EAST PALO ALTO LIBRARY
COMMUNITY WORKSHOP
WORKSHOP FORMAT

1. Workshop Goals

2. Needs Assessment Recap

3. Project Intentions

4. About the Site

5. Proposed Program

6. Two Approaches
WORKSHOP GOALS

• INTRODUCE THE PROPOSED LIBRARY SITE (AND ITS NEIGHBOR)
• PRESENT AND GATHER FEEDBACK ON THE CORE LIBRARY FUNCTIONS
•EXPLORE TWO DIFFERENT CONCEPTS FOR THE NEW LIBRARY ON THE NEW SITE
• HEAR WHAT YOU THINK!
NEEDS ASSESSMENT RECAP

- Places **connect, explore, learn** and **relax** – a town center
- A **spacious** library – greater breathing room, with privacy/separation different uses
- Variety of **outdoor spaces** for reading, play, programs and connection with nature
- Ample seating and **personal space** for work and study
- Filled with **natural light** and views to outside
- Greater **access to technology**, particularly desk/laptops
- Separate **children’s area** with better infrastructure, play opportunities, and space for events
- Art **making and exhibition** (including crafts, theater, music and dance)
- Access to **community resources** – from tutoring to housing assistance to taxes
- The ability to **play** – to let off steam and to explore new things
- **Explore** culinary literacy
| **STIMULATING:** | ENCOURAGES LEARNING THROUGH EXPLORATION, PLAY, AND EXCITEMENT |
| **ENABLING:** | PUTS RESOURCES WITHIN REACH, ENCOURAGES NEW CONNECTIONS |
| **FLEXIBLE:** | ADAPTS TO EVOLVING COMMUNITY AND NEEDS |
| **INTEGRATED:** | CREATES THE CIVIC COMMONS, SEAMLESSLY INTEGRATES WITH EPA CENTER |
ABOUT THE SITE: EPA CENTER

• A place where youth can transform themselves, connect with others, and elevate their community through the creative arts

• Programs encompass visual arts, dance, music, theater, digital arts

• Ground floor and site are designed to be highly accessible and engaging to the public, with a public café at the corner of Bay & Pulgas

• State of the art theater, recording studio, gallery, digital media studio, woodshop and more

• Opportunities for resource-sharing across the two facilities
PROPOSED PROGRAM
FOR A NEW EAST PALO ALTO LIBRARY
PROPOSED PROGRAM: WELCOME / ENTRY

NARRATIVE:

• Conveys a sense of welcome and a buzz of activity
• A central location from which most functions are visually or intuitively accessible
• Warm and inviting stations for greeting, information and check-out are inviting
• Seating for informal work and reading
• Ability to house large gatherings and events like readings, concerts, and open mic nights

FUNCTIONS:

• Entry / Lobby
• Concierge Stations
• Cart Cubby
• Self Check-out
• Holds
• Seating
• Restrooms
PROPOSED PROGRAM: COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

NARRATIVE:

• A community hub for meeting and access to community resources
• Multi-purpose meeting room for events, presentations, meetings and classes
• Small meeting rooms for group work and community partners
• Open co-work type environment
• A community message board with upcoming events, resource information and more

FUNCTIONS:

• Medium Activity Room
• Small Activity Room
• Activity Room Storage
• Partner/Resource Rooms
• Communal Lounge
PROPOSED PROGRAM: CULINARY LITERACY CENTER

NARRATIVE:

• A nutrition, health and wellness resource for the community
• Domestic teaching kitchen for cooking and related classes
• A place to serve nutritious and tasty snacks for patrons
• Reading lounge with cooking, health, wellness, and gardening literature
• Access to a domestic demonstration garden

FUNCTIONS:

• Teaching Kitchen
• Storage
• Office
• Outdoor Seating
• Demonstration Garden
PROPOSED PROGRAM: KIDS & FAMILY AREAS

NARRATIVE:

• A place for children of all ages and family to explore, play, learn and read
• Break-out areas for storytelling, play, and various media
• Adjacent out-door space for working off energy, physical play, access to nature
• Playful elements to explore and discover, accommodating different ways of learning
• A room that grows with kids, promoting learning and exploration as fun

FUNCTIONS:

• New Books
• Table Seating
• Books
• Audio/ Visual & New Media
• Storytelling
• Storage
• Outdoor Area
• Family Restroom
PROPOSED PROGRAM: CABINET OF CURIOSITY

NARRATIVE:

• A dynamic space for learning through doing, socializing, and engaging technologies
• Visible to all who enter the library to inspire curiosity
• A ‘maker space’ for all ages – sewing, dj, domestic skills, digital fabrication, etc.
• A place teens can call their own for reading, socializing, and individual and group activities with access to digital and physical resources
• Access to a multitude of environments and programs through virtual means to broaden horizons
• Flexible furniture to accommodate various activities and programs

FUNCTIONS:

• Teen Room
• Maker Room
• Virtual Reality Experience Alcove
• Office
• Storage
PROPOSED PROGRAM: COLLECTIONS & STUDY

NARRATIVE:
- Large, open, naturally lit space for reading and quiet work
- Ample opportunities for independent study with comfortable seating, natural light, and power
- Flexible shelving to accommodate the evolution of the collection
- An East Palo Alto focused resource area, with the ability to house memorabilia and even record oral histories
- Workstations and laptop-check-out machines, as well as printing stations
- Private rooms for small group study and tutoring

FUNCTIONS:
- Main Space
- New Books / Media / Periodicals
- Adult Collections
- East Palo Alto History
- Reader Seating
- Public Computers
- Printing
- Study Rooms
- Literacy Center
- Quiet Room
- Restrooms
PROPOSED PROGRAM: STAFF RESOURCE AREA

NARRATIVE:

- Stimulating, naturally lit work environment
- An ability to see the comings and goings of the library
- Open work spaces for permanent and temporary staff
- Wall space for sharing ideas and mapping out projects and schedules
- Privacy nook for quiet work and calls
- Easy access to book processing area

FUNCTIONS:

- Collection Processing Room
- Staff Open Office
- Enclosed Office
- Staff Break Area
- Storage
- Data / Telecom
- Staff Restroom w/Shower
PROPOSED PROGRAM: SITE & OUTDOOR AMENITIES

NARRATIVE:
- A place to connect with the outdoors and enjoy nature
- Space for larger gatherings as well as outdoor ‘nooks’ for solitude
- A demonstration garden for growing food
- Secure play areas for children
- Outdoor classroom and storytime area

FUNCTIONS:
- Outdoor Reading
- Outdoor Eating
- Youth Play Area
- Demonstration Garden
- Bike Racks
- Parking Spaces
- Loading
TWO APPROACHES
TWO APPROACHES

JIGSAW PUZZLE

BOOMERANG
OPTION 1: JIGSAW PUZZLE DESIGN

- Welcome Plaza
- Kids’ Garden
- Parking Entry
- Kids & Family
- Community Activity
- Cabinet of Curiosity
- Pulgas Ave
- Bay Rd
- Parking
OPTION 1: JIGSAW PUZZLE DESIGN
OPTION 1: JIGSAW PUZZLE DESIGN

EPACENTER ARTS ACTIVITY
READING TERRACE
MEETING STUDY
KITCHEN
COLLECTION
KITCHEN TERRACE
STAFF
CIVIC PRESENCE
SURROUNDING VIEW
PLANTED SUN DECK
BAY RD
PULGAS AVE
OPTION 2: BOOMERANG DESIGN

EPACENTER COURTYARD

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

KIDS & FAMILY

CABINET OF CURIOSITY

BAY RD

PULGAS AVE
OPTION 2: BOOMERANG DESIGN

- MAIN ENTRANCE
- COMMUNITY ACTIVITY
- CABINET OF CURIOSITY
- KIDS & FAMILY

Locations:
- BAY RD
- PULGAS AVE
OPTION 2: BOOMERANG DESIGN
OPTION 2: BOOMERANG DESIGN

FIRST FLOOR

SECOND FLOOR

San Mateo County Libraries
THANK YOU VERY MUCH