Why is the Pierce County Library System considering new library buildings?
The Lakewood Pierce County Library was built 56 years ago, more than 30 years before the city of Lakewood was incorporated. Today, the library serves nearly 60,000 people with services and resources for learning, enjoyment, and strengthening community connections. The existing building doesn’t support how people use the library today or tomorrow – the building is dated, hard to maintain, and would require millions of dollars in upgrades. The Tillicum Pierce County Library is in a small, aging shared facility in poor physical condition. The current layout doesn’t support how people use the library today or tomorrow.

Will the new library be in the same location?
The Library System wants to know what you think about relocating and building a new library or libraries. A new Lakewood Pierce County Library could be located in downtown Lakewood to build on the community’s vision for the area and leverage anticipated city investments around placemaking and other community services. A new Tillicum Pierce County Library would be located near the current building in the Tillicum neighborhood.

How will my comments be used?
The Library System will review all of the public’s ideas and opinions. The Library’s Board of Trustees will use the comments to decide whether to take further steps to build new libraries in Lakewood.

What is the timeline for this process?
The Library System is collecting public comments through the fall of 2019. If the community shows an interest in a new building, the Library System will continue the discussion with the community and gather further comments to help develop some building design concepts.

Where can I find more information? How can I stay informed?
Sign up for updates and learn more at imagine.pcls.us.