

1. No Roof Top Patio

The cost of the patio is the 2 exit doors and the stone pavers for the flooring. The Lower Level is larger than the upper level and rather than extending the space to match and creating more floor space to heat/cool and light, or creating any space that is extraneous, we are providing an outdoor patio. We think patrons will enjoy and appreciate this 3-season space. Outdoor space was prioritized in our long range plan, capital plan, building program, and grant application.

2. No Sky Light

The skylight is not an expensive or high maintenance addition to the plan. It brings natural light, which was prioritized in our focus groups and in our building program, to the center of the upper level. It's energy efficient, so we don't anticipate heat loss.

3. Similar posts in back as in old front

We explored this option with our community forums. Because the proportions are different, it looks odd. We want to pay homage to the historic building without overpowering it, thus we have designed an entrance that is complimentary and functional without being grandiose.

4. South side should be brick not cement

The South side faces the neighbors and the wetlands. It is barely visible from the street and to save money, using less expensive and highly efficient materials on the non-street view side is ideal. The change in materials also makes the new part of the building obvious, which is what MA historical commission prefers in these types of projects.

5. No iron work on the top of the new main entrance

The railings, which add emphasis to the entrance, are fitting for the style of the building that has been designed. They are likely to be made of an affordable composite or wood.

6. No toys in the Children's Room, just books.

Toys and games for patrons of all ages fit our Library's mission and our strategic plan. Our long range planning committee adopted Satisfy Curiosity and Stimulate Imagination as two of six core functions of the Library from 2016-2020. Toys satisfy curiosity and stimulate imagination.

While print remains the largest component of our collection, we recognize the different learning styles people may have, and recognize that 20% of the population has dyslexia. Therefore, we must provide materials in a variety of formats

We embrace the concept that play is the way children learn. Toys provide opportunity for key social interactions that help children get ready to learn and ready for school, specifically, sharing, turn-taking, critical thinking, and developing multimodal literacies. Toys and games engage children in vital STEAM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math play/learning.

7. Call Youth Services Young Adult something else – it sounds like Social Services

We are open to suggestion—it's pretty standard in the Library profession. Children's Services is birth-9, Tween Services is 9-12, and Teen/Young Adult Services serves 12-18. Youth Services encompasses 0-18.