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MEETING NOTES

SUBJECT: Mission Branch Library Community Meeting
DATE & TIME: January 24 (6:00 PM) & January 26 (12:00 PM), 2019
LOCATION: Mission Branch Library, Second Floor

1/24/19 MEETING

+/- 15-20 people

- Welcome by Ramon Hernandez
- Ice Breaker: Round of introductions by Mindy, project team, and all attendees

Community Discussion/ Questions:

1. Is the wall separating the Community Room and the Lobby on the first floor plan seismic? Can you take it down?
 - a. The wall is structural and cannot be removed. However, some portions will be thickened and others demolished to increase transparency while maintaining structural integrity.
2. Request to have CCTV for blind or visually impaired people.
3. What is the project schedule for the renovation?
 - a. Groundbreaking is expected in the Summer of 2020, construction will take 18-24 months
4. Are any spaces or program lost by bringing back the central stair?
 - a. No. One of the existing stairs will be removed, making up for the loss of space.
5. What is the ceiling height in the program room?
 - a. Approximately 12'
6. Consider placing plants in the Bartlett addition to create a green "sunroom."
7. Consider the need to access restrooms from the Community Room after hours.
8. Request for a canopy over the building entrance.
9. Is there a square footage difference between options A and B for both children's and staff areas?
 - a. The plans are just sketches and do not represent the final square footages for these areas. The Children's area will be at least the size of the current Children's Reading Room, if not larger.
10. Concern over adjacency of children's room with front door in scheme B.
11. Is there a plan for an interim library location during closure or a place to pick up books?

1/26/19 MEETING

+/- 30-40 people

- Welcome by Laura Tarango
- Ice Breaker: Round of introductions by Mindy, project team, and all attendees

Community Discussion/ Questions:

1. Will the new additions be historically correct?
 1. Public Works is working with Historic Preservation Architects, Garavaglia Architects, and the designs will be reviewed with the Historic Planning Commission.
2. Suggestion to show examples of Richmond libraries and other libraries that have successfully put an addition to a historic Carnegie library in future presentation.
3. Suggestion to add plants to clean the air within the space (similar to Bayview Library).
4. Computers aren't currently shown in the design, will these be featured?
 1. Yes, incorporating modern technological resources is a top priority and will be focused on later in the design development.
5. When library is closed, having a temporary location is very important to members of the community. Suggestions for City College to partner, or to use the nearby bank building as a temporary site location.
6. Was the project open to open bidding for architectural firms?
 1. In terms of architectural services, the project is not open to bidding. Architects at the SF Public Works Bureau of Architecture are the primary architects on the project, but the project team includes private outside firms including Garavaglia Historic Preservation Architects and ARUP Engineering.
7. Funding: is 19.8 million realistic cost? Is there private funding that can be added to the project?
 1. Per Mindy, the renovation for the design is city funded, however FF&E will be privately funded for this remodel.
8. Consider incorporating a dedicated "Mission Archives" room.
9. When will the renovation begin and how long will it last?
 1. Groundbreaking is expected in the Summer of 2020, construction will take 18-24 months.
10. Concern over cultural aspects of the renovation: The library should reflect American history, including the impact of World War II and the presence of many cultural groups in the Mission, including the Greek and Irish. The library should also focus on science and technology.
11. During the renovation, will the branch still be buying books?
 1. Per Michael, a healthy budget will be provided to purchase new books for an improved opening day collection.
12. Kudos to building additions and design. Concern over a problematic notch shown in the building addition on Bartlett.
13. Request to show square footages of spaces.
14. Concern expressed over Restroom access control and associated issues.
15. Consider enhancing the area outside of the future program room on Bartlett with a Parklet or Landscaping.

16. Very excited about the renovation and the increased flexibility. The removal of the wide, central stair was a shame. The stair created a sense of anticipation upon arriving in the main reading room. Its removal caused this patron to leave the library.
17. Concern over the stair being shown off axis. The central stair used to represent collective learning and openness to the community. The removal of the central stair removed this communal, processional experience that was once essential to the library.
18. Request for the provision of comfortable family seating in the Children's reading room where adults can sit and read with Children.
19. Access to the library resources, especially Spanish Language resources, during the transition is very important to the community.
20. Request to provide plenty of Bicycle Parking.
21. What is the size of community room?
 1. 1400 SF.
22. Will there be a door on orange alley with the new addition?
 1. No. There is a grade change that makes access from Orange Alley difficult. However, space will be provided for stroller parking and program overflow outside of the Community Room and Children's Reading Room.
23. Concern over site drainage issues where the sandbags are currently used.
24. Community room program suggestions: Chess club, google doc basics, engineering marvels, tax prep...
25. Request for architecture team/ library to actively update the community on upcoming project milestones (Civic Design Review, Historic Preservation Commission, Future Community Meetings)
26. Will the new stair look like the Historic Stair?
 1. The new stair will have qualities of the Historic stair, but will be expressed with modern materials and increased transparency.
27. Request for staff needs to be considered fully in staff work areas.
28. Is there a community group that is involved with the neighborhood branches?
 1. Yes, the Council of Neighborhood Libraries.
29. Interest expressed in learning more about the history of the building.
30. Thankful for the presentation and community process/ involvement.