

Don't Bury the Library

Update #51 - April 27, 2020

Dear Friends of the Downtown Library ~

It has been quiet since our last substantial Update ([January 20](#)). We all know why.

This does not mean that nothing is happening behind closed doors. With the current crisis, however, everything has slowed except in the minds of planners for developments in Santa Cruz County. And even those plans, of both city and county planning departments will have taken a hit, economically, when the dust settles on Shelter in Place. For the City of Santa Cruz, specifically, one can read the budget woes in the agenda packet for Tuesday's Council meeting (item 20) here:

[Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2020 and FY 2021 Budget Update Related to Financial Impacts of Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Shelter-in-Place \(SIP\) Mandates \(FN\)](#)

Current Status of Downtown Library Planning

Recall from [Update #50](#) that the Library Subcommittee requested the same assessment of a library-in-a-garage (aka mixed-use assessment) as was done for a renovation by Jayson Architecture. This process went forward in January and Group 4 Architects was chosen in early February to do that assessment. Group 4's report is expected sometime in May. Maybe. We'll alert you once we know that happens.

Meanwhile, all groups who are engaged in plans for a new library that is dependent on being built in a mixed-use structure have been working at home and keeping one another in their respective loops. We'll most likely have more news to share by mid-May. For now, here are several Action Items:

Group News and Notes of Interest

New websites!! Check them out:

Downtown Commons Advocates [https://
downtowncommonsadvocates.weebly.com/](https://downtowncommonsadvocates.weebly.com/)

Alternatives to a Downtown Parking Garage <https://garagealternatives.org/>

Important Events!!

April 28 5 pm - 6 pm KSQD Talk of the Bay

Interview of John Hall (Downtown Commons Advocates) and Robert Morgan (Santa Cruz Sierra Club) about better community alternatives for both parking solutions and renovating our aging library. **Tune in to 90.7 FM.**

April 29 7 - 8 pm Special ZOOM online workshop

Interview of Adam Millard-Ball (Associate Professor of Environmental Studies, UCSC), speaking on the economics of transportation and parking in downtown Santa Cruz, addressing the proposed mixed-use library/garage project on ParkingLot 4, the site of the present Farmers' Market. **Please [register in advance](#) in order to receive the log-in information for attending this online workshop.**

Take care, be well.

Jean Brocklebank
on behalf of your DBTL Steering Committee