



**Presented by:** Roots Down

**Proposal Amount:** \$15,000 (One-Year Engagement)

**Submitted to:** Office of Commissioner Michelle Long Spears (District 2)

**Proposal Title:** *Library Transition Plan – Phase One: Activation & Strategic Engagement*

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## **Introduction: A Vision for Resilient, Engaging Library Spaces**

The **Library Transition Plan** reimagines libraries as outdoor climate resilience hubs—equitable, green, and educational public spaces that connect people to the land and one another. With strong community ties and broad reach, libraries are the perfect setting for this work.

Roots Down has successfully implemented this vision in District 6, where libraries are transforming into models of regenerative public land use. With this proposal, we invite **Commissioner Michelle Long Spears** and District 2 to lead the next chapter through a focused activation of every library in the district and strategic preparation for deeper engagement at two selected sites.

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## **Project Summary**

- **Every library in District 2 will be activated** in this phase, including site assessments, public engagement, and planning.
  - Your office will **select 2-3 libraries** to move forward into deeper design, implementation planning, and future funding readiness.
  - This is a foundational year for building community momentum, training youth leaders, aligning internal teams, and launching storytelling.
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# Scope of Work and Timeline

## Phase 1A: Dream Session & Community Needs Assessment (Months 1–2)

- Host one large community “Dream Session” at a District 2 library
- Conduct community brainstorming and public input gathering
- Begin digital storytelling and visibility campaigns

### Deliverables:

- Community Needs Assessment summary
- Digital storytelling kickoff (photos, quotes, posts)
- Public feedback documented

### Target Outcomes:

- Engage at least 50 residents
- Collect insights from 3 to 5 stakeholder groups
- Identify 10+ community goals or project ideas

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## Phase 1B: Planning Session & Site Prioritization (Months 3–4)

- Present initial concepts, design inspirations, and activation ideas
- Integrate lessons learned from District 6 libraries
- Host one Planning Session with stakeholders
- Deliver findings to Facilities Management, vendor teams, and Library Director

### Deliverables:

- Visual Planning Deck with concepts
- Library Prioritization Memo for 2 selected libraries
- Recommendations for future steps

**Target Outcomes:**

- Strategic alignment with Facilities, Vendors, and Library Admin
  - Two libraries selected for implementation preparation
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**Phase 1C: Youth Engagement through GreenHive (Months 5–8)**

- Train high school and college students through the GreenHive Leadership Program
- Launch Earth Hub setup at one selected library, including:
  - Educational signage
  - Maintenance and vendor protocol guides
- Lead youth-run visibility campaigns and education sessions

**Deliverables:**

- One pilot Earth Hub installation
- Two youth-led public engagement events
- Original content from youth (videos, posts, creative media)

**Target Outcomes:**

- Train 5–10 local youth leaders
- Reach 100+ residents through youth-led activities

- Build job pathways and climate literacy in District 2
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### **Phase 1D: Wrap-Up & Future Planning (Months 9–12)**

- Compile results, visuals, and feedback
- Align with your office on future funding and scaling
- Produce wrap-up storytelling materials and strategic documentation

#### **Deliverables:**

- Final Strategic Report with recommendations
- “What’s Next” memo for Phase Two planning
- Social media wrap-up and summary visuals

#### **Target Outcomes:**

- Create funding-ready strategies for selected libraries
  - Position District 2 as a leader in climate-forward public space transformation
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### **Budget Breakdown – \$15,000 Total**

- **Community Events and Engagement:**

Includes Dream Session and Planning Session facilitation, materials, refreshments, and logistics.

- **Site Assessments and Planning Materials:**

Covers staff time for on-site visits, mapping, visuals, and planning documents for all District 2 libraries.

- **Youth Leadership Programming (GreenHive):**

Includes youth stipends, training sessions, and support for public-facing Earth Hub installation.

- **Digital Storytelling and Marketing:**

Covers campaign materials, copywriting, social media management, and wrap-up content.

- **Final Strategy & Reporting:**

Includes time to compile final reports, presentations, stakeholder summaries, and fundraising recommendations.

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## What This Proposal Does Not Include

- No capital landscape installations are included at this stage.
  - This phase focuses on **activation, engagement, and strategic preparation**.
  - Installation and maintenance will follow through external funding or county allocations.
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## Why This Matters for District 2

- **Promotes Equity and Access:** Creates inclusive, green public spaces
  - **Builds Workforce Capacity:** Youth are trained in leadership and climate literacy
  - **Engages the Community:** Libraries become hubs of environmental stewardship
  - **Positions Your Office as a Leader:** District 2 becomes a model for sustainable public space planning
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## What Comes Next

This is **Phase One** of a multi-phase strategy. Your \$15,000 investment builds a strong foundation and positions District 2 libraries for future funding and transformation.

- **Every library in District 2 will be activated** through assessment and community engagement.
- **Your office will select two libraries** to move forward into **Phase Two**, which includes detailed planning, design implementation, and funding preparation.

We're ready to schedule a kickoff meeting to align on:

- Event scheduling and promotion
- Youth leader recruitment
- Selection of two libraries for deeper Phase Two work

We are honored to partner with your office to grow greener, more vibrant public spaces across DeKalb County.