

Pictured: Imagination Center site, looking toward library side. Photo credit CCI.

Imagination Center at Reindahl Park Update

The Imagination Center is taking shape! I toured the site on July 30 to see the progress as part of a regularly scheduled project check-in. Visitors can now see an outline of the building, which really helps to imagine the size of the space and the views from various perspectives. Despite a lot of rain recently, the project is progressing on timeline. Reviewing placement of all items in the building is crucial now before more concrete is poured and I've appreciated the opportunity to participate in this important stage of the process and learn from our Engineering, Library Facilities, and CCI teams.



As you know, our operating funding request continues to work through the city budget process. We are expecting final Council approval to hire our next two systemwide support positions – a full time Library IT Specialist 1 and a 60% Technical Services clerk – after August 5. We expect to have all three systemwide positions hired by the end of this year and will work this fall on having our 2026 hiring plan ready for the final budget approval in November. In other areas, Collection Manager Molly Warren has mobilized her team and selection work is starting for the new library's collection, IT Specialist 3 Pat Garvey is working with City IT, Engineering, and SCLS to make sure we have fiber to the building, and Facilities Coordinator Brian Jensen and Facilities Manager Mark Benno are making sure that all the little details are right at each step of the construction process. Madison Arts Commission, with support from Bubbler staff, is also leading a call for artist submissions for the Center required through the dedicated Percent for Art ordinance

Monthly construction updates are available on the [Engineering Department's project page](#) and shared out through the [Library's email newsletter](#), too.

And while there's been a lot of focus on the Imagination Center's construction, Goodman South Madison Library is also experiencing some construction in the form of a five-month renovation of the exterior parking lot, following the completion of a parking garage for Village on Park access to various businesses in that block earlier this year. You can follow along with the progress on the project's [live construction camera](#) or read more about the entire project on the Engineering Department's [project web site](#).