

# Community Feedback

## about the Carnegie Library

The Montague Public Libraries' director and trustees are applying for state funding to construct an addition to the Carnegie Library or build a new library farther up Avenue A.

As part of the application process, we distributed a community survey and held three focus groups.

Here is what we've learned so far:

### Patrons find the current building:

Inaccessible, crowded, and noisy but also charming and historic.

Many expressed their appreciation of the library's staff.

Survey Question

**I find the size of the Carnegie Library, its rooms, and shelf space to be sufficient to serve my needs:**

Strongly Disagree 20.5%

Strongly Agree 8.4%

Agree 18.1%

Disagree 33.7%

Neutral 19.3%

### The top features patrons would like to see in a new or expanded building:

- An accessible main entrance.
- A quiet adult area with comfortable chairs.
- Small meeting rooms for private study or small group meetings.
- Space for flyers and public notices.
- A children's room with space for parents to read to their children.
- A meeting room for community gatherings and programs.

“The space is tightly packed, limiting accessibility, and there is not enough room for the desired materials.”

“I wish there was a wider selection of cookbooks and more space for children to play in the kids area”



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Survey Question

**If you could change one thing about the Carnegie Library building, it would be:**

“Forget about changing one thing. We need a new, modern, spacious building with a decent parking lot.”

“Maintain its charm, maintain the high quality staffing, reflect the changing needs of the community.”

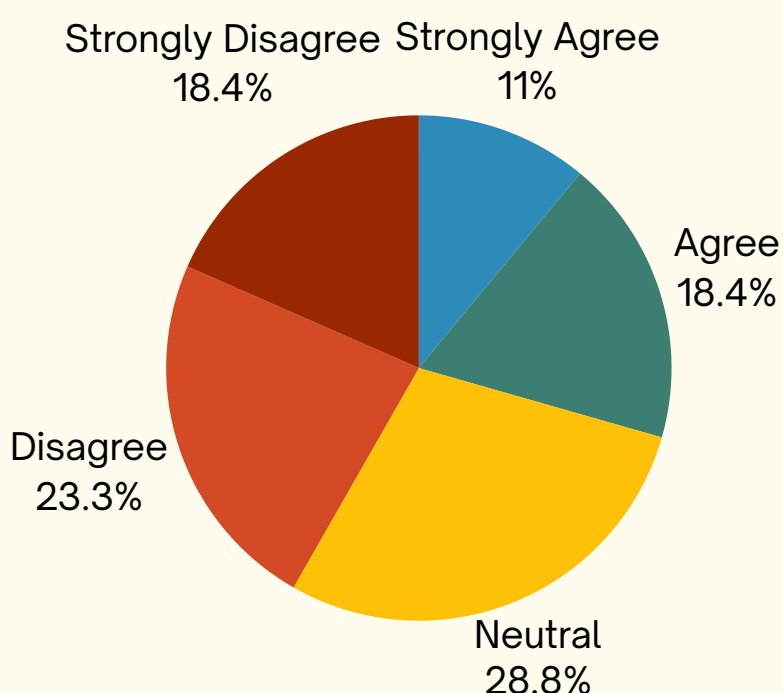
“More space, better entrance”

Patrons frequently commented that they want an addition or a new building that “feels like Turners Falls.”

Survey Question

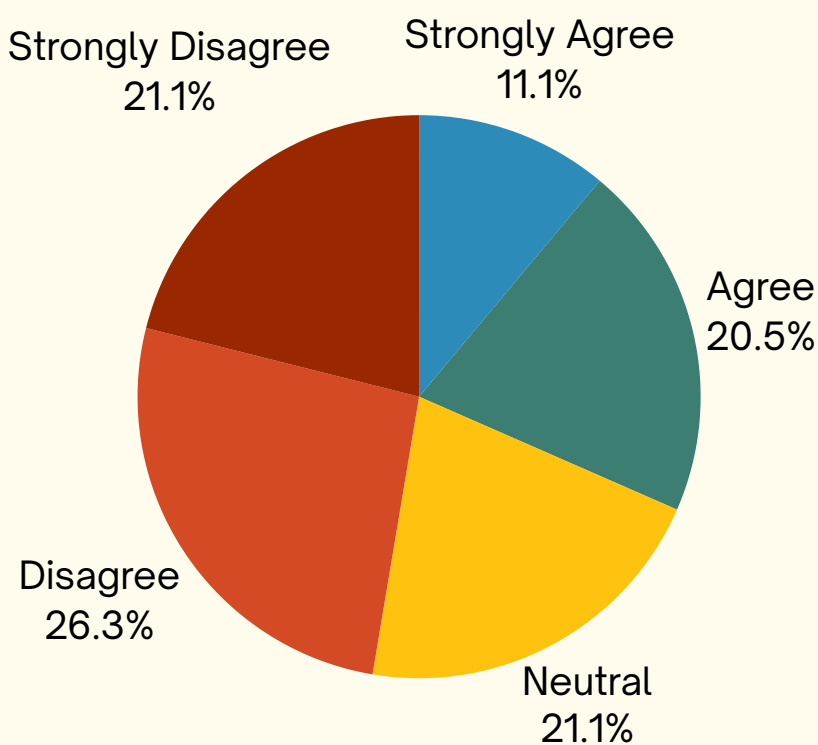
**I find parking at the Carnegie Library to be adequate and safe:**

“The streetside parking feels not great! Exiting the car with a toddler when traffic is so close...also backing up into traffic... doesn't feel safe.”



Survey Question

**The Carnegie Library is adequately accessible:**



“I can access it fine, but I imagine a wheelchair user would have difficulty with the stairs and heavy doors that stick, and the narrow walkways.”

Patrons also have mixed feelings about Mackey the Moose...

