Library concept design revealed

SPRING HILL – The City of Spring Hill is revealing the concept design plan for the new Spring Hill Public Library, which will be greatly expanded in renovated space at the Northfield Conference Center recently purchased by the City.

The concept image shows the conceptual floor plan of the two floors the library will occupy at Northfield along with inspirational imagery for the potential look of the interior and exterior. A poster print of the concept image will be displayed at the library and other community events to showcase the concept plan and imagery.

The project, estimated at about $6.75 million for design, construction and furnishings, will renovate nearly 40,000 square feet of existing space in the Northfield office complex,
including new finishes, lighting and library interiors to create a 21st century library. The City also will be considering repair of the existing parking lot and an exterior façade branding in addition to the library renovation project at Northfield, which was recently annexed into City limits.

Northfield is a two-story, 355,000-square-foot office building at 5000 Northfield Lane, about a mile southwest of City Hall, off Saturn Parkway and U.S. 31. Its seven connected buildings sit on 38 acres serving a wide range of lease tenants.

In striving to become a true 21st century library, our Spring Hill Library staff has packed as much as possible into its current 17,000-square-foot location at 144 Kedron Parkway, including both library materials and programing. In 2017, the Library boasted 147,486 visitors, 1,039 of whom were attending programs. Over 319,000 items were checked out by 8,000 different patrons, including WiFi hotspots among the available lending materials. The library also offers 25 public computers and 15 laptops for public use in comfortable seating areas.

Due to its consistent popularity, the library has outgrown its current space, placing limitations on its programing and resources and ability to meet the continued growing needs of the community.

“To say our library is popular would be an understatement,” Mayor Rick Graham said. “It’s a lively hive of constant activity literally overflowing with patrons, which is why we’re thrilled to see the library expansion project moving forward with this exciting concept design. This gives us a rough idea of what we can expect our new library to look like in fresh, renovated space at Northfield. From the look of this conceptual design, I think it’s only going to cause our library to become even more popular.”

The Spring Hill Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) soon will give consideration to authorizing HBM Architects to complete the remaining design services. The next step for the project will be to develop the preliminary design and construction drawings.

The project is anticipated to be ready for bid in early 2019 with completion of construction expected by early 2020.