

# **City Council Study Session: Main Library Remodel**

Pierre Bedard, Julie Crane  
Library Commission Subcommittee



# Proposed Timeline

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City Council approves  
recommendation

NCLA approves  
recommendation

City issues RFP to hire  
Architect to draw up  
preliminary plans



# Goal of Discussion

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That the City Council receive, consider, and approve the Library Commission's proposal for the use of NCLA funds towards the remodeling of the Main Library.



# Resources

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- Page+Morris Library Services and Space Needs Assessment (May 2008)
- Group 4 Los Altos Main Library Needs Assessment Update – Summary of Findings and Recommendations (April 10, 2018)
- Strata Architect 2018 Architectural Feasibility Study
- Santa Clara County Library Strategic Plan 2023-2028

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- Measure L
  - North County Library Authority Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (JPA)
  - Key Findings from the 2019 Patron Satisfaction Survey
  - Santa Clara County Library District 2019 Patron Satisfaction Survey Databook
  - E-Resource Statistics 2019-20
  - Futures Subcommittee Report September 2021
  - History of the Los Altos Library by Marion Abel



# Los Altos Library (1914-2024)



Fig. 7—Head librarian Carol Tefft cuts the ribbon at the new library's doors as County Supervisor Martin Spangler (at left) and Mayor James P. Thurber, Jr., (right) watch. Reproduction of a newspaper picture taken on opening day, Sunday, May 3, 1964.



Fig. 9—Interior view of new building, 1964.



# Los Altos Main Library Key Stats

	Los Altos	Campbell	Cupertino	Gilroy	Milpitas	Morgan Hill	Saratoga
<b>Last Major Remodel</b>	<i>1990</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2003</i>
<b>Sq. Ft.</b>	28,050	26,420	56,250	53,000	60,000	30,500	48,500
<b>Circulation</b> (FY 2022-23)	1,368,546	708,252	2,995,573	561,850	2,291,184	662,455	1,399,081
<b>Gate Count</b> (FY 2022-23)	289,254	91,702	607,403	159,902	428,854	162,717	291,359

825 people visit daily

Circulation is up 39% YTY at Los Altos



# Potential Funding

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- At least \$13M potentially available for remodel
  - \$10M NCLA funds
  - \$1M from Friends of the Library
  - TBD from LALE



# Overall Recommendation

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There **are not** enough funds to rebuild

There **are** enough funds to remodel, if we focus

We have three proposals





# Recommendations

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## • Proposal 1

- Reconfigure and enlarge the lobby\*
- Install family bathrooms
- Address circulation and reference desk
- Move children's area entrance to enable direct access
- Find suitable alternative for holds
- Improve Friends' sales space
- Remediate inadequate wiring
- Improve accessibility

## • Proposal 2

- Proposal 1 PLUS
- Remodel to support limited Open Access space\*
- Evaluate and consolidate staff areas and Friends' space to improve efficiency
- Create acoustic quiet zone
- Evaluate and redeploy library digital needs in computing, printing, and scanning

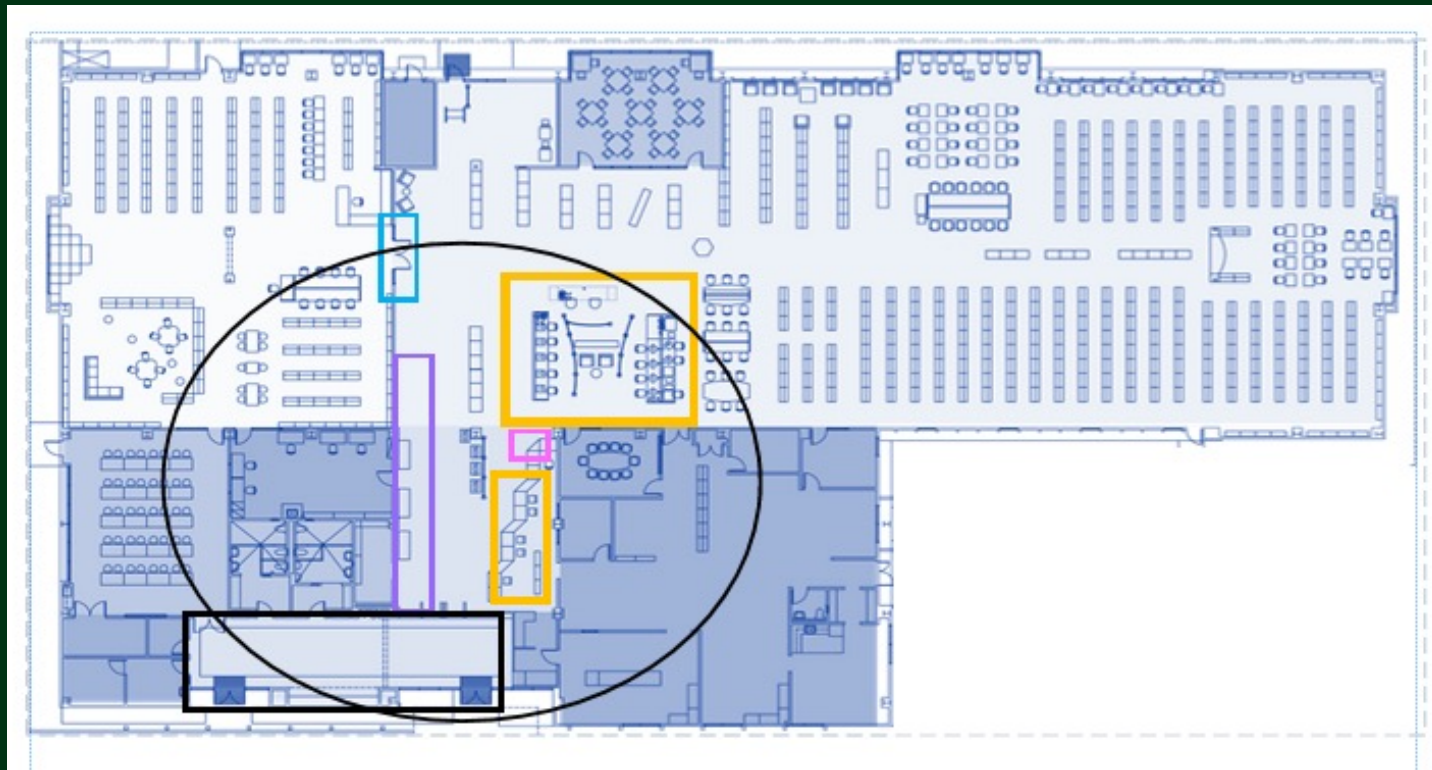
## • Proposal 3

- Proposal 1 and 2 PLUS
- Remodel to support full Open Access space
- Create opening between children's space and Orchard Room to expand useable space

\*Aligns with County Strategic Initiative



# Proposal 1



- Reconfigure and enlarge the lobby\*
- Install family bathrooms
- Address circulation and reference desk
- Move children's area entrance to enable direct access
- Find suitable alternative for holds
- Improve Friends' sales space
- Remediate inadequate wiring
- Address accessibility concerns



# Reconfigure and enlarge the lobby\*





# Install family bathrooms



# Address circulation and reference desk





# Move children's area entrance to enable direct access

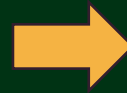


# Find suitable alternative for holds





# Improve Friends' sales space





# Ongoing Improvements

## Remediate inadequate wiring



## Improve accessibility



# Proposal 2

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- Proposal 1 PLUS



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# Open Access Background

Recommended/approved by  
Library Commission – July 1, 2021

Deployed at Woodland – January  
2022

First library in county

Allows for access to library for  
registrants at off hours

Used by over 300 patrons today



## With aim to increase access, Woodland Library opens self-service hours

The program allows approved patrons to visit the library  
outside of regular hours

by Zoe Morgan / Mountain View Voice



Uploaded: Wed, Feb 1, 2023, 1:28 pm

Updated: Tue, Feb 7, 2023, 1:44 pm

Time to read: about 2 minutes



Senior Library Clerk Kaon Fong demonstrates how patrons can scan their library card to unlock the building during self-service hours. Photo by Zoe Morgan.

# Proposal 3

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# Questions

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