

GOLDEN GATE VALLEY BRANCH LIBRARY – DESIGN REVIEW RESPONSES

LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING, MAY 21, 2009

LIBRARY COMMISSION / PEER REVIEW MEETING: December 4, 2008

DESIGNERS: Paulett Taggart Architects
Tom Eliot Fisch

PEER REVIEW PANEL: Carol Simmons, Director of the Daly City Library
Mark Cavagnero, FAIA, Mark Cavagnero Associates

1. A more quiet reading space may be achieved by switching the shelving area and the seating area.

RESPONSE: The design team considered having the adult reading area at the eastern end of the room, and presented these options to the Library during Schematic Design Review. The Library felt that the benefits of having the reading area near the entry and shelving at the end of the room outweighed the potential acoustic benefits of having the reading area at the eastern end. The design team is adding acoustic wall and ceiling panels that will provide some acoustic absorption and match the adjacent materials in the room.

2. "Reserve section" might be better in the adult area.

RESPONSE: The design team, working with the library staff, has relocated the Reserve Section so that it is part of the adult area.

3. Trees in front obscure the building from the street and should be trimmed or replaced.

RESPONSE: The design team has incorporated trimming and maintaining all ten existing trees into the base drawings, and replacing all existing trees with ten new Red Maples as an alternate. Replacement of the existing trees is currently under review by the Bureau of Urban Forestry for approval.

4. Courtyard could use more identity or presence from the street.

RESPONSE: New signage and lighting at the courtyard piers, as well as new pavers in the courtyard will provide the accessible/ courtyard entry more of a presence from the street.

5. Consider covering pipes in the Program Room to match the ceiling upstairs.

RESPONSE: The Program Room will have acoustic panels in between the structural beams that will provide both acoustic absorption and concealment of existing pipes and conduit.

6. While preserving the patina of tradition, the interior space should be freshened up, and made more contemporary with color and furnishings.

RESPONSE: The design approach for the interior space preserves and repairs the existing historic detail (ceiling coffers, cornice, perimeter shelving, and entry portal) and, at the same time, introduces contemporary furniture and lighting that are distinct in their design and materials from the original interior. A new paint plan for the ceiling and walls has been developed to work with the new lighting to brighten the space and give these surfaces a more modern and clean (though still neutral) color palette.