



# Pacifica Libraries Modernization Project Background

Library Advisory Committee Meeting

May 8, 2024



# PACIFICA LIBRARY TIMELINE



1964: **Pacifica Friends of the Library (PFOL)** was formed.

The City of Pacifica joins the **San Mateo County Library (SMCL) Joint Powers Authority (JPA)**.



The **SMCL JPA** adopted a **Building Projects Policy** to support and partially fund initial planning steps for new libraries.



The **Pacifica Library Foundation (PLF)** is formed.



**"A Great Community Deserves a Great Library"** report issued by the PLF and the PFOL; this report served as a call to action for the community.

The City partnered with the **SMCL**, and the two library groups to conduct a needs assessment as the first step in designing a new library that would meet the community's needs.



The City, **SMCL**, **PLF**, and **PFOL** developed a conceptual design and cost estimate for the new library at Beach Blvd site.



Public design meetings were held by **Group 4** to shape the conceptual design. The **PLF**, **PFOL** and the City conducted a poll to measure community support for a new library. The results showed 60% recognized the need and supported the idea of a bond measure to pay for a new library.



The **San Mateo County Board of Supervisors** authorized funding for library planning for cities such as Pacifica. A total of \$500,000 was made available with a local match of 1:3. To take advantage of the total available would require \$129,000 of City/community funding.

The **Beach Blvd Project** was officially submitted to the **California Coastal Commission**.



**SMCL JPA** continued its support of cities working to build new libraries by adopting a revised **Furnishings and Equipment Funding Policy** that says the **SMCL** will contribute \$50/sf funding for the furniture and equipment for new libraries.

**JUNE** – The City hires an architect to begin schematic design on the library on Beach Blvd

**JULY** – The **Library Advisory Committee (LAC)** is formed.

**AUGUST** – City Council decided to put a construction funding measure on the **November 2016** ballot.

**NOVEMBER** – Measure N receives ~55% of required 66% vote



**MARCH 2017 – CITY COUNCIL DIRECTS LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO:**

- 1. Community Input:** Develop a comprehensive public outreach strategy that engages and responds to the community across both geographical and demographic borders.
- 2. Needs Assessment:** Revisit analysis of library service assessment to refine, document, and communicate findings.
- 3. Site Analysis:** Revisit site options and analysis.
- 4. Service Options:** Develop and analyze service model options, explore alternatives to a single location option.



# Pacifica Library Timeline – Major Planning Milestones

The need for improved library facilities in Pacifica was identified in the late 1990's when City of Pacifica joined a number of other cities and San Mateo County to form the San Mateo County Library (SMCL) Joint Powers Authority (JPA).

Since the late 1990's, the Pacifica Library Foundation (PLF), Pacifica Friends of the Library (PFOL), the SMCL JPA, San Mateo County, and the City have been working together to take steps and plan for improved library services and facilities for Pacifica.

- **1999: City of Pacifica joins SMCL JPA**
  - County transfers ownership of Sanchez & Sharp Park Library Properties to the City.
- **2001: SMCL JPA adopts Building Project Policy**
  - Support & partially fund initial planning steps for new libraries



# Pacifica Library Timeline – Major Planning Milestones

- **2004: Pacifica Library Foundation (PLF) formed**
  - Specifically to build a new library
  - Grassroots, community-led organization dedicated to improving library services for Pacificans
- **2007: “A Great Community Deserves a Great Library” Report issued by PLF and PFOL**
  - Serves as Call To Action for the Community





# Pacifica Library Timeline – Major Planning Milestones

- **2010: Needs Assessment Conducted by Anderson Brulé Architects**
  - First step in designing a new library to meet community's needs
  - City partnered with SMCL, PLF and PFOL to hire Anderson Brulé
  - Report findings show that Pacifica libraries are too small to meet the community's needs and demands for core library services; the collection cannot grow, seating is scarce, and there is little space for programs.
  - Report recommends target planning range of 0.7 - 0.9 square feet of library space per resident (SF/resident), which results in an estimated total need of 28,900 to 37,000 square feet of library space.
  - Pacifica currently provides 0.3 SF/resident



## Pacifica Library Timeline – Major Planning Milestones

- **2011: Group 4 Architecture hired to develop conceptual design and cost estimate**
  - Hired by City, SMCL, PLF and PFOL
  - For site at City-owned property known as the “Beach Blvd Project) at the City’s former wastewater treatment plant on corner of Palmetto Ave and Montecito Ave
- **2012: Group 4 holds public design meetings**
  - To shape conceptual design
  - City begins regulatory processing including Planning Commission & City Council approvals, initial submission to California Coastal Commission (CCC)



## Pacifica Library Timeline – Major Planning Milestones

- **2013: San Mateo County Board of Supervisors authorizes Measure A funding for library planning for Pacifica**
  - City completes Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Beach Blvd Project, including the library site
  
- **2014: Beach Blvd Project officially submitted to CCC for review and feedback**
  - CCC provides written and verbal feedback
  
- **2014 (June): SMCL JPA continues support of cities working to build new libraries; adopts revised Furnishings & Equipment Funding Policy**
  - SMCL to contribute \$50/sq.ft. funding for furniture & equipment for new libraries



## Pacifica Library Timeline – Major Planning Milestones

- **2016: City creates Library Advisory Committee (LAC)**
  - LAC to assist with planning for a new library
  - City begins solicitation process for a developer for the overall Beach Boulevard project
  - City (with input from LAC) selects Group 4 for design of the new Pacifica Public Library
  
- **2016: City places construction funding bond Measure N on November 2016 ballot**
  - Measure N needs super-majority (2/3) vote to pass. Measure N fails, receiving about 55% of the vote





# Pacifica Library Timeline – Major Planning Milestones

- **2017: City with Group 4 and LAC conduct Community Outreach to Collect Input on Library Options**
  - Significant outreach done through Community Open Houses & Workshops, Incept Kiosks, Online Surveys, Digital Outreach, Focus Groups with seniors / teens / Economic Development Committee / Planning Commission / Pacifica Mothers Club
  - Study options for single new library facility or dual facility system
  - Collect input on options for library sites
  
- **2017: Library Site Options Evaluated**
  - 20+ sites as potential library sites identified by community, LAC and City staff. Sites included City-owned, private sites and school district sites.
  - Each site evaluated based on site criteria vetted by both community and LAC. Site prerequisites were: functionality, sustainability (environmental & operational), and best use. The site criteria included accessibility, site capacity, economic impact, synergy/connectivity, and environment.
  - LAC evaluated site options diligently in public meetings.



# Pacifica Library Timeline – Major Planning Milestones

- **2018 (January): Pacifica Libraries Opportunities Report published**
  - Confirmed the current and future needs for library services in Pacifica; confirmed the 2011 Facilities Needs Assessments Report
  - Identified system strategies, site options and operational scenarios for the future of Pacifica’s libraries
- **2019 (May): Pacifica Libraries Conceptual Design Report approved by City Council**
  - Recommends two-branch system for Pacifica, replacing existing Sharp Park Library on same site and renovate Sanchez Library to incorporate “Open Access” service model
  - November 2019: City Council directs staff to continue citizen outreach
- **2020 (March): LAC meetings suspended due to COVID-19 pandemic**



## Pacifica Library Timeline – Major Planning Milestones

- **2023 (January): Pacifica Library Foundation (PLF) disbands & transfers funds to an account held by the San Mateo County Library Foundation**
  - Funds from PLF are held in an account to only be used for the planning, construction or other appropriate activity related to building of a new Pacifica Library
- **2023: Library Advisory Committee re-constituted by Resolution 67-2023 and resumes meetings in December 2023**



Thank You



# A Great Community Deserves A Great Library Report – PLF, January 2007





# Pacifica Libraries Opportunities Report – January 2018

City of Pacifica

## PACIFICA LIBRARIES OPPORTUNITIES

Summary Report | January 2018







# Pacifica Libraries Conceptual Design Report – May 2019



City of Pacifica

## Pacifica Libraries Conceptual Design Report

May 2019

