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MEETING NOTES

SUBJECT: Ocean View Branch Library Community Storytime Meeting
MEETING: March 9, 2019, 12PM
NOTES: April 11, 2019
LOCATION: IT BOOKMAN CENTER

Renovation team: Cathy Delneo, SFPL Chief of Branches; Michael Lambert, Acting City Librarian; Roberto Lombardi, Facilities Division Director; Lynn Maes, SFPL Ocean View Branch Manager; Ramses Escobedo, Acting South West District Manager; Andrew Sohn, SF Public Works Architect; Ailey Simpson, SF Public Works Architectural Associate; Mindy Linetzky, SFPL Manager of Communications and Public Affairs

AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Project overview
3. Library design trends & guiding principles
4. Existing Building
5. Discussion on services, needs, and priorities
6. Project schedule
7. Upcoming & survey

DISCUSSION

What is special about the Ocean View Neighborhood?

- a. Quiet
- b. A neighborhood "in flux"
- c. Diverse
- d. Mostly single family homes
- e. Multiple neighborhood schools
- f. Large population of children and youth

What do you like about the Ocean View Branch?

- a. The staff
- b. Programs
- c. Tutorial services
- d. Public art
- e. Proximity to the M Line
- f. Early afternoon movie screenings
- g. Can have any book brought in to the library for pickup
- h. Community program room
- i. Field trip programs

j. High level of participation in library programs by children, including high turnout for the Summer Reading Program thanks to the outreach work done by Lynn and the library staff

What's not working in the Ocean View Branch?

- a. Need more resources for kids in the community
- b. Need more space and more money for programs
- c. The building feels very closed in and cramped
- d. Many people do not know that the library exists. It needs to have a stronger presence in the community.
- e. The library does not feel safe. Suggestion to create a more defined, intentional entry for safety purposes and to amplify the street presence of the library.
- f. Need more space!!

What services and programs would you like to see in the renovated library?

- a. Suggestion to survey youth in the community to get a better understanding of their needs
- b. Extensive, progressive classes for children and seniors (including technology classes for programs such as the adobe suite)
- c. More space, books, seating, and programming. The library needs more space in order to serve the community and to be a central hub that the community can be proud of.
- d. Suggestion to host programs on multiple days to give patrons more options to attend
- e. Increase variety in collections, showcase new releases/ feature books, and grow the Spanish language collection
- f. Upgrade computers
- g. Suggestion to add a café or coffee cart. The lack of coffee and food in the surrounding area pushes people to use other branch libraries.
- h. Views! The Ocean view Branch Public Library should have views to the ocean.
- i. More parking (through residential permits or new underground parking)
- j. After-hours access to the community program room
- k. Consider adding a multifunctional enclosed space on the roof, which would provide views and 33% more space.
- l. Consider using the library as a command center for information in case of disaster
- m. If there is a conflict with local building height restrictions, suggestion to get a variance or change zoning from Library to Public in order to build a third story
- n. Proposal to build a new satellite children's library on a nearby mini-park owned by San Francisco Recreation and Parks and use the current building as an adult library
 - i. Concern over dividing Children and adults, which would discourage multi-generational mixing.
- p. Suggestion to build up (roof level) or down (basement level) or both
 - i. Concern from SFPL over staffing and security difficulties associated with a 3 or 4 story library.
 - ii. Suggestions from the community to mediate staffing difficulties with security cameras, interactive technology, or intentional programming.
- p. Support for a building a new, larger building.

Do you have any questions or other feedback to share?

- a. How was a budget established before community input was gathered?
- b. What will happen when the library is closed?

Library Use Statistics

- a. Library utilization is changing
- b. Demand for physical books has peaked a few years ago, while demand for digital collections and eBooks is growing
- c. More people are coming in to use the Wi-Fi rather than using desktop computers
- d. Program attendance is high and community programs will be a key function of the library moving forward
- e. Community is attending classes, events, programs and exhibitions – shared experiences
- f. Space needs to be reimagined to support service model for programming
- g. Access to books and computers will be maintained, but in the future furniture will be mobile, shelving will be low and mobile, and laptops will be used instead of stationary desktop computers to make spaces more open and flexible

Next Steps:

- a. SFPL will discuss the possibility of acquiring a new site with the San Francisco Real Estate Division. If a site is found, the \$8.5 Million dollars currently allocated for the Library may be used to acquire the property and if needed, additional funding will be requested.
- b. Public Works will continue developing the renovation plans, including exploring the possibility of adding a third floor in the form of a basement or roof level addition.
- c. SFPL will partner with San Francisco Recreation and Parks to activate the nearby park since it is currently underutilized, but note that it is not a viable site for the construction of a new library.