

**San Lorenzo Library Public Meeting #1
Help Design Your Library
The First of Two Public Meetings
Flip Chart Sheets Transcription**

Date: March 17, 2010
Time: 6pm - 9pm
Location: Alameda County Redevelopment Agency
224 W. Winton, Room 160, Hayward, CA
Participants: 12 community participants (sign in sheet attached)
Resource people:
[please provide names, positions, of resource people attending for inclusion here]
Facilitators: Gloria Stockton (Stockton Associates) and Tim Craig (VBN Architects)

Focus of the the meeting: To discuss residents' vision, priorities, and hopes for an expanded San Lorenzo Library, which is a branch of the Alameda County Library.

Expected Outcomes: Identification of San Lorenzo community priorities for the expanded library. Priorities identified will be summarized and used to inform a second public meeting where design possibilities will be presented.

MEETING FLIP CHART SHEETS TRANSCRIPTION

1

Adjective that describes you and one thing about yourself:

ENERGETIC - working
ACTIVE - community volunteer
ADVOCATE - enjoy being public servant
COMMITTED - advocate for the community
AGGRESSIVE - love and lived in San Lorenzo for 61 years
ANALYTICAL - concern about improving image of San Lorenzo
DETERMINED - willing to work
FLEXIBLE - library expansion enthusiast
EFFICIENT - Retired School librarian with a variety of interests;
San Lorenzo for 50 years
INTERESTED - Love libraries / like to stay informed. In love with a librarian!
INVOLVED - School Librarian interested in libraries
LISTENER - Love libraries and the role of libraries in communities and people's lives

WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT THE SAN LORENZO AREA?

FARMING - WORLD FAMOUS
BOHANNON'S 1940's - veterans from world war II
"FAMILIES" HOMES
SHIPYARD WORKERS

DIVERSE - ECONOMIC

AGE - DEMOGRAPHICS

Hillcrest / Fairmont

SCHOOLS AS CENTER
BUT HAS DEMINISHED

ASIAN - HISPANIC - AFRICAN AMERICAN

AGE DIFFERENCES

DISTANCE FROM LIBRARY

DIFFERENCES IN

-HOUSING IS DRIVER

-CHICKEN

-CLEAN - FRIENDLY - CRIME WATCH

WORKING PARENTS -

CENTRALLY LOCATED

EASY TO WALK IN

NICE NEIGHBORHOODS - CONTINUITY

EASY COMMUTE TO SF AND GOOD HOUSING

SCHOOLS ARE ACCESSIBLE

1ST MERVYN'S WAS HERE - LOTS OF STORES IN THE PAST

LONG HISTORY

DECLINE OVER YEARS

COMMUNITY HAS GROWN

LIBRARY AS CNTER

LIBRARY NOT JUST FOR THE VILLAGE

WHO ARE THE LIBRARY'S CUSTOMERS

BABIES

GROUPS

YOUTH

ADULTS

SENIORS (over 50)

DISABLED (VISUAL, AUDITORY)

ANYONE WITH A NEED FOR LIBRARY SERVICES

STUDENTS (especially with school reductions)

PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT RESIDENTS OF SAN LORENZO
(OUT OF THE AREA RESIDENTS)

PEOPLE WHO USE DIGITAL MEDIA

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY **(2R 1B) (3)**

JOB SEEKERS

PEOPLE SPEAKING NON ENGLISH SPEAKERS **(2R 1B) (3)**

BARRIERS TO USING THE LIBRARY?

COMMUNICATION (not enough) from the Library

TRANSPORTATION (LACK)

HIDDEN LOCATION

SPACE LIMITATION

NOT ENOUGH STAFF TO SERVE PEOPLE

LIMITED MATERIALS

MEETING ROOMS TOO SMALL

NOT ENOUGH MEETING ROOMS

COMMUNITY GROUPS - NOT ENOUGH SPACE FOR DISPLAYS

NOT VISIBLE FROM MAJOR STREET

LACK OF PHYSICAL PRESENCE

NOT ENOUGH PARKING

WHAT IMPROVEMENTS ARE NEEDED TO EXISTING LIBRARY -- WHAT'S NOT SO GOOD ABOUT THE EXISTING LIBRARY?

BATHROOMS - NOT ENOUGH / NOT EQUIPPED RIGHT

COLORS - NOT ENOUGH COLOR

LACK OF EXPOSURE TO HESPERIAN

BUILDING ISN'T AN AD FOR ITSELF **(2R 1B) (3)**

NO LONGER FOCAL POINT WITH ATMOSPHERE

PEOPLE DON'T KNOW IT'S HERE

TOO SMALL FOR SIZE OF COMMUNITY
(as it grows)

TOO DARK

UGLY (garden?)

ARCH LIMITED TO/FOR EXPANSION

NOT ENOUGH COMPUTERS

NO PLACE TO SIT

windows facing east/lack of light

Behind times with technology

staff room too small / kitchen bathroom

room for free publications (not enough)

WHAT'S GOOD ABOUT THE EXISTING LIBRARY? WHAT WOULD YOU REALLY MISS IF IT WEREN'T THERE IN THE EXPANDED LIBRARY?

handicapped door

location is convenient, but need more land

local history + genealogy best in County + needs to be expanded

helpful staff

books

big windows

trees seen from the windows

DESIRED FEATURES FOR THE SAN LORENZO LIBRARY?

Size of library - should be the right size for the community (full size); at the minimum it should meet professional standards **(22R 16B) (38)**

space - feels unlimited

meeting rooms for students and other people **(2R 3B) (5)**

local art display space

natural light **(5R 3B) (8)**

more open when you walk in

windows (example - Washington Manor) that create a sense of space

enough shelf space for collections to grow **(5R 5B) (10)**

expanded local history and genealogy space and display space **(2R 4B) (6)**

Art work display **(1R 2B) (3)**

Equipment for the visually impaired (for reading, etc.) **(1R 1B) (2)**

Bring closer to Hesperian (so people can see it) **(8R 7B) (15)**

TO KNOW IT'S THERE **(1R 2B) (3)**

AREAS FOR CHILDREN/YOUTH WITH adequate separation/accoustics **(1R 3B) (3)**

Sections - youth children, adults

meeting rooms **(4R 7B) (11)**

larger staff room **(1R 1B) (2)**

-Friends of the Library space / separate room

Storytelling area **(1R 2B) (3)**

indoor garden **(1R 1B)**

books horticulture

Book sale area **(1R 1B) (3)**

Computers **(1R 1B) (2)**

Books on tape "media" (eg movies)

Bookmobile parking space

two - story building **(4R 6B) (10)**

get a brand new library **(7R 6B) (13)**

war memorial in front of the library **(2R 1B) (3)**

ISSUES BIN - ITEMS ADDED TO THE FLIP CHARTS INDIVIDUALLY DURING THE SESSION

The building itself should provide a focal point for the community **(10R 10B) (20)**

Library Cafe **(1R 1B) (2)**

a Room For the Friends of the Library

opposed to expansion

END OF THE QUESTIONS PART OF THE MEETING

DOTS PRIORITIES EXERCISE

Participants were asked to review all the notes on the flip charts from the meeting to this point and to vote for any items on any of the flip chart notes that they see as most important to the San Lorenzo Library. The results of the votes are indicated in bold at the end of each item on the list. If there is no indication, there were no votes for that item.

SERVICE RESPONSES EXERCISE

A form with various library responses to services needs was given to participants who were asked to rank the responses most needed in the San Lorenzo Library and those least needed. A summary of the rankings is attached to these notes.

The meeting then turned to discussion, with the following acknowledgements given first.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS --

Existing lease to be extended 50 years

Tot lot not available for consideration? under discussion

Bohanon land not available for free / does not fit their time frame

Expansion is limited to the property line plus existing land - toward Hesperian is ok

Parking constraints on the site

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Image of site

Existing Library footprint

Grassy area - expansion

COMMENTS

opposed to expansion

exposure to Hesperian Blvd.

concern about going into existing bldg upgrade

use of available conterted

MAKE SURE WE HAVE PROVISIONED ENOUGH LAND TO GET A LIBRARY THE SIZE THEY
NEED

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