I. What makes the current library special?

- renovation would be essentially a new building
- outdoor space for community meeting space and children's library
- historic
- current location is well suited for a library
- library services
- books
- separate building is an institutional statement regarding the importance of the library
- Potential to be remodeled
- proximity to civic center
- surrounding trees
- nothing wrong with current location
- staff
- Street level parking
- potential for natural light
- room for expansion into parking lot to the east
- somewhat removed from hustle and bustle of Pacific ave

II. How would you describe the community character of Santa Cruz?

- love of the outdoors
- farmers market
- lack of town square
- tourist town
- pedestrian friendly
- diverse community
- public space for community gatherings
- gentrification, expensive coastal town
- Not just tourists - there are people who live here as well
- creating greater density of pedestrians and less density of cars
- enriched by the mountains, ocean, beaches, but also by a community where it's fun to hang out
- working class people getting pushed out
- latinx community
- historically, town did not develop with an eye to public spaces
- university, lots of young people, more transient groups
- community space, public space where you can gather and not have to buy anything
- small businesses, entrepreneurial spirit
- can be politically contentious but enjoy living in S. C. together

III. What works well at the current downtown library?

- dedicated staff
- easy access
- wood tables
- meets your needs for intellectual exploration
- freestanding library
- everyone gets equal treatment
- electronic collections/ loans
- community room (size, dual entry)
- well rounded collection
- comfortable, familiar
- parking
- entry/ lobby is welcoming
- adaptable, providing virtual services
- connection to city hall
- civic institution
- ADA parking

IV. What is the biggest deficiency of the current downtown library?

- no teen room
- older carpeting & paint
- old acoustic ceiling tiles
- inefficient use of space
- dated
- HVAC, plumbing, building systems
- hazardous materials
- unreliable elevators
- feels drab
- lighting
- not enough small study rooms
- dilapidated restrooms
- roof leaks

V. What is your primary concern about the project?

Process - City was not listening

divisive rhetoric surrounding project has divided community

as downtown becomes increasingly built-up, public open space will be come more important

who does the parking garage serve?

encourages cars to come

how does this relate to the city's climate action plan?

precludes the use of lot 4 as a downtown commons

loss of demonstrated, successful public community space (Lot 4) that can't be retrieved

loss of trees on building site

puts a parking lot in the center of town, rather than at the perimeter

public is subsidizing parking for affordable housing

parking garage is expensive and unneeded

Concerned about making a decision now that's still the right choice in 50 years

creation of an urban heat island

parking may be subsidizing private enterprises (including affordable housing)

as more people move to downtown, they will need public open space

the last solution should be a parking garage - other parking options should be considered first

VI. What sustainable features would you like to see on the library?

sustainable concrete alternatives

durable materials, wood over plastic

balance between daylighting, high ceilings and heat gain/loss

recycled water

on-going LEED certification

high level approach to sustainability that considers all factors

project is not fundamentally sustainable compared to reuse of structure

good air circulation/ ventilation

shouldn't abandon an existing structure to create a new structure

do we need air conditioning?

What are the next steps for community input?

Perhaps the city should reconsider moving forward with the mixed use project

Sincerely believe than an alternate approach would be better for the community

There are well-documented studies that show how open public spaces such as a town commons contribute to a community's health on many levels: physical health, mental and social health, environmental health, and economic health. A parking garage degrades the environmental health of a community.

Q & A