

## LIBRARY SERVICES

For your convenience, we have provided space below for your answers. If you choose to answer these questions in the form of a letter, please number your responses to correspond to the questions. We would very much appreciate a response by Friday, June 12, 2009. Please return the completed questionnaire to Jaime Murillo in the Planning Department at [JMurillo@city.newport-beach.ca.us](mailto:JMurillo@city.newport-beach.ca.us).

- 1. Please evaluate the following statement for accuracy. If any of the information contained in the text below is incorrect or should be updated, please indicate the needed revisions below.**

The Newport Beach Public Library (NBPL) consists of a Central Library and three branch library facilities located throughout the City. The Central Library located on Avocado Avenue, opened in 1994. The Central Library is 54,000 square feet with parking for 210 vehicles on a 4 acre site. The Donna & John Crean Mariners Branch Library is a 15,500 square-foot building that provides library service to the Mariners Elementary School as well as to the public. The Crean Mariners Branch opened in 2006 at 1300 Irvine Avenue replacing the branch previously located on Dover Drive. The Balboa Branch located on the Balboa Peninsula at 100 East Balboa Boulevard, is a 6,000 square foot building that dates back to 1929. The Corona Del mar Branch located at 420 Marigold Avenue is 3,795 square feet and was originally built in 1959.

The NBPL system is currently staffed by approximately 90 employees. The four libraries serve 71,784 active borrowers. The system circulates over 1,701,400 items and over 1,239,700 people visit the libraries in the NBPL system annually.

- 2. Typically, libraries assess their needs on a ratio of volumes or square feet per measure of population. How does the Newport Beach Public Library assess library needs?**

The Newport Beach Public Library assesses library needs based on indicators that demonstrate actual use of the library rather than a ratio of volumes or square feet per measure of population. These indicators account for customer activity within the library and include statistics derived from door counts, activities in the building (such as program attendance, customer training, or use of the facility by outside groups), computer use within the library, overall circulation of library materials, and reference questions. The library reports these indicators within the following categories: circulation statistics; statistics documenting reference transactions; statistics which measure customers served in the library; and program attendance. The library uses these statistical categories as a basis for assessing the library's ability to adequately serve our customers.

- 3. Does the Newport Beach Public Library currently have adequate library services to serve the City's population? How is this determined?**

No, the Library does not adequately serve the City of Newport Beach because of the unanticipated growth in the City's population.

The population of Newport Beach has increased steadily since 1994, when the Central Library first opened. In 1990, the city's total population was **66,643**. According to the 2000 Census, the city's population grew to **70,032**. In 2007, the Census Bureau estimate of the city's population was **89,125**. This figure includes the population of Newport Coast, which was annexed by the city in 2002.

<b>Newport Beach, CA Population Change 1990-2007</b>			
City of Newport Beach, CA	Total Population	Population Under Age 18	% of Population Under Age 18
1990	66,643	8,869	13.3
2000	70,032	11,014	15.7
2007	89,125	17,791	19.9
Data from American Factfinder, U.S. Census Bureau ( <a href="http://factfinder.census.gov/">http://factfinder.census.gov/</a> ). Accessed on 06/02/2009.			

Library statistics documenting customer activity within the library parallel the population statistics for the city of Newport Beach and indicate that the number of customers served in the library continues to grow. Statistics for fiscal year 2007/08 show that number of customers served within the library annually has increased by over 33% since fiscal year 1999/00. Program attendance, which includes programming devoted to juvenile customers, is also growing: the number of customers attending library programs, training, and events in fiscal year 2007/08 has increased 45% from fiscal year 1999/00. Similarly, circulation statistics show an increase of 27% since fiscal year 1999/00.

**4. How was it determined that the Central Library Children’s Department would need to be expanded to accommodate the increasing child population in the community?**

In 1990, the city’s total population was **66,643**, of which **8,869** were children under the age of 18. This figure represented **13.3%** of the total population. According to the 2000 Census, the number of children under 18 also increased in size to **11,014**, or **15.7%** of the total population.

In 2007, of a total population of **89,125**, there were **17,791** children under age 18. This figure was **19.9%** of the total population. The number of children under 18 nearly doubled in size from 1990-2007. This figure includes the population of Newport Coast, which was annexed by the city in 2002. Furthermore, the percentage of this age group to the overall population increased as well. These figures are included in the table above.

Children’s materials account for 33% of all checkouts:

<b>TOTAL CHECKOUTS (year-to-date)</b>		<b>TOTAL CHECKOUTS OF JUVENILE MATERIALS (year-to-date)</b>	
Branch	Checkouts	Branch	Checkouts
CL	777,958	CL	238,331
MAR	286,171	MAR	121,377
BAL	69,212	BAL	18,180
CDM	40,989	CDM	8,900
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,174,330</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>386,788</b>

The Children's Room at the Central Library does not adequately serve the community. The Children's Room contains the collection, computers, staff, and seating, a story time room, and an outdoor children's garden. The Children's Room is too small for the number of parents and children using the Library today. There are only five chairs for adults plus one two-seater couch. Additional space is needed to allow for seating where adults and children can interact, look at books and read. There are tables and chairs sized for children but too few of them to accommodate a class visit from a school.

The story time room comfortably accommodates up to twenty-five adults and children while the programs often attract forty or more people. There were twenty-six story times held in this room during the month of May, 2009. A new story time room would provide a larger venue for programs and events. Currently, special events for children are held in the Friends Meeting Room on the other side of the Library instead of the children's area.

5. **Because the proposed project, in addition to the expansion of the Central Library, includes the relocation of existing City Hall uses and reuse of the existing City Hall structures, it is anticipated that the proposed project would result in a net increase of 295 employees within the City. No residential units are proposed as part of the project. Would the project substantially increase demand for library services?**

The proposed project will definitely increase demand for library services. The Central Library will have a greater physical presence in the City with its new connection to City Hall. Residents who come to City Hall will find it easy and convenient to also visit the Library, especially with a shared parking facility. An increase in the number of customers and first time users is expected.

The Central Library provides informational services and delivery of materials to City employees. Many City Hall employees use the Central Library; this is expected to increase because of the close proximity to City Hall.

6. **Would the project create a further need to expand existing and planned library facilities or staff, construct a new facility, or otherwise adversely impact the types of services you provide?**

An adverse impact to the Central Library is not expected.

7. **Based on the information provided above, would the proposed project adversely affect library services near the project area? If yes, can you recommend any measures for mitigating project impacts that might be incorporated into the project?**

It is not expected that library services will be negatively impacted by the City Hall and Park Design project.

8. **Please provide any additional comments or questions you would like to see addressed in the environmental assessment for this project.**

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_