

# LOWELL LIBRARY LINES

A PUBLICATION OF THE LOWELL PUBLIC LIBRARY

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## ONE FINAL QUESTION ABOUT A NEW LIBRARY BUILDING

You've all heard a great deal about the proposed new library in recent weeks and what it might cost.

Most people assume that it would be cheaper to build onto and remodel the old library than it would be to build a new one. In some cases that might be true. But because the library has been awarded almost a million dollars in grant funds, and plans to sell the existing library, the cost to the local taxpayers for a new library, will actually be less than to remodel and enlarge the existing library, not to mention the fact that there will be plenty of room for parking and additions to the building in the years to come.

No, the grant money cannot be used for remodeling. The grant application requested funds to be used for a new building... they cannot be used for any other purpose. Yes, we could apply for them again next year, but the Build Indiana money (of which we are to receive \$528,113) may disappear into the state's general budget, and the Federal Library Services and Construction Act Funds are threatened with extinction every year.

The question therefore is this:

When is it cheaper to build a brand new library on a 5½ acre site than it is to expand and remodel an old one on less than 2 acres?

Answer:

When you have almost a million dollars in outside funding and a building in good condition to sell.

### LET THE FIGURES SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

#### Construction Related Costs Only ①

REMODEL & EXPAND EXISTING BUILDING TO 22,000 ft.	NEW LIBRARY 22,000 feet		DIFFERENCE
\$1,725,453	2,732,150		
-0-	- 929,113	LSCA & Build Indiana Fund	
	<u>1,803,037</u>		
	- 200,000	Sale of existing building ③	
<u>\$ 1,725,453 ②</u>	<u>\$ 1,603,037</u>		<u>\$ 122,416 less</u>

