

WE HEARD YOU

ROOSEVELT ISLAND BRANCH: SURVEY RESULTS

The New York Public Library is building a new 5,465-square-foot branch on Roosevelt Island. This new space will be more than double the size of the current branch, and offers additional computers, bigger program spaces, and more.

We planned this new branch using the valuable feedback we received from residents of Roosevelt Island at a public town hall meeting about the project in fall 2014 and in a survey conducted via email, at an in-branch kiosk, and on paper. From the 456 responses we received, we learned:

- 91% of respondents list access to books, information, and expert librarian help as their top priority. This is followed by programs for children and teens (46%), exhibitions and lectures (40%), access to public computers and technology (39%), and spaces to research, write, study, and learn new skills (over 30%).
- Access to technology and a larger children's area has the most value to the community (rated 4.1 out of 5). Patrons also highly value "Grab and Go Areas" where they can quickly browse and check out books and other materials, as well as more project and meeting space.
- Patrons also shared requests for quiet rooms and wider selections of DVDs, foreign language materials, and electronic resources. During conversations with the Roosevelt Island community, many patrons suggested dedicating a space to local history and projects, but in the survey this was ranked lower than traditional library offerings, such as computer terminals and dedicated children and teen spaces.