

Update #22 July 16, 2018

A lot has happened since the DBTL July 7 Update, requiring another update! Settle in to read and be informed ...

1. Interestingly, on July 11, we learned that the FSCPL scheduled *meeting for July 12 was cancelled*. We don't know why (perhaps there were not enough volunteers who had emailed an RSVP for that day). We do not know if the FSCPL volunteer meeting scheduled for July 26 is cancelled ... or not. At this point we're past caring.

2. Meeting with Director Nemitz sponsored by DBTL

Concerned that we could not attend the private FSCPL meeting for volunteers on July 10, I emailed Library Director Susan Nemitz the following request:

Hello Susan ~

As were unable to hear your presentation to the FSCPL volunteers yesterday, we have decided to request a meeting with you for our group (DBTL).

*Our goal is to hear from you about and discuss **only the library** and the process ahead -- not the Farmers Market, parking garages, housing or development of downtown in general.*

Please let me know at your earliest convenience how we can make that happen. With whom do I check on availability of the upstairs meeting room? Depending on time and day, I anticipate perhaps 20 - 30 attendees, although we currently have an e-mailing list of 109 residents.

Susan's response was an immediate okay and we set about scheduling the upstairs meeting room. She said that at the FSCPL meeting she "gave no formal presentation," speaking about "the DLAC recommendations" and "answering questions." I told her that was perfect and what we would like from and with her also.

The DBTL meeting is scheduled for an hour on **Monday, July 23 at 11:00 am** in the upstairs meeting room of the downtown library. Please let me know if you might be able to attend.

Please also note the following two things:

- Although the library is connected to the proposed parking garage, this meeting will **focus on the library**. This is not a meeting to learn about or discuss City parking policy, the Farmer's Market, transportation planning or housing. This will be an opportunity to engage in a conversation with the Library Director, about the DLAC process and what is ahead, an opportunity for her to answer our questions and hear our thoughts.
- This meeting will be cordial and respectful. Come with your passion but leave anger and diatribes at home, please. If necessary, the meeting will be facilitated to ensure it will be a safe place for all who attend.

3. Bratton's Grapevine KZSC 88.1 Tuesday (7/17) 7:30 pm

DBTL was invited once again to be guests on Bratton's radio program. Thanks, Bruce! We will try to focus on the following topics: a) How is the library-in-a-parking-garage currently being marketed by the City's Economic Development Department, b) How is the proposed library currently being marketed by the Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries, and c) Why does it matter? Tune in!

4. Surprise, Surprise!

Last Saturday, two of us attended the [Monterey Bay Community Power](#) (MBCP) festival at San Lorenzo Park. As we approached the MBCP booths, the only non-energy related booth *was a Santa Cruz Public Library display!* Surprise. The booth was filled with *promotional materials* about the library-in-a-mixed-use structure project. Two printed handouts (six pages total) from FSCPL. A large storyboard and brochures from the *City of Santa Cruz*. There were two library employees, one of whom made some not-quite-accurate comments before she knew who we were, first about Rick Longinotti and the [CFST](#), then about [DBTL](#). Whoa! Not surprisingly we cordially engaged with them (for more than 30 minutes).

We learned from them that they were repeating things they had heard, that they had not attended all the DLAC meetings as we had done, and had not thought about how \$23 million is a lot of money and could indeed provide a pretty, revitalized, modernized library if given a chance to be seriously considered. We showed them several statements on the FSCPL promotional materials at the booth that were either unsubstantiated or are things that had never been discussed in public meetings.

We did not have enough time to discuss the brochure from the City of Santa Cruz. We did wonder if it was produced by the City's Economic Development Department. They did not know. I have an email into EDD's Bonnie Lipscomb asking if the brochure is from her department. Tune into Bratton's program to learn if I receive a reply.

After the cordial and productive conversation at the Library Booth, we parted company, shaking hands and thanking one another for the opportunity to successfully interact.

Then we came home, scanned the promotional materials, put them up on the DBTL web site and added rebuttal comments. One may view the FSCPL materials and rebuttals here: <https://dontburythelibrary.weebly.com/fcpl-volunteer-orientation.html>
One may view the (possible EDD) City of Santa Cruz brochure) here: <https://dontburythelibrary.weebly.com/city-mixed-use-project.html> Both of those pages can be found as drop down menu items under the FSCPL Campaign main menu item.

5. Other Building/Rebuilding Projects

Question: Why can't the library be renovated, revitalized and upgraded like other City buildings? London Nelson (finished) comes to mind. So does the ongoing two-story City Hall

Annex building, which is being done in stages so it can continue to function without being shut down. From the [City Manager's Weekly Report of June 29](#):

*"City Hall Annex work continues on the HVAC replacement project. A crane lifted new heat pumps to the platforms recently completed on the roof, and additional equipment was also moved to the roof. Existing HVAC equipment serving most of the first floor was decommissioned. New equipment is expected to be on-line by July 16. Equipment serving the rest of the first floor and half of the second floor will then be replaced, followed by the balance of the second floor. **This incremental approach eliminates the need to have the entire building offline for several months.**"*

Question: Why can't the downtown library be upgraded and revitalized for \$23 million?

We recently learned that the Scotts Valley Unified School District is spending \$42 million to **totally rebuild the entire SV Middle School campus** (built in 1941). Three classroom buildings and the multi-purpose building are being renovated, while the administration building, gym and three additional classrooms are being ***built from scratch***. (Sentinel 7/9 page 2 - \$42 million rebuild of SV Middle School campus). Seems like we could get a good renovated, revitalized library for \$23 million.

Well, that's a wrap for now! Do remember to let us know if you will attend the July 23 meeting with Susan Nemitz. Just click reply to this update as soon as you know.

All the best,
Jean Brocklebank
Michael Lewis
on behalf of <https://dontburythelibrary.weebly.com/>