

Aptos Branch Library Project

Community Meeting October 5, 2020

Frequently Asked Questions/Potential Talking Points:

- *What is the new building's proposed square footage versus the size of the existing building?*
 - The existing building is about 8000 square feet and the proposed building will be about 12, 400 square feet.
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- *How many parking spaces will the new library have, and will there be enough?*
 - 73 proposed. The current building has 69. Both numbers include ADA.
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- *Why are you tearing down the existing building?*
 - Tearing down the building gives the opportunity to develop a space that is not only larger than the current building but allows for a more efficient layout. Renovation of the existing building, plus an addition to accommodate the Library's programs, is actually more expensive than tear down and rebuild of the same size.
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- *What are the costs associated with the new building and where is the money coming from?*
 - The County currently has a Design-Build contract (both architect and contractor) for \$12,350,000. Funding for the project is from Measure S, County Library Funds, and The Leonard Trust
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- *What are the Friends raising money for?*
 - Opening Day collections, children's interactives, teen maker space technology and supplies, kids' technology, Art, programming and special events
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- *Will traffic and pedestrian safety improve?*
- Traffic and pedestrian safety should improve with the inclusion of the following:

- Reorientation of the parking spaces from angled to straight, increasing efficiency, accommodating 73 automobiles, inclusive of the required ADA and electric charging spaces.
 - The entire parking lot will be repaired and slurry sealed. All-new striping will reflect the revised parking layout.
 - Regrading of site addresses existing concerns of cars scraping on the street on exiting, pedestrian safety at the drive and building entry, ponding, etc.
 - Special paved pedestrian walkway is provided from Soquel sidewalk to main entry
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- *What new features will the building contain?*

- The new building will contain:
 - Teen Space
 - Maker space
 - Group Study areas
 - Outdoor program
 - Community Terrace
 - Teen's Patio
 - Adult's Reading Room
 - Children's Garden
 - Staff Garden
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- *Will this be a green building?*

- Many sustainable building features will be part of the new building including Solar Panels and operational helix windmill among other features contributing to Zero Net Energy. A new, flexible floorplan allows for flexibility in the future minimizing the need for future construction. Also, new Title 24 building codes (which will be required for this project) produce buildings that are more sustainable than ever before. This will not be a LEED certified building.
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- *Will the collection size change?*

- SCPL's goal is for the collection size to stay the same.
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- *Will the new building have solar power?*

- Yes
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- *Will any trees be lost in the process of development?*

- All trees on site will likely need to be removed for the new building and site work. Many of those trees will be replaced with climate and region-specific species. We are suggesting a variety of native and site adapted trees that reflect the bigger concept of Forest, Coastal and Terrace. The trees will also have a variety of canopy sizes, forms and some are evergreen while other deciduous providing passive solar during winter months and fall color.
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- *Will there be charging stations for electric vehicles?*
 - Yes
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- *Where will Aptos residents receive library service during construction?*
 - We expect to open the La Selva Beach and Capitola Branches in March.
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- *Will the neighboring libraries be completed and open for service prior to the start of Aptos construction?*
 - We plan to open La Selva Beach and Capitola Branches before closing Aptos. Parking is limited at both locations, especially during story times and other popular events. Many Capitola library users live nearby making it convenient for them to walk, bicycle, or skateboard to the branch and this characteristic could enhance parking options for Aptos library users.
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- *What will happen with the current library collection? Will it be stored?*
 - Most of the items will be transferred to other branches.
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- *What will happen to the physical contents of the library? What will happen to the art and quilt in the library?*
 - After what can be used at other branches is distributed, The Friends will host a closing sale where the public can purchase items. We are looking into donating the quilt to a local organization.
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- *Will there be Bookmobile service similar to what was provided for the La Selva Beach library during renovation?*
 - Our priorities for bookmobile service are remote sites with rural locations, low income housing & senior communities. Since the Capitola branch will be open, a BKM site in Aptos is not a priority

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- *Will any local service be provided?*
 - No, however the Aptos community has been so generous about sharing the Aptos branch with Capitola, Soquel and La Selva Beach residents during construction and remodel of the Capitola & La Selva Beach libraries. SCPL is confident that Capitola, Soquel and La Selva Beach residents will welcome the Aptos community and will be delighted to do so in beautifully built and thoughtfully renovated branch libraries.

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- *Where will after-school children go during construction?*
 - SCPL is also concerned about the absence of the library for after-school students during construction and welcomes suggestions or alternatives from the public.