

INTRODUCTION

In order to address immediate facility needs and to plan for future library improvements in a meaningful way, the Library undertook a comprehensive, year-long, community-based planning process.



Extensive stakeholder participation

Planning For Today and Tomorrow

In order to address immediate facility needs and to plan for future library improvements in a meaningful way, the Library undertook a comprehensive, year-long, community-based planning process. This planning process consisted of several components, including:

- *An evaluation and analysis of existing library service, programs, and facilities.*
- *A needs assessment which compared existing library services and facilities to community needs through the year 2020 based on future population growth and demographics, current library use patterns, appropriate collection sizes, and space needs in modern libraries.*
- *A strategic visioning workshop that explored current trends in library service and developed a vision of the future role the library should play in the communities it serves.*
- *An evaluation and analysis of potential library sites and the formulation of site development strategies for new and improved library facilities (along with corresponding implementation schedules and estimated project costs).*
- *Extensive community participation from hundreds of library customers, library staff, and community leaders, including:*
 - 1500 customer satisfaction surveys completed
 - 4000 customers' library usage patterns mapped
 - 20 focus groups attended by over 500 county residents
 - 15 meetings with nearly 50 community leaders
 - 7 staff interview sessions attended by 65 staff members

This Facilities Master Plan is a Roadmap for the Future

This document, the Solano County Library Facilities Master Plan is the result of the comprehensive planning process described above. This Facilities Master Plan makes recommendations for meeting the need for library services and facilities through the year 2020 in all of the communities the Library serves. The Facilities Master Plan is organized into seven sections:

Introduction: the need for and objectives of the Facilities Master Plan.

The Need: evaluation of existing library services and facilities.

The Recommendation: description of recommended improvements to existing library services and site development strategies for new and improved library facilities to meet both immediate and future needs.

This Facilities Master Plan makes recommendations for meeting the need for library services and facilities through the year 2020 in all of the communities the Library serves.

Implementation: discussion of project phasing, estimated project costs, funding strategies, and next steps.

Community Participation: overview of the planning process and community feedback that was used to develop the Facilities Master Plan.

City Summaries: profiles of the specific opportunities and challenges in each of the communities that the Library serves.

Appendix: acknowledgements, listing of community members and resources consulted during the planning process, detailed summaries of findings from surveys, customer usage pattern mapping, and costs analysis of the Facilities Master Plan recommendations.

Summary of the Facilities Master Plan Recommendations

In order to meet immediate and future needs for library services in Solano County, *this Facilities Master Plan recommends that one existing facility be renovated, two existing facilities be expanded, three existing facilities be relocated, and seven new branches be constructed* over the next twenty years. These recommendations are summarized below:

- *Renovate the existing Fairfield-Suisun Community Library.*
- *Expand the existing Vacaville Public Library and Rio Vista Library.*
- *Relocate the Springstowne Library and John F. Kennedy Library in Vallejo as well as the Suisun City Library into newer and more strategically placed facilities.*
- *Add seven new branch libraries in areas where no library service currently exists but where recent community growth has occurred, or where future community growth is anticipated, including:*
 - Cordelia
 - North Fairfield
 - Northeast Fairfield
 - North Vacaville
 - Downtown Vacaville
 - Northeast Vallejo
 - Northwest Vallejo

These recommendations were tailored to meet the specific needs of each of the communities that the Library serves. At the same time, the recommendations were formulated within a regional framework in order to bring library services throughout the county up to parity in a strategic and coordinated way. Finally, the recommendations are intended to be flexible so that they can be adjusted to respond to emerging opportunities and changing circumstances that arise in the future.

This Facilities Master Plan recommends that one existing facility be renovated, two existing facilities be expanded, three existing facilities be relocated, and seven new branches be constructed to meet the need for library services over the next twenty years.