

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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City of Marina to Realize Dream of New Library

On May 20th, 2006 the City of Marina will break ground on a new library. The new library at the top of Locke Paddon Park will combine a multi-lingual, expanded collection with new rooms for community and library activities in an energy efficient, landmark building.

The new library is designed to serve the needs of Marina residents of all ages and interests. There will be a large area dedicated to children, a special area designed just for teens, a homework center stocked with school textbooks and computers, three sound-proofed group study rooms, a technology center, a quiet reading area with a fireplace overlooking the park, and a special section for local history. The collection will also feature a significant collection of foreign-language books that reflect Marina's diverse population.

A large community meeting room will provide seating for 100 people for library programs, community meetings and events and the generous lobby will provide additional space for special events. One wing of the new building will be occupied by the Monterey County Free Library administrative headquarters.

The library, designed by Noll & Tam Architects of Berkeley, California, will be at the top of the hill overlooking the park. Its natural color walls, large windows, hipped red tile roofs with low eaves and copper accents will complement this special site. The building's tall roof will create lofty, light filled interior spaces and large bay windows will bring light to the interiors and provide dramatic views down into the park and beyond to Monterey Bay. The copper lantern at the peak of the roof will be a beacon for the library and a landmark for the city.

Energy efficiency is a priority for the architects. Energy will be saved by the plentiful use of natural light, ample insulation and radiant floor heating. Windows that open will bring in fresh air, creating a healthy and comfortable space. The generous landscaped parking lot will provide shade from trees and include environmentally sustainable features such as bioswales and stormwater retention. The area around the building will be lushly landscaped with drought-tolerant materials, transitioning to the native grasses and plants in the park. An area has been set aside for a future children's play area to be installed by the Park District.

The new library has been designed to meet the needs of the future as well as the present. Low book shelving can be replaced by high shelving to increase collections, technology will be adaptable to future needs and all spaces can be easily reconfigured. An efficient layout including self-service books on hold and a number of express check-out machines will also help the library reduce operating costs and provide a more efficient service.

The new library is a result of a long, hard struggle. For more than a decade, dedicated residents on the Marina Larger Library Committee have worked with the City to plan and fund the library. The very land on which the library will be built was bought with money raised by highly successful community fundraising. An entry plaza in front of the library will be paved with donor bricks honoring the many citizens who helped bring this project to fruition.

"So many people have worked so hard and given so much to get this project off the ground," says Lenore Masterson, Chairperson for the Larger Library Committee. "Seeing work finally begin is like a dream come true. The new library will be such a fantastic resource for the City of Marina."

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Size: 18,500 square feet

Project Cost: \$8,000,000

Estimated opening date: July 2007

Marina Library Design Team:

Noll & Tam Architects

Christopher Noll, Principal-in-Charge

Alyson Yarus, Project Manager

Jan Leite, Job Captain

Chris Anderson, Project Architect

Jason Barish, Designer

Subconsultants

Civil Engineer, Monterey Bay Engineers

Structural Engineer, Kenneth R. Hughes

Mechanical Engineer, Rumsey Engineers

Electrical Engineer and Lighting Designer, O'Mahony & Myer

Landscape Architect, Miller Company

Graphics & Signage, Matthew Williams Design

Cost Estimator, Construction Cost Management Services

Noll & Tam Architects is a 25-person architectural and planning firm based in Berkeley, California. Founded in 1992, the firm has worked with over 25 cities in Northern California in the design of public buildings. Ranging in scale from libraries to community centers and administrative buildings, all of our projects demonstrate our commitment to the people and buildings that make for strong communities. **On the web:** www.nollandtam.com



Rendering of the Marina Library