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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NCW LIBRARIES-SOAP LAKE ANNOUNCES UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENT

Soap Lake community members will soon get the opportunity to hear more about upcoming improvements to the Soap Lake Library and provide their feedback on potential changes to the interior spaces.

NCW Libraries will host a community town hall event on December 14 at 6:00 pm at the Soap Lake Community Center. The event is free and open to all community members and all ages. A short presentation will be provided by an interior designer from Library Forward, a nationally recognized design firm specializing in library spaces. Following the presentation, participants will have an opportunity to explore design concepts and vote on the design elements they would like to see at the Soap Lake Library.

NCW Libraries staff also plan to set up outside of the Soap Lake post office on the afternoon of December 14<sup>th</sup> to gather feedback. NCW Libraries previously solicited feedback at the Fall Shop-About and at Soap Lake Winterfest.

For those unable to attend the community town hall event, feedback can be provided via an online survey, available at <u>www.ncwlibraries.org/locations/soap-lake-public-library</u>. Paper copies of the survey are available at the Soap Lake Library. The surveys are available in English, Spanish, Russian, and Ukrainian.

"Our goal is to reach as many members of the community as possible, both current library users and nonusers," said Caleb Hermans, Soap Lake Librarian. "We want to hear from the community, how they want to engage with the library, and what will serve their needs."

The community engagement events are part of NCW Libraries Reimagining Spaces project, a multi-year interior redesign effort at all NCW Libraries branches throughout the five-county system. Library Forward and Forte Architects of Wenatchee have been hired by NCW Libraries to lead community engagement efforts and develop interior design plans. Soap Lake is one of the first communities to begin its redesign.

Design plans for the new interior spaces will begin in early 2024. The goal is to complete the addition and space redesign by the end of 2024.

For more information about community engagement for the Soap Lake Library and the Reimagining Spaces project, visit <u>ncwlibraries.org/reimagining-spaces</u>.

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