

2. Overall Executive Summary for the Community Needs Assessment

Incorporated in 1991, Murrieta has experienced phenomenal growth—from a population of 2,255 in 1980, to 51,600 in 2002. The City's growth rate was the highest of the eight California cities incorporated between 1991 and 2002.¹ Murrieta is one of the State's ten fastest growing cities with populations under 300,000. Its 11.6% growth rate from 2001 to 2002 was exceeded by only five other California cities.² The City predicts its population will double between 2000 and 2020.

Why the Project Is Needed

Murrieta does not have a permanent library. Funded by the City of Murrieta since its inception, a 4,000 square foot temporary library lacks the size, collections, and resources essential to serve



Conceptual Drawing of the Murrieta Public

Murrieta's population and anticipated growth. This facility's lease expires in 2005; therefore it does not qualify as an existing library according to Library Bond Act Regulations.³

Murrieta citizens envision their own permanent library as the cornerstone of Town Square, a development approved within the Historic Downtown Specific Plan crafted by a citizen's committee and adopted by the City Council. Featuring an 1890's theme,

Town Square will "establish Historic Murrieta as the City's business, cultural and governmental center ---- the heart of the community," while preserving the integrity of its rural charm. "The historically visual focus of the Town Square will serve as a gateway to downtown," says Assistant City Manager, Lori Moss.

Services that are Needed: Overall Findings

The findings of this Community Needs Assessment demonstrate that Murrieta requires a public library to fit the following needs of its residents:

- A permanent library to serve Murrieta's 51,600 residents, with room to expand.
- Dedicated spaces for study, quiet reading, preschool story times, special needs, computer use, and group functions. *
- An easily accessible library that will efficiently integrate into everyday community life
- Relevant, adequate library services, programs, and diverse collections for the community, including special interest groups and those with special needs
- Access to sufficient information and reference resources in various formats *
- Educational support, access to technology, and computer training opportunities.
- School readiness help for preschool children, and support to encourage academic success for K-12 children*
- Effective outreach and community awareness support

Needs noted with an asterisk (*) were factored into the Joint Use Project described below.

The needs and interests of residents, identified through community demographics and pre-determined assessment methods, guided the ways in which the elements listed above will be further developed. For instance, there is a large senior citizen population, many of whom are non-ambulatory. Book Express is an outreach program that provides free library book and materials delivery services to those who are homebound, injured or ill. This service, especially

¹ (2003) League of California Cities: Incorporation Dates of California Cities

² California Department of Finance Demographic Research Unit, 2002

³ Title 5, Division 2, Chapter 3, Section 20430-Definitions (x)

popular with seniors, has the potential to be maintained and expanded by a local City library with the appropriate resources.

Murrieta's sizeable commuter population has an average travel time of 35.7 minutes to and from work. Many have asked the library for a greater selection of audio books on CD or tape to benefit them during long drives. Citizens have expressed the desire for historical and genealogical resources. The new library's Heritage Room, along with research training, will meet that need. The Passport Processing Program will help smooth adoption procedures for new parents of immigrant children. Preschool story times and literacy services for adults and youth will help improve reading ability. The library's volunteer program will help teens meet community service requirements as well as provide additional peer support for the library's programs and services.

The Friends of the Library Bookstore will provide a venue for everyone, including the poor, to purchase affordable books, and at the same time, generate revenue to support library services. Murrieta's population is predominantly White, but there are a number of minorities; the largest ethnic group is the 17.5% that are Hispanic. The library and bookstore will provide multicultural and other-language materials to meet the needs of minorities.

K - 12 Student Population: Description and Needs

The Murrieta Valley Unified School District (MVUSD), unified in 1989, is comprised of 13 schools. Like the City, it too has experienced phenomenal growth—from a student population of 275 in 1980, to 15,434 in the 2002-03 school year. The District predicts the student population will double by 2020.

MVUSD schools are overcrowded. The 27.7 students per classroom ratio is the sixth highest of 29 Districts in Riverside County (2001 data).⁴ California, with one of the largest average class sizes in the nation, had an average of 26.5 that year as well.⁵ January 2003 enrollments show that Murrieta's main high school is serving 4,300 in a facility originally planned for half that size. Typically, high schools have an average population of 751 and California's high schools average 993.⁶ Large student to teacher ratios are a direct result of Murrieta's burgeoning school population. For example, grades 4-5 have a 32:1 student-to-teacher ratio, while middle and high schools have a 31:1 ratio. In contrast, California's mean ratios are 19.7 to 1 (elementary), 22.6 to 1 (middle school) and 21.4 to 1 (high school).⁷ Student to computer ratios are often significantly poorer than the national average of 6.7; some MVUSD schools have a ratio of 11 students per computer.

School libraries have limited or no after-school hours and lack space for the collections, resources, and technology that students need. The student population and its anticipated growth are outpacing the rate at which new schools and school libraries can be built and equipped.

A Joint Library-School Use agreement establishes additional benefits for MVUSD students, including dedicated time in the Library's Computer Resource Center. The City and the School District have drawn on one another's strengths and successes to form a cooperative partnership in providing Joint Use services at the new library. These two entities also worked to plan for a new library that would not only be an outstanding asset to Murrieta, but that would specifically address needs identified by the community.

⁴ California Dept. of Education. Educational Demographics Unit Selected County Level Data – RIVERSIDE COUNTY for 2001-02

⁵ Educational Demographics Office, CBEDS (assign00 6/7/01)

⁶, 6 (2002, May). NCES Statistical Analysis Report: Overview of Public Schools and Districts School Year 2000-01.

3. Needs Assessment Methodology

3a. Executive Summary of Needs Assessment Methodology

The City of Murrieta has been committed to governance with community participation since its incorporation in 1991. Since that time, library services have been a focal point for residents.

In September of 1997, Murrieta's City Council unanimously⁸ approved a Resolution to withdraw from the Riverside City and County Public Library System. The local community supported this action as it promoted the financial health of the City and at the same time was the start of a new era in which Murrieta could foreseeably have its own library. More recently, the concept of a Town Square and its planning process reflects services desired by the community.

Assessing the needs for library services was accomplished through a group effort. The Needs Assessment team, comprised of City officials, library groups, the City Council, and the City Librarian that they would employ a variety of methods for eliciting community input, discerning needs and developing solutions.

The City of Murrieta and its residents began developing ways to provide high-quality library services by first exploring community needs. Information, ideas and opinions about the planned library were collected through telephone and written surveys, focus groups, community meetings, outreach at public events, research, evaluation and analysis of reports, statistics, and other data, key informant interviews, and reviews of library development literature. Archival research included gathering information from other libraries, looking at "best practices" in library development, implementation and operation and studying local governing and historical documents.

3. b. How Participants Were Involved

A variety of agencies and organizations discussed in this document introduced and helped analyze factors relevant to determining library goals and objectives. At the forefront of the Needs Assessment process, were the City Council, City Librarian, and Friends of the Murrieta Library. FOML was formed before there were any library services whatsoever in Murrieta. The City of Murrieta made an ongoing commitment to consulting with and gathering input from as many stakeholders as possible in the planning of the library.

"One of the main reasons our city incorporated 10 years ago was so that our citizens would have a voice in how our city develops. To that end, the city has sponsored and facilitated citizen committees which initially created and then revised our General Plan a total of three times, conducting numerous public hearings in the process," said City Council member Jack van Haaster in September, 2001, as plans for the Library in Town Square were under discussion.

The City encouraged the active participation of various individuals and groups in the Needs Assessment with the goal of ascertaining, as a collective, the needs that a new public library could fill for the community. The table below shows who specifically was involved and the various methodologies used to include them in the Community Needs Assessment. Service needs identified were then analyzed and a Plan of Service was developed

⁸ (1997. September 16). City of Murrieta City Council Report-Regarding Murrieta's Participation in the Riverside County Public Library System

Non-School Entities Involved and a Summary of How They Were Involved

Many individuals, groups and organizations were involved in the Community Needs Assessment. The information below is not a comprehensive listing of all those involved, but provides a basis for understanding that a widespread outreach and information gathering effort took place. To emphasize that this needs assessment process resulted in a joint use library proposal, information about school entities is provided in a separate section

1. Library Service Area Residents

Residents were involved in the phone survey, key informant interviews, and many of the open City Council and Library Advisory Commission meetings. Patrons of the library completed written surveys and participated in key informant interview. Parents, including homeschoolers, provided input in person and via email communications. Parents using the temporary library were engaged by library staff to ascertain their perceived needs for a new library. . Special populations, including senior citizens, the physically disabled and people whose primary language is not English were involved through written surveys, one-to-one discussion and meetings.

2. Community Organizations including Special Interest Groups

The following organizations or individuals are involved in a broad spectrum of activities and interests. They all share a common objective: advocating for and having a voice in the development of library services.

The Library Advisory Commission- On May 16, 2000, through a unanimous vote, the City Council formally created the Murrieta Library Advisory Commission. The five member LAC, all appointed by the City Council, works closely with the City Librarian, acts in an advisory capacity to the library board, cooperates with government agencies, the Friends of the Library, and other civic groups to achieve sound library planning.

One of the most important roles of the LAC is to help ascertain community attitudes and issues, promoting public awareness of and involvement in library services. Because the Library Advisory Commission functions as liaison with city staff and the community in determining needed services, programs and intended use of the library, they were in a position to gather input on the new library project.

Friends of the Murrieta Library- Two Council members are also active Friends of the Murrieta Library board members. The Mayor Pro-tem is a charter board member of the Friends. This organization is dedicated to supporting library services through financial aid and volunteerism. They use diverse methods to encourage community support, such as a revenue-generating bookstore located across from the temporary library, the annual Friends' Style Show, and an annual book auction. The Friends were involved in the Needs Assessment both through input at meetings and fund-raising. They are working toward raising approximately \$500,000 for development of collections in a variety of formats before the new building opens.

Murrieta Garden Club (MGC) – While this club is dedicated to the education about and promotion of horticulture, some members are also Friends of the Library members. MGC members were involved in the Needs Assessment methodology through participation in open community meetings asking for community input. The MGC also contributed time and expertise to the new library's planned "Garden of Verses."

Temecula Valley Woman's Club – this local club is a non-profit organization that conducts fundraising events. Each year, the president designates a charity that will receive funds. The president is such an avid library supporter that she designated the temporary library as the funds recipient in 2002. The library received \$15,000 generated by the group's fundraising efforts in 2003.

The Murrieta Rotary Club, Lions Club, and Sun City Masonic Club – These affiliates are the local branches of these well-known international service organizations and participated in open City Council and Library Advisory Commission meetings.

Chamber of Commerce - The Murrieta Chamber of Commerce represents local small business owners and larger corporations in the City. The City Librarian visited the Chamber to present ideas regarding the library and collect feedback.

Colony Cousins – Colony Cousins is a group of Murrieta residents in a neighborhood of the City who are interested in tracing local roots and genealogy research. They have expressed an interest in conducting their research at the new library.

XYZ Club-This senior group was involved in the planning of Town Square, which includes a Senior Center. XYZ Club members participated in focus groups, provided written commentary and encouraged others to participate in various needs assessment processes

Other Groups – The Riverside County Chapter of Homeschoolers was contacted and provided email feedback. The United Way of the Inland Empires provided written materials regarding low-income and minority needs. Firefighters Associations and other Civic Groups expressed interest and provided feedback at informal gatherings and in one-to-one conversations with library staff.

3, Local Government Staff and Elected Officials

Murrieta City Council- The City Council consists of five members elected at large and they constitute the legislative body of the City. The City Council was involved through planning meetings, collaboration with community organizations, and gathering input at public meetings. The City Council also sits as the Board of Directors for the temporary Murrieta Public Library.

Community Services Commission - The Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council and Director of Community Services in helping develop facilities for youth, adult, and senior recreation.

Community Steering Committee - Murrieta's twelve member Community Steering Committee consists of library, youth, senior, City Council, public safety, transportation, community services, and planning representatives, a member of the school board, and "at large" citizens. The committee advises the city council and city manager on the establishment of a participatory style of local government, obtains community-wide input generally and specifically on the community's vision, disseminates information to the community, develops a priority list of goals based on the vision, determines what facilities, programs and resources are necessary for desired processes and projects. The Mayor Pro-tem serves as liaison to the Murrieta Community Steering Committee.

City Managers Office, Department Heads, Project Managers, City Librarian – These individuals were intimately involved in the Community Needs Assessment planning process. They acted as consultant experts in giving critical information about the City government's perceptions of the

need for a permanent library. The City Librarian was crucial in every step of the Community Needs Assessment, marshalling efforts to collect information from diverse entities, and sharing her professional expertise.

Other Planning Bodies within Murrieta and the Region—The City has a number of planning bodies that are involved in any City-planned capital improvements. In this Project, this included citizens, city staff and elected officials involved with: the Historic Murrieta Specific Plan; the General plan Review; the Capital Improvement Program; and, the annual City budget process. Furthermore, County entities were apprised of the plans for a new library and feedback or comments to the City Librarian.

3.c. How the School District was Involved in Planning the Joint Use Project

The Murrieta Valley Unified School District supports creating and maintaining effective partnerships and promoting active involvement with the community in educational processes. MVUSD school libraries have always been a priority, with a library planned for each new school that is built. Concurrent to the City's Needs Assessment process, the MVUSD developed a District Library Plan that was approved by the Board of Education in 1998 to guide the schools in collection and service development. This plan also provided for an increase in the number of books for each library; however, space is limited and the school libraries would like the new library to host temporary collections while schools are being built to handle the population growth.



School Representatives Involved

Murrieta Valley Unified Board of Education

The six member Board includes the School District Superintendent and community members of diverse educational and occupational backgrounds. The Board of Education is a policy-making body and has the authority to contract for goods, employ personnel, establish a budget, and determine the educational programs of the District. The Board meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Special Board of Education meetings may also be scheduled to address issues as they arise, including the uses of the new Murrieta Public Library.

The board invites the public and student organization representatives to open sessions of its regular meetings to elicit input and discuss issues affecting the students and community; they have been strong advocates for new library services. A District Library Plan was approved by the Board of Education in 1998 to increase the number of library books in each library, and add library reference technology to provide a variety of information sources for students. In the past year, the Board has specifically focused on collaborative efforts between MVUSD and the City to support the concept of a new library and the Joint Use Project.

School Board Member Kris Thomasian says: "Murrieta students score very well in the primary grades, but the longer they stay in school, the lower their scores are. This issue must be addressed immediately. We must look at successful high schools and districts to find the solution. Our high school students have been ignored long enough."

School Superintendent

The superintendent of Schools is the Chief Executive Officer of the District and Secretary to the Board of Education. The District Superintendent assisted in determining student needs and trends along with establishing guidelines for a Joint Use Agreement from the District standards. Those guidelines included a project to provide the most resources to their students in a cost

efficient manner. Dr. Francisco also serves on the Board of the Chamber of Commerce, an organization that has been a proponent of the library being built in Town Square.

School District Library/Media Services Coordinator

The District Library/Media Services Coordinator, Jeanne Nelson played an integral role in the development of the Joint Use Project. The School Superintendent appointed the School District Librarian as liaison for the joint use project and she compiled data about the school district.

Ms. Nelson also assisted in collecting and analyzing data from the January 28, 2003 *Library Use Survey* that had been distributed to students at schools throughout the district.

School Principals

Jennifer Tan-Rail Ranch Elementary

Ms. Tan has been a strong supporter of community library services and invited the City Librarian to attend a teacher's meeting to help distribute teacher surveys. These surveys were part of the Community Library Needs Assessment methodology.

Karen Michaud- Cole Canyon Elementary

Ms. Michaud assisted in the planning and assessment of service needs for the new library from the start of the library project. Ms. Michaud is beginning her twenty-seventh year in education. Her focus is on student academic and social success based on meeting or exceeding California State Standards.

Teachers

Jennifer Masters and Margarite Rucker-Both teachers helped develop a homework "Assignment Alert" sheet to go to all teachers. This tool is intended to help the library staff prepare materials for assignments.

Seven MVUSD elementary school teachers also assisted in the Needs Assessment process in 2003 by meeting with the City Librarian for an informal "idea session." The teachers completed surveys handed out at this meeting to give their input into a variety of topics, including the library/educational needs that are not currently being met by school resources and the status of computer use at their schools.

In late January, of 2003, teachers representing all the MVUSD schools distributed a "Library Use Survey" to their students.

School Librarians

Librarians from various MVUSD schools were involved through a consultative process with the School District and City librarians.

Murrieta Valley Council PTA

The Murrieta Valley Council PTA was established in 1992 and is currently comprised of nine PTA units from schools throughout Murrieta. Its mission includes the support of the local school site PTAs and, to advocate on behalf of children and youth within the schools and community. Parents, educators, administrators, students and community members are all welcome and encouraged to be a part of the MVC PTA. The MVC PTA coordinated discussions with each PTA Board at each school. The MVC PTA has supported fundraising and outreach activities for

community-serving groups and City organizations, including the temporary Murrieta Public Library.

Students

Murrieta Valley High School students were invited to attend a Teen Meet and Greet at the Library on May 15, 2002. An informal discussion encouraged open dialog and generated ideas from the young adult population. These ideas generated from the students helped library staff develop a specific, student-oriented survey regarding library services. In February of 2002, this survey was distributed to a group of Murrieta Valley High School students in their government class by the City Librarian. Meetings with members of the Associated Student Body (ASB) of various schools also produced written information and informative dialogue.

3d. Table Demonstrating Widespread Involvement

The Table below summarizes the various entities involved in the Community Needs Assessment. It indicates in what manner they were involved, as well.

Table 1

WHO WAS INVOLVED AND HOW	HOW THEY WERE INVOLVED				
	Phone Surveys	Written Surveys	Community Meetings, Events	Key Informant Interviews	Research
Library Service Area Residents	•	•	•	•	•
Library Patrons		•	•	•	•
Parents			•	•	
Special Populations, including Senior Citizens			•	•	•
Community Organizations and Special Interest Groups			•	•	•
Local Government Staff and Elected Officials	•		•	•	•
School Representatives		•	•	•	•
Board of Education			•		•
Superintendent		•	•	•	
School District Librarian/Media Services Coordinator		•	•	•	•
Teachers		•	•	•	•
Parent/Teacher Organizations			•	•	•
Students and Student Organizations		•	•	•	•

3.d. Methods Used to Elicit Other Community Input

The overall methodology involved interactive activities and research. Interactive activities included written and telephone surveys, meetings, focus groups informal gatherings, key informant interviews and one-to-one discussions. Research included collection and analysis of demographic and other data. This was accomplished through electronic data retrieval, and the review of reports, news articles and other documents related to community needs, the City of Murrieta, the County of Riverside and the State. Key stakeholders also provided written data or suggested where to look for pertinent facts. For example, the School District administration provided school API scores. Whether the library was a predetermined topic of discussion or brought up during the meeting or gathering, agendas, meeting notes, discussions with attendants and written input from these individuals provided valuable to the Needs Assessment.

The narrative below summarizes activities carried out through some of these methods. Findings pertinent to the library that evolved from these activities are discussed in the Community Analysis section

Meetings and Surveys

Survey by Godbe Research and Analysis-- Godbe Research and Analysis was hired to survey the community by phone in April of 2001 with the goal of performing an overall needs analysis for the City of Murrieta. The City and company identified several research objectives, including a determination of the residents' overall satisfaction with municipal services, the level of importance of projects, utilization of resources, proposed projects and the ability to gather additional demographic information.

Because the research objectives involved issues that concerned the entire Murrieta community, it was determined that the appropriate sampling methodology would be to interview a sample of community residents selected using random digit dialing (RDD). The total survey sample size was 400 adult residents and the margin of error for all aggregate responses was between 2.92 and 4.87 percent. Overall findings were recorded and a table was developed.

Written Survey Conducted by Library Staff -- City Library staff created a written library survey in September 2001 to identify potential library needs. A total of 219 people were surveyed. The survey's means of distribution was through various locations and activities within the community, such as at the Fireman's Annual Barbecue, Friends of the Library general meeting, a Chamber of Commerce Event, and at a Rotary Club meeting. Surveys were also available at the temporary library site. The survey asked the respondent to prioritize services and add any elements of importance to the respondent. Demographic information was requested in addition to an indication of use-level of library facilities.

Teacher Survey -- In February of 2003, the City Librarian met with seven elementary school teachers in order to gather input and data regarding their perceptions of student needs in relation to City library services. The goal of this meeting as well as the survey was to continue identifying student needs that a new library could address. Seven elementary school teachers completed surveys (find out if there are more) that included questions such as "What library/educational support needs are not being met by your school resources?" and "are students able to use computers at your school as often as you think they should?" The survey also asked the teachers if they had materials in languages other than English available at the school library, how often they refer students to the Murrieta Public Library, if they were aware

that the library has homework assistance, and what resources they wished the school or temporary library had for student use.

Library Use Survey of K-12 Students and Teachers- On January 28, 2003, as part of the District Library Plan to improve school libraries, the Library Committee asked all MVUSD K-12 teachers to conduct a "Library Use Survey" with their students. A consulting team that included the City and District Librarians, teachers, and survey design experts created the survey. Teachers of the younger children verbalized survey questions to the students and took a hand count, recording the responses for compilation by the District Librarian. Therefore, a total of 5,110 students participated and 209, representing the higher grade levels, returned surveys in writing.

The survey's goal was to gather information from teachers and students useful in evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness levels of school library programs. Findings will be used to improve services throughout the School District and shared with the team members. City library and school district libraries can then continue building a continuum of services and programs that complement and extend one another's capabilities.

Survey questions were partially directed toward teacher perceptions of student needs and others asked students direct questions such as how often they go to the library, what they use their libraries for (homework, internet access, research, word processing), the number of children who have a computer at home to use for homework, and the number who have internet access at home. Teacher questions included items such as the ability of students to access the materials they need for class projects in the school library. Other questions asked teachers if library hours are sufficient to meet student needs, and if the current level of instruction in using the library is sufficient.

Meeting and Survey with ASB Representatives-- Murrieta Valley High School students were invited to attend a Teen Meet and Greet at the Library on May 15, 2002. An informal discussion encouraged open dialog and generated ideas from the young adult population. Ideas generated from the students helped library staff develop a specific, student-oriented survey regarding library services. In February of 2002, these surveys were handed out to student body association program members and asked respondents to prioritize potential library services based on their needs or interests. The survey also asked the students if they had Internet access at home and gave a space for students to list anything not on the survey that would bring them into a local library. Ninety-nine students returned surveys to library staff.

City Council Meetings and Workshops -- Library planning has been a subject on the City Council agenda periodically since the City became incorporated. In 2001-2, the Council authorized matching funds and the filing of application for Library grant construction funding. On May 7, 2002 the City Council placed the proposed plan of a library on the agenda to encourage public comment on the project. Residents and representatives of various community groups and organizations came to speak at the meetings to educate themselves as to the direction of the project and contribute to prospective services and amenities. Public comments were recorded and considered in the overall plan of the project. Among others, all members of the local senior club, the XYZ Club, attended and twenty-nine members of the Friends of the Murrieta Library were also in attendance. Both groups spoke at the Council meeting and provided written statements.

Library Advisory Commission Meetings -- Monthly meetings were held to invite the public's opinions and comments on what services were needed in the new library. The project's size,

layout and uses were explained. Representatives of the Friends of the Library were in attendance, and their concerns and issues were included in the discussion.

Community members were encouraged to attend LAC informational meetings that made project details available and solicited community input. The Commissioners invited different groups and organizations to attend the meetings. Planning documents were reformulated, taking into account the community input received.

Friends of the Murrieta Library – “Friends” or “FOML” is a driving force in the City’s quest for a permanent library. Members of the Friends of the Murrieta Library attend all meetings that relate to the library including the hearing of the Library Bond Act in December of 2000.

Murrieta Community Services Commission Meetings--During regular Commission meetings throughout 2001- 2003, the subject of library needs was often raised. This commission was responsible for the coordination of a Joint Use Agreement with Murrieta Valley Unified School District and implemented the City’s Park Master Plan.

Town Square Development Meetings -- The City of Murrieta held special meetings related to the development of Town Square and its primary components, including the library. September 19, 2001 marked the first Town Square joint effort meeting. The City and Carrier Johnson, the project architects, held a Programming Kick-off for the City Hall, Library and Amphitheater Projects. Agenda items included an outline of the process schedule, goals and objectives for the City Hall, Library and Amphitheatre projects, as well as information gathering, assessment and compilation deadlines. Determining the Scope of Work for the three projects was discussed, including the Library Proposition 14 Application, budgetary issues, schedules, and schematics. A general floor plan of the new library was distributed at this time.

On November 28, 2001, Carrier Johnson again met with the City to introduce their program team and discuss the development of Town Square. Agenda items included a discussion of the project’s overall mission, goals, schedule and budgetary parameters. Also on the agenda were Program Processes, such as process outline, program schedule review, program questionnaire review and milestone growth years for planning.

Community Focus Group of March 5, 2003--As part of an ongoing effort by City leaders to involve residents in the planning process, a community meeting was held on March 5, 2003 to discuss the community’s library needs. Various stakeholder groups attended the meeting, including senior citizens, Friends of the Library, the Murrieta Garden Club, the Temecula Valley Women’s Club, and a City Council member.

Informal Gatherings

Fire Department Barbecue--The Fire Chief invites the City Librarian to the Fire Department’s annual community barbecue as a way of eliciting comments from attendees. In 2002, a special table at the barbecue was arranged for the Library to exhibit plans and ask the community for its views. The Friends of the Library also participated in this outreach effort.

Police Department Grand Opening -- The grand opening of the Police Department on Town Square was a highlight of 2002 for the City. The Chief of Police invited the City Librarian to attend the event to hand out informational packets to attendees.

Annual City Birthday Party -- The Community Services Department, which consists of Parks and Recreation, has an annual birthday party for the City. The Library had a table providing informational material.

Civic Organization Meetings -- The City Library attends Chamber of Commerce meetings, at their invitation. She also attends social gatherings sponsored by the Chamber. The City Librarian takes these opportunities to discuss library-related issues and help define services needed based, in part, on the Chamber members' perceptions. The Librarian has also attended Rotary Club, Lions Club, and Masonic Club gatherings.

Key Informant Interviews and One-to-One Discussions

In collecting data for the Needs Assessment, the City Librarian and other collaborators (Friends of the Library, Library Commission, City Council members) discussed the City's needs for a library. They also elicited information about what would be important to have in terms of library services for a City with Murrieta's population base. Individuals and organizations consulted were many and varied. A partial list is included in the Appendix to this document. Furthermore, the City Librarian and existing, temporary library staff were engaged as key informants. They provided written and verbal input regarding library needs and resources

Research

Various resources from diverse but reliable sources were used to collect data during the Needs Assessment. The United States Census Bureau was referenced for population statistics. The California Department of Education provided statistics to profile the K-12 population, as did the School District. Reports published by the University of California, Riverside's Economic Forecasting Center along with *California Cities, Towns & Counties* contained information specific to Murrieta for income, housing, commuting and geographical information.

Related statistics were also obtained from *Key Findings of the Western Riverside Resident Telephone Survey* published by Godbe Research and Analysis. This information was analyzed in terms of commute times and numbers of commuters in the Murrieta area. The California Department of Finance and the U.S. Census Bureau were invaluable resources in obtaining the most current population growth statistics for Murrieta and California. Another research tool used to obtain facts and figures, including national growth rates was the electronic version of the Central Intelligence Agency's *World Factbook 2002*.

Archival information was extensively gathered from City staff and other key informants. Internet searches also netted valuable information, including local newspaper articles, studies, other facts and opinions.

4. Community Analysis With Executive Summary

Overall Findings-Executive Summary

Murrieta is a progressive new city located in a bucolic setting. Located between the intersections of Interstates 15 and 215, Murrieta is fifty miles from the Ontario International Airport and fifty miles north of San Diego. Reasonable housing prices, the foundation of an outstanding educational system, one of Southern California's lowest crime rates,⁹ and improved freeway access made the City an inviting place in which to live, work and visit.

Government Agencies

Murrieta was incorporated in 1991 as a General Law city. The five-member City Council, headed by the mayor, governs the City. The City Council also serves as the Library Board. The City Council made the planning of a new a Library a main focus and they have demonstrated continual support by taking aggressive actions to advance the library planning process.

Representatives from a number of government agencies and groups were involved in the Needs Assessment process. These include the City Manager and Assistant City Manager; the City Librarian, heads of the Fire Department, Police Department, Community Services Division, Public Works, Planning, Engineering and Development Services and others

School Agencies

Murrieta has one School District, the Murrieta Valley Unified School District, which was unified in 1989. The student population has increased from 375 in 1980 to 15,434 in 2003. The District currently has 8 elementary schools, 3 middle schools, and 2 high schools (one of the high schools is a continuation school). A new elementary school has been built each year for the past three years and one is planned for the next three years. A new high school is also planned to open in 2003. The existing non-continuation high school, with a population of 4,300, has outgrown its facility, which was originally built with a capacity of 2,300 students. Murrieta has only one non-public K-12 school within its city limits: Calvary Chapel-Murrieta (K-12).

The school district and the City have entered into a Joint Use Agreement to help enhance K-12 students opportunities for school success. A Computer Resource Center is at the center of this collaboration. The library will also house textbooks and other materials to help ease the burden of the school district in its attempts to serve its growing student population.

Community Organizations

Community organizations that have participated in the Needs Assessment process include: Friends of the Murrieta Library, Temecula Valley Woman's Club, Murrieta Rotary Club, Lion's Club of Murrieta, Murrieta Chamber of Commerce, and the XYZ Club. These eclectic community organizations were unified in their strong support for a new public library.

These organizations, research about community services needs in the area and one-to-one interviews with participants from similar groups revealed several needs: These included: a full service library within the city limits; a Heritage Room to serve as a depository of local artifacts and documents; a bookstore within the library to help support library operations; community meeting rooms in the library; and extended library hours to accommodate the high concentration of commuters in the community (Murrieta is a bedroom community).

⁹ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Uniform Crime Reports*

Demography and Demographic Analysis

According to the United States Census Bureau, the City of Murrieta's population in 2000 was 44,282 within the city's 27.42 square miles. On July 1, 2002, the city annexed 40.95 square miles. Partially as a result of this annexation, the City's population grew to 51,600 in 2002, an increase of 5,350 from the previous year. The projected population for 2020 is 92,000. Census 2000 data also indicates that Children under the age of 18 total 33.7% of Murrieta's population as compared to 27.3% of California's population and 25.7% of the United States population. Consequently, the need for children's materials in Murrieta's proposed library is significantly greater than that in other city libraries.

Murrieta's population composition is 81.6% white, 17.5% Hispanic, 4% Asian and 3.4% Black.¹⁰ Within the School District, there are 2,373 Hispanic children, 822 Black or African Americans, 404 Filipinos, 337 Asians, 125 Pacific Islanders, and 80 Native American Indian/Alaska Natives.

As the City's main ethnic minority, Hispanics need materials in Spanish throughout the library, that are not available elsewhere, whether in the audio-visual, reference, fiction, non-fiction, or children's collections. Some Spanish materials already exist in the temporary library collection and would be expanded in the new library. Some programming can also be conducted with a focus on language accessibility for Spanish speaking populations.

In 2002, Murrieta experienced more economic growth than at any time in the previous decade. This spurred the improvement of thoroughfares, extension of its boundaries, construction of more housing, planning for a sixty acre sports park, and the beginning of work on Murrieta Town Square, the city's new governmental hub and proposed home for the new library.

Murrieta's poverty rate is substantially less than those of the state or nation as a whole and is reflected by the student composition. There are 2,000 low-income students within the Murrieta Valley Unified School District, constituting 13% of the total enrollment. In the school district, 14.5% of meals are provided free or at a reduced price. This compares favorably with free and reduced-price meals offered both countywide (49%) and statewide (46.8%).

The community analysis demonstrates the need for a permanent Library facility in the City of Murrieta, as the current and projected population is severely underserved for library services. Libraries provide communities with crucial and essential services that are not otherwise available. Once established, a public library fulfills an ongoing mission to maintain and enhance those services, while developing new ones to provide for the changing needs of a growing and vibrant community.

¹⁰ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File, Matrices PL1, PL2, PL3, and PL4.

4.a. Government Agencies and City Staff

City Council

The five Member City Council, headed by the Mayor, governs the City. The City Council is responsible for formulating City policy and approving the major actions through which municipal functions are conducted. The City Council also serves as the Library Board.

KEY CITY OF MURRIETA ELECTED OFFICIALS:				
Mayor	Mayor Pro-Tem	Council member	Council member	Council member
Dick Ostling	Brian Youens	Warnie Enochs	Kelly Seyarto	Jack van Haaster

The City Council has made the planning of a new a Library a main focus and their continual support has been demonstrated in aggressively placing resolutions on the agenda and approving them unanimously. Council members have become advocates for a City Library. Council members have attended hearings and meetings at various levels to express their concerns of library services. They have become strong spokespersons at community events, allocating staff and funds to advertise the Library as a whole.

City Manager's Office

The City Manager is appointed by the City Council. The City Manager, Steve Mandoki and the Assistant City Manager, Lori Moss, have been champions of the library project.

City Librarian

The City Librarian prepares reports and plans for the library and these are presented in turn to the five member Library Advisory Commission. The Commission makes recommendations to the City Council at which time the Council approves or denies a project.

City Librarian Diane Satchwell has extensive experience in the design and implementation of new libraries. In 1990, she was involved in opening of Heritage Park Library in Irvine. In 1991, right after the Crown Valley Public Library in Laguna Niguel opened, she assisted by developing the collection and establishing work procedures. Diane opened Rancho Santa Margarita Library for the Orange County Public Library (OCPL) system in 1994, and was instrumental throughout the entire project development process. She purchased all materials for the opening day collection, and the library opened in the shortest amount of time in the history of OCPL.

In November of 1998, Ms. Satchwell opened the temporary library in Murrieta. She managed the entire project, including the building renovation. She redesigned the original architect's drawings, chose contractors, purchased furniture, shelves, materials, hired and trained staff. In January 1998, she worked as a consultant on Aliso Viejo Library for the OCPL and wrote a manual on library opening for OCPL. Her opening procedures became the standard for OCPL.

Other Key City Staff

Several department heads and other management staff have supported the building of a new library in the Town Square complex. Each has contributed to the promotion of the Library through their individual events. Each department within City Hall made time to review plans and assist with project success. Planning, Engineering and Development Services contributed to the detail of the library's architectural drawings.

The following other city staff also participated in the library needs assessment process:

- Senior Management Analyst Al Vollbrecht
- Finance Director Teri Ferro
- City Librarian Diane Satchwell
- Fire Chief Phil Armentrout
- Police Chief Daniel Higginbotham
- Jim Holstein from Community Service
- Public Works Director Jim Kinley
- Planning Manager Jim Mackenzie
- Building Manager Dennis Blundell

4.b. School Agencies-Public Schools (K-12)

The Murrieta Valley Unified School District is facing many challenges. An increase in student population has resulted in overcrowding, high student to teacher ratios, high student to computer ratios, and large class sizes. Currently the high school, with a population of 4,300, has overburdened the facility, which was originally built for a capacity of 2,300 students. Of the total student population, 13% are low income. There are more than five students per computer within the classroom; some schools have up to eleven students per computer, far exceeding the national average of 6.7. This does not allow for enough quality computer time for each child.

All of MVUSD’s thirteen schools have libraries, however, space, resources, and collections are limited as are after school library hours. Students are restricted from using the library based on the lack of space; often only one class may visit the library at a time.

All of MVUSD’s thirteen schools have libraries, however, space, resources, and collections are limited as are after school library hours. Students are restricted from using the library based on the lack of space; often only one class may visit the library at a time.

SCHOOL	OPEN	CLOSED
Alta Murrieta Elementary	7:30	3:00
Avaxat Elementary	8:00	4:30
Cole Canyon Elementary	9:15	3:15
Creekside (Continuation) HS	9:00	12:00
Daniel N. Buchanan Elementary	8:30	3:00
E. Hale Curran Elementary	7:30	3:00
Murrieta Elementary	10:30	2:45
Murrieta Valley High School	6:45	4:30
Rail Ranch Elementary	8:15	3:00
Shivela Middle School	7:00	3:30
Warm Springs Middle School	7:30	2:00
Thompson Middle School	7:30	2:45
Tovashal Elementary	7:45	3:15

The School District Librarian has been given the lead role as the representative of the schools to work with city staff on service needs for the schools. The Superintendent reviews the proposals and information submitted based on the Librarian's recommendation. The PTA Council has provided input based on their organization's involvement and representation at all the schools. A final meeting developed a joint use agreement for a Computer Resource Center.

The MVUSD Support Center reports that in the 2000-2001 school year, students checked out a total of 222,124 books from MVUSD school libraries. The total district enrollment in 2,000 was 12,300 students, therefore, students checked out an average of eighteen books each. Diverse and greater amounts of collections are in great demand for these knowledge-seeking students, but the schools do not have room to provide for more collections and resources, therefore, the School District has agreed to establish a target collection to be housed at the new Murrieta Public Library.

SCHOOL	# of BOOKS PER SCHOOL	ENROLLMENT ¹¹
2002-03 MVUSD Enrollment	NA	15,434 ¹²
Alta Murrieta Elementary	16,829	685
Avaxat Elementary	19,874	827
Cole Canyon Elementary	6,390	741
Creekside (Continuation) HS	2,197	159
Daniel N. Buchanan Elementary	7,003	737+ (projected to be over 1,000 in 2003)
E. Hale Curran Elementary	18,525	947
Murrieta Valley High School	29,110	4,300
Murrieta Elementary	13,941	642
Rail Ranch Elementary	16,151	1,009
Shivela Middle School	18,334	1728
Thompson Middle School	11,130	1,654
Tovashal Elementary	18,870	838

Elementary Schools

The elementary schools in Murrieta are: Alta Murrieta Elementary, Avaxat Elementary, Cole Canyon Elementary, Daniel N. Buchanan Elementary, E. Hale Curran Elementary, Murrieta Elementary, Rail Ranch Elementary, and Tovashal Elementary.



The service needs of elementary school students are:

- Access to computers/more computer time [some K-3 get NO computer time]
- Computer literacy training
- A larger, more diverse selection of books and research materials
- After school and weekend library access/extended library hours
- Reading programs

¹¹ California Dept. of Education. Education , Enrollment in California Public Schools 2001-02

¹² Source: California Department of Education, Educational Demographics Unit

Middle Schools

The Middle Schools in Murrieta are: Shivela (grades 6-8), Warm Springs (grades 6-7) and Thompson Middle Schools (grades 6-8).

Thompson Middle School, on Hayes Avenue, is 2 miles from the site; and Warm Springs Middle School, on Calle de Fortuna, is 4.4 miles from the proposed library site. Shivela Middle School is located on Lincoln Avenue, 1.7 miles from the proposed library site, providing easy accessibility for students by bicycle, car or public transportation. Student to teacher ratios for both middle schools are 31 to 1, far exceeding the State's average of 22.6 to 1. This implies that each Murrieta middle school teacher has nine students more than the average California middle school teacher. Student to computer ratios at the middle school level are often significantly poorer than the national average of 6.7. Some schools in the MVUSD have a ratio of 11 students per computer. To address this lack of computer resources, the new Library's Computer Resource Center will be established as a Joint Use Project between the City and the MVUSD a.

The service needs of middle school students as determined from input from teachers, parents and students in surveys and interviews, are:

- Access to computers/more computer time
- Internet access
- Computer literacy training
- School readiness...
- Space to do homework
- A larger, more diverse selection of books and research materials
- Extended library hours

High Schools

The High Schools in Murrieta are: Murrieta Valley High School (grades 9-12), Creekside High School (continuation/independent study high school). The Murrieta Valley Adult Education program also occupies space on the Creekside High School campus.



Murrieta Valley High School was built to accommodate 2,500 students, and it is currently exceeding its capacity with a population of nearly 4,300. There are plans to build a second high school, to open in 2003. The tremendous and aggressive growth of the community has stretched its resources and created an overcrowded environment in some of the schools.

Creekside High on Hayes Avenue is 2 miles from the library site. Murrieta Valley High, on Washington Avenue is within 1.3 miles of the new library and it has an enrollment of 4,300 in a facility built for 2,500. The student to teacher ratio far exceeds the state and nation at 31:1 and the student to computer ratio is 11 to 1.

The ethnic/racial composition of the school is 55.7% White in contrast to the overall MVUSD White student population- 63.2%. A greater degree of ethnic diversity is represented in some of the High School's population as compared to the School District's, especially with the 7.5% of students that are African American. The overall African American Population for the School District is 6%. Hispanic children comprise 13.6% of the High School population, which is a significant number that may need materials in Spanish. The School District's overall Hispanic student population is 17.4%. The Table on page 28 gives a detailed breakdown of ethnicity by

school, compared to the School District, the City, along with the overall composition of Riverside County and California's populations.

The service needs of high school students were determined by Census data, research findings, input from teachers, librarians, as well as by a written survey developed by MVHS students and city/temporary library staff. Ninety-nine students responded to the survey. Thirteen surveys were not valid due to student errors in following instructions. Therefore, eighty-six is the base number used for the measurable total of those completing surveys is.



Students at work-MVHS Library

Other needs were voiced at a Teen Meet and Greet focus group hosted by the library. It was the intense interest of the students in library services that led to the survey development.

High School student service needs are:

- ***A public library within the City of Murrieta***

100% of survey respondents and Focus Group participants agreed that a library was crucial to their community. Comments included:

“The City of Murrieta REALLY needs a library, because, honestly, books on certain subject matters are scarce in the Inland Valley. Many times, I have driven to San Diego to find a good subject book. We need a library! A good one!”

“I really think we need a bigger library so we don't have to drive to five small libraries out of the area to find one book.”

“Murrieta is a growing town and needs a library. I find it difficult to get the needed books in Murrieta. Sometimes it is a hassle to go out of my way to Temecula.”

“I went to our local library just last week and I was planning to check out some books for my research paper, but there were no books on my topic. We need a larger library to hold more books. I had to spend more time driving around looking for another library than I did actually researching.”

- ***Larger and more diverse collections***

This need was determined through input from teachers and students the survey described above. An overwhelming number of students rated “selection of materials” as top priorities. Forty-four said this was their number one interest or need, seven reported that increased selection of materials was their number two priority, and seventeen stated that “materials” was their third priority of eight possible choices. This indicated that sixty-seven students, or 78% placed materials as one of the top three items they need in a new library, and 52% rated this item as number one.

Comments on the surveys also indicated the huge demand for improved collections. The need for multicultural materials and books and other items in Spanish was also discussed. Thirty-one students, or 36% took the time to write in an area allocated for comments that they need greater variety and quantity of books, reference and research materials in various formats, and that their needs are not being met by their school library or the temporary library.

According to one focus group participant, “I think that we desperately need a library with acceptable material. There are hardly any books from the high school curriculum. I also think that the library needs to have a more private/secluded area for studying, researching, etc.”

- ***Computer/Internet access***

The same survey’s findings showed that thirty-two respondents put Internet access as their number one priority for public library services. Sixteen students rated Internet access as their number two priority and thirteen stated that it was their third priority.) This finding indicated that sixty-one students, or 71% placed Internet access as one of the top three items they need in a new library, and 37% rated this item as number one.

Seven respondents wrote comments in the given section stating that they would also like more computer access, and five discussed their lack of Internet access. Often, they are limited to certain hours at their schools, there are not enough computers to go around, and long waits for computer time frustrates them. “Even though most homes have Internet access, it is usually slow and difficult to find important information,” stated one student whose sentiments were echoed by other Teen Meet and Greet attendees.

- ***Capacity to do Word Processing***

Four students placed word processing on the top of their priority list for library services, nineteen placed it second, and fourteen respondents ranked word processing as their number three priority. A total of thirty-seven, or 43% found the need word processing time and capability in the top three library service priorities.

- ***Training***

- ***Space for homework and quiet reading***

- ***Research and reference materials***

- ***Extended library hours***

- ***College prep materials***

Public School’s Proximity to the Proposed Library

The library site in Town Square is central to Murrieta’s schools. Murrieta Elementary is across the street from the proposed library’s main entrance on Adams Avenue. E. Hale Curran Elementary on Chaco Canyon Road is 2.1 miles from the library site; Avaxat Elementary on Las Brisas Road is 2.8 miles away; Cole Canyon Elementary on Via Alisol is 2.9 miles from the site; Alta Murrieta Elementary on Whitewood Road is 3.4 miles from the site; Buchanan Elementary on Torrey Pines Road is 4.3 miles away; Rail Ranch (on Via Santee Rd.) and Tovashal (on Saint Raphael) Elementaries are both 3.1 miles from the library site.

Other Schools and Homeschoolers

Calvary Chapel School is the only K-12 private school in Murrieta. There are several preschools. There is also a homeschooling network. . The needs assessment process has engaged parents and teachers from some of these schools through one-to-one conversations and through their children’s participation in the current temporary library’s programs and other services.

4.c. Community Organizations

Community organizations have been heavily involved in the Needs Assessment process. Their management staffs attend the Library Advisory Committee, Community Steering Committee and City Council meetings, and thus are able to add input about the Computer Resource Center and library expansion plans on a regular basis.

Community organizations that have participated in the Needs Assessment process include: Friends of the Murrieta Library, Temecula Valley Woman's Club, Murrieta Rotary Club, Lion's Club of Murrieta, Murrieta Chamber of Commerce, and the XYZ Club. These eclectic community organizations were unified in their strong support for a new public library.

Specific needs identified by these organizations included: a Heritage Room to serve as a depository of local artifacts and documents; a full service library within the city limits; a bookstore within the library to help support library operations; community meeting rooms in the library; and extended library hours to accommodate the high concentration of commuters in the community (Murrieta is a bedroom community).

Community Organizations in Murrieta have been involved in the needs assessment process, as summarized by the chart in section 2.B. These community organizations send representatives to the various oversight organizations, and thus are able to add input about the Center and Library Expansion Plans on a regular basis. The organizations were actively engaged in the Community Library Needs Assessment process through meetings, public outreach, and community events. The following is a brief description of the community organizations (a more detailed description for each of these organizations can be found in section 3b. of this document) and their needs.

Library Advisory Commission

On May 16, 2000, through a unanimous vote, the City Council formally created the Murrieta Library Advisory Commission. The five member LAC, all appointed by the City Council, works closely with the City Librarian, acts in an advisory capacity to the library board, cooperates with government agencies, the Friends of the Library, and other civic groups to achieve sound library planning.

Friends of the Murrieta Library

This organization is dedicated to supporting library services through financial aid and volunteerism. The Friends were involved in the Needs Assessment both through input at meetings and fund-raising.

The Friends of the Murrieta Library 's main service need, to generate funds and support for the library, are met by the integration of a Friends' Bookstore and workroom in the new library. In addition, forty percent of the members of the Friends group have resided in Murrieta for fifteen years or more and are interested in retaining historically significant and valuable items. They support the concept of the Heritage Room as a depository of artifacts and documents.

Temecula Valley Woman's Club

This local club is a non-profit organization that conducts fundraising events. The library received \$15,000 generated by the group's fundraising efforts in 2003.

Murrieta Garden Club (MGC)

This club is dedicated to the education about and promotion of horticulture, some members are also Friends of the Library members.

The Club needs include space to hold annual horticulture exhibits and workshops and encourage the use of the library and the computer lab for “how to” information.

Murrieta Rotary Club

The Rotary Club has traditionally been one of many advocates for library services. They participated in open City Council and Library Advisory Commission meetings.

Lion’s Club of Murrieta

The Lion’s Club of Murrieta is a constant source of publicity for the Library. They participated in open City Council and Library Advisory Commission meetings.

Murrieta Chamber of Commerce

The Murrieta Chamber of Commerce represents local small business owners and larger corporations in the City. The Chamber has sent many letters in support of the Library to the State. Some of the larger businesses, such as Guidant and Paradise Chevrolet, have provided large amounts of funding in an effort to promote the awareness and importance of library services to the community.

Colony Cousins

Colony Cousins is a group of Murrieta residents in a neighborhood of the City who are interested in tracing local roots and genealogy research.

The Officers of the “Colony Cousins”, inquired if it would be possible to have a historical and genealogical room in the new Library. Many of the Cousins have books, videotapes and other materials that at some point in time they would like to donate to the library.

The XYZ Club

The XYZ Club is a senior organization that was established long before the city was incorporated. XYZ Club members participated in focus groups, provided written commentary and encouraged others to participate in various needs assessment processes.

Service Needs expressed by the XYZ Club include computers that magnify; large print books; book mobile for homebound residents. 3M copy machines that enlarge objects for seeing impaired. Branch libraries for easy access – no public transportation in Murrieta.

Other Community Based Organizations

The Riverside County Chapter of Homeschoolers was contacted and provided email feedback. The United Way of the Inland Empires provided written materials regarding low-income and minorities needs. Firefighters Associations and other Civic Groups expressed interest and provided feedback at informal gatherings and in one-to-one conversations with library staff.

4.c-4 Findings

The proposed site is centrally located to all public elementary, middle and high schools in the community. Most school children can easily walk or ride their bicycles to the facility. Seniors will also find the library facility conveniently located (the Senior Center is located right across from the proposed library), with planned public transit routes that will allow for easy access. In addition, the proximity of the proposed library to other government, retail and business services will allow for more efficient access to multiple uses. The site is situated in the geographic and demographic center of the City of Murrieta and will provide equal access to all library users.

As development of the Town Square is implemented public transit services will be modified to accommodate and provide for all transit services needs. These new transit routes will be operational for the opening of the proposed library. The projected main bus route will be located at the Town Square site, located immediately to the south of the proposed site. Current para transit service is available for seniors and the disabled population, and they will continue to serve the proposed library.

A bus pullout is planned for the midway point on Juniper Street, between Jefferson Avenue and Adams Avenue. The City of Murrieta is a member of the Joint Power Authority in conjunction with the Riverside Transit Agency (RTA). The RTA has projected public transit (bus) service every half hour during peak hours, and every hour during non-peak. Service will be provided seven days a week, with varying times on weekends and late night hours. The schedule will be finalized once the pullout is complete and the roadway is approved in conjunction with RTA.

4.d. Demography

The following list summarizes some of the major characteristics of the City of Murrieta and its community. This is followed by a more in-depth discussion of demographic characteristics.

- City is encompassed within a 27.42 square mile area of Riverside County (County data)
- City annexed 40.95 square mile area on 7/1/02 (County data)
- City's population in 2000 was 44,282 (U.S. Census)
- City's population in 2002 was 51,600 (U.S. Census)
- City projected population by 2020 is 92,000 (City estimates)
- Population growth rate in 2000-2001 was 9.4%, greater than the approx. 1% rate of the state and nation.
- Population growth rate in 2001-2002 was 11.6%, greater than the <1% of the state and nation.
- City predominantly white (81%), with another 17% being Hispanic. (Census 2000)
- School district predominantly white (58%) with another 19% being Hispanic (MVUSD data)
 - Of the City's 44,282 population in 2000, 33.7% of them were children (Census 2000)
 - Murrieta has a low poverty rate, with 4.3% of individuals below poverty level as compared to 14.2% in California, and 12.4% nationwide.
 - The average age is 34 years old.
 - There is a higher percentage of children under 18 in the City of Murrieta (33.7%) compared to California (27.3%) and the United States (25.7%).
 - Older Murrieta residents aged 55 to 84 as an aggregate comprise 17.3% of Murrieta's population
 - Over 75% of the residents are members of a family unit with 3.42 members per family.
 - From January 2001 to January 2002, Murrieta's population grew by 11.6%, the sixth highest growth rate in California¹³
 - The Murrieta Valley Unified School District school enrollment increased by 25% between 01/02 and 02/03 school year-- from 12,373 students to 15,434 students.

¹³ State of California, Dept. of Finance, *E-1 City/County Population Estimates, with Annual Percent Change, January 1, 2001- 2002*. Sacramento, California, May 2002.

4.d-1. Population Characteristics

Current Size and Projected Growth

According to the United States Census Bureau, the City of Murrieta's population in 2000 was 44,282 within the city's 27.42 square miles and 47,000 in 2001. The city annexed 40.95 square miles on July 1, 2002. Partially as a result of the annexation, the City's population grew to 51,600 in 2002. The projected population for 2020 is 92,000. The average age is 34 years old. Over 75% of the residents are members of a family unit with 3.42 members per family.

Murrieta's growth rate was 9.4% from 2000 to 2001. According to figures from the state Department of Finance, Murrieta experienced an 11.6% increase in population from January 2001 to January 2002, the sixth highest growth rate in California¹⁴. The County of Riverside is the second-fastest growing county in the state. Riverside County has a population of 1.3 million in a 7,200 square mile area. California's growth rate was 1.8% in 2000-2001, however the State's total population of 34.8 million in 2001 and 35.1 million in 2002, reflect less than a 1% growth rate. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, growth rate for the United States from 2000 to 2001 was 1.01%, while the National growth rate from 2001 to 2002 declined to .89%.¹⁵ While the State's growth rate may be slowing, Murrieta's is certainly not reflecting that trend.

Age

According to Census 2000 data, children under the age of 18 total 33.7% of Murrieta's population as compared to 27.3% of California's population and 25.7% of the United States population. Consequently, the need for children's materials is significantly greater than that of other cities.

The population aged 65 years and older comprises 11.4% of Murrieta's residents as compared to 10.6% of California's population and 12.4 % of the U.S. population. As a result, materials for seniors will be in greater demand than the average California city, although slightly less than other cities throughout the nation as a whole.

Please see section "Population Composition by Age" for a further breakdown of population composition by age as compared to the State and the nation.

School Population

The Murrieta Valley Unified School District enrolled 12,373 students in the 2001/2002 school year. In the 2002-2003 school year, enrollment grew to 15,434 students. The School District anticipates a 10% increase of the student population each year, requiring a new elementary school. "The area's growth is of great concern to me, as it is to the many residents I have spoken with during the past few months. Their main concern is the over crowding of our schools caused by residential growth without the funds for new schools," said City Council member Ayleen Gibbo.¹⁶

4.d-2 Required Demographic Data

Academic Performance Index (API)

¹⁴ IBID

¹⁵ World Factbook 2002. (updated 2003, March 19) CIA: Washington, D.C.

¹⁶ (2001, September 20). Murrieta City Council Q & A. *The Californian*.

The Table below shows MVUSD API scores broken down by school from 2000-2002. The asterisks represent declines in scores.

MVUSD Schools API Scores¹⁷	2000 API Base	2001 API Base	2002 API Base
Elementary Schools			
Alta Murrieta Elementary	767	796	809
Avaxat Elementary	797	800	810
Buchanan Elementary	Not built	NA	804
Cole Canyon Elementary		865	882
Curran (E. Hale) Elementary	825	825	*811
Murrieta Elementary	828	796	814
Rail Ranch Elementary	831	826	*820
Tovashal Elementary	850	851	*845
Average per year	816	823	824
Middle Schools			
Shivela Middle School	771	786	790
Thompson Middle School	790	790	*780
Warm Springs Middle School	NA	NA	NA
Average per year	780	788	*785
High Schools			
Murrieta Valley High	695	715	*698
Creekside High	NA	NA	NA

Elementary Schools -- In 2002, the average California Academic Performance Index for elementary schools in Murrieta was 824-one point higher than the previous year. Curran Elementary, Rail Ranch, and Tovashal Elementary school's API scores declined from 2001 to 2002. Rail Ranch has shown a consistent decline – from 831, to 826, to 820 over the last three school years (99/00, 00/01, and 01/02)

Middle Schools-- Murrieta Middle Schools as a whole showed an average API base score of was 785 in 2002, representing a three point decline from the previous year. Shivela Middle School has shown a consistent increase in scores form 2000-2002 with scores of 771, 786 and 790, respectively. Thompson Middle School's scores in both 2000 and 2001 were 790 and declined to 780 in 2002.

High Schools -- Murrieta Valley High had an API base score of 698 in 2002, a decline from the score of 715 in 2001. Data was not available for Creekside High School, the city's continuation school.

While the Murrieta Valley Unified School District has consistently ranked 8-10 statewide in terms of API scores, the performance measures indicate that Murrieta students performed very well during early years of schooling in 2000, but the elementary schools progressively lost ground in 2001 and 2002. Middle School averages are also showing slight declines and the high school has demonstrated a significant decline in API scores for 2002.

¹⁷California Department of Education Policy and Evaluation Division-API Scores by School District

Poverty Rate and Per Capita Income

Murrieta has a low poverty rate, with 4.3% of individuals below poverty level as compared to 14.2% in California, and 12.4% nationwide. The per capita income for Murrieta is \$ 23,290, while the per capita income for the State of California is \$22,711 and \$21,587 for the U.S. There are 2,000 low-income students within the Murrieta Valley Unified School District, which equates to 13% of the total enrollment.

Literacy Rate.

The 1992 and 2003 National Assessments of Adult Literacy use the following definition of literacy: "using printed and written information to function in society, to achieve one's goals, and to develop one's knowledge and potential." The National Adult Literacy Survey measured literacy along three dimensions, (prose literacy, document literacy, and quantitative literacy), designed to capture an ordered set of information-processing skills and strategies that adults use to accomplish a diverse range of literacy tasks. The literacy scales make it possible to profile the various types and levels of literacy among different subgroups in our society.

Each scale was divided into five levels that reflect the progression of information-processing skills and strategies: Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, Level 4, and Level 5. These levels were determined not as a result of any statistical property of the scales, but rather as a result of shifts in the skills and strategies required to succeed on various tasks along the scales, from simple to complex.¹⁸

In California an estimated 24% of adults are at the lowest literacy level and 2,000,000 native English speakers are functionally illiterate.¹⁹ The adult proficiency literacy rate within the county is 271 out of a perfect score of 500. The statewide average is 263. The nearest test site was Moreno Valley with a score of 257. Both test scores are at level 2 out of 5. Based on National Adult Literacy levels, 23% of the tested population was at Level 1, 27% at Level 2, 32% at Level 3, 17% at Level 4 and 3% at Level 5.

Unemployment Rate

According to the State of California Employment Development Department, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the City of Murrieta as of January 2003 was 3.8%, whereas it was 6.5% for California, and 5.7% for the United States.²⁰

Population Composition by Age²¹

Children and Juveniles -- Murrieta's infant and toddler population (under 5 years) is nearly identical to that of the State, but its population of 5-14 year olds is notably larger. According to Census 2000 data, there is a higher percentage of children under 18 in the City of Murrieta (33.7%) compared to California (27.3%) and the United States (25.7%).

Adults between 20 and 24. . Murrieta young adults aged 20 to 24 comprise only 3.9% of the population. This is far lower than California's overall 7% for the same age group and the United State's 6.7%. This may reflect the fact that many Murrieta children are college-bound and engaged in activities that support academic excellence. Those going to Universities must do so outside of Murrieta as there are no four year colleges in the City limits.

¹⁸ National Center for Education Statistics, <http://nces.ed.gov/naal/defining/defining.asp>

¹⁹ (National Adult Literacy Survey) <http://www.caliteracy.org/resources/referrals/literacystatistics/index.html>

²⁰ (2003, February 27). California Employment Development Dept. Labor Market Information Division

²¹ US Census Bureau DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000. Data Set: Census 2000 . (SF 1) 100% Data

Largest Population Group-- Similar to most Californians and U.S. residents, Murrieta's largest population group at 19.9% is those aged 35 to 44--those who are at an optimum age for raising younger to high school aged children. Within the State, those who are 35-44 years old comprise 16.2% of the population, which is slightly higher than the national 35-44 year old population composition of 15%. At 11% of the total population, those aged 45-54 years old are the next largest age group in Murrieta, which is slightly lower than the state's 12.8% and 13.4% for the U.S.

Older Residents --Older Murrieta residents aged 55 to 84 as an aggregate comprise 17.3% of Murrieta's population, slightly lower than California's 17.1% for the same age group. Fifty-five to 84 year olds represent 19.5% of the Nation's population. Within this age group, Murrieta senior citizens aged 65 to 74 years old contribute the largest percentage with 7.1% as opposed to the 3.4% who are 55-59, the 3.2% that are 50-64, and the 3.6% that are 75-84. The Murrieta 65-74 year old age group also represents a greater percentage of the population than the same age group in California or the nation.

Population by Age

AGE	MURRIETA	CALIFORNIA	USA
Under 5 years	7.5	7.3	6.8
5 to 9 years	10.5	8.0	7.3
10 to 14 years	10.5	7.6	7.3
15 to 19 years	7.6	7.2	7.2
20 to 24 years	3.9	7.0	6.7
25 to 34 years	10.9	15.4	14.2
35 to 44 years	19.9	16.2	16.0
45 to 54 years	11.0	12.8	13.4
55 to 59 years	3.4	4.3	4.8
60 to 64 years	3.2	3.4	3.8
65 to 74 years	7.1	5.6	6.5
75 to 84 years	3.6	3.8	4.4
85 years and over	0.8	1.3	1.5
	Median age=34.4	Median age=33.3	Median age=35.3

Population by Occupation

EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION FROM U.S. CENSUS 2000 DATA	MURRIETA	CALIFORNIA	U.S.
	%	%	%
OCCUPATION			
Management, professional, and related occupations	34.6	36.0	33.6
Service occupations	14.3	14.8	14.9
Sales and office occupations	30.2	26.8	26.7
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	0.2	1.3	0.7
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	10.1	8.4	9.4
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	10.6	12.7	14.6
INDUSTRY			
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	0.9	1.9	1.9

Construction	9.4	6.2	6.8
Manufacturing	11.7	13.1	14.1
Wholesale trade	4.4	4.1	3.6
Retail trade	14.4	11.2	11.7
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	5.0	4.7	5.2
Information	2.0	3.9	3.1
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	6.8	6.9	6.9
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	8.1	11.6	9.3
Educational, health and social services	20.1	18.5	19.9
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	7.2	8.2	7.9
Other services (except public administration)	3.5	5.2	4.9
Public administration	6.4	4.5	4.8

Median Property Value

Housing in Murrieta has become a central issue for the City and the people. According to California Cities, Towns & Counties, 80% of the homes in Murrieta are owner-occupied. Over 1,000 new homes were built in 1999 and nearly 900 new privately owned housing units were authorized building permits in 2000. The need for new housing continues as the population expands dramatically.

In 1999, median property value was \$162,000 for an existing home, while the price of a new home was \$197,802. In 2000, median home value was \$178,250, the highest in Riverside County. As of December 2002, median property value for single family homes in Murrieta was \$245,000.

California's median home value, as published by the Census Bureau in 2000, was 211,500. By December 2002, the median price of homes climbed to \$315,870 for California, a 20.4 percent increase over the 2001 figures.

Population by Educational Level

The educational composition of the City indicates that 4.8% have a graduate degree or higher, 18% possess a Bachelor's degree, 40.7% have an Associate degree or have taken college courses, 24.2% completed high school or equivalent, and 12.3% have not finished high school.

High school graduates in the state of California total 14,244,971 and 119,524,718 for the United States. College graduates total 4,366,674 for the state of California and 32,310,253 for the United States.

4.d-3 Optional Data

Current Size and Projected Growth

According to the United States Census Bureau, the City of Murrieta's population in 2000 was 44,282 within the city's 27.42 square miles and 47,000 in 2001. The city annexed 40.95 square miles on July 1, 2002. Partially as a result of the annexation, the City's population grew to 51,600 in 2002. The projected population for 2020 is 92,000.

Murrieta's growth rate was 9.4% from 2000 to 2001. According to figures from the state Department of Finance, Murrieta experienced an 11.6% increase in population from January 2001 to January 2002, the sixth highest growth rate in California. California's growth rate was 1.8% in 2000-2001, however the State's total population of 34.8 million in 2001 and 35.1 million in 2002, reflect less than a 1% growth rate. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, growth rate for the United States from 2000 to 2001 was 1.01%, while the National growth rate from 2001 to 2002 declined to .89%.

Population Density

According to US Department of Census Data for 2000, population density in Murrieta was 1,560 individuals per square mile; in California, it was 217.2 and in the U.S., 79.6. The City added 40.95 square miles to its existing 27.42 sq. mi. as of 7/1/02. This 67% increase on geographic area was not commensurate with a little over 2% increase in population.

Ethnic Diversity

Murrieta's population composition is 81.6% white, 17.5% Hispanic, 4% Asian and 3.4% Black.²² Within its public school student population, there are 2,373 Hispanic children, 822 African Americans, 404 Filipinos, 337 Asians, 125 Pacific Islanders, and 80 Native American Indian/Alaska Natives. The chart below compares ethnic characteristics of MVUSD with Riverside County and the State.

SCHOOL	Amer. Indian /Alaska Native	Asian/Pac Isl.	Filipino	Hispanic/ Latino	African American	White (not Hispanic)	TOTAL
Alta Murrieta Elementary	5	33	12	151	47	409	657
Avaxat Elementary	2	31	21	190	43	534	821
Cole Canyon Elementary	1	43	18	86	63	518	729
Creekside High (Cont.)	1	5	4	39	11	98	158
Curran (E. Hale) Elementary	1	28	38	157	42	633	899
Daniel N. Buchanan Elementary	11	36	46	161	63	386	703
Murrieta Elementary	3	12	4	164	31	423	637
Murrieta Valley High	20	96	76	499	274	2040	3005
Rail Ranch Elementary	10	40	48	180	51	666	995
Shivela Middle	11	63	64	324	83	1126	1671
Thompson Middle	9	45	54	297	75	1157	1637
Tovashal (Elem)	6	11	19	125	39	626	826
MURRIETA VALLEY UNIFIED	80	337	404	2373	822	8616	12738
Percentage of Total	1%	3%	3%	19%	6%	68%	100%
Riverside County Total:	2,566	7540	4,548	159,468	27,296	128,118	329,536
Percentage of Total	1%	2%	1%	48%	8%	39%	100%
State of California Total:	53,314	495,313	150,360	2,717,602	512,996	2,138,085	6,067,670
Percentage of Total	1%	8%	2%	45%	8%	35%	100%

²² Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File, Matrices PL1-4 PL4.

Commuters and Commute Times

Most Murrieta residents are employed outside of their City, working in distant, more metropolitan areas. This is demonstrated by a mean travel time to work of 35.7 minutes for Murrieta residents, versus a 27.7 minute mean travel time for Californians as a whole, and a 25.5 minute mean commute time for U.S. residents. According to *Key Findings of the Western Riverside Resident Telephone Survey* published by Godbe Research and Analysis in which 1,400 Western Riverside County residents were polled, "the Temecula, Murrieta and Winchester area has the highest percentage of commuting households," at 51%. Further, 42% of Western Riverside County households, and this includes Murrieta, have at least one member who commutes outside of the County to their jobs.

A report published by Michael Bazdarich, director of UC Riverside's Inland Empire Forecasting Center, found that 34% of Murrieta's residents commute 10 to 29 minutes and 25% commute 30 to 59 minutes. Twelve percent have more than an hour and a half commute time to work. As such, the large portion of Murrieta residents who are commuters need library materials that are convenient and portable, such as books on tape or CD.

Average Family Size

Murrieta's average population per family is 3.42 persons, compared to 3.43 in California and 3.14 in the United States. While families are nearly the same size as those in California in general, the per household person size is larger than the State and nation, with 3.08 individuals in Murrieta, 2.87 in California, and 2.59 in the United States.

4.d-3. Data Not Available

In any case in which demographics about Murrieta were not available, other local data was used.

4.d-4. Demographic Analysis

Demographic factors which justify the City's plans to provide a new, permanent library for its community are provided below. These are set within the context of needs and findings derived from the overall Community Needs Analysis, including, but not exclusive to demographic analysis.

Need: A permanent library to serve the City's population of 51,600, with room to expand.

Need: An easily accessible library that will efficiently integrate into everyday community

Need: Dedicated spaces for study, quiet reading, preschool story times, special needs, computer use, and group functions.

Need: Relevant, adequate library services, programs, and diverse collections for the community, including special interest groups and those with special needs

Need: Access to sufficient information and reference resources in various formats. Educational support, access to technology, and computer training opportunities

Need: School readiness help for preschool children and support to encourage academic success for K-12 children

Need: Effective outreach and community awareness support

Findings

A public library is a free venue for individuals and groups to meet, share and learn. There is no permanent library and the temporary one is inadequate to serve a population of this size. Community residents are frustrated with the lack of sufficient space, programs and other resources. The existing Friends of the Library Bookstore successful, but separate from the library, crowded and with insufficient room for inventory (only 750 books displayed on folding tables). Parking and safety were concerns of the community at City Council meetings. The current temporary library is in a shopping center with "horrendous" traffic/parking issues, according to staff.

Because the existing library is temporary, with a lease expiring in 2005, the citizens of Murrieta, according to the Office of Library Construction, do not have a library. People must drive out of town for these needs.

The proposed site is centrally located to all public elementary, middle and high schools in the community. Most school children can easily walk or ride their bicycles to the facility. Seniors will also find the library facility conveniently located (the Senior Center is located right across from the proposed library), with planned public transit routes that will allow for easy access. In addition, the proximity of the proposed library to other government, retail and business services will allow for more efficient access to multiple uses. The site is situated in the geographic and demographic center of the City of Murrieta and will provide equal access to all library users.

As development of the Town Square is implemented public transit services will be modified to accommodate and provide for all transit services needs. These new transit routes will be operational for the opening of the proposed library. The projected main bus route will be located at the Town Square site, located immediately to the south of the proposed site. Current Para transit service is available for seniors and the disabled population, and they will continue to serve the proposed library.

A bus pullout is planned for the midway point on Juniper Street, between Jefferson Avenue and Adams Avenue. The City of Murrieta is a member of the Joint Power Authority in conjunction with the Riverside Transit Agency (RTA). The RTA has projected public transit (bus) service every half hour during peak hours, and every hour during non-peak. Service will be provided seven days a week, with varying times on weekends and late night hours. The schedule will be finalized once the pullout is complete and the roadway is approved in conjunction with RTA.

A multi-use Town Square development has the support of the community and key decision makers and the library is a proposed cornerstone for this development. Patrons will be able to access stores, City Hall, the Police Department and the library, all within one trip, thus reducing time spent in travel and automobile congestion. Seniors and others do not drive and the City has limited public transportation options.

To enhance school readiness and school success, children and youth need facilities and resources. While high school age students require more academic support, younger children are more numerous and require sufficient activities and library materials that are in keeping with their population composition. Student growth is exceeding the school district's ability to provide adequate school library hours and services.

API scores for the School District, while outstanding in terms of rankings, have shown declines recently. School overcrowding, student to teacher ratios and student to computer ratios may all have an impact on the declining scores for some of the schools. The new library can address these issues by providing the Joint Use Computer Center, which will allow for greater Internet

and computer access, Computer Literacy Training, and access to resources schools cannot provide. The new library can assist in college readiness and lifelong learning goals as well. A focus on services for high school age students, especially to raise API scores, will be important in the library's joint use services, as will educational services for elementary and middle school children, including computer literacy training, programs to encourage school success.

The majority of Murrieta residents appear to have higher-than-average literacy rates, implying a greater demand for library materials and services. There are pockets of lower-literacy levels that would require special programming and outreach to ensure that all segments of the community can benefit from the new library

As the City's main ethnic minority, Hispanics need materials in Spanish throughout the library, whether in the audio-visual, reference, fiction, non-fiction, or children's collections. Some materials already exist in the temporary library collection and would be expanded in the new library. Some programming can also be conducted with a focus on language accessibility for Spanish speaking populations.

The current library has a very low volume of materials in Spanish, according to the City Librarian. The City Librarian indicates she continually recruits for Spanish-English speakers, but there are currently none on staff. Volunteers help translate, when needed, as do the children of limited English-speaking Hispanics.

Pertinent Demographics

Murrieta experienced an 11.6% increase in population from January 2001 to January 2002, the sixth highest growth rate in California.²³ The 2002 population figures of 51,600 citizens is projected to nearly double by 2020. The City has experienced a 67% increase on geographic area since July 1, 2002. A number of the city's population are commuters, including college students. According to Census 2000 data, there is a higher percentage of children under 18 in the City of Murrieta (33.7%) compared to California (27.3%) and the United States (25.7%). Older Murrieta residents aged 55 to 84 as an aggregate comprise 17.3% of the City's population. Literacy rates, numbers of low income, unemployed or underemployed individuals and other negative factors exist in the City of Murrieta in varying levels.

²³ State of California, Dept. of Finance, *E-1 City/County Population Estimates, with Annual Percent Change, January 1, 2001- 2002*. Sacramento, California, May 2002.

5. Analysis and Discussion of Community Characteristics

The most important characteristic of this community is the pride and involvement of the residents in the development of the city. The City Council has created many citizen groups encouraging input and review of proposed projects. Murrieta is the 'Gem of the Valley' due to the strong overall commitment of its governing leaders, city staff and the residents.

Many of the overriding findings of this Needs Assessment, both through research and analysis of resident-provided data, are related to Murrieta's sudden and rapid population increase in the past fifteen years. The twenty-year projections point to a population that will continue to grow at unusually high rates

Through the Community Needs Assessment process, the need for a permanent public library in the City of Murrieta became quite evident. The Needs Assessment process also helped guide the plan for the physical structure of the library, its services, staffing, collections, outreach and programming components.

The Needs Assessment indicates that the City of Murrieta does not have a permanent library. The City's only library services are provided in 3,000 square feet of a leased bank building. The temporary library, funded by the City of Murrieta since its inception, lacks the size, collections, and resources essential to serve Murrieta's population and anticipated growth.

The Community Needs Assessment concluded that the following library needs must be addressed.

- There is no permanent library and the temporary one is inadequate. People want a modern, well-run and well-supplied library.
- The community has limited public transportation. Some community members do not drive. Time spent driving is lost for other activities.
- People want spaces for study, quiet reading, story times, for parents and children to work together and for group functions – factors not available or inadequate in the current library.
- Current local relevant and adequate library resources are severely limited.
- Collections including genealogy, history, gardening and materials in languages other than English are severely limited in the temporary library.
- Informational resources such as online databases, reference services, audio-visual and written materials are insufficient in the current library.
- Students and others want educational support, access to technology and a variety of computer training options.
- Reading and literacy skills building help is not adequately available in the City.
- The community is not fully aware of library services or other local resources.
- The community lacks adequate, appropriate space for community meetings. People want the library to be a place to meet, learn and share.
- Community members want to have a larger Friends of the Library bookstore.

Preschool and K-12 Needs

All schools in the MVUSD have libraries, however, computer access, collections, space, and hours are limited. The new library, in coordination with the teachers, plans to house a diverse collection of materials intended for the use of school children and a Computer Resource Center.

The schools have been presented with the challenge of overcrowding, with funding new facilities and expanding others. The school district has had to plan a new elementary school in each of the last three years. Each new facility presents challenges for recruiting new staffing, planning curriculum, developing parent organizations, and other important activities for opening a new school.

Murrieta has a variety of private preschools, most of which have repeatedly expressed interest in library programs such as Storytimes. Preschool teachers feel the need for library programs and school readiness services are crucial for their children. The current temporary facility is unable to accommodate the number of preschool children who want to participate in programs geared toward their age group. Preschool Storytimes are limited to twenty children and are in great demand. The new library will address these factors in its Plan of Service by providing adequate space and staffing for Preschool Storytimes and services that will enrich the lives of young children.

Teen Meet and Greet Findings

On May 15, 2002, teens from the Associated Student Body of Murrieta Valley High School attended a "Meet and Greet" at the Library. Informal discussion was held to encourage open dialog and obtain ideas from the young adult population. Dialogue revealed that students wanted traditional services such as checking in/out of materials, book talks, collection development towards best sellers and homework assignments and providing study rooms. Based on discussions with the students in attendance, a written survey was designed and administered at another Meet and Greet, the results of which are described below.

Associated Student Body Survey (Murrieta Valley High School) Findings

Ninety-nine students returned surveys. Of these, 43 placed "a better selection of materials" as the number one priority for the new library; 31 placed Internet access as a number one priority and 16 placed it as number two. Four put word processing as their number one priority and 19 put it as number two. The following written comments were provided:

COMMENTS:

- Library needs more and greater variety of books/ref/research materials: 31
- Café or place to get snacks/coffee/beverages-18
- Need study space (tables/couches, physical space)-15
- Temporary library too small/need larger library-10
- Searchable Mag/newspaper archives—9
- Need quiet, comfortable space to read –7
- More computers-7
- Not enough books in school library-6
- Books/activities/programs for young children-6
- Access to internet-5
- Movies/CDs/DVDs-4
- Open longer hours/after school hours-3
- Dark room for developing photos-3
- Movies, CDs/DVDs-2
- Support groups for teens/group studies-2

Access to library book database from home-2
Multiple book check outs-2
Bathroom access-1
Conference room-1

"I think that the library should be in contact with the schools to possibly help with things like research projects. Sometimes the sources at school run low or are not there at all."

"I think that we desperately need a library with acceptable materials.... there are hardly any books from the high school curriculum. I also think that the library needs to have a more private/secluded area for studying, researching, etc."

"I think that a large facility with a variety of books that could appeal more than just to children like our current library [is imp.]. It seems that a few times I've been in our local library, we have such a small area that we are limited to the book selection and the # of books you can fit into such a confined space."

"I really think we need a bigger library so we don't have to drive to five small libraries to find one book."

"Even though most homes have Internet access, it is usually slow and difficult to find imp. information."

"The City of Murrieta REALLY needs a library, because, honestly, books on certain subject matters are scarce in the Inland Valley. Many times, I have driven to San Diego to find a good subject book. We need a library! A good one!"

Needs wide variety of books, needs a kids section with all the kids books and a story corner. Section of the most common research books that kids use in HS."

"As a student, I believe that a library is very necessary in my community because we need a large area to study and have a large selection of books. We have research papers to do and our school does not provide many books. So, please help our community not only does it enrich the students, but also senior citizens."

"Murrieta is a growing town and needs a library. I find it difficult to get the needed books in Murrieta. Sometimes it is a hassle to go out of my way to Temecula."

"We need a library desperately, I'm sick of driving to Temecula."

"I went to our local library just last week and I was planning to check out some books for my research paper, but there were no books on my topic. We need a larger library to hold more books. I had to spend more time driving around looking for another library than I did actually researching."

Teacher Survey Findings

When asked in what library/educational support needs are not currently being met by school resources, two teachers responded, "more books." One responded, "more books and space." One wanted books in the public library to correspond with their grade level evaluations. One responded "Computer lab" and one responded "not enough computers."

When asked, "Are you aware that the Murrieta Public Library has Homework Assistance services?" 5 of 7 answered "no."

Findings: School collections and computer resources are not meeting the student's needs. (large student populations, not enough materials etc) Teachers are not aware of temporary library services. New library will focus on outreach to students, teachers, etc. in terms of communicating services provided, etc.

Question 3 "Do you refer your students to the MPL or another library?" 5 teacher respondents stated "seldom," 1 said "never," and 1 said, "often." Teacher comment stated, "I'm never sure if there are enough books to cover our curriculum."

Finding: Teachers are rarely referring to the temporary library. Library staff suggests that if they were more aware of class assignments ahead of time, they could better accommodate students and teachers needs.

Question #7 "Are students able to use computers at your school as often as you think they should?" 6 of the 7 teachers responded "no."

Question # 11 asked "What do you think is lacking in terms of computer use for youth in your school?"

Finding: Teachers perceptions are that children do not get enough computer time at their schools. One teacher answered, "There is no computer lab for primary grades. We only have 1 computer per class. Not enough for a group lesson/exercise." One said K-3 has no computer time and are not allowed to use the school computers. One said "More computers for lower grades" One said "teacher training" 1 said "Not enough computers." One said, "access to enough computers."

Questions #8 "Are materials in languages other than English available at our school library?" 2 said, yes, "some," 1 no (this teacher stated that she has many parents for whom English is not their primary language as well –question 9) , 1 yes, 1 yes, small amount, 1 said ,yes, a few stories", one said, yes but very few . Of those who stated that they had no or very few materials in languages other than English, 3 stated that they have many parents for whom English is not their primary language.

Finding: There are some collections in other languages at the schools, but they are very limited.

Teacher/Educator Meeting Findings

A meeting of teachers from the Murrieta Valley School District was held on December 9, 2002. Teachers discussed the possibility of putting students' homework assignments on computer webpages. In addition, the possibility that the public library would obtain sufficient, homework-specific materials on a timely basis, if given sufficient information was looked upon favorably.

PTA Meetings Findings

Local parent association meetings resulted in an overall discussion of the utility of the library in their children's lives. It was determined that checking materials in and out was the most common need, followed by children's services and then a combination of resources for research projects for school age children and adults. Parents felt having technology available to their students was an important service. They voiced concern that most of them had more than one child per household, which is supported by US Census 2000 data, and many times found it

difficult to manage the use of their home computers. The idea of bringing their families to a computer lab would help ease this conflict and broaden the scope of their use of the library.

The Murrieta Valley PTA Council, met again on December 17, 2002 and reviewed a rough draft proposal for a joint use project. Ideas were shared and a more in-depth plan was formed. They have coordinated discussions with each PTA Board at each school. The MVPTA Council collected data and continue to advertise and alert parents in their newsletters of updates on the library project. Three representatives have agreed to be available for additional meetings.

PTA participants (Parents) felt having technology available to their students was an important service. The idea of bringing their families to a computer lab would help increase computer time for all family members. They also thought that if family members came in to use computers they may also get interested in and use other library services.; families needed a “computer back up” within the community.

Godbe Survey Findings

The Godbe survey regarding Public Library Services showed that constructing a library facility was second only to building expanded freeway interchanges, as a priority of potential projects. in Murrieta.

Library Patron Survey Findings

The results of this survey emphasized the importance of children-related services. The community wanted programs, materials and technology to improve their children’s development and educational potential. Toddler and preschool story times were at the top of the list. A collection to enhance homework assignments required by the school district repeatedly hit the top five needs. Although families had one computer, the typical family had four or more children, which caused problems in accessing a computer. Parents looked to the library for complimenting their resources at home. Due to the constant changing of technology and the potential of equipment failure, families needed a back up within the community. They felt the library was a reasonable and obvious choice. Using the library as a meeting place was also suggested.

The library survey results also pointed to the need for better means of conveying information about certain services. 77% of 219 surveyed were not aware of homework assistance availability for school age children and teens, 71% were not aware of the Book Express service for those confined to home; 57% were not aware of the online card catalog that can be accessed from home; 56% did not know of the city’s website that provides information about programs online; 33% were not aware that the library has children’s books and other materials in languages other than English. 7% of respondents to this library written survey said if they could make one improvement to the library it would be to have a larger one, 29% said more books, and 10% said more hours were the improvements they would make.

Friends of the Library Findings

These individuals wanted a better FOL bookstore and a place to learn about and store genealogical and local history data.

Civic Group Findings

Informational presentations or chats at Lions, Rotary Club, Garden Club, Chamber of Commerce all resulted in more support for a library, containing a Computer Resource Center. Members of these groups have written letters in support of the library. The main theme of need

for these individuals is providing business journals and CD-ROM products to assist in their profession. These materials can be costly if purchased for individual use.

Focus Group on March 5th, Findings

On March 5, 2003, library staff met with individuals from several community organization. Many of these wore several “hats.” That is, they were members of more than one community organization or group. Some attendees had no particular group affiliation; they were just interested in learning about the library’s plans and wanted to give input. Below are some of the comments made by participants.

Bob Newhard at the 3/5 meeting stated that “The area should reflect formula of 2 persons per square foot. Murrieta’s build out is projected to be 90,000 square feet. Hence the library should be at least 45,000 square feet. He also stated that, “Murrieta, as a new, rapidly developing community, needs the library not only to remedy the gross level of under-service its small facility now provides, but also to give the city a needed center of stability.”

Sunny Prohofsky (a member of Friends of the Library, FOL) at the 3/5 meeting said, “the present building is not suited for a library due to the number of square feet, and the children’s section is in old bank vault.

Gerry Skeen (FOL) at the 3/5 meeting commented that the “Income level of Murrieta is not high enough to expect donations large enough to build an adequate library facility. We need outside help... People with vision impairment need large print books, enlargement computer.”

Carol Kravagna (FOL) said, “We are the fastest growing area in the nation with next to no library services. We are serving an area outside the city with more library options.

Nancy Epping (FOL) phrased the need for library as “cradle-to-grave life-augmenting service

Luanne Ferrer, (Vice President of FOL), suggested that the library needs “A Sunday lecture series that would feature local historians and authors, (and) would encourage newcomers (and old timers) to learn more about our community and our citizens. “Exhibition space with open facilities for seating moderate sized groups and displaying art on easels, and closed and lighted cabinets for displaying small, valuable pieces would bring the community to the facility to participate in or view arts oriented events.” She went on to say that “The Murrieta Public Library should be the focal point for all the Arts in our valley.”

Eleanor Newhard (retired Public Librarian) said that libraries “hold preschool story hours to introduce children to literature and prepare them for reading.” She also said, that “School age children use the library to follow personal interests (kite making, raising a lizard, making paper airplanes, etc.) as well as assist them in their school work.,.,Adults use the library to get and hold a job (resumes, books, subject books), and to live their lives fully – travel books, nutrition and cooking books, how to garden, craft books, how to give a birthday party for your child, etc. Adults use the library to deal with problems: if a prescription is not working, they look it up in PDR; if their car is a lemon – look up the lemon law; if their child is not cooperating, look up the child psychology books.”

Unidentified Participants – “need fresource oriented computer labs for students and adults ...” needed “books in Braille.” “There should be “branch libraries for easy access” since there is “no public transportation in Murrieta.”

Pat Farmer at the 3/5 meeting stated that the library is the “only place available for the youth after school hours.”

Key Informant Interviews – Library Staff

Murrieta library staff eagerly shared what patrons told them about the existing facility’s inadequacies and their hopes for a better, permanent facility for the community. One patron thought it was terrible that the “Children’s Library” of the existing temporary facility was in a bank vault.

Library staff talked about ideas they got for developing the library through their own prior experiences, visits to libraries for a similar-sized population and analysis of data for the Needs Assessment. Here are some comments from staff:

“The commuters come in on Monday and Tuesday nights or Saturdays. They have told staff how wonderful the books on cassette have made their ride. We have a couple of long distance truck drivers that donate as well as check out our books on cassette. They have told us how much money we have saved them by providing books on cassette for free.”

We have a family (mom is able to communicate with us- both of her grown children are unable to speak and do not hear). The staff has learned who they are and special accommodations are made for them. We know when they need to use the Internet. They do not have this at home.

We also provide community service for the special need adult. I have a training program that teaches them how to be productive in the library. They learn shelving, basic clerical. I write a letter of recommendation when they go out to look for a job.”

Key Informant Interviews – Homeschoolers

When asked over the week of March 20, 2003, “What would homeschoolers want in a public library -- types of books, information, staff, hours, etc?” Homeschoolers contacted by way of the California Homeschoolers Association included responses such as:

(1) We live in Murrieta and plan to unschool. I have a 4 year old daughter and a 15-month old son. We don't currently go to Murrieta's public library very often, partly because it is so small and the hours don't always fit our needs, and partly because my son is at a challenging age for public outings. I also don't bring my daughter to story hour there because as I understand it, she is required to stay there by herself and I'm to go in another room and she's not comfortable with that yet.

As for what we'd like in the way of homeschooling resources at the library: lots of award-winning children's books and books that are enjoyable for the adults who are reading them too. ...I really would like to find lots of adult reference materials that could be checked out, science and nature, how things work sorts of materials....

...information on community resources. i hadn't considered that the library would be a good source for that.

Good luck with the project, I do hope you're successful in getting state funding for this new library. We certainly need it. (Susan S.)

(2) We would love a new library and I know many families that would make use of a new facility. The Temecula library, rather than our current Murrieta Library, has been our choice for three main reasons: they are open more/longer hours; they provide a unique children's area that is fun and interesting; and there are several story times that are offered.

If I could create a new local library I would create one with:

- plenty of kid & parent friendly seating
- a fun, bright kids area that can accommodate many visitors at one time
- story times and other reading activities that are offered frequently with different times and days available to all ages (young toddlers are often overlooked, but they love books and many will sit with parents for a few short stories)
- multi-age activities so younger toddlers can attend AT THE SAME TIME as older kids (most moms have more than one kid and won't hire a babysitter just for story time)
- lots of parking
- updated computers for easy/quick check-out
- many restrooms with changing tables
- community rooms for groups to use

Just some ideas! Can't wait to hear more about it!

Best, Julia (mother of a 5 year old girl and 20 month old boy)

Archival Research

Over one hundred documents were reviewed. These include online and hard copy materials, materials from the City of Murrieta, the County of Riverside, the State of California and other states. These validated the need for a library for any community; the need for a library in Murrieta; the style of library building and facade that should be implemented and other design features; and the types of collections and other resources to be provided.

6. Analysis of Library Service Needs

Executive Summary

The City of Murrieta's fundamental need related to library functions is for a public library that is centrally located, accessible, and that offers the space, resources, programs and services identified by the community in the Needs Assessment process. Murrieta has no library and needs one that will effectively serve its growing population. Findings identified through the Community Needs Assessment methodology are summarized below.

Inadequate Local Library --The Community Needs Assessment demonstrates that services, programs and collections within the existing, temporary library are inadequate.

Permanent Library -- The following excerpts from a newspaper article help demonstrate the community's interest in a new public library.

"The only thing that people really complain about is that there's not much there;....," Vernon said of the 2-year-old library, now occupying a building on Los Alamos Road that was once a bank. "Most people who use the library say, yes, they want it bigger. When you have an existing structure, you're bound by what your space can offer..."

In a \$22,000, citywide survey conducted...at the City Council's behest and released [in May of 2001]...residents listed improved freeway interchanges as their highest municipal project priority, followed by a bigger library and a community center. ²⁴

Easily Accessible – Locating the library within a Town Square creates the opportunity for more individuals and groups to become aware of and use the library. In addition to the library, a cornerstone to the development, Town Square includes the City's police departments and fire departments, a senior center, and commercial uses (restaurant, bank, etc.)

The City's Neighborhood Revitalization and Enhancement Plan and its Capital Improvement Plan provide a framework for ensuring easy access to the locale. The City intends to attract a rapid transit route and ensure easy access to and from the freeway. Furthermore, Town Square will be in close proximity to schools and Historic Old Town Murrieta, which is also being redeveloped. Another positive factor to siting the library in Town Square is that it will be accessible to the residents of a recently approved nearby affordable housing complex.

Dedicated Spaces – The Community Needs Assessment findings included findings that community members want more room for study, quiet reading, preschool story times, special needs, computer use and group functions. These types of spaces are necessary to meet the services needs described later in this document.

Services Specific to Community Needs and Interests –specific services, including collections and programs were designed to address community demographics and community members' needs and interests. Some of these are listed below.

Collections – Community members expressed an interest in having collections in a variety of formats and covering a diversity of topics. Later in this document, more data will be discussed regarding collections.

²⁴ Bigger library a priority of Murrieta residents. North County Times. 5/4/01

Academic and Technology Needs and Interests -- Students want and need more educational support. The Computer Resource Center will help meet a gap in access to technology resources and training – not only for students, but also for other individuals and for family members to learn together.

Sample needs assessment findings supporting these services are as follows): Out of eight possible variables, four students surveyed put word processing as their top priority, nineteen put it as number two and fourteen put it as number three. The need for greater Internet access time for research, access to resources for school-related assignments, and for personal enrichment was one of the top priorities identified by the Student Survey. Thirty-one students, or 32% placed Internet access as their number one service priority for the new library, and 16% rated it as their number two priority. Of seven elementary school teachers surveyed, six stated that school collections and computer resources are not meeting student needs. When asked, “Are students able to use computers at your school as often as you think they should?” 6 of the 7 teachers responded “no.” Teacher’s perceptions are that children do not get enough computer time at their schools.

Community Meeting Space -- In terms of comfortable, good-sized meeting room space, the City has not kept up with the growth of its population. While the Town Square will have an auditorium, it will not have smaller locales more suited for author presentations, family and group learning experiences and other events and activities planned by the library.

Need for Outreach– Murrieta became a City in 1999. It is slowly building its own community services, recreation opportunities and civic and business infrastructure. In order for the infrastructure to best serve the community, people have to know what is available and how to access services. Traditionally, the library has been a place to find out about such services.

The Community Needs Assessment revealed that many community members are not aware of the limited level of such roles are played out in the temporary library. Outreach and interaction at the community will help ensure that visitors, staff, patrons and others know more about Murrieta, and feel more a part of its growth.

Murrieta residents expressed frustration with the lack of an adequately designed, full service library. An informal poll of the meeting’s participants indicated that 40% of the time, they drive beyond the City limits to visit another library because they know that they won’t be able to find what they need at the temporary facility. This is not a viable solution for those segments of the community that lack the means to travel to another facility. The Community Needs Assessment completed for this grant application reveals that the community as a whole views a new library as an essential component of City-provided services.

Developing these services for a constantly changing and increasing population creates challenges, and staff should be sensitive to this situation. Constant re-evaluation of the programming is required during this growth period in a new community. Establishing a strong foundation of traditional library services and developing a core collection provides the foundation for growth.

Before and After Vignettes

The City Librarian, Diane Satchwell, was asked to review some vignettes of the “goings on” in a new modern library.²⁵ Then, she was asked to consider whether vignettes about Murrieta’s current temporary library would sound as enjoyable.

Here is a “compare and contrast” summary of those vignettes.

New Library

- A group of preschoolers from a local daycare enjoying a display of local children’s art as part of their tour of the library.

Existing Library

Preschoolers are limited to 25 or less. We can’t have more than 40 total people in the library at one time. We can only do a story and checking out of books. We can’t do crafts or videos.

New Library

- A preschooler and his caregiver using an interactive children’s software program designed to encourage reading.

Existing Library

We have no software for children as there is no room for computers. This is out of range.

New Library

- A parent and young child reading a book in a quiet area of the library while the older sibling is in a preschool story time.

Existing Library

There is no quiet area currently. And once the preschool story time begins, caregivers and siblings have limited seating. They also can’t get to the picture books as that is where the story time is done.

New Library

- A tutor and three students using a section of the library to study for upcoming “scholastic Olympics” while another user quietly studies for an upcoming job interview.

Existing Library

This is out of range as there is no place for meeting/tutoring. The tables and chairs are in the center. Noise travels and there is no privacy. The mix is not good.

²⁵ Key informant interview, Thursday, March 6, 2003. Diane Satchwell and Trudy Kilian

New Library

- A class of 4th graders receiving a tour of the library and special instruction on materials available for the "California Missions" report students at this grade level do each year.

Existing Library

Classes of less than 25 are allowed in current library. Class visits are limited to one at a time. If we could accommodate more children, the schools could spend less money on buses. This was actually brought up by teachers. They felt they could get a bus (which is expensive, even though the school owns the buses) and double or triple up with the classes. One set of books about California missions is available behind a very limited space reference desk. An entire class can't get access to the space. Out of range.

New Library

- A college student at home over break researching journal articles for a school project and emailing the results to himself.

Existing Library

Currently we have InfoTrac, which is an online magazine article search and review process. You can email at this time. The difference would be only four terminals are available to do this and they are stand up only. This limits use as the terminals are also for our online catalog.

New Library

- A group of older adults at Internet workstations participating in a class on how to use the Internet, while another user prepares a resume at a computer workstation.

Existing Library

This is not possible in the old: no place for seniors to sit. Only two terminals. Completely out of range for anything more than individual self-instruction. Safety and comfort factors prohibit this service.

New Library

- A standing-room-only audience listening to a presentation on local history or an author discussing his or her latest book in the library's public meeting space.
- A group of parents meeting with a local police officer to discuss children and Internet safety.

Existing Library

No programming capabilities. Fire code limits total library population to 49. No seating, space or environment or presentations. Out of range.

New Library

- A couple enjoying visual arts displays provided by local artists and students.

Existing Library

No display capabilities are now possible. We have a display case that we tried to do this. It was so limited and poor for viewing art pieces. No electrical capability near the cases. Out of range.

New Library

- A library volunteer packing large print books and close-captioned videos to take to a local assisted living facility

Existing Library

Currently the volunteer uses the secretary's shelves for binder. This is not the most secure for the personal information kept in the binders. They are limited to two books.

New Library

A user sitting in a quiet corner of the library reading.

Existing Library

We have four lounge chairs. There is no quiet corner. Everything is heard through out the entire library.

The City Librarian concluded her analysis and looked up at the interviewer. She said, the "new library view is hopeful. Our new Murrieta Public Library can be such a place of enjoyment, learning and sharing for all!"

7. Service Limitations of Existing Library Facilities

According to Section 20430. Definitions, an existing public library is 'a facility operated to provide to provide public library direct service, either owned or leased, if the lease has a total duration of not less than 20 years. The City of Murrieta leases a building temporarily housing library services. The lease expires in 2005. Based on the Library Bond Act regulations, this building does not qualify as an existing library

8. Physical Limitations of Existing Library Facility With Executive Summary

According to Section 20430. Definitions, an existing public library is 'a facility operated to provide to provide public library direct service, either owned or leased, if the lease has a total duration of not less than 20 years.

Based on this definition, there is no existing Murrieta Public Library.

9. Space Needs Assessment

9.a. Library Collection

9.a-1. Current Status of Collections and Capacity of Proposed Library

Murrieta has no existing permanent library, therefore the space needs assessment is based on demographic information and Community Library Needs Assessment findings.

The proposed library is designed to be approximately 25,000 square feet, expandable to 40,000 square feet. This is a significant increase from the temporary library facility's 4,000 square foot capacity, at 0.08 square feet per capita, to a 25,000 square foot facility, at 0.48 square feet per capita. This is an increase of 625%. Of the total square footage of the building, physical space composes 46%, collection allocation is 24%, and non-assignable space is 30%. Carrier Johnson, the project's architectural firm, determined the non-assignable space percentage based on experience with designing other libraries. Libris DESIGN predetermines the allocation of space needs for this section.

The current collection at the temporary library includes 27,000 volumes, an inadequate per capita of 0.52 materials per person. The new permanent library will contain 97,000 materials, for a per capita of 1.88 materials per person, an increase of 361%.

9.a-2. Collection Development

The total collection is projected to be 97,000 items. The percent of volumes in circulation will change with each subcategory. The total on shelf collection is projected to be 66,054, with a 32% circulation rate overall.

The adult collection will be 60% of the Library collections, the children's collection will be 37%, and the young adult (fiction only) will be 3%. These figures were determined based upon the findings of the Needs Assessment, as summarized in the Service Needs section. Collection development will follow the findings of the Needs Assessment, including materials relevant to students, parents, seniors, commuters, Spanish speakers, and the disabled. The priority interest areas and topics will include: child development, educational and academic support, local history, genealogy, college preparation, AP test preparation, Spanish language materials, audio books, gardening, home repair low-literacy materials, and materials for those with sight or hearing impairments.

Purchasing Patterns

The temporary library currently purchases materials based on the most frequently checked-out materials, topics in demand, and patron requests. The focus of purchasing will be to expand the children's collection significantly, as it is a highly used area, as well as to enhance the adult collection in areas that are in demand, as mentioned previously. The library will also purchase audiovisual materials for both children and adults. This will include recreational and non-English material in video, CD, and audio formats.

Standards

The Library has in place and will update acquisitions standards for the screening and weeding of materials in reference to purchasing. These standards consider qualities such as if the material is available through interlibrary loan, if it is age-appropriate, and if it relates to one of the major topic areas identified as library priorities.

9.a-3. Summary of all Projected Collections

Fiction

The Adult Fiction Collection will have 14,675 volumes including, Mysteries, Science Fiction, and other genres as well as large print items. Young adult fiction, consisting of 2,425 volumes, will be retained in an area specifically designated for that population. New Books will be placed at the entrance, and will include 1,500 volumes with a 50% circulation rate. This is approximately 1.5% of the collection. Audio will be placed with the New Books, including books on cassette, compact discs and videos, for a total of 4,500.

Nonfiction

The Nonfiction purchases will include 28,365 volumes. Approximately 35% will be circulating at any given time, putting 18,437 on the shelf. This is 30% of the total collection. Young adult and adult nonfiction will be interfiled. Current magazines and newspapers will be retained near the young adult area, consisting of .20% of the collection. One year of back issues will be retained in this area. There are many new homeowners requiring landscaping, interior design ideas, patios, recreational plans, and related materials. Parenting will be a high demand subject. Preparing for college is an anticipated subject need.

Reference

Seven percent of the total collection is reference, including encyclopedias, which will be located near the entrance, across from the reference and circulation desks. The reference collection will also be in close proximity to the Computer Resource Center to facilitate the reference needs of those users. The Copy Center will be located near the Reference collection. Materials and items at high risk for loss and/or mutilation and materials needed by the reference staff will be placed at the reference desk and noted as the Ready Reference subcategory. This will be approximately .25% of the collection. None of these subcategories will circulate. Therefore shelving is required for all the materials. The total number of holdings is 6,800.

Children and Juvenile's

The Children's Library will be located next to the New Books and Audio. There will be 23,661 holdings on the shelf most of the time. Current magazines, 25 titles, for children will be placed in this area. Easy Readers and Picture Books will be located in shorter shelving with an anticipated 45% circulation. The total number of holdings for both will be 10,675. Plans for additional purchases will be considered soon after opening. Easy Readers and Picture Books are generally the most popular items. Based on current usage at the temporary library, it is anticipated that most children in the City will possess a library card and use it on a regular basis (currently half of the City's population possesses a library card).

Ready Reference and Reference will consist of 1,450 titles. These items will require space with the potential for expansion, as they will not circulate. All Juvenile and Children's Non-Fiction will be interfiled within the Children's Library. The total number of holdings will be 12,600 titles with a projected circulation of 35%. Juvenile Fiction titles will total 8,500 with an anticipated circulation of 25%. Children's Videos total 1,750 with a projected circulation of 40%.

Calculations and Standards

These figures are based on the demographics and surveys demonstrating a need for children's materials, audio, leisure reading and nonfiction for the large student population. The community is family oriented, with a larger than average percentage of residents under the age of 18, as compared to California and the nation as a whole. There are many commuters exhibiting a demand for audio materials.

The circulation rates are based on those at the temporary library. An additional 15% will be added to shelving in the event the circulation percentages will be less than anticipated. A detailed list of shelving by location is available in Appendix A pages 8 through 21, "List by Type of Space and Square Footage."

9.a-4. Chart Showing Calculations Used to Produce Space Needs

Collection Subcategory	Shelving	# Of Volumes	LF	# Of Shelving	Total Sq. Ft.	% Holdings
Audio Book Cassette - Ad	SF 66"	2,250	10	16	192	2.37
Audio Cassette – Ad	SF 66"	500	19	3	94	0.53
Compact Disc – Ad	Display Browser	250	25	9	216	0.26
Browsing – Ad	SF 42"	1,500	8	8	160	1.58
Easy Readers – Ch	DF 45"	3,475	20	6	108	3.66
Fiction – Ad	DF 90"	13,390	8	49	732	14.10
Fiction – Ch	DF 45"	8,500	13	3	54	8.95
Magazines – Ad	66" Mag Display	150	1	26	420	0.16
Magazines – Ch	45" H	25	1	4	68	0.03
Newspapers – Ad	SF 66"	10	1	2	28	0.01
Non-Fiction – Ad	DF 90"	28,365	8	55	990	29.86
Non-Fiction – Ch	DF 66"	12,600	13	38	684	13.26
Paperbacks – Ad	Rototowers	1,285	n/a	2	140	1.35
Picture Books – Ch	DF 45"	7,200	20	11	198	7.58
Reference – Ad	DF 90"	6,250	6	29	522	6.58
Ready Ref / Encyclopedia – Ad	SF 45"	550	6	8	114	0.58
Reference / Ready Ref – Ch	SF 45"	1,450	8	21	252	1.53
Video – Ad	DF 66"	14	10	14	308	1.58
Video – Ch	SF 66"	1,750	10	4	80	1.84
Young Adult	SF 66"	2,425	12	10	120	2.55

Calculating the volumes per linear foot is based on the following for adult:

Audio	19/LF
Books on Cassette and Videos	10/LF
CDs	25/LF
Magazines and Newspapers	1/LF
Non-Fiction, Fiction and New Books	8/LF
Reference and Ready Reference	6/LF
Young Adult	12/LF

Calculating the volumes per linear foot is based on the following for children:

Easy Readers and Picture Books	20/LF
Juvenile Non-Fiction and Fiction	13/LF
Magazines	1/LF
Reference and Ready Reference	8/LF
Videos	10/LF

The chart details the projected collection divided by subcategories. Each subcategory contains six columns: (1) type of shelving; (2) number of volumes, (3) total amount of linear footage needed, (4) the percent of the total holdings, (5) the number of shelves, and (6) total square feet of Library building. The combination of all of these elements determines the total amount of space needed.

9.b. Reader's Seats

9.b-1 Number, Type, and Allocation

4,033 assignable square feet is allocated to reader's seats, with non-assignable square footage of 1,728, for a gross of 5,761, or 23% of the Library's space. This equates to seating for 156 and is determined by Libris DESIGN.

The following list describes the type and quantity if item, square footage per item and total square foot allocation:

<u>Item Type</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Sq. Ft. Per Item</u>	<u>Total Sq. Ft.</u>
Bench (2 person)	2	15	30
Carrel, Reader's	4	35	140
Chair, Child's	32	0	0
Chair, Group Study	26	0	0
Chair, Juvenile	16	0	0
Chair, Lounge	30	35	1,050
Chair, Reader's	44	0	0
Table, End	9	12	108
Table, Group Study	1	120	120
Table, Group Study	1	175	175
Table, Juvenile	4	85	340
Table, Reader's	1	80	80
Table, Reader's	5	90	450
Table, Reader's	9	100	900

9.b-2. Standards Used to Determine Amount of Seating

There were many factors in the determination of patron seating. The space needed to accommodate patron seating was calculated by defining the percentages of space available to each area included in the Library Building Program. ADA requirements control space needs around the seating. Shelving establishes the layout of the library, allocating seating near the collection. Management of the seating by staff influences placement, and therefore the space available for it.

The type of seating is influenced by its location close to or near a specific collection or area. Lounge seating is most appropriate near the periodical collection. Tables and chairs are best located near non-fiction or a quiet study area. Bench seating is best suited for the browsing collections, such as new books and audio. Seating for the children's area must be size-appropriate.

A detailed allocation of the Library's Reader's Seats can be found at the end of this report in Appendix A, pages 8 through 21, "List by Type of Space and Square Footage." Each library division contains the list of items allocated for reader's seats, the quantity of each item, and the square foot allotment per item and the total square foot allotment.

9.b-3. Calculations Used and Conversion Factors

Seating is based upon a standard of three seats per 1000 users and a population of 51,600. The square feet is based upon an average of 26 square feet per seat. Tables are included in the total allocation to seating and provide the calculation for the square feet. Chairs that are placed under the tables do not require a square foot calculation. It was determined in the square footage considered for the table space.

9.c. Technology

9.c.1. Number and Types of Technology Equipment

Overview

Integrating new technology is a major piece of the Library planning process. The main technology component of the Library is the Computer Resource Center, a product of the Joint Use Agreement. Another important component is the Library's Computer/Telecommunications Room, which serves as the backbone to the technology infrastructure of the building, housing the central server, networking equipment, telephone equipment, and other central technology resources described below. There are also computer workstations for staff use, and computer workstations throughout the Library for general public use, and these are detailed below as well.

Approximately 1,377 assignable square feet (2,364 gross square feet), totaling 9% of the Library space will be allocated to technology-based equipment. Libris DESIGN predetermines the allocation of space needs for this section.

Technology Equipment by Function

Computer/Telecommunications Room

This room is planned at 282 square feet and will house centralized computer and telephone-related equipment. Three stacked Hewlett Packard 2524 switches will serve as the central switch, providing a total of 72 available Ethernet 10/100 data ports. The equipment in the computer room will consist of two Windows 2000 servers, one of which will function as the

designated email server. The other server will provide domain controller, file, and print services. All equipment will be rack mounted. An APC Smart-UPS XL 2200 VA RM 3U 120V + 1 battery pack will be required to supply forty-five minutes of uninterruptible power to the rack mounted equipment.

Technology Infrastructure

Bandwidth will be a full T-1 line to the Internet. The T-1 Internet connection will be provided by an Adtran 120e and a Cisco 1721 router. All data cabling will be category 6 or better to accommodate gigabit data speeds.

Telephone Equipment

The Computer/Telecommunications Room will also house the telephone central station DSU/CSU telecommunications device. The Tadiran telephone system to be used is the City of Murrieta standard, and will be interconnected to the main City system.

General Use Equipment

When the Library opens there will be 20 staff desktop computers, 3 public desktop computers, and 9 OPACs. There will be 6 network printers. All other printers will be connected locally. Various items of computer equipment will be supported with appropriate furniture. The computers will influence the type of furniture required.

The staff will have individual workstations equipped with computers and printers. A staff workstation includes a desktop computer and printer, placed on a desk. Each staff will be assigned a work area in a restricted area. Telephones will be located at each workstation. The staff workstations in the public areas will include the computers with the addition of barcode readers and receipt printers at the check out desk. Additional equipment required is resensitizers and desensitizers for staff.

General public use will be made available through nine OPACs and three general use computers. Printer capability will be made accessible to each station. The stations have been placed for easy access while in the stacks and a concentration of OPACs for long-term research such as InfoTrac or other online databases. OPACs will be placed within the adult and children's areas. Technology carrels will be placed around the library to support long-term use.

The square footage for the actual equipment is projected as a zero. The furniture for the computers and printers carry the square footage since the equipment is placed on the desks and workstations. The calculation is not added twice. Consideration of staff and public works areas provide the detail of the real square footage for the technology equipment.

Future technological capabilities must be considered in the layout of the library. Any appropriate raceways for future expansion or additional OPACs within the stacks must be considered as an integral part of the projected service.

Computer Resource Center Technology Configuration

The 606 square foot Computer Resource Center will provide twenty computer workstations with a 2 computer to 1 printer ratio. The twenty computers in the Computer Resource Center will be placed on two-person sit-down technology training tables. An instructional environment includes a projection screen and staff work area. Word processing will be provided through Microsoft Word and Internet access is planned for each computer. Computer literacy classes will be offered to students during the school day and to the general public during non-school hours. These items are all reflected in the Library Plan of Service and Building Program.

9.c-2. Calculations

Space for computer equipment, workstations and technological equipment was calculated by Libris DESIGN, as follows:

Technology (non-staff)

<u>Type of Item</u>		ITEM		TOTAL
		<u>ITEM</u>	<u>Sq. Ft.</u>	<u>Sq. Ft.</u>
AV/Technology Equipment Cart, Large		1	15	15
AV/Technology Equipment Cart, Small		1	10	10
Bar Code Reader, Fixed Mount		4	0	0
Bar Code Reader, Hand-Held		4	0	0
CD Tower		1	0	0
CD/Cassette Tape Player	2	0	0	
Chair, Technology Workstation		31	0	0
Chair, Technology Workstation Task		4	0	0
Computer Stand		1	20	20
Computer, OPAC Desktop	9	0	0	
Computer, Public Desktop	24	0	0	
Computer, Staff Desktop		20	0	0
Console, Computer System		1	0	0
Copier, B&W Freestanding	2	50	100	
Copier, Color Freestanding		1	50	50
Disc Drive (External)		1	0	0
DSU/CSU Telecommunications Device		1	0	0
DVD Player		1	0	0
FAX Machine, Desktop		1	0	0
FAX Machine, Desktop Coin-Operated		1	0	0
Fire Extinguisher, Halon		1	0	0
People Counter, Electronic Eye		2	0	0
Printer Stand		1	20	20
Printer, Ink-Jet (B&W)		14	0	0
Printer, Ink-Jet (Color)		11	0	0
Printer, Label		1	0	0
Printer, Laser (B&W)		7	0	0
Printer, Laser (Color)		1	0	0
Printer, Pin / Tractor Feed W/ Stand	1	20	20	
Printer, Receipt		4	0	0
Projection Screen, Wall Mounted		2	0	0
Projector, Desktop		1	0	0
Rack, Computer/Communications Equip		2	30	60
Router/Switch		1	0	0
Safe, Data / Tape Carrier	1	0	0	
Security Sys Book & Media Resensitizer		1	0	0
Security Sys Book Resensitizer		2	0	0
Security Sys Desensitizer/Resensitizer		1	0	0
Security Sys Gates, Inventory Ctrl	1	0	0	
Security Sys Gates, Inventory Ctrl	2	75	150	
Security System Media Resensitizer		1	0	0
Server, Desktop / Rack Mount		2	0	0
Tape Drive, External DAT/Cartridge Tape	1	0	0	

Technology Carrel		1	30	30
Technology Carrel		4	35	140
Technology Carrel		2	40	80
Technology Carrel		2	45	90
Technology Carrel, Adjustable (Manual) Height		2	45	90
Technology Counter		2	20	40
Technology Counter		2	30	60
Technology Counter		1	50	50
Technology Training Table, Computer Lab	10	45	450	
Telecommunications Backboard		2	28	56
Telecommunications Equipment/Hub/ Multiplexer		1	0	0
Telephone Central Station	1	0	0	
Telephone Handset		20	0	0
Telephones, Public Pay (2 Heights)	2	0	0	
TV Monitor, 27"		2	0	0
Uninterruptible Power Supply, Multiple Devices		1	10	10
Vendor Card Encoder/Dispenser		1	0	0
Video Cassette Player/Recorder		2	0	0

9.d. Staff Offices and Workstations

9.d-1. Projected Staff Organization and Standards Used in Determining Staff Size

The projected staff organization totals 20 full time equivalents. The responsibilities and projected time on the desk will vary with each position and therefore influence the needed staff offices and workstations.

Staff will include the following full-time positions: one City Librarian/Library Director, one Senior Librarian, one Adult Librarian, one Children's Librarian, one Office Supervisor, one Information Systems Technician, two Library Assistants, four Library Clerks, and one Secretary. The following will be part-time positions: one Paraprofessional, three Library Assistants, five Library Clerks, and eight Library Pages.

The type and number of positions are based upon the experience of Ms. Diane Satchwell, City Librarian, in her experiences in opening, operating, and establishing three County libraries and one City library. Ms. Satchwell based the staffing pattern on the size facility's size and projected hours of operation. Sufficient reference and circulation desk coverage is important in determining staff size, as well as full time versus part time positions. Alternating Fridays and Saturdays is a challenge and the greatest need in providing adequate service capabilities. Coverage for the joint use project is crucial in motivating the success of the project. Additional consideration is needed to do outreach in promoting library services to the various schools and groups within the community.

Staffing considerations play a significant role in the development of the facility floor plan. Efficient workspaces are required in the public area, as well as private areas restricted to staff. Workspace to develop special collections to promote new programs and events are vital. A building floor plan should minimize staffing requirements and maximize the flexibility of the facility's potential to provide services.

9.d-2. Workstations

The allocation for staff workspace is 3,203 square feet, with 4,575 gross square feet, for 18% of the Library space. Libris DESIGN predetermines the allocation of space needs for this section. Furniture includes desks, chairs, shelving, file cabinets, credenzas, cabinets for storage, conference tables for meetings and typewriter tables when necessary. See Appendix A, pages 8-9 for detail on exact furniture required for the Administration Division. Based on the position, professional and paraprofessional motivates the size of the office or workstation. Typical staff workspaces range between 100-150 square feet.

The Library Assistants and Clerical Staff will share an area with partitions separating their workspaces. Professional positions will have a separate office, including a private office for the City Librarian/Library Director. The office will be placed in a publicly accessible area near the Young Adult Collection. A small conference table with chairs, visitor chairs and a reasonably sized desk will be part of the office configuration. Public business can be held in this office to deal with patrons wanting to donate funds and discuss concerns.

There are workrooms within some of the divisions. A workroom for the children's librarian is important in order to organize the numerous programs and supplies specific to the position. A storage room for the exclusive use of the Friends of the Library is in the library proper, allowing staff to accept donations during the closed hours of the bookstore and the Friends to store donated materials.

The Friends of the Library bookstore will require 629 square feet. Included in this space will be a desk, task chair, visitor chairs, cabinets, typewriter with stand, file cabinets and a counter. Space capacity for a total of 6,720 books will be shelved within the store.

The passport-processing office will be used to process all passport applications. Forms for this service will be retained in this room. It also will function as a meeting place for staff. It is included in the Administration Division.

A staff lounge is located near the staff entrance and is closed to the public. Breaks and meals can be taken in this location. Meetings are also appropriate for use in this area.

9.d-3. Calculations and Standards

Each desk requires approximately 60 square feet. This calculation includes the task chair. Equipment is placed on the desk and does not require additional square foot needs. ADA requirements are included in the calculations. Visitor chairs require 15 square feet. File cabinets vary based on size. The average workspace for staff members is approximately 110 square feet.

Workspaces are projected for additional hiring of staff. A detailed list of staff workspace, equipment, and furniture is provided in Appendix A, pages 8 through 21, "List by Type of Space and Square Footage." The detail is separated into space divisions.

9.e. Meeting Room Requirements

9.e-1. Number and Capacity of Meeting Rooms

Main Meeting Rooms

The Public Meeting Rooms Division will have four sub areas: the Theater, Kitchenette, Conference Room and AV, Chair and Table Storage Room. The total area will be 1,255 square feet, with a gross square footage of 1,793, for 7% of the Library space. The Theater will take up 1,060 square feet with a 70 square foot kitchenette. The conference room will be 199 square feet. The storage area will be 145 square feet.

Theater

The Theater will have a seating capacity of 100. This is a manageable number of people for a space of this size. There are many options for this area's use by the Library.

The Theater will support the Library Plan of Service through its multiple uses. Adult programs can include forums, book talks, presentations and workshops. Literacy training can also be done in this area. Children's programming can be done without chairs, as children can sit on the floor. A projection screen and AV equipment will be available for use.

The mission of the Library is to provide free programs to the community, although there will be exceptions to this goal. The Theater may be available to local groups that meet the guidelines of the Library. The Library Advisory Commission will review policies and procedures of the potential use and make a recommendation to the City Council for approval. The potential for revenue enhancement programming is an option for this space. Many libraries offer unique programming for a minimal cost to the patron. For example, an author series can be a positive reinforcement of literature-based programming and be offered with a minimal charge.

Conference Room

The Conference Room will accommodate up to six people. The table requires 195 square feet. Six conference chairs will be purchased for this room. A conference table will be placed in this room with a white board and other tools for small meetings. This space can be made available when the Library is closed, because it is a secured area during closed hours. It is also accessible to the main entrance. Again, the Library Advisory Commission will review policies and procedures for appropriate use of this space, making recommendations to the Library Board for final approval.

The Conference Room will be used for programming that is outlined in the Plan of Service, similarly to the Theater, for smaller groups. It can also be used as a quiet study area. Most major modern libraries include a public meeting room for community groups such as the Conference Room. Due to the low prioritization of this type of space, the capacity of the Conference Room has been limited to six individuals.

Supporting Spaces

A Kitchenette will be provided to aid in the full service priority of the Theater or the Conference Room. The possibility of a security deposit may be implemented for maintaining a clean and welcoming environment.

The AV, Chair and Table Storage Room will house the tables and chairs for easy cleaning of the facility and maintaining a safe and secured environment.

Other Meeting Spaces

Study Rooms-Two study rooms, totaling 299 square feet, will be located near the Library's Non-Fiction Collection. Small groups of up to six people will be able to use these rooms by reservation. Tutoring and literacy participants will be encouraged to utilize the study rooms. The study rooms support the Plan of Service in the allocation of space for literacy programs identified as community needs.

Staff Meeting Area-The Passport Office/Staff Conference Room is a 385 square foot conference area that also serves as a staff meeting area during non-passport hours. This supports the Plan of Service in that it not only provides space for a service identified as a community need, but that it allows for adequate staff meeting space.

9.e-2. Calculations Used

The Public Meeting Rooms comprise 7% of the total Library space, with 1,255 square feet of assignable space, 538 square feet of non-assignable space, for a total of 1,793 gross square feet. This percentage of space was based on the demand for public programming in relation to the need for collections space, as determined by the City Librarian Ms. Diane Satchwell. Libris DESIGN predetermines the allocation of space needs for this section.

Each stacking chair for the Theater requires 10 square feet. Tables do not require square footage allocation numbers, as each one will be associated with the chairs. A lectern with a space for a portable computer will be made available and will require 60 square feet. The storage of these items was calculated to determine the size of the storage area within the meeting room.

A detailed list of items in the Library's Public Meeting Rooms is provided in Appendix A, page 19. The detail is separated into the space allocation for the Theater and the Conference Room.

9.f. Special Purpose: Miscellaneous Space Needs

9.f-1.Special Purpose: Miscellaneous Space Needs

The total allocation for special purposes of miscellaneous space needs is 1,952 square feet, with a gross square footage of 2,789, for 11% of the Library space. Each division has some type of the items included in this category. Libris DESIGN predetermines the allocation of space needs for this section.

The items can be classified by use of placement function. There are special furniture and equipment needs, which include atlas cases, benches, books bins, chairs, dictionary stands, file cabinets, racks, staff lockers, counters, stools and special shelving. These items fill a need to assist and organize staff in their daily work routine. Each of the above items requires an allocation of square footage.

Items classified as safety include key cabinet, paper towel dispensers, recycling bin, safe, sink and counters, janitorial needs, soap dispensers, waste baskets, cash register, change machine, sick bay cot, diaper changing counters, dolly for chairs and tables, first aid kits and a drinking fountain. There are minimum space allocation requirements for this category.

The remainder of the items are mixed for allocation of square foot needs. The items requiring square footage include a microwave, kitchen units, mailboxes, carts, queuing space at the reference and circulation desks, boxes for book delivery and easels.

Items that will be placed on walls or desks tops do not require square foot allocation. These items include boards, signs, a donor recognition wall in the entrance, mirrors, paper cutters, a typewriter, clocks, postage meter and label maker.

A detail list of allocation of the Library's Special Purpose equipment is provided in Appendix A, pages 3 to 5.

9.f-2. Calculations Used and Conversion Factors

Recommended space for miscellaneous space is 10%, with the Murrieta Public Library at 11%. This category is calculated by Libris DESIGN as a proportion of other Library spaces and uses.

9.g. Non Assignable Space

Assumptions and Calculations

The total allocation of non-assignable space is 7,321. This space is a culmination of any entrances, restrooms and spaces around the stacks, service desks and furniture; and also spaces used to support the infrastructure of the building, such as electrical and telecommunications closets. This provides ADA accessibility throughout the facility in a generous manner.

The non-assignable space is 30% of the total square footage of the Library. The traditional allocation of non-assignable space is 25%. Adding the 5% offers square footage for growth potential by adding tables and chairs, stacks, displays, and other amenities. It was recommended by the architectural team to set aside the thirty percent for non-assignable space based upon their experience with other library buildings. Libris DESIGN has the flexibility to change the percent of non-assignable square feet.

There is also the potential for temporary programming ideas within the non-assignable square footage. With some available space, a fundraising program can be interspersed through out the facility. An example could be an art exhibit of school age students strengthening partnerships with the school and focusing on a less traditional library user. Easels can be placed around the Library displaying works of art, photography, and so forth. This could open doors for potential grants and visibility for the Library. Therefore, non-assignable space takes on other potential uses as the service grows and ideas build.