

# NEWS RELEASE

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## UPDATE TO WESTLAKE LIBRARY RENOVATIONS

Westlake, OH (October 4, 2022) - Westlake Porter Public Library held a ceremony on September 24<sup>th</sup> to commemorate the groundbreaking of its new outdoor programming pavilion and the refurbishing of study and collaborative spaces in its Adult Services section.

Site work has begun on the approximately 2,000-square-foot outdoor programming pavilion which will provide additional space for all types of programming and events.

Improvements to the Adult Services area include remodeling three existing study rooms, adding two new small group study rooms which can accommodate up to four people each, improved lighting, new carpet, and new furnishings. Both projects are expected to be completed by mid-November of this year.

The projects are a result of a strategic and space planning process the library completed in 2021, including feedback solicited from the community during public sessions and through surveys. The construction costs of approximately \$900,000 will be paid for from the library's Permanent Improvement Fund, which are funds specifically set aside for projects such as these,

and \$110,000 received in donations, including a generous contribution toward the pavilion from the Friends of Porter Public Library in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

The library previously announced that the cost of the Adult Services area renovation was to be offset by donations from two donors. However, one of the donors rescinded their donation due to a naming rights matter that could not be resolved.

“While we are disappointed to have lost a generous donation, we remain committed to the upgrades and improvements to the library and will continue to look for ways to offset the renovation costs,” said library Director Andrew Mangels.

Other projects the library is working on this fall include converting the former café into a makerspace and opening the second floor to the public. A dedicated makerspace will bring together the library’s collection of maker resources, including the 3D printers and file transfer machines (VHS films and slides into digital format) as well as adding new services such as an A/V recording booth and equipment for craft cutting and making custom T-shirts.

Project updates and progress can be found on the library’s website, [westlakelibrary.org](http://westlakelibrary.org), and social media channels.

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