

One more time we come to all of you with a **Call to Action!**

Background

After four months of delays, the much hoped for "detailed" information required of City staff by a Council directive way back at its June 23 meeting ("*Detailed financial information regarding each component of the mixed use project*") has still **not** been provided by staff. Instead staff has provided more generalized funding information, most of it still **based on hope** rather than actual funding secured in order to proceed, and in the case of the library, the information is both incorrect and misleading.

Staff's Summary report of Agenda Item 30 for Council's Tuesday (10/27) meeting is available here: <https://ecm.cityofsantacruz.com/OnBaseAgendaOnline/Meetings/ViewMeeting?id=1533&doctype=1>

Given the circumstances, rather than beat around the bush for financial details, our **call for action** this time is to ask that the Council **abandon the proposed Mixed-Use Project altogether**, not approve the quarter million contract with Griffin Structures, and finally authorize the process for renovation of the existing downtown library!

As has been shown so many times, your individual emails to Council make a difference. They do! The more the better, so just please get busy and know your single letter will count. Your voice will count. Your effort will count. Let's get 157 letters to the Council! Project supporters are doing the same thing. Let's out number them once more!

Below are easy instructions for doing your bit to bring the City Council back to sanity as it prepares to make a huge decision for how to either destroy or create a better post-Covid downtown for all to experience.

Call to Action Instructions

1. Send your email to the City Council (citycouncil@cityofsantacruz.com) asap and **no later than Monday (10/26) at 5 pm**.

2. Email subject line = **Agenda Item 30 Mixed-Use Project**

3. The important messages follow. Pick your favorites or send them all:

- Staff has still not provided the "detailed financial information" that Council asked of it at their June 23 meeting and it appears staff will not be able to do so.
- Staff has given inaccurate and misleading information for funding the library in its Summary Report.
- Measure S funds continue to diminish as explained by the City Manager and it is time to move immediately on a renovation at a minimum, before we lose any more of Measure S

funds to attrition.

- The various components of the existing library building can be restored/rebuilt/repaired/upgraded ... in other words, fixed. It just takes money (we have Measure S funds) and the desire to spend the money to restore 30,000 square feet (or more) of the existing building instead of building 30,000 square feet (or more) of new library.
- The Jayson Architecture renewed and modernized proposal provides the same program space and services, including all brand new everything, as the proposed library in the mixed-use project. One simply has to bother to look carefully at the Jayson proposal. A link to it is provided on the home page of Don't Bury The Library <https://dontburythelibrary.weebly.com/>
- Ask Council to plan for affordable housing projects at the many other city owned locations downtown, projects which the whole community can support, projects that are not held hostage to the proposed Mixed-use project which has been controversial for three years and 10 months.
- Ask Council to create an inclusive and welcoming Downtown Open Air Commons at Lot 4 a reality for all, while also meeting the 2017 Downtown Plan call for a village character for Cedar Street.

You can also Zoom into the City Council meeting discussion of item #30 at **6 pm** Tuesday and let them know you oppose the project. Call any of the numbers below. If one is busy, try the next one.

1-833-548-0282 (Toll Free)
1-877-853-5247 (Toll Free)
1-888-788-0099 (Toll Free)
1-669-900-9128
1-346-248-7799

Enter the meeting ID number: 928 2917 3723. When prompted for a Participant ID, press #. Press *9 on your phone to "raise your hand" when the Mayor calls for public comment on item [Detailed instructions about phoning in to make a public comment are available here.](#)

Thank you for getting busy this weekend -- for the library and for downtown! Feel free to blind copy Jean on any email you send.

Jean Brocklebank (communications)
Judi Grunstra (librarian)
Michael Lewis (Webmaster)

on behalf of Don't Bury The Library
<https://dontburythelibrary.weebly.com/>

