



New Central Library **SCHEMATIC DESIGN REPORT**

Located on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis.



**SASKATOON
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

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INTRODUCTION

The new central library will be located in downtown Saskatoon at 321 2nd Avenue North on a 0.656 ha rectangular parcel of land bordered by 24th and 25th Street East. The library is approximately 136,000 square feet in size.

The building's inspiration draws from both traditional First Nation and Métis architecture. The exterior of the building references the traditional First Nation tipi, while the interior mass timber structure references the Métis' log cabin.

In addition to demonstrating leadership in reconciliation, the new central library project is also pursuing environmental leadership (targeting LEED® Gold certification) and universal accessibility (Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification™).

The design of the new central library began in January 2021. This report summarizes the progress to the end of the schematic design. The design will continue to evolve, and the final design for the library will be complete in the spring of 2022.

ENTRANCE

24TH STREET EAST & 2ND AVENUE NORTH

This view shows how the walls are sloped on each level, inspired by the tipi form, and follow a basket weave pattern. The transparency of the building evokes the translucency of the tipi. During the day, you can see all the activity inside the building, and at night, the library becomes a warm, glowing lantern — a beacon at the heart of Saskatoon.

The exterior of the library is made up of modular panels. Although these panels are flat, the small modular size will create a curved appearance. The transparent and opaque panels are triple glazed and will have a ceramic frit pattern applied to prevent bird strikes. The solid panels are insulated metal. The design and placement of the solid and glass panels will be further studied to reinforce the overall expression of the building and relate to the interior planning while also reducing solar heat gain. The base of the building will be a natural stone, which is iconic to Saskatoon.



EXTERIOR

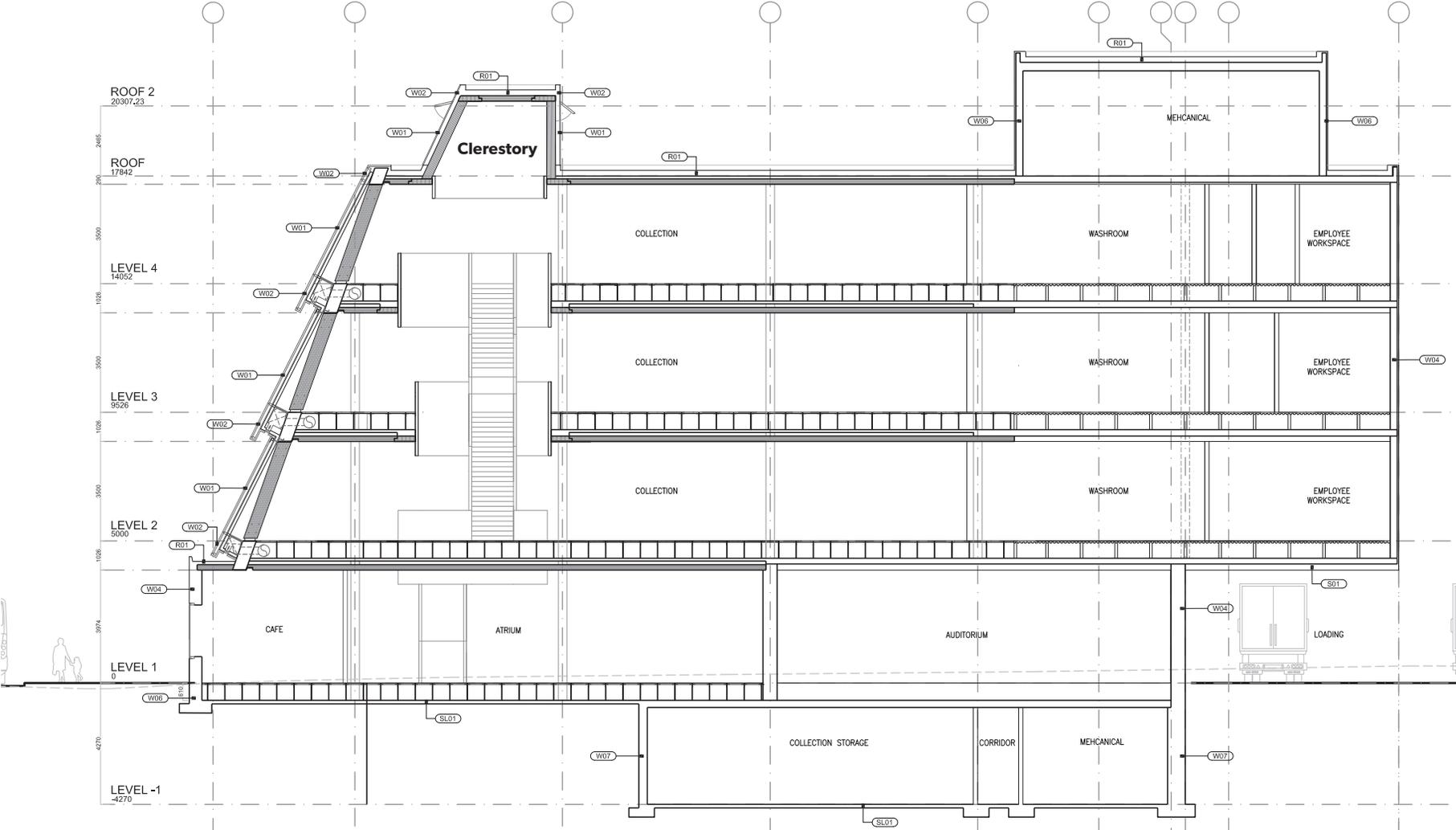
The façade has a shingling effect with the glass and metal panels on the exterior. The interior is supported by a secondary wood and steel structure and features exposed wood columns. The transparency of the building brings an abundance of diffused natural light throughout.

The building has a raised floor system containing mechanical and electrical components. The interior elements, such as exposed wood columns and wood ceilings, are visible throughout the library's public spaces and add to the interior's unique atmosphere.



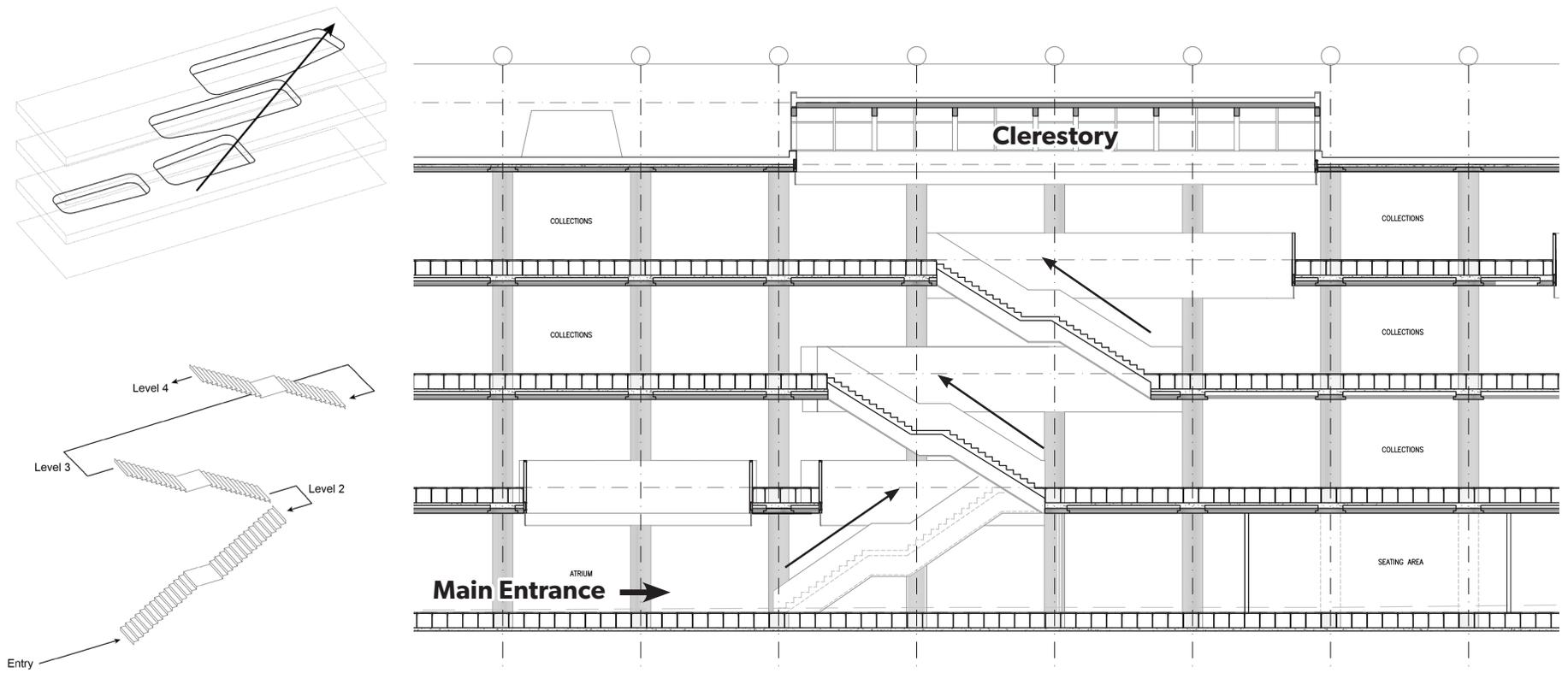
BUILDING CROSS SECTION

The building cross section illustrates the structural system, atrium/central staircase and exterior wall system. The general planning concept for the building is to have seating around the windows; collections in the centre of the building; amenities such as elevators, stairs and washrooms, print and copy stations and quick check machines centrally located on each floor; and enclosed programming rooms and employee workspace along the back of the building. The building also includes a partial lower level, below grade, for materials sorting and storage and a mechanical penthouse on the roof.



ATRIUM/CENTRAL STAIRCASE

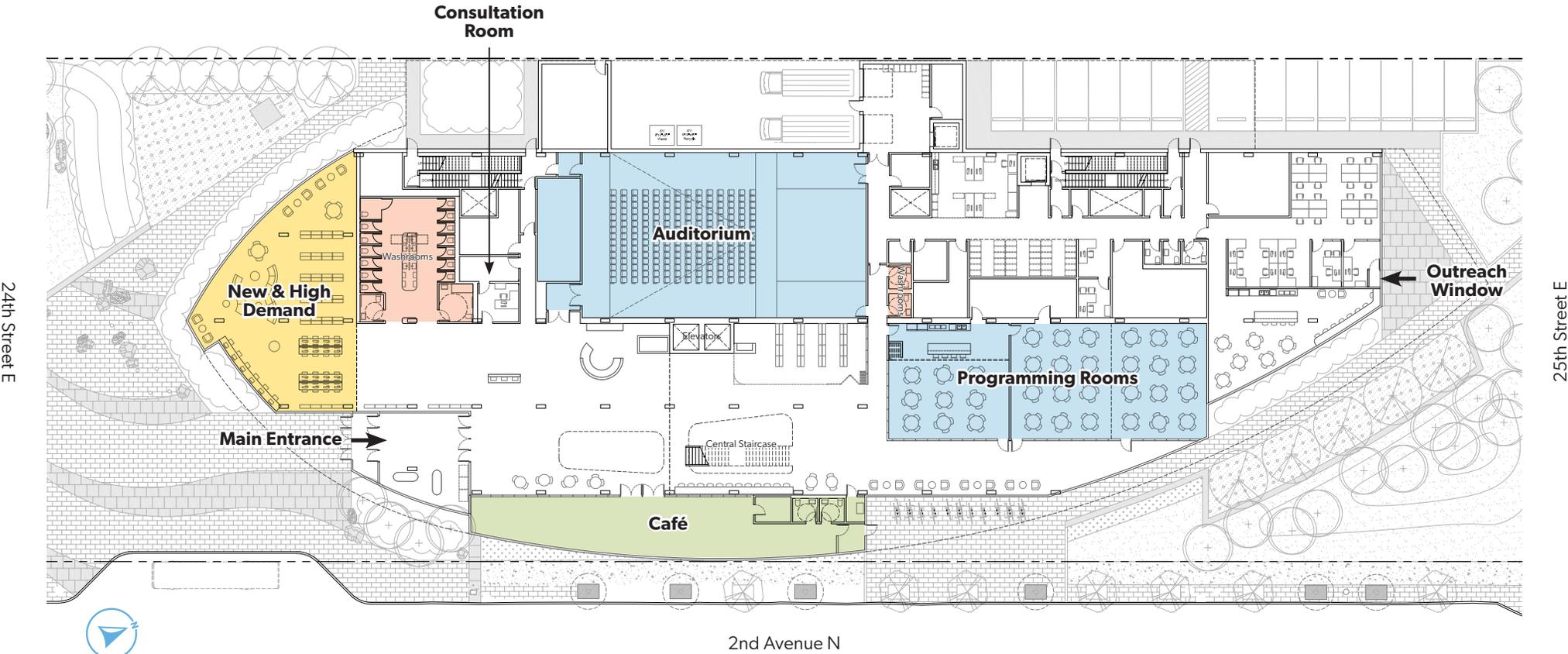
These images show the atrium (floor openings) and the staircase. The atrium is unique in that it does not have the same opening on each floor. Instead, the atrium meanders up through the building, giving it a more cascading experience as you move through it. The combined effect gives the central staircase a dynamic view. Above the atrium is a clerestory window that brings natural light into the building.



MAIN LEVEL

The main entrance is located on 2nd Avenue North near 24th Street East. Level one is a busy hub home to the auditorium, programming rooms, a holds pick-up area, the new and high-demand collection, and the main circulation service point. Retractable partitions enable access to the foyer/entrance, public washrooms and the auditorium for partial library operations outside of regular opening hours. There is a covered Outreach Services Window along 25th Street East.

This level also contains a café along 2nd Avenue, which will be operated independently of the library.

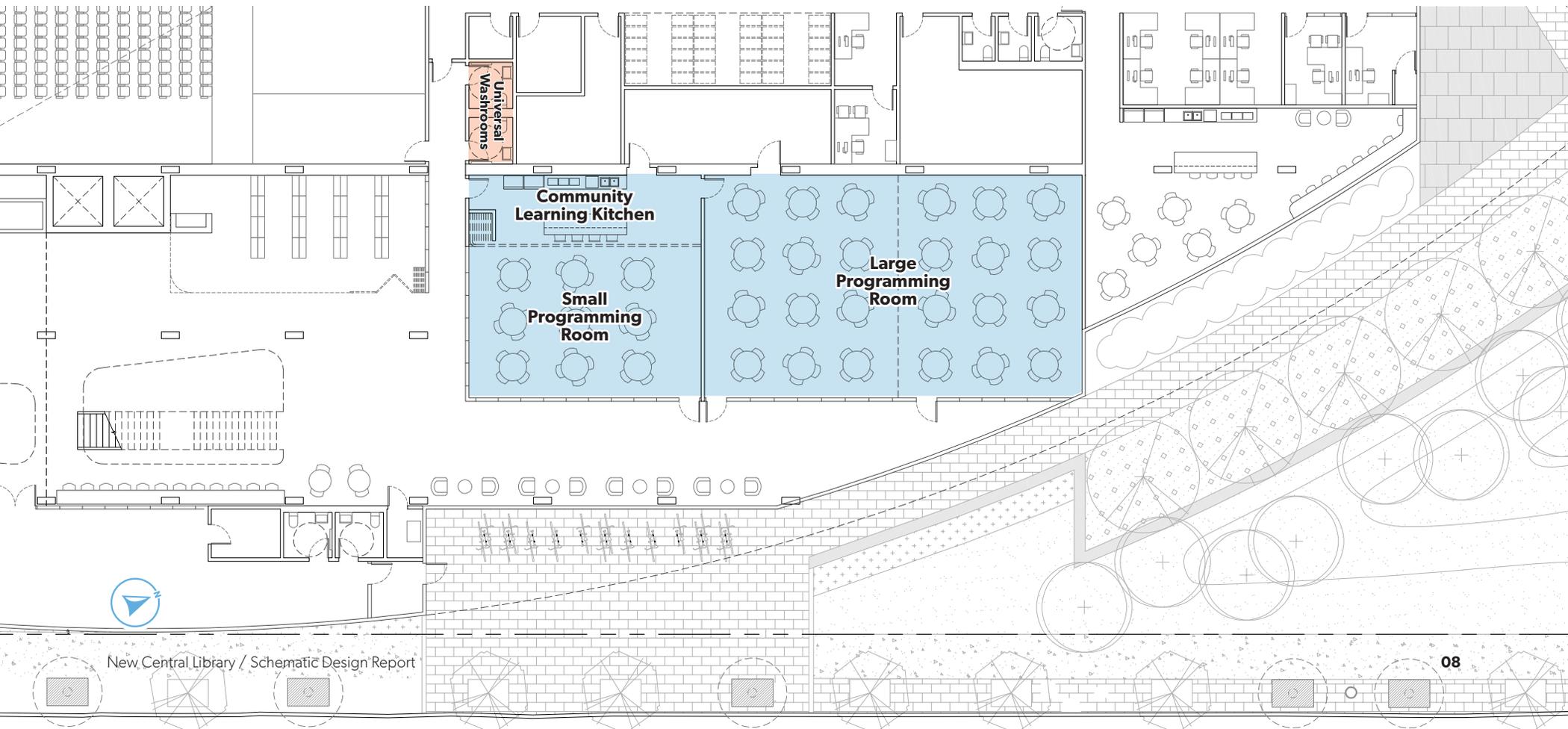


MAIN LEVEL PROGRAMMING ROOMS

The main level contains numerous programming rooms:

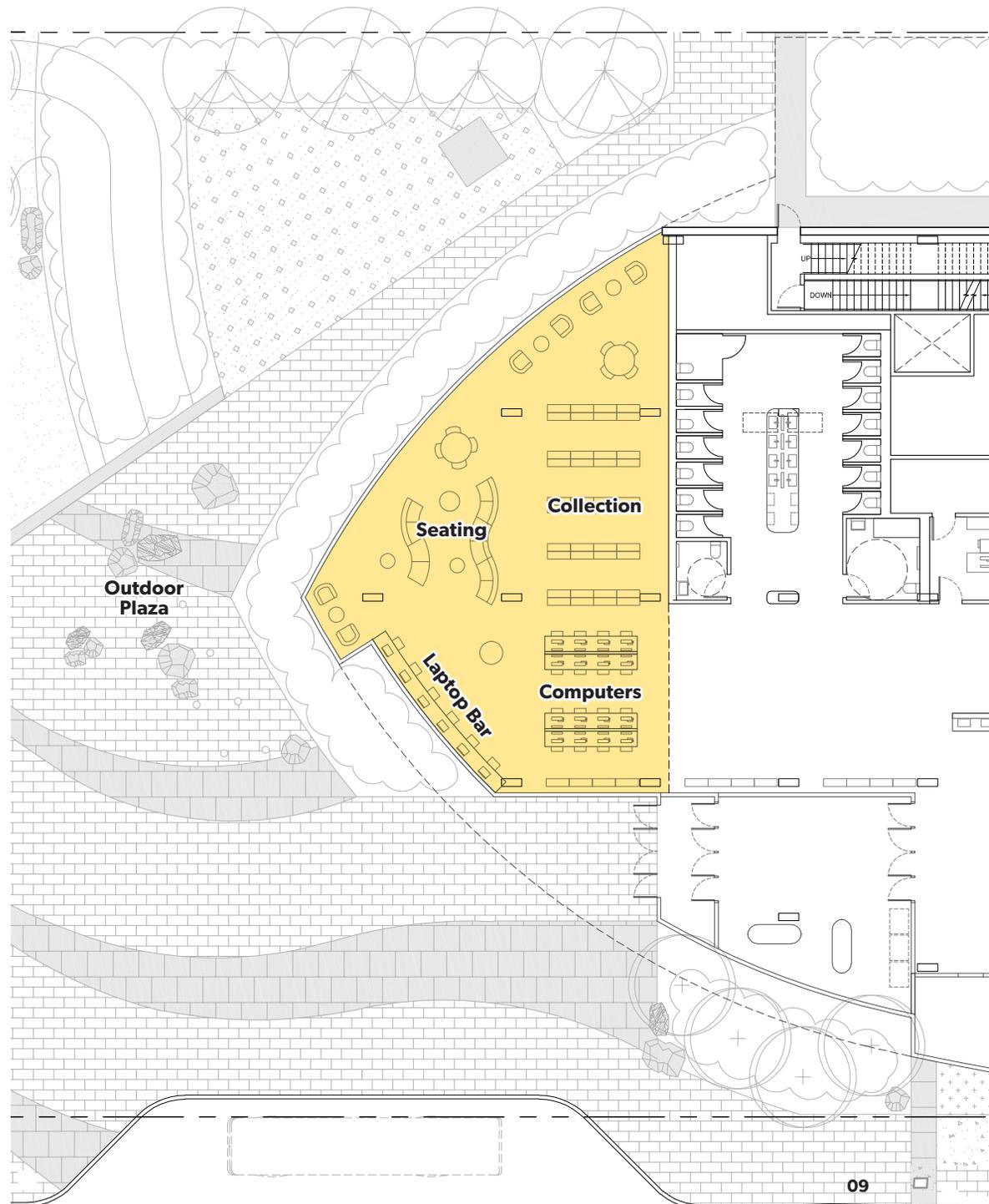
- Large programming room.
- Small programming room.
- Community learning kitchen.

Adjacent to the programming rooms are two universal washrooms.



MAIN LEVEL NEW & HIGH DEMAND

The New & High Demand Area features seating and views looking out to the exterior plaza. This space has the new and popular materials collection, computers and a laptop bar. It is adjacent to the main circulation service point, holds pick-up area and quick-check machines.

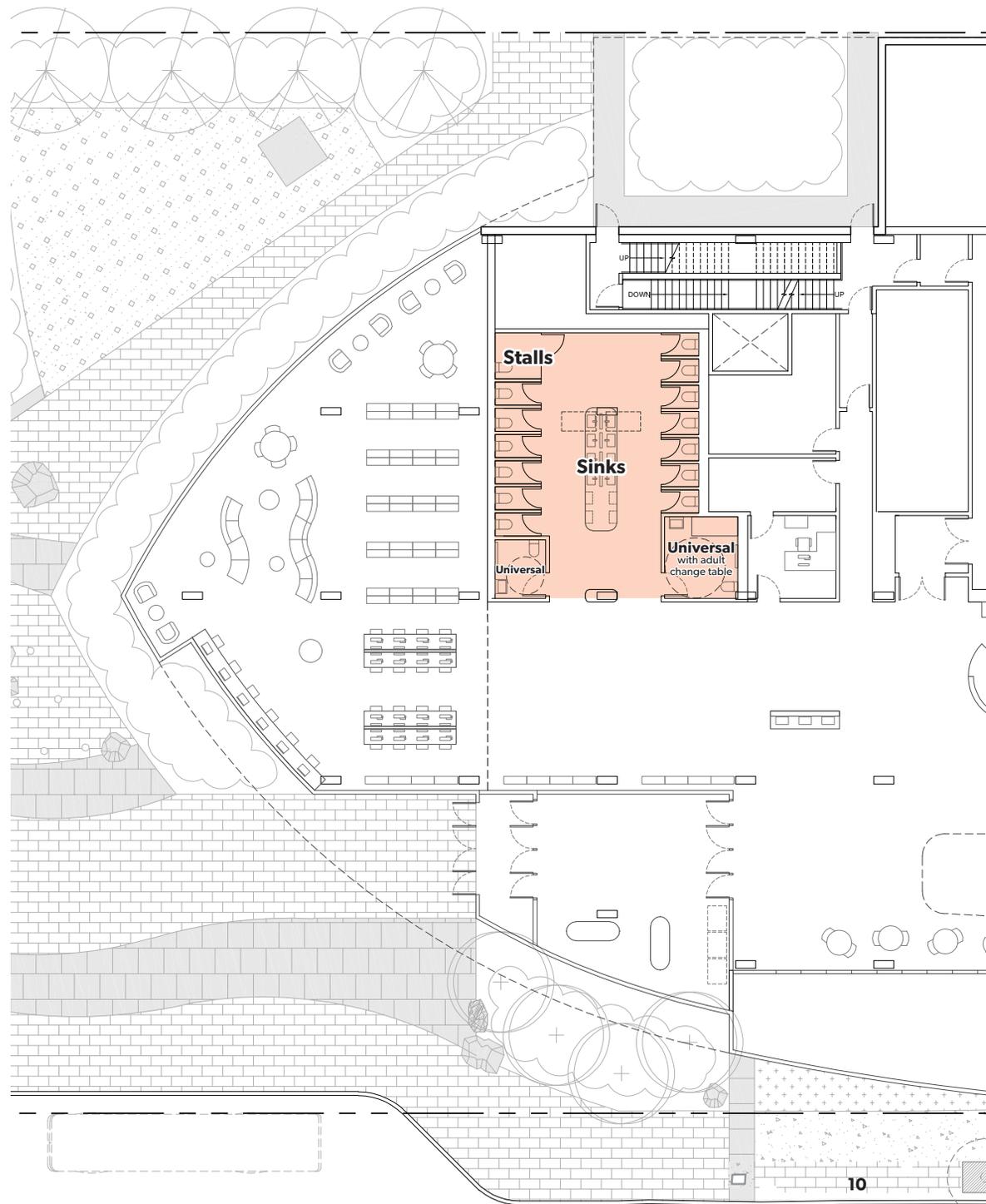


WASHROOMS

The new central library will have gender-neutral washrooms. There are washrooms on each level of the library. Each block of washrooms has two large entrances and individual closed-door stalls, including one accessible stall. There are common sinks, grooming areas and baby-changing stations. Also in each block are also two universal washrooms (individual toilet and sink), one of which includes an adult change table.

There are also two family washrooms in the children's area on the second level and two universal washrooms on the main floor adjacent to the programming rooms.

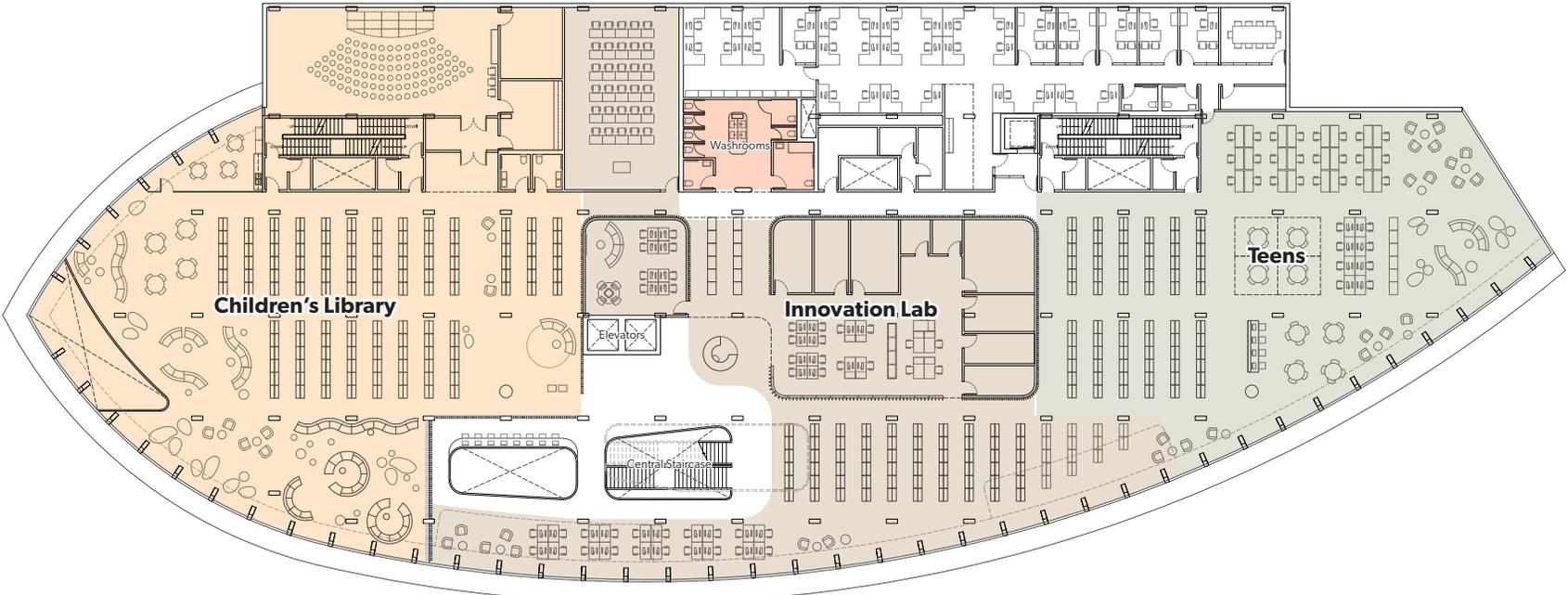
The universal washrooms will be available for anyone to use.



LEVEL 2

The components on Level 2 are the Children's Library, the Innovation Lab and the Teen Area.

24th Street E



25th Street E

2nd Avenue N

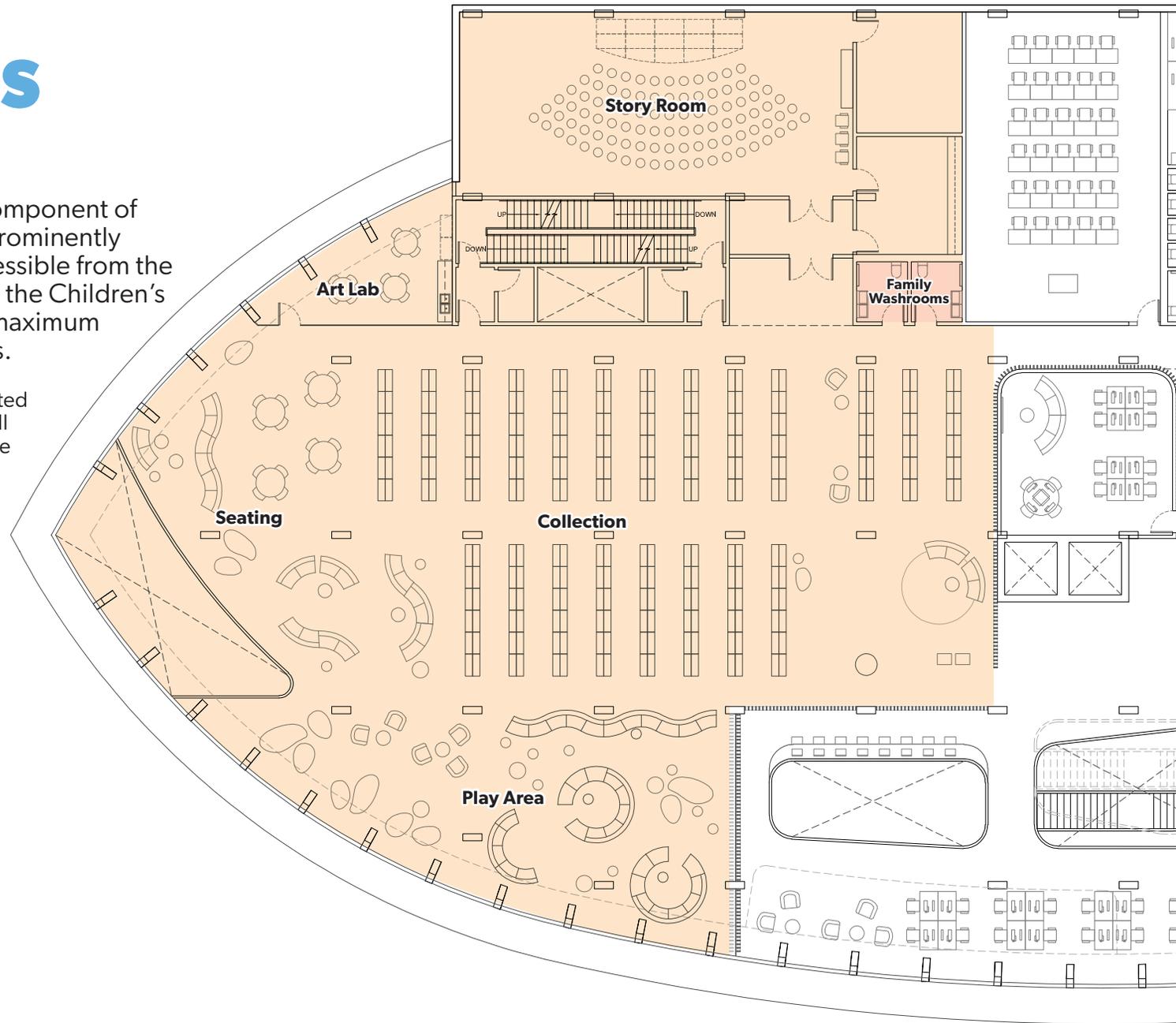


LEVEL 2 CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

The Children's Library is a key component of the New Central Library and is prominently located on Level 2. Directly accessible from the main public stairs and elevators, the Children's Library is oriented south to get maximum natural light with excellent views.

The Children's Library is partially separated from the adjacent components while still being highly visible and easily accessible from these components.

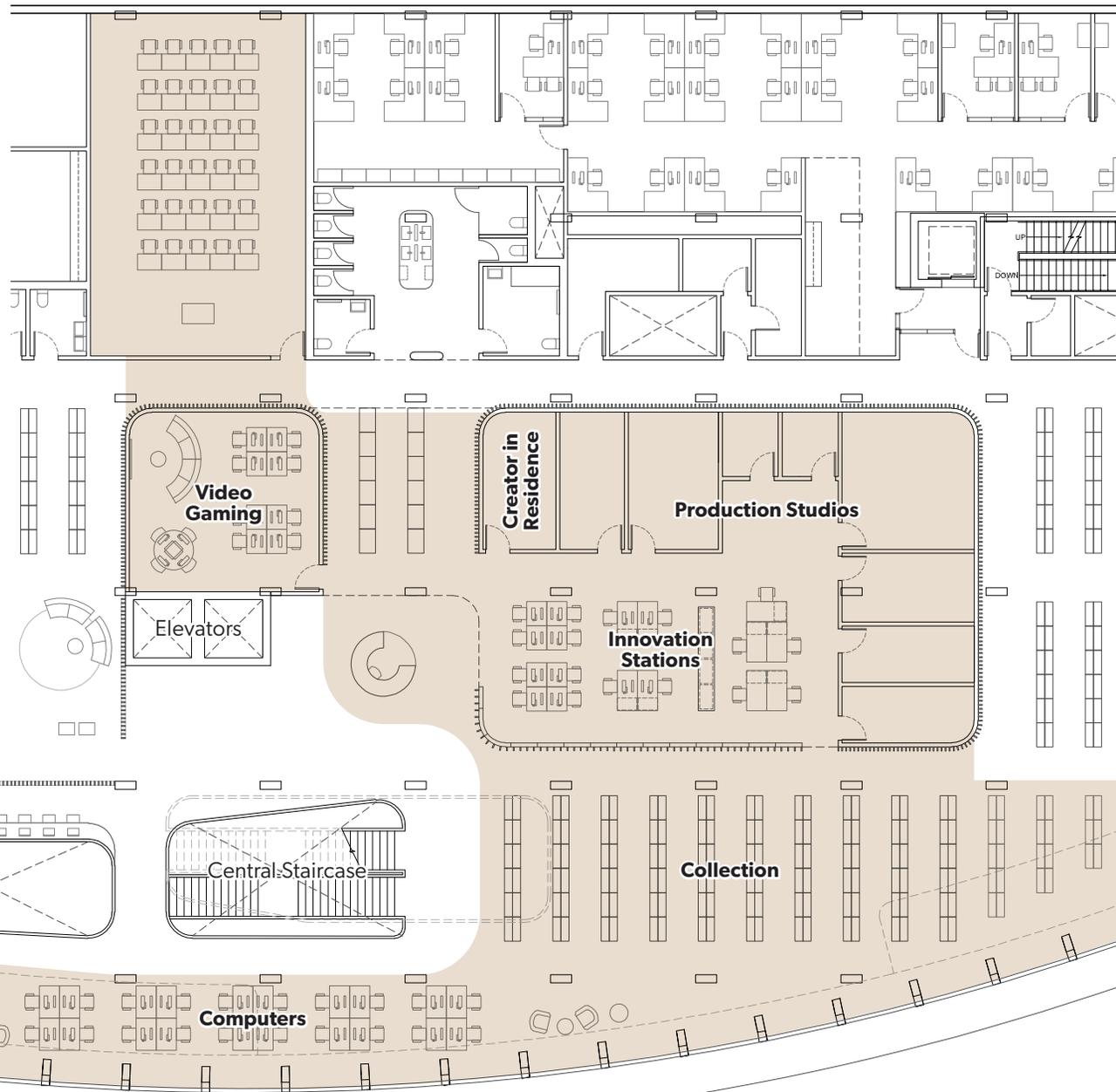
The Children's Library contains a large play area, a story room, an art lab and family washrooms.



LEVEL 2 INNOVATION LAB

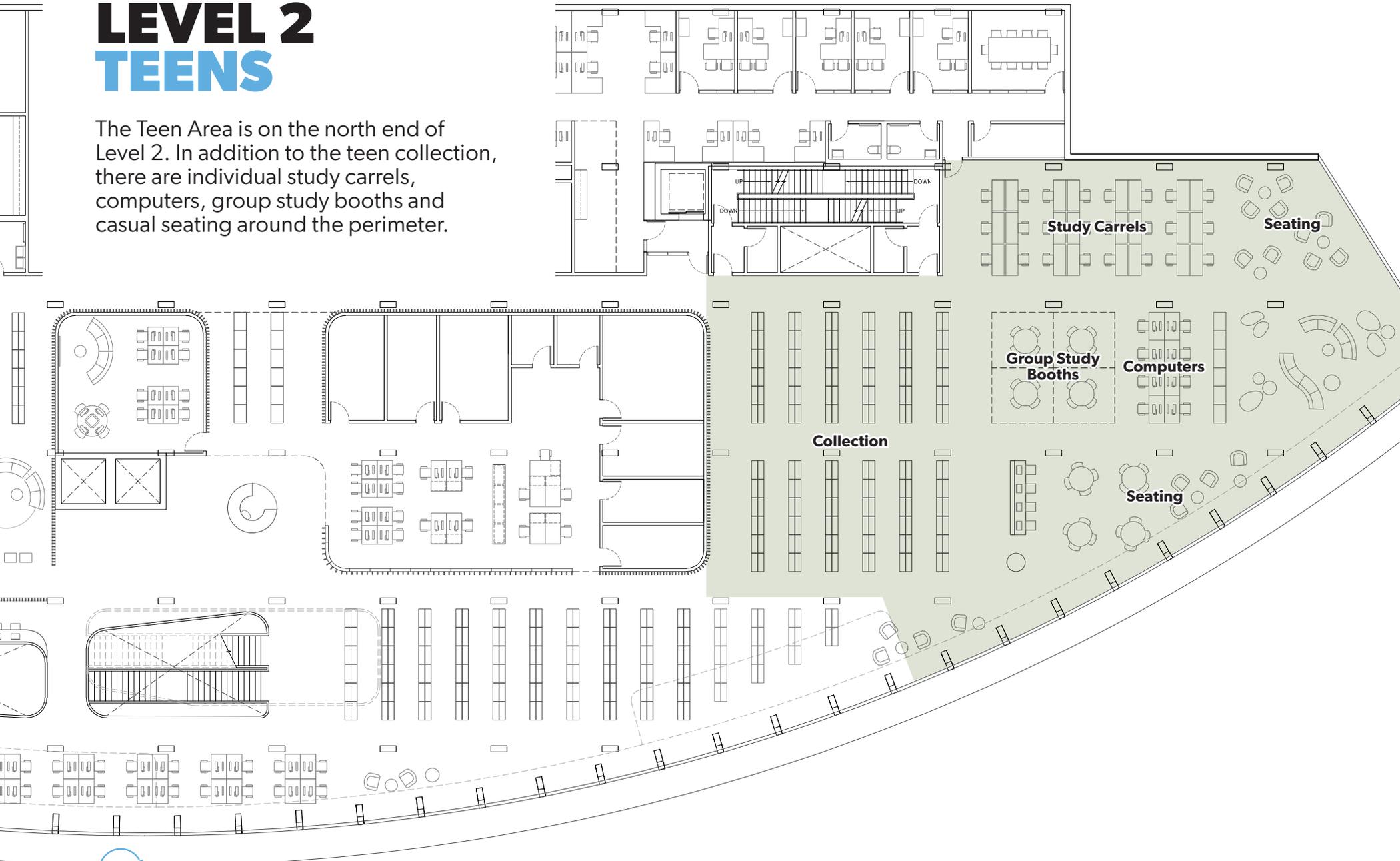
The Innovation Lab is a technology-focused, animated hub located in the centre of Level 2. The labs are enclosed by a wood screen that offers various levels of transparency and enclosure. A service point is centrally located between all of the creative spaces, which include:

- Visual recording studio.
- Audio recording studio.
- Recording booths.
- Post-production studio.
- Innovation work stations.
- Video gaming.
- Technology training room.
- Creator in Residence.



LEVEL 2 TEENS

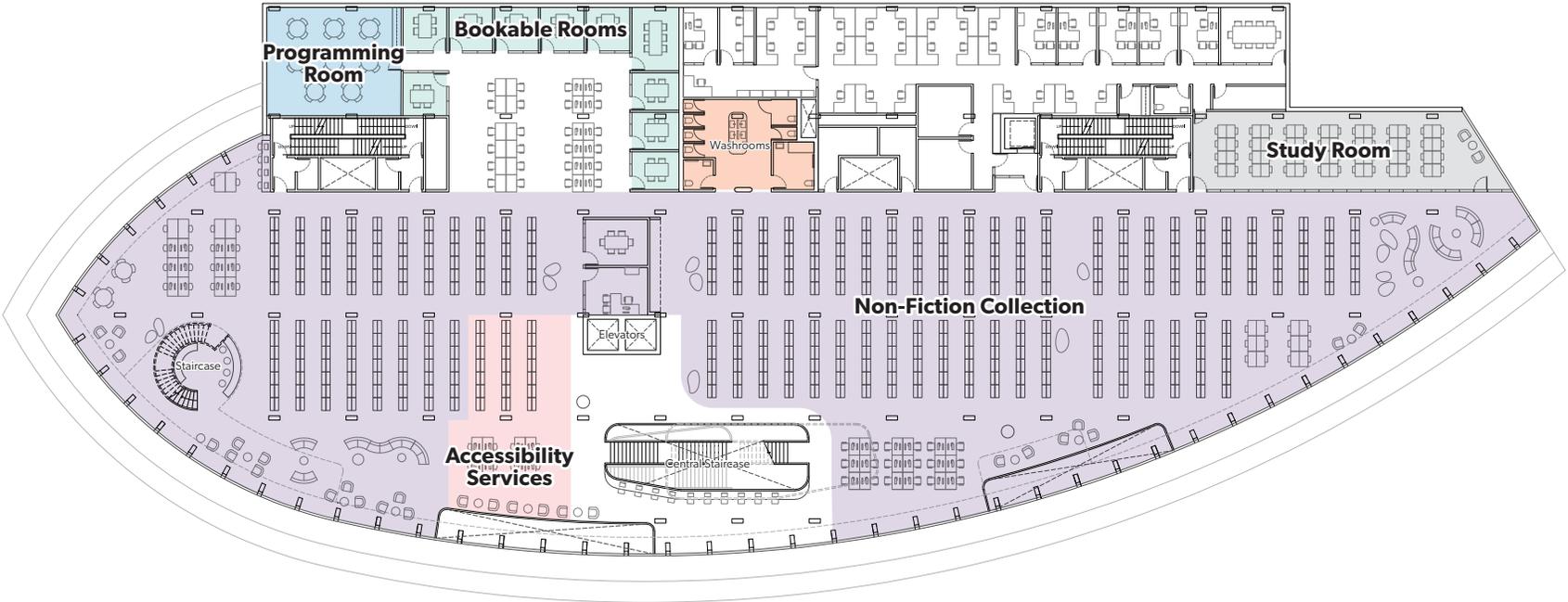
The Teen Area is on the north end of Level 2. In addition to the teen collection, there are individual study carrels, computers, group study booths and casual seating around the perimeter.



LEVEL 3

The components on Level 3 are the adult non-fiction collection and Accessibility Services. There is also a programming room, small bookable rooms and a quiet study room. There is a secondary staircase on Level 3 that opens to the reading room on Level 4, connecting the adult fiction and non-fiction collections.

24th Street E



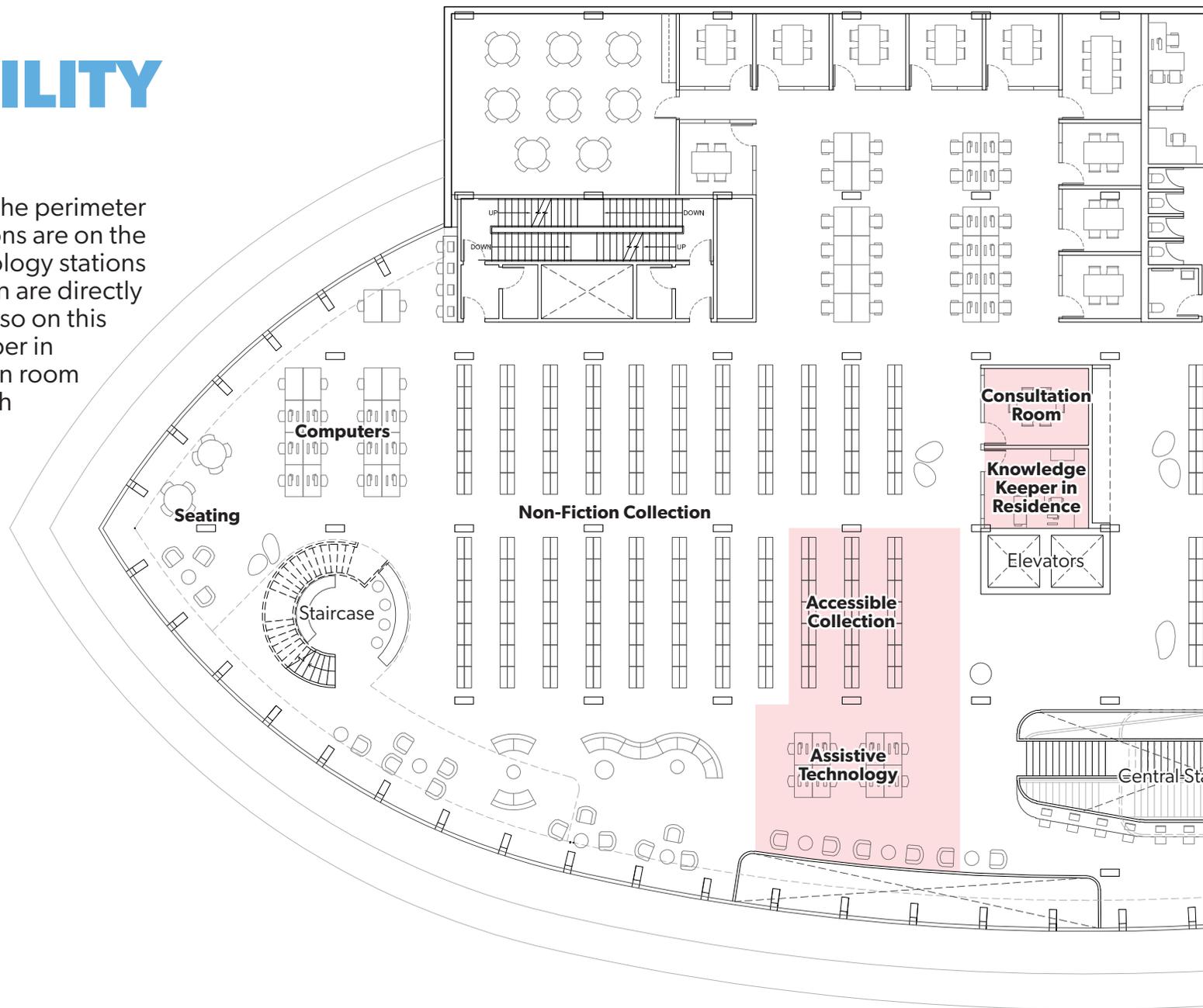
25th Street E

2nd Avenue N



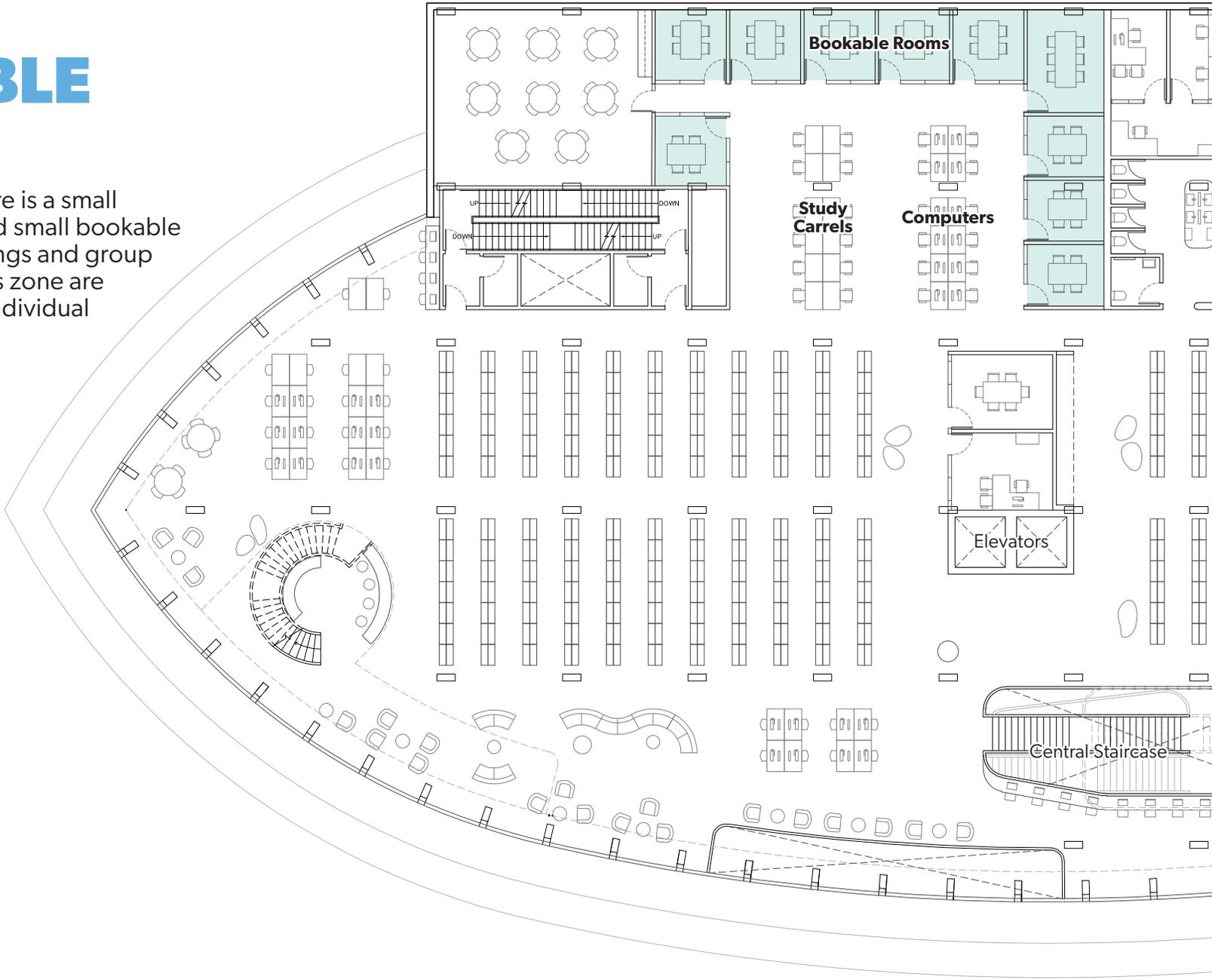
LEVEL 3 ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Seating is available around the perimeter of the building and collections are on the interior. The assistive technology stations and the accessible collection are directly adjacent to the elevators. Also on this level is the Knowledge Keeper in Residence and a consultation room where patrons can meet with library employees.



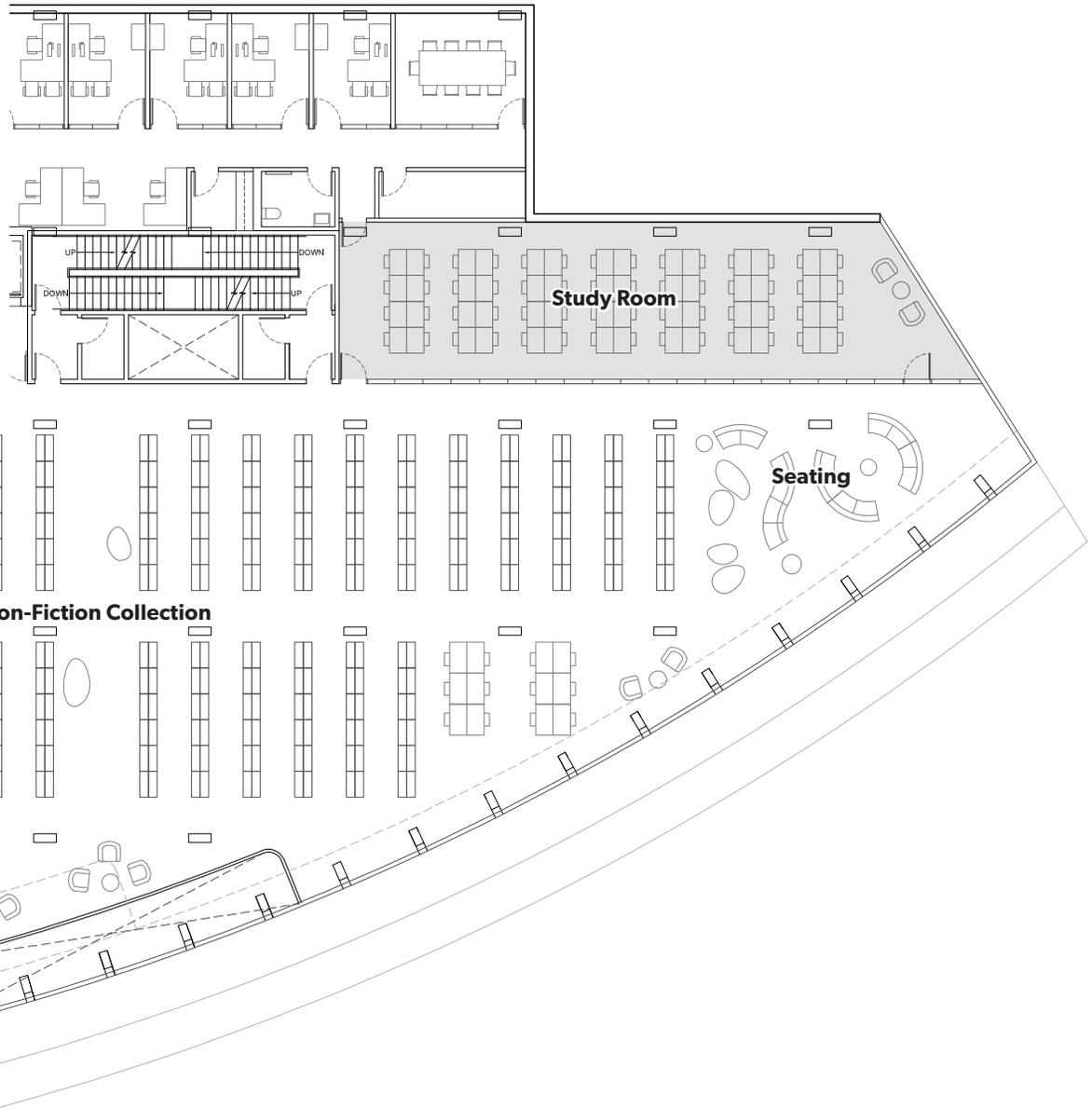
LEVEL 3 BOOKABLE ROOMS

Along the west wall there is a small programming room, and small bookable rooms for private meetings and group study. Also added in this zone are public computers and individual study carrels.



LEVEL 3 QUIET STUDY ROOM

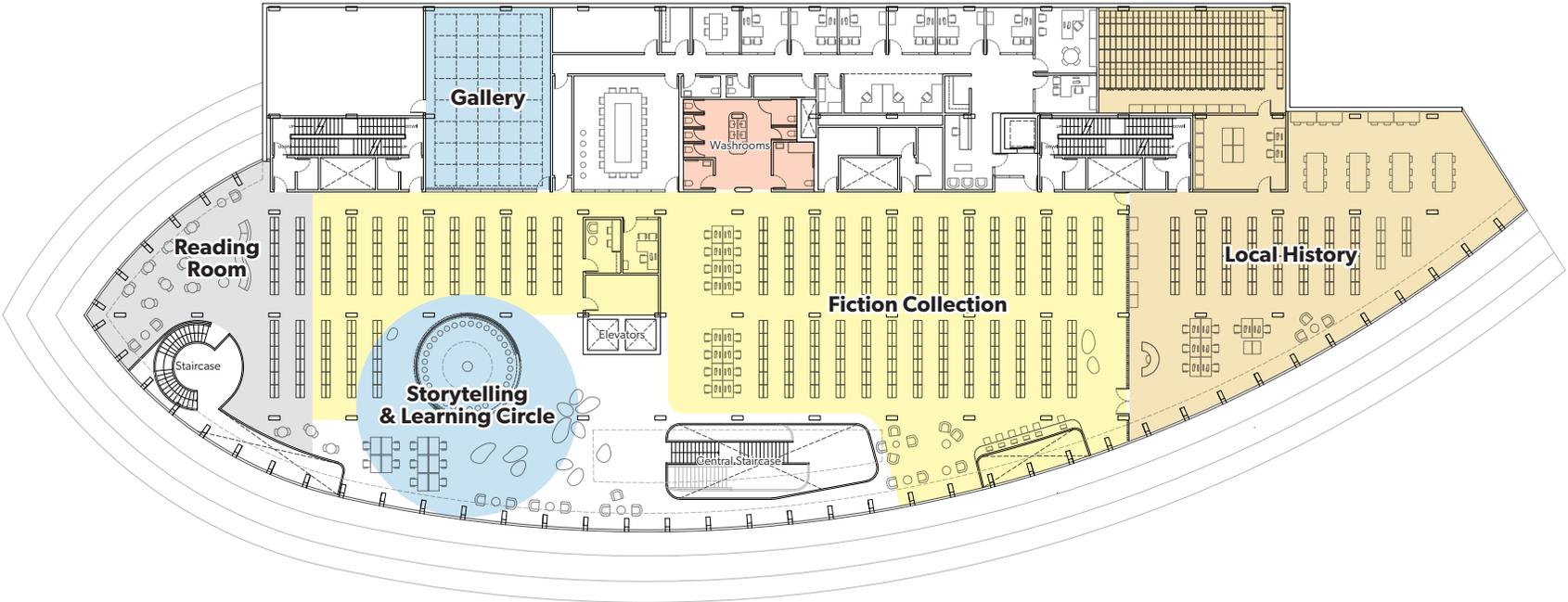
Along the northwest there is a quiet study room, which is separated from other components by a glazed wall. This room contains individual study carrels.



LEVEL 4

Level 4 is home to the adult fiction collection, the Reading Room, the Writer in Residence, the Gallery, the Storytelling & Learning Circle and Local History.

24th Street E



25th Street E

2nd Avenue N

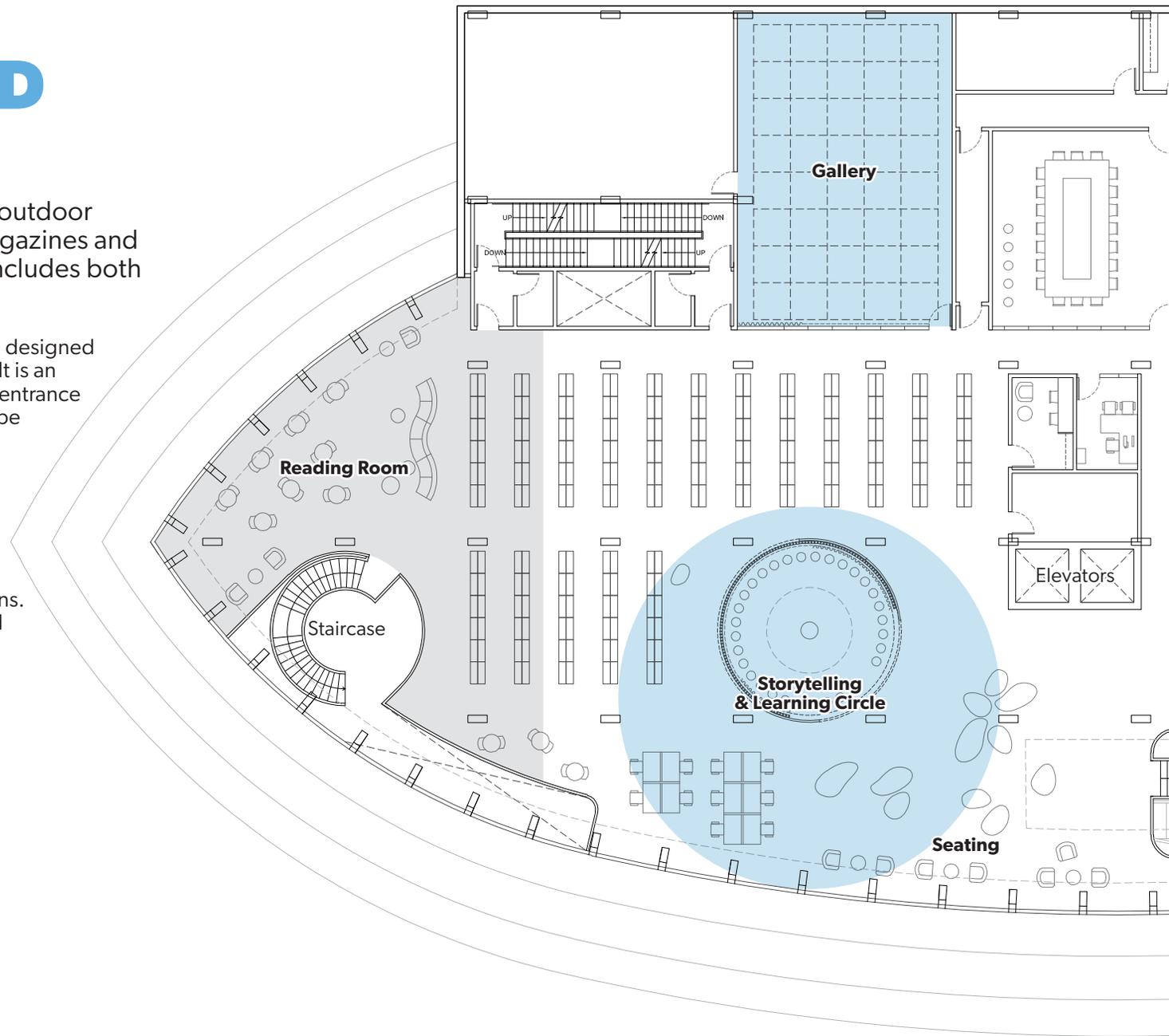


LEVEL 4 SPECIALIZED SPACES

The Reading Room overlooks the outdoor plaza. Located adjacent to the magazines and newspapers, the Reading Room includes both tables and casual soft seating.

The Storytelling & Learning Circle is being designed in consultation with Knowledge Keepers. It is an enclosed circular room with a foyer at the entrance and movable benches and seating. It will be ventilated for ceremonies and has a skylight overhead.

The Gallery space will feature the work of new and emerging artists. Designed to allow for flexibility in how exhibitions are displayed, it has a suspended ceiling grid and flexible lighting and sound options. There are three solid walls and one glazed wall creating a partition.



LEVEL 4 LOCAL HISTORY

This component benefits from being located in a quieter and more private area in the north of the building. Reading and working spaces are mainly located along the east and north sides of the building, benefiting from natural light and excellent city views. The service point and collection is centrally located. The storage collection is located to the west, adjacent to the workroom. The storage room has a separate fire system and does not contain any windows, providing maximum protection for valuable items.

