



- Like the booths
- Do not like the red walls
- Love the vending machines in Teen Space



- Seats look too small to study
- Do not like the lighting
- Like the moveable projection screen



A New Central Library



- Windows are too high up and too small
- Do not like the LCD screen in the table seating area – it is distracting
- Furniture looks uncomfortable and too light colored



- Ceilings are too high
- Love the booths
- Love the colored walls
- Like the high table seating

Memorandum of Meeting

To: Austin Central Library Team

From: Kelly Brubaker, Shepley, L|F / Shepley Joint Venture

Subject: ALIS and CTM

Project No: 3860.00

Date: November 12, 2009

Attendees:	Cynthia Jordan, COA	John Gillum, Library Facilities
	Heidi Ruiz, Library Facilities	Kelly Brubaker, Shepley Bulfinch
	Hilary Mattison, Shepley Bulfinch	Lisa Moore, CTM
	Ronny Mack, CTM	Walker Guthrie, CTM, Consulting

I. General

- a. Shell space is a challenge for infrastructure for future program use, it's important that useful and well-planned cores are established in both built-out and shell space.
- b. CTM will plan for change and flexibility and access to cores, ceilings, etc
- c. Need to manage space in the building core for utilities, phone, IT, etc to help provide future flexibility

II. Function of CTM

- a. City wide
- b. Serves wide area network and participates on all new construction projects
- c. Provide help with adjacencies, programming and environmental requirements based on the customers IT requirements
- d. Worked with Cindy Jordan on all branch libraries – team design network
- e. Works to support ALIS's needs on the project
- f. Supports all cabling to the library at the capacity required, includes phone and IT needs

III. Function of ALIS

- a. Library- wide
- b. Supports all wiring in the building, all computers in the building
- c. Serves staff and public in the building, maintains the wireless systems in the library

IV. Proposed

- a. Evolving security and building automation as integrated in one system, understanding the requirements of each and how they will work together
 - i. Start thinking about main cabling pathways upfront
 - ii. Building Management System on cables, understanding how the current Trane system works and how the new system will work
 - iii. Stay with the current Trane building controls or compatible equipment that can still be serviced with contracts typical to the existing contracts
 - iv. Need to work with security to located controllers and area network locations
- b. Technical Requirements



- i. Currently every division in library is looking at their needs for spaces, not overall technologies
- ii. Operational changes will occur over time and team will identify changes. It is important that the system is adaptable
- iii. Currently ALIS Staff is located to support public on the floors, maintaining that connection is important.
- iv. IT and Librarians to be located adjacent to one another, this could help getting the most appropriate assistance as quickly as possible.
 - 1. Provides access to IT
 - 2. (eg) in the Future IT could teach a class on web development
 - 3. IT will have a more active presence, a more visible presence for the public
- c. Digital signage – way to leverage investment and technology. This could be considered or a digital art installation in the technology center.

V. Goals and Concerns

- a. CTM will support and provide services to the Library IT Vision
 - i. Will help organize and provide services for Library IT
 - ii. Technology will drive opportunities and adjacencies
- b. Concept of a new library is challenging for technology because of new architectural design
 - i. (eg) Seattle is a large open space – problematic for cabling, service
 - ii. Potentially there is a new way of delivering information to staff – possibly wireless – to see how paging and calling staff who are within the building could work to improve service.
 - iii. Team needs to understand design layouts early enough in the process that they can comment
 - iv. Security and monitoring
 - 1. Bring in security consultant early on in the design process
 - 2. Proposed cameras need to interface seamlessly with the overall IT system
- c. Questions to be addressed
 - i. Will there be the capability for news and radio production?
 - 1. Auditorium would allow for major telecommunication presence
 - ii. What can be co-located?
 - iii. Should the building be wired or geared more for portable equipment?
 - iv. Provide technology in spaces for the public to physically touch? Currently this is a problem, if the public can touch any piece of technology they tend to pull cables apart or destroy it (especially staff technology or lookup technology, this was a problem in City Hall)
 - v. What are the director's expectations?
 - vi. What is the future of digital media? - (eg from library staff) Dell was concerned with absence of it in library facilities in general, who will articulate this need so that it can be appropriately designed?

VI. Technology Equipped Locations

- a. Tech Center
 - i. Part of it to operate longer hours than the library - ideally open at 8:00am
 - ii. Enclosed space – to address concerns about sound and security
 - iii. Provide large number of public computer stations and a lounge area to check out laptops. Laptops could also be taken around the library.
 - iv. Provide multiple layers of software on computers – basic to advanced
 - v. Play Austin artists [Kelly, what is this in relation to – music in the loudspeaker system? Something else?]
- b. Public access computer stations located on all levels of the library

- c. Computers in the Kids, Tweens, and Teen areas
- d. Quick Check
- e. Staff
- f. Future – provide catalog throughout levels to scan book, get a review, etc.

VII. Existing Activities

- a. 80% patrons come in for web browsing
- b. Currently 45 laptops circulating and APL would like to increase number
 - i. Circulating throughout all library branches
 - ii. Provided to APL on a grant basis
- c. Balance between flexibility and theft
 - i. CD's and videos are biggest theft problem
 - ii. Problems with mice
 - iii. Laptops could propose problem – if RFID tag, basic interference can block the tag's effectiveness. Laptops have not been stolen yet, but it is not know if this will be a problem.
- d. Deliveries
 - i. Typically ALIS receives small shipments
 - ii. Due to 5 year trade out on desktop computers – they change out about 150/year system-wide
 - iii. 15-20 pallets stored to hold equipment that is outgoing. The outgoing computers are stored until there is enough to fill a truck, then that full truck is brought to the City processing for recycling. In coming computers are brought to the City, then the pallets are broken they are shipped to the Central Library where the computers are unboxed, setup, and then shipped to the final (potentially branch or central) location.

VIII. Next Steps

- a. Shepley to provide programmatic needs to ALIS and CTM
- b. Library Foundation to identify what technology equipment is desired by Dell, if there are any specific requirements

The above is the authors' best recollection of the discussions and decisions made at this meeting. Any questions or comments should be addressed to the writer.



Memorandum of Meeting

To: Austin Central Library Team

From: Kelly Brubaker, Shepley, L|F / Shepley Joint Venture

Subject: Facilities and Maintenance

Project No: 3860.00

Date: November 12, 2009

Attendees: John Gillum, Library Facilities
Heidi Ruiz, Library Facilities
Hilary Mattison, Shepley Bulfinch
Floyd Hodge, Library Facilities
Armondo Cubriel, Library Facilities
Crystal Pirone, Library Facilities
Kelly Brubaker, Shepley Bulfinch
Todd Smith, Library Facilities
Manuel Huerta, Library Facilities
Monica Ruiz Welch, Library Facilities

I. General

- a. HVAC –
 - i. Facilities: Is buying chilled water still a consideration for the project
 - 1. Facilities: Prefer not to due to humidity control problems
 - ii. Part of the problem in the current library is amount and condition of fresh air, free cycling in this climate is a problem at many times of the year and too much humidity is being brought into the building
 - 1. HAVE TO HAVE PRE-CONDITIONED AIR
- b. Pigeon problem – need to resolve issue if going to have roof garden/ terraces. The waste from the birds (several species) is considered a hazardous waste and cleaning/removing the birds is a nuisance. The library has tried several methods including sound, spikes. Electrical has worked best to date. If a method is being tested share with the library staff to see if it has already been field tested.
- c. Facilities: is geothermal being considered for the project?
 - i. At this time the lake is being discussed as an option for a heat sink, many groups including Facilities, environmental and cost would have to weigh in. A closed loop uses the constant temperature of the lake for heating or cooling. Facilities would be interested in learning more about a technique that used the pump house and a closed loop from the lake.
 - ii. Facilities: will the material in the loop be environmentally damaging (a concern if it leaks)? Answer : No, and we could share a proposal with Facilities if this technique is being considered.
- d. Garage
 - i. The Library Foundation is trying to raise money for operations and maintenance of the garage. It does not seem at this time that will affect first costs. The Library and City should inform the design team of any groups that need to review the garage design (if a particular group will be maintaining it).
- e. Facilities Manager should be permanently located in building adjacent to loading dock, and office is requested for this function and will be especially heavily used during the first occupancy of the building
 - i. Will provide first response on site

- ii. Need storage closet for lamps, filters, minor tools, etc on site
- f. Light, Daylighting concerns
 - i. Windows will allow too much light in during the evenings and will in affect cause glare on computer screens – need to think about sun shading
 - ii. Need to be careful how to bounce light from ceiling
 - iii. Typically need 10fc at bottom shelf of unit, this has been a library complaint issue, and should be carefully considered during design.

II. HVAC Goals

- a. Provide interior climate controls
- b. Low Maintenance
- c. Stay with the existing system (Trane)
- d. Have adequate humidity controls
- e. Have appropriately sized access to equipment/filters/valves

III. Existing Problems in the Library System

- a. Exterior vandalism
- b. Interior vandalism especially spray paint in the bathrooms
- c. Breaking and Entering: People scale the building to enter through skylights
- d. Cutting exposed lines of any type (power, tel data, both interior and especially exterior)
- e. Homeless hide inside building to try to be locked in
- f. Homeless urinate and hide behind bushes, sleep in planters, cover or disable sprinklers to do this
- g. Break exterior and interior lights (rocks, etc – if there are exterior lights they should be high and covered with cages)
- h. Carpeted floors
 - i. Unable to keep up with cleaning
 - ii. Unable to afford replacement on a typical schedule

IV. Requests

- a. Wipeable non-grout surface for all bathrooms. This is the highest abuse and vandalism area in the system
- b. Do not create pockets for people to hide anywhere in the building
- c. Create a wind tunnel for restrooms – can't have enough air turn over. The smell in the bathrooms is a major problem (from use but especially from patrons with body odor problems. Request to exceed the code or recommended air turnovers.
- d. Need to meet minimum ADA requirements – goal is to go beyond minimum. There is an active and vocal community, color and other techniques can help.
- e. Provide freight elevator for both staff and moving furniture in and out

V. Negative Manufacturers, Avoid

- a. Addison – makes pre-conditioned outdoor air units
- b. Leviton Lighting Controls – disconnect between electrical sub and manufacturer

VI. Next Steps

- a. Shepley to investigate alternatives for pigeon/ bat problem
- b. Shepley to forward information on black water including how much maintenance is required, what type of certification, and space requirements
- c. APL to forward information on 'green elevators'
- d. Shepley to investigate different types of elevators
- e. APL to provide a list of products and manufacturers that like and dislike working with

The above is the authors' best recollection of the discussions and decisions made at this meeting. Any questions or comments should be addressed to the writer.



Memorandum of Meeting

To: Austin Central Library Team

From: Kelly Brubaker, Shepley, L|F / Shepley Joint Venture

Subject: ACLS

Project No: 3860.00

Date: November 12, 2009

Attendees:

Cynthia Jordan, COA	John Gillum, Library Facilities
Heidi Ruiz, Library Facilities	Kelly Brubaker, Shepley Bulfinch
Hilary Mattison, Shepley Bulfinch	David Spradling, APL
Randy Brownlee, APL	Theresa Hollany, APL
Araceli Olivas, APL	Yvonne Whelan, APL
Meredith Watters, APL	Mitchell, Hagerstrom, APL
Lisa Hamilton, APL	Andrea Schwartz, APL
Carlos Pin, APL	Bonnie Brzozowski, APL
Blair Parsons, APL	Teresa Loney, APL
Melinda Bargas, APL	Suzanne Duncan, APL
Jennifer Connor, APL	Diana Miranda-Murillo, APL
Peggy Owen, APL	

I. General

- a. Space needs to be flexible and adaptable to change over the next 30 years
- b. Wayfinding is used to anticipate flow and create desired sight lines
- c. New library needs to be clear, easy to use and flexible
- d. Security is a problem because staff is dealing with patrons that are mentally ill, unstable and transient
- e. Reference librarians prefer public access computers to be located in a location away from the Reference desk – librarians spend their valuable time helping patrons use the technology
- f. Music Center to highlight Austin being the Music Capital
- g. Technology Center needs to have security monitoring space all the time
 - i. Sundays have the most issues with computers
 - ii. Complaints from patrons over noise

II. Existing Space

- a. Currently patrons still use the Circulation desk to ask questions, check out books, etc.
- b. Information desk located near main stair has helped to decrease number of questions but not entirely
- c. Circulation desk also plays the role of the customer service desk
- d. Typical have one to two pagers on the floor at one time
- e. Circulation desk
 - i. Cash handling for returned items
 - ii. Issue library cards
 - iii. Conduct searches for items missing off shelves
 - iv. Check-out
- f. Reference Desk

- i. Moved staff out on floor to answer phones because short staffed

III. Program Recommendations

- a. Customer Service Desk
 - i. Modular/ flexible to accommodate change in the future
 - ii. Questioned whether the new space needs to accommodate all existing functions or could they be handled at another location in the library
 - iii. Different seating heights (tall stools and typical table height)
- b. Collections
 - i. World Languages goal is to double collection size
 - ii. Reference collection will decrease by 40%
- c. New Immigrants Center
 - i. A self serving quiet space for new immigrants to study and learn life skills
 - ii. Sight lines into the space are very important
 - iii. To provide reader seating and public access computer stations dedicated to this area equipped with identified programs
- d. Staff
 - i. Reference Librarians need offices
 - ii. Need staff only toilet rooms
 - iii. Provide spaces for personal belonging
 - iv. Small breakroom per floor – prefer smaller spaces per floor than one large space
 - v. Provide one outdoor space for staff only – no smoking
 - vi. Circulation and paging need to be adjacent to each other
- e. Library Spaces
 - i. Natural light
 - ii. Temperature controls
 - iii. Add more color
 - iv. Natural lit stairs and elevators
 - v. Use natural light as wayfinding
 - vi. Showcase the collection – not hide it

IV. Next Steps

- a. APL to think about how use space in the future if collection continues to decrease
- b. APL to provide information on how much reference is print vs. electronic
- c. Shepley to forward Collection Analysis to APL – APL to confirm counts
- d. Shepley to forward list of missing information for department to APL

The above is the authors' best recollection of the discussions and decisions made at this meeting. Any questions or comments should be addressed to the writer.



Austin Energy Meeting

Recorded by Lake|Flato/Shepley Bulfinch, A Joint Venture

Minutes

Project: Austin's New Central Library

Prepared By: Hilary Mattison, SBRA, L|F / SBRA Joint Venture **Project No:** 3860.00

Subject: Austin Energy, Design Team Regarding Renewable Energy and Rebates

Meeting Date: 9/17/09

Meeting Attendees:

Cynthia Jordan	Public Works
John Gillum	Austin Public Library Facilities Services
Heidi Ruiz	Austin Public Library Facilities Services
Manuel Garza	Austin Energy
Scott Jarman	Austin Energy
Paul Martinez	Austin Energy
Ron Perkins	Supersymmetry USA
Charley Farmer	Meridian Solar
Rick Guerra	Jose I. Guerra, Inc.
Hilary Mattison	Joint Venture (Shepley Bulfinch)

The project, site, budget, schedule and goals are introduced to Austin Energy [AE].

AE notes that CIP funding is available for renewable energy in publically visible locations. Each case is different, but typically AE owns the array and takes care of all maintenance. They also look for opportunities to have teaching awareness (output station, teaching at the site to describe the array, etc) also in a highly visible location.

The method of funding delivery varies per project. Sometimes AE provides the entire array and installation. Sometimes they provide the modules. Sometimes they provide cash.

The funding is earmarked in advance in budgets. Currently there is a placeholder in the 5-year CIP budget. This budget is a proposal and is approved annually. Scott's submission is due around March. Approval is only for that budget year (not the entire 5) so the budget is somewhat flexible. Scott needs information in February/March to get it ready to submit to his management to see it if is approved in the five year plan. The basic information required is a number of kW and dollars required and a description of the system and location. Scott will let the JV know what he needs for data, confidence is expressed in Meridian's role on the team.

There is also a possibility to have funding for design of the array itself.

The design team sees an opportunity to tell a story about power generation – with the substation adjacent and a prominent south facing-façade and prominent rooftop this project has excellent visibility for a public renewable energy installation.

Scott notes that the City Hall had an architecturally complicated PV installation so they ended up with less kW generation for their funding than a more basic approach focused on kW production would have created.

The City's goals are discussed – in 2015 a 75% reduction in building site energy use. They want to have 100MW of solar power in 2020 (they are currently at 10MW).

CF: Will there be a LEED conflict if AE owns the system? Will it still count for the project? SJ: no, this has worked on other recent LEED projects. The system is on the building side of the meter.

Recent installations: Twin Oaks has a 24kW, Glenville has a 135kW, the Convention Center has a vertical wall installation.

A discussion from the Integrated Design Charrette was brought up – could this building be a testing lab for new technologies designed in such a way that easy access to a roof could be made to showcase technologies and AE's renewable work? AE – there is a concern that this would be too disruptive for the library, they would rather have a best fit with what we have now.

AE is interested in Solar Thermal, and we should look into its application on this project.

Numbers

Charley indicates a 400-500kW need for our % generation goal

The AE budget has a 100kW placeholder @ \$6 a watt

Charley indicates that in 2014 it may be \$4/5 a watt

Display and teaching: Scott recommends looking at the HEB on Brodie Land and W. William Cannon Drive display. There are good systems by Draker Labs or Fat Spaniel and this is one of them. He also indicates that past projects have used their Art in Public Places budgets to fund some publically visible solar installations such as a solar tree.



The group discussed: are there any renewable technology manufacturers in town that may be interested in a donation to the project? Heilovault is in town, IDEAL inverters are in town. The bidding system will be a low bid, it's up to the City to contact any vendors at this time to gauge interest, the Joint Venture team should not make any contacts at this time.

Ron notes that any teaching display should be energy efficient because it would not be appropriate to have an energy hogging display speaking to our energy efficient building. The group agrees and discusses potential locations for such a display: children's area, main lobby, café, and potentially talking to an artist to do the mounting structure for the PV on the rooftop area (if that technology is used in that location). It is also noted that there may be teaching grants for this type of display or goal – perhaps there is other funding available.

Question for AE – are there any requirements as to how much kW will be required? No.

Angle of the PV array: it is noted that 30 degrees is an optimum angle in this location. Ron points out that we may want to maximize the angle for the time of year that creates the largest demand, once that is determined.

Question for AE – are there grants for passive efficiency such as glass, insulation or equipment? AE: no, those have been phased out. The project could try to submit something like that would it would need to be a special case.

AE notes that this project could be the largest PV installation in the city! *(there is a huge one going up outside of the City but in Austin, so it will not be the largest in Austin)*

AE can also provide technical assistance – they can work with vendors who are trying to get their wares in the rebate program (if we are thinking of specifying a non-rebate performance spec that should be considered for rebate). They also do team design reviews.

AE can provide demonstration installations – if there is a fixture or technique that we want to have a mock up or test installation performed, we can speak to AE.

AE notes that strategies related to demand response are a hot topic with them now. They could see funding related to this interest. This is a technique being used mostly by Box retailers who are signed up (reset Thermostats, duty cycling, turning off lights and water features) – Austin E pays for this work. If we do this up front and incorporate it into our program that is of interest to AE and is part of a smart building meter. This could also be educational (a loudspeaker could explain why lights are dimming when they dim). The peak time for shedding is

3-6 on summer weekdays from June to September

Ron asks what is the makeup of the current power generation? 1/3 nuclear, 1/3 Coal, 1/3 Natural gas. Perhaps it's 10% natural.

How is the library charged for power? There is a city rate, it's E03 or E04 on the rate sheet for power. There is a winter and summer rate then add fuel.

Trane is discussed as being used by the library currently. They also have a display product (teaching) that the design team should consider and investigate. Everything that is done needs to be back net compatible and compatible with Trane.

[end notes]

Community Meetings

Recorded by Group Solutions RJW

Austin's New Central Library 10/27/09 Input Meeting Manchaca Library 6:00 – 8:30pm

Q & A SESSION

Q/COMMENT: You are proposing 170,000 square feet of occupied space. How does that compare to the current library?

A: The current library has 110,000 square feet.

Q/COMMENT: The streets and utilities (at the library site) are non-existent at this time. What is the schedule for completion?

A: We are working with developers and planning groups to get infrastructure in place. The grid of 2nd Street and Nueces will soon be complete. West Avenue construction will be handled by the Seaholm developer. We are ready for site access. The City is responsible for wastewater and Austin Energy is responsible for chilled water and fiber optics. We do have a master schedule. Start construction in December 2011 (allowing 2 years for construction) with an open date in 2014.

Q/COMMENT: Work is going to be 26 months into the future. Are the 250 parking spaces part of the budget?

A: The parking spaces are a budget concern. But we have lived with inadequate infrastructure (at Faulk) for a long time and are determined to do this right. Underground parking is a consideration.

Q/COMMENT: (In reference to sustainability) What about daylight vs. artificial light? What about air conditioning?

A: There are passive ways to use ventilation. The design for the system has to be well integrated. Our team is setting very aggressive goals for reduction of energy usage. Not just through day lighting, but also reducing heat load on the system. Regardless of what we do, you still have 112 degrees temperatures in the summer so our goal is to significantly reduce electrical lighting with east and west façade in order to make building shade itself.

Q/COMMENT: This is an opportunity for Austin to have a cathedral of learning. San Francisco Public Library and Seattle Public Library are great examples. One concern is technology over books. I'm hoping to keep library integrity.

A: We are planning a blend of both concepts. We want this to be a wonderful place to read, but the staff tells us that current technology spaces in libraries are overloaded.

Q/COMMENT: The book collection is important, but the current library is a "box for books." It's a building that just houses books and doesn't facilitate other uses.

Q/COMMENT: I'd like to see lots of different spaces, some spaces that are designated as quiet, medium-quiet, and others that are louder spaces for kids and to promote interaction.

Q/COMMENT: Are we going to repurpose the old library building?

A: Council has passed a resolution to allow the Austin History Center to use Central Library building.

Q/COMMENT: Will there be a storage space off site, for materials that aren't used as frequently?

A: There is a storage facility, but at this time we are not sure what it will house.



Q/COMMENT: Are we confident about flood control in Shoal Creek?

A: Yes. We are rebuilding the entire east portion of Shoal Creek. A corps of engineers analyzed the flood plain and have current data available for the team to use when the west side development begins.

Q/COMMENT: How are you going to address access to the facility?

A: We would like to have user-friendly access for those who use the hike & bike trails and have multiple entrances.

Q/COMMENT: How much space will be allotted for adults? Right now the libraries are overloaded by youth services.

A: There has been a lot of concern over the last decade for youth. However, the great majority of the facility will be adult focused.

Q/COMMENT: How many buses will be servicing area?

A: We are intermeshing with Capital Metro to build transportation hubs a couple of blocks north of the library site.

Q/COMMENT: Will it have a coffee bar? Will it be locally owned/operated?

A: We are thinking of a small space like in City Hall. We do intend to have a local vendor as a tenant in the facility.

Q/COMMENT: How much thought has been given to the interior flow, making it different than a typical library?

A: There needs to be visual communication between the different parts of building. We want this to be a signature building—a signature of Austin, as opposed to Seattle, London, etc. It is very important for the interior to reflect the unique feel of Austin. From what we have been able to gather, Austin is an open community and a community spirited place. It's very civic and vibrant. Our approach is it should be civic and open. The new building should reflect changing times but also serve it's traditional role of city library. Those two don't mesh well, so that's our challenge. It would help us for you to contemplate and talk to us tonight and on our website.

Q/COMMENT: Will there be more of a computer lab? Will computer desks have privacy?

A: There will be a technology center. Everything will be wireless. The library can circulate laptops. We foresee an age when people can walk in and check out laptops

Q/COMMENT: The Princeton NJ Public Library has achieved a blend. It is multileveled and has balanced it well.

A: The use of glass makes it successful. The big problem with the Faulk branch is that it's dark & dingy. You should be able to see people. We are discussing how we can display art and integrate it into the design.

Q/COMMENT: I'd like there to be quiet space – I cherish having quiet spaces surrounded by books you can read.

Q/COMMENT: Can you share some of the things you are looking at to reflect character of Austin?

A: We want to capture the open & civic nature of Austin. The climate – use it to our advantage. Integrating what's important the community such as SXSW, ACL, the Austin Film

Festival, etc. It's more than just materials. We haven't gotten down to specifics, but we'd like to bring the outdoors in, since the outdoors is such a big part of Austin life.

Q/COMMENT: How would you describe what the library is going to look like?

A: We think lots of glass. People should be able to see in (Seattle glass is dark). Also have more access from the outside.

Q/COMMENT: Kids center?

A: Yes, youth services, kids, tween area. Active spaces.

Q/COMMENT: Creative juices are a huge piece, so not only should it integrate nature, but it could use social media to create library community.

Q/COMMENT: The library should be a hub for social & intellectual activity. It should have an impressive arrival from the street, take advantage of Waller Creek and Town Lake, have ample space for books, meeting rooms, smaller rooms for meetings, it should be sustainable (rain water collection, solar energy), have a small café, a bookstore, and a space for local art.

Q/COMMENT: Great streets, like the newly renovated 2nd Street, are a given.

A: A better pedestrian environment is a goal.

Q/COMMENT: Do not want the library to be a flop-house for the homeless.

A: We will be reaching out to service providers to find a balance and respectful approach to servicing the entire community. Other possible idea would be to avoid spaces like nooks & crannies and have restrooms in obvious places. The library alone cannot deal with (fix) the homeless problem in Austin.

Q/COMMENT: Right now the central library is awful. It's not a friendly place.

A: A public library is a democratic institution. We can't stop you at the door. We as library staff can ensure that it is a safe and secure place to use.

Q/COMMENT: Will you work with A.R.C.H. to provide a space in the building?

A: Yes, we will work with local resource providers. One library provides a card to homeless people for use of facilities

Q/COMMENT: With a new library, everyone will come and that includes disenfranchised people.

Q/COMMENT: When I worked at Pleasant Valley Branch, they told us that it's our job to make everyone welcome. The new library should continue to welcome everyone.

Q/COMMENT: You should be able to listen to music.

Q/COMMENT: Can we donate books to the library?

A: Yes, at any branch. If we can't use the books, we may take them to Recycle Reads or sell them to raise funds.

Q/COMMENT: Can we get information on fundraising?

A: Austin Public Library Foundation has 2 on going campaigns. The first is for the building and the second is for the operational costs. To get involved go to austinlibrary.org.

Q/COMMENT: What's the possibility of exceeding the LEED silver standard?



A New Central Library

A: We see it as a baseline. We are going to meet that. We won't chase gold, but we will aim for higher. We're looking 25-30 years down the road.

STAFF Q/COMMENT: Please use every tool at your disposal to let us know what you want!

Q/COMMENT: Not that many people represent SXSW, ACL, etc. If you want to keep Austin Weird, look to the local artists.

Q/COMMENT: Make the library a cool place so teenagers will want to go.

Q/COMMENT: For weird stuff look at the Alamo Draft house and their sing-a-longs and at East Austin.

Q/COMMENT: Austin is full of local artists rather than those that bring in the tourists for the big festivals. The library should have local talent perform.

STAFF Q/COMMENT: What will make you go to the library?

Q/COMMENT: There is a fear that this new library is coming from a different place rather than being a great place for resources. Solely housing resources doesn't seem like that's enough. For me, the collection is what makes me to go the library, BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS!

Q/COMMENT: When I was in middle school, I loved to go to the library because of a room with classical music and a big rug where you could lay down relax. Keep in mind that if you catch them young, you've got them! Maybe have Saturday matinees for children's movies. Reach out to all walks of life.

Q/COMMENT: There should be a reflection of ethnic diversity (ie: artwork, lesser known local heroes).

Q/COMMENT: As a parent I don't use the library much because there are no places for families; that would bring families in.

Q/COMMENT: What is the difference between a branch library and the central library?

A: Outdoor space, where kids can run around and maybe a playscape; and differences in programming. (kids music)

Q/COMMENT: There should be a comfortable work environment for library staff!!

Q/COMMENT: Will the auditorium be available for smaller meetings? Will it have partitions?

A: There will be rooms of various sizes. We have seen mixed success in the use of divisions or partitions. The key is flexibility – but we don't have the answers yet.

Q/COMMENT: Is there a physical way we can include a "drive-thru" to minimize the use of parking spaces?

A: Drive-thrus are troublesome, but we will definitely take note.

STAFF Q/COMMENT: Please suggest other categories of input we should add?

Q/COMMENT: Family services

Q/COMMENT: Adult services & space

Austin's New Central Library 10/28/09 Input Meeting
Ruiz Library 6:00 – 8:30pm

Q & A SESSION

Q/COMMENT: We need to ensure that there is a place for books.

Q/COMMENT: The current library is so unpleasant. I'm concerned about the smell as well as design and maintenance.

A: We are looking at materials that are easy to maintain.

Q/COMMENT: Regarding parking, at one point there was talk about the city coming up with a parking enterprise department.

A: Discussions are preliminary. Capital Metro is planning a mass transportation hub that will include bus & rail.

Q/COMMENT: If there was a nearby parking enterprise, wouldn't that allow for more money for nice things?

A: We have to have on-site parking. Parents who are coming to the library with small children for story time, etc. can't be asked to park across Shoal Creek.

Q/COMMENT: What about the design & décor?

A: We are in the very early stages. We design buildings that are rooted to place. Climate will be a consideration. Also, the view to south will be important. At 30% design completion, we will come back to the public with a presentation for you to see where we are in the design. We will have another presentation for the public at 60% design completion.

Q/COMMENT: The library will be an intersection of technology & literacy. What kinds of technology will be offered?

A: We will blend of all formats. The Austin Public Library is very progressive but also very mindful of books. We will also be thinking about adding more music.

Q/COMMENT: Will there be art inside the building?

A: We will be mindful to feature local artists. We have an artist on the team, so that is very helpful. We will also be looking to feature artifacts from Green.

Q/COMMENT: What about tweens and teens?

Some libraries have studios for production that keep them involved.

Q/COMMENT: What is the deference between central and branch libraries?

A: There is more of everything at a central library.

Q/COMMENT: You mentioned that part of library will be unfinished. What do you mean?

A: There will be extra "shell" space built into the facility. This will allow us to expand in the future. We need to have shelving for books and materials that haven't been purchased yet. This will ensure that the library will grow in the future. It will be hard to ignore an investment. We need to anticipate future growth, so that when there is the budget, it can grow.

Q/COMMENT: What should space be used for?

A: Storage. You can never have enough storage!



Austin's New Central Library 10/29/09 Input Meeting City Hall 6:00 – 8:30pm

Q&A Session

Q/COMMENT: Given that Austin is going to grow, 90 million doesn't seem like much to accommodate growth. What are some ideas for expansion?

A: One requirement is that we are building a 250,000 square foot building, compared to the existing 110,000 square foot library structure. That leaves 80,000 square feet for development/expansion. The best example of a sustainable building is one with the ability to adapt to change. We will be working with the library to find out what will need to expand. The Site is quite tight in space. It's going to be 5 stories high. Adaptability and flexibility are key. The concept of the library is changing and needs to be fluid in capacity so that it can adapt as needs change.

Q/COMMENT: I would like it to feel comfortable—a place where parents can let their children (especially teens) go and have access to the tools that they would need to use.

A: That is a security concern. We will need to create a safe place to study and do homework. We need to create a teen space that feels like they own it. Phoenix is a good example of this concept. There should be clearly defined zones of quiet, moderately quiet, & louder. Technology will also be a way to attract teens, but we'll need continued fundraising efforts to keep the technology current.

STAFF Q/COMMENT:

We know teens are interested in technology. What are other kinds of attractions that will bring them to the library?

Q/COMMENT: For those doing research, the Nashville Public Library is a great example of a teen area. It looks like a recreation room with flat screen TVs, sofas and study rooms along the perimeter.

A: The Nashville Public Library is actually on our list for reference.

It is helpful to hear about the rooms you like. We are not trying to re-invent the wheel, but to push ahead quickly.

Q/COMMENT: I agree that the Nashville Public Library is a great example. With regards to homeless use of the library, how are their needs going to be met?

A: We will be meeting with resource providers so that we can create a respectful environment for everyone. We will be focusing on behavior not who they are. It's also a matter of security and programming.

Q/COMMENT: Is the site to the north going to continue to look industrial?

A: We will be addressing the streetscape and character of site. We will want to soften it with landscaping and lighting.

Q/COMMENT: What about nighttime use? How can you make the library an active part of the 2nd Street district?

We are looking into the possibility of nighttime accessibility--making the library a part of the cityscape; letting it tell a story—its story. Maybe having activity last longer—after regular library hours. We envision light retail—a café or boutique—on the first floor. Flexibility of space will be important so that it can be used for other purposes.

Q/COMMENT: How do you plan to express the diversity of the City? Should that be expressed?

A: Where there is more community space,

Is the #1 service they fulfill

Community room

Such demand / free space / community space – for poetry clubs, film makers, etc

This will help celebrate diversity

Q/COMMENT: I know what I'd like to see and what I'd like the library space to be, but I can't express it in 3 sentences here during this sort of forum format.

STAFF COMMENT: What we are being to learn reflects Austin is:

Love of nature; the society is inclusive to others; the space should be transparent; a porch to great people; make iconic building; the interior speaks to the outside

Q/COMMENT: Having a porch would be a nice addition to sit on when the weather is nice, but when we are experiencing very high temperature that might be a wasted space because no one will want to be outside.

Q/COMMENT: I think it's a good idea for it to be open space and to use natural materials. However, when referencing the San Francisco Public Library, where are the books? They are hidden. The interior should obviously look like a library.

Q/COMMENT: A huge outdoor area might be a waste in August when it's hot. It would be nice to have a variety of indoor spaces that can have the feel of an outdoor space.

Q/COMMENT: (from Chris Riley/Council Member) I think there should be the opportunity to sell used books. There should be a coffee shop or café on the premises, preferably a local vendor. There should be an auditorium space (and space for kids). Covered bike racks; a creek side balcony over looking Town Lake.

STAFF Q/COMMENT: How about a bike garage?

Q/COMMENT: Do you have any energy use projections for heating and cooling the space?

A: Next week we are having a sustainability charette where we are going to have 25 consultants--some local and some from all over the US--to discuss such topics as day lighting and rain water harvesting, among others. Our approach is to be forward thinking with regards to how the building should perform and adapt. We will be carefully considering where we bring light into the space and how to bounce light off of surfaces to reduce heat and energy of excess lighting. The space can easily be lit without huge expense. Again, the use of day light harvesting is a system we are interested in incorporating into the design. We are also going to be looking at how the mechanical and electrical systems work together and how they relate to each other. We aren't going to experiment. The building has to maintain itself. Artificial lighting is a large source of heat and expenses. By having a daylight building, we can reduce the expense and usage. Our goal is to determine how this building can be a signal for success regarding climate change and water use. Also for this building to be an iconic design and respectful of what it needs to represent.

Q/COMMENT: Many people think a library is for books and reading, but a lot of artists create the pictures in those books. The library should showcase those artists and new writers (perhaps a great opportunity for a wine & cheese event).



A: We have seen libraries that have special rooms for graphic novels, visual arts, and performing arts. The intention is for this building to be a library, community center, and cultural center.

Q/COMMENT: with regards to energy use, it looks like you are going to have a flat roof. Are you looking into how to use that space or make it green (the use of solar panels)?

A: At this point, we aren't sure if the roof is going to be flat. It might be a green roof or partially a green roof. We feel there's a great opportunity to get people on the roof as a usable space. At the fifth floor elevation, it could be a great place to view Austin. We think this is a critical point of design.

Q/COMMENT: I am hoping we can have access to the roof, perhaps with glass enclosures for protection from wind, maybe even have niche spaces (quiet/loud).

A: Yes, that is along the lines of what we are thinking for that space.

Q/COMMENT: A great library is the 42nd Street New York City Public Library. They have a grand reading room, which is incredible. Are we going to have a great reading room like that?

A: We will. In New York, they really use that space. We asked people whether they would want that here and the answer was a resounding "yes."

Q/COMMENT: With regards to energy use, when people bring their laptops to the library does that have an effect on energy use levels? Have the libraries had to address that?

A: We haven't heard of any issues with that. We are going to focus on availability. We believe that some point people will be checking out laptops as they do books. We encourage people to use laptops.

Q/COMMENT: At the branch library near my home, children run around and are very noisy; will the new library have designated spaces for that?

A: The new library is 20 times larger than the average branch library. There will be glass enclosures and labeling of spaces. It's important to carve out designated spaces; there will need to be a balance. With larger buildings, you have more space between loud and quiet spaces. The design will be sensitive to sound.

Q/COMMENT: (Question directed to Sinclair Black) – Where do you think the front door should be? On the Hike & Bike trail? On 2nd Street?

A: There should be 4, an entrance at Town Lake, at the Creek, on 2nd Street, and on West Avenue.

Q/COMMENT: I have traveled to many libraries in various countries, and I think it would be good if the library had multi-language signs that can direct people to important areas such as the information desk, restrooms, etc.

Q/COMMENT: The public would like the open nature of the library, perhaps open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. However, what would be the safety repercussions?

A: Some portions of the library may stay open after normal library hours. However, it will depend on the demand for it. Keep in mind that staffing and city budgets determine library hours.

Q/COMMENT: Perhaps there should be separate spaces for different categories of books. For example, a music section, travel section, food section, etc. This concept would also create spaces where people could meet.