

# Long Beach Civic Center Project Community Outreach Monthly Report

May 2015

Plenary-Edgemoor Civic Partners (PECP)



## Appendix A

### Pine Avenue Business Community Walking Tour

May 6, 2015

Attendees: Organized by Allison Krup w/ Pine Ave. business owners, Jeff Fullerton, Gloria Cordero

PECP met with local community representative Allison Krup, Chair of the Friends of the Lincoln Park, who introduced the team to local retailers in the downtown section of Pine Avenue. PECP paid visit to local establishments who were very excited about the Civic Center project and have a positive outlook in regards to the Long Beach retail market.

The local retailer's visited were: The Den Salon, The Wine Bar, Camden Harbor view, Made, and Bruno's pizza.

## Appendix B

### Library Programming Public Discussion May 30, 2015

Attendees: 60

Speakers: Jeff Fullerton, Linda Demmers

PECP hosted a Main Library programming meeting to include input from the general public on what the new library should include from a programming and design perspective. A significant contingent of the Friends of the Long Beach Library and Long Beach Public Library Foundation were present.

Jeff Fullerton provided the attendees with an overview of the new Civic Center project plans, setting up the discussion with a high-level overview. PECP team member Linda Demmers spoke during the second portion of the presentation, covering the library's internal and external functions and programming from her professional experience and from initial research. Linda ended the presentation by showcasing over 40 library picture samples on how the new library might look based on a variety of examples from around the country and different ways of approaching the same elements of a library, looking for feedback from attendees on what elements were attractive for the local community.

During the presentation, attendees asked PECP questions on what concerned them most with the planned project:

- Process
  - When is the design going to be final?
  - Longevity question: State Building gone, current Library now being replaced, how long will this one last?
  - What is the phasing? What would occupy timing for the new library be?
  - How much impact will comments today actually have? [Reference to the nearly complete design we showed as part of presentation]
  - The website is still open with the survey?
  - Who will handle facilities maintenance (the current library suffers significantly from maintenance issues)?
- Design/Programming
  - What is meant by the marketplace in the diagram?
  - What is the physical footprint for the library itself?
  - What was the criteria used to design Lincoln Park (reference to our ability to move/change size of park)
  - Feeling that the Library is now cut off from the Civic element as it is now in the design
  - Where will public parking be?
  - The Library can be a bigger part of the Park, correct? [effectively implying the Library should be made larger at the expense of the park]
  - Would there be multiple service desks?

- Will there be library programming in multiple languages?
- One comment: I don't come for a view, I come to read. Won't see the ocean with a two story building anyway. One member's response: But then natural lighting is efficient, and the view can be nice
- Too much glass, it will get hot; this is not Seattle
- Don't see the LB historical collection; more archives should be in display cases vs. in storage
- Where you have children, you'll have parents: are there seating spaces for them also?
- An outdoor space for kids would be desirable
- Bellflower has laptop checkout kiosk
- The library needs furniture that is light weight or on wheels to allow for movability through the day and during programming
- Lots of needs for outlets
- Include anchors to secure your laptops when you get up for a bit
- Is the team designing not just for current usage, but for higher usage given the nice, new library?
  - If PECP is successful in activation, if the team is effective in changing the dynamic of the park and library, the new library needs to be able to handle the increased use
  - Not just increased use due to shiny new library, but from new residents from a developing downtown as well
- Need a large auditorium for speaker events of 300 people or more; we have had up to 800 for guest author lectures
  - The auditorium design should be flexible enough to accommodate a wide range of events
  - Need a stage for the orchestra to perform and also storage for grand piano and other items nearby
- Need a kitchen for catering near the community rooms
- Need a bathroom for immediate access from auditorium
- Can the design incorporate a cultural gallery within auditorium?
- Consider a blank wall to project current events for the month
- Outside our Purview
  - Plan to scan the collection?
  - Will there be free parking? 30 min is not long enough validation; should be 2 hours min.



The session concluded with breakout sessions with participants discussing and then presenting what they considered important for a variety of topics. Topics covered included:

1. Senior Citizen Advisory Committee
  - a. Chairs with arms
  - b. Drop off and pick up area
  - c. No long walks to activity areas
  - d. Accessible restrooms
  - e. Nothing on wheels for seniors
2. Pathways to Positive Aging Break Out Group
  - a. Outdoor activities in the park
    - i. Walking program
  - b. Technology
    - i. Real need
    - ii. Bring laptop and learn how to use it
    - iii. Possibly have teen mentors for computers and other technology
  - c. Seniors largest group in the city
    - i. Need create an environment that will bring seniors from all over the city to the park and library
  - d. Programming oriented toward seniors
    - i. Early afternoon

- ii. Senior book clubs
    - iii. Need to feel secure
    - iv. Coordinate with public transportation
    - v. Coordinate with Senior housing
    - vi. Weekend programs
  - e. Accessible drop off location
  - f. Volunteer opportunities
    - i. Intergenerational
- 3. Free Choice
  - a. Make spaces multipurpose and modular
  - b. Technology classes
  - c. Discussion classes – Issues
  - d. Hire full-time Program Director
    - i. They could handle partnerships around the City (thinking arts and other opportunities to partner with organizations and people in the City)
    - ii. Consider having an information desk for community services that can answer questions about the civic center, provide homeless assistance, etc. (would not need to be a librarian)
  - e. Hire full-time Director of Volunteers
  - f. Adjunct volunteer desk, where Friends of The Library and other volunteers can fill fulltime staffing gaps and assist users
  - g. Use collections to showcase uniqueness of Long Beach
    - i. Changing exhibit
    - ii. References to Long Beach’s history in the rancho era, then petroleum era, and now global era
  - h. Provide opportunities for local artists
    - i. No coffee in the library [group was split on this issue]
- 4. Special Needs
  - a. More space than current ICPD
  - b. Space for crafts
  - c. Budget for continuation
  - d. Technology needs to be updated – 12 years old
  - e. Need more than volunteer staffing
  - f. Need space that's good for both quiet and not so quite populations
  - g. The special needs community overlaps other issues/communities (children, teens, etc.)
  - h. Need clear access to front door for ADA from transit
- 5. Children’s
  - a. Craft room with sink
  - b. Open space theater, live and puppetry stages
  - c. Rehearsal rooms

- d. Collections in multiple languages
  - e. Baby section
  - f. International art
  - g. Sightlines for security
  - h. Family spaces
  - i. Programs
    - i. Literacy in all languages
6. Community Meeting Rooms
- a. Furniture
    - i. Folding chairs, tables that are lightweight
  - b. Technology
    - i. Sound systems
  - c. Programming
    - i. Authors, lectures, movies, powerpoint , etc.
    - ii. Oral history by seniors
  - d. Auditorium
    - i. Flexible design
    - ii. Stage – portable
    - iii. Security for events
    - iv. Chamber music
    - v. Performance space
    - vi. Bathrooms for crowds of people
    - vii. Accessible during off hours
    - viii. Kitchen access
7. Outdoors
- a. Public restrooms in the park
  - b. Concrete benches
  - c. Access to library from parking garage?
  - d. Interior courtyard accessed from the library
  - e. Secured area for children outdoors
  - f. How do we keep loiterers off the library patio? Possibly a water feature or planting to separate the patio from the street?
  - g. Reading terrace with low wall
  - h. Security barriers for open space
  - i. Outdoor showering space for public use
8. Innovation
- a. Bring local artists and showcase their works inside and outside
  - b. Blank wall for projection
  - c. Building façade designed to look like a bookshelf with titles visible
  - d. Celebrate book of the year

- e. Easily moveable furniture
  - f. Lots of electricity
  - g. Coffee vendor
  - h. More security cameras
  - i. Bring ocean into building design
9. Residential Community
- a. Walkable and safe, Welcoming, well lit at night
  - b. Community attraction for intellectual and collaborative endeavor such as reading, discussion, learning artwork and historical artifacts, reflecting the values of our community.





# New Library Visioning Session

**Please join the Long Beach Public Library Foundation, Friends of the Long Beach Public Library and Plenary Edgemoor Civic Partners for a community-wide discussion on the future of the Main Library, which will be a central part of the Long Beach's new Civic Center. Your input is welcomed and valued, as the entire Civic Center is being built with YOU in mind. Make your voice heard!**

**Date: SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2015**

**Time: 10:00AM - 12:00PM**

**Location: MAIN LIBRARY AUDITORIUM;  
101 PACIFIC AVENUE, LONG BEACH CA, 90802**



<http://www.pecplongbeach.com/>