Crews from IHC Construction are hard at work as we get close to the end of September – first floor walls are going up along Campbell Street, and the basement is going in at the corner of Sixth and Campbell streets. We will see a lot of progress on the new library site at 227 S. Seventh St. this fall!

The Library obtained a building permit from the City of Geneva on Aug. 8, and construction crews immediately went to work. The new library project underwent review by city agencies earlier this year. Geneva City Council unanimously approved the Library’s application to build a new facility at their April 2 meeting.

The plans were approved by Geneva Plan Commission unanimously March 8. The Historic Preservation Commission provided recommendations to the Plan Commission regarding the character of the development, yard setbacks, landscape features, and building scale at their meeting held Dec. 19, 2017.

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WHAT WILL THE NEW LIBRARY FEATURE? The 57,000-square-foot building will have 76 off-street parking spaces, drive-up convenience, a variety of meeting areas, a community art gallery, and outdoor reading spaces.

- The Library will feature an enhanced children’s area with developmentally appropriate collections, play areas, and learning opportunities for children from birth through eighth grade.
- Teens and adults will have access to a variety of Library materials and enjoy spending time in the quiet reading and study spaces.
- Additionally, Library service will be expanded to include new opportunities for collaborating, using technology, and experimenting in lab spaces.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE PARK ON THE SITE? The current playground was removed the first week of August to accommodate construction. Library officials are working with Park District officials to develop plans for a new playground at the corner of Sixth and Franklin. The Park District will also engage in a public process to seek input.

WHEN WILL THE NEW LIBRARY OPEN? The goal is a prospective opening date in the fall of 2019.

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE? Visit gpldnewbuilding.org for ongoing coverage of construction, the groundbreaking ceremony held in July, and an overview of plans for the new library. Please contact us anytime at Board@gpld.org.