

Lincoln City Libraries
 Services & Spaces for a Main Library
 Online Survey February 2 – 15, 2012
 Filtered for Responses from BMPL Users Only

1. What libraries do you currently use? (check all that apply)		
Bennett Martin Public Library, 14th & N	149	100%
Victor E. Anderson Branch, 3635 Touzalin Avenue	15	10%
Bethany Branch, 1810 N Cotner Blvd.	16	11%
Bookmobile	2	1%
Loren Corey Eiseley Branch, 1530 Superior Street	37	25%
Charles H. Gere Branch, 2400 S 56th Street	71	48%
South Branch, 2675 South Street	42	28%
Bess Dodson Walt Branch, 6701 S 14th Street	48	32%
Dan A. Williams Branch, 5000 Mike Scholl Street	3	2%

2. How often do you visit the library?		
Once a week or more	57	38%
Several times a month	49	33%
Once a month	19	13%
Several times a year	23	15%
Never	1	1%
Total	149	100%

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3. What do you usually do when you visit the library?		
Browse for books and other materials	123	83%
Check out books and other materials	142	95%
Use a library computer	30	20%
Use the library's Wi-Fi	24	16%
Attend a community meeting	20	13%
Meet friends	11	7%
Bring a child to find books or attend events	38	26%
Attend a library event	29	19%
Sit and read	43	29%
Look for information and/or do research	67	45%
Study	18	12%
Other, please specify	14	9%

3. What do you usually do when you visit the library?

Respondent #	Response
1	Work between meetings
2	main purpose of my visits is research, followed by pleasure reading
3	gere book talk
4	i do not visit the library
5	Teach ELL with Lincoln Literacy
6	storytime with Ms. Kay
7	photocopy, occasionally. occasionally meetings
8	I like to read periodicals at the Library.
9	browse newspapers for genealogy research
10	Projects that need a quiet place
11	Use Inter Library Loan services
12	Volunteer
13	enjoy the courtyard
14	attend library meetings

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4. How often do you use the library's website?		
Once a week or more	65	45%
Several times a month	37	26%
Once a month	17	12%
Several times a year	17	12%
Other, please specify	9	6%
Total	145	100%

- | Respondent # | Response |
|--------------|--|
| 1 | Never |
| 2 | haven't used |
| 3 | once in a while -- a few times a year |
| 4 | I do not use the site |
| 5 | Haven't ever had to |
| 6 | Once a month, sometimes more often |
| 7 | Virtually never. It is uninviting and was down on one occasion I tried. |
| 8 | As a reference librarian at UNL, I not only use it for myself, but I often assist users in the UNL Libraries with accessing the LCL Catalog and other resources. |
| 9 | never |

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5. When you use the website, what do you usually do?

Look for books and other materials that I can check out	125	87%
Look for e-books and audio books to download	47	33%
Find out information about the library such as hours, programs, etc.	63	44%
Do research and find information	40	28%
Check my library account	100	70%
Other, please specify	12	8%

Respondent #	Response
1	NA
2	Suggest titles to purchase
3	request interlibrary loan items
4	suggest titles
5	use Mango
6	check my emails
7	Read the reviews by librarians.
8	As noted above, help patrons with finding this information, as well as using the website myself.
9	Want links to other websites-that are legitamite. Like searching the internet using sites that librarians have filtered for quality.
10	Use interlibrary loan
11	decided to fill out this survey

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6. What would you like to see in a Main Library? (check all that apply)		
Significant space for books, DVDs, and CDs	130	88%
Informal, comfortable seating areas	118	80%
Spaces for individual study	97	66%
Group study or work space	75	51%
Computer labs	88	59%
Special area for pre-school age children and their parents	78	53%
Children's room	79	53%
Space for children's story hours and programs	85	57%
Designated space for teens	76	51%
Auditorium for public events	69	47%
Meeting rooms of various sizes	90	61%
Cafe/coffee bar	75	51%
Outdoor reading areas	76	51%
Outdoor space for events	51	34%
Parking	94	64%
Exhibit space for artwork	75	51%
Other, please specify	24	16%

Respondent #	Response
1	Special space for older adults
2	PARKING! PARKING! PARKING!
3	WE WANT PARKING SPACE!!!!!!!!!!!!
4	Local history archives
5	Bike racks in a secure location and bus service nearby
6	Like to see it stay in central Lincoln
7	simple distribution, business center
8	Lots of plants
9	MANAGEMENT OF STREET POPULATION TO CERTAIN AREAS.THE LIBRARY SMELLS AND FEELS DIRTY. IT SEEMS MORE LIKE A HOMELESS SHELTER WITH BOOKS AND OTHER MATERIALS THAN A LIBRARY. I KNOW THIS IS PROBLEMATIC THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, BUT THERE MUST BE SOME WAY TO MANAGE THE SPACE WITHOUT DENYING ANYONE THEIR CIVIL RIGHTS. THIS IS MY HIGHEST PRIORITY AS A DOWNTOWN DWELLER WHO USES THE LIBRARY AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE UNDER THE CURRENT SYSTEM OF USAGE.
10	Space for specialized collections, like the Polley Music Library and the Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors

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- 11 large-screen tvs for pbs, cnn, breaking news, etc
- 12 labs for creating media; social spaces; book displays; fireplace
- 13 Basically the same areas/spaces/services/etc that exist today
- 14 Modern, complete book collection.
- 15 Signature piece of art that would become the libraries' "logo". Like the Lions outside Chicago Art Institute
- 16 teen engagement center
- 17 places for special research, librarians to help with geneology and a special collection of these materials
- 18 Longer hours for the Heritage Room, Genealogy Research Area
- 19 Love the Heritage Room -Special research collections!
- 20 More visibility and space for special collections, the Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors and Polley Music
- 21 Flexible spaces that can be repurposed as needs and interests change. Spaces that can be used for more than one purpose in any given month.
- 22 Practice rooms for instrumants (piano room) to come and practice an instrument. Chicago Public Library has this-I used to use this all the time, it is good when you live in an apartment to practice somewhere.
- 23 green design and practices
- 24 plenty of work space convenient to reference materials or special collections

7. Please tell us what you like about the library that you use most frequently.

123 Responses

Respondent #	Response
1	1) Love being able to place books on hold and run in and pick them up from the hold area. Having the self-checkouts (ESPECIALLY the ones you punch in your own library card number without needing the card) is super convenient too. 2) The new card catalog system is really fantastic. You have done a great job getting that up and running and working out the inevitable bugs. 3) LOVE the "pre-ovedue notice" emails; although I think the verbiage is a bit awkward.
2	Gere: Lots of parking; has the best selection outside of BMPL; bright and sunny; spacious and well-outfitted staff areas (I'm a former employee); multiple self-checkout stations; native grasses as part of landscaping.
3	Research staff at Bennett Martin are most helpful in tracking down an author or book of interest.
4	location location location. I love the 14th and N location as both a downtown worker and resident. it is easy to get to quickly and easily.
5	I like the branch that is close and user friendly. It is part of my community and contributes to finding and acquiring the resources that enhance my neighborhood, ex. availability of multi media offerings-dvd-, cds,- and books.
6	convenient location to my home
7	Close to my home
8	Staff is very friendly and helpful.
9	I love the staff at South Branch and how they are so knowledgable and friendly. I love e-book options and wish there were more. I know a lot of people use computers at the library -- I am just not one of them. I love all the suggestions above -- how modern!!
10	Bennett Martin is close to everything else I do daily downtown. I hope it doesn't get moved too much farther out of the main flow of downtown activities -- along the Antelope Valley project would be too far for me to visit as frequently.
11	Staff are sometimes friendly, others are mean and pretty rude.
12	I like the children's and teen's areas.
13	I love the ambience of Gere Library. The wood and architecture. To me the environment is as important to its function as the books I love.

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- 14 Friendly staff. - Gere is great for that.
- 15 So many new books all the time. I am never disappointed when I look at the new things.
- 16 Research Current periodicals
- 17 it is close to my house
- 18 Convenient location
- 19 Gere-Convenient parking, bright, friendly atmosphere
- 20 The staff is extremely helpful to all patrons.
- 21 Bennett Martin is close enough to get to during breaks or lunch.
- 22 I use Bennett Martin frequently. The staff are friendly and helpful. I like the outdoor courtyard at Bennett Martin. When I bring my young nieces and nephews, we sit outside and read on nice days. We also enjoy having Colby Ridge snacks nearby. It would be nice to have an outdoor reading area and a snack cafe or coffee shop in the new main library.
- 23 The staff is ALWAYS friendly and helpful; they show great patience with all users; they have a sense of humor.
- 24 Free & convenient parking. All types of media-DVDs, CDs, paperback and hardback books, magazines, reference books, and the employees are very helpful and knowledgeable about ALL the items.
- 25 It's conveniently located since I work downtown. Also, it's close enough that I can walk down & back on Sundays when there are no buses running.
- 26 Gere. On my way to and from work. Close to my apartment. Nice selection and atmosphere.
- 27 location
- 28 The convenient downtown location as well as the friendliness of the downtown staff.
- 29 Casual atmosphere, usually pretty quiet, good selection.
- 30 GERE - book talk Bennett Martin - within walking distance
- 31 Walt branch: that there is plenty of free parking. That it's pretty and clean. That the collections are good.
- 32 Recently its been Anderson because its close to work so its most convenient. People are friendly. Easy to go in and get what I want.
- 33 no comment

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- 34 It is convenient to where I live
- 35 I like the new books area at Eiseley, where I can find new things to read. Also, the books in the front that you can't renew, but they have some bestsellers I will usually wait for. I also like the fact that I can put things on hold from home and pick them up at the libraries.
- 36 Good collections of history and biography, magazines, new books on public affairs. I also use Morningstar from time to time.

- 37 Large Selection of books, DVD's
- 38 I like the diversity of library patrons at Bennett Martin as well as the Polley Music Library and the Heritage Room. I have attended the special events, poetry readings, etc, usually on Sunday afternoon.
- 39 Online account information, also the option to place items on hold. The website has a wealth of resources available, as well!

- 40 downtown location
- 41 It's accessible even when the buses aren't running on Sun. I can walk downtown & back. This is important to me since I can't afford the internet at home.

- 42 It has plenty of quiet space to sit and read. I especially like the magazine room with the couches. The books are easy to find. It is organized well.
- 43 Gere -- location (close to my house). Is very clean and well-designed.
- 44 Friendly staff. I love the Ames reading room and the Ames lecture series!
- 45 Great selection! The self-serve check out stations are a great idea, too, since then the librarians can provide more focused help to those who need it.
- 46 An excellent broad selection of books and materials (Bennett is my primary library because I live downtown).

- 47 I love Bennett Martin! It's a great location that my family and I can walk to. I'm so glad that they have a weekly storytime. The staff is friendly and helpful. They have a good collection and my son and I love the outdoor courtyard.

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- 48 I use Polley Music Library often for my work and pleasure. The reference and music librarians are fantastic for helping with requests and information. My family also enjoys viewing the displays on new books, videos, and topics.
- 49 South branch is small and friendly and the parking is very convenient.
- 50 We like the location. We live near the downtown and can walk to it.
- 51 convenient to where I live. Parking is close.
- 52 The staff are very helpful. I like the kids section with the desks/chairs/wii. The kids I bring to the library really enjoy this space.
- 53 Broad selection. Easy to request books from any location. Knowledgeable, friendly, helpful, patient, respectful staff.
- 54 the staff is so friendly, I feel like it is a home (Bennett Martin) easiest library to find the book you want like the way the children's library is separate and yet included in the main library
- 55 I use Eiseley most frequently because it is between my home and office.
- 56 Friendly, helpful staff. Diverse mix of users. Large selection of books.
- 57 Friendly, helpful staff; clearly marked areas for materials. Lots of parking.
- 58 Courtyard
- 59 Ease of getting in and out (when you find a parking space;)friendly staff; self-check-out; being able to put a hold on a book on the Web.
- 60 displays of new books and e-resources; great staff (friendly, helpful . . .)
- 61 I like how you can go and use the computers, but I wish they had more and a longer time frame.
- 62 New materials are up front, and spread around. Fiction on the main floor. Librarians & paraprofessionals very helpful.Love the little bit of garden at center
- 63 Books
- 64 Gere is spacious. I've attended several programs and meetings in the meeting rooms.
- 65 Self-checkout, easy access to catalog, good selection.

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- 66 Bennett Martin has a large selection of fiction and non-fiction books and books on CDs.
- 67 Staff to answer reference questions, help with computers, etc. Gere -- Love the setting -- plantings; good parking; closeness.
- 68 The library on Superior St has nice evening hours. The downtown library is close to our home. The airpark library is nice to go have an activity to do w/ my younger child while my older child has soccer practice out in that area.
- 69 Geographically close to my daily route
- 70 The downtown library is within easy walking distance of work and easily accessible from all bus routes.
- 71 I like how bright Walt is with thier skylights. It is big and spacious, and still new feeling.
- 72 Downtown location, size of collection
- 73 Bennett Martin/South branch most. I like the selection at Bennet martin, although I admit I am increasingly going to ebooks and would love to have that selection on ebooks.
- 74 Easy access/parking (Gere & Walt). A lot of books and DVDs.
- 75 I rely on the library for books, CDs, and DVDs.
- 76 Computer lab and wi-Fi.
- 77 South Branch: small size, easy parking, convenient to me. Feels like a living room. Staff is generous with their time.
- 78 It's close to my home
- 79 nice atmosphere
- 80 Natural light. helpful and professional staff welcoming children's area
- 81 The location. The friendly staff.
- 82 Bess Dodson Walt Branch: It's quite, attention is great, comfortable chairs and sofas.
- 83 I LOVE being able to reserve books online and then go to the library and pick them up.
- 84 Bennett Martin is in downtown, I like that it's close to places to eat and the university. I like to be able to walk to Bennett Martin from the Near South neighborhoods.
- 85 I like the availability of information I use on the internet

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- 86 Gere- parking, close to my house, good selection of materials
- 87 Quiet space and ability to browse books.
- 88 Great selection of books.
- 89 The staff and the amount of material available.
- 90 Things are easy to find and there are comfortable areas to sit and read. I like the automated checkout but would be willing to do without it if it would save money.
- 91 The fact that it is in the heart of the downtown area. This provides support and people traffic for that area of the city. It is the home of 2 special collections and the administration offices for the city library system.
- 92 Easy to find things; good selection; new books on display
- 93 The large number of books and CD's that it has (BM)
- 94 Large selection of books. Close proximity to home. Good parking. My son likes that library staff know who he is/his name. Like that the libraries are keeping up with technology.
- 95 central location
- 96 Easily accessed from my home, and great parking.
- 97 once I get parked, is convenient to find what I want
- 98 The staff is friendly, knowledgeable and helpful.
- 99 inter library loans when you not in current lincoln system. checking out dvd, magazines and cd's
- 100 Location. BMPL is very close to where I work and that makes it very easy to pickup and drop off items.
- 101 It is close by. It has a pleasant, attractive atmosphere. It has a pleasant place to read current magazines. They put out fairly current dvds of popular movies on a shelf near the entrance. I am talking about Gere.
- 102 Search for books on the computers, easy to find books, DVDs, & CDs
- 103 It's close to my house.

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- 104 Good selection, easy-to-use reservation system for new/popular material, friendly staff, microfilm reader/printers.
- 105 staff, light around courtyard
- 106 Good reference collection. Good number of books
- 107 Love the courtyard at Bennett Martin, love the circular window on the elevator. That is one of the most enchanting places in the city and I hope that the new library will have some kind of plants, water feature, etc. Also, love the JPG Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors--what a special place that is! Also, have enjoyed using the resources in Polley Music Library over the years. I appreciate the very easy access to fiction--alphabetical by author's last name, right on the first floor as you walk in. I'm also fond of the cacti in the s.w. stairwell and I really like that stairwell, generally.
- 108 Easy to get around; natural light; convenience of parking and access.
- 109 Like to study and do research at the library. Bennett Martin needs more outlets to do so.
- 110 Convenient location open 7 days a week
- 111 GERE: Close to my home, large enough collection to meet most of my needs.
- 112 Close to work, good selection of books, ability to transfer books in from other locations
- 113 Access to and availability of the materials; a great variety of media sources; friendly, knowledgeable, and consistent staff; comfortable seating; well-managed website; fun and pertinent programs that bring the community together; artworks; native plants; beautiful courtyard; overall peaceful atmosphere.
- 114 its location to downtown. its really convenient to get to.
- 115 It's small and easy to find various parts of the collection. The magazines to be checked out are with the current magazine.
- 116 I like the variety of books and DVDs that I can check out. I don't like to buy many books, but I love to get them from the library.
- 117 I like viewing and requesting books on the library website. I like the shelves of "themes" for library books that suggest new titles I haven't heard of.

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- 118 The area it's located. The quietness. The large selection of books
- 119 Walt: The windows and high ceiling which make it bright and beautiful; the brightly colored and functional children's area with great furniture, books and activities for kids. BMPL: The large collection of DVD's; the location is convenient to my work downtown.
- 120 Books. Online Catalog. Holds.
- 121 plenty of parking, good selection of materials, areas for children and teens, area to quickly find paperback books, multiple terminals to access library catalog & other information, terminals located at various places throughout library
- 122 I like to peruse large varied collections of books and magazines.
- 123 I enjoy the good selection of materials, computers, events, place to meet friends, friendly staff, knowledgeable staff, children area.

8. Please tell us what you dislike about the library that you use most frequently.

116 Responses

Respondent #	Response
1	1) Not having enough copies of titles that get immensely popular. I get impatient waiting weeks to get a hold of a book that's popular. 2) Including titles that are owned by libraries not in Lincoln proper. I understand that the collaboration between the Lincoln Libraries and other towns is important. But it can be very frustrating thinking that a book is available only to see that it lives far away. It would be nice to see a feature that excludes the out-of-town libraries a bit easier. (Just a thought)
2	Tile in the entry is bumpy and noisy when carts roll across it (maybe industrial linoleum would be better?).
3	It's a long trip to get anywhere in Bennett Martin. Would like to see a library with more wings off the main room rather than a large main room and a distance to travel to get to other rooms.
4	Dated and unimpressive visually for the stellar services offered. I would like people who visit Lincoln to think of the library as a destination to visit as they do in other major cities.
5	limited evening hours
6	Expand hours
7	I wish the mysteries were separate from other fiction.
8	I wish they had more books. But they get them fast.
9	Bennett Martin just feels old and ugly. It looks like a bomb shelter on the outside and inside the carpets and furniture look 20 or 30 years out of date. I main read older fiction and non-fiction titles, and it appears that in the past couple of years more and more of the kinds of stuff I gravitate towards and search out has been removed from the collection. The shelves now seem half-empty when I used to be able to find cool old gems or lesser-known authors. Now...it's just multiple copies of bland authors that EVERYone else is reading...not my cup of tea. Also, I only come to Bennett Martin when I'm already downtown for other business, because it's always difficult to find parking, which I don't have to search for and more importantly don't have to PAY for at the branches. But downtown has always had a better selection of older books (until recently) so I still consider it my favorite of your locations.
10	Rudeness, especially from staff. (Walt)
11	panhandlers outside.

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- 12 I dislike that there are computers that adults use in the area with children's books. I would like a bigger area for new and featured books and a place to sit and browse them.
- 13 The children's area is crowded and I feel self conscious of any noise my children make.
- 14 HOT AND HUMID restrooms in the summer.
- 15 Not enough new nonfiction DVD titles for kids. I'd like to see Winged Migration, Microcosmos, The Gods Must Be Crazy, The Way Things Go, etc.
- 16 Make every effort to make it user-friendly
- 17 it is small, but it has everything i need (south is close to my house)
- 18 Not a comfortable place to linger. Need to come to terms with the reality the facility serves as a hang out for the indigent. Having a security guard who plays on a computer near the entrance doesn't help.
- 19 Bennett Martin-Lack of parking!
- 20 At times it is quite noisy.
- 21 BMPL needs more space.
- 22 Bennett Martin is outdated and has a very worn appearance. The interior is drab. It would be refreshing to have bright colors and new tables, furniture and shelves in a new library.
- 23 It is unaesthetic. I would like more attractive reading areas with lamps and tables. Books, CDs, DVDs are arranged unattractively. I want the library to be arranged more like a bookstore that is inviting.
- 24 There are not enough evening hours. There are many people that would just stop in during the evening if it were open.
- 25 2nd floor is usually much warmer than the 1st floor.
- 26 Sometimes returned books don't get checked back in right away.
- 27 Dark, dirty, the old lady is showing her age.
- 28 I wish it was larger to easily serve all age groups.
- 29 Sometimes noisy (staff or young people), wireless internet not consistent, dirty, long wait times for items on hold.
- 30 GERE smelly bathrooms, little information of gere book talk schedule BENNET MARTIN some spooky people, afraid to go to remote areas, ex. biography, etc

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- 31 Computer Lab and no place to really sit and use or plug in a laptop if you bring one.
- 32 no comment
- 33 It is "cold" and "hard" - lots of stone and glass. Not a very inviting place. The 4th floor conference room and auditorium areas are also long in the tooth and not very inviting.
- 34 I would have to say the bathrooms. I try not to have to use them when I visit (especially Eiseley) because they usually smell bad, and sometimes the toilets do not seem to be flushing. Also, have had a problem with kids throwing water around in there, when I do go in.
- 35 Needs more quiet space, more study space and could be cleaner
- 36 The LACK of EVENING HOURS!
- 37 N/A
- 38 transients
- 39 The early closing times.
- 40 Sometimes the teenagers are disruptive. The children and teen space should be on the opposite side of the library from adult study space.
- 41 Gere -- the speedbumps are way too high on the east side of the library! They are not needed as very few pedestrians are along the exit road they are placed on.
- 42 It has limited DVD collection and dated music collection.
- 43 Unfortunately, Bennett closes at 6pm, which means I sometimes have to leave work early if I want to get books (if dropping off books, then I can go later).
- 44 Uncontrolled use of facilities by the street population.
- 45 The hours! We wish that they would go back to being open later than 6 pm during the week.
- 46 It is frustrating that Bennett Martin has such limited hours in the evenings.
- 47 I wish it had newer books and DVDs.
- 48 That the hours are not longer. 6 is not late enough!
- 49 It's hard to browse through audio book selection -- especially those on the bottom shelves. Just hard to see (esp. with progressive lenses)

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- 50 The kids space with the wii is sometimes loud/distracting. Some of the materials for special topics including nutrition/fitness seem outdated. It is difficult to find current materials.
- 51 Don't feel safe letting my child wander more than arms length. (Was even once gently - and very politely - cautioned by staff to keep close eye on toddler because of "the people that are around sometimes").
- 52 not open in the evenings - very inconvenient and irritating with my work schedule
- 53 I miss the periodicals collection. I used to enjoy researching historical computers and electronic developments in the decades of old technical magazines. Now I'm not sure where to go for that information, if it's available anywhere at all.
- 54 There's really nothing I don't like about Gere library. It's busy, but staff are generally available and always helpful, despite the pace.
- 55 Elevators usually not working, patrons with very, very offensive body odor
- 56 It's drab (Bennett Martin.) Fines are enormous and accrue so quickly! Parking can be a real hassle. Not a dislike, but the outdoor atrium seems silly in this climate.
- 57 Can't think of anything that I would say that I dislike.
- 58 Everything is so close together, they all need more space, more rooms.
- 59 Temperatures usually too warm, Summer, Winter inside building (Bennett Martin). No designated parking (BM, downtown.)
- 60 n/a
- 61 Aging building, hours.
- 62 I wish there was a bigger selection of non fiction books at Gere.
- 63 Not enough music CDs
- 64 Bennett Martin -- needs to be updated; shabby looking. Gere -- Nothing I dislike.
- 65 Nothing.

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- 66 Drive-up dropbox is on the passenger side of the car, so I can't return materials w/o help or getting out of the car.
- 67 No evening hours and short hours in general.
- 68 I think it could use more study rooms. I also think the high ceilings allows for more noise to carry when people gather in the front lobby.
- 69 Building too small, meeting rooms inadequate and difficult to access, awful architecture, squalid atmosphere, insufficient seating, poor environmental controls, ugly and uncomfortable furniture, terrible signage. It's an embarrassment!
- 70 Both of these library facilities SERIOUSLY need updating.
- 71 Bennet Martin - trying to find parking space, paying for parking
- 72 Poor connections to the Wi-Fi. It is plainly of reduced accessibility. Additionally the filtering software is very out of date and apparently done by an incompetent.
- 73 Collection is smaller so sometimes what I want isn't available; restrooms are dowdy; because of its smaller size, it can get loud if a lot of people are using it.
- 74 the employees
- 75 the adult area is a bit utilitarian
- 76 They often do not have the books I'm lookingfor. They are usually at BPML and I have to place a hold.
- 77 I wish users could be more respectful of others when reading newspapers. When they are done, they put the newspaper back on the shelf completely out of order :(
- 78 There isn't anything I dislike, but I do like the idea of having small group areas and a coffee bar. Nice.
- 79 The library is dirty and has a lot of empty shelves lately.
- 80 No parking downtown area
- 81 I dislike the inavailability of the unfiltered computers. There's only two of them and they're usually busy.
- 82 Not very big

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- 83 Not many comfortable places to sit with a book.
- 84 You have to pay for parking, and rarely can find a spot.
- 85 People (other than very young children) talking and not being told to be quiet. I have also heard music playing on the intercom at Walt. I think a library should be quiet unless it's in a designated children's area or special event area.
- 86 That the look of the building is old both on the inside and outside of the building. Parking in a downtown area is just that parking in a downtown area.
- 87 Materials I would like not there (but easy to request from another library)
- 88 As I get older, it would be nice to have chairs on rollers that I could use to see what is on the lower shelves.
- 89 Dingy feeling. People not returning materials that we would like to check out.
- 90 parking
- 91 Can't think of anything.
- 92 parking, limited DVD selection
- 93 The library closes too early. It is understaffed.
- 94 toilet paper holder in restroom too low, hit knees on. Hard to find parking downtown when events going on at pershing. Would like to see open longer at some locations. Maybe even a Friday night. You can't look up specific magazines to tell if they are in or not. Popular magazine check out and not there. Fine homebuilding.
- 95 It feels old, outdated and cramped.
- 96 I can't get the self check-out to check out all of my books. There is often one I have trouble with, and then I just have the librarian check out my books in the end.
- 97 Parking and some of the people that hang around on the outside of the building and smoke and make nasty remarks at Bennett Martin.

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- 98 Staff are not always helpful/friendly. Books are not always checked in in a timely manner.
- 99 Exterior appearance of Bennett Martin branch--everything I like about that library is within the walls.
- 100 smells
- 101 Lack of parking.
- 102 It looks really worn out. Carpet is drab with age, spaces all are well-worn and look tired. Noisy on 4th floor meeting area when two events are going on simultaneously in the two spaces. Very minimal kitchen area by fourth floor meeting room.
- 103 NA
- 104 The library feels dark and cluttered. The displays are interesting, but could be on better furniture and less cluttered looking. I wish there was a better integration of archives, books and digital content. Lately I've noticed there isn't as much older stuff to browse. I used to like browsing the old magazines, but haven't seen them in years : (
- 105 Could use more staff
- 106 Inadequate lighting. Badly groomed appearance of staff. Difficulty of locating staff when needed. Long lines at checkout and self-check terminals that are frequently out-of-order.
- 107 parking (fortunately I work downtown and can walk from my office)
- 108 bigger bathroom at the childrens' area would be nice.
- 109 it seems to be oddly laid out and not well marked.
- 110 No meeting room for Just Desserts! I like Gere's room where we meet for the Monday discussions.
- 111 I wish the library had more downloadable ebooks and audio books. I know that it's a new service and will probably improve in the future, but the selection seems very small.
- 112 The search function on the library website is harder to use than it used to be. I love checking out DVDs, but find them hard to browse unless I view them online. Probably because they are in such high demand!

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- 113 Walt: The teen space is very cramped and not very teen friendly; so many Internet computers are in different places and they are often very noisy. BMPL: Difficult access due to no designated parking; ugly building and interior; cluttered on the first floor; challenging layout of books on the second floor; smells old and musty sometimes.
- 114 Returning books. Always checked in late on the fault of the library. We return day due (in the morning) yet they still don't get checked in until the day after or later, then we have to complain to have the fee reversed.
- 115 There is too much emphasis on not using available space to place more books in the libraries. Every library needs to have as many books as it can feasibly hold.
- 116 The library needs more computers, learning events. larger meeting room, study spaces, comfortable seating, a coffee bar, teen space, and better childrens area.

9. What services or building features would you like to see in a Main Library?

100 Responses

Respondent

#

Response

- 1) I would like to see a family library account established where members of a household (e.g. husband and wife; parents/minor children) could sign up for a shared library card. This would be an optional signup that would allow multiple people to share the same account. It can be hard to keep track of all the items checked out and due dates when I have to login to the hubby's account (with his permission) and also my own. Having the choice to share one library account number (officially) would really help. 2) It would also be helpful if there was an email dispatched when a book one had checked out was being recalled for a hold. I have been surprised a number of occasions that I couldn't renew a book because another patron had a hold placed. It would be nice to have an email sent as an alert so one could hurry up and finish the book before the checkout time expired.
- 2) More prominent space for the Heritage Room; good sight lines (no scary isolated corners); as many electrical outlets as possible; flexible layout; consolidation of staff work areas; bicycle parking.
- 3) See above.
- 4) unforgettable exterior that makes people remember how lucky Lincoln is to have such a library.
- 5) patient , helpful staff and what i wrote about why i visit the library most often
- 6) Given the proximity (and popularity) of the Children's Museum, Bennett Martin should try to do co-events with the Museum. Both entities would benefit.
- 7) space for disabled adults
- 8) I love the idea of meeting rooms and an auditorium for programming. A good coffee bar could be really nice. Writing workshops.
- 9) Updated technology. A separate genealogy or local history department. I can't believe you don't have a facility for selling your removed books year-round -- most other large cities' libraries I've visited have those. Merchandise with your logos on it -- I'd love to wear a library t-shirt or have a canvas or "green" recycled book bag. Newspapers from more large cities outside of Lincoln and Omaha. Evening hours (at least a few nights a week) downtown. Computer classes or tutorials. Downtown book groups.
- 10) Cafe would be great!
- 11) I like most of the suggestions above. I love traditional old libraries with wood shelves and hidden nooks for reading with comfortable chairs and soft light. I would love to see community rooms for meetings.

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- 12 Parking.
- 13 I would love to have a real flagship public library building in Lincoln, a destination, a testament to our communitywide commitment to literacy, recreational reading, and a place for people to get quality information about our city, state, nation and the world.
- 14 Constant up-dating of all of the ever-changing technology, in order to function at maximum effectiveness in the world
- 15 meeting space would be fantastic
- 16 For services see above.
- 17 A great teen area!
- 18 I think the building should be a prominent, important building - Carnegie inspired. I would like to have reading areas for children and teens. School children should be able to discuss group projects without disturbing others who are reading or researching. Computer labs are important. An outdoor space for quiet reading and contemplation would be wonderful.
- 19 Pleasant, attractive reading spaces with tables, chairs, couches, foot stools, lamps. Attractive, convenient restrooms. Cafe.
- 20 Free parking, WiFi, more evening hours-even late night times, drive-by pickup of books, more digital books.
- 21 Soundproof rooms for children, one for tweens/teens & soundproof phone booths for cell phone users.
- 22 Comfortable, relaxing reading spaces.
- 23 lots of *natural* light, green plants, feeling of outdoor reading/experience while indoors (atrium-like areas) for good weather, and cozy feel, fireplace, safe and protected from weather in bad weather. Fresh air, clean, lighting bright without being too "flourescent." High ceilings, quality materials, kept up and well maintained.
- 24 CLEAN RESTROOMS OPEN AREAS - do not want to be threatened by homeless, it should not be an adult daycare area (but restrooms available to them)
- 25 Parking and centrally located in the core of Lincoln.
- 26 no comment
- 27 Better spaces for reading, teaching, etc.
- 28 I would like to see alot of new books, right when you come in. Also, a place for the kids after school so they aren't running around the library so much. I like the little area near the door at Eiseley with the tables and chairs-it would be nice to have something like that in the new library, maybe bigger ?
- 29 It should have more space than Bennett Martin and it should be nearer to commercial businesses, so that some could shop while others read.

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- 30 I have already indicated my preferences above.
- 31 Open floor plan, lots of windows, more self-check-out stations, maybe some e-book downloading stations.
- 32 Sound proof areas for kids & teens, also something sound proof for making cell phone calls. Download stations, privacy screens on the internet computers that are sitting upright on the desks.
- 33 I think some nice benches outside around some pretty landscaping would be nice. We don't have much of that at the ones I go to. Some cubicles with lights like they have at the UNL law school library would be nice. It has to have comfortable chairs and couches for lounging. That's a must.
- 34 Free, adequate parking. Reading groups with different meeting times. Evening hours until 9:00 pm.
- 35 A snappier, more inviting atmosphere.
- 36 Set up a separate area designed to attract those just trying to get out of the elements and killing time by having some materials available to them with others available on request (perhaps controlled by a permanent street address, an active library card, etc.)
- 37 I'd love to see a bigger room for the children's books with more space and seating especially for reading and doing puzzles, magnet boards, and the like. I'd like storytimes and special events for children. Please keep a storytime at Bennett Martin! We love the outdoor courtyard at Bennett Martin so I'd like to see something similar at a new Main Library. Natural light, big windows, window seats to read in.
- 38 More open space for programs. The Denver City Library has ongoing community workshops on various topics. These are very popular. It would be great if Polley Music Library had a few lab rooms with a keyboard and CD player, so one could sample music before checking it out.
- 39 Lots of books and DVDs. Trained Reference librarians who can help with research. A good genealogy and local history collection with staff that have expertise in using it. PARKING!
- 40 I'd like to see a larger children's section with more seating, places to read, and puzzles.
- 41 Dedicated genealogy space for Nebraska, not just Lancaster and surrounding counties.
- 42 Outside reading space like in the downtown library.
- 43 Expansion of e-books. Larger selection of early reader books for children and a nice place for children and their caregivers.
- 44 quiet tables for study or reading, computer monitors set on a table surface - much easier on my "old" eyes than the dropped down screens

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- 45 Natural lighting - skylights, lots of windows. Live plants.
- 46 Open, spacious design that's welcoming and that takes advantage of green construction and design principles.
- 47 Large-screen tvs in separate meeting rooms, cafe (as seen in many museums, medical plazas, on-site free parking
- 48 Bigger browsing collection. Business services center. Downloading (audio & e-books) center. Parking, parking, parking!
- 49 quiet (at least somewhat), comfortable, well lit (preferably sunlight) areas for reading, or work; readily available power supply for digital devices including laptops or tablets;
- 50 All kinds of services, book, DVDs, downloadable things, meeting rooms, certain space for certain age groups.
- 51 A small garden. I was surprised and pleased when I saw the one at BM, and would include such at a new main library. It's also a hallmark of Lincoln. More alcoves for reading--they can be open and easily seen. Take a look at Norfolk Public Library, there are quiet place in the corners, but are in good sightlines, if I remember correctly.
- 52 No additional services or features are necessary. I would prefer to see overall library space remain about where it is. As more media becomes readily available via digital sources the need for physical space will diminish. I do not want to see the city obligate the citizens to fund additional unnecessary space.
- 53 Centrally located in the middle of Lincoln
- 54 Good parking; quiet areas in the library for leisure reading; teen space; space for children's programming, story hour, and summer reading activities; study rooms; meeting rooms of various sizes; wireless access; study/work rooms for group work (wired, white boards, etc.); possibly production studio-like area for teens and others to produce their own videos, etc.
- 55 Central repository for the bulk of the LCL physical materials collection. Individual and small groups areas, modern meeting rooms.
- 56 Central location is the most important concern for me.
- 57 I think it should be all inclusive in regard to all age groups and demographics. I think it should be a bright, cheerful place to gather. I would like to see more community events held there, especially those geared towards single people and young adults/professionals (20's-30's)

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- 58 Open, flexible spaces that can be readily reconfigured as consumer needs and service models change. Large, easily accessible meeting rooms and a large auditorium. Adequate self-service stations. Both group and individual table groupings. Gigabit internet access. Attached parking facility. LEED certified building.
- 59 All above. A real community meeting place.
- 60 cafe/coffee bar
- 61 I would like it to be open and inviting, have an auditorium seating at least 300, and a rooftop reception area for library and city events.
- 62 As stated above, I would love a signature piece of art that would symbolize the Libraries and become the basis for a logo or brand identifier. I want the library to be viewed as a community asset.
- 63 more community events.
- 64 We always try to visit a public library on vacation to get a feel for a new city. The kids love to see how a community designs a children's area, how a community tells its story, how welcome you are made to feel, etc. A main library can help the City of Lincoln welcome people to our city and to our state. It can tell the story of our history and more importantly provide a vision for our future. The design of the building, the artwork, etc can do those things. Also the move towards more holistic teen engagement centers in some metropolitan city libraries is very exciting and could provide great opportunities for the library and for young people.
- 65 Classes re use of e-readers and how to download books from the public library. Bennett Martin Public Library: More sofas where to read.
- 66 Lots of windows. More meeting rooms of different sizes for community use. Online reservation of community rooms (maybe you have this already and I don't know it).
- 67 I'd like it to be a downtown Lincoln destination with parking and be cleaner, fresher and brighter. I'd also like to have better accessibility to special collections, like the heritage room and microfilm. The library needs more books! Interlibrary loan is nice, but it takes a long time. Not everyone (even young people)wants an e-reader .
- 68 Meeting rooms, enough for 50-100, ability to size meeting rooms for opening to larger rooms or displays relating to meetings
- 69 I'd like to see an auditorium designed for special events.
- 70 Amazing selection, space for reading, coffee bar, quiet space and discussion space.
- 71 Big open spaces with room to sit and read, more computers available for internet, an area for young adults, a parking lot, coffee bar

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- 72 free parking
- 73 Primary space for special collections to showcase the unique product. Ensure that they have room to grow. A new library building that could accomodate all that an up-to-date and growing community library would include. Too numerous to list here.
- 74 More advanced reference materials
- 75 A feeling of space for building feature. Continue to have a large selection of books and audio books.
- 76 Attractive. Up to date. Welcoming. Inviting. CLEAN. Open feeling so I can move freely but still keep an eye on my kids. Historical information about the city/past libraries of the city.
- 77 I would like to see a cafe area, maybe like the Scooter's in the State Office building, except in the main library there would be places to sit.
- 78 larger areas for Heritage Room
- 79 headquarters functions as well as public access and use
- 80 Benches out front for smokers to sit.
- 81 Possible be able to tell what magazines are available (JAN-Feb 2012). Maybe with popular magazines changes due date to a shorter date so they would be more available. Example dvd 1 week check out.
- 82 I want it all. Places for children, teens, adults, a place for a people to be loud, a place for people to be quite. A room full of computers and areas where folks can plug in their own or the library's laptops.
- 83 I would like to see interlibrary loan and a very large collection of books and dvds. I also would like the building and decor to be sturdy but beautiful. Forget about bells and whistles such as an auditorium and conference rooms.
- 84 Meeting space, individual rooms, kids area, openness.
- 85 Heritage Room, central research materials, ample book selection
- 86 open space, carpeting and colors that "wear well"
- 87 How about a room for books on sale. It would end the crush at the annual sale (which I hate), make the books available year round and they could be sorted at leisure. Many libraries like MPLS and Fargo have this feature and it seems to work extremely well. It does not even have to be "manned" as the circ desk can take money.

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- 88 Natural light through energy-efficient windows. LEED certified (or at least, LEED-level) construction. Geothermal heating? Solar? We need a beautiful library, well-designed, flexible. A welcoming space that is a people's temple. (I really dislike the new central library in Des Moines, Iowa; avoid that kind of barebones, cementy, too loud construction. You don't want to feel like you are in Home Depot or Menards, when you enter the library.)
- 89 Natural light; variety of spaces; art work; comfy seating areas.
- 90 I would like to be able to go to the Heritage Room more easily-not take an elevator? I would like a more comfortable space to use microfilm and library research materials. A genealogy room? I like when the staff working at the microfilm desk know about the materials and can assist me with questions.
- 91 Book shelves with built-in bookends and backs to keep books from sliding all over. Excellent lighting. Adequate number of computers to access the catalog. Parking. Above all: Emphasis on function rather than glitzy architecture.
- 92 Above list looks like we have many great ideas; how about some on-site power generation?
- 93 i'd love a little coffee shop so i can just sit and read with something to drink or a snack.
- 94 Ample parking! Designated areas for children, teens, adults, meetings. Reading/browsing areas and access to computers in all areas.
- 95 Overall I'd like to see a much more attractive building with nicer rest rooms. I can't think of anything else!
- 96 I would love to see the main library modernized. The design of the library is nice, but parts of it seem to be old and falling apart.
- 97 Books.
- 98 Parking; beautiful outdoor space that could be used for reading, and community events and partnerships; a designated and easy-to find-space for teens; an auditorium for events; windows to allow in lots of natural light along with good lighting.
- 99 There needs to be a coffee/cafe area, a place for a used media/bookstore, a place for performing arts, and an auditorium for programs, lectures, display space, ect. In short, the main library has to be a downtown destination place for lots of arts activities.
- 100 I would like to see a enclosed garden area where you can enjoy lunch or meet friends. I also would like to see a separate teen and children's area.

10. Any additional comments?

67 Responses

Respondent #	Response
1	I am hoping that the new library will be located where Pershing Auditorium sits. I think that would be a fantastic use of that space.
2	The library is a necessary public service. We should support it the same way we do the police and fire departments.
3	I understand the definition of downtown seems to be changing but I wouldn't wish for the main library location to move too far from downtown dwellers and workers to be too far for an easy break time errand or usage.
4	the downtown library is a vibrant part of downtown Lincoln. it encourages people who walk, take a bus and otherwise would not have the ability to access public services that are an essential part of education and culture. Please be sensitive to the needs of all in our community!
5	I use the library in spurts. Although I haven't used the library recently, In the past I have used Bennett Martin. I lived in the country but worked near downtown. It is within walking distance where I'm living now. I have never begrudged the taxes I pay to support a library. It has been a comfortable friend since I was a small child. I would hope that the Main Library would be a welcoming, loving place for all who come through its doors. And, a place that is gentle in its welcome, encouraging to the patron no matter what their desires might be--research, reading, technology. I would hope the person would find helpful guides to fulfill their requirements.
6	More multiple copies of books used by area Book Clubs.
7	I love having a vibrant library downtown, but have been disappointed in the direction the current library has been going -- depressed looking facility, selling off most of the magazines, reducing the size of the collection. None of this makes me think positive thoughts about the current library. If those trends could be reversed, and an exciting, new building with cutting-edge technology and a respect for older books could be created, I'd be even more of a regular customer than I already am. Especially if I can find easy, free parking! Good luck!!
8	Keep up the good work!
9	Thanks for soliciting comments!

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- 10 Please retain the in the heart of downtown location. It would be great to eliminate the sense that the downtown location is the poor relation to the suburban branches. Have the downtown library open at least one evening a week.
- 11 (Thanks for asking!)
- 12 Thanks for giving the public an opportunity to comment before making the final decisions on the central library.
- 13 Make going to the library chic! I love the courtyard at Bennett Martin and would like to see more pleasant, outdoor spaces that include comfortable seating and sculpture. Water is good too. I appreciate several features of the new online catalog: hold lists, reading history, renew but it isn't as good as Google when it comes to searching for titles. For the most part the info we input must be exactly correct. And I have never mastered how to get to the DVD list!!
- 14 Our lib ray is such a great bargain! I have enjoyed the services for over 50 years and have appreciated all the expanded services over the years. I appreciate all of the planning that has been done to bring our library into the digital age and I would like to thank the library staff and administrators for everything they have done. Many times in my 20's & 30's I went to the library for a quiet hour away from the world to reflect and recharge. I wish more of our young "Tweens" could learn to love and experience this valuable resource.
- 15 Investigate whether BMPL can be remodeled to use as the income generating office & event spaces. Free parking was mentioned, but how are you going to police that so people aren't parking while at work/shopping? Keep the downtown library in approximately the same location.
- 16 Seems like the rich areas of town get the best libraries. Not fair to those who would need to travel to go there, (and why should people have to?) especially when Lincoln has such poor public transportation. Make libraries more equal, or better yet concentrate on who/where needs the services most, to show you value even the non-rich areas and people.
- 17 I don't think that the Pershing Auditorium would be a good choice for the main library. If you want to use the site you should raze Pershing and build a new structure. There is nothing worth saving about Pershing. It's ugly and converting the space to a library could be very inefficient and unwise. Why limit yourself to that structure? Start over with a building designed to be a library.

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- 18 Other than going downtown there is no library in the core of Lincoln. You basically have to go to the outskirts and that is where all the new libraries have been built. All of the older smaller libraries have either already been closed or are on the block to be closed. So older neighborhoods don't have easy access to libraries. Since the older libraries have been in existence longer and have been paying taxes longer I think they should be receiving the same services and conveniences as the outlying areas of the City. It irritates me that I have to drive out to get to a library. The closest physical library is downtown where there is parking I have to pay for that probably is a block or more away or if I'm busing the route may not actually go by the library making it necessary to play musical buses. I've noticed the downtown employees are not as friendly as other branches also. In fact they are often quite snippy. Another reason to not go there.
- 19 no comment`
- 20 There needs to be a downtown library, but I don't agree that there needs to be a large, "main", library with lots of amenities. Seems like it could be a simple storage & distribution center to the branch, neighborhood, libraries which already have most of the amenities mentioned.
- 21 Along with great service, I see tons of things on the list of "what would be cool" that I would love. Definitely fun to have an upgrade! :)
- 22 Print materials won't disappear entirely even if Ereaders come way down in price. I work on a computer all day & when I'm relaxing I'd much rather read a book than another small computer screen. Also, some people have vision problems that makes ereaders hard for them to use.
- 23 Warm paint colors would be nice - maybe some pinks and oranges - so it feels cozy. Murals would be really cool.
- 24 The main reason I dislike going to Bennett Martin is there is usually a foul odor, which I feel comes from the homeless people. They do have a right to be there, so the new library should have ventilation/freshening technology to reduce this odor.
- 25 Thanks for listening!
- 26 I love the public library!
- 27 I would love to have a new, state-of-the-art library, but I would not support costly construction and upgraded materials until the environment itself can be better managed. Is there anywhere in the country where the public library system has a handle on this?! Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

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- 28 I know that Bennett Martin gets a bad rap from some people but those of us who actually use this branch on a regular basis know better. We use it every week at least. It is an essential resource for many people. Lincoln needs a branch downtown!!! I hope all this talk of a new Main Library is not used as an excuse to close our downtown branch. Has anyone considered the old Assurity building on K street? I notice that they were moving out files recently and haven't heard if anyone is taking over the building. It would be a good location and size with a big parking lot and several bus routes passing by.
- 29 I don't think a downtown library will be successful until you do something about the homeless problem. They take over a lot of the chairs, computers, and restrooms. The smell often drives me out of the rooms and some of these people are downright scary. I don't like the panhandling, alcohol use, having them grab me or having them insist on talking to me when I'm busy. There needs to be a separate facility for them which offers job counseling, a place to shower and get clean clothes, and in some cases, psychiatric care. I wish the library could refuse to serve the ones who cause so much trouble. When Day Watch was downtown, they hung out there.
- 30 Please keep Bennett Martin at it's current location, but with extended hours. We need a library downtown.
- 31 I really enjoy the summer programs the library offers. Thanks for all you do!
- 32 Would be great to have a mixed-use building with perhaps the library, cafe, express governmental services, independent movie theater, maybe even a small art gallery.
- 33 remember that Bennett Martin library is much loved as is - don't convert it to the latest trendy design just because it might move to a new location
- 34 I have mixed feelings about the expanding DVD collections. I think educational, scientific, and historical movies and TV shows are fine, but if people want box-office movies, they should go to Blockbuster or Netflix. It begins to feel like the libraries are going the way of museums; they can't just be educational and informative - they have to be "entertaining" too. If you're surrounded by thousands of books and you can't entertain yourself, you're in the wrong place.
- 35 It's a good library, but it could be great.
- 36 Oooh, a game room, both electronic, and board, because both can become boisterous, so it needs to be soundproofed more than the rest of the library. More electrical, & system etc. outlets for group role playing tournaments.

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- 37 The library needs to work within the amount of space it currently has and not look to increase its overall footprint.
- 38 I hope they keep the main library downtown.
- 39 I would like to see more large print books and audio books on CD
- 40 No. I wish you well. Lincoln really needs an impressive downtown presence. It is long overdue (no pun intended). Lincoln is a large enough city that it deserves to have such a facility. The city should be embarrassed that it has not accomplished this yet. I would think community pride would demand such a facility. It is the library's turn -- now that we've taken care of the sports/entertainment aspect of the city with the new arena. So, step up, Lincoln, and do the right thing!
- 41 Knowledgeable welcoming staff is the most important component to having a well-used library no matter where is located.
- 42 I think it should be an architectural destination spot that fits in with the downtown environment (if that is where it ends up being built).
- 43 I am opposed to re-purposing Pershing Auditorium as the new downtown library. Lincoln deserves a new, modern central library featuring a stunning architectural design that will become a proud landmark for the city. Our present library has served us for 50 years, so let's reach as high as we can because it's going to be part of Lincoln for a long time.
- 44 The new library should have super flexible space. Making it a place where meetings of all sizes could be held will draw people to the building. I like the idea of teaming with local non-profits, like Ethnic cultural centers, or arts organizations. I like the idea of partnering with public schools, similar to how the YMCA is partnering with the school in Fallbrook. I want programming to be hand in hand with the building's design. I don't want the design of the building to overshadow the work that happens in the building.
- 45 love Milwaukee's library, it's our absolute favorite and the Betty Brinn Children's Room is amazing!! Downtown Denver has some nice features too.
- 46 The library system in Lincoln rocks! Good job in keeping the libraries open for those who love to read! Tax me more if you need to! :)
- 47 Pat Leach rocks!

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- 48 location is important - please consider O street East of Downtown, there is a LOT of vacant space, such as 26th & O, 52nd & O, 70th & O, and others. Lincoln needs to have more development in East Lincoln and not take everything SOUTH. Personally I would prefer Northeast but do not think that is fair to the rest of the city. Keep it CENTRAL. Parking is very important. Thanks for the opportunity for input.
- 49 I love our libraries in Lincoln!
- 50 I think a good library is essential to a community.
- 51 Continue to support community and statewide author reading events. It's time for a new downtown library - or main library.
- 52 Love the libraries and think Lincoln is very fortunate. Wish more current ebooks were available.
- 53 Am surprised at interest in art display as it increases library liability, requires space to display continue to be amazed at food and books in the same place. Library owns these books, books cannot be returned if damaged as can be done in retail Think you must be sure what you offer is not duplicated elsewhere, ie: meeting space, auditorium space. Not really library's place to be everything to everyone. Plan for what will support your mission. Are you also working on a new strategic plan? Update?
- 54 I would like to see horror novels labeled the way sci-fi and mysteries are labeled so that I can browse for them more easily.
- 55 Like having in restroom a ledge to put your items on when using toilet. Helps when need to put a book down while using the facilities. Thanks for having this survey. Also want to say thanks for having a phone available to make a 2 minute call.
- 56 I really would like to have a library of some type - the main library or a branch - in the main downtown area. Someplace I can walk to over my break, pickup items and get back to work in 15 minutes.
- 57 I love the library. It saves me money and I like to read books and magazines and watch DVDs. If I were wealthy and you were accepting donations, I would give to the new library to make it really nice for people. Don't over limit the hours it is open or people won't use it.
- 58 If you haven't been to the downtown library in Kansas City (used to be a bank) it's fabulous. Wonderful, comfortable space, very welcoming, and warm, it's beautiful and has different things on each level and a small food bar. The parking garage is also something to see.
- 59 I hope the Main branch remains at a Downtown location.
- 60 Thanks for good library service in Lincoln.

Lincoln City Libraries
Services & Spaces for a Main Library
Online Survey February 2 – 15, 2012
Filtered for Responses from BMPL Users Only

- 61 Do NOT consider adapting Pershing. It is not a friendly building and the AC/heating plant is shot.
- 62 Be sure to have some kind of airlock doors, so that you don't get a cold blast every time anyone comes into the building. (Problem example is Open Harvest's exit, by the cash registers.) Have the most-used things (reference, circulation, fiction, etc.) visible when you enter. Actually, have them all visible when you are looking in from the outside, rather as the current BMPL does. Set up some kind of Skype computer for people on upper floor(s) to talk with reference staff. If you can figure out some way to be welcoming to the homeless population, without their presence intimidating the rest of the people using the library, that would be wonderful.
- 63 Remodeling Pershing is likely to be more expensive than building a new main library from scratch.
- 64 Thanks for this great service! Your works are a blessing to this community.
- 65 I love the Lincoln Public libraries!
- 66 It would be best to have the computer lab in an area not usually occupied by children and their parents because of the disturbing images sometimes displayed on the computer screens. Every parent/child needs to feel every effort is being made to make their library experience as safe and fun as it can be.
- 67 I love the libraries I use but I would like to see the main library be more of a community center that can be used by the whole community. A friendly place for families as well as individuals, a meeting place, a learning place, and a place to feel safe and comfortable.