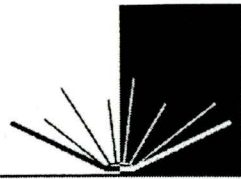


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BRANCH LIBRARY
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY

COMMUNITY MEETING NOTES: MARINA BRANCH LIBRARY

Location: Marina Branch library

When: Thursday, July 8, 2004
7:00 p.m.

Attendees:	General public	12
	Library/City staff	4
	Architect	1
	Friends of SFPL	1
	<i>Total</i>	18

Agenda: Welcome & Introductions – Mindy Linetzky, Bond Program Administrator
Project Overview – Marilyn Thompson, Bond Program Manager
Design Presentation – Mark Schatz, Project Architect
Discussion and Q&A
Friends of SFPL – Marian Chatfield-Taylor, Neighborhood Campaign Organizer
Next Steps
Adjourn

Summary: Marilyn Thompson outlined the priorities of the renovation which are seismic strengthening, full accessibility and building system upgrades. There will also be an approximately 1000 square foot addition. The branch is scheduled to close in spring 2005 and reopen in early 2007. The nearby Golden Gate Valley branch will not close for their renovation until Marina is reopened. The next step in the design process is a Peer Review of the plans before the Library Commission on July 15. The Library will also show the plans to the Recreation and Park Commission sometime this summer. Marilyn introduced one of the architects chosen to work on the Marina branch renovation: Mark Schatz from the firm of Field Paoli.

Mark Schatz reiterated concerns and suggestions from the previous community meeting and described how they were addressed: They increased the shelving capacity, separated children and adult areas to alleviate noise, kept staff in their existing location, combined the audio/visual and new books in one area, moved the restrooms closer to the children's area, and created a flexible program space. Mark explained the design plans and highlighted key features including a glass addition at the front of the building, a new browsing area with moveable shelves and comfortable seating that can be arranged for library programs, an exterior after hours book drop that goes directly into the staff workroom for easy processing, a children's area that extends all the way to the entrance, a designated young adult area, centrally located information desks, a

new circulation desk, a quiet periodical area in the rear with comfortable seats, two self check machines, more computers and an overall increase in shelving of over 200 lineal feet. He also discussed the landscape plan and the need for steel bracing as part of the seismic upgrade.

Marian Chatfield-Taylor, from the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library discussed their fundraising campaign, which includes a Marina Branch Library 50th Anniversary Celebration on September 9, 2004. They are raising \$16 million to fund the furniture, fixtures, and equipment for all the bond projects.

**Discussion
Notes:**

Community questions and discussion:

- Are the lamps in the drawing really going to be like that? [Response: We plan to continue to incorporate indirect lighting in the main adult reading room that light upwards onto the ceiling as well as down. Along the front we propose a combination of modern hanging lights and long indirect lighting fixtures. We may re-use some existing lights, if needed.]
- In wet weather, where will kids put their gear? [Response: There won't be a closet—they'll have to take their things with them and perhaps set them on benches or tables, as they do now.]
- Are any of the architects on this project associated in any way with the building of the New Main? [Response: No.]
- Which trees will be removed? [Response: Our arborist still needs to evaluate the health of all the trees. As of now, we are considering removing only the dying plum on back patio and the Pittosporum in front, where the addition will be built.]
- Will the pathway be lit? [Response: That will be left up to the Recreation and Park Department.]
- Can we use the patio? [Response: Library users will have to check out their books, and exit the front door to get to it, as they do now. There is no regular access through the library. However, the Children's Librarian could take groups out for special programs at any time. Recreation & Parks Department uses the patio on occasion, too.]
- What will happen with the benches in the front patio? [Response: Some will stay and some will be replaced. The round planter will need to come out, as it is in the way of the new addition and will be replaced with new appropriate planter beds.]
- Regarding the concerns from last community meeting—people wanted more books. Why is it necessary to triple computers? Doesn't see them being used so much...maybe this neighborhood doesn't need so many? Prefer to free up some money and space for the collection. [Response: A large part of the increase is in the number of OPACs, which access the library catalog. Also, computers don't take as much space as they used to. For example, flat screen monitors are much smaller than old monitors. It is possible, with the advent of

wireless and laptop use that we'll need less dedicated computer workstation space, and those spaces could become available for increased seating or other uses.]

- Will the wi-fi (wireless computer access) be 802.11? [Response: We'll check.]
- The "new books" area seems to have very low shelves, making it harder for adults to see the materials—you have to stoop. Is it possible to have taller shelves and put display books on the bottom shelves? The children's stacks seem high in comparison which doesn't make sense. [Response: In the browsing room, the shelves are on rollers and for safety can't be above a certain height, about two shelves high. The kids' shelves will be low—we haven't yet selected the exact shelving, and we'll keep these comments in mind.]
- What kind of flooring will be used? [Response: Sand from the playground is a problem, so carpeting isn't practical. We're considering linoleum. The current flooring is asbestos tile and will be removed. We'll probably have an area rug in the children's area.]
- How about Pergo on the floors? [Response: We'll check it out, it has to be durable.]
- Which of the four previous designs is this final one closest to? [Response: Can't be sure of the option number, but it was the one with the expansion in the front, and no program room.]
- Will there be any enclosed areas? [Response: Only in the staff and utility areas.]
- Why was the addition, originally at 1500 square feet, reduced to 1000 square feet? [Response: We took 5% out of every project to create a \$5 million reserve to cover the possible loss of anticipated State Grant moneys. Also, construction estimates have been coming in high, due to increased costs of steel and gypsum.]
- What's the built-in escalation? [Response: Escalation is taken over a 20-year average, the current estimated escalation cost is about 5% per year.]
- Is there a chance that the Recreation and Parks Department will veto any of these plans? [Response: We've had some initial meetings, including a Joint Library & Rec/Park Commission meeting and they indicated a willingness to work together. The library may need to mitigate any loss of park space with restoration of green spaces. We expect they will prefer our plan to build the expansion outward toward the street into the paved sidewalk space rather than into green space. And we are restoring more than an equivalent portion of green area along the walkway.]
- Is the patio Recreation & Park land? [Response: Yes. All of the Marina Branch Library is on Recreation & Park land.]
- What will the ceiling be like? [Response: It will remain as it is, only better lit.]
- The placement of the children's computer stations near the reference desk area seems to presuppose that the librarians will supervise that area, and also makes for possible noise and hilarity in proximity to the reference desks. [Response: Staff prefers this arrangement.]

Reference staff should have oversight and ready access to assist patrons using the computers.]

- What's the fundraising goal for the Friends of the SFPL? [Response: The total goal for all of the branches is \$16 million. \$500,000 is budgeted for most branches.]

Handouts:

- Marina Branch Library Frequently Asked Questions- Updated
- Floor plan/Front Rendering
- Community Meeting Notes 4-19-04
- Design Review Panel Announcement
- Exit Survey