Excelsior Branch Library  
*Facts & Figures*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Year Built</strong></th>
<th>1967</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Closed for renovation</strong></td>
<td>November 2003</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Opening Date</strong></td>
<td>July 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Architects &amp; Engineers</strong></td>
<td>Bureaus of Architecture &amp; Engineering, Department of Public Works</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Contractor</strong></td>
<td>CDX Builders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Construction Management</strong></td>
<td>Bureau of Construction Management, Department of Public Works</td>
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**Financing**  
In November 2000, San Francisco voters overwhelmingly passed a bond measure for $106 million to upgrade San Francisco’s branch library system. The bond’s priorities are to reduce seismic risk, meet modern technological needs and current code requirements, comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and provide spaces that are responsive to current services, yet flexible enough to meet future needs. The Excelsior project had an estimated construction budget of $2.3 million to renovate the existing building, excluding the costs of furniture, fixtures, and equipment, which are not paid for by the bond. Friends of the San Francisco Public Library raised funds from private sources—including an active community fundraising effort—to pay these costs.

| **Current Size** | 8,302 Square Feet |
| **Estimated Users** | 213,903 annual visitors in 2002/2003 (before the closure) |
| **Circulation** | 238,170 in 2002/2003 (before the closure) |
| **Current Staff** | 20 |
| **Technology** | 18 public computers with access to online library services and the internet |
| **Highlights** | *Safe and accessible* |
| | • Seismic strengthening  
| | • New accessible restrooms  
| | • New inviting entry with automatic doors  
| | • ADA fully accessible building |
Modern

- Infrastructure to provide modern technologies and flexibility for the future
- Solar panels for energy efficiency
- New furniture, shelving, and materials displays
- More computers with access to the internet and library online resources
- Raised access floor system for electrical and data wiring

Functional and efficient for staff and users

- Modern book shelving & materials displays
- Updated collection
- Comfortable seating and a variety of seating choices
- Maximum use of natural light
- After hours book return
- Clearer signage
- Express check out machines
- More functional staff work areas
- Improved heating and ventilation
- A designated teen area and children’s section
- Quiet adult reading area
- Flexible program room with adjacent patio
- Addition at front entry improves sightlines, book return & security

Environmentally Sound

- Solar panels on roof that provide the branch with energy-photovoltaic solar energy collection system
- Demolition waste from the project was recycled
- Supplemented mechanical ventilation by adding more operable windows, including ventilation flaps that can be used for fresh air when windows are closed.
- For thermal comfort: added wall, roof insulation throughout the building.
- Use of Solatube skylights in restrooms - capture natural sun light and diffuse it throughout the interior space (reducing need to use electrical lighting during the day)

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City Librarian
Luis Herrera

Branch Manager
Terry Gwiazdowski (Excelsior)

Friends Executive Director
Donna Bero

Location
4400 Mission Street