The Board of Library Trustees may act on any item on this agenda.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Call to Order
B. Public Comments (6:00 – 6:30 p.m.)
   (Proposed 30-minute time limit, with speakers allowed 3 minutes each)
C. Report from library employees and unions, discussion of staff issues
   Comments / responses to reports and issues addressed in packet.
D. Report from Board of Library Trustees
E. Approval of Agenda

II. PRESENTATIONS

A. Measure FF South Branch Library Update
   1. Presentation by Field Paoli Architects on the Schematic Design Phase; and Staff
   2. Public Comment (on this item only)
   3. Board discussion

B. Measure FF Claremont Branch Library Update
   1. Presentation by Gould Evans Baum Thornley Architects on the Schematic Design
      Phase; and Staff Report on the Process, Community Input and Next Steps.
   2. Public Comment (on this item only)
   3. Board discussion

C. Measure FF West Branch Library Update
   1. Review presentation made by Harley Ellis Devereaux/GreenWorks Studio on the
      Conceptual Design Phase; and Staff Report on the Process, Community Input and
      Next Steps at February 6, 2010 Special BOLT meeting. Refer to February 6, 2010
      Agenda Packet. Notes and comments from the meeting to be delivered.
   2. Public Comment (on this item only)
   3. Board discussion

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

The Board will consider removal and addition of items to the Consent Calendar prior to
voting on the Consent Calendar. All items remaining on the Consent Calendar will be
approved in one motion.

A. Approve minutes of January 13, 2010 Regular Meeting
   Recommendation: Approve the minutes of the January 13, 2010 regular meeting of the
   Board of Library Trustees.

IV. INFORMATION REPORTS

A. Library Budget Update
   Discussion of mid-year 2010 budget status report and FY 2011 budget update process.
B. **Update on the Branch Bond Program**
   Discussion of staff report on status of implementation of the Measure FF branch improvement program, to include update on Request for Proposals, schedule, and budget.

C. **February 2010 Monthly Report from Library Director**
   i. Library Development
   ii. Professional Activities
   iii. Programs, Services and Collections
   iv. Personnel

D. **Library events:** Calendar of events and press releases for various Library programs are posted at [http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org](http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org)

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**V. AGENDA BUILDING**

Next regular meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at the South Branch Library, 1901 Russell Street, Berkeley.

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**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

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Please refrain from wearing scented products at public meetings.

Written materials may be viewed in advance of the meeting at the Central Library Reference Desk (2090 Kittredge Street), or any of the branches, during regular library hours.

To request a meeting agenda in large print, Braille, or on cassette, or to request a sign language interpreter, assistive-listening device or other accommodation for the meeting, please call (510) 981-6195 (voice) or (510) 548-1240 (TDD). Providing at least five (5) working days’ notice prior to the meeting will help to ensure availability.

I hereby certify that the agenda for this special meeting of the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley was posted in the display cases located at 2134 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way and in front of the Central Public Library at 2090 Kittredge Street, as well as on the Berkeley Public Library’s website on February 4, 2010.

//s//
Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services
Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees

For further information, please call (510) 981-6195.
TO:          Board of Library Trustees  
FROM:       Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services  
SUBJECT:   MEASURE FF SOUTH BRANCH & TOOL LIBRARY PROJECT UPDATE: REPORT ON SCHEMATIC DESIGN PHASE  

INTRODUCTION  

In November 2008 voters approved Measure FF, a Library bond to renovate, expand and make seismic and access improvements at the four neighborhood branch libraries. Since that time the board has overseen the selection of four design firms, one for each project. Field Paoli Architects is the selected design firm under contract to address the needs of the South Branch Library located at 1901 Russell Street; the consultant’s contract commenced on July 1, 2009.

BACKGROUND  

The consultants presented the results of the conceptual design phase process at the October 14, 2009 Regular meeting of the board. The December 9, 2009 BOLT agenda packet includes extensive minutes on the presentation, board discussion and direction. Past board packets are available online at: http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/about_the_library/bolt/bolt.php. Based on the input provided by the Berkeley Public Library Board of Library Trustees (BOLT) at the meeting on 10/14/09, Field Paoli was directed by staff to proceed with schematic design for an all new library on the project site.

Per the contract, the consultants prepared a final conceptual design package for the construction of a new South Branch Library structure; completed a preliminary LEED checklist, and engaged a professional cost estimator to prepare order of magnitude construction estimates for this design. Deliverables received during this period were Berkeley South Branch Library Concept Design Report, December 15, 2009.

In December staff transmitted to the design consultant the approved, South Branch and Tool Lending Library, Berkeley Public Library Building Program, December 2009: Final Draft, prepared by Page + Moris LLC.

CURRENT SITUATION  

The South Branch project is in the schematic design phase. During this phase the consultant attended and participated in meetings and discussions with the City’s Planning and Building departments to review compliance status and begin to secure necessary approvals. Efforts related to achieving a sustainable design and LEED rating continued, including holding a preliminary LEED charette in order to ensure a minimum Silver LEED rating for the project.
The consultant, staff and others associated with the project attended the January 7, 2010 regular meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission to make an informational presentation on the status of the South Branch project. At this meeting, Donna Corbeil presented a summary of recommendations of the BPL Branch Libraries Master Facilities Plan. Avery Moore AIA, a principal at Field Paoli Architects, presented project plans for the South Branch Library project to the Commissioners. She reported that two schemes for an upgraded South Berkeley Branch Library were developed for consideration, one which renovated and expanded upon a portion of the current structure, and another for new construction. The renovation plan had a 10% higher budget than the all-new plan due to the costs of a second story addition, and would also require substantial seismic reinforcement. For these and other reasons, it was reported BOLT made a unanimous recommendation to pursue an all-new building, and that the project has moved into the schematic design phase. LPC members present indicated that they would have no opposition to the project going forward and recommended that another meeting be scheduled for their review of the demolition permit (See Next Steps below). They requested that the design go before the Design Review Board when ready.

Following the October 2009 Board of Library Trustee meeting, staff consulted with the Planning Department on next steps. Based on advice from city staff regarding the approval process, the design consultant prepared a draft CEQA Environmental Checklist for review.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND DESIGN PROGRESS

The design team has continued to receive feedback and input from staff and the library program consultant on possible layouts as they relate to the branch program and functions. Suzanne Olawski is the library lead on the branch program discussions, coordinating and facilitating staff and design team meetings.

To date three community meetings have been held. Two meetings, on September 17, 2009 and October 1, 2009, took place prior to the architects’ presentation of the concept design to the board on October 14, 2009. The most recent meeting was held at the South Branch on January 27, 2010 to review progress on schematic design. The agenda and notes from this meeting are included (Attachment 1). There was good turnout at the last meeting; excluding library staff, project consultants, the design team and others working directly on the project, 13 members of the public attended. The design team reviewed two design options that conformed to the board’s preferred scheme. In addition, possible landscape options and a revised site / floor plan were reviewed and discussed with public comment and questions recorded. (Attachment 2)

NEXT STEPS

Following board discussion and consensus on the schematic design presentation, including: drawings and documents illustrating project scale, layout, site issues, massing / elevations and functionality, staff will capture board directed modifications and communicate design direction to the consultant. The conclusion of this phase includes development and submission by the design consultant of: schematic design plans, elevations, sections and other key details; schematic site and landscape plans; preliminary materials boards; building materials boards; an updated building construction cost estimate; and updated LEED score sheet. The next phase will be design development. Staff will bring more developed plans to the board during this phase for additional review and direction.
Following the board meeting, staff will seek advice from the Planning Department to confirm next steps in the approval process. The anticipated approach will be for Planning Department staff to prepare an RFP (Request for Proposals) for EIR consultant services for the South Branch Project.

The approval process which will be pursued will be to request a permit for the demolition via a Use Permit under BMC Section 23C.08.050, which is approved by the Zoning Adjustments Board. Under that section, and prior to ZAB action, the LPC will be given an opportunity to comment on the historical significance of the structure since it is over 40 years old. The Use Permit submittal requirements are listed in the "Zoning Project Submittal Requirements" prepared by the Planning Department and available online. The LPC will have input in the development of the EIR report. Once LPC comments are received, the ZAB can take action on the Use Permit.

A fourth community meeting will be scheduled to share the most recent design plans and to gather input. As indicated above, during the Design Development Phase, staff will bring more developed plans to the board for additional review and direction.

ATTACHMENTS
1. January 27, 2010 Community Meeting: Agenda, Meeting Notes & Summary of Comment / Survey forms
2. Presentation boards from January 27, 2010 community meeting
SOUTH BRANCH LIBRARY RENOVATION
COMMUNITY MEETING
JANUARY 27, 2010
6:30 – 8:00 PM

AGENDA

Welcome!
Jeri Ewart, Branch Supervisor

Agenda and Project Review
Donna Corbeil, Library Director

Previous Meeting Recap
Avery Taylor Moore, AIA – Field Paoli

Program Review
Avery Taylor Moore, AIA – Field Paoli

Design Considerations Discussion
Mark Schatz, AIA - Field Paoli

Landscape Discussion
Charles McCulloch, ASLA – Landscape Architect

Questions & Comments

Next Steps

Thank you for coming and please complete a comment sheet and survey before you leave.
South Branch Schematic Design - Community Meeting #3 – 01.27.10  
Audience Comments / Survey Responses

Survey Responses

No surveys were submitted

Comments

- Concerned about pre-construction (demolition and dust) – minimize as much as possible
- I like the butterfly roof option better; however, the wrapped roof leading to the entrance on the curved wall scheme is a nice feature and helps define the entrance. This could add to the butterfly roof scheme. I also really like the landscape feature near the computer bank—a nice element with limited landscape.
- Option B (butterfly roof) is constructed in a manner more integrated into natural environment; therefore, it is likely to reduce stress and conflicts by being more integrated into a calming, familiar experience
- Interior draining roof drains must be avoided; red flag for future leaks and maintenance nightmares
- Internal coordination w/ staffing (library)
- Neighborhood, community associations, schools coordination
- Landscape coordination with Berkeley Planning, Design, Maintenance
- LEED/Green Berkeley/Sustainability
- GO BOLD! South Berkeley Library w/ Ed Roberts Campus are the cornerstones of the Renaissance of South Berkeley
- I tend to feel best about interior light as in sunlight coming in; so, I tend to like the first exterior model (w/ the sloping butterfly roof over central lobby)
- I spend most of my time in the adult stacks area so the east window and north window facing patio sounds great
- The eucalyptus trees (two on north fence) – I have no problem with their removal—they are past their prime and while stable now they may become “weedy” or drop more limbs; however, help that live oak. In 2000 it was a 12’ tree and it’s really grown into great shape
Berkeley Public Library – Branch Improvement Program
South Branch Community Meeting – Schematic Design (Meeting 4)
January 27, 2010
6:30-8:00PM / South Branch

Attendance: 13 non-library audience members
Presenting design team members: Avery Taylor Moore & Mark Schatz
Presenting library staff: Donna Corbeil

**Audience Participation**

Scheme A – flat roof, curved western façade; Scheme B – angled roof

Like the angles of the roof (scheme B), seems to let a lot of light in

**Q:** How high is the curving wall (scheme A)? **A:** Approximately 18’ – 20’ tall

**Q:** How high is the angled roof (scheme B)? **A:** Approximately 22’ – 26’ tall

Like the direction the project is going since the beginning

**Q:** What about a circular shape –unifying, bringing people together? **A:** That shape was an earlier consideration but did not work well functionally. We are looking at some curved walls.

This building and the Ed Roberts Campus (ERC) will be the cornerstone of the South Berkeley renaissance.

**Q:** Is there a way to make the curved wall (scheme A) more transparent so people passing by can look in and see people in the library? It looks like a blank wall. **A:** There are punched windows behind the louvers. We will address greater transparency on the corner.

**Q:** Is there stack space in the children’s and teen spaces? **A:** There are stacks and seating in those spaces with movable stools for small children to use when reading. Seating in the adult area is interspersed among the stacks with table seating more organized and there will be comfortable seating by the periodicals.

The angled roof seems dissonant**

**R:** it’s angled on purpose to break from the character around it.

**Q:** Does one scheme cost more than the other? **A:** Not yet. Once a scheme is chosen to be developed then a series of cost estimating will be done. Both schemes consist of the same program space and methodology. There are additions in the program, especially for seating and public access computers.

**Q:** Can you add the curved front (scheme A) to the butterfly roof (scheme B)? The entrance seems lost. **A:** We’ll look at lessening the corner piece to make that corner more prominent. The design currently is at the maximum envelope on site.

**Q:** Is the patio on the north side accessible to everyone? **A:** Yes, could be accessible to both public and staff.

There should be bike parking and an adequate amount by the front entry. **R:** There is room for six (6) to seven (7) bikes spaces by the front entry with four (4) more by Tool Lending Library.

**Q:** Is the large maple tree included in the plans? **A:** Yes, but there are some complications. The tree roots have pushed the curb out into the street. The tree is staying –lets light in during the winter and blocks light during the summer.

**Q:** Are the two (2) redwoods staying? **A:** They are not on library property.
Q: Have you looked into the green roof thing? A: Yes. There are maintenance issues and it becomes a mess during the dormant season. We're looking to see if we can do solar on the roof.
EXAMPLES:
INTERIOR SPACES

TEENS

STUDY TABLES

KIDS AREA

COMFY SEATING

PUBLIC COMPUTERS

BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY SOUTH BRANCH
INSPIRATIONS

WOOD & GLASS / SHADING

CURVED WOOD WALL

DAYLIT CENTRAL SPACE

VIEWS INTO AN ACTIVE LIBRARY

WOOD SIDING

BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY SOUTH BRANCH
INTRODUCTION

In November 2008 voters approved Measure FF, a Library bond to renovate, expand and make seismic and access improvements at the four neighborhood branch libraries. Since that time the board has overseen the selection of four design firms, one for each project. Gould Evans Baum Thornley (GEBT) is the selected design firm under contract to address the needs of the Claremont Branch Library located at 2940 Benvenue Avenue; the consultant’s contract commenced on September 29, 2009.

BACKGROUND

The consultants presented the results of the conceptual design phase process at the December 9, 2009 Regular meeting of the board. The January 13, 2009 BOLT agenda packet includes extensive minutes on the presentation, board discussion and direction. Past board packets are available online at: http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/about_the_library/bolt/bolt.php.

Based on the input provided by the Berkeley Public Library Board of Library Trustees (BOLT) at the meeting on 12/09/09, GEBT was directed by staff to proceed with the schematic design phase of the project.

Per the contract, the consultants prepared a final conceptual design package for the renovation and small expansion of the existing Claremont Branch Library structure; completed a preliminary LEED checklist and engaged a professional cost estimator to prepare order of magnitude construction estimates for this design. Deliverables received during this period were a Berkeley Public Library Claremont Branch Concept Design Report, January 2009 (draft to be finalized shortly).

In December staff transmitted to the design consultant the approved, Claremont Branch Library, Berkeley Public Library Building Program, January 2010: Final Draft, prepared by Page + Moris LLC.

CURRENT SITUATION

The Claremont Branch project is in the schematic design phase. During this phase the consultant attended and participated in meetings and discussions with the City’s Planning and
Building departments to review compliance status and begin to secure necessary approvals. Efforts related to achieving a sustainable design and LEED rating continued.

The consultant, staff and others associated with the project have met with the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) appointed subcommittee members on three occasions, November 5, 2009 and November 24, 2009 and most recently on February 1, 2010. At the most recent meeting topics discussed included the structure’s historic features, LEED Silver and energy efficiency, review and discussion of proposed concepts, design challenges of the various options, library building program development, access improvements, and entry and landscape improvements. The architect and staff will present an informational update on the Claremont project at a regular meeting of the LPC in April 2010.

Following the December board meeting staff consulted with the Planning Department on next steps. Based on preliminary discussions with the city staff regarding the approval process, it is likely that this project will qualify for a categorical exemption from the CEQA process.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND DESIGN PROCESS

The design team has continued to receive feedback and input from staff and the library program consultant on possible layouts as they relate to the branch program and functions. Suzanne Olawski is the library lead on the branch program discussions, coordinating and facilitating staff and design team meetings.

To date three community meetings have been held. Two meetings, on November 2 and November 19, 2009, took place prior to the architects’ presentation of the concept design to the board on December 9, 2009. The most recent meeting was held at the Claremont Branch on February 3, 2010 to review progress on schematic design. The agenda from this meeting are included (Attachment 1). There was good turnout at the meetings, excluding library staff, project consultants, the design team and others working directly on the project, 19 members of the public attended. The design team reviewed the proposed floor plan, elevations, program summary and possible landscaping on the board’s preferred scheme. Public comment and questions were recorded and will be a to-be-delivered along with the notes from the meeting on February 10th.

NEXT STEPS

Following board discussion and consensus on the schematic design presentation, including: drawings and documents illustrating project scale, layout, site issues, massing / elevations and functionality, staff will capture board directed modifications and communicate design direction to the consultant. The conclusion of this phase includes development and submission by the design consultant of: schematic design plans, elevations, sections and other key details; schematic site and landscape plans; preliminary materials boards; an updated building construction cost estimate; and LEED score sheet. The next phase will be design development. Staff will bring more developed plans to the board during this phase for additional review and direction.

Following the board meeting staff will seek advice from the Planning Department on the next steps in the approval process.

ATTACHMENTS
1. February 3, 2010 Community Meeting: Agenda
2. Presentation boards from February 3, 2010 community meeting
3. Meeting Notes & Summary of Comment / Survey forms (TBD)
CLAREMONTE BRANCH LIBRARY RENOVATION
COMMUNITY MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 2010
6:30 – 8:00 PM

AGENDA

Welcome!
Karen Joseph-Smith, Branch Supervisor

Agenda and Project Review
Donna Corbeil, Library Director

Previous Meeting Recap
Douglas Thornley, AIA
Lauren MacColl Maass, AIA
Gould Evans / Baum Thornley

Program Review
Douglas Thornley, AIA
Lauren MacColl Maass, AIA
Gould Evans / Baum Thornley

Design Considerations Discussion
Douglas Thornley, AIA
Lauren MacColl Maass, AIA
Gould Evans / Baum Thornley

Landscape Discussion
Samantha Haimovitch
Gates & Associates

Questions & Comments

Next Steps

Thank you for coming and please complete a comment sheet and survey before you leave.
East (Benvenue) Elevation

- New Staff Room Bay Addition Beyond
- New Staff Entry and Book Drops
- New ADA-Compliant Ramp
- New Entry Stair
- New Dormer at Service Desk
- New Glass Wall at Existing Opening
- New Brick Planter to Replace Existing Stair
- New Door at Service Desk

East (Benvenue) Elevation

Schematic Design

Presentation II, Item 2
Attachment #2
Benvenue Perspective

Schematic Design

Attchment #2
Primary Facility Improvement Goals

- Enhance entry and landscaping
- Improve seismic resistance and structural integrity
- Update mechanical, plumbing, electrical, and telecommunications systems
- Ensure full ADA-compliant accessibility
- Improve exterior and interior lighting
- Restore and refurbish existing historic features and windows
- Design with green building principles to attain LEED silver certification

Highlights

- Improved space layout for better flow of circulation and sight lines
- Improved collection display and shelving throughout
- Improved acoustic separation of spaces:
  - More seating and seating variety
- Enhanced library services:
  - Generous display and browsing areas
  - New media collection shelving
  - Restoration of reading alcoves
  - Computers in the teen room
Highlights

- Technology Improvements:
  - table-top access to power at some reader tables
  - space and equipment for Library laptop lending service
- New Children's Flex Space
  - accommodation for children's programming
  - new window seats
- Service desks:
  - efficient, ergonomic self-checkout / return and self-service reserves
- Staff work areas:
  - physically and acoustically separated from public space
  - ergonomically sound furniture and equipment
- Exterior deck at the rear yard

Summary

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I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Call to Order

The regular meeting of January 13, 2010 was called to order by Chair Kupfer at 7:08 PM.

Present: Trustees Winston Burton, Abigail Franklin, Susan Kupfer and Darryl Moore.

Absent: Carolyn Henry-Golphin.

Also present: Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services; Doug Smith, Deputy Director; Suzanne Olawski, Neighborhood Services Manager; Dennis Dang, Library Admin Manager; Alan Bern, Library Special Services Coordinator; Jason Dickinson, Circulation Services Manager; Architectural Resources Group – Cathleen Malmstrom, AIA, Senior Associate; Adria Oswald, Project Manager; Tom Eliot Fisch - Doug Tom., AIA, Principal; Rene Cardinaux, Consultant; Steve Dewan, Project Manager, Kitchell CEM

Chair Kupfer reported Trustee Henry-Golphin was unable to attend and introduced newest Trustee Abigail Franklin.

II. WORKSHOP SESSION ON MEASURE FF NORTH BRANCH LIBRARY UPDATE


Cathleen Malmstrom reviewed the agenda she and her team would cover. She and Doug Tom will share in the presentation (PowerPoint presentation - attachment #1.)

Ms Malmstrom reviewed the historical roots of the City of Berkeley landmarked status of the building and acknowledged that a young architect, Frank Thompson in James Plachek’s Office at the time brings a local connection, Mr Plachek is a well known local architect credited with the North Branch Library project. The drawing at the beginning of the presentation was provided by Mr. Thompson’s daughter, Susan Thompson Bailey. The original building sits on an island; as the site plans show, an additional wing was planned but not built (page 3 of attachment 1) leaving a blank rear facade. The current design process began and grew out of the BLMFP, from this, design goals were developed that included: preservation of the resource, upgrades, sustainability goals, etc., as presented at a previous meeting. ARG/TEF wanted to balance limited site, budget and program needs, and began by developing several schemes (page 5). The preferred scheme was further developed with input from BOLT, staff, the community and the LPC subcommittee. Following selection of the preferred plan they began to work on possible treatments with a goal that the results will work with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for historic rehabilitation, which requires that additions must be recognized as contemporary. The final schematic design will be reviewed tonight. Some of the comments gathered at the community meetings (page 7) were discussed at the BOLT meeting. One critical one was to keep the 3 wings. This was not possible given the structural issues and the creation of unusable spaces on the lower level under the small wings and creation of awkward exterior spaces, as well as programmatic challenges. As a result this option was not pursued, with the concurrence of the LPC subcommittee.

Mr. Tom reviewed the schematic design slides. The preferred scheme is a 2-story scheme (page 8) the layout is color coded, the children’s and adult reading rooms remain where they are. The addition begins with a connection to the existing center wing, which will be the Holds Media area. This space has a nice skylight and historic
The new building surrounds this with the creation of an opening connecting the new and old spaces. Features in the addition include new public restrooms, staff work spaces, elevator and stairs. A new return slot will be added to the front porch area and during open hours a return slot in the holds media area will deposit material directly into the staff sorting area. One of the goals is to improve internal circulation and functioning. The lobby area will be cleared with the creation of dedicated staff workspace behind the scenes to open up wonderful historic space. The team is still working on details of what will be in the lobby space, including service desk location and placement of self-checks. In the new addition is the new teen space, in blue on the plan; features of this space include visibility from the lobby, glass walls at public stairs/elevator lobby, exterior wall; the door and window in north children’s wing wall will remain and will possibly be an operational link between teen and children’s space. Computers are clustered and placed strategically. Different styles of seating are provided, including soft seats near adult fireplace. Downstairs is accessible via stairs and elevator or a new exterior entry (page 9) created on lower level. The plan shows two options for seating set-up, auditorium or classroom, in the multi-purpose room on the lower level. Additional public restrooms are located on the lower level, where the staff break room will provide some oversight.

Trustee Burton asked if the community room would be usable by the community after operating hours. Director Corbeil reported the Library’s Meeting Room Use Policy currently does not allow for use of meeting rooms outside of library hours by outside groups unless it is a library sponsored program or event and suggested the Board could review the current meeting room use policy at a later date and consider other options. Trustee Franklin inquired if the public would have cause to go downstairs if there was not a program. Mr. Tom responded that they would not and it was anticipated that the programs held upstairs now would be held downstairs with staff present or to attend events that were booked for the room.

Mr. Tom summarized the improvements that guided the design: these included the goals of the BLMFP included infrastructure upgrades and ADA compliance, seismic, exterior and interior lighting, reconstruction of lobby chandelier and programming and functioning improvements in the layout. Reviewed section (page 12) upgrades to the building reiterated that the project is bound by the Secretary of Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. One of the main tenets of that document is that any new work should be differentiated from the old work but compatible in massing, size, scale and in architectural features but all along protecting the historical integrity of the existing building. Second tenet is future historians should be able to tell what part of the building was built in the 1936 and what part was added later. Any new design should be of its time. We don’t want to historically replicate anything. The primary piece or shape of the building is the historic building wings and center piece. Original building features: board formed cement with clay tiled roofs, gabled roofs, decorative tiles and windows in pairs, rotunda with windows and original entry, decorative tiles. The windows in the new wing reflect the historic building windows, by keeping the theme of pairs in the addition. Proposed addition is planned to be “quiet” residential in scale and presence, animated with windows (page 13 and 14). The connecting section is all windows on the upper level between the new and old sections near new entry, these are also repeated at other end of new wing. At corner closest to adult section, the plan introduces some panelized construction material for façade and intensity of color, material and texture. Trellis or landscaping planned for wall that holds elevator (this section is concrete to reflect building material of original). Under new windows at the stairs are decorative tile which reflects original building. The bird’s eye view (page 14) places the building in the center of the space. The landscape plans have included a low curving seat wall at the north end of the property, this is a place where younger children play. East of the adult wing is a dirt path that goes around the end of the building, the plan calls to pave this. The plan is to add landscaping along new addition perimeter at Josephine Street, such as trellis and more landscaping near new entry to the lower level. At the front of the building (page 160 proposing to remove 1980’s era ramp that is not code compliant and create a new ramp on side and bring existing steps on that end forward. In very front propose seating (low) and some impervious paving. The landscape plan also shows benches along sides of building. Bike rack location may move.

Ms Malmstrom discussed the slides on exterior materials (page 17). They have taken samplings to determine the original colors both inside and out, the building was originally very light in color, a peach like color. All of the ornamental cast stone was also the same color, basically the building was all one color. The design team will take this opportunity to re-examine the colors and review color scheme ideas with LPC, maybe something in between as shown in slide. Windows were originally dark blue which might be kept, as the original pallet also had complementary colored tiles. Plan to remove aluminum entrance door and replace with something more like original, single with profile and appearance in line with what was there originally. These are first passes of ideas. On the new building 2 main materials, concrete that has integral coloring and a panelized cladding system (page 18). The plan is to use aluminum windows on the new addition and sunshade as shown and complementary tiles.
ARG also conducted an investigation of the interior colors (page 19), and found the fireplaces were painted the same colors as walls. In the new design, the architects would like to explore accenting the fireplace element. The colors in the stenciling found in the ceiling trusses maybe picked up as well. The original linoleum floor is in poor condition and the plan is to replace with linoleum but not necessarily with the same patterns. These are initial studies, we will be developing more detailed color pallets for the board and community to review.

Trustee Kupfer asked what the plans were for the stenciled ceiling, Ms Malmstrom indicated they intend to clean it since it is in good condition. The improved lighting will help it be shown at a later time. The historic light in the rotunda will be a new design that brings back the appearance of the historic one. It is a large fixture, about 5 feet tall. Also there are still some historic light fixtures that can be rewired and re-lamped with more energy efficient lamps. On the exterior there will be some added lights to discourage vagrants and the homeless and that will highlight the entrances. Other landscape boards (page 21 and 22) show that the plantings selected will be sympathetic to the historic nature of the building. The trees on the site need some help; one olive tree near the main entry may be lost due to the concrete around it damaging the roots. The city arborist has examined them. Rubber paving along Josephine Street will be used for the walkway to help protect the roots. Hardscape is planned for the seat walls at the entry suitable for young people and skateboard proofed.

B. Public Comments

1) Suzanne Marr - Mother of a teen and a soon to be teen really glad that the library is incorporating the teen room. Is there enough visual connection between staff and teens? You may want more. If in the future the Board changes the meeting room use policy to allow use of the multi-purpose room after hours, may wish to have a door that divides the upstairs from the downstairs. Can a small peak be put on the roof of the square concrete part of the addition?

2) Council Member Laurie Capitelli – provided information on an upcoming meeting to discuss lane reconfiguration for The Alameda.

3) Harvey Smith – Happy that library is getting an expansion but believes the proposed new addition does not reflect the original buildings beautiful angles and detail.

4) Ellen Goldblatt – Likes what she sees. Don’t paint all one color. Requested a local place for patrons to pick up holds, doesn’t want to have to go to another branch. Perhaps a vacant shop on Solano. Trustee Moore reported the Bond Measure did not include money for paying for swing space. Board would have to find a way to fund swing space.

5) Barbara Robben – We should be adding more space for books. Expand in Plachek style. If adding computers or reading room it should be done offsite. Recommended visiting the Larkspur Library.

6) Janice S. – Asked for clarification of landscaping. The myrtle grove will be preserved. Existing street trees to remain. Lawn area to be replanted. Serpentine shaped seating wall to be added in grass area for parents to sit on as they watch their kids play. Janice expressed concerns about proposed serpentine seating in park area, might be less kid-friendly. Neighbors might prefer to have less seating.

7) Susan Bailey – Daughter of the man who worked for original architect Plachek. Appreciates that library has hired architects with experience in dealing with historical buildings. Was not aware of the Secretary of the Interior guidelines to make additions look different from original. Does not like new design. Color of the end of proposed addition looks so different from the original. Doesn’t feel like it belongs next to the original, wishes it could relate more to original.

8) Rodney Wong – Where is the budget estimate? Cost estimates were recently done and the project is currently within the budget. Historical façade vs. new façade. Challenging project to fit in the neighborhood. Need to maintain values.

9) Melissa Riley - Suggested reference desk be kept separate from information desk. Prefer long tables to round tables. Teen room looks quite small. Not crazy about modern exterior. Important to maintain a place for handouts that are currently in the vestibule.
C. Board Discussion

Director Corbeil reported next steps include: planning next LPC sub-committee meeting, working with planning department, CEQA Process, getting feedback from BOLT members, holding another community meeting (possibly in February or March), submitting application for structural alteration which will be reviewed by LPC, attend LPC meeting in March, LPC comments. Board won’t be asked to vote until after LPC comments, as they have design review responsibility.

Will bring additional design issues and boards to Board for approval at design development stage.

The trustees asked about the design review process. Mr. Cardineaux clarified it is one or the other LPC or Design Review, not both. Since the building has landmark status it will go to the LPC. The subcommittee has been very supportive and helpful in moving forward and the project will be brought to the full LPC at some point in the future.

Trustee Franklin asked about security between the two levels. Director Corbeil reported staff will talk more about security and lower level with the design team. Ms Malmstrom reminded everyone that there are restrooms on both levels and some security will be incorporated but it would need to take into account emergency egress and material security. She acknowledged challenges of 2 floor operations and indicated would work with staff and program consultant on resolution.

Trustees Burton and Moore would like the multi-purpose meeting room to be accessible for use after hours. Board could have option to revise meeting room use policy to allow after-hours use. Given the improvements demand could increase for use of these spaces. He felt the project was on tract and that the necessary tweaking will occur. The library should continue to bridge community needs, including teens in developing solutions.

Ms Malmstrom stated it’s not too late to make changes; this is the schematic design phase. There is a lot of development yet to be done, it is still very early and that comments heard will be taken into consideration and to develop a plan to make the community and library happy. Architects will take into consideration all the comments we’ve heard tonight.

Trustee Moore appreciated dramatic increases in teen space, it is very important. Agrees community room will be a wonderful community space and the board should discuss expanding use later. Expressed the exterior rendering did look stark in the boards but also understand there will be grove of trees and other landscaping to soften surfaces. Appreciate addition of chandelier and other historic restoration plan. Love the tying in of colors with tiles and softer colors. Generally agree with direction and getting closer.

Trustee Kupfer expressed that she understands from a personal renovation project the tension that exists between new and old. She was pleased with the size of the expansion and impressed with how the program has been planned and the lay out. Team has done a very difficult job successfully.

III. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Public Comments – none.
B. Report from library employees and unions, discussion of staff issues – none.
C. Report from Board of Library Trustees – none.
D. Approval of Agenda

R10-001 Moved by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Winston to approve the agenda as presented
Motion passed unanimously.

IV. PRESENTATION

A. Report on Branch Renovation Program

1) Steve Dewan, Kitchell CEM provided a PowerPoint presentation (attachment #2).
2) Claremont, North and South branches are in schematic design phase. West branch is in conceptual design phase.

3) Augmented communications effort have been made to increase community meeting attendance; library staff ran ads in local newspapers, sent out neighbor mailings, and did door-to-door postings in the neighborhood.

4) CEQA and Zoning Process duration can vary wildly depending upon what is done at each branch. Planning Department makes the determination of CEQA path. Once CEQA path is determined, we will be able to solidify the master schedule.

5) Trustee Kupfer asked how costs are allocated across the branches. Noll & Tam Facility Master Plan established the baseline for what work needed to be done at each branch based on structural and program needs. Professional cost estimators looked at needs and identified associated costs.

6) Trustee Kupfer requested that when being asked to consider a variety of options in which some are more costly than others, staff provide information to the Board on how the design would implicate the cost.

7) Trustee Moore asked about the market now for construction. Discussion on cost estimates and if the current economy might lead to lesser construction prices. Mr. Dewan responded that we need to consideration that we may not actually receive these expected economy-of-scale cost-savings. He also informed the board that as we progress cost estimators will give us feedback about how costs are changing and we may need to adjust program costs.

8) Trustee Franklin - Are there any problem areas in the budget? Have we gotten any feedback that costs will be significantly higher than originally anticipated? Mr. Dewan responded that not at this time. Cost estimates have come in very close to budget. It’s early in the process, there are lots of contingencies.

9) North branch next steps – Design development phase, meeting with LPC, application for structural alteration permit, CEQA path determination (possibly a categorical exemption) and LEED Planning. Discussion regarding possibility of using solar panels on the flat roof. Solar panels may not be in the budget. Working with KEMA, Stopwaste.org and City of Berkeley staff to explore the options and alternative funding. KEMA will come out and look at the site and see if it’s feasible to install solar panels on flat roof. There are lots of grants, tax credits and incentives for solar energy.

10) South branch is now in schematic design phase for new construction. Avery Moore gave an information presentation to LPC. She explained the process and board discussions regarding recommendation for new building. Discussion on possibility of asking the LPC to give the building a designation that it is not a landmark. This is not likely, because at any point in time someone could apply to landmark the building. Director Corbeil – the best path is to continue working cooperatively with the community and LPC, and be able to show that we have done due diligence. Possibility of deconstruction vs demolition? Can get LEED points for salvaging and reusing materials. ARG has indicated that wood planks in ceiling of reading room might be a possibility. South branch next steps – Community meeting on January 27, Schematic Design presentation to BOLT on February 10, CEQA path determination, LEED planning.

11) West branch next steps - Net Zero Energy testing and feasibility analysis, CEQA path determination. Conceptual Design presentation to BOLT on February 6, Schematic design phase, LPC sub-committee meetings and presentation to full commission planned for near future. If a decision is made to demolish and rebuild it will require EIR because the building is landmarked.

12) Claremont branch next steps: Schematic Design presentation to BOLT, CEQA path determination (likely a categorical exemption), LEED Planning, LPC sub-committee meetings and informational presentation to the full LPC during design development phase.

13) The board inquired about the city’s policy on the use of local vendors, local hires and how that might apply to the building projects. Can get LEED points for using local materials. Director Corbeil suggested staff report back to the board on this topic.
## V. CONSENT CALENDAR

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R10-02</td>
<td>Moved by Trustee Winston, seconded by Moore, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion passed unanimously except Trustee Franklin abstained from approval of December 9, 2009 meeting minutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A.</strong> Approve minutes of December 9, 2009 Regular Meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R10-03</td>
<td>Moved by Trustee Winston, seconded by Moore, to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2009 regular meeting of the Board of Library Trustees as presented. Motion passed. Trustee Franklin abstained.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B.</strong> Closure of the Tool Lending Library for Annual Tool Maintenance from February 28 Through March 13, 2010</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R10-04</td>
<td>Moved by Trustee Winston, seconded by Moore, to approve the closure of the Tool Lending Library for Annual Tool Maintenance from February 28 Through March 13, 2010. Motion passed unanimously.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C.</strong> Acceptance of a grant and gift funds totaling $5,750.00 for the Berkeley READS Adult Literacy Services Program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R10-05</td>
<td>Moved by Trustee Winston, seconded by Moore, to adopt a resolution to authorizing the Director of Library Services to accept and appropriate in FY10 on behalf of Berkeley READS a gift award from The Raymond Family Foundation / Betsy Raymond in the sum of $2,000 and a grant award from the Bay Area Library and Information System in the amount of $3,750. Motion passed unanimously.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D.</strong> Library Fee Schedule for 2010</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R10-06</td>
<td>Moved by Trustee Winston, seconded by Moore, to adopt a resolution approving the Library Fee Schedule for 2010 and approve the Director of Library Services' submission of the fee schedule to the City of Berkeley, Budget Office, for inclusion in the City of Berkeley's Master Fee Schedule. Motion passed unanimously.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E.</strong> E-mail address for the Board of Library Trustees</td>
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<tr>
<td>R10-07</td>
<td>Moved by Trustee Winston, seconded by Moore, to adopt the resolution approving the establishment of a generic e-mail address for the Board of Library Trustees. Motion passed unanimously.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>F.</strong> Contract Amendment: Page + Moris, LLC.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>R10-08</td>
<td>Moved by Trustee Winston, seconded by Moore, to adopt a resolution recommending City Council amend the existing Contract with Page + Moris LLC by increasing expenditure authority in an amount not to exceed $60,000 for the provision of library service / building program services for the branch library bond program. Motion passed unanimously.</td>
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## VI. INFORMATION REPORTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A.</strong> Update on the Branch Bond Program</td>
<td>No discussion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B.</strong> January 2010 Monthly Report from Library Director Donna Corbeil</td>
<td>No discussion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C.</strong> Library events</td>
<td>No discussion.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## I. AGENDA BUILDING
A. The next special meeting will be held at 12:00 noon on Saturday, February 6, 2010 at the West Branch Library, 1125 University Avenue, Berkeley. The next regular meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at the South Branch Library, 1901 Russell Street, Berkeley.

II. ADJOURNMENT

R10-09 Moved by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Franklin, to adjourn the regular meeting of the board at 9:27 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Attachments:
1) Architectural Resources Group Presentation on North Branch
2) Kitchell CEM Presentation on the Branch Renovation Program
Berkeley Public Library North Branch Renovation and Expansion

Presentation to Board of Library Trustees
13 January 2010
AGENDA

• Review of Project to date
• Program Summary
• Schematic Design
  – Building
  – Site & Landscaping
• Preliminary Materials Selection
  – Historic Building
  – Addition
  – Site & Landscaping
• Questions & Answers
EXISTING LIBRARY

Front of Library in 1936

Back of Library in 2009

Library site in 2009
# NORTH BRANCH LIBRARY DESIGN GOALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preserve an important &amp; beloved City resource</th>
<th>Interior</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upgrades: seismic, ADA &amp; infrastructure</td>
<td>Recapture the historic character of the spaces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable design: LEED Silver Certification</td>
<td>Use historic spaces for public functions that complement building’s significant features</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Create new program room to allow west wing to be dedicated to children’s library use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Locate staff work spaces, teen library, program room &amp; support functions in new addition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Separate quiet &amp; noisy functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Improve patron comfort (ergonomics, ventilation, natural &amp; artificial lighting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exterior</td>
<td>Improve working environment for staff (ergonomics, space, required adjacencies &amp; proximities)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Recapture the historic character of the building</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Remove non-historic features at main entrance &amp; provide new, better integrated access ramp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Design new addition to present a ‘friendly face’ to neighborhood, specifically Josephine Street</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Update landscaping to enhance park-like setting &amp; create new amenities for the neighborhood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY
NORTH BRANCH

ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES GROUP
TOM ELIOT FISCH
MASSING STUDIES FOR ADDITION

Existing Library

Preferred Scheme

“Infill” Scheme (per Master Plan)

“Limited Connector” Scheme

BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY
NORTH BRANCH

ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES GROUP
TOM ELIOT FISCH
ELEVATION STUDIES FOR PREFERRED SCHEME
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT WE HEARD: UPDATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Consider retaining all three small wings &amp; building the addition around them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Consider a sloped roof for the addition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• New lower level entrance: plan landscaping to deter loitering &amp; manage strollers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Look at landscaping options at myrtle grove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Locate bike racks within sight but not blocking patron access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Need control of access from main library areas to lower level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Design for potential for flooding of lower level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROGRAM SUMMARY

Primary Facility Improvement Goals

- Enhance site access and landscaping
- Improve seismic resistance and structural integrity
- Update mechanical, plumbing, electrical and telecommunications systems
- Ensure full ADA-compliant accessibility
- Improve exterior and interior lighting
- Restore and refurbish existing historic features and windows
- Design with green building principles to attain LEED silver certification

Summary

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Existing</th>
<th>New</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seating</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>+9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computers</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>+8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shelving (LF)</td>
<td>2,549</td>
<td>2,649</td>
<td>+100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area (GSF)</td>
<td>5,378</td>
<td>9,511</td>
<td>+4,133</td>
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Berkeley Public Library
North Branch

Architectural Resources Group
Tom Eliot Fisch
# PROGRAM SUMMARY

## Highlights

- Improved space layout for better flow of circulation & sight lines
- Improved collection display & shelving throughout
- Improved acoustic separation of spaces:
  - spaces that support noisy, active uses (multi-purpose room)
  - spaces that accommodate quiet, individual use
- More seating & seating variety
- Technology improvements:
  - table-top access to power at some reader tables
  - space & equipment for Library laptop lending service
- New multi-purpose room:
  - improved space & accommodations for Library programming

  (capacity for approx. 50 chairs, or classroom layout for approx. 20)

- Service desks:
  - efficient, ergonomic self-checkout / return & self-service reserves
- Staff work areas:
  - physically & acoustically separated from public space
  - ergonomically sound furniture & equipment
  - new spaces: branch supervisor office, staff break room & restroom
SECTION THOUGH LIBRARY & ADDITION
# EXTERIOR MATERIALS: HISTORIC LIBRARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Image</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Painted concrete walls</td>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Painted concrete walls" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painted cast stone</td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Painted cast stone" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ornament &amp; Trim</td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Ornament &amp; Trim" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painted wood windows &amp; doors</td>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Painted wood windows &amp; doors" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New entrance door</td>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="New entrance door" /></td>
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</table>

**Library entrance in 1936**

**Exterior in 1936**

**Original tile panels today**

**Painted doors & trim**

---

**BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY NORTH BRANCH**

**ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES GROUP**

**TOM ELIOT FISCH**
EXTERIOR MATERIALS: ADDITION

Fiber Cement panels

Metal–framed glazing

Sunshade at entrance

Concrete wall with cable trellis

Panelized cladding

Tinted concrete

Glazed tile Panels

Aluminum windows, door & sunshade

ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES GROUP
TOM ELIOT FISCH
### INTERIOR FINISHES

- **Painted walls**
- **Accent colors (from historic ceiling details)**
- **Wood to match original**
- **Linoleum**
- **Stained concrete (addition Lower Level)**

---

**BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY NORTH BRANCH**

**ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES GROUP**

**TOM ELIOT FISCH**
LIGHTING: HISTORIC LIBRARY
PLANT MATERIALS

FLOWERING PLANTS

EVERGREEN SHRUBS

LOW GROWING SHRUBS AND GROUND COVER

GRASS BIO SWALE

GREEN SCREEN

ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES GROUP
TOM ELIOT FISCH
Berkeley Public Library North Branch
Renovation and Expansion
Board of Library Trustees - Progress Report
for
Branch Library Improvement Project

January 13, 2010

Agenda

• General Program Update
  • History & Progress Since 09/09/09
  • Public Outreach Efforts
  • What’s Next?

• Master Schedule

• Budget & Cost Control

• Branch Updates
General Program Update – History

• Branch Libraries Facilities Master Plan – July 2008
• Measure FF passed – November 2008

General Program Update – Progress Since 09/09/09

• MEETINGS
  • 12 Program Team Meetings
  • 9 Community Meetings
  • 7 Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) Subcommittee Meetings
  • 5 City of Berkeley Planning Meetings
  • 4 Design Presentations to the Board of Library Trustees (BOLT)
  • 2 Information Technology Design Coordination Meetings
  • 1 Presentation to the Landmarks Preservation Commission
  • 1 City of Berkeley Parks Meeting
  • 1 Stopwaste.org / City of Berkeley Sustainability Team Seminar
  • & More
General Program Update – Progress Since 09/09/09

• INFORMATION GATHERING
  • Existing Conditions Assessments by Architects
  • Topographic Surveys and Title Reports

• DESIGN PROGRESS
  • Process:
    - Conceptual Design
    - Schematic Design
    - Design Development
    - Construction Documents
  • 3 Projects In Schematic Design Phase (North, Claremont & South)
  • 1 Project In Conceptual Design Phase (West)
  • Input Solicited at Community & BOLT Meetings, Branch Staff Meetings
  • Based on Programming Developed by Page + Moris
General Program Update – Public Outreach Efforts

• BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMUNICATIONS PLAN
  • Flyer Distribution & Mailers, Site-Bulletin Boards
  • Email Distribution Lists, Berkeley Public Library Website
  • Banners at Sites & Central Library
  • Encourage Community to Talk to Others

• RECENT ADDITIONAL EFFORTS
  • Ads in Berkeley Daily Planet, Berkeley Voice, Montclarion
  • Increased Exposure in Oakland Tribune
  • Personal Invitation Letters from Library Director to Neighbors
  • Postings at Public Gathering Areas (YMCA, etc.)
General Program Update – What’s Next?

• Continuation of Community Meetings and BOLT Design Presentations
• Selection of Consultants
  • California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
  • Geotechnical
• CEQA Path Determination by City of Berkeley Planning
  • Environmental Impact Report, Negative Declaration or Categorical Exemption, etc.
• Landmarks Preservation Commission Reviews
• LEED Planning Activity

Master Schedule

• Facilities Master Plan Schedule – June 2008
• Master Schedule Developed by Program Team – August 2009
### Master Schedule

**BOLT Progress Report**

**Branch Library Improvement Project**

- **Improvements Anticipated at North** – Reduced CEQA Process
- **Some Conceptual and Schematic Design Durations Longer**
  - Due to Scheduling of Multiple Community Meetings and BOLT Presentations
- **Net Impacts to Master Schedule Being Evaluated**
  - When CEQA Path Determined by City of Berkeley Planning Staff

---

### Master Schedule Table

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<th>Task</th>
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<th>End Date</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>Jan 10, 2009</td>
<td>Mar 15, 2009</td>
<td>2 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Permit Process</td>
<td>Mar 16, 2009</td>
<td>Apr 30, 2009</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>May 1, 2009</td>
<td>Aug 31, 2009</td>
<td>4 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oversight</td>
<td>Sep 1, 2009</td>
<td>Nov 30, 2009</td>
<td>3 months</td>
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**January 13, 2010**
Master Schedule

• North Branch
  • Anticipated Closure – 1st Quarter 2011 to 1st Quarter 2012 – Potential Improvements
  • Anticipated Construction Duration – 1 Year

• Claremont Branch
  • Anticipated Closure – 1st Quarter 2011 to 4th Quarter 2011 - Potential Improvements
  • Anticipated Construction Duration – 9 Months

Budget & Cost Control

• Branch Library Facilities Master Plan – Rough Preliminary Estimate
• Revised Program Budget Developed by Program Team, Presented to BOLT 09/09/09
• Revisions:
  • General Program Costs Separated
  • Contingencies Established
  • More Comprehensive Breakdown of Anticipated Costs

• Cost Control Report
  • A Fluid Document to Compare Budget to Committed Costs
  • Report Updated Costs Monthly
Budget & Cost Control

As of 12/31/09, $411,000 of the $26M Bond Fund Expended

Current Expenses – Design Activity, Consultants & Surveys

Minor Revisions Resulting to Contingencies

---

![Budget & Cost Control Diagram]

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**Program Cost Control Report**

Period Ending 12/31/09

---

**Berkley Public Library Branch Library Improvement Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Previous Month's Corrected Costs</th>
<th>Current Corrected Costs</th>
<th>Expended in Oct</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<td>NORTH BRANCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hard Costs</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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**CONSENT III, Item A**

Attachment #2

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January 13, 2010
Branch Updates - North

• Conceptual Design Complete
• 1st Community Meeting – September 23, 2009
• 2nd Community Meeting – October 7, 2009
• Conceptual Design Presentation to BOLT – October 20, 2009

ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES GROUP
Architects, Planners & Conservators, Inc.

January 13, 2010

Branch Updates - North

• Currently in Schematic Design Phase
• Community Meeting – December 1, 2009
• Schematic Design Presentation to BOLT – January 13, 2010

January 13, 2010
Branch Updates - North

UPCOMING:
• Design Development Phase
• Application for Structural Alteration Permit
• Landmarks Preservation Commission – Subcommittee Meetings & Presentation
• Determination of CEQA Path
• LEED Planning
Branch Updates - South

- Conceptual Design Complete
- 1st Community Meeting – September 17, 2009
- 2nd Community Meeting – October 1, 2009
- Conceptual Design Presentation to BOLT – October 14, 2009

- Currently in Schematic Design Phase
- New Construction Scheme in Development
- Informational Presentation to Landmarks Preservation Commission – January 7, 2010
- Community Meeting – January 27, 2010
- Schematic Design Presentation to BOLT – February 10, 2010
Branch Updates - South

UPCOMING

- Determination of CEQA Path
- Design Development Phase
- LEED Planning
Branch Updates - West

- Contracted with Harley Ellis Devereaux / Greenworks Studio
- Currently In Conceptual Design Phase
- New Construction & Restoration Options In Development
- Community Meeting #1 – December 3, 2009
- Community Meeting #2 – January 7, 2010
- Conceptual Design Presentation to BOLT – Saturday, February 6, 2010

UPCOMING
- Net Zero Energy (NZE) Testing and Analysis
- Determination of CEQA Path
- Schematic Design Phase
- Landmarks Preservation Commission Subcommittee Meetings & Presentation
Branch Updates - Claremont

- Contracted with Gould Evans Baum Thornley
- Conceptual Design Phase Complete
- Community Meeting #1 – November 2, 2009
- Community Meeting #2 – November 19, 2009
- Conceptual Design Presentation to BOLT – December 9, 2009
Branch Updates - Claremont

- Currently in Schematic Design Phase
- Community Meeting – February 3, 2010
- Schematic Design Presentation to BOLT – February 10, 2010

UPCOMING
- Determination of CEQA Path
- LEED Planning
- Landmarks Preservation Commission Subcommittee Meeting
- Design Development Phase
Scenario 3
claremont branch library renovation

QUESTIONS?

January 13, 2010
TO: Board of Library Trustees  
FROM: Dennis Dang, Library Administrative Manager  
SUBJECT: Library Budget Update  

INTRODUCTION  
The purpose of this report is to summarize mid-year FY2010 results and provide information regarding the revision of FY2011 of the fiscal years 2010 and 2011 biennial budget.  

FISCAL IMPACT  
There is no fiscal impact from this report.  

BACKGROUND  
Fiscal year 2010 mid-year expenses for all Library Fund groups totaled $11,425,069. Of this amount, expenses including encumbrances related to library operations and programs constituted 65% or $7,420,392 of the total; with the balance made up by Measure FF: Branch Libraries Improvement Program (BLIP) allocated expenses and encumbrances of $4,004,677, a 35% share.  

Excluding the Measure FF program, actual labor expenses at $5,549,129 was favorable to budget for the period by 4.4% and is primarily due to position vacancy savings. In contrast, non-labor expenses ended the mid-year mark unfavorable to budget by $154,602 at $1,871,263 exceeding budget by 9%. However, net of non-labor expenses for full-year encumbrances of $705,977 primarily related to utilities, telephone, and facility maintenance, landscaping and security guard services, non-labor costs fell to 67.8% of the six-month budget.  

Revenue for the period was primarily impacted by a favorable variance of $410,591 to the Library Tax receipts due to both timing, and increased billing by the City to Alameda County linked to the growth in property assessments, e.g., new construction along the west-end corridor of University Avenue, the new Berkeley Bowl West, and housing at the Oxford Plaza which opened in June 2009.  

Other revenue sources primarily those associated with the Direct Loan/Inter-library Loan Program, and the California State Library’s CA Library Literacy Services (CLLS) and Public Library Fund (PLF) programs are lagging. Delayed revenue receipts for the Direct Loan/Inter-library Loan Program are due to timing whereby the CA State Library is withholding program disbursements until close of the fiscal year pending determination of overall program costs. The CLLS program’s shortfall is impacted by a 10% decrease in funding to BPL for the fiscal year.
And the PLF program, of which no funds have yet been disbursed, is expected to yield BPL $36,479 versus $40,000 budgeted.

Measure FF BLIP labor expenses consisting of the City’s assigned program representative are negligible at $2,640. Non-labor costs through December 31 totaled $4,002,037 of which $3,648,161 was attributable to encumbrances encompassing mostly professional services. All major project contracts consisting of the project manager, architects, and program consultants are in effect with work in process.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

In a recent mid-year budget exercise the Library projects that the Library Tax Fund, which receives the bulk of its revenue from the dedicated library tax complemented by other smaller revenue sources, such as fines and fees, and miscellaneous revenue, will end FY10 with an operational deficit estimated at $106,578 and a year-end Fund balance at $995,573. Fiscal year revenue is pegged at $13,933,007 and expenditures at $14,039,585.

As the FY 2011 Mid-Biennial Budget Update process gets underway, the Library Tax Fund is expected to be substantially impacted by two major items. First, recent CPI figures have prompted the Library to lower the growth in library tax revenue to 1.5% in FY11 from 3.0%; and secondly, a substantive upward adjustment to CalPERS employer rates is expected beginning in FY12. This situation was noted in the December 9, 2009 budget update to the Board that the City is anticipating CalPERS employer rate increases due to the large investment losses sustained over the past two years, in spite of investment gains realized since initial forecasts were issued. To reiterate, in an effort to address the shortfall and isolate FY09 losses, CalPERS is implementing a one-time change to their smoothing methodology affecting rates as of FY12. Consequently, under guidance from the City, the Library is projecting a 1.7% incremental increase of $213,659 to total labor costs to cover CalPERS expenses in FY12, a 2.6% allowance of $330,041 for FY13, and a 3.7% rate or $474,370 provision for FY14 – projections are included in the 5-year analysis table.

In a budget amendment approved at the October 14, 2009 BOLT regular meeting the Gift Fund was appropriated $325,000 for the Central Library Space Planning Project, and $80,000 from the Alice Meyer Trust for children’s collections at Central and branches. It is expected that expenditure activity in regards to both undertakings will occur at a higher rate as we move into the second half of the fiscal year.

Additionally, as the Library’s traditional grant and gift revenue sources are negatively impacted by current economic conditions, the Library continues in its efforts to expand its grant and gift sources as evidenced by recent gifts from the Deupree Family Foundation, the Raymond Family Foundation / Betsy Raymond, the Berkeley Patients Group, and a grant award from Bay Area Library and Information Systems.

The Measure FF Fund which funds the BLIP project is anticipating bidding for construction of the North and Claremont Branches in December, followed by the South and West Branches sometime in calendar year 2011. The remaining $16M second tranche sale of bonds of the total authorized $26M is projected to occur this year either late summer or fall.
FUTURE ACTION

The Library remains committed to working with the Board in exploring and implementing appropriate cost reduction measures to address the gap between revenues and expenditures.

A FY11 Mid-Biennial Budget Update will be presented to the Board as more substantive work is completed and prior to a submittal to the City.

Attachments:

1 – Expenditure Summary for All Funds: FY10 – End Q2

2 – Library Tax Fund: 5-Year Fund Analysis

3 – Gift Fund: 5-Year Fund Analysis

4 – All Other Funds: 5-Year Fund Analysis

5 – Measure FF Fund: 5-Year Fund Analysis
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object Description</th>
<th>FY10</th>
<th>FY10</th>
<th>DL &amp; EL</th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>FY10</th>
<th>FY10</th>
<th>% REV</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchased Professional &amp; Technical Svcs</td>
<td>2,652,958</td>
<td>2,687,276</td>
<td>2,761,565</td>
<td>59.9%</td>
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<td>Professional: Eng &amp; Architectural</td>
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<td>Professional: Med. Pro. Svcs</td>
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<td>24,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Med Svcs: Equip. Maint. Svcs</td>
<td>32,500</td>
<td>4,952</td>
<td>4,952</td>
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<td>Med Svcs: Bldg &amp; Structures Maint.</td>
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<td>7,683</td>
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<td>Med Svcs: Field Equipment Maint.</td>
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<td>Rental of Equip/Vehicles</td>
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<td>Grants &amp; Governmental Payments</td>
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<td>Rental of Office Equipment &amp; Furni.</td>
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<td>14,858</td>
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<td>Rental of Software &amp; Licenses</td>
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<td>54</td>
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<td>Rentals / Leases</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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<td>Media Offices</td>
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<td>Property</td>
<td>83,465</td>
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<td>Small Equipment</td>
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<td>Mach &amp; Equip: Furniture &amp; Fixtures</td>
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<td>16,710</td>
<td>95.4%</td>
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<td>Mach &amp; Equip: Computers &amp; Print.</td>
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<td>5,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mach &amp; Equip: Software &amp; Licenses</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
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<td>1,188,506</td>
<td>1,188,506</td>
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<td>Central Duplicating</td>
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<td>125,000</td>
<td>125,000</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mailing</td>
<td>657,500</td>
<td>657,500</td>
<td>657,500</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
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<td>City Vehicles/Fuel &amp; Main</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
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<td>City Parking Permits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Training</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
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<td>Internal Services</td>
<td>6,605</td>
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<td>1,457</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
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<td>Appropriations Ord A</td>
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<td>556,945</td>
<td>556,945</td>
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<td>Appropriations Ord B</td>
<td>493,945</td>
<td>493,945</td>
<td>493,945</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
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<td>Balance Sheet Accounts</td>
<td>99,999</td>
<td>99,999</td>
<td>99,999</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Expenditures</td>
<td>12,746,875</td>
<td>13,217,926</td>
<td>13,217,926</td>
<td>44.1%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY
### LIBRARY TAX FUND (301) - 5-YR ANALYSIS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY</th>
<th>Beginning Fund Balance</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>Expenditures</th>
<th>Projected Surplus/(Shortfall)</th>
<th>Gross Fund Balance</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Final</td>
<td>ADOPTED</td>
<td>ADJUSTED</td>
<td>PROJECTED</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$807,072</td>
<td>$1,102,151</td>
<td>$1,102,151</td>
<td>$1,102,151</td>
<td>$761,112</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$995,573</td>
<td>$712,612</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,102,151</td>
<td>$1,102,151</td>
<td>$1,102,151</td>
<td>$761,112</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$995,573</td>
<td>$712,612</td>
<td>$-</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Library Tax</td>
<td>$13,651,761</td>
<td>$13,469,717</td>
<td>$13,670,507</td>
<td>$13,875,565</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Fines/Fees</td>
<td>275,241</td>
<td>260,500</td>
<td>260,500</td>
<td>260,500</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Donations/Private Contributions</td>
<td>181</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Misc. Revenue / Interest / Refunds</td>
<td>29,844</td>
<td>2,000</td>
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<td>2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>$13,957,027</td>
<td>$13,732,217</td>
<td>$13,933,007</td>
<td>$14,136,308</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td></td>
<td>$14,138,065</td>
<td>$14,554,332</td>
<td>$14,983,086</td>
<td>$15,424,704</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$14,136,308</td>
<td>$14,554,332</td>
<td>$14,983,086</td>
<td>$15,424,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td></td>
<td>$14,136,308</td>
<td>$14,554,332</td>
<td>$14,983,086</td>
<td>$15,424,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td></td>
<td>$14,136,308</td>
<td>$14,554,332</td>
<td>$14,983,086</td>
<td>$15,424,704</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
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<td>$14,136,308</td>
<td>$14,554,332</td>
<td>$14,983,086</td>
<td>$15,424,704</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>$14,136,308</td>
<td>$14,554,332</td>
<td>$14,983,086</td>
<td>$15,424,704</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Revenues
- **Library Tax**: $13,651,761, $13,469,717, $13,670,507, $13,670,507, $13,873,808, $13,875,565, $14,291,832, $14,720,586, $15,162,204
- **Fines/Fees**: $275,241, $260,500, $260,500, $260,500, $260,500, $260,500, $260,500, $260,500, $260,500
- **Donations/Private Contributions**: $181
- **Misc. Revenue / Interest / Refunds**: $29,844, $2,000, $2,000, $2,000, $2,000, $2,000

### Total Revenue:
- $13,957,027, $13,732,217, $13,933,007, $13,933,007, $14,136,308, $14,138,065, $14,554,332, $14,983,086, $15,424,704

### Expenditures
- **Operations**
  - Non-Personnel: $1,409,629, $1,657,281, $1,752,696, $1,752,696, $1,662,322, $1,662,322, $1,901,500, $1,901,500, $2,051,500
  - Library Materials (incl Tool Lndng): $819,881, $816,121, $819,285, $819,285, $816,121, $816,121, $975,000, $975,000, $1,025,000
  - RFID Loan Repayment: $111,392
  - Computer & Software Purchase: $49,177, $65,000, $68,041, $68,041, $65,000, $65,000, $65,000, $65,000, $75,000
  - CIP: $17,214, $20,000, $21,740, $21,740, $20,000, $20,000, $20,000, $20,000, $25,000

- **Charges From Other Depts**
  - Finance - Billing: $7,409, $12,572, $11,208, $12,973, $12,973, $13,365, $13,766, $14,179
  - Facilities - Admin+Toxics: $5,348, $14,732, $14,077, $7,528, $7,528, $7,755, $7,988, $8,228

- **Subtotal**: $13,649,195, $14,073,256, $14,203,920, $14,039,585, $14,421,025, $14,421,025, $15,381,019, $15,616,454, $16,095,237

### Charges From Other Depts
- Finance - Billing: $7,409, $12,572, $11,208, $12,973, $12,973, $13,365, $13,766, $14,179
- Facilities - Admin+Toxics: $5,348, $14,732, $14,077, $7,528, $7,528, $7,755, $7,988, $8,228

### Subtotal: $12,757, $27,304, $25,285, $20,501, $20,501, $21,120, $21,754, $22,406

### Total Expenditures:
- $13,661,952, $14,073,256, $14,203,920, $14,039,585, $14,421,025, $14,421,025, $15,381,019, $15,616,454, $16,095,237

### Projected Surplus/(Shortfall)

### Gross Fund Balance

### Other
- $4

### Revised Gross Fund Balance
- (Gross Fund Balance + Budget Recommendations and Adjustments): $1,102,151, $761,112, $831,238, $995,573, $476,394, $712,612, $- $- $- $-
### BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

**GIFT FUND (306) - 5-YR ANALYSIS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>$875,064</td>
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<td>$432,623</td>
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<td>Friends of BPL</td>
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<td>$92,122</td>
<td>$92,122</td>
<td>$92,122</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donations/Private</td>
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<td>$7,000</td>
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<td>Interest/Misc. Revenues</td>
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<td>$40,065</td>
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<td>(Bal + Rev - Exp)</td>
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<td>(gross Fund Balance - Budget Recommendations and Adjustments)</td>
<td>$176,759</td>
<td>$130,258</td>
<td>$115,575</td>
<td>$75,277</td>
<td>$64,258</td>
<td>$9,277</td>
<td>$20,267</td>
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### BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY
#### MEASURE FF (308) - 5-YR ANALYSIS

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<td>$12,206,381</td>
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<td>$14,083,434</td>
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<td>$(1,551,404)</td>
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<td>$16,029,015</td>
<td>$16,029,015</td>
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<td>$3,095,404</td>
<td>$13,751,785</td>
<td>$1,551,404</td>
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<td>$0</td>
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<td>Other Revised Gross Fund Balance (Gross Fund Balance - Budget Recommendations and Adjustments)</td>
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<td>$16,029,015</td>
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<td>$24,038,733</td>
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<td>$13,751,785</td>
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TO:             Board of Library Trustees
FROM:          Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services
SUBJECT:       FEBRUARY 2010 MONTHLY BRANCH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT REPORT FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR

INTRODUCTION

Every month the Library Director gives the Board a report on branch improvement activities and updates from the previous month.

FISCAL IMPACT

This report will have no fiscal impacts.

SUMMARY OF WORK

During this reporting period the following community meetings were held:
  • January 27 South Branch Schematic Design
  • February 3 Claremont Branch Schematic Design

Other meetings held during this reporting period include:
  • Weekly project meetings facilitated by the KCEM project manager, Steve Dewan
  • Meeting with City’s Planning Department and architects as needed

COMMUNICATION

Three of the Teen Librarians under the direction of Joy Shioshita, Senior Librarian for Teen Services conducted teen focus groups on the branch improvement program, how they use the branches and their ideas for improvements and services. Attached are two documents: 1) an overview with the group findings (Branch Renovation Teen Focus Groups Fall 2009 – Attachment 1) and 2) the single-page priority checklists (Library Planning Project – Public Library’s Teen Student Workers – Attachment 2).

The Literacy Program Coordinator and the Neighborhood Services Manager facilitated a small focus group of five literacy program participants (two learners and three tutors), soliciting information pertinent to the West Branch / Berkeley READS renovation (Attachment 3).
The Claremont Branch supervisor and the Community Relations librarian canvassed the Elmwood business district and adjoining neighborhoods, distributing Claremont Branch meeting flyers to local businesses and residents.

WORK ANTICIPATED

*Landmarks Preservation Commission*
From the discussions at our LPC subcommittee meetings we have asked for the following dates to present to the full group:

North Branch design preview March 4, 2010

North Branch Structural Alteration Permit application April 1, 2010

West Branch informational presentation March 4, 2010

Claremont Branch informational presentation April 1, 2010

*Upcoming Community Meetings*

North Branch Design development community meeting, February 24, 2010

*City Council*
The Kitchell CEM contract amendment approved by the board was approved by the City Council on the consent calendar of January 26, 2010. Completing the contract changes is on process.

The Page + Moris Contract Amendment approved by the board on January 13, 2010 is on the council consent calendar of February 23, 2010.

KEY PROJECT ISSUES

Green Focus

*General Resources*


*City Ordinances*

At the October 14, 2004 City Council meeting Resolution 62,693-N.S. was adopted, this is the City’s Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy (EPP). The policy was subsequently incorporated into the City of Berkeley Purchasing Manual. Since the Library board has adopted a purchasing policy that mirrors the city’s and follows city prescribed practices and policies, the Library is also utilizing this policy in decision making. [http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/citycouncil/2004citycouncil/packet/101904/2004-10-19%20Item%2015.pdf](http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/citycouncil/2004citycouncil/packet/101904/2004-10-19%20Item%2015.pdf)

The City Council passed another relevant ordinance, the LEED Silver Resolution 62,284-N.S. Policies and Practices Requiring the Use of the US Green Building Council’s
The Library has included references to the LEED Silver ordinance in our design firm RFPs and the board recently approved the retention of enhanced commissioning services from Kitchell CEM. All of the design teams are aware of the city’s policies and the Library’s intent to be as green as possible.

LEED

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ encourages and accelerates global adoption of sustainable green building and development practices through the creation and implementation of universally understood and accepted tools and performance criteria.

LEED is an internationally recognized green building certification system, providing third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at improving performance across all the metrics that matter most: energy savings, water efficiency, CO₂ emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts.

For more detailed information go to:

ATTACHMENTS:
1) Branch Renovation Teen Focus Groups Fall 2009
2) Library Planning Project – Public Library’s Teen Student
3) Literacy focus Group
Berkeley Public Library teen services librarians distributed one-page priority checklists to six groups: the library’s teen workers, who are high school students; an English as a Second Language class from Berkeley High; members of the library’s Teen PlayReaders theater group at Central; two leadership classes at Martin Luther King Middle School; and a class at Willard Middle School.

In addition, more detailed focus groups were held with five groups: students at B-Tech, the continuation high school; the library’s teen workers; the two classes at King Middle School; and the class at Willard Middle School. The focus groups were held in November and December 2009.

More than the average Berkeley teen population, participants are public library users. We made an effort to work with groups that reflect local racial and gender diversity. Segments of the King and Willard Middle School classes appeared more affluent than average.

For the focus groups, we worked from the questions supplied by the consultants. Depending on the group and fluctuating attention spans, we sometimes made modifications. Questions, as asked, appear in the respective sections.

At King Middle School, the seasoned teacher suggested having the students write their responses during the second class. We reviewed their comments after the class period, so we did not get to ask them clarifying or follow-up questions. Because the entire class provided written feedback, we received more data from the second class than from the first class, which was large and during which several students dominated most of the conversation. The first class at King, and to a lesser extent, the Willard group sometimes needed corralling and focusing. Because of this, a few of the data counts (e.g., whether students have home computers) might be incomplete if students were not paying attention when we asked them to raise their hands.

**Findings:** The teens would like to see more computers and tables with comfortable seating in a separate space designated for teens, away from younger children. Some teens come to the library for quiet study; some need to study in small groups and/or want to socialize with peers without disturbing other library users. Most teens would like to purchase and eat snacks in the library; such changes would require consultation with branch staff and administration, as well as adjustments to the library’s rules of conduct.
Focus Group with B-Tech Students

Participants
1 11th grade, has computer at home, used South and Central
2 11th grade, has computer at home, uses Central
3 12th grade, has computer at home, used South and Central
4 11th grade, has computer at home, uses Central

Why do you go to the Library?
Check out books for classes
Use computer
Check out books [for non-required reading]
Do homework
But, like to buy own books

What do you like about the Library?
[Most were commenting about Central]
No little kids
Quiet
Nice inside
Big chairs
Books
See everyone; hang out with friends
Electronic Classroom open after school for teens [no longer offered]
Bathrooms are nice
Safe place to get away from home
Safe place to get away from various stressors

What would make the Library better?
Vending machines
Food
Is food important? YES! We are hungry after school.
If you have to leave to get something to eat, you won’t come back that day.
Couches
Separate space for teens
Separate space with walls for teens
More space dividing public use computers
More privacy at the computers
Computers for people who want to be alone
Computers for people who want to be in groups
Suggestion box
Club [?] where teenagers can suggest books, movies, music, etc.

What don’t you like?
Security is too harsh [relates perfume-sprayer incident at Central]
Theft, e.g. stolen laptop
“There is a lot of drama going on at the library.”
Rule of two at a computer
1 hour is not enough time on computer

Why do you use the computer?
MySpace, Twitter, You Tube
Get away from computer restrictions at home
Get away from computer stress at home
Use the Library’s computer when computer at home is not working
Homework

More suggestions for solving computer issues
Lock headphones to computer
RFID tags on headphones
Pay for more time

Other things you do on the computer? Other things library should do?
Classes on resume-writing, PowerPoint, Word

What should the Library do for teenagers?
Listening station would be good
Better music – there is lots [too much] of white people music
Club for teenagers, no kids
Games
Open on Sunday – would not come on Friday
Circulate video games
Job fair at library
Resources to help kids find jobs
Book club – take us places – field trips
Make this [talking about the library] a job
Get schools to talk to students about the library
We can read to little kids

Would you use South Branch?
Yes, but it’s so small
It’s uncomfortable
Bathrooms too close together
Stuff gets stolen because there is nowhere to put it
Should have colored walls

Where do you want to study?
School

Do you need a place to work with other students?
Like a conference room
Circle of computers for group projects

Do you like reading?
NO! Yes! Sometimes.

What books do you like?
Slam (Myers), Spiderman, X-Men, Silver Surfer, autobiographies about people who have turned their lives around, ninjas, action books, books with fighting

What movies do you like?
Scary, scary, scary like Room 308, Jason X
Mystery movies like CSI
Funny like Crooklyn, New Jack City
Sentimental
Not sentimental
Precious

What music do you like?
Oldies, Temptations, gangsta rap, sentimental songs, Amanda Perez, Mary J Blige, Erykah Badu, India Arie, Usher, Li’l Wayne, Dr Dre, Tupac, Biggie, old school, Beyonce, Faith Evans, Gucci Mane, Ashanti, Aaliyah, Atomic Dog, TLC, Salt-n-Pepa, Janet Jackson, Jackson 5

**What events would you like to see at the Library?**
Movie night with pizza.
Games like Monopoly, Life, Taboo, Sorry
Video games like Super Mario
Decorate a Christmas tree [discussion: but not everyone is Christian, etc.]
Have a big bowl of fresh fruit
Bring food

**How can the Library let you know about events?**
Create an email list and send out announcements
Send announcement to school
Colorful flyers

**Have somebody famous cut the ribbon for the new South Branch**
Mayor, Michelle Obama, the Governor, Lady GaGa
Focus Group with Teen Student Workers

The group: 7 teens employed as Student Workers at Berkeley Public Library
- 6 enrolled at Berkeley High and 1 at B-Tech, the continuation school
- 5 seniors and 2 juniors

Not counting work, which Berkeley library sites do you use/visit?
- All visit Central
- One also visits Claremont, 2 also visit South, and 2 also visit West

If you are a library user, what services do you use?
- All: borrowing books.
- 3: Internet/computers
- 2: study space
- 2: borrowing movies
- 1: reference materials

What do you like about the library you use? Or is it more a matter of going because you need to use it?
- 3: both
- Friendly staff
- I like the books.
- The library carries great books that I don't see at regular bookstores.
- And it's free. Even if you owe late fees, it's still cheaper than buying the books you need.

What would make the library a place that you would like to visit and use? What sorts of services and spaces would draw you to the facility?
- 7: comfortable seating—chairs and/or couches
- Enough tables; some people don't like sharing space
- Study areas where small groups can work
- Doors on teen areas—teens can get loud and need a separate space
- Soundproof walls
- More room and space—too many adults walking through teen sections
- More secluded space; I go to the Children's section when I need to study
- Why are the teen areas in all the [Berkeley] libraries small with low ceilings?
- More computers for teens
- Most of the computers face out and you have no privacy. Sometimes there are creeps in the library.
- Atmosphere—maybe lava lamps and a disco ball
- Better lighting
- More prominent signage—I didn't know that Central had a teen section until I started working here. "Yeah," several agree.
- More and bigger garbage cans
- Recycling bins

Questions about specific services:
Computers
Do you have your own computer at home? 6 Yes
Do you have a laptop? 4 Yes
If not, what computer access do you have? Library

Would you use a computer at the library? 5 Yes
Even if you have your own? 4 Yes
If so, what would you need it for? Homework, research, school assignments

Study
Where are your favorite places to study? Why?
- Children’s Room (“no creepy people” and the librarians aren’t staring right at you) and Reference at Central.
- Art & Music at Central—it’s really quiet
- At home in my room—I need quiet. 2 agree. “No one bothers you there.”
- Reference at Central—they have laptop plugs
- In the car or on a plane—it’s wasted time anyway

Do you need to study or work on school projects with other students? 6 Yes
Where do you do this?
- Children’s Room
- Public library or school library
- Borrow a classroom at school, or go to the park
- Career center at school

Would the library be a place you would do this, if it was available? Yes
What sort of space would you need for this?
- Small, separate spaces where talking is allowed and won’t disturb people trying to study quietly

Reading
Do you read for fun? 7 Yes
If so, what do you read?
- 6: Fiction
- Urban fiction
- Fantasy
- Comic books
- Nonfiction
- A lot of different stuff
- Art books
- Graphic novels

Media
Do you listen to music on an iPod or similar device? 6 Yes

If the library offered music on CD, would you want to check it out? 4 Yes
(Or would you simply download music?)

Programming
If the library offered programs and events for teens, would you be interested in participating? Examples = movie night, gaming/Wii/Playstation nights, poetry writing and reading, urban fiction book club
- 4: open mic with poetry or spoken word
• 3: movie night
• 3: game night
• Karaoke
• Talent show

Social Space/Food and Drink
How important is separate space for teens?
• 7: “Very”
• We don’t want to be with the little children
• “Teens” are a wide range if you go up to 19—maybe create separate spaces for younger and older teens, middle school and high school

A place to buy and consume snacks?
• 5 rated it important, although a lively discussion ensued

Pro:
• People study here a long time. If you leave your table to eat a snack outside, then you lose your study space.
• It’s an incentive to stay longer
• Choose snacks that are healthy and less messy, like carrot sticks.

Con:
• We’ll end up with a lot of garbage (wrappers, etc.) in the teen areas
• The books will get dirty
• People will spill drinks

6. Other ideas?
Photocopies are too expensive in the library. Find a way to charge less.
Focus Group with Martin Luther King Leadership Students (Group 1)

The group: 25 middle school students
- About half 7th graders and half 8th graders

Do you use the Berkeley Public Library now?
- Yes: 15

Which site(s)?
- North: 8; West: 3; Central: 9; South: 5; Claremont: 3

What do you like about the library you use?
- Gaming program
- Nonfiction books for homework

What would make the library a place that you would like to visit and use? What sorts of services and spaces would draw you to the facility?
- Comfortable seating, like couches (Many agreed)
- Larger space (Many agreed)
- Separate space for teens away from adults and little kids (Many agreed)
- The area should have walls. Adults complain about the noise that we make, give us dirty looks.
- Paint it in a color
- Able to eat food at the library (Many agreed)
- Let people use more time on the computers
- Offer more Internet computers
- Offer laptops for people to use in the library--more privacy while working on your homework or using the Internet
- Video games to borrow
- Board games to use at the library
- Install more self-check machines
- Able to volunteer at the library
- Offer programs specifically for 13-16 year olds
- Build a basketball court
- Or a boxing ring

Questions about specific services:

Computers
Do you have your own computer at home? Yes: All
Do you have a laptop? Yes: 11

Study
Where are your favorite places to study? Most study at home.

Would the library be a place where you would study or work on school projects with other students, if it was available? Yes: 8
Reading
Do you read for fun? Yes: 9
If so, what do you read?
- Bluford High series
- Drama High series
- Nonfiction books

Media
Do you listen to music on an iPod or similar device? Yes: All

If the library offered music on CD, would you want to check it out? Yes: About half the group
Focus Group with Martin Luther King Leadership Students (Group 2)

The group: 27 middle school students
• 12 seventh graders and 15 eighth graders

Do you use the Berkeley Public Library now?
• Yes: 18

Which site(s)?
• North: 11; West: 3; Central: 8; South: 4; Claremont: 1

What do you like about the library you use?
• Books—lots of them, teen books, wide selection: 14
• Computers: 11
• Separate teen section: 3
• Quiet atmosphere: 3
• Place to read: 3
• Teen magazines: 3
• I like that there is a computer in the teen room: 2
• Warm inside: 2
• Can hang with friends in the teen area
• Study space
• Tables
• Comfortable chairs
• Open spaces
• Not cramped
• “People there are very nice”
• Popcorn for chess club
• Program that allows you to search if books are in [catalog]
• Legos at South branch
• They have a big place for little kids to play

What would make the public library better?
• Snacks available: 18
• Allowed to eat inside the library: 2
• Comfortable seating (e.g., armchairs, bean bags, couches): 7
• More computers: 4
• Drop-in Internet computers [no advance sign-ups]
• Unlimited time on the computers
• Video games: 4
• Television [one person said, “personal cable TV”]: 3
• More teen magazines: 2

• Study area for teens
• Paper (lined and blank) and pencils for assignments
• Homework help program after school

Space
• Give teens one side of the library
• Allowed to talk more loudly and play music
• Art section with craft materials (glue, paper, markers, scissors, etc.)
• More colors [wall paint]
Materials/Programs
- More copies of popular teen books
- Games
- More books on tape
- More “long books”
- Better movies
- More toys

Programming
If the library offered programs and events for teens, what activities would you like to attend?
- Games [PlayStation, Wii, PS3, Xbox, board and card games]: 9
- Movie night: 8
- Teen nights [definition unspecified]: 6
- Party [teens only, with music and food]: 6
- Open-mike night: 3
- Food: 2
- Potluck
- Pizza night
- Beatbox/rap contests
- Help finding jobs for teens
- Computer/Photoshop class
- Arts and crafts
- Chill Day
- Book giveaway
- Bring your pet to the library

Social Space/Food and Drink
On a scale of 1-10 (10 being highest), how important is separate space for teens?
- Rating 4: 2
- Rating 5: 1
- Rating 8: 5
- Rating 9: 5
- Rating 10: 11

A place to buy and consume snacks?
- Rating 4: 1
- Rating 6: 1
- Rating 7: 3
- Rating 9: 1
- Rating 10: 18

A study space for small groups?
- Rating ½ [write-in]: 1
- Rating 1: 7
- Rating 2: 4
- Rating 4: 2
- Rating 5: 6
- Rating 8: 2
- Rating 10: 2

Questions about specific services:
Computers
Do you have your own computer at home? Yes: 26
Do you have a laptop? Yes: 16
If not, what computer access do you have? School, sister’s house, library
Would you use a computer at the library? Yes: 11
Even if you have your own? Yes: 13
If so, what would you need it for?
  • Homework: 15
  • Facebook: 11
  • E-mail: 6
  • Games: 5
  • Myspace: 5
  • Internet: 4
  • Youtube: 3
  • Typing papers [for school]: 3
  • Music: 3
  • Videos: 1

Study
Where are your favorite places to study?
Home, usually own room: 21
  • Quiet: 9
  • Comfortable: 5
  • Food and drinks: 3
  • I don’t have to sit up straight
  • I can focus better
  • In my own environment
  • Large

Friend’s house: 4
  • Because my parents aren’t there
  • More fun

Library: 5
  • Quiet: 3

Sister’s house
Car
At school with teachers so they can help me
Quiet place [unspecified]

Do you need to study or work on school projects with other students? Yes: 12
Where do you do this?
  • In class/at school: 14
  • Another student’s house: 8
  • At home: 3
  • Library: 2
Would the library be a place where you would study or work on school projects with other students, if it was available? Yes: 8

What sort of space would you need for this?
- Food: 18 [snack bar: 2]
- Separate space/enclosed room: 13
- Computers: 11
- Tables: 10 [low tables: 2; many tables: 1]
- Comfortable seating [one: sofas, not chairs]: 10
- School supplies (paper, pencils): 5
- Quiet: 2
- Large space: 2
- Desks
- Teens only
- Not echoey
- “Really neat”
- Open
- Away from kids
- Laptops
- Wireless connection for laptops
- Cozy
- Isolated area
- TV

Reading
Do you read for fun? Yes: 11
If so, what do you read?
- Magazines: 7
- Books: 5 [good books: 2]
- Facebook: 4
- Fiction: 4 [long novels: 1]
- Cookbooks
- Romance
- Twilight series
- Internet
- Sports books
- Fantasy and adventures
- Newspaper
- Chick books

Media
Do you listen to music on an iPod or similar device? Yes: 24
If the library offered music on CD, would you want to check it out? Yes: 10
Focus Group with Willard Middle School Students

The group: 20 seventh graders in the school library's advisory class
- The school librarian made an effort to give us a diverse group in terms of the students' gender and racial background.

Do you use the Berkeley Public Library now?
- Yes: 14
- Some live in other cities and use the public libraries there (Tracy, Oakland, Richmond)

Which site(s)?
- North: 3; West: 2; Central: 8; Claremont: 4; South: 2

What do you do when you visit the public library?
- Borrow books (mentioned by several), CDs, and DVDs
- Find nonfiction books for homework and research (mentioned by several)
- Use computers to look things up
- Summer reading program (4 have participated)
- Gaming programs

What do you like about the library you use?
- Computers/Internet (mentioned by several)
- Teen section
- The people [employees] are nice
- Magazines
- Peace and quiet
- Place to escape from my parents
- Trees outside
- Comfortable chairs
- Rocking chair
- Harry Potter party

How many visit the library because they want to go there? 10
Because they have to go? 11 [a lot of overlap between the two groups]

What would make the library better?
- Better chairs—"cushiony" (many agreed)
- Bean bags
- Longer hours—library closes too early
- Computer headphones
- Central is "polluted"—don't want to go there because there are lots of people smoking outside and homeless people near the building
- Claremont is "creepy" at night—aggressive homeless people asking for change
- Special reading room
- Vending machines (many agreed)
- Have more interesting books about pit bulls and cars

Would you like a place to buy and eat snacks? Yes: 11
- Some said that the food should be eaten outside
- Coffee shop
- Mini 7-11
Questions about specific services:

**Computers**
Do you have your own computer at home? Yes: 14
Do you have a laptop? Yes: 10
Would you want to use a computer at the library? Yes: 16
For?
- Youtube
- Looking up stuff
- Typing/word processing
- Finding books
- Research
- If yours is broken at home

**Study**
Where are your favorite places to study?
- Most study at home
- After-school program, school library
- In class

Do you need to study or work on school projects with other students? Yes: 6
Would the library be a place where you would do study with other students, if it was available? Yes: 8
What would you need from that space?
- Space to sit down and not be disrupted
- Enough tables
- A recliner

**Reading**
Do you read for fun? Yes: 14
If so, what do you read?
- Comics
- Teen romance
- Any fiction (2)
- Fantasy
- History
- Urban drama
- SF/fantasy (3)
- Manga and graphic novels

**Media**
Do you listen to music on an iPod or similar device? Yes: 12
If the library offered music on CD, would you want to check it out? Yes: 14

**Programming**
If the library offered programs and events for teens, would you be interested in participating? Yes: 15
What types of activities would you like?
- Movies
- Pool table
- Poker table
- Magic and other card games
- Wii
• Xbox 360

Other suggestions:
• Get more DVDs
Public Library’s Teen Student Workers (7)

Please mark up to six items below that you feel would be most important services that the library could provide for teens.

___3____ Career prep books
___4____ Plenty of study seating
___4____ Computers to search the Internet
___2____ Computers for word processing
___0____ Computers with other software, such as: __Photoshop, PowerPoint___________
___3____ Fiction books for teens
___0____ Books and media in languages other than English
___3____ A separate space for teens
___5____ Library programs for teens (poetry slams, book discussion groups, film nights)
___1____ Nonfiction books for research and study
___0____ Magazines for teens
___4____ Comfortable lounge chairs
___2____ Places to plug in laptop computers
___3____ Group study rooms to work together with other students
___1____ Music CDs
___5____ A place to buy and eat snacks
___3____ DVDs and videos
___1____ Other:  SAT prep
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Please mark up to six items below that you feel would be most important services that the library could provide for teens.

___8_____ Career prep books
___9_____ Plenty of study seating
15______ Computers to search the Internet
10______ Computers for word processing
  3_____ Computers with other software, such as: PowerPoint, Linux______________
12______ Fiction books for teens
11______ Books and media in languages other than English
10______ A separate space for teens
  5_____ Library programs for teens (poetry slams, book discussion groups, film nights)
  8_____ Nonfiction books for research and study
  7_____ Magazines for teens
  3_____ Comfortable lounge chairs
  5_____ Places to plug in laptop computers
  6_____ Group study rooms to work together with other students
  3_____ Music CDs
  8_____ A place to buy and eat snacks
  7_____ DVDs and videos
       Other: ___________________________________________________________________
       ___________________________________________________________________
Comment: Offer Mac computers
Please mark up to six items below that you feel would be most important services that the library could provide for teens.

___2___ Career prep books
___2___ Plenty of study seating
___6___ Computers to search the Internet
___4___ Computers for word processing
___0___ Computers with other software, such as: ______________________________
___8___ Fiction books for teens
___3___ Books and media in languages other than English
___1___ A separate space for teens
___4___ Library programs for teens (poetry slams, book discussion groups, film nights)
___3___ Nonfiction books for research and study
___0___ Magazines for teens
___4___ Comfortable lounge chairs
___2___ Places to plug in laptop computers
___2___ Group study rooms to work together with other students
___2___ Music CDs
___3___ A place to buy and eat snacks
___2___ DVDs and videos
___1___ Other: __ sheet music
   ______________________________
   ______________________________
   ______________________________

Comment: "Frankly, these are all very important."

Library Planning Project - MLK Leadership Students (Group 1: 25 students)

Please mark up to six items below that you feel would be most important services that the library could provide for teens.
Please mark up to six items below that you feel would be most important services that the library could provide for teens.

__5____ Career prep books
__6____ Plenty of study seating
__18_____ Computers to search the Internet
__4_____ Computers for word processing
__4_____ Computers with other software, such as:______________________________
Please mark up to six items below that you feel would be most important services that the library could provide for teens.

___1_____ Career prep books
___4_____ Plenty of study seating
___16_____ Computers to search the Internet
___3_____ Computers for word processing
___14_____ Fiction books for teens
___3_____ Books and media in languages other than English
___11_____ A separate space for teens
___5_____ Library programs for teens (poetry slams, book discussion groups, film nights)
The Literacy Program Coordinator and the Neighborhood Services Manager facilitated a small focus group of five literacy program participants (two learners and three tutors), soliciting information pertinent to the West Branch / Berkeley READS renovation.

1. **If you are a library user, what services do you and/or your family use?**
   - Uses Central Library, like the selections
   - Uses West Branch because of tutoring; checks out materials after tutoring
   - Was introduced to the library by a friend and now comes with her family 1-2xs/week
   - Borrows movies and books
   - The ESL / family literacy program
   - Uses Central and North branches
   - Tutors at West and Central
   - Works with learner to check out travel and how-to books
   - Tutors more at Central because it’s more convenient for learner
   - Uses South Branch and TLL
   - Central library for its programs
   - Uses library for reading and sees it as a family destination
   - Family literacy program
   - Community information (voter forms, tax forms, health information)

2. **How do you feel about your experiences using the libraries? Were they positive or negative?**
   - All stated positive library experiences
     - Libraries are welcoming
     - Libraries have “opened a lot of doors” for people
   - Homeless can be a problem / deterrent
     - Mentioned SFPL’s recent social worker addition to deal with the homeless
   - Libraries provide access to people – like travel books and films for those who cannot travel themselves

3. **What do you like about the library you use? Or, is it more a matter of going because you need to use it? What things contribute to your ability to have a positive library experience?**
   - Library is close to my job and I go to the library as a way to do something for myself
   - Feed off the positive energy of others
   - Chance to learn about other cultures on a more personal level
   - Gain better respect for people
   - Highlights the diversity of Berkeley
   - Good service; staff’s willingness to help
   - Books
   - Free access to information
   - Essential to society
   - Berkeley Reads program; it’s positive, fun, and energizing –makes me feel good and gives me a sense of accomplishment
   - Use the TLL and South branch for fix-it books
   - Staff has a sense of humor; never been around a grumpy librarian
   - Wonderful free events (author talks, music programs)
   - Place to go
   - Free meeting rooms
4. What would make the library and the literacy program a place that you and/or your family would like to visit and use? What sorts of services and spaces would draw you and/or your family to the facility/program? Describe your vision of a perfect or amazing public library. What would this library look like? What kind of services would it provide?

- More computer privacy
- More access to computers for tutoring
- More computers, faster connection
- Computers with enough area around them to spread out
- Dedicated computer space but not set up in a school setting; more like an office setting with cubicles
- More privacy (in general)
- More cubicles for learner/tutor privacy
- Allow for more one-to-one privacy
- Private entrance or separate entrance to literacy program
- Study carrels for privacy
- Family / children room or area
  - Home environment
  - Comfortable learning environment
- Don’t make the area school-like
- More dedicated literacy space; flexible space
- More table space to work
- Space to accommodate a small group
- Place for people to study together
- Enough program space for tutor/learners to work together without disruptions or having to having to relocate several times during a session
- More storage space, less clutter
- Workspace for tutor prepping
- Family space with comfortable seating (chairs)
- Friendly space – an environment that makes you want to come in
  - Comfortable seats
  - Feel like Barnes and Noble
  - Room for babysitting with supervision of the children while parents study
  - Family room, a place for children to be comfortable
  - Children sized furniture
  - Books in Urdu for children
- Expand the children’s area
- “Softness” to the space
- Circular spaces – encourage relaxation
- Longer library hours
- Other places to meet with learners outside of the literacy office – private areas in other library branches
- Sound proofing (acoustical buffering)
- More resources for tutors (refresher, tutor mixers)
- Visual learning tools (maps, globe)
- Different resources for different learning styles
- Fireplace
- Good lighting
- Courtyard with outside benches
Berkeley Public Library – Literacy Focus Group Questions  
January 14, 2009

- More electrical outlets
- Dedicated literacy print station
- More bathroom stalls
- Enclosed patio space—feel nature but space is still functional, especially in evening
- Water feature—listen to sound of water when reading
- Serene
- (Shopping) baskets to use for carrying materials around library

5. In what ways does the West Branch library (Berkeley Reads) need to improve?   
What are the Library’s most significant weaknesses or obstacles?
- Lack of space
- Lack of bathroom stalls
- Lack of staff break room
- Inadequate staff / tutor work room
- Lack of privacy
- Circulating literacy collection—needs improvement and needs to be closer to the literacy office
- Need more mixers for volunteers (follow up gatherings)
- Better (way-finding) signage

6. Questions about specific services:

Computers  
Do you have your (or learners) own a computer at home?  Laptop?  If not, what computer access do you have?  What do you use it for—job searching, resume writing, looking up information?

All have either a laptop, desk top or both at home.  Uses include email, Word, Facebook, job searching, searching the catalog, lesson planning, using the computer for visual assistance as part of tutoring

Other technology used are PDAs and cell phones, including voice activated text (speak message into phone and it texts message to recipient) and text voice response (capture text image with phone and it will read text back to you) [www.dial2do.com]

Need more tech devices to help those who can’t read

Voice activated technologies to assist literacy learners

Media  
How many of you and/or your families listen to music or audio books?  If the library offered music/audio books on CD, would you want to check it out?  Or would you simply download the books/music?

All borrow DVDs; some audio books but all interested in downloadable books and music

Would like more Hindi movies
Programming  If the library offered programs and events, would you and/or your family be interested in participating? Examples = movie nights, book groups, poetry writing and reading

All responded yes – programming for learners and tutors to attend together as well as programs for the whole family

Social Space  How important is a space to meet / socialize with other community members, parents, other learners/tutors, etc.

Of highest importance to all

7. What external trends or issues do you think will have the greatest impact on the literacy program / library over the next several years?

- Teaching learners to be leaders
- Keeping up with technology
- Managing social issues (like homeless) in a positive way
- Computer classes of different levels and subjects (e.g., social software, job searching, how to apply for jobs online)
- Learning about technology (what’s out there) in addition to learning how to use it
- Learning how to think
- After school homework program
- Translation services at the library
- Seeing a growing number of Indian families in community

8. Other ideas?
- None expressed
TO: Board of Library Trustees

FROM: Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 2010 MONTHLY REPORT FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR

INTRODUCTION

Every month the Library Director gives the Board a report on Library activities and updates from the previous month.

FISCAL IMPACT

This report will have no fiscal impacts.

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

Annual Report

The Library is in the process of completing the text for our 2009 Annual Report. Alan Bern, Community Relations Librarian is working with a graphic designer to complete the layout and design. We expect it to be ready for distribution and posting on the Library’s website by early February 2010.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

ALA

A report on staff’s participation in the Midwinter American Library Association conference held in January is attached (Attachment 1).

The annual conference is fast approaching, general conference information is available at: http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/travelandhotels

Library all-staff quarterly meeting

An all staff meeting was held on January 26 (Friday), approximately 50 employees attended. Presentations included new policies and procedures, branch improvement plan project update, I.T. changes, Encore catalog library webpage changes and new staff introduced. All locations opened at 11:00 AM.

CLA
Now available for free download online are presentations and handouts from select workshops that took place at the 111th Annual CLA Conference & Exhibition in Pasadena, CA.

To view a list of downloadable documents, please visit: http://www.cla-net.org/events/confworkshops09.php.

A Call for Workshop Proposals will be launched in late February (final date TBD) and will feature a new and improved online submission system. For a suggested list of workshop themes for the 2010 Conference in Sacramento, please visit: http://www.cla-net.org/weblog/2009/12/navigating_the.php.

PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND COLLECTIONS

Public Programs
A series of program developed in collaboration with North Atlantic Books is proving very popular. The fall of 2010-2011 will present North Atlantic Diet and Food, including Live or Raw Food authors. 2011-2012, the 30th anniversary of North Atlantic Books, which was incorporated as a non-profit in Berkeley in 1981, will feature Martial Arts demonstrations and free classes. The program was developed by Lindy Hough, Founder and Co-Publisher of North Atlantic Books, and Douglas Smith, Deputy Director of the Berkeley Public Library. The first series, Get Well! was launched in October 2009 and the presentations that followed are really interactive panels, which encourage audience participation. Discussion is followed by a book signing and refreshments. All panels are free, and located in the 3rd floor Community Meeting Room.

Library Foundation
More information about the Berkeley Public Library Foundation’s Annual Author’s Dinner planned for Saturday, February 6th, 2010 is now available on their website: http://bplf.org/AD2010_authors.html. Once again the event is sold out.

PERSONNEL

Labor Relations
The Director will attend a City of Berkeley Labor Management Retreat scheduled for all day off site on Friday, February 5, 2010.

North Supervisor
Following the conclusion of an intense selection process, Rachel MacNeilly was chosen to be the next Supervising Librarian of the North Branch. Rachel has worked for nearly 4 years as the Branch Manager of one of SFPL’s largest facilities, the Mission Branch. Beyond managing this 1915 building and its services she is responsible for the supervision of the Branch’s personnel as well as the selection of all Spanish language materials for the teen and juvenile collections system-wide. She has been an active member of SFPL’s Service Innovation Task Force and is looking forward to exploring how our system might benefit from some of the progressive service models and new technologies she’s been investigating. As a Berkeley resident, she is looking forward to the new challenges as well as being closer to her home and family. She begins her work at the North Branch on March 1st.

Staff Training and Development Update
An update on Library activities by Jenifer Shurson is attached (2).

FACILITIES
Inclement weather wreaked disorder at the branch libraries during the week of January 18, 2010; a report by Suzanne Olawski is attached (3).

ATTACHMENTS:
1. ALA conference
2. Training summary
3. Branch weather report
ALA Midwinter conference – Staff reports

Linda Perkins
The economy took a toll on Midwinter attendance. Despite the proximity to eastern population centers, attendance in Boston was 11,095, higher than the 10,220 in Denver last year, but lower than the previous three years. The economy has also impacted ALA with a 2.7% reduction in membership.

The ALA Washington Office reported that efforts to alter the U.S.A. Patriot Act, especially Section 215, are underway in the House-Senate Conference Committee, and urged members to write in support of the proposed changes. They also reported that an ALA task force is investigating the implications for libraries of the recent Google amended settlement with publishers. Programs concerning the settlement may occur during the Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

Within the Association for Library Service for Children (ALSC), I served as an advisor/consultant for committee chairs, serving as their link to the Board of Directors. This reduces some of the questions and saves time for the Board and streamlines the decision process.

In the exhibits, I looked at new products and was excited to learn of Gale’s “My Library” application for the IPhone/ITouch, soon to be available for Blackberries and Palms. The free application, available through iTunes, works with a global positioning system to give patrons access to a library’s Gale databases on their mobile device. It’s very cool, and will make library resources more readily accessible to our public.

Donna Corbeil
A good article summarizing the conference highlights can be found at: http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2010/january2010/wrapup_pio.cfm

A few of the most interesting events to me were:
ULC member event, “Navigating the new digital world, Karen Coyle, presenter”. Ms Coyle discussed the Google book settlement that is pending. Her website has more on this at: http://books.google.com/googlebooks/agreement/. She discussed how this settlement might affect libraries and public access in the long-term. One large concern is the potential cost of access electronically to this information. The current settlement allows for one PC in a public library to have access, while universities may be better positioned to pay for greater or full public access this could be a challenge for public libraries. In addition, public libraries are expected to make due with one PC and to figure out how to charge for printing and collect this money to pass on to Google. The limits to access will be a continuing issue as these issues unfold.

“How to make a difference from where you sit”, a panel discussion moderated by Patty Wong, Yolo County and featured speaker, ALA President Camila Alire. This was a motivational presentation filled with how to tips from a variety of different libraries, on getting staff at all levels of the organization involved in advocacy. A tool kit is available to download and a resource sheet was distributed. Two basic concepts to the campaign, everyone in the library is able to 1. Articulate the value of their respective library to their community; and 2. Articulate their value as a library employee. That it is everybody’s job because every voice makes a difference. There will be a local presentation by Ms Alire in February that staff can attend.

RMG consultants, Inc. held their annual president’s seminar on initiatives and trends in the library technology industry. For the seminar this year the lead topic of the panel discussion was, “Forces of change sweep across the library automation landscape: business and technology partnerships, foundation and government funding, non-profits versus for-profits”. Presentations
included a review of several grant funded open-source projects by funders and library directors for those libraries, including Orange County Library System (Orlando, FL) and King County Library System (WA) as well as a college and university initiative called Kuali OLE (Open Library environment). Issues raised and discussed were: the role of library vendors – developers or integrators, ability to sustain collaborations and the economics of libraries in the development of software, is such a business model for libraries sustainable, the role ILS vendors play in development and advancement of ideas and the evolution of open-source software in the marketplace. This is a topic that we will be sure to hear more about in the near future.

Dayna Holz, Librarian, Art & Music Department


With the assistance of a scholarship from the American Library Association and support from BPL, I was delighted to attend this year’s International Book Fair of Spanish language materials in Guadalajara. The ALA scholarship provided me with a $100 travel reimbursement, three free hotel nights (with breakfast), and free registration to the book fair to offset the cost of attending. The combination of support from ALA and BPL made the trip much more accessible in a time when many librarians are forced to forgo professional development activities, and I am grateful for the encouragement.

My original intent in attending this year’s book fair in Guadalajara was to identify quality publishers and individual titles of Spanish language materials for the art and music collections. After meeting with Spanish language selector Marge Sussman and reviewing the Spanish language collections at Central and West, it became clear that the library as a whole could benefit from broadening my materials search to include Spanish language books on all topics. I went to Mexico with lists and suggestions from Marge, and arranged to coordinate with vendor Baker & Taylor for purchases at the fair.

I first attended an orientation to the book fair organized by ALA to get some guidance on navigating the 1,600 publisher booths and million square feet of exhibition hall space. The veteran attendees agreed that the first year of attendance can be so overwhelming to newcomers that the trip can end up being almost unproductive. Based on the advice of other librarians and the enormous size of the fair, I concentrated on familiarizing myself with various publishers and the types and qualities of books they carry, rather than attempting to buy a year’s worth of Spanish language books for the library in four days.

I met dozens of other librarians from all over the US, working in all sizes and types of libraries, all of whom made the trip to enhance their Spanish language collections. It was inspiring to talk with people who put so much effort into developing their collections, and who are reaching out to Spanish speaking populations in their areas in meaningful ways, regardless of budget size. Though I did end up purchasing in the range of $1,500 worth of books, the more productive outcome of my trip was coming back with a stack of book catalogs and copious notes on publishers and vendors. My hope is that this first step will help make Spanish language materials buying more effective in the future by including a broader range of options. The sheer volume and variety of titles available at the fair confirmed that the books offered though the major Spanish language vendors in the US are just a fraction of what’s produced worldwide. I have meetings planned with Marge, Marti from Collection Development, and Emma from Children’s to share some of the information I gathered at the fair. I was unexpectedly motivated by this experience to get more involved in Spanish language collection development, and I think that if I or another BPL librarian has the opportunity to visit the fair in the future, the tips I picked up there over four days will prove incredibly useful.

I want to express my appreciation for being given the opportunity to attend the fair, engage with colleagues, and learn ever more about how to be a better librarian.
Staff Training and Development Update

With the support of the Library’s Safety Committee and the Staff Training and Development Committee, BPL has committed to launching an employee wellness program. Last year, we were able to partner with an outside consultant to create a staff stretching program and an injury prevention guide. We have invited them out again this year as a presenter along with some other local vendors and City professionals to speak on the topics including nutrition, fitness and stress management. Our goal is to partner with members in the community who can provide staff with information and some tools for healthier living. We have already received interest from the outreach efforts to local institutions providing instruction and tools for stress management including meditation, self-acupressure, self-massage, Tai Chi and Chi Kung. Educational opportunities in the areas of fitness and nutrition are also being sought. Some of these programs are available through the City of Berkeley like Public Health’s programs, “Be Fit Berkeley” and “Eat Healthy Berkeley” which provides interactive nutrition education workshops that support healthy eating for all ages. These trainings will be made available to staff at Library locations in both formal and brown-bag formats. Ultimately, it is our hope that these trainings will give way to the formation of various voluntary employee clubs including a cooking club which congregates monthly in the staff lounge to prepare a healthy meal, a walking club and a weekly meditation group. Staff has already expressed interest in participation in these groups.

In addition to our new Health and Wellness program, BPL’s Training and Development committee is rolling out the remainder of its four (4) Core courses; Library Computing and Circulation. The core Circulation trainings coming this February, are designed to provide all staff with fundamental information regarding circulation policies and procedures. Depending on the demand, we will likely follow this with more advanced circulation trainings for staff looking for more that just the basics. Library computing will be offered by IT staff in April and is based on those computer-related questions most frequently asked by BPL staff. It will also provide staff with some tools and tricks for making some of their daily duties a bit easier. Our remaining core courses, Fully Engaged Customer Service and Privacy Policy will be returning this summer and fall.
Inclement weather wreaked disorder at the branch libraries during the week of January 18th. North Branch had some minor wet spots in the facility and the heavy downpours caused the reflective tape on the back stairs to peel off; however, the branch avoided the power outage that affected other parts of North and West Berkeley, also including the West Branch library which was without power for some time. Staff did not have to close the branch, instead there was enough natural light as not to cause safety concerns and staff did manual check-outs. Restrooms were locked, though. Claremont Branch experienced a water leak from the ceiling, which Maintenance staff was able to fix. There was no damage to furniture, fixtures or collections. South Branch was affected most by the storms. The branch was flooded into the adult room, staff room, and the meeting rooms. About two to three inches of water flooded the adult reading room along the eastern perimeter shelving and stacks as well as behind the service desks, saturating the carpets. Water also entered the staff workroom through the boiler room, soaking the floor and damaging some boxes of paper products that were on the floor. The meeting room carpet was permeated with water about three feet into the room from the driveway entry. The flooding most likely occurred because the eastern exterior ground drains were covered with leaves and muck caused by the heavy winds and run off from the eastern landscaping by the Temple side of the driveway. Branch staff did an excellent job of mopping up the standing water and Maintenance staff used a Wet Vac to draw up the remaining water and dried out the carpets with portable fans and heaters. The South Branch opened to the public an hour late on Wednesday, January 20th.

Suzanne Olawski
Next to the elevators on the first floor of the Berkeley Public Library is a typed, well-written, unsigned note from a library patron.

When I read it, I was sure it was a parody. Armin Arethna, a children’s librarian, says it is not.

The writer, a mother of two, complains about the insect exhibit that sits on the reference desk on the children’s floor. Over the years, the reference desk has had stick bugs and mealworms. Now, it has a darkling beetle in one container and, before the letter was submitted, three romping fire-bellied toads moved into another container (there is a name competition for the jumpy creatures). The note reads, in part:

I thought you might be interested to know how upsetting it is for my kids to see insects who have been taken from their natural habitats, and placed in small barren enclosures. They worry that the insects might die as a result of such unnatural confinement and that their well-being and needs are compromised by such treatment.

As a parent who is constantly trying to build on children’s natural empathy and expand their circle of compassion to include all living beings, I worry about the message you send to impressionable children by treating insects in such a manner contrary to their natures. I am concerned they will emulate such treatment at home and fail to provide species specific care that individual insects may require or that they may capture and enclosure insects, only to forget about them, leaving them to slowly starve and wither.

The writer concludes that book learning about insects is as good as seeing them. She asks that the library reconsider such displays in the future. Ms. Arethna, in her answer, thanks the writer for caring so much to write and then goes on to list the reasons for the display. The insects have come from the East Bay Vivarium, which raises the creatures for the purpose of feeding them to its lizards and snakes, and the library staff consults the Vivarium staff as well as books and Web sites on their care and feeding. It seems safe to assume a bug’s life on the fourth floor of the Berkeley Public Library is better over all than in the wild or at the Vivarium.

I wondered if the library staff posted the note on a wall, which included questions about the computer system and German-language books, to show the public what the staff
endures. With its free-wheeling reputation, the San Francisco Bay Area is a place where people have no compunction about letting loose their internal cops and telling strangers exactly what rules they are violating or what health risk they are taking. Maybe there’s a stronger sense here than elsewhere of the perfectibility of the world, if only people knew the right thing to do and then did it.

Yet every time I encounter this tendency, it comes as a shock, even as I mumble an abashed “sorry” or “thank you.” If Bay Area citizens could ticket their fellows for breaches of societal crimes — like standing in the wrong line at Peet’s — I believe they would be in a state of bliss. They might even pay for the privilege.

Recently, at Asilomar Beach, my son reached into the water and pulled out a fluorescent orange being: a dead starfish. Rigor mortis was setting in. As he turned it over and sniffed it, a woman walking by asked if it was alive.

No, I said, somewhat stiffly. “Well, you aren’t supposed to collect anything,” she said. I growled that I knew that, feeling the surge of mother-bear anger. It’s great that more people feel they are environmental stewards, but this beach cop had stepped on my moment.

So many people have a story that I wonder if we’re all doing it. A friend was barred for life from the Berkeley Bowl, the supermarket at which I worship, for tasting the dried apricots in the bulk bin, as described in The Los Angeles Times.

My daughter’s helmet needs to be better fitted or she risks brain injury, said one woman, as she looked at my kid on a three-inch-high tricycle. Another woman said my baby in the Baby Bjorn playing with a plastic bag at the grocery store was going to suffocate should she put it to her mouth and ingest it.

Even kids point out the absurdity of it all. A friend’s 6-year-old complained to me about his old Berkeley preschool, “If you knock a cup off a table, you had to apologize to the cup.”

Is it time for the Bay Area to rein in the societal police?
Third Get Well! Series Showcases
Berkeley Alternative Practitioners

Noted Berkeley Ortho-Bionomy therapist Kathy Kain will moderate and speak about her own training and practice as an author panelist at the 3rd Alternative Medicine panel sponsored by Berkeley Public Library and North Atlantic Books on February 20, 2010, from 2-4 p.m. at the Berkeley Central Public Library.

Rolfer and massage therapist Art Riggs and medical acupuncture educator Joseph Helms, M.D. complete the panel, which showcases North Atlantic Books authors explaining their modalities and how they practice. Riggs and Helms also have offices in Berkeley.

February 20 panelists’ books are:

- **Art Riggs**, Rolfer and Massage Therapist, author of *Deep Tissue Massage: A Visual Guide to Techniques*
- **Kathy Kain**, Ortho-Bionomy therapist, author of *Ortho-Bionomy: A Practical Manual*
- **Joseph Helms, M.D.**, medical educator, acupuncturist, author of *Getting To Know You: A Physician Explains How Acupuncture Helps You Be the Best YOU*

North Atlantic's bold move is intended to widen understanding of alternative health by bringing practitioners and audience members together for a year of four panels called Get Well! Alternative Practitioners Talk With You About Healing. All panels are held at Berkeley Central Public Library. The first year offerings are part of a three-year partnership between the Library and mind/body/spirit publisher North Atlantic Books.

The fall of 2010-2011 will present North Atlantic Diet and Food, including Live or Raw Food authors. 2011-2012, the 30th anniversary of North Atlantic Books, which was incorporated as a non-profit in Berkeley in 1981, will feature Martial Arts demonstrations and free classes.

The program was developed by Lindy Hough, Founder and Co-Publisher of North Atlantic Books, and Douglas Smith, Deputy Director of the Berkeley Public Library.
The Get Well! series launched October 24, 2009 with Moderator Dana Ullman, Director of Homeopathic Educational Services and long-time Co-publisher of North Atlantic’s homeopathy titles fielding a panel which included Ullman, Georgette Dalvaux (Rolfing and women’s health), and Michael Mayer, Energy Psychology and Self-Healing. All three practitioners are Berkeley residents.


The panels are interactive: audience members in November, for example, were given a Reiki empowerment and did chi gung. Authors describe their practices, theoretical frameworks, and methods of treatment. A typical audience question might be how a condition or illness might be treated by Ortho-Bionomy, deep tissue massage, or acupuncture, or what each author’s special gift to his or her area has been over the years. Discussion is followed by a book signing and refreshments. All panels are free, and located in the 3rd floor Community Meeting Room.

March authors and their books will be:

**March 20, 2010**

**Dennis Chernin, M.D., Homeopath; The Complete Homeopathic Resource for Common Illnesses, Ann Arbor, Michigan**

**Maggie Phillips, trauma therapist (Somatic Experiencing); Reversing Chronic Pain: A 10-Part All-Natural Plan for Lasting Relief, Oakland, CA**

“We hope to further the public discourse, and thus the readership, about alternative health, or complementary medicine,” Lindy Hough said. “A wider demographic should be able to use these kinds of medicine, know their history, and see how effective they are in healing many conditions inexpensively, without recourse to drugs or surgery.”

Berkeley Public Library queried patrons and found strong interest in North Atlantic's strong-selling niches of holistic health, somatics, martial arts, new age and esoteric metaphysics, and spiritual topics.

“The Library is excited to be working in partnership with North Atlantic Books to better serve the interest in new approaches to understanding the interaction of mind, body, and spirit readers are seeking,” said Douglas Smith, Deputy Director of BPL. “We’re pleased to be expanding our programming, outreach, and collections in these important directions.”

# # # #
Berkeley Developer Puts Ashby Arts Condo Site Up for Sale

By RIYA BHATTACHARJEE

Berkeley developer Ali Kashani’s proposed five-story, mixed-use condo project at 1200 Ashby Avenue is up for sale. The Ashby Arts project was appealed to the City Council last year when neighbors expressed concerns that it would bring density and congestion to the area. Others praised it as a “gateway” to West Berkeley, arguing that the development would clean up the blighted property.

BART to Appoint Interim Police Chief

By RIYA BHATTACHARJEE

The Bay Area Rapid Transit will be appointing former Berkeley police chief Daschel Butler to lead its police force on a temporary basis. BART General Manager Dorothy Dugger announced Tuesday that she had selected Butler to serve as interim chief while the agency conducts a nationwide search to replace BART Police Chief Gary Gee, who will retire Wednesday.

Families of American Hikers Detained in Iran Hire Lawyer

By RIYA BHATTACHARJEE

The families of the three UC Berkeley alums detained in Iran for illegally crossing over the border announced Dec. 27 that they have hired a prominent Iranian lawyer to help bring them home.

King Student Sent to Juvenile Hall For Bringing Gun to School

By RIYA BHATTACHARJEE

A Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School student was sent to Alameda County Juvenile Hall for bringing an unloaded gun to school. Berkeley Police Department spokesperson Officer Andrew Frankel said Berkeley police received a call from school staff a little after 1 p.m. on Dec. 16 reporting the incident.

Suspect in Southside Stabbing Arrested, Police Investigate Armed Robbery

By RIYA BHATTACHARJEE

Frankel said the Alameda County District Attorney’s office is investigating the case and will decide whether to prosecute Popov.

Suspect in Southside Stabbing Arrested, Police Investigate Armed Robbery

Frankel said police arrived at the scene and confiscated the gun. Berkeley police then arrested the student, a 13-year-old boy, and transported him to Juvenile Hall. Frankel said that the Alameda County district attorney’s office would decide whether to press charges. Calls to Berkeley Unified School District officials for comment were not returned by press time.

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Shaping the Future of Your Neighborhood Library

Join us as the architectural design teams present updates on the conceptual and schematic design phases of your Berkeley Library Projects.

• West Branch Library
  January 7, Thursday, 6:30 - 8:00 PM at West Branch Library, 1125 University Avenue.

• Second Community Meeting on West Branch conceptual design phase with design teams Harley Ellis DeMone / GreenWorks Studio
  February 6, Saturday, 12:00 PM at West Branch Library, 1125 University Avenue.

• Claremont Branch Library
  February 3, Wednesday, 6:30 - 8:30 PM at Claremont Branch Library, 2940 Borromeo Ave.

• Claremont Branch
  February 10, Wednesday, 6:30 - 8:00 PM at South Branch Library, 1901 Russell St. @ MLK Way.

• Claremont Branch
  February 10, Wednesday, 6:30 - 8:00 PM at South Branch Library, 1901 Russell St. @ MLK Way.

• South Branch Library
  January 20, Wednesday, 6:30 - 8:00 PM at South Branch Library, 1901 Russell St. @ MLK Way.

For accessibility info or other questions, go to www.berkeleylibrary.org or call 510-981-6195.

Berkeley Public Library Invites You to . . .

To advertise in the Berkeley Daily Planet, call 841-5600 ext. 105.
City Council Will Take Up Soft-Story Ordinance, Instant Runoff Voting,

By RIYA BHATTACHARJEE

The Berkeley City Council has a full agenda for next week’s meeting, its first of 2010, including an upgrade for the city’s soft-story ordinance, a June ballot measure for improving Berkeley’s public pools, and a request that the city manager provide more information about the city’s involvement in state Senate Bill 113.

Soft-story ordinance

The council will vote on whether to revise and bring stricter enforcement of its existing soft-story ordinance, which requires owners of seismically unsafe buildings to encase their soft stories with shear walls. Soft-story buildings are more likely to suffer damage in the event of an earthquake. There are approximately 400 soft-story buildings in Berkeley, of which 320 were especially vulnerable in earthquakes because of their wood framing structure. As of spring 2009, 31 have been retrofitted.

According to a report by the city’s Disaster and Fire Safety Commission, the majority of soft-story building owners are found to be violating the ordinance by not posting warning signs about the structures.

Pools ballot measure

The city will also vote on whether to put a Mello-Roos Community Facilities District special tax on the June 2010 ballot to improve the city’s pools, including relocating the warm water pool from the Berkeley High School Old Gym. City officials are scheduled to present a voter survey conducted last year on this issue to gauge the level of support for the tax.

Omnibus bill

The council will also decide whether to ask City Manager Phil Kamlarz to report on Berkeley’s involvement in SB 113, also known as the Local Government Omnibus Act of 2009, which was signed by Gov. Schwarzenegger on Oct. 11, 2009.

An amendment to SB 113, proposed by the UC Regents, exempts Memorial Stadium on the Berkeley campus and other state historic structures from legal restrictions on building across earthquake faults.

Instant runoff voting

The City Council might decide on whether to vote on instant runoff voting (IRV) during its Jan. 26 meeting according to some city staff. Berkeley voters approved IRV in 2006 and the California secretary of state and the Alameda County registrar of voters have also signed off on it. IRV gives voters the option to rank their first, second, and third choice of candidate, eliminating the need for runoffs.

Councilmember Kriss Worthington wasn’t successful in placing an IRV item on the Jan. 19 council agenda. However, City Manager Phil Kamlarz sent a letter to the San Leandro Council—which is scheduled to vote on the issue Tuesday—indicating that Berkeley is prepared to move forward with IRV in November 2010.

The Oakland City Council has also approved IRV and plans an outreach campaign about how to use the voting machine.

“IRV gives voters the option to rank the number of ballots you cast and the number of candidates,” he said. “It doesn’t treat everybody the same.” Wozniak said that a substantial number of people don’t have their votes counted in the final round, which he described as a significant flaw.

“I works great for two or three candidates, but not when you have 10 candidates,” he said.

New San Pablo Parking Meters Expected to Take Effect This Month

By RIYA BHATTACHARJEE

Next time you want to park on San Pablo Avenue, make sure you have some change on hand.

San Pablo’s new parking meters—which have sparked concern among area merchants—are expected to take effect over the next two months, according to the city of Berkeley Transportation Manager Farid Javandel.

The City Council voted to approve the meters in September as part of a larger plan to help boost the city’s dwindling revenue. Although many of San Pablo’s businesses were frustrated about losing customers to Albury and Emeryville, where parking on San Pablo and surrounding streets is free, they finally relented after some amount of negotiation with the city.

Merchants argued that parking meters would drive customers away in an already challenging economy. Business owners and residents wanted city officials to proceed carefully, saying that the meters would disturb the unique cultural balance of the neighborhood.

The city addressed these concerns by revising its original plan and reducing the proposed number of relocated meters by about 50 percent. The City Council also agreed to poll merchants to see if time limits should be changed to better serve them. The city also informed auto repair shop owners that timed meters would not go up outside their garages, where customers often park for longer periods of time compared with other stories.

Javandel said the city started installing the meters in December and would continue the work through February.

He said half of the new meters were the single-space parking meters that had been removed in the past year and the other half came from areas in Berkeley that had been upgraded to use multi-space pay-and-display parking meters.

Javandel added that installing meters in commercial areas that already have “time-limited parking” helps with better parking management and improved parking meter revenue, which in turn funds city programs and services.

Time limits for parking will remain unchanged unless merchants on each block reach some kind of an agreement to change some or all of the time limits to 24, 30, 60 or 120 minutes, he said.

Parking fees will be $1.50 per hour, the same as in the rest of the city. Berkeley’s parking rate is lower than Oakland’s, which is $2 per hour, and San Francisco’s, which is $3.

The city will begin enforcing parking-meters payments south of University Avenue sometime later this month. The meters near north of University Avenue are expected to go into effect in February.
TUESDAY, JAN. 19
Public Hearing on Boulevard at City Council meeting at 7 p.m., City Chambers, 9th fl., 2000 Center St., Berkeley, 841-7530.
Red Cross Blood Services: At 9 a.m. to noon, at Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center, 1529 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, 548-3991.
Berkley Berkeley Bearband: Celebration for the 90th birthday of Rheda Curtis, who reads from her memoirs of six cancers, three husbands, many loves at 2 p.m., at Open House Senior Center, 1500 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 548-0465.
San Francisco Park and Recreation: Register now available for next spring’s classes. Call 415-703-9840.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 20
Project Greenway Tour of The Watershed: Meet at 7 p.m. at The Watershed Project, 1000 Diamond St., Richmond, 525-6155.
Watershed Volunteers: Meet at 10 a.m. at Western Montezuma’s Wetland Planting at the Berkeley Botanical Garden, 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley, 525-6155.
Tilden Volts: Join nature adventure program for 3 to 4 year-olds, accompanied by an adult (grandparents welcome). Meet at 10 a.m. at Tilden North Meadow. $5. Call 841-6537.
Tilden Mini-Rangers: Hiking, conservation and nature-based activities for ages 8-12. Drop-in or register. Bring a dish to share. From 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Tilden Park. Cost is $5. Registration required: 415-688-0882.

THURSDAY, JAN. 21
City of Berkeley Watershed Management Plan Public Hearing on developing a city-wide watershed-management plan. Current activities, goals, will be reviewed, with opportunities for public comment. From 6 to 9 p.m. at Berkeley North Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave., Berkeley, 981-6148.

SATURDAY, JAN. 23
Destiny Arts Move-A-Thon Benefit: With dozens of dance and martial arts teachers as well as leading classes from hip-hop and karate, hula and more, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Destiny Arts Center, 1000 42nd St. Oakland. Cost is $15-$100. doling website: www.destinyarts.org
Friends of Five Creeks Work Party: Meet and remove non-native ivy and plants on Centro Botanic Garden grounds. Meet at the Sea Side Surf Station, meet at 10 a.m., at the south end of Santa Cruz Ave., Berkeley. 848-9518. www.fivecreeks.org
Crescent City Kite Festival: Meet at 10 a.m. for the kite launch, 11 a.m. for the children’s kite flying contest and 1 p.m. for the open fly. All ages welcome, free. Call: 510-238-9992.

TUESDAY, JAN. 18
Tibetan Requiem: Benefiting the Tibetan Environmental Foundation. Tickets range from $50 to $125. Call 510-655-7888.

THURSDAY, JAN. 21
City of Berkeley Work Party at the Berkeley Botanical Garden. Volunteers will assist staff in removing non-native ivy. Open to adults and children. Meet at the Sea Side Surf Station, meet at 10 a.m., at the south end of Santa Cruz Ave., Berkeley. 848-9518. www.fivecreeks.org
Crescent City Kite Festival: Meet at 10 a.m. for the kite launch, 11 a.m. for the children’s kite flying contest and 1 p.m. for the open fly. All ages welcome, free. Call: 510-238-9992.

SATURDAY, JAN. 23
Destiny Arts Move-A-Thon Benefit: With dozens of dance and martial arts teachers as well as leading classes from hip-hop and karate, hula and more, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Destiny Arts Center, 1000 42nd St. Oakland. Cost is $15-$100. doling website: www.destinyarts.org
Friends of Five Creeks Work Party: Meet and remove non-native ivy and plants on Centro Botanic Garden grounds. Meet at the Sea Side Surf Station, meet at 10 a.m., at the south end of Santa Cruz Ave., Berkeley. 848-9518. www.fivecreeks.org
Crescent City Kite Festival: Meet at 10 a.m. for the kite launch, 11 a.m. for the children’s kite flying contest and 1 p.m. for the open fly. All ages welcome, free. Call: 510-238-9992.

TUESDAY, JAN. 18
Tibetan Requiem: Benefiting the Tibetan Environmental Foundation. Tickets range from $50 to $125. Call 510-655-7888.

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Crescent City Kite Festival: Meet at 10 a.m. for the kite launch, 11 a.m. for the children’s kite flying contest and 1 p.m. for the open fly. All ages welcome, free. Call: 510-238-9992.
If you are a business owner and would like to have a Daily Planet rack in your shop, please call 841-5600.

33 Revolutions Record Shop & Café
10086 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, 94530

All Star Donuts
3070 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, 94530

Brewed Awakenings
1807 Eudora Avenue, Berkeley, 94709

Copy Central
1533 Solano Avenue, Berkeley, 94707

Hidden City Café
109 Park Place, Point Richmond, 94801

International House
2299 Piedmont Avenue, Berkeley, 94720
(Cross street: Bancroft)

Jumpin’ Java
6606 Shattuck Avenue, Oakland, 94609

La Quinta Inn
920 University Avenue, Berkeley, 94710

Local 123
2049 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley, 94702

Lucky Dog Pet Shop & Supplies
2154 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley, 94702

Mama’s Royal Café
4016 Broadway, Oakland, 94611

Mo’ Joe Café
2517 Sacramento Street, Berkeley, 94702
(Cross street: Baker)

Moe’s Books
2476 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley, 94704

Nabolom Bakery
2708 Russell Street, Berkeley, 94705
(Between Cherry and College)

Ned’s Book Store
2486 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 94704
(Cross street: Telegraph)

Noah’s Bagels
3170 College Avenue, Berkeley, 94705

North Berkeley Senior Center
1901 Hearst Avenue, Berkeley, 94709

Pegasus & Pendragon Bookstores
2345 Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley, 94704

Rosie Delicatessen
2999 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, 94705

Sonoma Coffee Café
2131 Durant Avenue, Berkeley, 94704

South Berkeley Senior Center
2539 Ellsworth Street, Berkeley, 94703

Spectator Books
4163 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland, 94611

Templarbar Tiki Bar & Restaurant
944 University Avenue, Berkeley, 94710

The Vault Café and Restaurant
3250 Addison Street, Berkeley, 94703
(Cross street: Harmon)

Walgreens
2661 Addison Street, Berkeley, 94703

Walgreens
2187 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, 94704

Walgreens
2310 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley, 94704

West Berkeley Senior Center
1900 Sixth Street, Berkeley, 94710

Westside Bakery Café
2570 Ninth Street, Berkeley, 94710

YWCA
2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 94704
(Cross street: Bowditch)

A gathering in memory of George Goth, who recently died from complications of diabetes in his home on Kains Avenue, will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15, in the ballroom at the Berkeley City Club.

A PhD in nuclear chemistry from UCB in 1973 and resident of Berkeley for over 40 years, Goth had recently retired from teaching physics and chemistry at Skyline College, where he was an active member and officer of AFT Local 1493. Never forgetting his working-class roots, he served eight years on the city of Berkeley Labor Commission.

He was a board member of the Berkeley City Club, acting as secretary and editor of the Record, and contributed to club activities including the Book Club, the Play Readers, and Actors Reading Writers.

As a member of the Friends of Berkeley Public Library, George worked at their bookstore on Chan

ning Way on Friday afternoons and served on the Board of Directors.

George loved the theater. He subscribed and donated to Aurora Theatre Company, Berkeley Rep Impact Theatre, Shotgun Players and the San Francisco Playhouse and served on the Board of Directors of Central Works, whose original plays are staged at the Berkeley City Club. He attended local theater appreciation classes and performing arts tours to Ashland, London, and New York.

Berkeley City Councilmember Gordon Wozniak, a friend since graduate student days, will speak at the memorial as well as family, friends, colleagues, and associates from all circles of his civic involvement. Please attend to honor the memory of this exemplary citizen who will be sorely missed.

—Compiled by Bonnie Stiles and Toni Mester

In Memoriam

BILLY “BILL” BLOXHAM
December 28, 1933 - January 9, 2010
Bill, former partner in Berkeley Automotive Center and Leif Lindzen Motors,
Owner of Royce Motor Company of Sonora died at age 76
at his home in Sonora, California.
At his request, no services are planned.

Remember Your Loved One
IN THE BERKELEY DAILY PLANET
1-800-550-3X105
GRANDMA SPECIAL
MON. AT 9:00 AM

George Goth, 1945–2009

Zyphra Buckley Cockrell
Zyphra Buckley Cockrell, widow of Professor Robert A. Cockrell of the U.C. Berkeley Forestry School, and longtime resident of Berkeley/Berkeley/El Cerrito/Richmond, died peacefully in her home in El Cerrito, Tuesday morning, January 5, at the age of One Hundred years and 10 months.

Born in Madison, Wis., Feb. 14, 1909, she was the third
and last child of Norma Y. and Mary A. Buckley. After attending Ulica schools she entered Syracuse University where she studied Music and College, with a major in piano music and minored in voice and organ, and met her late husband Robert Cockrell. After teaching music in the Ulica schools she married Bob and moved with him to Ann Arbor where he obtained his PhD in wood chemistry.

At Clemson College in South Carolina the first of their three sons, Robert Franklin (Bob) 1935 was born, in 1938 they came to Berkeley, where Bob joined the Forestry Faculty at U.C. and second son Jeffrey, Buckley (Jeff) 1941 was born at Alta Bates Hospital. At their “first job” in Madison Wisconsin their son Seth Howard (Seth) 1943 was born. Black in California after the war they lived in El Cerrito. Then, Kensington, and all three boys attended El Cerrito (now Kennywood) schools.

Zyphra was well known in music circles around Berkeley, being active in the Music Section of Faculty Wives, Berkeley PTA Club, and was a member of the Alpha Mu Chi chapter of Zeta Xi. Robert Cockrell was an early President of the Junior Bach Festival.

The Cockrells were members of the Berkeley Unitarian Church, and later were founding members of the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarians. In retirement Bob and Zyphra lived in the Kensington home at 85 Highgate Road, owned by Kay and Carl Ken, and then moved to San Rafael’s Smith Ranch Homes. After Bob’s death in 1999 Zyphra moved to Antioch near son Seth, where she finished her 100 year life.

She is survived by her 3 sons and their wives, her two grandchildren Robert Jeffrey Cockrell and Ray Seth Cockrell, her granddaughter Dorothy Zyphra Cockrell, and her great granddaughter Rachel Loh.

On what would have been her 101st birthday, Sunday afternoon, Feb. 14 at 3:30pm, a Rememberence and Celebration of the life of Zyphra Cockrell will take place at the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, 1212 Cedar St, Berkeley.

—Compiled by Bonnie Stiles and Toni Mester


Angelo Caiiff

Exquisite master of language, music, cuisine, beer, life.
ARTS CALENDAR

MUSIC AND DANCE

The Alcyone Ensemble, music for two flutes and piano, at 8 p.m. at Trinity Chapel, 2320 Dana St. Tickets are $8-$12. 347-3864.

Ragtime Skedaddlers at 2 p.m. at Down Home Music, 10341 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 525-2129.

Garza at 8:30 p.m. at La Perla Cultural Center. Cost is $10. 845-2168.

World Famous, 8 lb. rock, at 7 p.m. at Ch bleed Bay View Cafe, 1508 Walnut St. 849-9993.

St Markdown Slim at 8 p.m. at Freight and Salvage. Cost is $18-$20. 841-7761.

Matt Clark Quartet at 8 p.m. at the Jazzschool. Cost is $15. 845-5373.

George Cottolino Jazz Trio at 9:10 p.m. at Altamirano, 1822 San Pablo Ave. Cost is $1. 841-2473. www.altamirano.com

Dogman Joe at 10 p.m. at Bectt’s Irish Pub, 2213 Shattuck Ave. 843-2700.

Chuck Prophet, Brad Brooks at 9:30 p.m. at The Stone, 9 p.m. at The Stone. Cost is $8-$10. 845-9995.

Tangria Jazz Group at 8 p.m. at Jupiter. 841-8377.

SUNDAY, JAN. 24

READINGS AND LECTURES

“Four Writers Read” with Lindy Hough, Owen Hill, Summer Brenner and Alan Bern at 2 p.m. at Berkeley Public Library, 3rd flr community meeting room, 2090 Kittredge. 981-6107.

Poetry Reading with Rafael Jesus González, H.D. Moe, Howard (Jyoti) Dyckoff at 3 p.m. at Jamie Erfurdt Art Studio & Gallery, 1966 University Ave. 843-1312.

“El Cerrito’s Architectural History” by Dave Westram at 1 p.m. at El Cerrito Senior Center, 6500 Stockton Ave. 524-1737.

Egyptology Lecture “Cleopatra as CEO: Bureaucracy and Scandal in the Hostile Takeover of a First Century Multinational” with Dr. Janet Johnson, Univ. of Chicago, at 1 p.m. at Barrows Hall, Room 20, UC Campus. 415-664-4767.

MUSIC AND DANCE

Prometheus Symphony Orchestra performs Beethoven, Brahms and Bloch at 3 p.m. at Saint Paul’s Episcopal Church, 575 Mendocino Ave. Free. Children are welcome. www.prometheussymphony.org

Oakland Civic Orchestra at 4 p.m. at Lake Merritt United Methodist Church, 130 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland. Free. 238-7275.

Mozart Birthday Concert at 6 p.m. at Berkeley City Club, 215 Durant Ave. Tickets are $15. Benefit for Midsummer Mozart Festival. RSVP to 415-657-9747.

Mexican Tardeada, Mexican music jam from 5 to 8 p.m. at La Perla. Cost is $15-$20. 849-2168. www.laperla.org

Mark Levine Trio at 8:30 p.m. at the Jazzschool. Cost is $18. 845-2168.

The Box Eaters at 8 p.m. at Freight and Salvage. Cost is $18-$20. 841-7761.

Celus Agee and Lee White, folk ballads, at 7 p.m. at Ch bleed Bay View Cafe, 1508 Walnut St. 849-9993.
BERKELEY — The Berkeley Public Library is holding three community meetings about branch renovations this month.

In November 2008, 68 percent of Berkeley voters approved a $26 million bond measure that will increase property taxes by $19 to $27 annually over 30 years to pay for branch library improvements. Since then, library officials have hired architects and held many community meetings.

On Thursday, design teams Harley Ellis Devereaux/GreenWorks Studio will hold a meeting on conceptual design for the West Branch Library. The meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the branch, 1125 University Ave.

On Jan. 13, the North Branch Library will hold a 7 p.m. meeting with the design team Architectural Resources Group at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda.

Lastly, on Jan. 27, there will be a community meeting with design team Field Paoli at the South Branch Library, 1901 Russell St., from 6:30 to 8 p.m. to discuss the schematic design phase.

Refreshments will be served at all meetings. For accessibility information or other questions, go to www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org or call 510-981-6195.
the owner to repay the money because mortgage debt on the dilapidated home is about $800,000. The home, in the 1500 block of Oregon Street, was filled with trash, including syringes, rotten food and blood and urine soaked clothing, Hyres said.

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Mon-Sat 10-5:30. Closed Sunday.

Berkeley Public Library Invites You to...

Join us as the architectural design teams present updates on the conceptual and schematic design phases of your Branch Library Projects:

West Branch Library
February 6, Saturday, 12:00 PM at West Branch Library, 1125 University Avenue. The design team Harley Ellis Devereaux/ GreenWorks Studio presents an update on the West Branch conceptual design phase at a Special Meeting of the Board of Library Trustees.

South Branch Library
January 27, Wednesday, 6:30 - 8:00 PM at South Branch Library, 1901 Russell St. @ MLK Way. Community meeting on South Branch schematic design phase with design team Field Paoli.

February 10, Wednesday, 6:30 PM at South Branch Library, 1901 Russell St. @ MLK Way. The design team Field Paoli presents an update on the South Branch schematic design phase at the Board of Library Trustees regular meeting.

Claremont Branch Library
February 3, Wednesday, 6:30 - 8:00 PM at Claremont Branch Library, 2940 Benvenue @ Ashby. Community meeting on Claremont Branch schematic design phase with design team Gould Evans / Baum Thornley.

February 10, Wednesday, 6:30 PM at South Branch Library, 1901 Russell St. @ MLK Way. The design team Gould Evans / Baum Thornley presents an update on the Claremont Branch schematic design phase at the Board of Library Trustees regular meeting.

We value your input! Refreshments will be served.

For accessibility info or other questions, go to www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org or call 510-981-6195.

Berkeley Public Library • Branch Renovation Project • www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org