

# Jones Library

43 Amity Street, Amherst, MA

[Building Project Website](#)



Welcome to the inaugural newsletter for the Jones Library Building Project, where you can find updates on the renovation/expansion project, information on upcoming meetings, community events, links to polls, and much more.

## Some Key Dates from the [Projected Timeline](#)

**December 2021– April 2022** Town forms Jones Library Building Committee (JLBC); contracts with Colliers Project Leaders (OPM) and Finegold Alexander Architects (Designer)

**May – July 2022** Schematic Designs finalized (to include public outreach)

**August – November 2022** Design Development (to include public outreach)

**December – September 2023** Construction Documents & Bidding

**October 2023** Groundbreaking (construction estimated to take 18 months)

**August 2023** Jones closed (services provided at Branches)

**September 2023 – May 2025** Jones closed - Library open in temporary locations and Branches

**May 2025** Temporary locations close (services provided at Branches)

**June 2025** Grand Reopening



## Upcoming Community Outreach Events

**May 21, 12 p.m. – 3 p.m.**

Olympia Oaks & Butternut

**June 11 – 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.**

Village Park

**Thursdays, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

Amherst Survival Center

**Saturdays, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

Amherst Farmer's Market

## Share a Comment

[info@joneslibrary.org](mailto:info@joneslibrary.org)

[Share Your Images](#)

## Coming Soon!

Public meeting to review schematic design drafts.

Additional online engagement tools.

## Other Important News

### Community Outreach Events Update

On May 1<sup>st</sup> over 120 community members attended the Library's Open House. More than 400 public comments were collected and have been posted in the atrium of the Library - members of the community continue to add their comments.

Last week, on May 11<sup>th</sup>, the Library took outreach to both the Get Out and Play event with Amherst Recreation as well as the Senior Center Open house at the Bangs Center. Both were well-attended events and provided an opportunity to gather comments from families, teens, and seniors.

As of May 16<sup>th</sup>, the Library has collected an additional 420 comments from the community, for a total of 820 [public comments!](#)

### Project Update

On May 9, 2022, the Designer began work to update the October 8, 2020 [Schematic Designs](#) to incorporate comments received from Library staff, the public, and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

The main focus of schematic designs are the massing of the building and layout of the spaces in the interior to incorporate the approved [Building Program](#). The JLBC will work with the Designer from May through July to finalize the schematic designs. We expect to see more than one set of schematic designs as they are developed and finalized. The Library will continue to collect community feedback on the schematic designs through July 1.

### Top Trending Public Comments This Week

- Natural light and big windows.
- Teen Space – there is a four-way tie between a board game space, a vending machine, string lights, and computers.
- Children's – playground/outdoor story time connected to children's room.
- Historic priorities – preservation of the staircase.



## Upcoming Public Meetings

### Jones Library Building Comm.

Meetings are typically every other Tuesday from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm. Next meeting **May 24 at 4:30 p.m.** Topics include Kestrel Land Trust update and interim locations. [Meeting Link](#)

### Design Subcommittee

Meetings are typically every other Friday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Next meeting **May 27 at 9 a.m.** Topics to include gender neutral bathrooms and updated schematic design.

### Outreach Subcommittee

Meetings are typically every other Tuesday, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Next meeting **May 31 at 4 p.m.**