



**City & County of San Francisco
Branch Library Improvement Program**

**Marina Branch Library Renovation
Frequently Asked Questions**

Q. What are the plans for the branch?

A. The renovation priorities include making the branch seismically safe, accessible, and technologically updated. Both the public and staff areas will become more functional. A small expansion in the front, towards the street is planned to recoup space needed for disabled access, seismic work, and building system upgrades.

Q. What will be some of the benefits of the renovated branch?

- Seismic strengthening
- New and accessible restrooms
- More visible and inviting entry
- Designated Teen Area
- Quiet adult reading area
- Flexible space for programs
- Better lighting
- New furniture, shelving, and materials displays
- Exterior book drop
- Clearer signage
- New computers
- Flexible Children's area for story time and other programs
- New self-check machines and reserves pick up area
- A variety of seating choices
- New browsing and periodicals areas
- Improved landscaping
- Better staff work areas
- Improved heating and ventilation

Q. When will the branch be closed and for how long?

A. The branch is scheduled to close for construction in spring 2005 and reopen in early 2007 or sooner. During the renovation, library services will be provided by increasing hours at nearby branches, holding programs at neighborhood schools and community centers, and by bookmobile service.

Q. Who are the architects?

A. The joint venture team of architecture firms Tom Eliot Fisch and Field Paoli.

Q. Will the amount of books increase?

A. While the materials (books, CDs, DVDs, videos, books on tape, etc.) collection will remain the same size initially, the renovated library will have increased shelving capacity to allow for future growth. Also, materials will be easier to find on new shelves in an improved layout. The small addition will cover increased accessibility, system upgrades, and improved functionality.

Q. What happens to the existing furniture?

A. Some original pieces may be restored, but most of the furniture will be replaced. The Library has developed interior design guidelines to help the architects and staff choose appropriate furniture based on functionality, ergonomics, durability, maintenance, flexibility, sustainability, as well as the architectural period.

Q. Is the community involved in the design process?

A. Yes. A survey was conducted in fall 2002, where 361 people gave their opinion about materials, facilities, and services at the branch. Four community meetings were held at the branch to discuss services and review design ideas (September 2002, January 2003, April 2004 & July 2004). On July 15, 2004, the Library Commission conducted a public Peer Review where independent architects and an interior designer reviewed the design. Before closure, the architects will go back to the community to discuss the final plans.

Q. Is the Library and the Recreation & Park Dept. working together on their projects?

A. Yes. We keep in touch on the timeline and scope of each of our projects.

Q. Where does the money come from to renovate the branch?

A. In November 2000, the voters overwhelmingly passed a bond measure for \$106 million to upgrade San Francisco's branch library system. The bond's priorities are to reduce seismic risk, meet modern technological needs and current code requirements, comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and provide spaces that are responsive to current services, yet flexible enough to meet future needs. In addition, while the bond pays for a significant portion of the costs, it does not pay for furniture, fixtures, and equipment. The Friends of the San Francisco Public Library will raise \$16 million from private donations to pay for these costs. Call (415) 626.7512 ext 103 to help with the Friends' campaign.

Q. How much money goes for the Marina Branch?

A. The project has an estimated budget of \$3.9 million (approximately \$2.9 million for construction costs and contingencies) to renovate and expand the building.

Q. How do I find out more information about my branch renovation?

A. Contact the Branch Library Improvement Program at (415) 557-4354, check www.sfpl.org, or email BLIP@sfpl.org.