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## Thanks to Everyone Who Helped Make Our New Library Happen!

### Ferndale Library Project Receives New \$500,000 Challenge Match!

[rachmyers](#) May 9, 2013 3:25 pm

The Whatcom Community Foundation announced that a new additional \$500,000 matching gift has been pledged to the new Ferndale Library Project by an anonymous donor. According to Mauri Ingram, Community Foundation President and CEO, "The Ferndale community continues to support this project in incredible ways. This latest major gift will match all new donations to the project and make the new Ferndale Library a flagship project for the community to be enjoyed for generations."

The Community Foundation was authorized to announce the new gift after the previous \$1 million challenge was met. As a result, every dollar of the \$550,000 levy recently approved by Ferndale voters will be matched. Roughly \$250,000 of the bond was matched by the previous \$1 million match, with the remaining amount matched by the new gift.

While the new library as budgeted will serve the community well, there are upgrades and items such as additional technology and energy efficiencies that will make it an even more valuable asset to the Ferndale community. Library staff and city leaders are working with the architect team to identify the features which are most important to include now that this additional funding is available. Whatcom County Library System Executive Director Christine Perkins adds, "What a treat to have this extra support for the new Ferndale Library. As this project took shape, we scaled back our original plans in order to meet our budget. This new support will help us restore some key features for library patrons."

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**Ferndale Library**

The Ferndale library combines emergent ideas about 21st century libraries with long-standing traditions of community gathering. Developed in collaboration with community members, City, and Library staff, the 15,000 sf library affirms the continuing relevance of libraries in rural communities.



Ferndale, WA

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**SHKS ARCHITECTS** / libraries / Ferndale Library

**civic / community**

- Legislative Building
- Lake Wilderness Lodge
- Eddon Boat Building
- Fire Station 8
- Fire Station 31

**libraries**

- Ferndale Library
- Magnolia Library
- Fife Library
- Crossroads Library
- Vancouver Mall Library
- Milton Edgewood Library
- KCLS Southcenter
- Green Lake / West Seattle

**educational**

- Facilities Services Training Center
- Data Science Studio
- Lewis Hall
- Digital Commons
- CBE Office
- Guthrie Hall
- Western Washington University

**work / commerce**

- Pika Place Market
- Roslyn NWIC Building
- Seattle Tower
- Atrium Kitchen
- Dr. Martens
- Stopsky's Deli
- Copperworks Distilling

**houses**

- Urban
- Rural
- New
- Remodel

**in progress**

- Fire Station 18
- Holden Village
- I-LABS
- Makerspace
- Seattle Animal Shelter
- Bellingham Federal
- Three Cedars Waldorf

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- People
- Know-how
- Recognition
- Green
- Historic
- Partners

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# City of Ferndale

The City of Opportunity

## New Ferndale Library

 newlibraryext\_resize

Since 2006 the City of Ferndale, in cooperation with the Whatcom County Library System and supporters of the local library, have sought to build a new facility for the community.

On April 23, 2013, Ferndale residents will vote during a special election as to whether they would like to approve an excess property tax levy for the final \$550,000 of the proposed \$5.4 million project. About 59 percent of the project's financing has so far been donated privately thanks to the hard work of the Whatcom Community Foundation. The election would account for about 9 percent of project costs.

Until from 1992 until 2011, the Ferndale Public Library building was on Main Street, but patrons began to express concerns about its size and functionality. An assessment was done in 2006 spelling out the need for a larger facility with expanded parking, more community meeting space and other amenities the existing facility did not have. That same year an anonymous

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donor offered \$1 million toward the construction of a new facility. Since then, thanks to a commitment from City officials and aggressive fundraising by the Whatcom Community Foundation, the project is near the finish line to begin construction.

This page serves as the repository for information related to the new Ferndale library project. Click the links below for additional details.

### Links & Documents

- **History of the Ferndale Public Library & New Facility Project**
- **Whatcom Community Foundation New Library Fundraising site**
- **2013 Election Fact Sheet**

- preparation and safety
- Report a street light outage
- View City fees (Fee Code)
- Get Involved
- Request public records

### Calendar

#### May 2015

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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City Hall: PO Box 936/2095 Main St., Ferndale, WA 98248. Phone: (360) 384-4302. Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday

## New Ferndale Library Fact Sheet



The new 15,000 square foot Ferndale Public Library will be located near City Hall on the west end of Main Street. The new library will be within a 10- minute walk of the downtown core. By 2018, the city estimates that approximately 1500 residents will be within a 10-minute walk of the library.

### Connected to the Natural Environment



The building has been sited to take advantage of a connection to Schell Marsh, along with a view of Mount Baker from the community meeting room. Designed to access as much natural light as possible, the space features 4 atriums and numerous skylights allowing daylight to illuminate much of the library.



A wall of windows will line the back of the library, where a quiet area with tables and chairs will be positioned. The library will offer free wifi access with numerous seating areas for kids, teens and adults.

### **Designed to Create Accessible Community Meeting Spaces**



Along with a large Community Room that will accommodate up to 80 people, the new library will feature a conference room for groups of 12 to 14, plus 2 smaller study rooms. The building is configured so that the Community Room, and the Conference Room will be accessible after hours for community organizations and clubs to use.

For more information on the design of the New Ferndale Library, please contact Sarah Koehler, Ferndale Library Branch Manager, at [sarah.koehler@wcls.org](mailto:sarah.koehler@wcls.org), or by phone at 360-384-3687.