

WOODSIDE LIBRARY

RENOVATION FAQs



WHAT IS HAPPENING AT THE LIBRARY?

We are thrilled to announce that the Woodside Library will undergo a building renovation beginning August 1st. As a result of a collaborative effort between the San Mateo County Library (SMCL) and the Town of Woodside (Town), improvements will be made to the library to enhance the experience for all library users in the community. To accomplish this work, the Library will close on Saturday, August 1st, at 5:00pm. The anticipated duration of the renovation project is six to nine months. The Library will reopen in spring 2016.

These improvements will include:

- Painting and carpeting the entire building, incorporating a fresh color palette with new furniture to define library areas and zones.
- Installing new shelving to allow for greater flexibility and to attractively display collections.
- Increasing power and data outlets throughout the building to accommodate constantly changing and emerging technologies.
- Creating a dedicated children's place to provide a playful, age appropriate space that encourages exploration and excitement for reading and learning.
- Establishing a unique teen space, which emphasizes teen collections and supports collaboration for teens to read, learn and study with their peers.
- Adding a meeting room that will allow users to read and study, as well as attend scheduled programs and classes.
- Maximizing the connection with the California Native Plant Garden.
- Improving the indoor building lighting, and integrating skylights to help reduce energy consumption.
- Updating the building structural elements to include Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards, seismic upgrades, and a new roof and restrooms.

HOW DID THIS COME ABOUT?

In the 46-year period since the Woodside Library was constructed, dramatic changes have taken place in building practices and library service delivery. To address 21st century needs, SMCL and the Town have been working together since 2009 to develop plans to update the Library.

The objective of the Woodside Library Improvement Project is focused on providing vital building upgrades such as ADA and seismic standards, reconfiguring the existing layout to enhance the delivery of programs and services, and adding space flexibility in order to continue to adapt to evolving community needs.

WHEN WILL THE LIBRARY CLOSE AND RE-OPEN?

The library will close on Saturday, August 1st, at 5:00pm. Construction will begin in August, and the project is expected to take six to nine months. We look forward to a reopening in spring 2016.



WHAT LIBRARY SERVICES WILL BE AVAILABLE IN WOODSIDE?

During the closure, the popular Wednesday storytimes will continue at Woodside Independence Hall, located at 2955 Woodside Road. Holds can be mailed to Woodside residents, or patrons can select to pick them up at any library in San Mateo County.

WHICH OTHER LIBRARIES CAN I VISIT?

The nearest neighboring library is Portola Valley Library, located at 765 Portola Road in the Portola Valley Town Center. Open hours are Monday through Thursday, 11am – 7pm, and Friday and Saturday, 11am – 5pm.

You are also welcomed to visit, borrow and return materials to any library in San Mateo County. A full listing of library locations, hours, and programs are available at www.smcl.org.

WHEN WILL MY MATERIALS BE DUE?

During the closure, all Woodside Library items due dates have been extended to April 2016. However, you are welcomed to return materials earlier to any other library in San Mateo County.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE STAFF?

Library staff will be deployed to other SMCL locations. You will see some familiar faces at the Portola Valley Library and at Woodside Independence Hall, conducting ongoing programs.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE COLLECTION?

Just as staff will be temporarily reassigned, so will the collection. Some items will temporarily be transferred to other libraries to help fulfill demand, and others will be packed up and stored. Materials will be returned when the Woodside Library reopens in Spring 2016.

WILL ANYONE TEND TO THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT GARDEN?

The Native Garden will continue to be maintained by the Woodside-Atherton Garden Club. There will be no public access during construction due to safety concerns.

WILL THE LIBRARY PARKING LOT STAY OPEN?

The parking lot will be closed to accommodate construction materials and equipment. Town staff is working to mitigate parking issues caused by the closure.

MAY I DONATE BOOKS FOR THE FRIENDS BOOK SALE?

While the Library is closed for renovations, the Friends of the Woodside Library will not have a place for patrons to drop off book donations. Please keep your donations of good, resalable books for the Friends until the Library reopens in Spring of 2016. If that is not possible, you may contact Margaret MacNiven at 650-851-8010, and she will try to arrange to pick up of books.

HOW IS THE PROJECT FUNDED?

The Library is funded primarily through property taxes. Revenues in excess of amounts required to operate the Woodside Library are restricted and specified for use on library related activities, including facility remodeling or expansion. Over \$3M in excess library funds are currently available to support the project.

WHO WILL FEED DJ, THE CAT?

Our friend DJ, the cat, is cared for by the Woodside Village Church and visits us only because of the love he gets from the staff and our customers. He'll be confused, but he won't go hungry.

HOW CAN I HELP?

We appreciate your willingness to help. Please continue to utilize library services at alternate locations. We look forward to celebrating the new and improved Woodside Library in 2016. To keep up with all the latest project news, we encourage you to visit our website at www.smcl.org and sign up for our email newsletter.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE WOODSIDE LIBRARY!

