

Library Bond Project Updates

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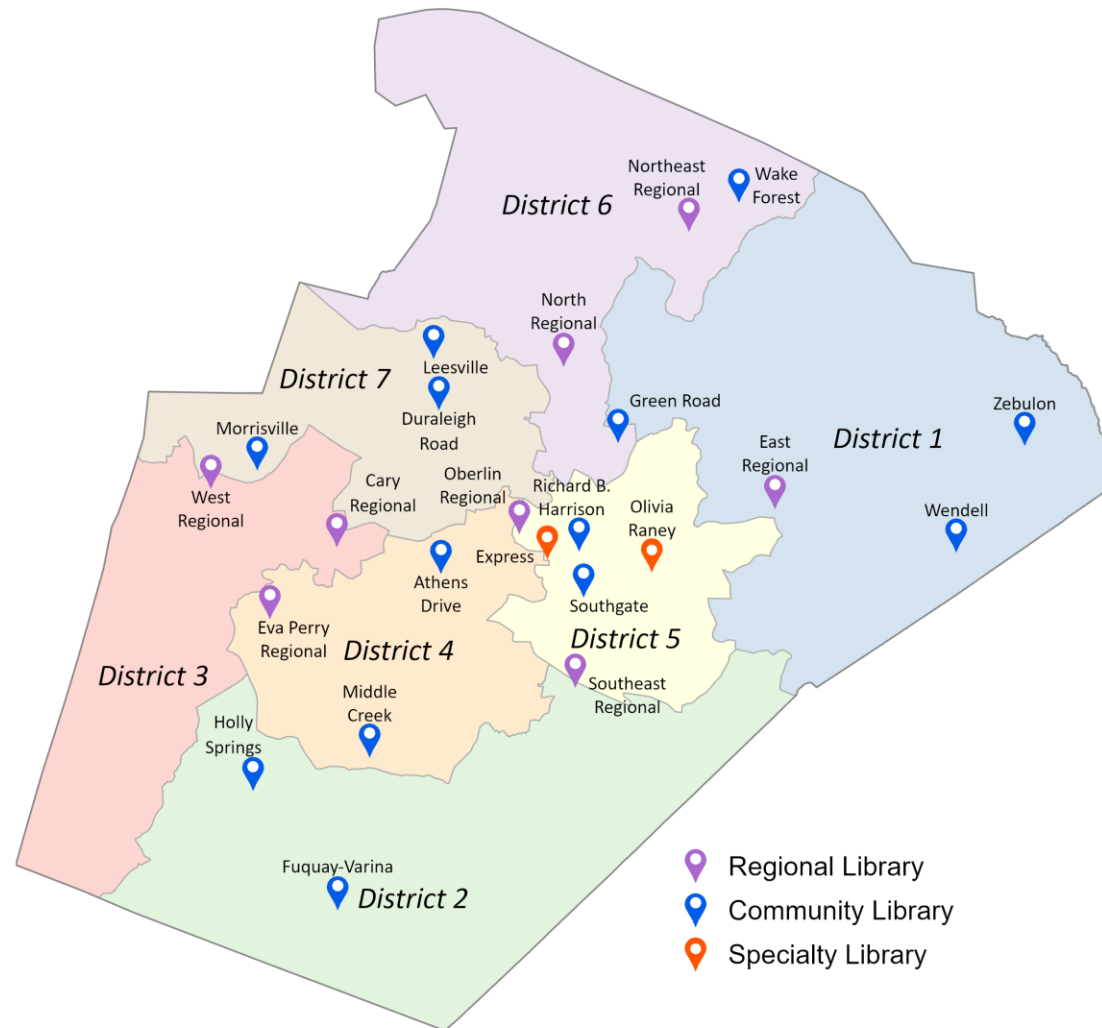
Agenda

- **Background Info**
- **Options for TBD Project**
- **Project Implementation**



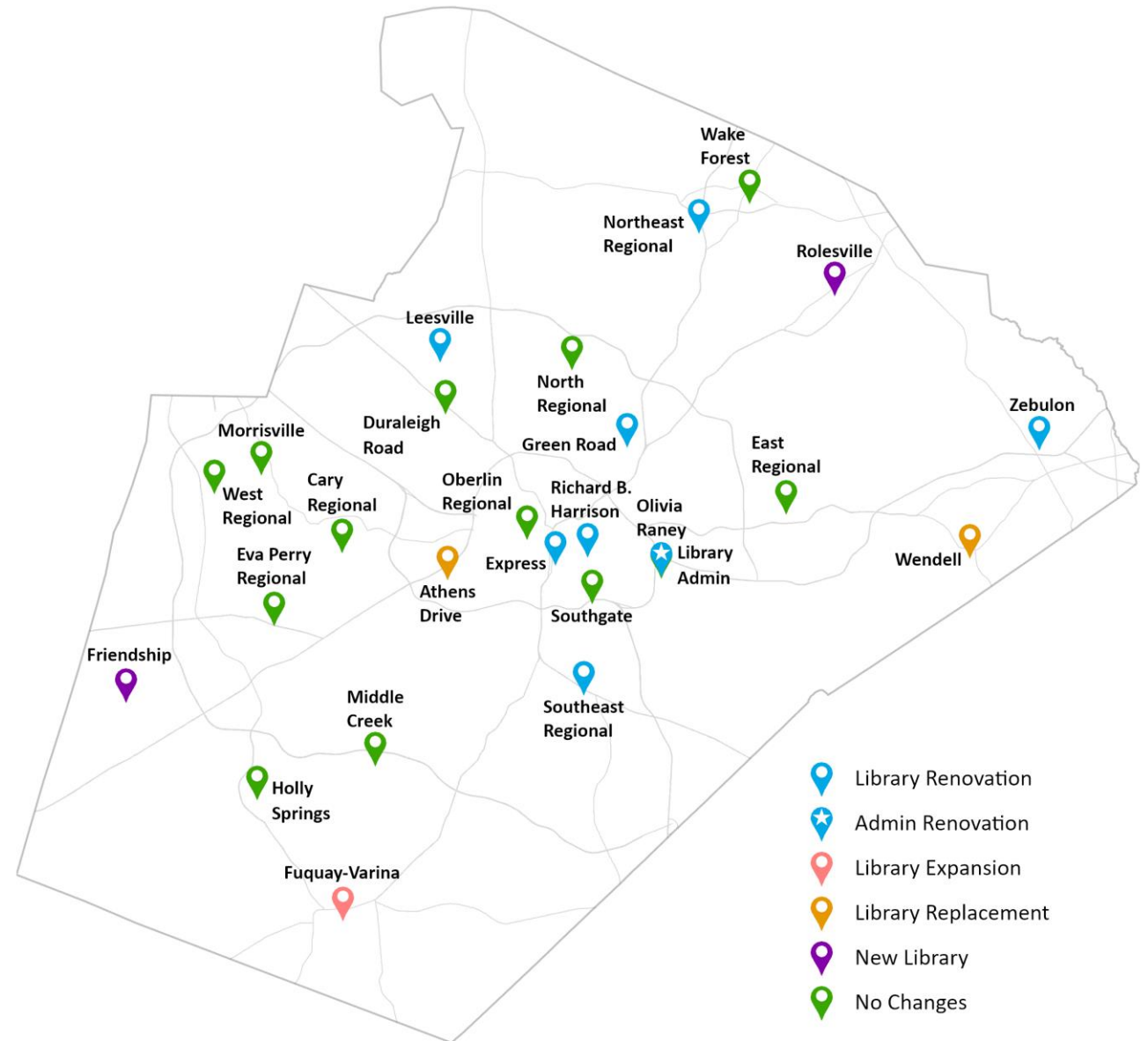
Background Information

Library System – Map



Bond Projects

- **Voters approved \$142M**
 - **5 new libraries**
 - **1 library expansion**
 - **8 library renovations**



New Libraries

Goal: Increase the number of Wake County residents who have a public library within a 10-minute drive of their home.

- A new community library in **Rolesville**
- A new community library in the **Friendship area of Apex**
- Replacement of the **Athens Drive Community Library**
- Replacement of the **Wendell Community Library**
- **A new facility, TBD**



Library System – Branch Types

	Large Community Libraries	Regional Libraries
Facility Size	~8,000 sq. ft.	22-30,000 sq. ft.
Staffing Level	8.5 FTE	19 FTE
Facility Amenities	No programming room	(2) programming rooms
Parking Spaces	60-70	125+
Public PCs	12-24	20-40
Self Checkouts	2-3	4-8
Programming	6-10 programs / week	15-21 programs / week
Shelving Capacity	24,000 – 44,000 items	80,000 – 136,000 items

New Community Branch Prototype

- Current large community branches are 8,000–10,000 sq. ft.
- New prototype of 12,000 sq. ft. provides:
 - An enclosed programming space for programs and services for all ages
 - A defined area for teens
 - Additional seating areas for study, work and reading
 - Interactive play area within children's section
 - Increased display areas
 - More public computers, as needed
 - Expanded staffing model to provide more programs and patron assistance

Expansion

Goal: Meet the demands of population growth on library service.

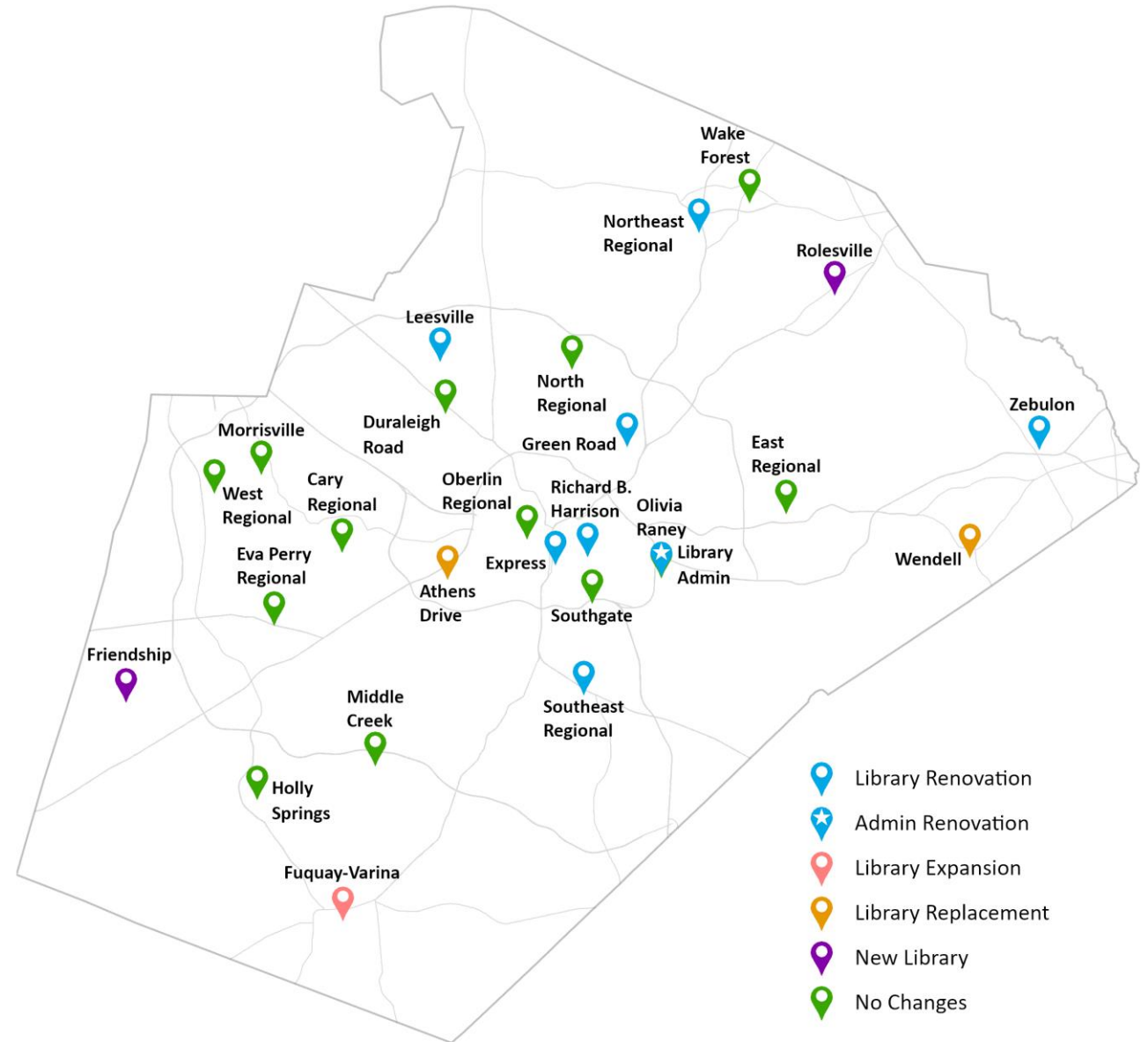
- Expansion of the **Fuquay-Varina Community Library**



Renovations

Goal: Address aging facilities, building system upgrades (such as heating, ventilation, air conditioning and roof replacement), furniture and other enhancements.

- **Express Library – Fayetteville Street**
- **Green Road Community Library**
- **Leesville Community Library**
- **Library Administration Building**
- **Northeast Regional Library**
- **Richard B. Harrison Community Library**
- **Southeast Regional Library**
- **Zebulon Community Library**



Renovation Projects

- **Infrastructure Upgrades:**

- System upgrades
- Safety and security upgrades
- Lighting replacements / LED conversions
- Electrical and data outlet relocations

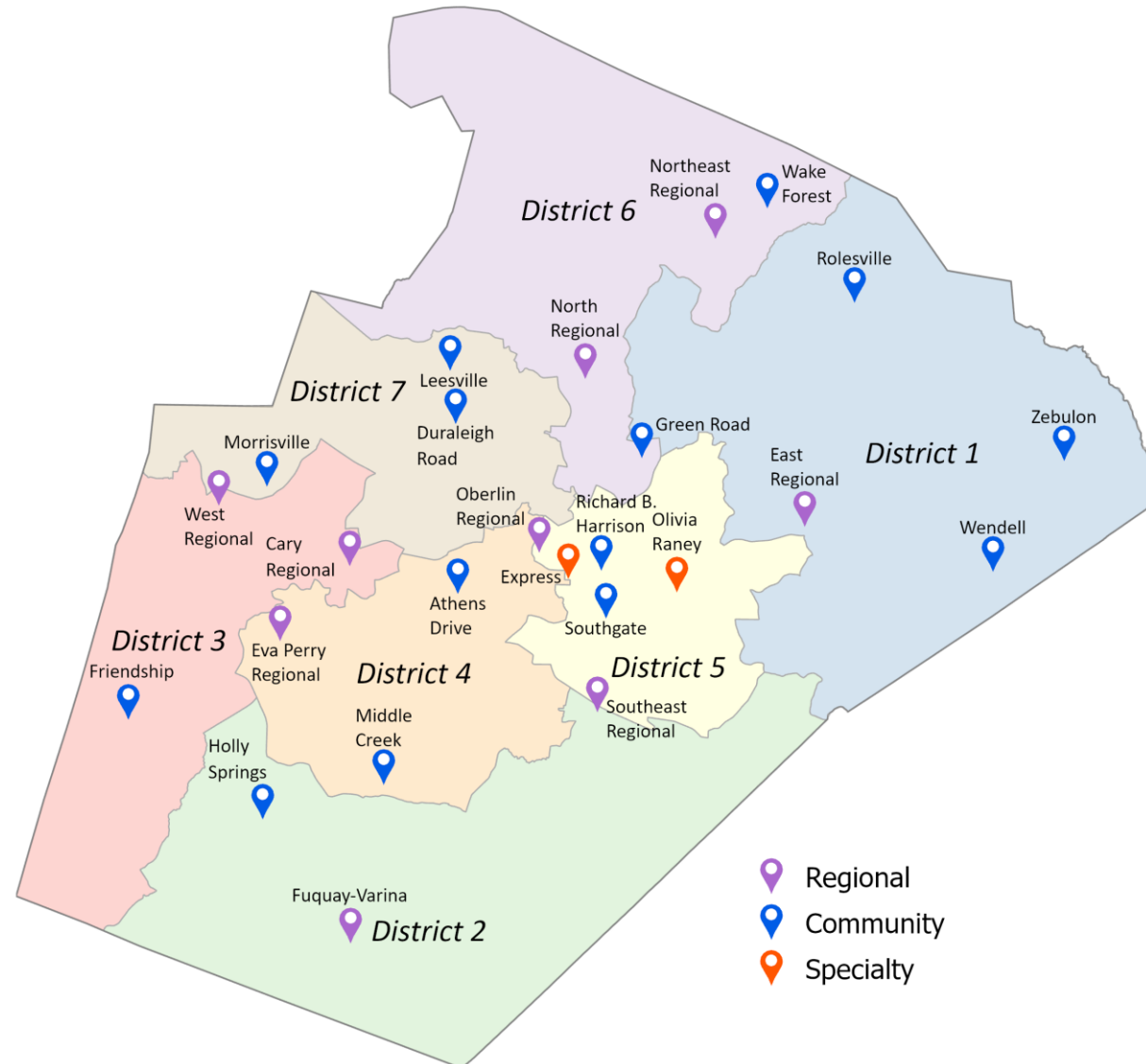
- **Building Flow:**

- Shelving reorientations
- Circulation desk style and placement
- Public PC reorientation

- **Aesthetics:**

- Carpet replacement and repainting
- Furniture replacements
- Shelving replacements
- Book displays and signage

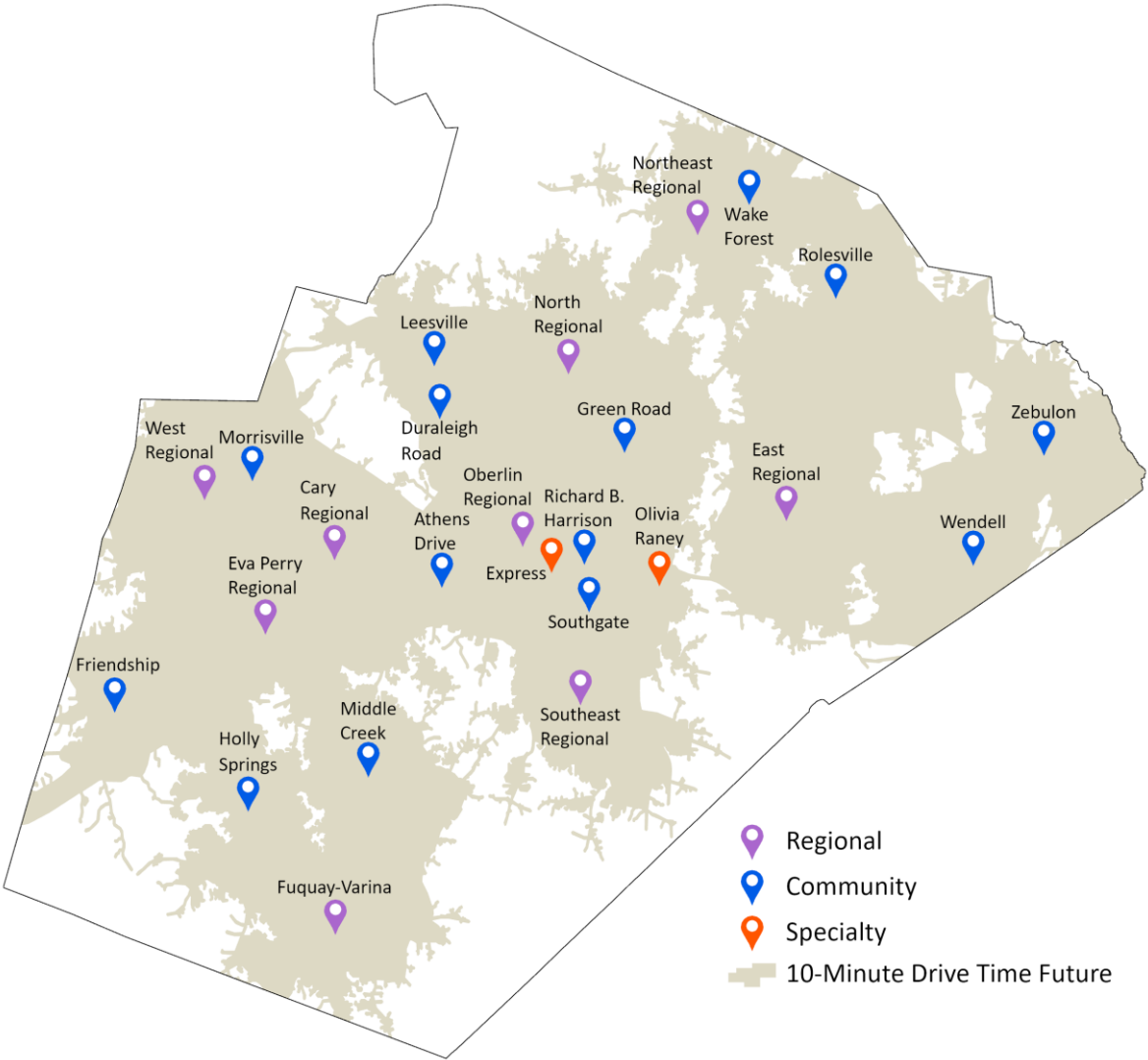
Library System – With Bond Projects



State Library of North Carolina Standards

Urban Drive Time to Library Facility		% of Wake County Population
Essential	20 minutes	99.8%
Enhanced	15 minutes	98.7%
Exemplary	10 minutes	84.7%

10-Minute Drive Time Region	% of County Population
Existing	84.74%
Added by Friendship Library	1.55%
Added by Rolesville Library	2.36%
Potential Total	88.6%



Municipal Partnerships - Existing

- **Public partnerships**
 - 8 with municipalities
 - 1 with WCPSS
- **Private partnership**
 - Land donation for Eva Perry Regional Library
- **No partnership**
 - 10 county owned
 - 3 leased (Oberlin, Duraleigh, Southgate)

Municipal Partnerships – Potential

- **Rolesville** – offered land on their new municipal campus
- **Wendell** – offered land adjacent to park
- **Athens Drive** – discussions with Raleigh and WCPSS about possible sites
- **Apex Friendship** – town has assisted with generating site options, too early to know which site we will pursue



TBD Project

Background

- **During bond discussions in spring 2024, BOC allocated money for a To Be Determined (TBD) project**
- **BOC expressed interest in two concepts:**
 - Digital Equity Center
 - Enhancing library services in Southeast Raleigh by replacing Southgate Community Library
- **Bond funding based on new 12,000 SF community library branch prototype**

Comparing Potential Projects

Digital Equity Center

- Dedicated space for digital literacy and inclusion
- Staff focused on tailoring offerings to digital equity needs and impact
- Targeted programming, services, and partnerships
- More advanced technology and skill-building offerings than typical library facilities may allow

Southgate Replacement

- Larger, free-standing facility with dedicated parking and potential to expand
- Staffing model, increased patron support and programming
- Access to variety of library services/programs, broader audience
- Potential opportunity for more computers, space to work/study on the internet, tech help sessions, and digital literacy programs

BOC Decision on TBD Project



Project Implementation

Capacity Constraints

- **As much as we would love to start all the projects immediately, that's not practical**
- **Better bid responses from contractors when the market isn't overloaded**
- **Limited staff capacity in FD&C and Libraries**
 - Two major projects and two minor projects at the same time
 - Each project type is staggered – one project in design phase, one under construction

Logic Behind Project Order

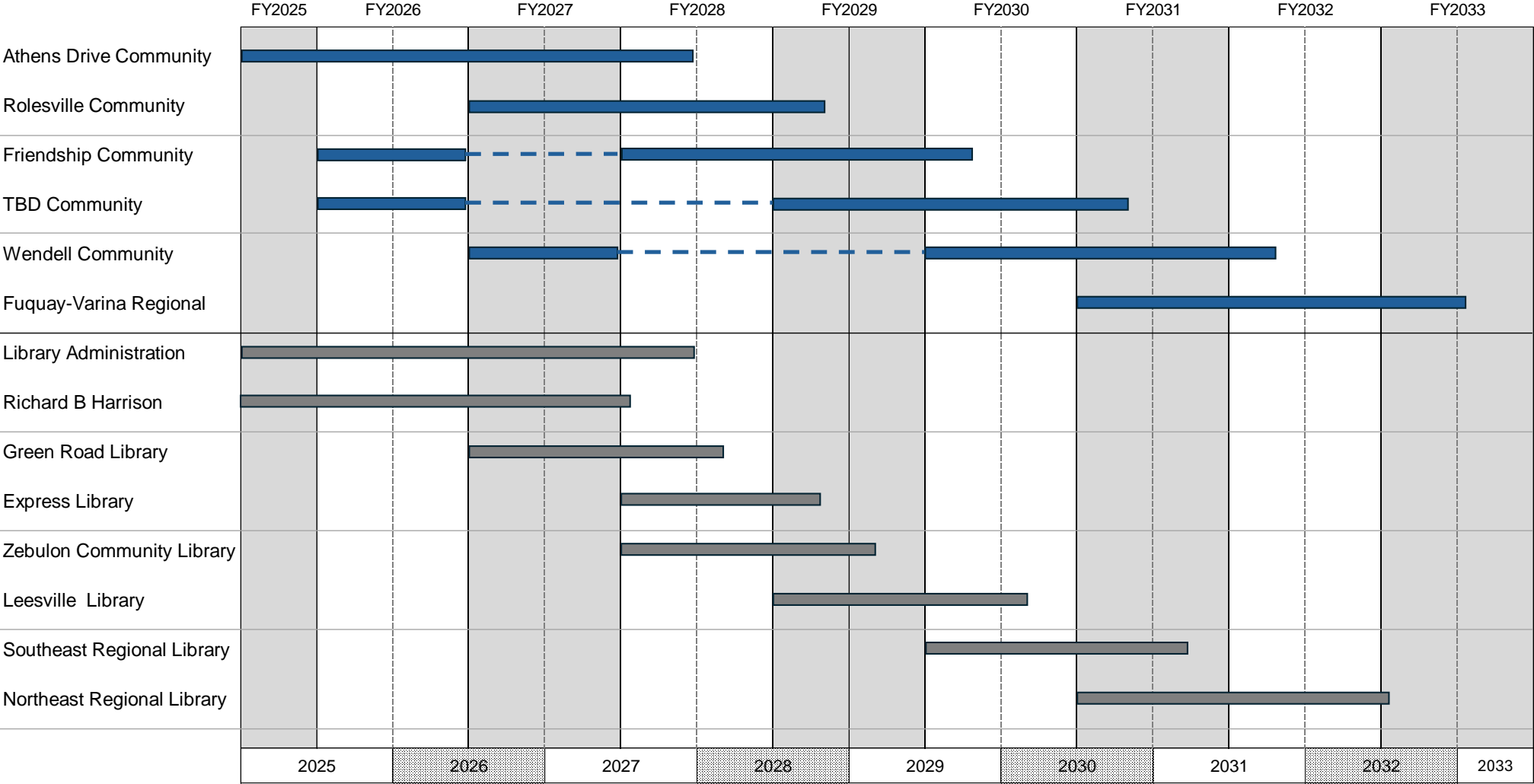
- **Renovations are done in age order, slotted in among the major projects as capacity permits**
- **New Construction:**
 - **Athens Drive** – time constraints due to school construction
 - **Rolesville** – long-standing commitment, preliminary design work underway
 - **Friendship** – large area outside of 10-minute drive time
 - **TBD** – strong interest in this project
 - **Wendell** – they have an existing branch, but it's the smallest in our system; timing aligns with construction of other facilities on their campus
 - **Fuquay Varina** – they need an expansion, but library is still relatively new

Construction Process

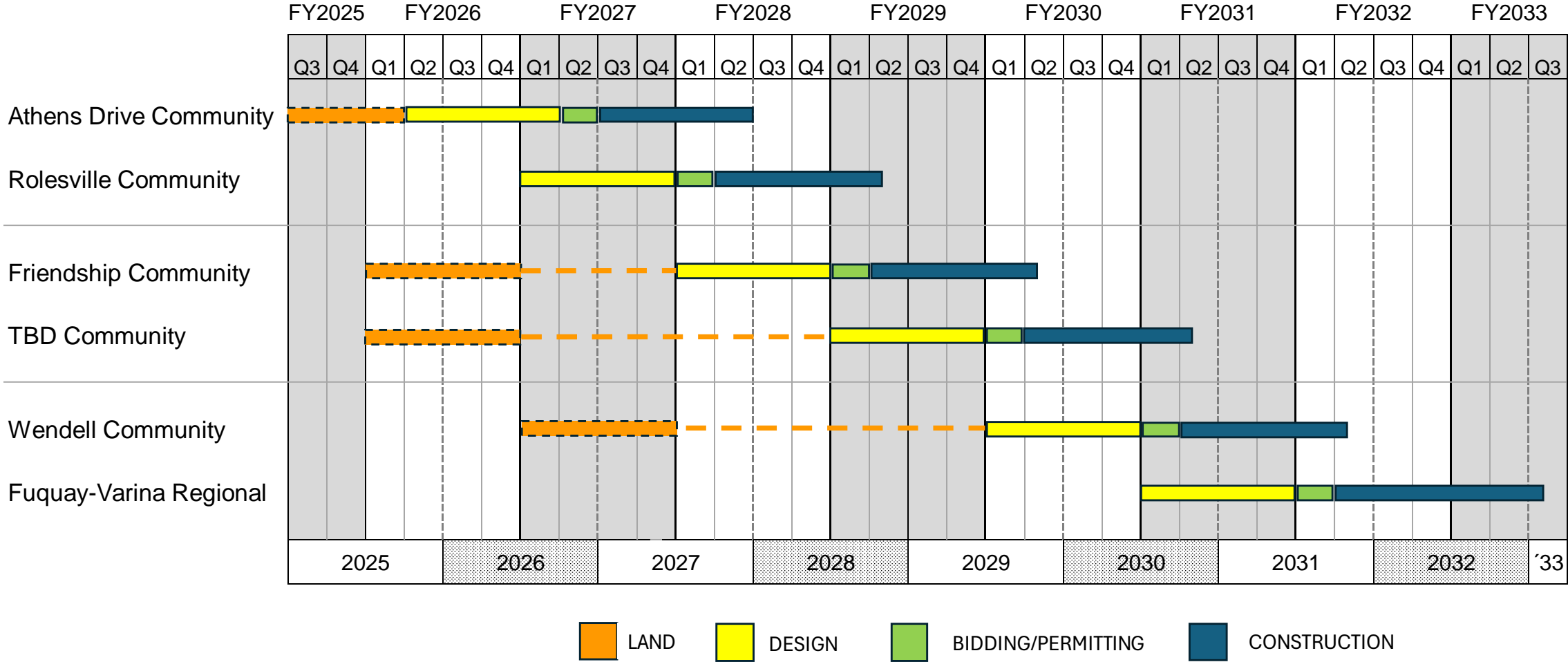
- **Typical library construction projects go through the following steps:**
 - Site selection and acquisition*
 - Schematic design*
 - Construction drawings
 - Bidding
 - Contract award*
 - Construction
 - Grand opening

* BOC review and approval at this step

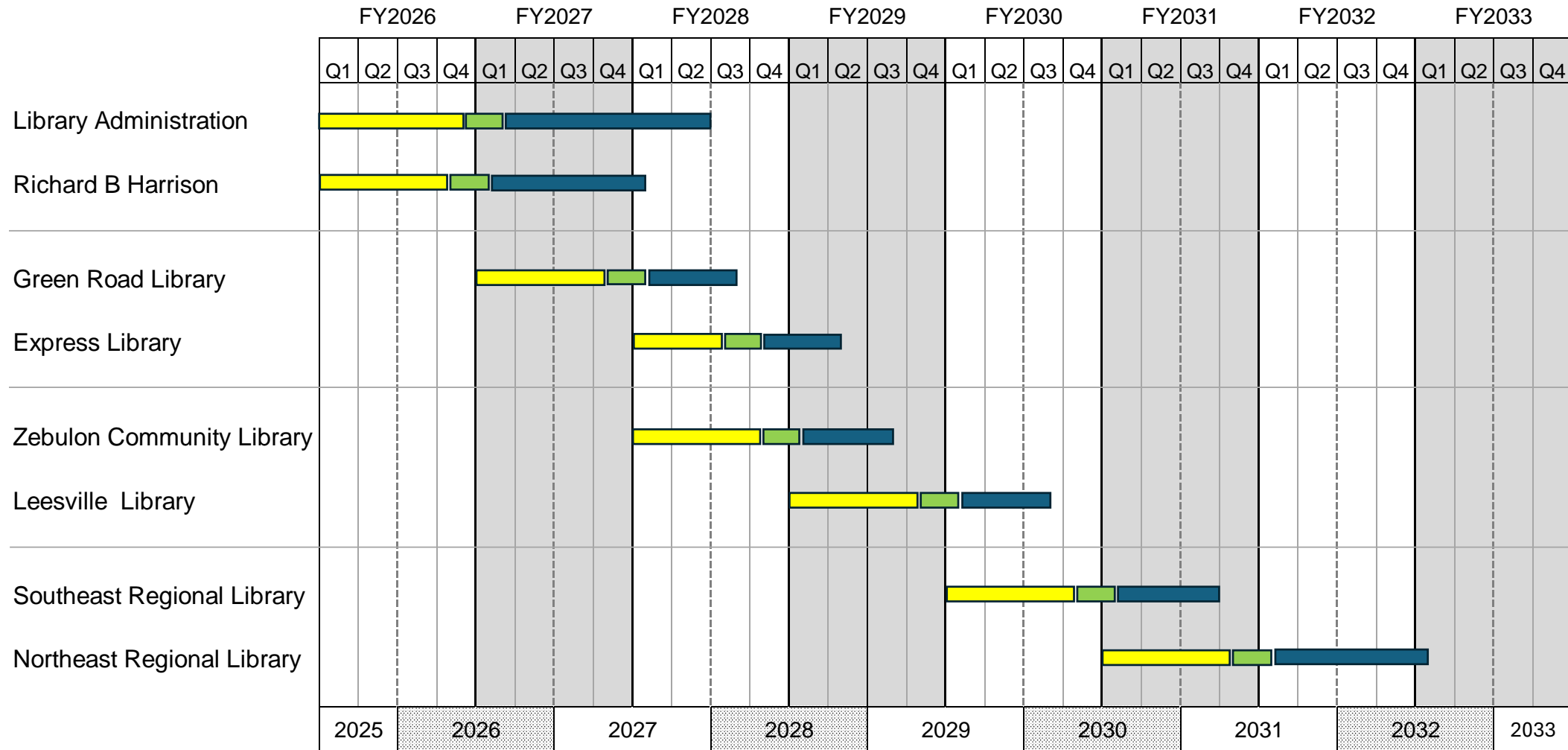
Bond Projects – All



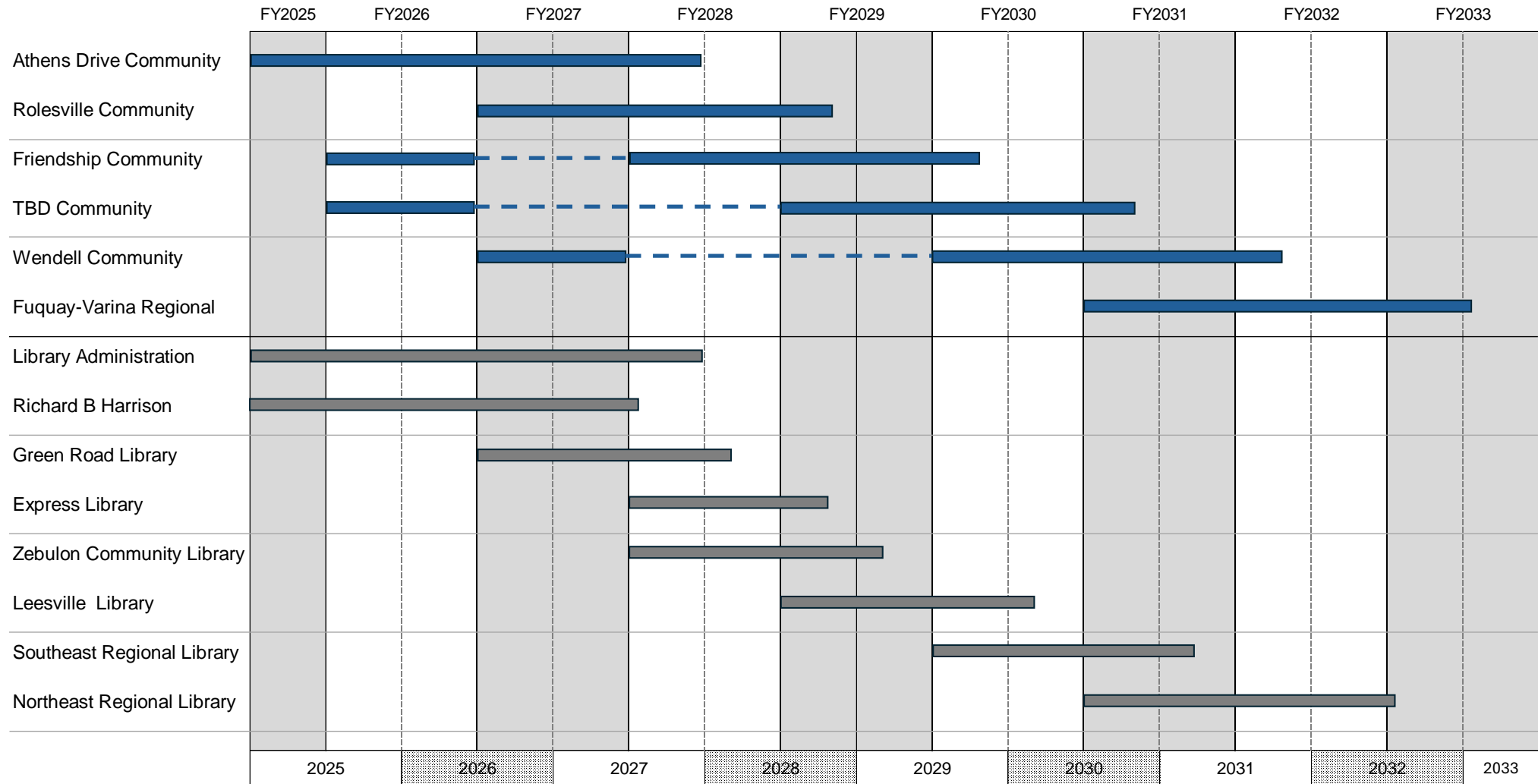
Bond Projects – New Facilities



Bond Projects – Renovations

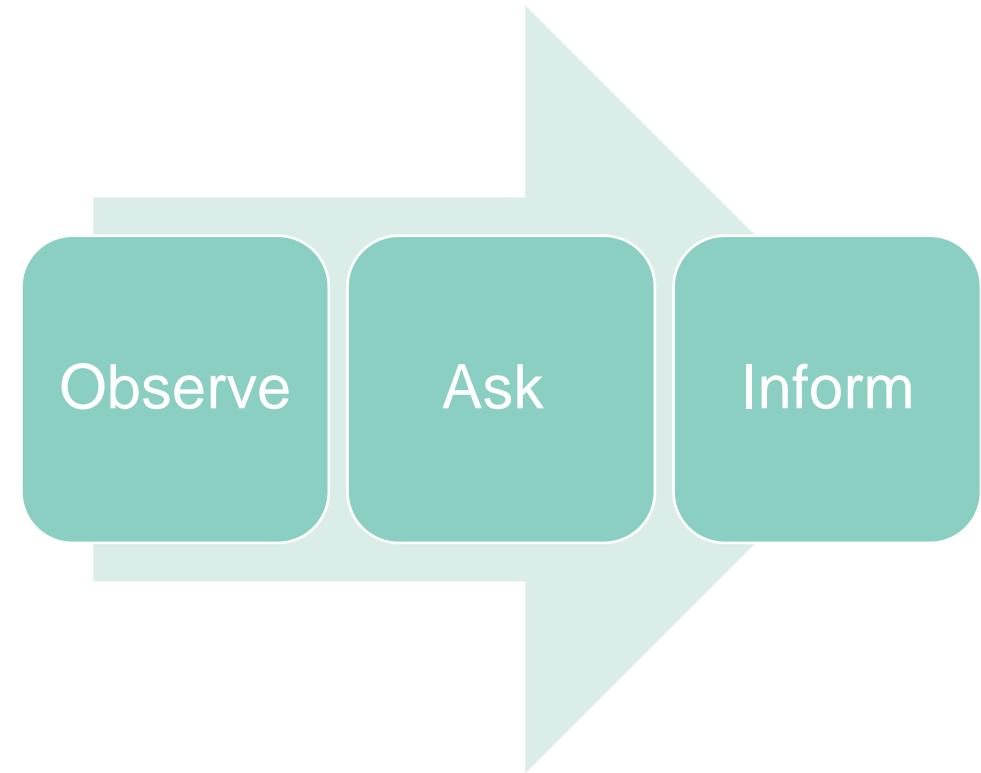


Bond Projects – Confirm Project Order



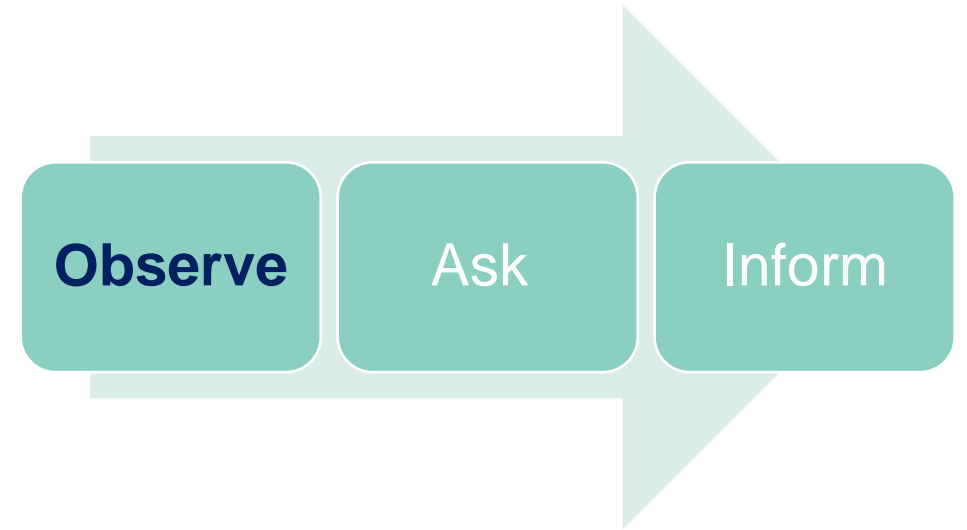
Community Engagement Process

Goal: Public Engagement that balances Project Scope with Community Input, incorporating stakeholder expertise and interests.



Community Engagement Process

- Library User Experience Study
- Customer survey data



Community Engagement Process



Renovations & Expansions:

- Feedback Tours*
- Targeted Feedback on Interior Design*
- "Space Priorities" Polls
- Staff-Led Patron Feedback

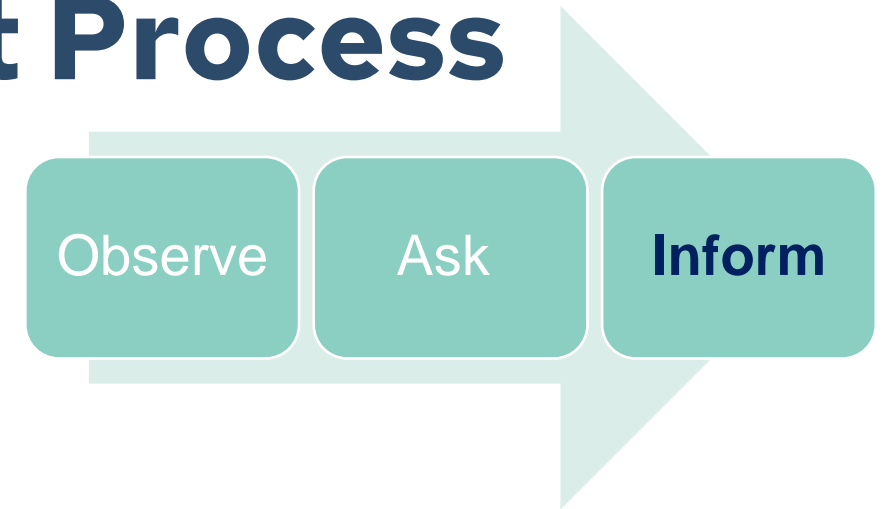
New Buildings:

- Community Vision Workshops*
- Online Surveys
- Open Houses*
- Youth and Family Focus Groups

*Opportunities for Library Commission involvement

Community Engagement Process

- Public-facing website with timeline and status of each bond project.
- Project updates and photos at stages of design and construction phases.





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