



San Francisco Public Library

100 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102 - 4733

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 10, 2019
TO: Library Commission
FROM: Michael Lambert, City Librarian
RE: Update on Ocean View Branch Library – Capital Project

At the Library Commission meetings on April 18 and July 18, 2019, library staff provided updates on Branch Capital Projects, which included information about a series of community meetings with Ocean View neighborhood residents regarding the prospective renovation of the Ocean View Branch Library. The three community meetings in February and March 2019 yielded valuable feedback regarding residents' level of support for and concerns about renovating the existing Ocean View Branch Library facility. Community members shared that the existing building had numerous deficiencies including:

- very limited space for physical collections
- lack of adequate seating and study tables
- lack of a defined area for teens
- lack of spaces for individual or group study
- an inadequate meeting room that is unable to accommodate attendees of library events

In summary, community members expressed serious reservations about the efficacy of renovating the existing space to address the community's needs for library services. Ocean View residents strongly conveyed the need for a new branch library to be constructed to serve their growing population and to address the historical inequity in the level of library services available to residents in this area of the city. With the support from District 11 Supervisor Safai to identify city owned property in the neighborhood, the Library has partnered with the Department of Public Works to draft a Site Feasibility Report for undeveloped land parcels along Brotherhood Way.

At the October 17, 2019 Library Commission meeting, Public Works architects will present the Site Feasibility Report for Ocean View. The presentation will include details on the viability of the different sites, along with a range of preliminary cost estimates for building construction. This information and discussion will help inform the Commission for considering additional budget allocations for the Ocean View Branch Library project as part of the FY21/22 budget process.

The current FY20 budget includes a total of \$10.5M in funding for the Ocean View Branch Library project. As part of the FY 19/20 budget, the Library Commission funded the Ocean View Branch Library renovation at \$8.5M for FY20. Subsequently the Library included \$2M in additional funding for the project with Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) revenues that were redistributed by the State of California to the City and County of San Francisco. Library staff is encouraged by the clarity of the Public Works Site Feasibility Report in setting criteria for assessing the city owned parcels along Brotherhood Way and the resulting recommendation. Library staff intends to leverage this report in developing budget proposals for the FY21/22 budget cycle in order to continue building the capital budget for the Ocean View Branch Library project.

We look forward to a productive discussion and input at the Commission meeting.