



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: October 28, 2008

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Library Administration, Library Department

SUBJECT: Presentation By The Junior League And Library Staff Regarding A Partnership With The Library For Design And Renovation Of A New Children's Room

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive a presentation by the Junior League and Library staff on a partnership to design, renovate and relocate the Children's room of the Central Library.

DISCUSSION:

The Junior League of Santa Barbara and the Santa Barbara Public Library plan to enter into a partnership to provide volunteers, materials and funds to support a renovation of the Central Library's children's area and to enhance programming to strengthen youth literacy in Santa Barbara.

The Central Library was last renovated in 1980. At that time, use of the Central Library by children was declining and limited space was dedicated to youth services. In the past decade, Library staff has seen a steady increase in the number of children using the Central Library and an increasing demand for related materials and services. The current space allocated for children is seriously inadequate. This renovation project will result in the creation of a first-class new space to serve an important segment of the community.

The Library Department will use monies from a trust account to fund the construction of family friendly bathrooms and the City will contribute funds for new carpet through the building maintenance fund. The Junior League of Santa Barbara is preparing a fundraising campaign to support the remainder of the project.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

For the planned renovation of the Children's room whenever possible, staff will evaluate the use and cost of recycled materials such as bathroom tiles and flooring, environmentally responsible carpet and paints, and other sustainable fittings and fixtures. Library staff will work with the Facilities Manager in order to use sustainable materials wherever possible.

Council Agenda Report
Presentation By The Junior League And Library Staff Regarding A Partnership With The
Library For Design And Renovation Of A New Children's Room
October 28, 2008
Page 2

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