

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council		Item ID	10140	Agenda Number	17.
Meeting Date:	10/20/2011			Department:	Library
Subject					
Approve the schematic design for the New Central Library Project and authorize the City Manager to proceed with the design development phase of the project.					
Amount and Source of Funding					
Fiscal Note					
A fiscal note is not required.					
Purchasing Language:					
Prior Council Action:	February 14, 2008 - Site designated for the project; March 6, 2008 – Designated Construction Manager at Risk as Project Delivery Method; March 25, 2008 - Authorized selection process for the design team; December 11, 2008 - Selection of Architect; December 17, 2009 - Selection of Commissioning Agent; July 29, 2010 - Selection of the Construction Manager at Risk; December 9, 2010 – Approved Architectural Building Program Narrative.				
For More Information:	Cynthia D. Jordan, 974-7183; John W. Gillum, 974-7495; Susan Garnett, 974-7064				
Boards and Commission Action:	Reviewed by the Library Commission & Design Commission on September 26, 2011. To be reviewed by the Downtown Commission on October 19, 2011.				
MBE / WBE:					
Related Items:					
Additional Backup Information					

This project is a new central library to be located on W. César Chávez Street which will house the collections and programs presently located in the John Henry Faulk Central Library. On February 14, 2008, City Council selected the Seaholm South Substation site for the new Central Library. This site will offer tremendous possibilities due to its location as a bookend to the 2nd Street Retail District, its adjacency to Shoal Creek and the expected popularity of the destination as the western gateway to downtown.

On December 9, 2010, the City Council approved the Architectural Building Program Narrative which resulted in a new definition for Austin's New Central Library – a "Library for the Future".

The key concept of "The Library for the Future" model is creating flexible spaces that can be readily changed as Library needs evolve. Rather than building isolated spaces to serve a single purpose, our Library for the Future provides blended, multi-use spaces; such as a Children's Story Time Area which also can be used as a reading, study or laptop computer use space when no children's programs are scheduled. Libraries for the Future are characterized by:

- Serving as a community gathering place that promotes education through conversation;
- A focus on electronic delivery of information;
- Providing state of the art technologies;
- Buildings which are sustainable;
- Mixtures of both lively and contemplative spaces;
- Collections displayed to encourage discovery.

The design team has created an exciting Schematic Design for the New Central Library by utilizing the Library for the Future model, the City's Urban Design Guidelines, and the Council's charge to design a building that captures Austin's unique natural beauty. It will be a destination that embraces the connectivity to Shoal Creek, a place full of technology that inspires discovery, and that is reflective of Austin's culture and diversity. The facility will include:

- Approximately 192,000 gross square feet;
- Three building entrances (Cesar Chavez, Shoal Creek Hike & Bike Trail, and 2nd Street);
- A café to be operated by a third party vendor;
- A large technology rich, multi-purpose special events center for up to 350 people, complete with catering capabilities;
- A bicycle porch to house 200+ bicycles;
- A boutique outlet of the library's Recycled Reads Bookstore;
- A beautifully day-lit atrium that is the center of activities for the Library;
- Multiple customer service locations, including ample self check-out stations;
- A great reading room;
- Two outdoor reading porches;
- A rooftop garden;
- Improved and enhanced collections of books and multi-media materials;
- Specially designed Children and Teen spaces;
- Seating for approximately 500 people throughout;
- State-of-the-art technologies disbursed throughout the building;
- Multiple technology rich, flexible meeting spaces to accommodate 4 to 30 occupants;
- Library support staff spaces;
- A delivery and materials handling area;
- An area for recycling;
- 200-space underground parking garage.

Additionally, the New Central Library will surpass the requirement of LEED™ Silver Certified. The current sustainable elements included are:

- Connection to Downtown District Cooling System;
- Reduced area of conditioned space using large outdoor porches;
- Extensive daylighting with glazing, internal atrium, reflectors to bounce light deep into the building, and daylighting of garage;

- 13% of building energy demands with rooftop Solar Photovoltaic Collectors;
- Overall water use 35% less than typical;
- Large rainwater collection system for irrigation, toilet flushing, low flow urinals;
- Planned connection to future reclaimed water system;
- Green Roof;
- Strong indoor/outdoor connection with emphasis on views to Ladybird Lake and Shoal Creek;
- Drought tolerant plant palette;
- Interior planted living wall.

Two independent estimates were performed and the project remains within budget.

The project team seeks City Council's approval of the schematic design and authorization to proceed with the design development phase of the New Central Library design.

This project is managed by the Public Works Department.