

Q9 Please use this space to provide any additional feedback about the Southborough Library building:

Answered: 137 Skipped: 191

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	8) Kitchen programs. 9) It needs to be expanded.	1/24/2024 5:17 PM
2	We mainly use the children's library and frequent the children's programs. The library would definitely benefit from having more space for the weekly children's programs. I would also love to see more space for play for the children. Currently, the children end up playing on the floor while others navigate around them trying to find books.	12/19/2023 5:20 PM
3	This building could use a more central/formal entry area from the parking lot. The Idea Lab separated from Teen Room would be nice, with more space for the teens. A separate room for Children's Programs would also be great. Better temperature control in the building would also be beneficial.	12/4/2023 3:11 PM
4	I would like to have private rooms to study in.	11/18/2023 1:12 PM
5	I think there a two private study rooms missing and from what I analyzed there are conditions for this, just do a small; very basic work for 2 rooms.	11/18/2023 1:11 PM
6	[on Question #3] Collaboration space. [on Question #5] More space for collaboration. Too many notices on the tables make the library unfriendly. [on Question #9] Too many warning notices make the library unfriendly. The library meet every user's needs. Additional outlets would make it more useful.	11/8/2023 1:58 PM
7	The Southboro library location is an integral part of the Town, and should not be moved. The whole flavor of the town would be lost without it being in it's long time location. Some things shouldn't be moved, it's an integral part of tradition. The Marlborough and Natick libraries both added on to their original historic locations- so should Southborough!!!!	11/7/2023 3:14 PM
8	I love the library & staff. It works great for me but I support what the staff thinks is needed. Thank you!!!	11/7/2023 3:05 PM
9	I like the library the way it is.	11/7/2023 7:43 AM
10	Love the current building but it does fill up very quickly, needs more breathing room.	11/6/2023 1:18 PM
11	I'm very happy with the library. The staff are pleasant and the building is as well. If something works don't fix it.	10/30/2023 8:57 AM
12	This is a terrific library with many books and events. The staff is friendly and helpful.	10/25/2023 10:34 AM
13	The Library should be a LIBRARY, not a community space.	10/22/2023 2:48 PM
14	The library does not currently have enough space for spending time private studying and researching. Would be great to see more individual desks with power outlets for laptops.	10/20/2023 1:09 PM
15	I support a more modern library facility. The current location is convenient and central so easy to find. Maybe add another facility with additional space elsewhere or if it's possible to add to current building	10/19/2023 10:46 PM
16	I love our town library, I would love to see it expand.	10/19/2023 8:17 PM
17	Library should focus on being a very good library not all things to all people and programs. Focus on books. We should never abandon the historic building in the downtown to do "more" unrelated activities. We have a rec department for other needs. Stick to the traditional uses in the same location.	10/18/2023 1:23 PM
18	The library's primary function is to provide books to the community. That function should ALWAYS stay in the current library building, which is an historic asset and essential part of Southborough.	10/18/2023 11:23 AM

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19	The library is a waste of funds. They are never busy and people don't read books anymore they use kindles, etc. We don't need to continue to fund this waste of money.	10/18/2023 10:50 AM
20	The library should stay where it is! It's centrally located for all!	10/17/2023 3:05 PM
21	Keep library right where it is with updates as needed.	10/17/2023 3:04 PM
22	I would endorse better lighting in the parking lot, a kitchen for staff and for culinary programs, more space for activities, meetings, etc.	10/11/2023 2:37 PM
23	I love the library and wish it had more of the more than books, like other libraries. I also wish there were more information services (taxes, bureaucracy, insurance, legal advice, ESL, etc). Thank you for all you do!	10/9/2023 10:49 PM
24	I feel, we can estimate a town by its buildings supporting the local community like public library, Rec center etc. Southborough is a beautiful town however its library is not at par at the moment. With the taxes residents pay, we can definitely have an advanced library. It could be a place for both adults and kids to do constructive thinking and study. I am a big big fan of public libraries and would love to see my town library be advanced to current times and very well catering to broader demographic and age groups.	10/9/2023 8:36 PM
25	Thank you for all that you do- the library is wonderful!	10/9/2023 7:35 PM
26	It's such an important part of the Town's history I would hate for the library to move but I also see the wisdom in expansion. My concern is, can the town's population support a bigger library? And where would a new one be located?	10/6/2023 2:53 PM
27	The parking lot could use better lighting. Full kitchen would be ideal for cooking and nutrition programs. If additional space is not an option, dealing with the flooding problems would be helpful.	10/4/2023 6:17 PM
28	Would be great to have meeting rooms for local community groups to use/rent	10/4/2023 12:41 PM
29	The quality of the work staff is the library's greatest asset.	10/3/2023 2:53 PM
30	I enjoy the building. It has some architectural details that I love. Moving that, you would lose its charm. Staff is terrific.	10/3/2023 2:51 PM
31	We indeed have a wonderful library. Huge kudos are owed to the Library administration and staff. We are grateful to have them. The Library and it's programs are absolutely essential and fundamental to an informed citizenry. It is a vital Town resource.	10/3/2023 11:18 AM
32	I like the old building location. How much would an expanded library increase taxes?	10/2/2023 11:04 AM
33	Your survey listed that it was about "services" so note that this comment is not about spaces . The fact that you don't have more than a handful of books in Spanish in your children's collection is real problem. You need to order more or ask for donations. When I asked today after anything that was related to Hispanic heritage month I was directed to a half of a shelf with a few titles in Spanish, no books focusing on heritage. Learning about Hispanic heritage month is not just for Hispanic families.... The librarians were kind enough to order me something via ILL but I hope the library can consider how to make itself inclusive to a diverse community in more ways than just physical spaces .	9/30/2023 3:50 PM
34	This place is awesome	9/30/2023 11:09 AM
35	The Southborough Library is a key, vital, essential, central town resource that serves a unique function. It is the best of Southborough! Library programs and resources are FREE FOR ALL and for EVERYONE, unlike schools and senior center which serve select populations. (Resources like Chestnut Farm are great but have you seen the cost to participate in its offerings? The Library should be funded abd supported at a level that allows it to continue to grow with the community - both the physical space and the resources it provides.	9/29/2023 4:03 PM
36	[on Question 2] Sometimes. Depends on what's going on. [on Question 3] Not sure. [on Question 5] What's the cost & impact on property tax?	9/29/2023 12:15 PM
37	If we could get a kitchen or microwave for cooking programs that would be astronomically good. At least a water kettle for any kids who want to study here through a meal to make instant food.	9/29/2023 12:13 PM
38	[for Question 2] Not for me - I never have difficulty finding a space. [for Question 3] I don't	9/29/2023 12:09 PM

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	know - my needs are met.	
39	The library is great and fun!	9/28/2023 8:13 PM
40	As a lifelong lover of libraries, I would love to have our library be one that i frequent— but I find myself most often visiting libraries in surrounding towns (such as Sudbury and Hopkinton) because the spaces and programming— especially for children and teens— are so far superior. We need a large space for children to sit and read with caregivers, participate in interactive story times with adequate room for crafts, play spaces with large, low tables where kids can build and play. The library can and should be the heart of a community, and I'm happy to know that the town of Southborough is willing to consider how to upgrade ours.	9/28/2023 7:45 AM
41	I would be supportive of the library moving locations or a split use with the current site being programs and book/extras moving or vice versa. More meeting space is a huge plus.	9/28/2023 1:28 AM
42	Thank you for providing this thoughtful survey. My hope is that the library will stay in the same location and may provide additional services as needed in other locations.	9/27/2023 10:38 PM
43	Question 5 is a joke and so skewed ifs ridiculous. A lot of options are missing from consideration. We've been frequenting all other libraries for years bc ours never changes anything up for children - same old programs, sane routines, same times etc. So many towns next to us offer truky robust and incredibke programming and education and soave and engagement formkids and families and are always bustling. Our library is within walking distance to 3 schools and is always dead. So much untapped potential...	9/27/2023 10:05 PM
44	Building is great but some spaces are under utilized. Teen room definitely needs a facelift.	9/27/2023 6:13 PM
45	I would love to see a cooking baking club if the library could get a small kitchen.	9/27/2023 11:13 AM
46	Consider building up to a 3rd floor!!	9/27/2023 11:06 AM
47	[on the parking question #2] Food Truck Summer Festival. Comments: Reinstate NY Times Crossword Puzzle Copies.	9/27/2023 11:06 AM
48	Seems trying to turn library into more than a library.	9/27/2023 8:24 AM
49	The renovations to the lower childrens area has been great. The main floor is quite old and doesn't promote use by older students for studying	9/26/2023 10:01 PM
50	Would love some spaces for adults working from home, doing emails or meetings that could serve as a working pod	9/26/2023 9:19 PM
51	Would love to see more activities / toys in the children's room space. It would be great to have a couple meeting rooms. We definitely need more study space. Accessibility is important. Also, I would like to see an expansion of the audiobook titles available on Libby. The waits are VERY long for many books. Thank you.	9/26/2023 9:08 PM
52	Most move it to a site that does not flood. Should integrate library with revamped senior center and community function center.	9/26/2023 12:36 PM
53	would love more space for children!	9/26/2023 9:53 AM
54	The library should be in one spot, not spread out among different locations. If the current building can't meet the town's needs, we should move the library.	9/26/2023 9:48 AM
55	We love the library where it is.	9/26/2023 9:05 AM
56	Can we just agree we are a small town and the residents don't have unlimited money for higher and higher taxes? This type of thinking is why we want to move out of this town. Once retired, you can't afford to live here anymore.	9/22/2023 8:15 PM
57	I am in favor of offering broader library hours over any additional services. I am strongly in favor of preserving and adding onto our current historic building.	9/22/2023 1:44 PM
58	I do not know enough about the real need for space but I am in support of helping the library grow for safe and educational needs in town. That said, I like the location.	9/21/2023 9:02 PM
59	Every effort should be made to enlarge the current building. It is an historic and iconic building in town, and with its current location characterizes historic nature of the the town. I am not aware of the Town owning any land where a new centrally located building could be placed. I am sure that with modern construction techniques the current building could be enlarged to	9/21/2023 6:58 PM

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meet the needs. The idea of having an "annex" to the library is absurd. The town certainly is not large enough to support the need for a branch library and except for Framingham, no other town around us has a branch library even though their populations may be much larger than ours. I suspect this idea came from a consultant who has no idea of how patrons use the library, but only looked at where space could be found in other buildings.

60	Preference is for library to expanded and stay in Southborough town. Please do not move or combine with other towns	9/21/2023 6:30 PM
61	Would like to see more items added to More than books section.	9/21/2023 5:10 PM
62	The building is beautiful. Keep it.	9/21/2023 10:34 AM
63	The library is fantastic! And so cool to be in such an old building! We actually skip our library as it is in a boring modern building and intentionally drive to Southborough. One thing that could improve in the building, though, are the tables and chairs. Perhaps more comfortable seating like the couches in the middle.	9/21/2023 7:15 AM
64	The library is kind of depressing. The Northborough library is bustling and there are lots of people. Ours is so...dead. I wish we had more life! Also, we need more community rooms where the community can have meetings. Northborough has a nice large one and we don't.	9/21/2023 6:39 AM
65	Please do not split the library in to multiple locations. If my family can't go together then we would likely not go.	9/21/2023 6:25 AM
66	The library is a great place, but often I need a quiet place (like a library) to study and I choose to drive to The Morse Institute in Natick because of the study spaces and overall larger area / tables. Library's aren't exactly quiet places anymore, but with more space, noise wouldn't be an issue for those choosing to study there. Half the time I don't even want a study room, just an area where it's somewhat quiet with comfortable chairs and more space on a big table. Also, unrelated, but the chairs aren't that comfortable for long term studying.	9/21/2023 12:05 AM
67	The location in the center of town is so wonderful AND the library needs desperately to be expanded. More study rooms (private spaces). Updated. Modernized.	9/20/2023 10:35 PM
68	Our library suits our town There is no reason to expand . Other town have spent millions and their library's are empty , not more traffic or being used more	9/20/2023 9:10 PM
69	I love the historical library building and grounds. I hope we can keep the space and make modifications as necessary.	9/20/2023 7:11 PM
70	The library is very outdated compared to many libraries in the surrounding areas, especially compared to Framingham and shrewsbury. We need space for more programs, more books, more lighting, something that suits the Caliber of the town.	9/20/2023 5:25 PM
71	I love that library is walking distance from our schools and on the main corner of our downtown. The staff and administrators are wonderful and I would concede to their judgment on most of these details regarding expansion and programming.	9/20/2023 3:43 PM
72	Southborough is most fortunate to have such a fine library facility. Expansion need not compromise its historical character. An addition could go UP without destroying the character of the building. Its central location is ideal for the town.	9/20/2023 3:37 PM
73	I love our library and would support any of their needs. We are truly blessed to have this gem in our community and I use it weekly.	9/20/2023 1:11 PM
74	It's a beautiful space but very small. Would love to see ideas for the future	9/19/2023 5:53 PM
75	A town library is one of the most important buildings in a town. A library is a center of learning for all and important for a[n] educated population.	9/19/2023 4:16 PM
76	Sadly the Sboro Library has gone downhill in the last 5-10 yrs. The "new" furniture is hideous. It does not go with the vibe of the building. Things have been randomly put in around the desk that just clutter the area. It has lost it's warm, cozy + inviting space. The outside needs more than a chess set. The new sign is poorly designed. Take care of the brick + beautiful building before putting in crap.	9/19/2023 4:07 PM
77	The library is one of the most popular services available in the Town. The library needs more money and funds to build a new library. The Children Library currently floods in rain storms.	9/1/2023 2:22 PM

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78	Awesome staff! Thank you!	9/1/2023 2:19 PM
79	I truly love what does Southborough Library offers our community. I am fully supportive of expanding its services. But I do love its current location and think it adds a lot to our town center. I would be sad if it moved. Therefore, if some of it services could be "offsite", that would be the best of both worlds. Keep up the great work Ryan and the rest of the Southborough Library staff. I feel fortunate to have such an amazing library administration that really listens to his customers and offers so many programs	8/31/2023 11:42 PM
80	The library's children's programs are a strength and asset to the town. The staff knows it's patrons and offers a wide range of programs to the town. Additional or renovated space to support it's programs as well as community programs should be considered a key benefit of the library. The southborough library is much more than just a place to store books.	8/31/2023 6:58 PM
81	It needs much larger meeting spaces to support current and future initiatives. Many libraries in the surrounding towns already provide this.	8/31/2023 6:24 PM
82	I don't want the books portion of the library to move. If the library needs more space, my hope would be that the programming and events could go to a new space, with the books staying at the main street location.	8/31/2023 5:23 PM
83	The children's play area should be more separate- it can be crowded and noisy, which detracts from the children using the room for browsing and actually reading.	8/31/2023 12:50 PM
84	I'm in favor of whatever the librarians want to do. Personally I think the library can do more with more resources. I also think it's current location is fantastic and should be maintained	8/31/2023 12:44 PM
85	The library should be part of a community center with function rooms for community groups and workshops.	8/31/2023 11:19 AM
86	Libraries are no longer just for circulating books. SPL needs to expand to meet current and future needs of the community.	8/31/2023 10:33 AM
87	I love the library where it is, cozy and historical. Ideally, they could keep that space and add on in different locations.	8/31/2023 10:13 AM
88	Why does Southborough have far fewer music CDs than other area libraries?	8/31/2023 9:33 AM
89	The Southborough library building is a beautiful structure inside and out and should remain as is with modifications if necessary. The library seems to have plenty of space....I visit often, and it is never crowded.	8/31/2023 9:29 AM
90	If not getting a larger children's room maybe getting an updated set of technology / devices for kids to try out	8/31/2023 9:26 AM
91	We would like to learn more about the need for changes based on the needs of those who need and use the library most often.	8/31/2023 9:11 AM
92	I have never seen the parking lot totally full when I comes to library use so I think that is fine. The lower level with the team room /meeting space is the are I feel needs a revamp/rethinking of design and functionality	8/31/2023 9:07 AM
93	The current structure is not sufficient. The main deficiency is lack of dedicate quiet study areas. Needs program to bring it to meet the current and future needs. The space is not welcoming especially to the hound populations.	8/31/2023 8:43 AM
94	I believe we should keep the library where it is - in the center of town. As Southborough Town center expands, the library can become even more of a center of community and learning.	8/31/2023 8:40 AM
95	Please consider expanding hours, especially during the summer to at least one weekend day. My family of two working parents and two young children find it very difficult to access the library during the summer when there is no weekend option.	8/27/2023 7:02 PM
96	I will not vote for expanding the current library building and will fight against ANY increase in taxes to do so. We should use buildings currently owned by the town for community interests beyond the library, such as teen programs and a cafe. Enough with the short-sighted use of our infrastructure currently in place around town!	8/26/2023 7:21 AM
97	Focus on the core mission: books and literacy.	8/25/2023 12:21 PM
98	The parking lot is confusing, hard to know ways to access parking at the library. Parking lot is	8/23/2023 1:56 PM

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	not signed as parking for library	
99	We just spent a zillion dollars fixing the outside of the building with the provision that we can't make changes. Dumb idea. You could have added a nice wing over the are towards the cemetery and asked St Marks if you could put the septicic system on their lawn.	8/22/2023 4:58 PM
100	The library is sufficient and needs to remain as is in the current location.	8/20/2023 11:19 AM
101	Our taxes are already too high. I would like to see the Library focus more on technology use to avoid needing additional space.	8/19/2023 8:24 AM
102	I love going to the library because of the relationships I have with the librarians. I would listen carefully to their input as they know the community and its needs.	8/19/2023 8:05 AM
103	Why aren't "meeting rooms" on the more of / support adding options lists? Or re-activate the existing meeting room? Or make meeting room double as study space? More, More, More isn't necessarily better. Use some creativity!	8/18/2023 5:17 PM
104	The library should focus on traditional library functions. Reading and books please. More space is NOT required. This is a historic building in the historic town center and should remain in use for years to come.	8/18/2023 3:05 PM
105	The library is a historic landmark in Southborough and should be maintained. It's unfortunate that so much of the town is constrained by the land owned by the private schools, but it's the reality. For adding to services, combining with the school re-assessment initiative and the expansion / relocation of the senior center with a community center would yield shared opportunity. Some of the suggested add-on services in the survey would more naturally fit in that type of plan (like cooking classes) than with the library.	8/18/2023 2:42 PM
106	A comfortable outdoor space to sit would be nice - patio or garden perhaps. A place to show movies would be good. More reading/study rooms would be helpful.	8/18/2023 12:14 PM
107	The library should concentrate on books and reading and learning. We have schools and the recreation department and the senior center and garden club—working together would improve the quality of life for citizens. The children's programs presently offered are valuable.	8/18/2023 9:25 AM
108	The current library suits our needs.	8/18/2023 7:44 AM
109	We need community meeting spaces....it would be nice to have them at the library	8/17/2023 4:33 PM
110	The library does a public good and Southborough's is sorely lacking in comparison to other towns. We should have a high quality library that the town can take pride in.	8/17/2023 4:01 PM
111	The library should be all inclusive and deserves to have the space needed in a single location.	8/17/2023 3:59 PM
112	I do not frequent the library as often as I would like, however in saying that, at this point in time with all the "on-goings" in Southborough, spending large sums of money for a service that appears to be working is not the right way to go. For any major capital improvements at the library, I would postpone until we substantially reduce our current debt.	8/17/2023 2:38 PM
113	As a taxpayer, I cannot support the options that I indicated above as the library is used by non-residents. While this may be a rather one-sided view of the value of a library, if residents don't like the library in their town, then they should raise the issue locally.	8/14/2023 3:42 PM
114	It seems like alot of money has recently been spent on the building to update the exterior, new HVAC, etc. Why abandon this beautiful building to only spend more taxpayer money. It is appropriate for a small town and usage.	8/11/2023 9:35 AM
115	Library needs space for programs but does not need to drastically change.	8/10/2023 6:00 PM
116	We love the library and it's staff we visit weekly and enjoy all the programing offered.	8/10/2023 10:06 AM
117	I love the Southborough Library but understand more space is needed to provide for expansion of services.	8/10/2023 7:02 AM
118	We need larger meeting rooms	8/9/2023 10:12 PM
119	We love the library! This year we especially enjoyed the kids cooking programs and the kids comic programs.	8/9/2023 5:16 PM
120	the Southborough Library is one of the best Libraries in the state.	8/9/2023 10:35 AM

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121	I think having a “community room” of sorts that can be reserved as a meeting space for local groups etc would be really great and helpful. Not all groups have the means or need to rent the community house on a regular basis	8/9/2023 10:17 AM
122	I'm a library supporter. My kids and I support every effort there is to expand and make this library a state of the art resource to the community. The library is more than books, it's a knowledge center, a place where people who are new to the community can come and ask questions, and a free place for people with low resources to find entertainment and knowledge. The library is the place in which I learned English when I first moved to the country. That's just how incredibly important the library is to people. Please continue to make the library a hub for the town to build knowledge, skills, and a sense a community.	8/9/2023 9:43 AM
123	I would prioritize being open more days over expanding the physical space, personally	8/9/2023 4:59 AM
124	The children's room should be renovated and it's outdated. More materials like puzzles, sensory games, board games, kitchen sets and other toys and space required for kids activities.	8/9/2023 12:33 AM
125	We primarily use the library with our young kids. The staff and programming are wonderful, but the building definitely needs more space for children. We frequently go to programs in other towns (Shrewsbury, Northborough) that have more space for them to play.	8/8/2023 10:42 PM
126	The library needs rooms for meetings. The only one you have is the Eaton room which is actually a small, stuffy storage room. It is not adequate for meetings or presentations.	8/8/2023 9:54 PM
127	I am disappointed that the library is closed on the weekends during the summer. The library could use more space where community groups could meet. The rooms in the basement used for this purpose are old and smell musty—not ideal.	8/8/2023 8:40 PM
128	Need additional parking closer to entrance - perhaps a different entrance	8/8/2023 8:00 PM
129	There is always adequate space (and parking) and is not busy when I go to the library, so it fits my needs. It's a very nice space.	8/8/2023 6:21 PM
130	Like the location where it is if expansion is needed	8/8/2023 3:52 PM
131	if the library does have to move walkability should be a top priority	8/8/2023 2:25 PM
132	I respect the history of the library in the present location. My problem is in space for the excellent expanding programs and new programs. I also have concerns regarding the constant flooding which results in the library closing or sections closing.	8/8/2023 2:24 PM
133	Nothing at this time, thank you.	8/8/2023 1:53 PM
134	I think the library is satisfactory, though it feels very dated and lacking some of the technology that I have seen at other libraries. I think the location is great and historic but it could use modern updates.	8/8/2023 11:12 AM
135	The library staff is amazing but they need more space to provide services. The location is central so staying out would be ideal but May not be possible. The Southborough library structure is becoming the most out of date in the area-should be an embarrassment to the town. Cheers to the staff that keep the library desirable despite all the challenges!	8/8/2023 10:58 AM
136	I love our library and the folks who run it! I trust them to know what the community needs. As someone without kids who uses the library regularly, it's important (for me) to see any expansion of space not solely be kids/family focused. I think a cooking space would be an incredible feature of a library! Anything that supports the library in developing interactive, vibrant, and engaging programming is something I would love to see investment in. I am very attentive to New England library programming due to my work (not library related) so I am keenly aware of the kinds of programs that help a library come alive and draw people in. I would love to see the Southborough Library get resources that would allows them to stand out in this way too. Separately, with respect to ever moving library location, I very much appreciate a commitment to keeping the library in the downtown area. It does feel important to have the library right downtown so both south and north sides of town can access easily. (I could imagine my engagement with the library dropping off significantly if the location was moved further away... I'd prob end up going to Ashland)	8/8/2023 10:00 AM
137	It could be more modernized, better building heating, plumbing, lighting, outlets, etc. Work and seperate study areas are necessary. Rooms for programs would be great. Better parking is	8/8/2023 10:00 AM

needed.
