Sunnyvale

Modernization and Expansion of Public Library Services

Michelle Perera
Sunnyvale City Council
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Introduction

Sunnyvale Public Library

2024-25 Year in Review

417,108 VISITORS

34,759 Average monthly visitors

35,757 Early Learning Hub visitors

1,601,788 ITEMS BORROWED

98,704 World languages books checked-out

5,014 Library of Things checked-out

110,433 Holds placed

204,381 Digital checkouts

52,731 PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

9,946 Cultural programs attendance

896 Programs offered

285,240 PRINT COLLECTIONS

22,761 Books and media added

+43% Increase in Library of Things

746,007 WEBSITES VISITS

20,344 Public computer logins

47,954 Prints, copies and scans

161,037 TOTAL CARD HOLDERS

19,623 New card holders

POPULAR TOPICS

Adult Fiction
Detective and Mystery

Adult Non-Fiction
Machine Learning

Children
Animals, Friendships

Teens
Pirates, High School

Background

- Library of the Future Study 2006/2007 (include as attachment)
- Civic Center Phase 2 – 2024 Feasibility Study and Outreach
- Civic Center Master Plan
- Ballot Measures

2007 Ballot Measure	2024 Ballot Measure
• $108M bond measure • 116K SF new construction, expandable to 143K • 59% yes votes	• $290M bond measure • 120K SF new construction, LEED Platinum, NZE • 59% yes votes

2007 Library of the Future Study Results

- Children's Services: only 11% of total space (and today accounts for 65+% of business) - lacking space for collections and programming
- Configuration of library limits flexibility (very compartmentalized)
- Technological demands on facility exceed data wiring infrastructure
- Lacking in group study rooms, self-contained teen area, and large programming space

2024 Outreach and Study Results

- 8,000 responses to surveys, outreach contacts, city facility kiosks, etc.
- Increase in programming and event space and more spaces
- Additional space dedicated to children, discovery, and programs
- More arts and crafts programs
- Makerspace and teen area
- More cultural programs and world language collections
- Recreation programs and classes
- Blending of inside/outside spaces
- Outdoor reading patio

Civic Center Master Plan Success Criteria

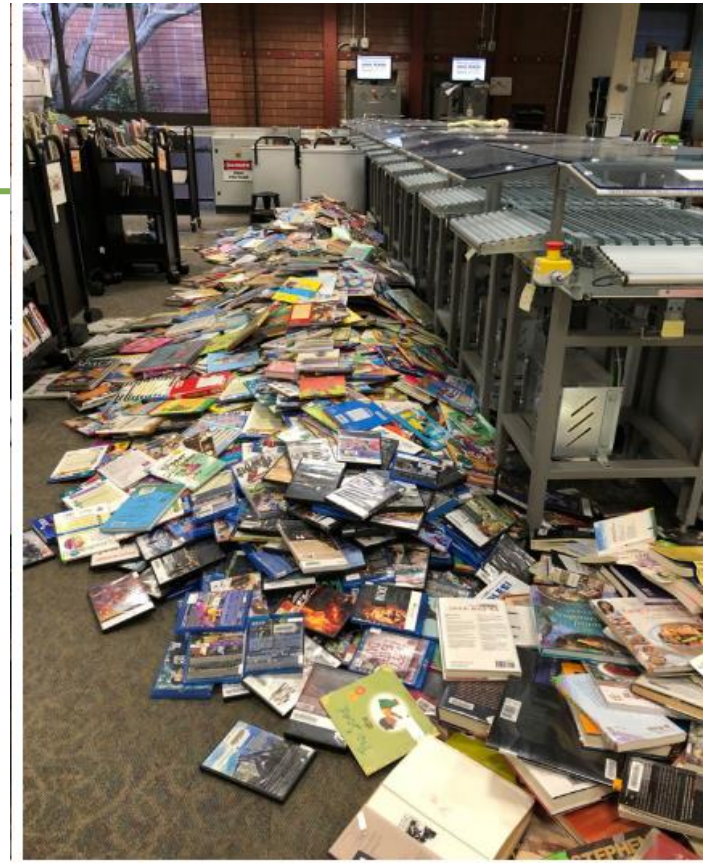
- Improve the Quality of Services – Leaders in New Service Innovation
- Fiscally Responsible
- Accessible to All Members of Our Diverse Community
- Civic and Community Engagement
- Increase Usability of Open Space
- Leaders in Sustainability

What are we Trying to Solve Today / Future?

- Need for new building systems
- Updated technology infrastructure
  - During power outage last year, 2,600 people came to library to power devices
- Increase space for children’s services
  - Currently children's is 11% of building and 65% of circulation
  - Early Learning Hub (0-5 space) – 35,700 visitors
  - Over 500 programs annually

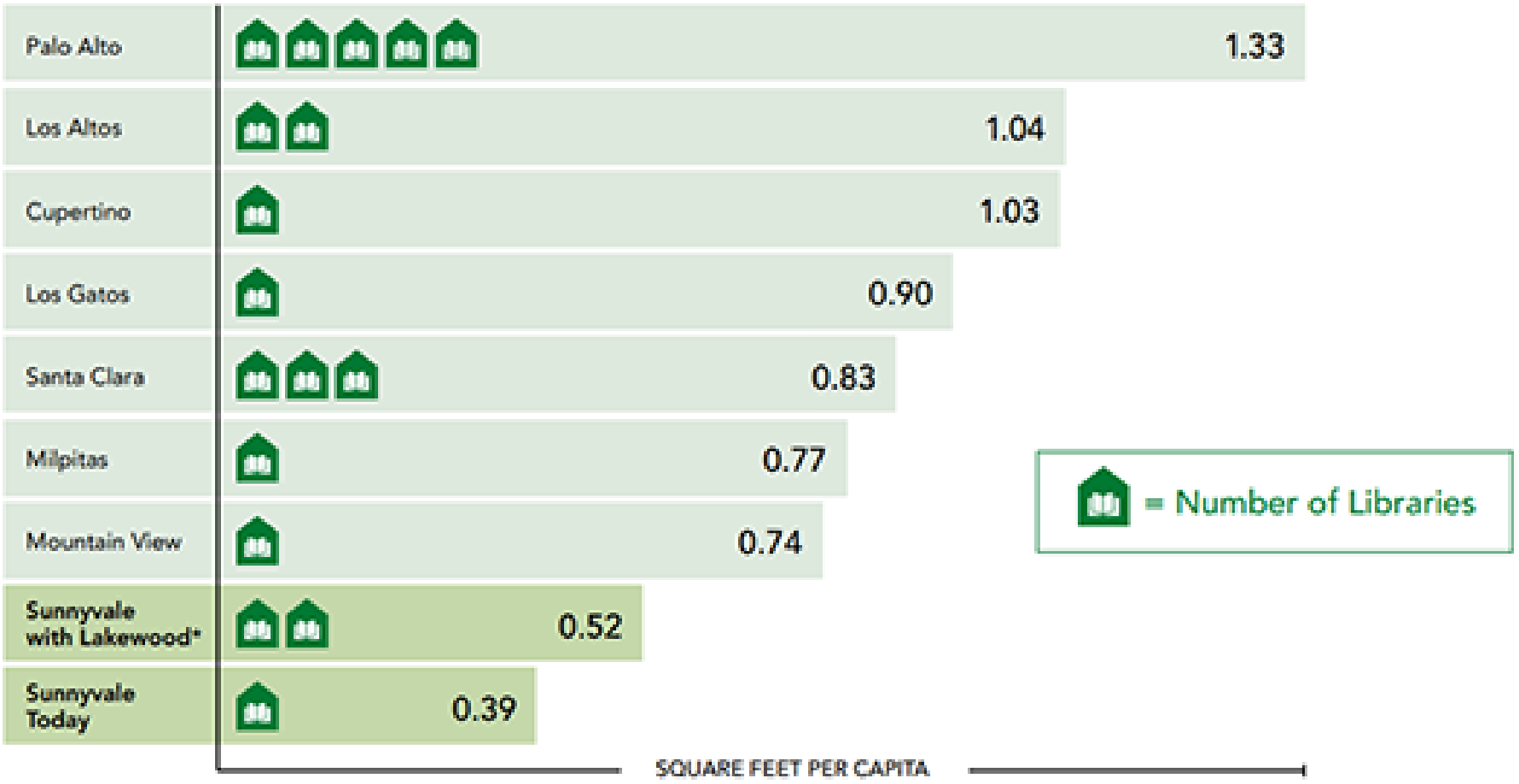
What are we Trying to Solve Today / Future?

- Larger and more programming spaces
- More cultural programming
  - Almost 10,000 program attendees
  - 100,000 world language book checkouts
- "Third space" / Welcoming Community
  - Almost 1,200+ patrons daily
  - Services for everyone
- Increased collections
  - Top 10 items have a holds list average of 104 people
  - Top 20% of items on hold have 48 people



What are we Trying to Solve Today / Future?

- Comparable space to neighboring cities



Critical Infrastructure Needs of Existing Main Library

Do nothing is not an option – new building systems and refurbishments are critical at existing library.

- Plumbing/sewage/restrooms
- Electrical
- Fire and security systems
- Data/power cabling to add flexibility to deploy (not-yet-known but new) tech in new areas assuming space swaps/expansions (ex: expansion of children's into NF wing, expanded/new program room spaces, reconfigured staff/semi-public spaces like literacy, homeless/outreach, rec, etc.)
- [maybe: HVAC to accommodate repurposed spaces (ex: challenge of converting old copy room to study room/offices due to lack of ventilation)]

Options for a Path Forward

- Library Master Plan
- City staff review data and provide CC with building recommendations
- Explore private / public partnerships
- Critical Infrastructure needs of existing Sunnyvale Main Library
- Future of existing Sunnyvale Main Library
- Rec & Read Mobile

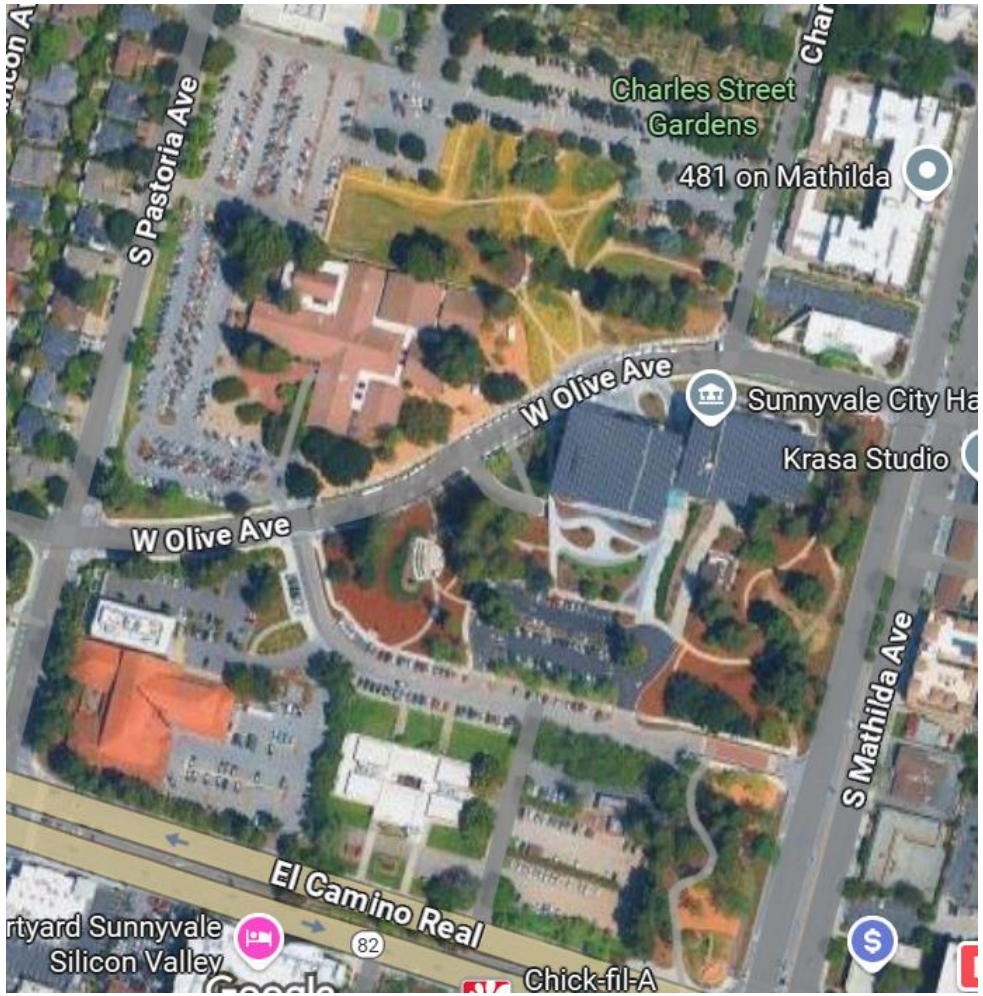
Library Master Plan

- Hire consultant to create a master plan for new and existing Sunnyvale Libraries
- Recommendations new buildings, locations, potential public/private partnerships
- Approx. $350,000-$500,000
- 18 months – 2 years

Leverage 2024 Community Input to Inform Next Steps

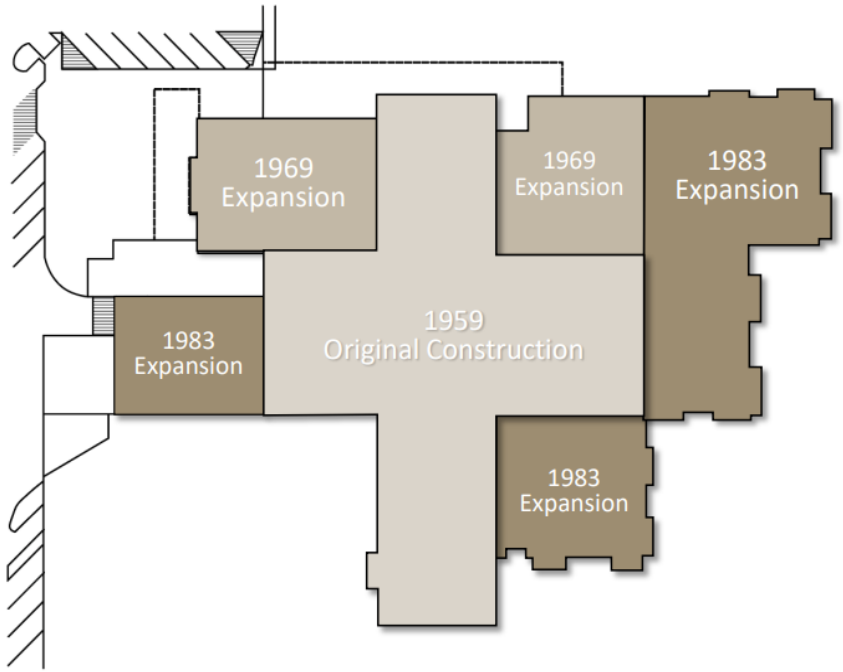
Potential Options Include:

- Lease space – Downtown / El Camino Real
- Public / private partnership – Civic Center Campus
- Branch Library model – Community Center Campus
- Mobile unit – enhanced service, not alternative



Future of Existing Sunnyvale Main Library

- Renovate (address critical needs only and continue with service limitations at lower cost vs improvements/reconfig for expanded children's/program/study/etc. at higher cost)
- Renovate + expand (for benefit of new construction for high value priorities such as new children's wing, flexible program room, and/or tech-focused wing)
- Renovate + temporary location for high priority services (ex. Children's branch/downtown)
- New construction of similar size (60K SF current building)



Timing for Recommended Next Steps

Within 5 Years (assuming funding and staffing resources)

- Operationalize Lakewood Branch Library (LRS & DPW)
- Explore options for leased space (OCM)
- Mobile unit – Rec & Read Mobile, Library of Things Mobile, etc. (LRS & DPW)
- Superficial renovation of existing Main Library (DPW)
- Explore Community Center Branch Library (LRS & DPW)
- Explore public / private partnership at Civic Center Campus (OCM & CDD)
- Develop Financing Options (FIN & OCM)

5+ Years - (DPW, LRS, FIN, CDD, ITD, OCM)

- Remodel of existing Main Library
- New Main Library
- Explore future branch library locations

Financing Options

- Currently insufficient funds
- Options
  - Partial cash funding
  - Debt financing
  - Public-private partnership (Civic Center)
  - Explore new/augmented revenue streams (September study session)
- Next Step Recommendations on Financing – 2026-2028 budget cycle

Staff Recommendations

- Use recent community input as the basis for next steps (no library master plan)
- Explore lease options as a short-term solution
- Explore potential public-private partnerships on the Civic Center campus (may reduce open space)
- Explore a branch library at the Community Center campus.
- Proceed with critical superficial renovations to Main Library
- Evaluate a mobile library option as an addition to other options.
- Evaluate potential revenue options for this and other capital needs and soliciting Council input
- Return to Council during FY 26/27 budget cycle timeframe with refined next steps.

Council Discussion & Questions

- Confirm priority to ensure that library facilities are responsive to demand and need
- Provide feedback on Staff recommendations
  - Prioritize recommendations from Staff
  - Any recommendations Council would like to remove from recommendations
- Provide feedback on potential funding strategies to inform September Finance Study Session