

Update #45 - The Jayson Presentation, October 27, 2019

Dear friends ~

You are probably curious to know what was presented to the Library Subcommittee last Thursday. We are quite busy working on OpEds, press releases, communications with the Subcommittee, and planning with the Downtown Commons Advocates and CFST to assure we are coordinated with our actions going forward. So please excuse this very brief update ... and then stay tuned for greater detail next week.

A Smaller Better Library

A remodel of the building will require the building to be brought up to code. So Jayson Architecture presented a plan to substantially remodel and *reconstruct the seismically sound two story portion of the existing library structure*. This means demolishing the outer perimeter all around the first floor and deleting the staff annex that now sits in the back of the parking area. The result will be a 30,000 sf new library.

No worries.

The Jayson Renovation Plan Provides Cost Savings Overall

E.F. Schumacher's book "Small is Beautiful" (1973) tells us a thing or two about scale. One positive aspect of this unanticipated decision to downsize is that reduction in overall library square footage while fulfilling all important library functions will result in future operational and maintenance cost savings, also reducing environmental impact.

Jayson's excellent informative presentation, with cost modeling (well beyond anything we ever got from Noll & Tam during the long DLAC process) was also enough for us to glean that there is no way a garage library of 42,000 sf can be built for the Measure S \$27 million either. Not even close. We're thinking that no

matter where a library is built or rebuilt, it will be smaller. Details to follow soon.

Accolades

After the presentation, all in attendance enthusiastically applauded, long and loud. Opponents of the garage library project are greatly pleased with the preliminary renovation project as outlined. More than pleased; we are encouraged. This promises to be a remodel and revitalization geared to *more than we anticipated* -- basically a shiny new library for the 21st century, just what so many of us had envisioned. Wait till you see the visuals (to be available by the next update).

Some Basics

- The plan helps to consolidate the Civic Center by bringing the main library entrance around to face City Hall. New glazing will throw natural light into the library. The entrance lobby is swell looking!
- There will be a larger and modernized community meeting room. There will be smaller meeting spaces also.
- A dedicated Teen space, separate from children.
- An enlarged Children's space with an outdoor garden area.
- There will be space for the Genealogy Society's continued services.
- There will be new HVAC, plumbing, fire sprinklers, and more bathrooms than city code requires.
- Upgraded computer technology, Public Art, new shelving, new furniture, enhanced staff areas and offices.

Right now the proposed layout of each floor is still fluid. This is a first blush of what is possible. This is what Jayson's 11 week contract with the city specified. Should this library alternative be recommended by the Library Subcommittee to the City Council (probably on 11/26), the City will issue another RFP for actually building the proposed renovation project. Then the community will be engaged in the final design.

We'll have more details and some action items for all of you in the next Update.

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