

Desmond-Fish Public Library

Solar Pavilion Project: Meeting Community Needs and Adding Resilience

Through the Library's long-range planning process, we have learned some expressed community needs are:

- The **unmet demand for safe, convenient outdoor meeting spaces**
- The need to expand our community's resilience - our ability to recover after a natural disaster.

In addition, our Library needs some additional storage for our annual used book sale, held in late summer/early fall, which is a community staple and raises significant funds to support the Library's operations.

Our solution to meeting these needs is an **outdoor pavilion** structure that will also provide storage, both for outdoor furniture and, seasonally, for used books. **We also plan to include solar panels on the pavilion roof to provide power in the main Library building for a backup generator.**

The Desmond-Fish Public Library proposes to construct an open-sided, roofed pavilion of approximately 1976 square feet. The covered area under the pavilion is approximately 1,350 square feet, with additional patio space to accommodate multiple visitors. The storage area is 24' x 24'. The pavilion will have lighting under the covered roof and in the storage area, but will not have a bathroom or running water. Since the pavilion will be located close to the main Library building with its four bathrooms, which are open seven days a week, there is no need to add additional bathroom capacity.

The pavilion, which faces south, will have a pitched roof to hold approximately 20 solar panels to supply power for some of the electrical needs of the Library and supply a large storage battery. This solar panel installation will also be a demonstration of the advantages of solar power. It will not be planned to be sufficient to power the entire Library and pavilion.

The pavilion will have a pleasant appearance and fit well in its rural setting, with a metal roof painted grey, board and batten siding painted gray--green, and timber framing. The floor will be poured concrete.

The pavilion will be located close by the Library across the parking lot. This site was determined as part of the master planning process and is shown on our Master Plan. A brick walkway in front of the pavilion will cross the parking lot to connect with the walkway into the main Library building.

An additional future enhancement would be step seating carved out of the grassy hill behind the pavilion. Another future enhancement will be the addition of two electric vehicle charging stations in our overflow parking area.

With the addition of a back-up battery powered by the solar panels, we will significantly enhance the Library's ability to serve the community in the event of an emergency. We will be able to offer a warm space and serve as a comfort station, providing restrooms and places for people to rest.