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Multnomah County Library seeks design input for eastside flagship

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The East County Library's proposed location is near the MAX Blue line and several bus stops, with options for people to walk or bike to the library. Adjaye Associates











By Jayati Ramakrishnan | The Oregonian/OregonLive

Multnomah County Library officials are encouraging patrons to share their dreams for the new Gresham flagship.

Planners are seeking comment about possible designs for <u>the planned East County Library</u>, a nearly-95,000 square-foot building at 1297 NW Eastman Parkway in Gresham, previously the site of the Gresham City Hall Park and Ride. The site would be the county's second-largest library, after the downtown Central branch.

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An 18-question survey asks participants about themselves, their community and what kinds of spaces they prefer and why. The survey also asks participants to share what a library means to them and what kind of technology they'd like to see in the new space.

The <u>survey will be open until</u> 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 5.

So far, according to the library website, community members have said they'd like to see room for performances, lectures, cultural celebrations and family programs. They also want public outdoor space and a design that can accommodate early-childhood learning, teen spaces and career services.

The library and TriMet came to an initial agreement in July, and for the last six months have been negotiating the purchase. Liz Sauer, a spokesperson for the library's capital bond projects, said they are on track to close the sale this spring. The project would be funded by the county's 2020 library bond measure, which is expected to raise \$387 million for a series of projects, including updating or modernizing seven existing libraries.

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—Jayati Ramakrishnan; <u>jram</u>
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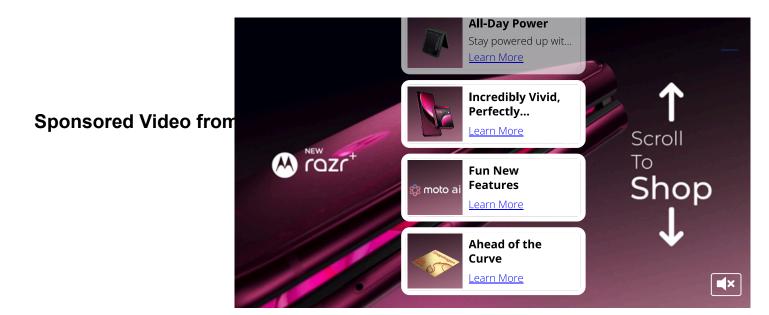
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