



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Seeks Community Input on Central Library Space Utilization Study

Virtual Public Engagement Session Scheduled for November 5; Survey and Draft Plan Available for Public Review and Comment

BUFFALO, N.Y. – Oct. 29, 2025 – The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library invites the public to participate in shaping the future of the downtown Central Library through a comprehensive Space Utilization Study.

The downtown Central Library at 1 Lafayette Square serves as the cornerstone of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library. In an ongoing commitment to better serve patrons, the Library engaged architecture, planning, and design firm Bostwick Design Partnership to conduct a study of the interior of the landmark 400,000-square-foot building.

After months of site visits, staff and patron surveys, and community conversations, the Library has released a public comment draft of the consultant's findings and recommendations. The goal is to create flexible public spaces that enhance the Library's commitment to intellectual freedom and free access – while also becoming a vibrant community destination.

The Library is seeking community engagement through three channels:

- [Review of the Central Library Space Utilization Study Public Draft](#)
- [Complete the online survey](#) to share input on proposed changes
- [Attend the virtual Public Engagement Session](#) on November 5, 2025 at 7:00 PM via Zoom livestream for an overview and Q&A

The final findings will guide informed decisions about needed improvements and renovations. All Erie County residents, library users, and community stakeholders are encouraged to participate.

About Buffalo & Erie County Public Library

Established in 1836, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library is Buffalo's oldest cultural institution. **Profoundly Public** in all we do, the Library serves more than 2.35 million visitors annually through 37 branches and mobile services. The Library also houses over 3.2 million resources, extensive digital collections, and innovative programming. With a collection of international and national note, the Library continues to significantly impact community education, digital equity, and cultural enrichment. In 2024,

every tax payer dollar invested returned \$4.32 in community benefits, totaling over \$128 million in annual value to the residents of Erie County. To explore resources and services, visit www.BuffaloLib.org.

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