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San Ysidro Community to Vote on Design of New Branch Library

COMMUNITY INPUT WILL BE PART OF SELECTION PROCESS

SAN DIEGO – Starting Wednesday, Nov. 9, residents of San Ysidro will have the opportunity to vote on the design of a new library to replace the current 4,089-square-foot facility at 101 W. San Ysidro Blvd., which was built in 1924 and is outdated to serve the needs of the community. The site of the new library is a 1.62-acre lot on East Seaward Avenue, a location which will allow more space for a larger building.

“A library can provide life-changing opportunities for anyone who walks through its doors, which is why it is so important that the design welcomes neighbors by looking and feeling like it's part of the community,” said Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer. “This will be a new center for learning and education for San Ysidro, and our whole city benefits when more neighborhoods have the opportunity to succeed.”

Two firms submitted bids to design and build the new library, and the community vote will be one of the factors that determines which firm is awarded the contract. Only residents who live, work or own property in San Ysidro zip codes 92143, 92154 and 92173 are eligible to vote.

Images of the proposed designs will be on display inside the branch library and available to view online.

“The day is finally here where the community gets to speak and decide on what they want this new library to look like,” said City Councilmember David Alvarez. “It has been a decades-long wait for a new library in San Ysidro, and we are so enthusiastic for this new chapter.”

The design-build process for the new library will begin in early 2017 and will take an estimated 2 ½ years to complete. The facility will be at least 15,000 square feet and feature modern amenities including computers, a dedicated children’s area and teen space, study and meeting rooms and a multi-purpose area for community use.

“The new facility will serve the informational needs of our growing, diverse and dynamic community -- this will include our materials collection, access to technology and educational programs,” said Branch Manager Adolfo Ocampo. “We invite everyone in San Ysidro to participate by voting in the selection for the design of our new library.”

Voting on the proposed designs will be open until Wednesday, Nov. 23, at 5 p.m. To view the proposed designs, visit www.SanDiego.gov/SYvote.

About the San Diego Public Library

San Diego Public Library, which is the largest library system in the region, serves a population of more than 1.3 million people. Its mission is to inspire lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other. Learn about other events at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common and 35 community branch libraries, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's online catalog at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

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