



## Illinois Heartland Library System

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TO: IHLS Facilities and Operations Committee  
FROM: Leslie Bednar  
DATE: April 9, 2021  
RE: Edwardsville Building Update

### **Background**

Improvements in our Champaign building delivery area layout a few years ago had a positive impact on delivery efficiency and improved member service. Delivery volume at the Edwardsville building is nearly equal to Champaign's volume, and we wanted to create the same outcome by reconfiguring the delivery space. We faced two challenges: resolution of the primary damage left by mine subsidence and physical dimensions of the delivery area. Our approaches to the challenges were learning opportunities:

- Evaluation by a space planning firm yielded many ideas for improved use of the building; however, our current funding situation cannot support the construction necessary to bring those ideas to life.
- Foundation damage caused by mine subsidence to the north side of the Edwardsville building was repaired by Helitech, Inc. The construction included a new dock inside the garage and polyurethane leveling of the delivery floor area.

In late 2020, IHLS reached out to Color Art to manage the minor building improvements and design updates to surfaces for the first floor of the Edwardsville building. We considered the post COVID-19 office—its hallmarks and requirements for staff health and safety including:

- ergonomics/posture
- physical distancing
- privacy
- cleanable surfaces
- staff organization by function creates efficiencies
- classic and practical design based on job function
- collaboration configurations

### **Proposal**

Attached please find a depiction of the first floor by our Color Art design team. It is a fairly accurate representation of the layout and design with a few details yet to be resolved. The version we will share with you prior to the special board meeting should be the final design and incorporate as many details as possible. We hope this provides sufficient visual information and allows you to envision the space.

Most of the furnishings are manufactured by Steelcase and are under warranty. Our current furniture is Steelcase. The durable pieces have lasted several decades and many layout versions.

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IMAGINING TOMORROW ~ DELIVERING POSSIBILITIES TODAY!

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We appreciate your patience and support as we work through the process of designing a staff-and budget-friendly workplace. Our hope is that it will serve our needs well now and a couple of decades into the future, too. Please let me know if you have any questions and I will do my best to answer them before the committee meeting. Thank you.