

REVISED LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

(Amended in Board, 1/30/2024)

[Site for New Library Branch for Oceanview, Merced Heights, Ingleside, and Lakeview Neighborhoods]

Ordinance requiring the City to prioritize the City-owned parcel of land at 100 Orizaba Avenue (Block/Lot No. 7136/060) as a potential site for the new Public Library branch serving the Oceanview, Merced Heights, Ingleside, and Lakeview neighborhoods, subject to environmental review, required approvals, and other applicable laws; and requiring departments to prioritize the expenditure of City funds for a new Public Library branch at that location.

Existing Law

Existing law does not address the location of a new Public Library branch serving the Oceanview, Merced Heights, Ingleside, and Lakeview neighborhoods. The construction of a new Public Library branch is generally governed by the California Environmental Quality Act; the budget and fiscal provisions or the Charter; planning, regulatory, and other required City approvals; and other applicable laws.

Amendments to Current Law

This is an uncodified ordinance that would require the City to prioritize the City-owned parcel of land at 100 Orizaba Avenue as a location for the new Public Library branch serving the Oceanview, Merced Heights, Ingleside, and Lakeview neighborhoods. The ordinance would not require the City to choose that site, and would not prohibit City agencies from exploring other possible locations. Any decisions about the location of a new branch would be subject to environmental review, required approvals, and other applicable laws. The ordinance would also require City departments to prioritize the expenditure of budgeted funds to explore, pursue or plan construction of the branch at that location.

Background Information

This legislative digest reflects amendments adopted by the Board of Supervisors at its regular meeting on January 30, 2024.

In early 2019, during community meetings with Oceanview neighborhood residents regarding the prospective renovation of the Oceanview Branch Library facility, community members expressed concern with the shortcomings of the existing facility, and reservations about the efficacy of renovating the existing facility to address the community's needs for library services. Oceanview residents conveyed the need for a new library branch to be constructed at a new location to serve their growing population. Following those community meetings, the

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Library partnered with the Department of Public Works to prepare a Site Feasibility Report for the construction of a new Library branch at 100 Orizaba Avenue, on an approximately 31,620 square foot lot currently designated as public open space. In April 2022, the Planning Department issued a Preliminary Project Assessment for the project at 100 Orizaba Avenue. During community meetings in June 2022, community members supported the construction of a new Public Library branch at the recommended location at 100 Orizaba Avenue. This ordinance does not constitute an approval of the Library branch proposal, and the City retains its discretion to approve, disapprove, or modify the proposal, as required by the environmental review process and other applicable laws.

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