored by LCL
 - › New logo
 - › Library needs to tell its story – rebranding
- › Destination for families
 - Cultivate young readers
 - Café
 - Linger
 - › Collaborative spaces with museums, etc.
 - › Literacy services
 - Immigrant/refugee families
 - Awareness of books
 - › Accessible destination – Location
 - Proximity to public transportation
 - Pedestrians (downtown workers – walking during lunch hour)
 - Bicyclists
 - › Downtown possibilities
 - Antelope Valley
 - Current location – parking issue
 - Arena proximity may be detrimental at times
 - Think about future needs
 - Possibility of branch library downtown

KEY STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

Persons Interviewed:

- Kim Robak, Mueller & Roback
- Tim Cox, Assurity Life Insurance Company, Chair Lincoln Independent Business Association
- TJ McDowell, Lincoln City Public Schools
- Tom Henning, CEO, Assurity Life Insurance Company
- Will Scott, Co-Owner WRK developers
- Nader Sepahpur, Owner of downtown restaurants
- Mike Dunlap, CEO Nelnet (*on call with him was Ben Kiser, Nelnet's Chief Communications Officer*)
- Blanca Ramirez-Salazar, Director, El Centro de las Americas
- Carl Eskridge, City Councilperson
- Jane Raybould, County Commissioner

None of the persons interviewed used the downtown library in the recent past. Most use (or their families use) branches because of the branch's proximity to home, the ease of parking, and the convenience of the facility. The compilation below are synthesized comments.

Almost all agreed that the library downtown should be a key institution in the downtown and that to do so would require: a reason to come—programs, events, exhibits, a center for family and children, free adjacent parking, welcoming and non-intimidating building. Somehow, the Library needs to make the case for a new building by tying into the Lincoln Vision 2015 plan.

Many of the people interviewed used Kindles, Nooks, iPads for e-books. Almost to a person, they did not know that the library makes e-books available to its users.

There is tremendous support for the library because there is a feeling that it has been so well managed and because folks like their branch libraries.

There is no consensus on where the library should be located in the downtown.

Many of those interviewed mentioned Pershing and, except for one individual who feels strongly that Pershing should go on the tax rolls, there is concern that Pershing is “so ugly” that it would not be a good place for a library. Several people suggested that if Pershing were to be a site there needs to be WOW renderings of what the building would look like—lots, lots of windows for example. Several persons said no to Haymarket, several said yes—but most wanted library to stay in “center” of downtown.

Everyone discussed the fact that Lincoln is not struggling financially and the unemployment is low and the public school system is excellent. There were mixed messages regarding raising/maintaining/lowering taxes. The biggest issues facing the Lincoln community, as expressed by the people interviewed, include:

- › Roads and transportation infrastructure
- › Jobs and entertainment for young people
- › Building strong relationships between University and business community
- › Getting the arena project finished
- › Maintaining a low tax base
- › Lowering graduation rates for ethnic/cultural students
- › Economic and job development
- › Quality of life issues
- › Creating places for teens
- › Creating spaces that people from different groups can come together
- › A safe environment downtown
- › Underemployment (not enough high paying jobs)
- › How to improve the entrepreneurial environment in Lincoln

Downtown concerns centered on (1) parking and (2) perception of security. Almost all the interviewees said that parking was a very big issue and that Nebraskans want to park right at the door of the place they are visiting—free parking was also mentioned as important (and in some cases validated parking). Also, there was agreement that the “perception” of lack of safety was a reason that some people didn't come downtown—homeless and transient issues primarily. Lincoln is rebuilding and re-conceiving parts of its downtown as a residential and entertainment center. If there are ways to connect the library to that new concept it would be important to do so.

Ideas for the “new” Main Library:

- › Needs to be a “destination” location
- › Café/restaurant—place to have a glass of wine after a program
- › Exhibition space
- › Meeting rooms/auditorium (variety of spaces for groups, individuals)
- › Outdoor space for programs, festivals, serenity
- › Place for teens to feel comfortable, learn, and get involved
- › A space for technology—new, future kinds of technology in particular
- › Place for families and children ** (*this is key and mentioned by almost everyone—they want a place that people keep coming back to, not just one visit*)
- › Become an “intellectual gathering place”
- › Safe, safe, safe
- › Parking, parking, parking
- › Open and light-filled
- › Collaborative workspaces
- › Accessible, visible, walk able
- › Prominent, architecturally significant

Co-location—in almost all cases, the interviewees thought it would be a great idea to co-locate other organizations into a library facility if space was not issue. Public/public, public/nonprofit, public/private were all mentioned. Cultural organizations were the most mentioned.

PUBLIC ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS

A survey regarding Main Library spaces and services was posted on the Lincoln City Libraries webpage on February 3, 2012. A total of 206 responses had been received when the survey closed on February 14. In general, the comments from the online survey were quite similar to the comments expressed at the public meetings held on February 2.

Responders cited browsing for and checking out materials as their most common current library use. Next highest uses were looking for information and bringing a child to find books. When asked what they like about the library they use most frequently, many responders noted proximity to home or work, displays of new materials, and the friendliness and helpfulness of staff. When asked what they didn't like about the library they use most frequently, people noted that the Bennett Martin Public Library facility needs updating, both inside and out. Other comments included desire for more or better technology, wish for more materials to check out, and more hours.

Comparing the respondents who use Bennett Martin Public Library with the full spectrum of survey respondents, the Bennett Martin Public Library users were more likely to note computer use and information seeking and research as typical uses, and less use of wireless Internet access.

The top three responses to the question, "What would you like to see in a Main Library?" were significant spaces for books, DVDs, and other materials, comfortable seating areas, and parking. Additional comments included a wide variety of topics. Many mentioned again the importance of convenient parking, flexibility in the building, space for special services such as the Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors and the Polley Music Library, and attention to how to serve homeless people within the context of serving the whole community.

Synthesized by Pat Leach, Library Director

July, 2012

ZOOMERANG SURVEY RESULTS

Services & Spaces for a Main Library

Response Status: Completes | Partial

Filter: No filter applied

Feb 16, 2012 7:01 AM PST

1. What libraries do you currently use? (check all that apply)

Bennett Martin Public Library, 14th & N	149	73%
Victor E. Anderson Branch, 3635 Touzalin Avenue	24	12%
Bethany Branch, 1810 N Cotner Blvd.	25	12%
Bookmobile	3	1%
Loren Corey Eiseley Branch, 1530 Superior Street	54	26%
Charles H. Gere Branch, 2400 S 56th Street	102	50%
South Branch, 2675 South Street	48	24%
Bess Dodson Walt Branch, 6701 S 14th Street	72	35%
Dan A. Williams Branch, 5000 Mike Scholl Street	7	3%

2. How often do you visit the library?

Once a week or more	82	40%
Several times a month	70	34%
Once a month	24	12%
Several times a year	28	14%
Never	1	0%
Total	205	100%

3. What do you usually do when you visit the library?

Browse for books and other materials	166	81%
Check out books and other materials	194	95%
Use a library computer	33	16%
Use the library's Wi-Fi	38	19%
Attend a community meeting	28	14%
Meet friends	14	7%
Bring a child to find books or attend events	57	28%
Attend a library event	33	16%
Sit and read	55	27%
Look for information and/or do research	81	40%
Study	22	11%
Other, please specify	24	12%
1 ebooks		
2 Work between meetings		
3 Art club		
4 main purpose of my visits is research, followed by pleasure reading		
5 get tax forms, bring in books to donate		
6 gere book talk		
7 i do not visit the library		
8 Teach ELL with Lincoln Literacy		
9 storytime		
10 Book Group		
11 get books they saved for me (on hold)!		
12 storytime with Ms. Kay		

- 13 photocopy, occasionally. occasionally meetings
- 14 Volunteer
- 15 Pick up books put on reserve
- 16 I like to read periodicals at the Library.
- 17 work
- 18 browse newspapers for genealogy research
- 19 volunteer
- 20 Projects that need a quiet place
- 21 Use Inter Library Loan services
- 22 Volunteer
- 23 enjoy the courtyard
- 24 attend library meetings

4. How often do you use the library's website?

Once a week or more	91	45%
Several times a month	49	24%
Once a month	23	11%
Several times a year	26	13%
Other, please specify	12	6%
Total	201	100%
1 Never		
2 haven't used		
3 once in a while -- a few times a year		
4 I do not use the site		
5 Haven't ever had to		
6 Once a month, sometimes more often		
7 library website is our homepage		
8 never		
9 Virtually never. It is uninviting and was down on one occasion I tried.		
10 As a reference librarian at UNL, I not only use it for myself, but I often assist users in the UNL Libraries with accessing the LCL Catalog and other resources.		
11 never		
12 I used to use it several times a day but the new system is not as accessible or friendly		

5. When you use the website, what do you usually do?

Look for books and other materials that I can check out	177	89%
Look for e-books and audiobooks to download	67	34%
Find out information about the library such as hours, programs, etc.	91	46%
Do research and find information	48	24%
Check my library account	142	72%
Other, please specify	17	9%
1 NA		
2 Suggest titles to purchase		
3 request interlibrary loan items		
4 Put items on hold		
5 add to my holds list from, e.g., NYT, library lists, local news, reviews		
6 suggest titles		
7 use Mango		
8 check my emails		
9 Read the reviews by librarians.		

- 10 Need easy way to locate new materials on computer
- 11 Put holds on books so I can pick them up at my branch.
- 12 As noted above, help patrons with finding this information, as well as using the website myself.
- 13 Want links to other websites-that are legitamite. Like searching the internet using sites that librarians have filtered for quality.
- 14 Use interlibrary loan
- 15 decided to fill out this survey
- 16 there used to be really good information about authors and their works, searching led you to other things but with the search now if you spell something wrong the system says you don't have it.

6. What would you like to see in a Main Library? (check all that apply)

Significant space for books, DVDs, and CDs	172	84%
Informal, comfortable seating areas	155	76%
Spaces for individual study	119	58%
Group study or work space	93	45%
Computer labs	109	53%
Special area for pre-school age children and their parents	106	52%
Children's room	107	52%
Space for children's story hours and programs	114	56%
Designated space for teens	98	48%
Auditorium for public events	91	44%
Meeting rooms of various sizes	119	58%
Cafe/coffe bar	105	51%
Outdoor reading areas	103	50%
Outdoor space for events	67	33%
Parking	140	68%
Exhibit space for artwork	94	46%
Other, please specify	37	18%

- 1 Phones for job seekers
- 2 Better Restrooms, Inviting Atmosphere, Less Security Guards @ Main Library.
- 3 a place that doesn't attract transients
- 4 Special space for older adults
- 5 PARKING! PARKING! PARKING!
- 6 WE WANT PARKING SPACE!!!!!!!!!!!!

- 7 Drive up book drop and books on hold pick up
- 8 Local history archives
- 9 Bike racks in a secure location and bus service nearby
- 10 Like to see it stay in central Lincoln
- 11 simple distribution, business center
- 12 Nothing
- 13 I'd like to have special sections for teens, children, pre-schoolers, but want it to be clear that the areas are not JUST for those populations.
- 14 Lots of plants
- 15 MANAGEMENT OF STREET POPULATION TO CERTAIN AREAS. THE LIBRARY SMELLS AND FEELS DIRTY. IT SEEMS MORE LIKE A HOMELESS SHELTER WITH BOOKS AND OTHER MATERIALS THAN A LIBRARY. I KNOW THIS IS PROBLEMATIC THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, BUT THERE MUST BE SOME WAY TO MANAGE THE SPACE WITHOUT DENYING ANYONE THEIR CIVIL RIGHTS. THIS IS MY HIGHEST PRIORITY AS A DOWNTOWN DWELLER WHO USES THE LIBRARY AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE UNDER THE CURRENT SYSTEM OF USAGE.
- 16 Space for specialized collections, like the Polley Music Library and the Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors
- 17 large-screen tvs for pbs, cnn, breaking news, etc
- 18 labs for creating media; social spaces; book displays; fireplace
- 19 Basically the same areas/spaces/services/etc that exist today
- 20 Modern, complete book collection.
- 21 A bulletin board with helpful information, community events, etc. and also interactive bulletin boards for kids
- 22 Convenient parking is crucial. See Nashville Public Library how they figured out downtown library and parking. Very convenient.
- 23 Signature piece of art that would become the libraries' "logo". Like the Lions outside Chicago Art Institute
- 24 teen engagement center

- 25 places for special research, librarians to help with geneology and a special collection of these materials
- 26 Longer hours for the Heritage Room, Genealogy Research Area
- 27 Give parking for the main branch library extra checks!!!
- 28 more copies of ebooks, DVD's, audio books
- 29 I never use the down town mail library
- 30 Quiet room for adults like new Seward Library
- 31 Love the Heritage Room -Special research collections!
- 32 More visibility and space for special collections, the Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors and Polley Music
- 33 Flexible spaces that can be repurposed as needs and interests change. Spaces that can be used for more than one purpose in any given month.
- 34 Practice rooms for instrumants (piano room) to come and practice an instrument. Chicago Public Library has this-I used to use this all the time, it is good when you live in an apartment to practice somewhere.
- 35 green design and practices
- 36 plenty of work space convenient to reference materials or special collections
- 37 large assortment of books, area for ease of picking up ordered books

7. Please tell us what you like about the library that you use most frequently.

169 Responses

- 1 1) Love being able to place books on hold and run in and pick them up from the hold area. Having the self-checkouts (ESPECIALLY the ones you punch in your own library card number without needing the card) is super convenient too. 2) The new card catalog system is really fantastic. You have done a great job getting that up and running and working out the inevitable bugs. 3) LOVE the "pre-ovedue notice" emails; although I think the verbiage is a bit awkward.
- 2 It's in my neighborhood.
- 3 I mainly use Walt. I like how open and spacious it is. The staff is always very friendly and helpful. It's usually very quiet which is good since it's a library :)
- 4 Gere: Lots of parking; has the best selection outside of BMPL; bright and sunny; spacious and well-outfitted staff areas (I'm a former employee); multiple self-checkout stations; native grasses as part of landscaping.
- 5 The internet, and the people who work at it.
- 6 Research staff at Bennett Martin are most helpful in tracking down an author or book of interest.
- 7 location location location. I love the 14th and N location as both a downtown worker and resident. it is easy to get to quickly and easily.
- 8 The great selection of materials - even if what I want is not there, I can always find something to read, watch, or listen to.
- 9 I like the branch that is close and user friendly. It is part of my community and contributes to finding and acquiring the resources that enhance my neighborhood, ex. availability of multi media offerings-dvd-, cds,- and books.
- 10 convenient location to my home
- 11 Close to my home
- 12 Staff is very friendly and helpful.

- 13 I love the staff at South Branch and how they are so knowledgable and friendly. I love e-book options and wish there were more. I know a lot of people use computers at the library -- I am just not one of them. I love all the suggestions above -- how modern!!
- 14 Bennett Martin is close to everything else I do daily downtown. I hope it doesn't get moved too much farther out of the main flow of downtown activities -- along the Antelope Valley project would be too far for me to visit as frequently.
- 15 Staff are sometimes friendly, others are mean and pretty rude.
- 16 I like the children's and teen's areas.
- 17 It's a nice building, that's EASY to get to and park, has driver side book drop off.
- 18 I love the ambience of Gere Library. The wood and architecture. To me the environment is as important to its function as the books I love.
- 19 Friendly staff. - Gere is great for that.
- 20 So many new books all the time. I am never disappointed when I look at the new things.
- 21 Research Current periodicals
- 22 it is close to my house
- 23 Easy parking; hours open - seven days a week, and evenings until 8:00pm
- 24 Convenient location
- 25 Gere-Convenient parking, bright, friendly atmosphere
- 26 The staff is extremely helpful to all patrons.
- 27 Bennett Martin is close enough to get to during breaks or lunch.
- 28 Staff is most helpful. smaller feel kids don't get lost can keep an eye on them.
- 29 I use Bennett Martin frequently. The staff are friendly and helpful. I like the outdoor courtyard at Bennett Martin. When I bring my young nieces and nephews, we sit outside and read on nice days. We also enjoy having Colby Ridge snacks nearby. It would be nice to have an outdoor reading area and a snack cafe or coffee shop in a new Main library.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>30 The staff is ALWAYS friendly and helpful; they show great patience with all users; they have a sense of humor.</p> <p>31 Free & convenient parking. All types of media-DVDs, CDs, paperback and hardback books, magazines, reference books, and the employees are very helpful and knowledgeable about ALL the items.</p> <p>32 It's conveniently located since I work downtown. Also, it's close enough that I can walk down & back on Sundays when there are no buses running.</p> <p>33 Gere. On my way to and from work. Close to my apartment. Nice selection and atmosphere.</p> <p>34 location</p> <p>35 The convenient downtown location as well as the friendliness of the downtown staff.</p> <p>36 Casual atmosphere, usually pretty quiet, good selection.</p> <p>37 GERE - book talk Bennet Martin - within walking distance</p> <p>38 Walt branch: that there is plenty of free parking. That it's pretty and clean. That the collections are good.</p> <p>39 Recently its been Anderson because its close to work so its most convenient. People are friendly. Easy to go in and get what I want.</p> <p>40 no comment</p> <p>41 It is convenient to where I live</p> <p>42 I like the new books area at Eiseley, where I can find new things to read. Also, the books in the front that you can't renew, but they have some bestsellers I will usually wait for. I also like the fact that I can put things on hold from home and pick them up at the libraries.</p> <p>43 Good collections of history and biography, magazines, new books on public affairs. I also use Morningstar from time to time.</p> <p>44 Large Selection of books, DVD's</p> <p>45 Wide open spaces, large windows, very public, no extra walls.</p> <p>46 I like the diversity of library patrons at Bennett Martin as well as the Polley Music Library and the Heritage Room. I have attended the special events, poetry readings, etc, usually on Sunday afternoon.</p> | <p>47 Online account information, also the option to place items on hold. The website has a wealth of resources available, as well!</p> <p>48 Cozy, plenty of seating areas for reading and table areas for studying or doing homework. Dvd's, books, games easy to find and check out.</p> <p>49 downtown location</p> <p>50 It's accessible even when the buses aren't running on Sun. I can walk downtown & back. This is important to me since I can't afford the internet at home.</p> <p>51 It's not too far away I can get there in 10 minutes or less, usually. They often have good displays of recent/new books. The parking lot is large (I use a van with a ramp for my wheelchair so need two spaces to accommodate it. The new check-out machines - they're great. Persons often look comfortable sitting around. I can check on a book on a computer there - whether it's in, e.g. (and that there's a computer I can reach from my low position) Most of the librarians/helpers are cordial. They have a good selection, since they're large enough to do that. They're near businesses, so I do errands that I need to do in that south area when I go to the library and thus make fewer trips. It's on two busy streets, so I can return books if I'm going farther south or wherever. The landscaping is great. I like the bicycle sculpture. I like the idea of book groups (for others!). Almost forgot - there's an accessible bathroom there, which sometimes is really good. I think its good when I see busloads of little kids coming in, learning about libraries. I think there is more, but you probably don't want more.</p> <p>52 It has plenty of quiet space to sit and read. I especially like the magazine room with the couches. The books are easy to find. It is organized well.</p> <p>53 I enjoy Gere Branch's large and varied collection of materials.</p> <p>54 Variety of books.</p> <p>55 Gere -- location (close to my house). Is very clean and well-designed.</p> <p>56 Friendly staff. I love the Ames reading room and the Ames lecture series!</p> <p>57 Great selection! The self-serve check out stations are a great idea, too, since then the librarians can provide more focused help to those who need it.</p> <p>58 An excellent broad selection of books and materials (Bennett is my primary library because I live downtown).</p> | <p>59 I love Bennett Martin! It's a great location that my family and I can walk to. I'm so glad that they have a weekly storytime. The staff is friendly and helpful. They have a good collection and my son and I love the outdoor courtyard.</p> <p>60 The teen area.</p> <p>61 I use Polley Music Library often for my work and pleasure. The reference and music librarians aare fantastic for helping with requests and information. My family also enjoys viewing the displays on new books, videos, and topics.</p> <p>62 South branch is small and friendly and the parking is very convenient.</p> <p>63 Being able to reserve books/CD's online.</p> <p>64 We like the location. We live near the downtown and can walk to it.</p> <p>65 convenient to where I live. Parking is close.</p> <p>66 The staff are very helpful. I like the kids section with the desks/chairs/wii. The kids I bring the to library really enjoy this space.</p> <p>67 Broad selection. Easy to request books from any location. Knowledgeable, friendly, helpful, patient, respectful staff.</p> <p>68 Book selection. Layout of library is also nice. Clientele is also a factor.</p> <p>69 the staff is so friendly, I feel like it is a home (Bennett Martin) easiest library to find the book you want like the way the children's library is separate and yet included in the main library</p> <p>70 I use Eiseley most frequently because it is between my home and office.</p> <p>71 Friendly, helpful staff. Diverse mix of users. Large selection of books.</p> <p>72 Mainly the location. Love the main library, but seldom go there because of available parking. Oh, and the drive up bookdrop at Gere is nice.</p> <p>73 Friendly, helpful staff; clearly marked areas for materials. Lots of parking.</p> <p>74 Courtyard</p> <p>75 Ease of getting in and out (when you find a parking space;)friendly staff; self-check-out; being able to put a hold on a book on the Web.</p> <p>76 displays of new books and e-resources; great staff (friendly, helpful . . .)</p> |
|---|---|--|

- | | | | | | |
|----|---|-----|---|-----|--|
| 77 | I like how you can go and use the computers, but I wish they had more and a longer time frame. | 93 | Easy access/parking (Gere & Walt). A lot of books and DVDs. | 115 | Friendliness of staff. Selection of books/audio/visual choices. atmosphere |
| 78 | New materials are up front, and spread around. Fiction on the main floor. Librarians & paraprofessionals very helpful. Love the little bit of garden at center | 94 | I rely on the library for books, CDs, and DVDs. | 116 | The staff and the amount of material available. |
| 79 | Books | 95 | I like being able to browse books on the website and request the books to be held at the library of my choosing. This is a great time saver! | 117 | Things are easy to find and there are comfortable areas to sit and read. I like the automated checkout but would be willing to do without it if it would save money. |
| 80 | Gere is spacious. I've attended several programs and meetings in the meeting rooms. | 96 | Computer lab and wi-Fi. | 118 | walt branch - light, bright, cheerful space; separate computer lab; excellent meeting rooms; terrific staff |
| 81 | Self-checkout, easy access to catalog, good selection. | 97 | South Branch: small size, easy parking, convenient to me. Feels like a living room. Staff is generous with their time. | 119 | I love the children's area, and with the easy layout it provides an opportunity for my son to learn to love the library as well. |
| 82 | Bennett Martin has a large selection of fiction and non-fiction books and books on CDs. | 98 | It's close to my home | 120 | The fact that it is in the heart of the downtown area. This provides support and people traffic for that area of the city. It is the home of 2 special collections and the administration offices for the city library system. |
| 83 | Staff to answer reference questions, help with computers, etc. Gere -- Love the setting -- plantings; good parking; closeness. | 99 | It is closest to my location and the staff are helpful . | 121 | Easy to find things; good selection; new books on display |
| 84 | First, GREAT STAFF! Second, Bethany is close to home & almost always has parking available. Was very dependent on computers until I got I-net at home. | 100 | nice atmosphere | 122 | The large number of books and CD's that it has (BM) |
| 85 | The library on Superior St has nice evening hours. The downtown library is close to our home. The airport library is nice to go have an activity to do w/ my younger child while my older child has soccer practice out in that area. | 101 | Natural light. helpful and professional staff welcoming children's area | 123 | Large selection of books. Close proximity to home. Good parking. My son likes that library staff know who he is/his name. Like that the libraries are keeping up with technology. |
| 86 | I don't have children but I volunteer in the children's area. I like the interaction between adults and children and would like to see more of that. I also like the bundle books for kids. | 102 | The location. The friendly staff. | 124 | central location |
| 87 | Geographically close to my daily route | 103 | Bess Dodson Walt Branch: It's quite, attention is great, comfortable chairs and sofas. | 125 | Easily accessed from my home, and great parking. |
| 88 | It's near where we live; staff is friendly and helpful; it's small (Bethany, Anderson, and sometimes Walt and Gere) so easy to locate things; notification when reserve items are in. | 104 | I LOVE being able to reserve books online and then go to the library and pick them up. | 126 | once I get parked, is convenient to find what I want |
| 89 | The downtown library is within easy walking distance of work and easily accessible from all bus routes. | 105 | Bennett Martin is in downtown, I like that it's close to places to eat and the university. I like to be able to walk to Bennett Martin from the Near South neighborhoods. | 127 | The staff is friendly, knowledgeable and helpful. |
| 90 | I like how bright Walt is with their skylights. It is big and spacious, and still new feeling. | 106 | I love how it is so user friendly and efficient. | 128 | inter library loans when you not in current lincoln system. checking out dvd, magazines and cd's |
| 91 | Downtown location, size of collection | 107 | I like the availability of information I use on the internet | 129 | Easy access, parking, helpful, knowledgeable librarians. |
| 92 | Bennett Martin/South branch most. I like the selection at Bennett Martin, although I admit I am increasingly going to ebooks and would love to have that selection on ebooks. | 108 | People who can answer my questions and help me search. | 130 | friendly staff |
| | | 109 | Gere- parking, close to my house, good selection of materials | 131 | Location. BMPL is very close to where I work and that makes it very easy to pickup and drop off items. |
| | | 110 | Quiet space and ability to browse books. | 132 | It is close by. It has a pleasant, attractive atmosphere. It has a pleasant place to read current magazines. They put out fairly current dvds of popular movies on a shelf near the entrance. I am talking about Gere. |
| | | 111 | Books, ebooks, DVD's, audiobooks | 133 | Search for books on the computers, easy to find books, DVDs, & CDs |
| | | 112 | Great selection of books. | | |
| | | 113 | It is a warm and inviting place to find books and to pick up books on hold. | | |
| | | 114 | convenience to locations where I work, live and study | | |

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>134 It's close to my house.</p> <p>135 Gere is the closest library to my home. It has parking (free) available. I also enjoy Walt Library. When I was teaching I would often head to Walt after school to check out books that I could use in my classroom. I enjoyed the many multiple copies of children's books that were available. Walt Library is so welcoming!</p> <p>136 Good selection, easy-to-use reservation system for new/popular material, friendly staff, microfilm reader/printers.</p> <p>137 staff, light around courtyard</p> <p>138 Quiet. Easy to get to. Friendly staff.</p> <p>139 Good reference collection. Good number of books</p> <p>140 Children's Books</p> <p>141 Love the courtyard at Bennett Martin, love the circular window on the elevator. That is one of the most enchanting places in the city and I hope that the new library will have some kind of plants, water feature, etc. Also, love the JPG Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors--what a special place that is! Also, have enjoyed using the resources in Polley Music Library over the years. I appreciate the very easy access to fiction--alphabetical by author's last name, right on the first floor as you walk in. I'm also fond of the cacti in the s.w. stairwell and I really like that stairwell, generally.</p> <p>142 Easy to get around; natural light; convenience of parking and access.</p> <p>143 Like to study and do research at the library. Bennett Martin needs more outlets to do so.</p> <p>144 I love that it is close to my work and my children love the children's reading area. We love Susan.</p> <p>145 Convenient location open 7 days a week</p> <p>146 GERE: Close to my home, large enough collection to meet most of my needs.</p> <p>147 Close to work, good selection of books, ability to transfer books in from other locations</p> <p>148 There is a wide selection of materials to check out.</p> <p>149 Location, the staff, and never a parking issue.</p> <p>150 Easy to get to, parking in front</p> | <p>151 The staff are always pleasant and helpful. It is also a nice, clean facility.</p> <p>152 Access to and availability of the materials; a great variety of media sources; friendly, knowledgeable, and consistent staff; comfortable seating; well-managed website; fun and pertinent programs that bring the community together; artworks; native plants; beautiful courtyard; overall peaceful atmosphere.</p> <p>153 its location to downtown. its really convenient to get to.</p> <p>154 It's the library, what's not to like? :)</p> <p>155 well designed, well lit, high ceiling all make it comfortable. great book displays. great children's area separate from adult space. nice meeting rooms. friendly staff. ample parking.</p> <p>156 It's small and easy to find various parts of the collection. The magazines to be checked out are with the current magazine.</p> <p>157 I like the variety of books and DVDs that I can check out. I don't like to buy many books, but I love to get them from the library.</p> <p>158 I like viewing and requesting books on the library website. I like the shelves of "themes" for library books that suggest new titles I haven't heard of.</p> <p>159 It is a great place to study.</p> <p>160 The area it's located. The quietness. The large selection of books</p> <p>161 Walt: The windows and high ceiling which make it bright and beautiful; the brightly colored and functional children's area with great furniture, books and activities for kids. BMPL: The large collection of DVD's; the location is convenient to my work downtown.</p> <p>162 Books. Online Catalog. Holds.</p> <p>163 Walt is a great library. Friendly staff. Good selection.</p> <p>164 Location & I can find most all authors that I would check out, its quiet, not many kids screaming and running around.</p> <p>165 plenty of parking, good selection of materials, areas for children and teens, area to quickly find paperback books, multiple terminals to access library catalog & other information, terminals located at various places throughout library</p> <p>166 I like to peruse large varied collections of books and magazines.</p> | <p>167 I enjoy the good selection of materials,computers, events, place to meet friends, friendly staff, knowledgable staff, children area.</p> <p>168 The librarians!!! they are wonderful, friendly and helpful.</p> <p>169 Starting to use ebooks more. Like that Eiseley has a big area for kids and rooms to read in with kids. The Airpark library has a large selection of movies and wii games.</p> |
|---|--|---|

8. Please tell us what you dislike about the library that you use most frequently.

159 Responses

- 1 1) Not having enough copies of titles that get immensely popular. I get impatient waiting weeks to get a hold of a book that's popular. 2) Including titles that are owned by libraries not in Lincoln proper. I understand that the collaboration between the Lincoln Libraries and other towns is important. But it can be very frustrating thinking that a book is available only to see that it lives far away. It would be nice to see a feature that excludes the out-of-town libraries a bit easier. (Just a thought)
- 2 Not enough music.
- 3 I can't really think of anything.
- 4 Tile in the entry is bumpy and noisy when carts roll across it (maybe industrial linoleum would be better?).
- 5 The library catatlog. It constantly crashes or times out, or doesn't bring up the right results. I don't see why it needs to be a consortium when you already have the inter-library load system if you can use the Pioneer Catalog the same way.
- 6 It's a long trip to get anywhere in Bennett Martin. Would like to see a library with more wings off the main room rather than a large main room and a distance to travel to get to other rooms.
- 7 Dated and unimpressive visually for the stellar services offered. I would like people who visit Lincoln to think of the library as a destination to visit as they do in other major cities.
- 8 The noise level created cavernous buildings with tall ceilings is insane for a library. What kind of architect would do that???
- 9 limited evening hours
- 10 Expand hours
- 11 I wish the mysteries were separate from other fiction.
- 12 I wish they had more books. But they get them fast.

- 13 Bennett Martin just feels old and ugly. It looks like a bomb shelter on the outside and inside the carpets and furniture look 20 or 30 years out of date. I main read older fiction and non-fiction titles, and it appears that in the past couple of years more and more of the kinds of stuff I gravitate towards and search out has been removed from the collection. The shelves now seem half-empty when I used to be able to find cool old gems or lesser-known authors. Now...it's just multiple copies of bland authors that EVERYone else is reading...not my cup of tea. Also, I only come to Bennett Martin when I'm already downtown for other business, because it's always difficult to find parking, which I don't have to search for and more importantly don't have to PAY for at the branches. But downtown has always had a better selection of older books (until recently) so I still consider it my favorite of your locations.
- 14 Rudeness, especially from staff. (Walt)
- 15 panhandlers outside.
- 16 I dislike that there are computers that adults use in the area with children's books. I would like a bigger area for new and featured books and a place to sit and browse them.
- 17 I dislike being charged late fees because there's not enough staff to check books in timely.
- 18 The children's area is crowded and I feel self conscious of any noise my children make.
- 19 HOT AND HUMID restrooms in the summer.
- 20 Not enough new nonfiction DVD titles for kids. I'd like to see Winged Migration, Microcosmos, The Gods Must Be Crazy, The Way Things Go, etc.
- 21 Make every effort to make it user-friendly
- 22 it is small, but it has everything i need (south is close to my house)
- 23 No quiet spaces; sometimes too many kids running around loudly, parents either need to supervise them and keep them busy, or not bring them. The library should be for EVERYONE, not just an after-school program for people who decide they should have six kids, then can't handle them all, so let them run around doing whatever they want.
- 24 Not a comfortable place to linger. Need to come to terms with the reality the facility serves as a hang out for the indigent. Having a security guard who plays on a computer near the entrance doesn't help.

- 25 Bennett Martin-Lack of parking!
- 26 At times it is quite noisy.
- 27 BMPL needs more space.
- 28 No dislikes.
- 29 Bennett Martin is outdated and has a very worn appearance. The interior is drab. It would be refreshing to have bright colors and new tables, furniture and shelves in a new library.
- 30 It is unaesthetic. I would like more attractive reading areas with lamps and tables. Books, CDs, DVDs are arranged unattractively. I want the library to be arranged more like a bookstore that is inviting.
- 31 There are not enough evening hours. There are many people that would just stop in during the evening if it were open.
- 32 2nd floor is usually much warmer than the 1st floor.
- 33 Sometimes returned books don't get checked back in right away.
- 34 Dark, dirty, the old lady is showing her age.
- 35 I wish it was larger to easily serve all age groups.
- 36 Sometimes noisy (staff or young people), wireless internet not consistent, dirty, long wait times for items on hold.
- 37 GERE smelly bathrooms, little information of gere book talk schedule BENNET MARTIN some spooky people, afraid to go to remote areas, ex. biography, etc
- 38 Computer Lab and no place to really sit and use or plug in a laptop if you bring one.
- 39 no comment
- 40 It is "cold" and "hard" - lots of stone and glass. Not a very inviting place. The 4th floor conference room and auditorium areas are also long in the tooth and not very inviting.
- 41 I would have to say the bathrooms. I try not to have to use them when I visit (especially Eiseley) because they usually smell bad, and sometimes the toilets do not seem to be flushing. Also, have had a problem with kids throwing water around in there, when I do go in.
- 42 Needs more quiet space, more study space and could be cleaner

43	The bad drinking fountains, very few community rooms.	61	That the hours are not longer. 6 is not late enough!	78	Bennett Martin -- needs to be updated; shabby looking. Gere -- Nothing I dislike.
44	The LACK of EVENING HOURS!	62	It's hard to browse through audio book selection -- especially those on the bottom shelves. Just hard to see (esp. with progressive lenses)	79	Really can't think of anything.
45	N/A	63	The kids space with the wii is sometimes loud/distracting. Some of the materials for special topics including nutrition/fitness seem outdated. It is difficult to find current materials.	80	Nothing.
46	transients	64	Don't feel safe letting my child wander more than arms length. (Was even once gently - and very politely - cautioned by staff to keep close eye on toddler because of "the people that are around sometimes".	81	The library catalog is not very good. I would like to see it enhanced. I would also like to see more titles for Downloadable audio books and Kindle\Nook downloads.
47	The early closing times.	65	Storytime is horrible since they lost the best storytime librarian in town due to the budget cuts.	82	Drive-up dropbox is on the passenger side of the car, so I can't return materials w/o help or getting out of the car.
48	The shelves are too high for me to reach the top shelves, which, of course, always hold the books I want to browse through. I know I can ask for help, but what a drag. What I usually want to do is check out an author's work, since I usually can't remember which ones I've read and not. There is one guy there who's kind of surly and makes me want to avoid him.	66	not open in the evenings - very inconvenient and irritating with my work schedule	83	Not much to dislike.
49	Sometimes the teenagers are disruptive. The children and teen space should be on the opposite side of the library from adult study space.	67	I miss the periodicals collection. I used to enjoy researching historical computers and electronic developments in the decades of old technical magazines. Now I'm not sure where to go for that information, if it's available anywhere at all.	84	No evening hours and short hours in general.
50	I personally dislike nothing about Gere branch.	68	There's really nothing I don't like about Gere library. It's busy, but staff are generally available and always helpful, despite the pace.	85	I think it could use more study rooms. I also think the high ceilings allows for more noise to carry when people gather in the front lobby.
51	It has no coffee/snack bar.	69	Elevators usually not working, patrons with very, very offensive body odor	86	Building too small, meeting rooms inadequate and difficult to access, awful architecture, squalid atmosphere, insufficient seating, poor environmental controls, ugly and uncomfortable furniture, terrible signage. It's an embarrassment!
52	Gere -- the speedbumps are way too high on the east side of the library! They are not needed as very few pedestrians are along the exit road they are placed on.	70	It's drab (Bennett Martin.) Fines are enormous and accrue so quickly! Parking can be a real hassle. Not a dislike, but the outdoor atrium seems silly in this climate.	87	Both of these library facilities SERIOUSLY need updating.
53	It has limited DVD collection and dated music collection.	71	Can't think of anything that I would say that I dislike.	88	Bennet Martin - trying to find parking space, paying for parking
54	Unfortunately, Bennett closes at 6pm, which means I sometimes have to leave work early if I want to get books (if dropping off books, then I can go later).	72	Everything is so close together, they all need more space, more rooms.	89	Eisley- I wish it was more convenient to get in and out of. The Williams branch would be more convenient if the hours were better.
55	Uncontrolled use of facilities by the street population.	73	Temperatures usually too warm, Summer, Winter inside building (Bennett Martin). No designated parking (BM, downtown.)	90	Poor connections to the Wi-Fi. It is plainly of reduced accessibility. Additionally the filtering software is very out of date and apparently done by an incompetent.
56	The hours! We wish that they would go back to being open later than 6 pm during the week.	74	n/a	91	Collection is smaller so sometimes what I want isn't available; restrooms are dowdy; because of its smaller size, it can get loud if a lot of people are using it.
57	Not enough space. More space for books, more space for seating, more space between things (white space). Plus the yellow color on the walls is yucky.	75	Aging building, hours.	92	the employees
58	It is frustrating that Bennett Martin has such limited hours in the evenings.	76	I wish there was a bigger selection of non fiction books at Gere.	93	the adult area is a bit utilitarian
59	I wish it had newer books and DVDs.	77	Not enough music CDs	94	They often do not have the books I'm lookingfor. They are usually at BPML and I have to place a hold.
60	Allowing people to come to the library and use it for a place to hang out or sleep, like the homeless or kids skipping school.				

95	I wish users could be more respectful of others when reading newspapers. When they are done, they put the newspaper back on the shelf completely out of order :(127	Nothing
96	There isn't anything I dislike, but I do like the idea of having small group areas and a coffee bar. Nice.	112	128	Exterior appearance of Bennett Martin branch--everything I like about that library is within the walls.
97	The library is dirty and has a lot of empty shelves lately.	113	129	smells
98	I wish it had more areas for quiet study, a larger teen area, more computers.	114	130	Not many e-books.
99	No parking downtown area	115	131	Lack of parking.
100	I dislike the inavailability of the unfiltered computers. There's only two of them and they're usually busy.	116	132	Bathrooms dirty
101	Figuring out how to use the computer for finding things. Maybe needs a 1-2-3 cookbook approach to what to do to access what is needed.	117	133	It looks really worn out. Carpet is drab with age, spaces all are well-worn and look tired. Noisy on 4th floor meeting area when two events are going on simultaneously in the two spaces. Very minimal kitchen area by fourth floor meeting room.
102	Not very big	118	134	NA
103	Not enough copies of high demand items, especially ebooks; long waiting list for some titles; computer searching can be confusing and difficult, even for experienced user.	119	135	The library feels dark and cluttered. The displays are interesting, but could be on better furniture and less cluttered looking. I wish there was a better integration of archives, books and digital content. Lately I've noticed there isn't as much older stuff to browse. I used to like browsing the old magazines, but haven't seen them in years : (
104	Not many comfortable places to sit with a book.	120	136	nothing
105	Nothing.	121	137	Could use more staff
106		122	138	Inadequate lighting. Badly groomed appearance of staff. Difficulty of locating staff when needed. Long lines at checkout and self-check terminals that are frequently out-of-order.
107	Since I am an early riser, it would be nice that a least once a week the library would open before 10am	123	139	parking (fortunately I work downtown and can walk from my office)
108	You have to pay for parking, and rarely can find a spot.	124	140	Space seems very confined, especially around the cd's and movies.
109	People (other than very young children) talking and not being told to be quiet. I have also heard music playing on the intercom at Walt. I think a library should be quiet unless it's in a designated children's area or special event area.	125	141	Updating for wear and tear as this is a heavily used library.
110	walt - too much empty space in central corridor is underused; poorly designed central display; pressed board is ugly, prefer real wood for beauty and longevity	126	142	Often does not have books I have read about or heard about.
111	There seem to be few resources devoted to dvds outside of classic BBC fare and the occasional new release for kids. I appreciate that much of the		143	There are often teens that are poorly behaved loitering around in front of the building or in the entryway.
	funds of the library go towards keeping a current inventory of books, however, which I greatly appreciate.		144	bigger bathroom at the childrens' area would be nice.
	That the look of the building is old both on the inside and outside of the building. Parking in a downtown area is just that parking in a downtown area.		145	it seems to be oddly laid out and not well marked.
	Materials I would like not there (but easy to request from another library)			
	As I get older, it would be nice to have chairs on rollers that I could use to see what is on the lower shelves.			
	DIngy feeling. People not returning materials that we would like to check out.			
	parking			
	Can't think of anything.			
	parking, limited DVD selection			
	The library closes too early. It is understaffed.			
	toilet paper holder in restroom to low, hit knees on. Hard to find parking downtown when events going on at pershing. Would like to see open longer at some locations. Maybe even a Friday night. You can't look up specific magazines to tell if they are in or not. Popular magazine check out and not there. Fine homebuilding.			
	Very limited collection. Have to order books and come back in a week to get your book. Seems like much bigger collections are in south Lincoln. I don't understand why north Lincoln is discriminated against where there is great need for a good library. After school it is bedlam in the library because of middle school kids behaving badly.			
	too few books			
	It feels old, outdated and cramped.			
	I can't get the self check-out to check out all of my books. There is often one I have trouble with, and then I just have the librarian check out my books in the end.			
	Parking and some of the people that hang around on the outside of the building and smoke and make nasty remarks at Bennett Martin.			
	Staff are not always helpful/friendly. Books are not always checked in in a timely manner.			

- 146 No browsing music cd selection.
- 147 parking lot is tight for an SUV.
- 148 No meeting room for Just Desserts! I like Gere's room where we meet for the Monday discussions.
- 149 I wish the library had more downloadable ebooks and audio books. I know that it's a new service and will probably improve in the future, but the selection seems very small.
- 150 The search function on the library website is harder to use than it used to be. I love checking out DVDs, but find them hard to browse unless I view them online. Probably because they are in such high demand!
- 151 It is not very open and airy. It would be nice to have more open, relaxed seating and natural light.
- 152 Walt: The teen space is very cramped and not very teen friendly; so many Internet computers are in different places and they are often very noisy. BMPL: Difficult access due to no designated parking; ugly building and interior; cluttered on the first floor; challenging layout of books on the second floor; smells old and musty sometimes.
- 153 Returning books. Always checked in late on the fault of the library. We return day due (in the morning) yet they still don't get checked in until the day after or later, then we have to complain to have the fee reversed.
- 154 Slow to order new media.
- 155 Lack of video games and DVD choices without having to have them transferred.
- 156 There is too much emphasis on not using available space to place more books in the libraries. Every library needs to have as many books as it can feasibly hold.
- 157 The library needs more computers, learning events. larger meeting room, study spaces, comfortable seating, a coffee bar, teen space, and better childrens area.
- 158 In general the main thing is the library website search system which is for all the libraries.
- 159 Not enough ebooks available-usually only 1 or 2 copies of each book; lots of holds.

9. What services or building features would you like to see in a Main Library?

144 Responses

- 1 1) I would like to see a family library account established where members of a household (e.g. husband and wife; parents/minor children) could sign up for a shared library card. This would be an optional signup that would allow multiple people to share the same account. It can be hard to keep track of all the items checked out and due dates when I have to login to the hubby's account (with his permission) and also my own. Having the choice to share one library account number (officially) would really help. 2) It would also be helpful if there was an email dispatched when a book one had checked out was being recalled for a hold. I have been surprised a number of occasions that I couldn't renew a book because another patron had a hold placed. It would be nice to have an email sent as an alert so one could hurry up and finish the book before the checkout time expired.
- 2 Listening stations for music.
- 3 Outdoor reading areas, easy access/free parking if it's downtown.
- 4 More prominent space for the Heritage Room; good sight lines (no scary isolated corners); as many electrical outlets as possible; flexible layout; consolidation of staff work areas; bicycle parking.
- 5 Clean, updated restrooms that are modern; more internet access; better lighting; inviting staff; a community feeling.
- 6 See above.
- 7 unforgettable exterior that makes people remember how lucky Lincoln is to have such a library.
- 8 Seriously ... low ceilings and lots of carpet to absorb noise. Those cloud things at Williams are a complete joke.
- 9 patient , helpful staff and what i wrote about why i visit the library most often
- 10 Given the proximity (and popularity) of the Children's Museum, Bennett Martin should try to do co-events with the Museum. Both entities would benefit.
- 11 space for disabled adults
- 12 I love the idea of meeting rooms and an auditorium for programming. A good coffee bar could be really nice. Writing workshops.

- 13 Updated technology. A separate genealogy or local history department. I can't believe you don't have a facility for selling your removed books year-round -- most other large cities' libraries I've visited have those. Merchandise with your logos on it -- I'd love to wear a library t-shirt or have a canvas or "green" recycled book bag. Newspapers from more large cities outside of Lincoln and Omaha. Evening hours (at least a few nights a week) downtown. Computer classes or tutorials. Downtown book groups.
- 14 Cafe would be great!
- 15 More green space, keep the courtyard, EASY to get to, less circulation, but more public services. Family bathroom [think Westfield/Gateway] where Moms have room to handle strollers and multiple kids at the same time.
- 16 I like most of the suggestions above. I love traditional old libraries with wood shelves and hidden nooks for reading with comfortable chairs and soft light. I would love to see community rooms for meetings.
- 17 Parking.
- 18 I would love to have a real flagship public library building in Lincoln, a destination, a testament to our communitywide commitment to literacy, recreational reading, and a place for people to get quality information about our city, state, nation and the world.
- 19 Constant up-dating of all of the ever-changing technology, in order to function at maximum effectiveness in the world
- 20 meeting space would be fantastic
- 21 Meeting rooms of various sizes for community groups/orgs. A "quiet" area for those of us who go to the library expecting that it might be a relatively quiet place.
- 22 For services see above.
- 23 A great teen area!
- 24 accessable, no blind spot. have area's for all. the period room, is the homeless room. so @ times it smells, bless their heart. so it would be nice to have an area for reading so people can warm up or cool down. and others don't feel intimidated. Please do not misunderstand, I like that the library is welcoming to others, homeless youth and others need a space, they have a right to learn and to read. I don't necessary feel comfortable having my pre teen daughter getting looks as i look for magazines, or when the dudes are reading the playboy. again they have every right, but my daughter also has a right not to have pervy guy reading that and looking @ her.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>25 I think the building should be a prominent, important building - Carnegie inspired. I would like to have reading areas for children and teens. School children should be able to discuss group projects without disturbing others who are reading or researching. Computer labs are important. An outdoor space for quiet reading and contemplation would be wonderful.</p> <p>26 Pleasant, attractive reading spaces with tables, chairs, couches, foot stools, lamps. Attractive, convenient restrooms. Cafe.</p> <p>27 Free parking, WiFi, more evening hours-even late night times, drive-by pickup of books, more digital books.</p> <p>28 Soundproof rooms for children, one for tweens/teens & soundproof phone booths for cell phone users.</p> <p>29 Comfortable, relaxing reading spaces.</p> <p>30 lots of *natural* light, green plants, feeling of outdoor reading/experience while indoors (atrium-like areas) for good weather, and cozy feel, fireplace, safe and protected from weather in bad weather. Fresh air, clean, lighting bright without being too "flourescent." High ceilings, quality materials, kept up and well maintained.</p> <p>31 CLEAN RESTROOMS OPEN AREAS - do not want to be threatened by homeless, it should not be an adult daycare area (but restrooms available to them)</p> <p>32 Parking and centrally located in the core of Lincoln.</p> <p>33 no comment</p> <p>34 Better spaces for reading, teaching, etc.</p> <p>35 I would like to see alot of new books, right when you come in. Also, a place for the kids after school so they aren't running around the library so much. I like the little area near the door at Eiseley with the tables and chairs-it would be nice to have something like that in the new library, maybe bigger ?</p> <p>36 It should have more space than Bennett Martin and it should be nearer to commercial businesses, so that some could shop while others read.</p> <p>37 Large open spaces, lots of windows, study areas, multiply computer labs, theater?, a cafe.</p> <p>38 I have already indicated my preferences above.</p> | <p>39 Open floor plan, lots of windows, more self-check-out stations, maybe some e-book downloading stations.</p> <p>40 Sound proof areas for kids & teens, also something sound proof for making cell phone calls. Download stations, privacy screens on the internet computers that are sitting upright on the desks.</p> <p>41 I question the need for a main library. Who would ever use it other than local people? I like the community library approach we have now.</p> <p>42 If I were going to go there - and I would, since I live about 7 minutes from downtown - I would need accessible parking. Is there thought being given to parking underground, if you move to the Pershing site? I would like it to be accessible to me, which would require lower top shelves; I don't know if there's a way to not lose space while doing that. I sometimes go to the library on Superior, and the shelves there are lower.</p> <p>43 I think some nice benches outside around some pretty landscaping would be nice. We don't have much of that at the ones I go to. Some cubicles with lights like they have at the UNL law school library would be nice. It has to have comfortable chairs and couches for lounging. That's a must.</p> <p>44 I would like to see a Main Library for Lincoln be similar to the current Bennett Martin library in terms of collection and arrangement. I would also like any new main libraries to include an outdoor reading area similar to the enclosed courtyard at Bennett Martin.</p> <p>45 A coffee/snack bar.</p> <p>46 Free, adequate parking. Reading groups with different meeting times. Evening hours until 9:00 pm.</p> <p>47 A snappier, more inviting atmosphere.</p> <p>48 Set up a separate area designed to attract those just trying to get out of the elements and killing time by having some materials available to them with others available on request (perhaps controlled by a permanent street address, an active library card, etc.)</p> <p>49 I'd love to see a bigger room for the children's books with more space and seating especially for reading and doing puzzles, magnet boards, and the like. I'd like storytimes and special events for children. Please keep a storytime at Bennett Martin! We love the outdoor courtyard at Bennett Martin so I'd like to see something similar at a new Main Library. Natural light, big windows, window seats to read in.</p> <p>50 Lots of room for community events. Lots of places for social interactions.</p> | <p>51 More open space for programs. The Denver City Library has ongoing community workshops on various topics. These are very popular. It would be great if Polley Music Library had a few lab rooms with a keyboard and CD player, so one could sample music before checking it out.</p> <p>52 Lots of books and DVDs. Trained Reference librarians who can help with research. A good genealogy and local history collection with staff that have expertise in using it. PARKING!</p> <p>53 A place to be able to do family research and a place to park. That's why I quit using the downtown library, too hard to find a place to park and if I did you had to worry about feeding the meters.</p> <p>54 I'd like to see a larger children's section with more seating, places to read, and puzzles.</p> <p>55 Dedicated genealogy space for Nebraska, not just Lancaster and surrounding counties.</p> <p>56 Outside reading space like in the downtown library.</p> <p>57 Expansion of e-books. Larger selection of early reader books for children and a nice place for children and their caregivers.</p> <p>58 I like that you do keep old books around (the main branch seems to be where they are kept). I understand you don't necessarily have room to keep a copy at all branches - keeping one at the main library is fine. That seems to me to be the most important role of the main library. Due to its location and bad parking, I don't use it as a main branch to visit.</p> <p>59 quiet tables for study or reading, computer monitors set on a table surface - much easier on my "old" eyes than the dropped down screens</p> <p>60 Natural lighting - skylights, lots of windows. Live plants.</p> <p>61 Open, spacious design that's welcoming and that takes advantage of green construction and design principles.</p> <p>62 Large-screen tvs in separate meeting rooms, cafe (as seen in many museums, medical plazas, on-site free parking</p> <p>63 Bigger browsing collection. Business services center. Downloading (audio & e-books) center. Parking, parking, parking!</p> <p>64 quiet (at least somewhat), comfortable, well lit (preferably sunlight) areas for reading, or work; readily available power supply for digital devices including laptops or tablets;</p> |
|---|--|--|

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>65 All kinds of services, book, DVDs, downloadable things, meeting rooms, certain space for certain age groups.</p> <p>66 A small garden. I was surprised and pleased when I saw the one at BM, and would include such at a new main library. It's also a hallmark of Lincoln. More alcoves for reading--they can be open and easily seen. Take a look at Norfolk Public Library, there are quiet place in the corners, but are in good sightlines, if I remember correctly.</p> <p>67 No additional services or features are necessary. I would prefer to see over-all library space remain about where it is. As more media becomes readily available via digital sources the need for physical space will diminish. I do not want to see the city obligate the citizens to fund additional unnecessary space.</p> <p>68 Centrally located in the middle of Lincoln</p> <p>69 Good parking; quiet areas in the library for leisure reading; teen space; space for children's programming, story hour, and summer reading activities; study rooms; meeting rooms of various sizes; wireless access; study/work rooms for group work (wired, white boards, etc.); possibly production studio-like area for teens and others to produce their own videos, etc.</p> <p>70 I'm not the person to ask; I almost never go downtown anymore. Almost everything I need I can look up on the website and request that it be sent out to Bethany.</p> <p>71 I'm not sure what you mean by 'Main' library. If you mean the downtown library - in my opinion it's not as appealing as a library like Walt. If you mean libraries like Walt, I would like to see more interaction.</p> <p>72 Central repository for the bulk of the LCL physical materials collection. Individual and small groups areas, modern meeting rooms.</p> <p>73 Convenient parking, particularly wheelchair parking close to the door, enough parking. Easy check out. Outdoor deposit box. Clear arrangement that makes sense so when I go to the library I easily can see where I need to go to do whatever it is I wanted to do.</p> <p>74 Central location is the most important concern for me.</p> <p>75 I think it should be all inclusive in regard to all age groups and demographics. I think it should be a bright, cheerful place to gather. I would like to see more community events held there, especially those geared towards single people and young adults/professionals (20's-30's)</p> | <p>76 Open, flexible spaces that can be readily reconfigured as consumer needs and service models change. Large, easily accessible meeting rooms and a large auditorium. Adequate self-service stations. Both group and individual table groupings. Gigabit internet access. Attached parking facility. LEED certified building.</p> <p>77 All above. A real community meeting place.</p> <p>78 cafe/coffee bar</p> <p>79 I would like it to be open and inviting, have an auditorium seating at least 300, and a rooftop reception area for library and city events.</p> <p>80 I can't think of any outside of what I selected above. Parking would be most important if it was downtown. I would like more convenient parking!</p> <p>81 As stated above, I would love a signature piece of art that would symbolize the Libraries and become the basis for a logo or brand identifier. I want the library to be viewed as a community asset.</p> <p>82 Cafe</p> <p>83 more community events.</p> <p>84 We always try to visit a public library on vacation to get a feel for a new city. The kids love to see how a community designs a children's area, how a community tells its story, how welcome you are made to feel, etc. A main library can help the City of Lincoln welcome people to our city and to our state. It can tell the story of our history and more importantly provide a vision for our future. The design of the building, the artwork, etc can do those things. Also the move towards more holistic teen engagement centers in some metropolitan city libraries is very exciting and could provide great opportunities for the library and for young people.</p> <p>85 Classes re use of e-readers and how to download books from the public library. Bennett Martin Public Library: More sofas where to read.</p> <p>86 Lots of windows. More meeting rooms of different sizes for community use. Online reservation of community rooms (maybe you have this already and I don't know it).</p> <p>87 I'd like it to be a downtown Lincoln destination with parking and be cleaner, fresher and brighter. I'd also like to have better accessibility to special collections, like the heritage room and microfilm. The library needs more books! Interlibrary loan is nice, but it takes a long time. Not everyone (even young people)wants an e-reader .</p> | <p>88 cafe, more children's activities, e book docking stations, greater feeling of safety, better parking</p> <p>89 Meeting rooms, enough for 50-100, ability to size meeting rooms for opening to larger rooms or displays relating to meetings</p> <p>90 I'd like to see an auditorium designed for special events.</p> <p>91 Parking</p> <p>92 Amazing selection, space for reading, coffee bar, quiet space and discussion space.</p> <p>93 All items checked above, plus larger spaces to accommodate items and people. More display space for new items, more copies of new items. Parking!</p> <p>94 More computer connection to eBooks (Kindle, iBooks, etc) so that one can look up books/magazines/newspapers/etc both at the library and at home.</p> <p>95 Greater service hours- more in line with the hours of the branch libraries. Adequate and dependable parking.</p> <p>96 don't use main library due to parking, location, and the fact that I never use any of Lincoln's downtown shopping, banking, movies, etc.</p> <p>97 Big open spaces with room to sit and read, more computers available for internet, an area for young adults, a parking lot, coffee bar</p> <p>98 Stunning design with "wow factor"; quality materials such as real wood, durable flooring such as marble. Not so modernistic that it losses warm & inviting style. Attractiive setting that has some landscaping that is WELL-MAINTAINED!</p> <p>99 Definitely a dedicated children's area, of the caliber of the Eiseley branch's layout. Also, perhaps an expanded adults fiction section. An expanded teen section would also be great, even a separate room, one that encourages its use by actual teens. Input from high school students may achieve a teen-friendly environment that encourages them to be there and enjoy reading.</p> <p>100 free parking</p> <p>101 Primary space for special collections to showcase the unique product. Ensure that they have room to grow. A new library building that could accomodate all that an up-to-date and growing community library would include. Too numerous to list here.</p> |
|--|---|---|

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>102 More advanced reference materials</p> <p>103 A feeling of space for building feature. Continue to have a large selection of books and audio books.</p> <p>104 Attractive. Up to date. Welcoming. Inviting. CLEAN. Open feeling so I can move freely but still keep an eye on my kids. Historical information about the city/past libraries of the city.</p> <p>105 I would like to see a cafe area, maybe like the Scooter's in the State Office building, except in the main library there would be places to sit.</p> <p>106 larger areas for Heritage Room</p> <p>107 headquarters functions as well as public access and use</p> <p>108 Benches out front for smokers to sit.</p> <p>109 Possible be able to tell what magazines are available (JAN-Feb 2012). Maybe with popular magazines changes due date to a shorter date so they would be more available. Example dvd 1 week check out.</p> <p>110 An excellent research section.</p> <p>111 coffee shop, sale room for pulled books and donated books</p> <p>112 I want it all. Places for children, teens, adults, a place for a people to be loud, a place for people to be quite. A room full of computers and areas where folks can plug in their own or the library's laptops.</p> <p>113 I would like to see interlibrary loan and a very large collection of books and dvds. I also would like the building and decor to be sturdy but beautiful. Forget about bells and whistles such as an auditorium and conference rooms.</p> <p>114 Meeting space, individual rooms, kids area, openness.</p> <p>115 I am not sure who uses the main library in Lincoln. Because of the parking situation and location it has lost it's appeal. A library that serves the community should be located where citizens feel safe.</p> <p>116 Heritage Room, central research materials, ample book selection</p> <p>117 open space, carpeting and colors that "wear well"</p> <p>118 More areas for kids. Children are our future and to make reading fun for them will benefit them as adults.</p> | <p>119 How about a room for books on sale. It would end the crush at the annual sale (which I hate), make the books available year round and they could be sorted at leisure. Many libraries like MPLS and Fargo have this feature and it seems to work extremely well. It does not even have to be "manned" as the circ desk can take money.</p> <p>120 It would be great if you had something like on Amazon where at a kiosk you could choose what book you recently read that you like and then it would recommend a book that it know is in stock.</p> <p>121 Natural light through energy-efficient windows. LEED certified (or at least, LEED-level) construction. Geothermal heating? Solar? We need a beautiful library, well-designed, flexible. A welcoming space that is a people's temple. (I really dislike the new central library in Des Moines, Iowa; avoid that kind of barebones, cementy, too loud construction. You don't want to feel like you are in Home Depot or Menards, when you enter the library.)</p> <p>122 Natural light; variety of spaces; art work; comfy seating areas.</p> <p>123 I would like to be able to go to the Heritage Room more easily-not take an elevator? I would like a more comfortable space to use microfilm and library research materials. A geneology room? I like when the staff working at the microfilm desk know about the materials and can assist me with questions.</p> <p>124 Book shelves with built-in bookends and backs to keep books from sliding all over. Excellent lighting. Adequate number of computers to access the catalog. Parking. Above all: Emphasis on function rather than glitzy architecture.</p> <p>125 More space that can be utilized for services that could be offered at a library. A more convenient way to brose for movies and cd's would also be helpful.</p> <p>126 Safety is a paramount issue if the Main Library is located downtown. Parking is an important consideration.</p> <p>127 Lots of variety, book clubs, community events</p> <p>128 I would like to see soundproofing materials used. I think it would also be nice to have a cafe with all healthy choices!</p> <p>129 Above list looks like we have many great ideas; how about some on-site power generation?</p> <p>130 i'd love a little coffee shop so i can just sit and read with something to drink or a snack.</p> | <p>131 tutoring for children</p> <p>132 technology access, open space for community/kid events such as summer reading kick off, separated areas for children/teens/adults. more seating.</p> <p>133 Ample parking! Designated areas for children, teens, adults, meetings. Reading/browsing areas and access to computers in all areas.</p> <p>134 Overall I'd like to see a much more attractive building with nicer rest rooms. I can't think of anything else!</p> <p>135 I would love to see the main library modernized. The design of the library is nice, but parts of it seem to be old and falling apart.</p> <p>136 More selection of new releases.</p> <p>137 Books.</p> <p>138 Parking; beautiful outdoor space that could be used for reading, and community events and partnerships; a designated and easy-to find-space for teens; an auditorium for events; windows to allow in lots of natural light along with good lighting.</p> <p>139 None. Don't build it.</p> <p>140 All that is already offered.</p> <p>141 There needs to be a coffee/cafe area, a place for a used media/bookstore, a place for performing arts, and an auditorium for programs, lectures, display space, ect. In short, the main library has to be a downtown destination place for lots of arts activities.</p> <p>142 I would like to see a enclosed garden area where you can enjoy lunch or meet friends. I also would like to see a seperete teen and childrens area.</p> <p>143 More areas to meet and hold meetings. It would be nice also if books that are in a main branch might be swapped to some of the lesser branches from time to time because it seems I have to order in a lot of books from branches not near me. (that is fine but I am sure more work)</p> <p>144 Lots of parking (unlike downtown). Lots of books, movies, and games. Nice, big area for kids an families.</p> |
|---|---|---|

10. Any additional comments?

94 Responses

- 1 I am hoping that the new library will be located where Pershing Auditorium sits. I think that would be a fantastic use of that space.
- 2 Depending upon where it's located, parking is crucial!
- 3 Keep up the good work!
- 4 A new and improved library would be better, and if it were to be multiple floors, make it easier to access those floors than currently at Bennet Martin. Staff who are kind and knowledgeable; and a library that doesn't feel dark, confined, stagnant, and like a prison with the security walking around like they "own" the place constantly. It does not make you want to come back because it feels hostile and that you aren't welcome there.
- 5 The library is a necessary public service. We should support it the same way we do the police and fire departments.
- 6 I understand the definition of downtown seems to be changing but I wouldn't wish for the main library location to move too far from downtown dwellers and workers to be too far for an easy break time errand or usage.
- 7 the downtown library is a vibrant part of downtown lincoln. it encourgages people who walk, take a bus and otherwise would not have the ability to access public services that are an essential part of education and culture. please be sensitive to the needs of all in our community!
- 8 I use the library in spurts. Although I haven't used the library recently, In the past I have used Bennett Martin. I lived in the country but worked near downtown. It is within walking distance where I'm living now. I have never begrudged the taxes I pay to support a library. It has been a comfortable friend since I was a small child. I would hope that the Main Library would be a welcoming, loving place for all who come through its doors. And, a place that is gentle in its welcome, encouraging to the patron no matter what their desires might be--research, reading, technology. I would hope the person would find helpful guides to fulfill their requirements.
- 9 More multiple copies of books used by area Book Clubs.
- 10 I love having a vibrant library downtown, but have been disappointed in the direction the current library has been going -- depressed looking facility, selling off most of the magazines, reducing the size of the collection. None of this makes me think positive thoughts about the current library. If those trends could be reversed, and an exciting, new building with cutting-edge technology and a respect for older books could be created, I'd be even more of a regular customer than I already am. Especially if I can find easy, free parking! Good luck!!
- 11 I would welcome a new location closer to Antelope Creek OR in the Haymarket. Going downtown is a pain in the ass for anyone that doesn't live or work downtown already. Martin is my closest library but I never go for that very reason.

- 12 Keep up the good work!
- 13 Thanks for soliciting comments!
- 14 Please retain the in the heart of downtown location. It would be great to eliminate the sense that the downtown location is the poor relation to the suburban branches. Have the downtown library open at least one evening a week.
- 15 (Thanks for asking!)
- 16 Thanks for giving the public an opportunity to comment before making the final decisions on the central library.
- 17 Make going to the library chic! I love the courtyard at Bennett Martin and would like to see more pleasant, outdoor spaces that include comfortable seating and sculpture. Water is good too. I appreciate several features of the new online catalog: hold lists, reading history, renew but it isn't as good as Google when it comes to searching for titles. For the most part the info we input must be exactly correct. And I have never mastered how to get to the DVD list!!
- 18 Our lib ray is such a great bargain! I have enjoyed the services for over 50 years and have appreciated all the expanded services over the years. I appreciate all of the planning that has been done to bring our library into the digital age and I would like to thank the library staff and administrators for everything they have done. Many times in my 20's & 30's I went to the library for a quiet hour away from the world to reflect and recharge. I wish more of our young "Tweens" could learn to love and experience this valuable resource.
- 19 Investigate whether BMPL can be remodeled to use as the income generating office & event spaces. Free parking was mentioned, but how are you going to police that so people aren't parking while at work/shopping? Keep the downtown library in approximately the same location.
- 20 Seems like the rich areas of town get the best libraries. Not fair to those who would need to travel to go there, (and why should people have to?) especially when Lincoln has such poor public transportation. Make libraries more equal, or better yet concentrate on who/where needs the services most, to show you value even the non-rich areas and people.
- 21 I don't think that the Pershing Auditorium would be a good choice for the main library. If you want to use the site you should raze Pershing and build a new structure. There is nothing worth saving about Pershing. It's ugly and converting the space to a library could be very inefficient and unwise. Why limit yourself to that structure? Start over with a building designed to be a library.
- 22 Other than going downtown there is no library in the core of Lincoln. You basically have to go to the outskirts and that is where all the new libraries have been built. All of the older smaller libraries have either already been closed or are on the block to be closed. So older neighborhoods don't have easy access to libraries. Since the older libraries have been in existence longer and have been paying taxes longer I think they should be receiving the

- same services and conveniences as the outlying areas of the City. It irritates me that I have to drive out to get to a library. The closest physical library is downtown where there is parking I have to pay for that probably is a block or more away or if I'm busing the route may not actually go by the library making it necessary to play musical buses. I've noticed the downtown employees are not as friendly as other branches also. In fact they are often quite snippy. Another reason to not go there.
- 23 no comment`
- 24 There needs to be a downtown library, but I don't agree that there needs to be a large, "main", library with lots of amenities. Seems like it could be a simple storage & distribution center to the branch, neighborhood, libraries which already have most of the amenities mentioned.
- 25 More sponsored book groups through out the year would be nice.
- 26 Along with great service, I see tons of things on the list of "what would be cool" that I would love. Definitely fun to have an upgrade! :)
- 27 Print materials won't disappear entirely even if Ereaders come way down in price. I work on a computer all day & when I'm relaxing I'd much rather read a book than another small computer screen. Also, some people have vision problems that makes ereaders hard for them to use.
- 28 I'm a real fan of the library and would gladly pay more taxes to continue its being as good as it's been in the past. Thanks for asking.
- 29 Warm paint colors would be nice - maybe some pinks and oranges - so it feels cozy. Murals would be really cool.
- 30 I would like to speak out against adding a cafe or any form of coffee shop to a main library; I do not feel they belong in a library.
- 31 The main reason I dislike going to Bennett Martin is there is usually a foul odor, which I feel comes from the homeless people. They do have a right to be there, so the new library should have ventilation/freshening technology to reduce this odor.
- 32 Thanks for listening!
- 33 I love the public library!
- 34 I would love to have a new, state-of-the-art library, but I would not support costly construction and upgraded materials until the environment itself can be better managed. Is there anywhere in the country where the public library system has a handle on this?! Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

- 35 I know that Bennett Martin gets a bad rap from some people but those of us who actually use this branch on a regular basis know better. We use it every week at least. It is an essential resource for many people. Lincoln needs a branch downtown!!! I hope all this talk of a new Main Library is not used as an excuse to close our downtown branch. Has anyone considered the old Assurity building on K street? I notice that they were moving out files recently and haven't heard if anyone is taking over the building. It would be a good location and size with a big parking lot and several bus routes passing by.
- 36 I don't think a downtown library will be successful until you do something about the homeless problem. They take over a lot of the chairs, computers, and restrooms. The smell often drives me out of the rooms and some of these people are downright scary. I don't like the panhandling, alcohol use, having them grab me or having them insist on talking to me when I'm busy. There needs to be a separate facility for them which offers job counseling, a place to shower and get clean clothes, and in some cases, psychiatric care. I wish the library could refuse to serve the ones who cause so much trouble. When Day Watch was downtown, they hung out there.
- 37 Please keep Bennett Martin at it's current location, but with extended hours. We need a library downtown.
- 38 I really enjoy the summer programs the library offers. Thanks for all you do!
- 39 Would be great to have a mixed-use building with perhaps the library, cafe, express governmental services, independent movie theater, maybe even a small art gallery.
- 40 Thanks for listening to everyone's comments.
- 41 remember that Bennett Martin library is much loved as is - don't convert it to the latest trendy design just because it might move to a new location
- 42 I have mixed feelings about the expanding DVD collections. I think educational, scientific, and historical movies and TV shows are fine, but if people want box-office movies, they should go to Blockbuster or Netflix. It begins to feel like the libraries are going the way of museums; they can't just be educational and informative - they have to be "entertaining" too. If you're surrounded by thousands of books and you can't entertain yourself, you're in the wrong place.
- 43 It's a good library, but it could be great.
- 44 Oooh, a game room, both electronic, and board, because both can become boisterous, so it needs to be soundproofed more than the rest of the library. More electrical, & system etc. outlets for group role playing tournaments.
- 45 The library needs to work within the amount of space it currently has and not look to increase its overall footprint.
- 46 I hope they keep the main library downtown.
- 47 I would like to see more large print books and audio books on CD
- 48 No. I wish you well. Lincoln really needs an impressive downtown presence. It is long overdue (no pun intended). Lincoln is a large enough city that it deserves to have such a facility. The city should be embarrassed that it has not accomplished this yet. I would think community pride would demand such a facility. It is the library's turn -- now that we've taken care of the sports/entertainment aspect of the city with the new arena. So, step up, Lincoln, and do the right thing!
- 49 Best of luck and all success as you move through this process!
- 50 I believe Youth services is the most important part of the Lincoln Libraries. I believe more should be spent on newer books for kids. I'd also like to see a computer lab for teens where they could hang out in groups.
- 51 Knowledgeable welcoming staff is the most important component to having a well-used library no matter where is located.
- 52 The on-line catalog is so convenient.
- 53 I think it should be an architectural destination spot that fits in with the downtown environment (if that is where it ends up being built).
- 54 I am opposed to re-purposing Pershing Auditorium as the new downtown library. Lincoln deserves a new, modern central library featuring a stunning architectural design that will become a proud landmark for the city. Our present library has served us for 50 years, so let's reach as high as we can because it's going to be part of Lincoln for a long time.
- 55 I am overall very satisfied with the library. I do wish there were a lot more e-books
- 56 the catalog search leaves more to be desired. It is difficult to navigate the results. The sorting options do not work the way I believe they should. I would prefer to display more than 10 results per page.
- 57 The new library should have super flexible space. Making it a place where meetings of all sizes could be held will draw people to the building. I like the idea of teaming with local non-profits, like Ethnic cultural centers, or arts organizations. I like the idea of partnering with public schools, similar to how the YMCA is partnering with the school in Fallbrook. I want programming to be hand in hand with the building's design. I don't want the design of the building to overshadow the work that happens in the building.
- 58 love Milwaukee's library, it's our absolute favorite and the Betty Brinn Children's Room is amazing!! Downtown Denver has some nice features too.
- 59 The library system in Lincoln rocks! Good job in keeping the libraries open for those who love to read! Tax me more if you need to! :)
- 60 Pat Leach rocks!
- 61 The main library is in dire need of replacement. Thank you for the opportunity to share with this survey.
- 62 location is important - please consider O street East of Downtown, there is a LOT of vacant space, such as 26th & O, 52nd & O, 70th & O, and others. Lincoln needs to have more development in East Lincoln and not take everything SOUTH. Personally I would prefer Northeast but do not think that is fair to the rest of the city. Keep it CENTRAL. Parking is very important. Thanks for the opportunity for input.
- 63 The staff who help with Book Clubs are remarkable--especially Layne Pierce.
- 64 I love our libraries in Lincoln!
- 65 I think a good library is essential to a community.
- 66 Anyway that a new library AND a botanical/conservatory garden could inhabit the same Pershing block downtown? Separate funding and management of course. Since it would encompass green house space, why can't a conservatory begin on the library roof with botanical garden used in landscape? Would be HUGE visitor attraction. What a great place to read with a view of the NE capitol.
- 67 The library is one of our most important community resources. I hope that the city libraries evolve and grow with the times - I love the idea of a cafe/ coffee shop that would bring people together to discuss books and topics of interest.
- 68 I do not use the main library. The location works on weekends when parking is more available. The hours of operation are too short and I have not been able to get to the library when it is open.
- 69 Thanks for inviting public input.
- 70 Continue to support community and statewide author reading events. It's time for a new downtown library - or main library.
- 71 Love the libraries and think Lincoln is very fortunate. Wish more current ebooks were available.
- 72 Am surprised at interest in art display as it increases library liability, requires space to display continue to be amazed at food and books in the same place. Library owns these books, books cannot be returned if damaged as can be done in retail Think you must be sure what you offer is not duplicated elsewhere, ie: meeting space, auditorium space. Not really library's place to be everything to everyone. Plan for what will support your mission. Are you also working on a new strategic plan? Update?
- 73 I would like to see horror novels labeled the way sci-fi and mysteries are labeled so that I can browse for them more easily.

- 74 Like having in restroom a ledge to put your items on when using toilet. Helps when need to put a book down while using the facilities. Thanks for having this survey. Also want to say thanks for having a phone available to make a 2 minute call.
- 75 Please do not take away services from the branch libraries to support the main library. A library closer to 48th and O would seem more centrally located. How many people that work downtown actually have a library card or use the library?
- 76 Innovation is needed. How to combine the use of the internet and paper books most effectively and innovatively. How about combining the UNL Love library with the public library???
- 77 I really would like to have a library of some type - the main library or a branch - in the main downtown area. Someplace I can walk to over my break, pickup items and get back to work in 15 minutes.
- 78 I love the library. It saves me money and I like to read books and magazines and watch DVDs. If I were wealthy and you were accepting donations, I would give to the new library to make it really nice for people. Don't over limit the hours it is open or people won't use it.
- 79 If you haven't been to the downtown library in Kansas City (used to be a bank) it's fabulous. Wonderful, comfortable space, very welcoming, and warm, it's beautiful and has different things on each level and a small food bar. The parking garage is also something to see.
- 80 I hope the Main branch remains at a Downtown location.
- 81 Thanks for good library service in Lincoln.
- 82 Send someone to visit the main Allen County Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. They have one of the best libraries I have ever seen.
- 83 Do NOT consider adapting Pershing. It is not a friendly building and the AC/heating plant is shot.
- 84 Great libraries! Could really not be much happier!
- 85 Be sure to have some kind of airlock doors, so that you don't get a cold blast every time anyone comes into the building. (Problem example is Open Harvest's exit, by the cash registers.) Have the most-used things (reference, circulation, fiction, etc.) visible when you enter. Actually, have them all visible when you are looking in from the outside, rather as the current BMPL does. Set up some kind of Skype computer for people on upper floor(s) to talk with reference staff. If you can figure out some way to be welcoming to the homeless population, without their presence intimidating the rest of the people using the library, that would be wonderful.
- 86 Remodeling Pershing is likely to be more expensive than building a new main library from scratch.
- 87 Additional funds for electronic downloadable items should also be considered given the popularity of ereader devices. Employees who are trained to help with these devices would also be beneficial.
- 88 Thanks for this great service! Your works are a blessing to this community.
- 89 I love the Lincoln Public libraries!
- 90 How can the city afford this new library? Wait just laid off a couple librarians and now your expanding? It makes no sense. Downtown Lincoln is irrelevant.
- 91 None at this time
- 92 It would be best to have the computer lab in an area not usually occupied by children and their parents because of the disturbing images sometimes displayed on the computer screens. Every parent/child needs to feel every effort is being made to make their library experience as safe and fun as it can be.
- 93 I love the libraries I use but I would like to see the main library be more of a community center that can be used by the whole community. A friendly place for families as well as individuals, a meeting place, a learning place, and a place to feel safe and comfortable.
- 94 Would be nice to be centrally located, but not downtown. I live in northwest Lincoln, and would rather drive to a south location, then have to deal with downtown.