

Library Bond Act Grant Applications - Cycle 1 Individual Application Summary

<i>Project Name [Number]</i>	Santa Maria Public Library 1043	<i>Current Square Footage</i>	28,250
<i>Applicant</i>	Santa Maria, City of	<i>Project Square Footage</i>	60,825
<i>Operating Library Jurisdiction</i>	Santa Maria Public Library	<i>Service Area Population:</i>	77,423
<i>Project Type</i>	New Library	<i>Anticipated Construction Start Date:</i>	11/1/2003
<i>Project Priority</i>	1st	<i>Total Project Amount</i>	\$25,312,657
<i>Joint Use Type</i>	Joint Venture	<i>State Grant Amount</i>	\$16,390,502
<i>Multipurpose?</i>	NO		
<i>Leased Site:</i>	NO		

Bond Act Factors [California Code of Regulations Title 5, Section 19998 (a)]

	Rated	Other
<i>Needs of urban and rural areas:</i>		[see map]
<i>Population growth:</i>		176%
<i>Financial capacity of applicant to open and maintain operation of the library (new libraries only):</i>		Yes
<i>Age and condition of existing library:</i>	Poor Condition (= Very Good)	
<i>Inadequacy of the existing library in meeting needs of residents and the response of proposed project to meeting the needs:</i>	Outstanding	
<i>Plan of Service integrates appropriate electronic technology:</i>	Outstanding	
<i>Appropriateness of proposed site for the proposed project:</i>	Outstanding	
Overall Rating:	Outstanding	

Summary of Review Panel Comments

Population Growth 176.2%

Age and Condition The existing library was built in 1941 and renovated in 1970. Major deficiencies of the existing library: non-compliance with ADA and seismic codes; leaking roof, inadequate telecommunications and electrical system; "old and tired" elevator that frequently stops between floors; heating system at the end of its useful life and there is no air conditioning; inadequate space for all functions and services.

Needs of residents/response of proposed project to needs The needs assessment was well done, offering residents a broad range of activities to provide input including: bi-lingual surveys distributed at 12 community activities over a 7 month period; focus groups; stakeholder interviews with community organizations and leaders; stakeholder interviews with school leaders; and staff attendance at community meetings. Demographics were thoroughly analyzed, deriving logical conclusions concerning library service needs. The needs of students were carefully considered during the needs assessment process.

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The plan of service implements the findings of the needs assessment, and the library is clearly involving numerous agencies within community to fill the needs of the library clientele. Goals and objectives are clearly written, and implementation steps are included. In addition to the services to be provided based on the joint use agreement, the proposed library will also provide a homework center, career center, and computer center, all of which will benefit K-12 students. The joint venture services to be provided for K-12 students via the joint use agreement are somewhat vague, but relate to assisting them in obtaining a high school diploma.

The building program implements the plan of service. It is thorough and provides the design team with adequate detail to understand the activities of each space.

The conceptual plans follow the requirements of the building program. Programmed and actual square footages are shown for each area, with virtually all areas corresponding to the amount of space programmed. Non-assignable square footage is not given on the plan.

Joint use agreement: Computer Center, Family Literacy Center, Homework Center, Career Center The agreement demonstrates a partnership in which both parties will contribute to the service. The school district will provide an instructor and PC equipment for the classrooms. Funding amounts are specified. The agreement is unclear concerning the hours that the classrooms will be used by the school district, which could be cause for conflict. The type of joint venture service to be offer is mentioned only as "high-school-diploma completion classes," without providing description, scheduling information, or any other details.

Plan of Service Integrates Appropriate Technology Technology is used throughout the planning documents as a tool to deliver effective library services. The general building requirements section of building program contains a brief but significant discussion of telecommunications and electricity needs of the library. Specific technology uses include: connections for laptop PCs throughout the building; ADA assistive technology; video conferencing capability; bilingual browsers and software; computer center; and a homework center with PC availability.

Appropriateness of Proposed Site The proposed site is adjacent to the Civic Center and along the major thoroughfare through the community. It's across the street from the main shopping mall and within walking distance of 3 schools and the surrounding residential areas. The site is accessible by public and private transportation, by bicycle, and by foot. On-site parking will accommodate library users, with additional parking available in public parking adjacent and nearby. A structure on the site is over 50 years old and was included as a part pf the CEQA documentation process. SHPO did not comment on its historic significance, but the applicant has agreed to move the structure if at all possible due to its local historical significance.

Financial Capacity The applicant has committed to the on-going operation of the completed library.