

Jones Library

43 Amity Street, Amherst, MA

[Building Project Website](#)



Project Update

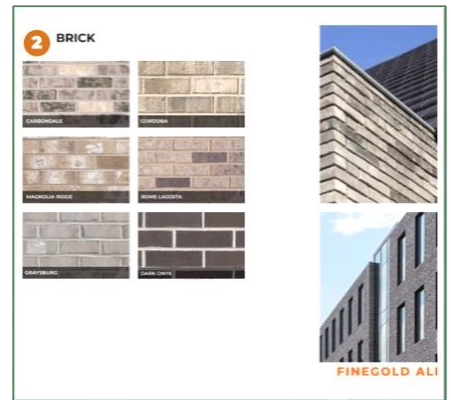
On June 7th the Designers presented the JLBC with [renderings](#) of three additional exterior options that could reduce the overall budget of the project. The options presented were brick, sculping (a slate product), Centria (a metal siding product), or the use of some combination of these materials.

The renderings are a preview of different possibilities but have not yet been cost estimated to determine how much money could be saved with each choice. We would love to hear your initial impressions and reactions to the different materials in the [renderings](#). You can share your thoughts using any of the methods in the "Share a Comment" section.

The JLBC also discussed the placement of the Civil War Tablets in the library. The tablets feature the names of over 300 Amherst area soldiers, including the first Black and Afro-indigenous families that both predate the colonies and bridge the town to the military acts that ended slavery in America on June 19, 1865. This would also be the first time that the Black and indigenous of Amherst would be permanently recognized and normalized as part of Amherst history in the town, not temporarily or segregated as a sub-part of Amherst History recognized on dedicated days or months.

The current [schematic designs](#) place the Civil War Tablets on the walls of the garden level entrance in the galleria space outside of the Community Room and Special Collections. The Civil War Tablets Committee requested that the Civil War Tablets be housed instead in a sophisticated gallery/designated space to showcase the Civil War tablets that represent a blueprint of Amherst History.

The JLBC requested that the Design Subcommittee work with the Designers to determine possible options for this requested space.



Upcoming Outreach Events

June 11, 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Village Park Community Event

June 24, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Rolling Green Community Event

Thursdays, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Amherst Survival Center

Saturdays, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Amherst Farmer's Market

Share a Comment in any of these formats

info@joneslibrary.org

[Library Images - add your comments](#)

[Submit a Comment Form](#)

[Ask a Question on AmherstTalks](#)

Other Important News

The JLBC was unable to vote on June 7th on the use of *gender inclusive* bathrooms and elimination of the elevator in the 1928 portion of the building as the materials for that conversation were not yet available from the Designer. Stay tuned for these votes!

The current schematic design contemplates a net zero ready building with an Energy Use Intensity (EUI) of 34. EUI measures the energy used per square foot in a building. The Library Board of Trustees in October of 2020 approved additional Energy Conservation Measures that would further reduce the EUI to 29.

The JLBC is exploring financial incentives and rebates through Eversource's Path 1 Zero Net Energy Savings program. Depending on the Energy Use Intensity (EUI) achieved in the project, we could see construction incentives between \$93,000 (EUI between 31-35) and \$125,000 (EUI 30 or less) payable at the end of construction, with an additional \$46,000 (actual EUI between 31-35) to \$93,000 (actual 30 or less) after one year of operation.

Community Outreach Update

On June 8th the Outreach Subcommittee held a Community Forum to provide an overview of the public outreach for the project. A tutorial was provided for the various ways the public can continue to be engaged with the project. The discussion also included a tutorial showing how and where community feedback is publicly displayed, including the prioritization of comments review based on the phase of design, the dates for discussion of each comment, and the recording of the outcomes.

As of June 8th, the Library has collected an additional 110 comments from the community, for a total of 1,524 [public comments!](#)

Some of the Top Trending Public Comments This Week

- Teens – safe and inclusive space
- Comfortable seating of varied types (with and without arms, different heights, supports, and accessible)
- Children's – reading nooks and stuffies



Upcoming JLBC Meetings

Jones Library Building Comm.

June 21 at 4:30 p.m. Vote on second round of public comments.

Design Subcommittee

June 16 at 10 a.m. Discussion of second round of public comments. [Meeting Link](#)

June 24 at 9 a.m. Updated schematic design presentation.

Outreach Subcommittee

June 14 at 4 p.m. [Meeting Link](#)