

## FACILITY SUMMARIES



Courtland Library

### BRANCH SUMMARY

The Courtland Library is an important recent addition of library services to the Courtland community and the greater Delta area. However, the facility is still generally too small to accommodate the materials, computers, and seating needed by the greater Courtland community.

### COMMUNITY

The Courtland Library serves an approximately 15 square mile area in and around Courtland. This rural, agricultural area along the Sacramento River delta, south of the City of Sacramento, is generally low-density and has a fairly stable population; significant growth is not anticipated.

### SITE



In addition to serving the community, the Courtland Library is the school library for the co-located Bates Elementary School, which is attended by children from Yolo County as well as from Sacramento County, including Courtland. The Bates Elementary School offers both school year classes as well as being the site for summer schools for the region, so the library is well-located for many students in the area. Parking is street parking only (with 2 ADA accessible spaces in the adjacent school parking lot), but is generally sufficient. Although the civic nature of the library building is not immediately apparent, the library generally has good visibility from the road and is known within the community. Improved site lighting may help staff feel more secure, particularly on dark winter nights when only one staff member is on duty. Bike racks are available at the school but not at the library.

Service	Current
Service Area Population	1,104 pop
Year Facility Constructed	2003
Collection Size	10,236 volumes
Reader Seats	9 seats
Public Computers	2 computers
Community Room	0 seats
Group Study Seats	0 seats
Building Size	1,365 sq. ft.

## FACILITY SUMMARIES

### BUILDING

The library is housed in a 1,365 square foot double-wide modular building purchased in 2003 with funds provided by a Community Development Block Grant. There is no formal agreement between the River Delta School District and the Sacramento Public Library as to who is responsible for maintaining the facility, which sometimes becomes a problem. Aside from minor maintenance issues, the relatively new building does not have any major building system issues. Noise can be a problem, as it is a small building with an open interior floor plan.

### LIBRARY SERVICES

The vast majority of library use is by children and youth – upwards of 90% of use. Teen and adult collections are shelved according to Sacramento Public Library standards, while children’s materials are shelved to meet the school’s needs. Adult library customers primarily check out fiction materials, and frequently place holds to get materials from other libraries as a way of supplementing the library’s small collection.

The current facility does not offer the space to provide library or community programming, for which there is a significant need – particularly among teens. With only two public computers available, there is a definite need for increased computer access for both Internet and word-processing use. The library also does not have enough space to accommodate classes and the general public at the same time; the library must be closed when classes from Bates School or other schools use the library.

There is no staff workroom; staff work either at the circulation desk or out at a public study table, further limiting public seating. Storage is insufficient, and items need to be shuffled around frequently due to lack of space. There is an exterior book drop bin in addition to a return bin just inside the library entrance which conflicts with the circulation desk functions.

The Courtland Library benefits from a very dedicated Branch Friends of the Library, which operated the Courtland Library on a strictly volunteer basis for 10 years. Community members donate many books to the Friends; however, there is no dedicated work or storage space for the Friends in the current building.



*Limited computers and workspace*



## FACILITY SUMMARIES

### BRANCH SUMMARY

The Walnut Grove library is a leased space in a County-owned building; although it generally serves the community, there are potential issues with the parking. The building/site configuration does not allow for expansion of library services, although there has been a recent expansion to include program space.

### COMMUNITY

Walnut Grove is an unincorporated community in Sacramento County. Its population tends to be relatively stable, although there has been some development on the west end and an influx of young families recently. There is a significant Spanish-speaking population in the community as well as smaller populations of Chinese- and Japanese-speaking residents. The library also acts as the school library for students from Walnut Grove Elementary School located across the street.

### SITE

The site is generally good within the community; it is across from the elementary school and park space and just off of River Road. Better signage would improve visibility of the library from the street. Pedestrian access from the School is important but could be improved with an additional pathway between the two facilities. Parking is generally adequate, although the parking lot portion of the site is not owned by the County. There is some potential for it to be developed, which would result in loss of parking for the library.



Walnut Grove Library in leased County building



School across from the library

Service	Current
Population Served	1,587 pop
Year Facility Constructed	1970
Year Facility Expanded	2006
Collection Size	22,470 volumes
Reader Seats	25 seats
Public Computers	6 computers
Community Room	50 seats
Group Study Seats	0 seats
Building Size	3,580 sq. ft.

## FACILITY SUMMARIES

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### BUILDING

The site/building is a County-owned building that used to be the municipal courthouse. The building now houses the Library and a regional Agricultural Office. The former courtroom area has been remodeled into community room for the library. The building is in reasonably good condition.

### LIBRARY SERVICES

The Walnut Grove Library is generally at capacity in all of its library services, including collections, computers, and seating. The facility features an approximately 22,000 volume collection. There is no room on the shelves to increase the collection beyond its current size.

The limited number of public access computers are in high demand by both children and adults. Tourists also come to the library to check email on the computers as well as to request information on walking tours and other local attractions.

Seating is limited. Although 400 square feet was added to the children's area in 1999 to accommodate storytelling and children's needs, there is no teen space and no real quiet seating area within the facility.

The former courtroom space has been remodeled as a community room and is used for library programming and community meetings.

The staff workroom is too small for the staff to work and lacks sufficient storage space. The Friends space is in the same building, accessible from an exterior entry on the far side of the building from the library.



*Limited computers and seating*



*Courtroom being changed into a community room*

## FACILITY SUMMARIES



*Isleton Library on Isleton Elementary School campus*

### BRANCH SUMMARY

The Isleton Library is housed in a joint use building on an elementary school campus. Although it serves both the community of Isleton and the Isleton Elementary School, it is only open to the school students during school hours, limiting its use by the general community.

### COMMUNITY

The Isleton Library serves a 55 square mile area in southern Sacramento County, bounded roughly by I-5, the Sacramento River, and the county line. The population size in this mostly rural area has remained stable for some time, although several new developments are currently being discussed. Approximately one-fourth of area residents are Hispanic/Latino. Other groups include Chinese, Slavic, African-American, and Filipino. Children make up the majority of library users, although this may be in part due to the operational constraints of the library posed by the requirement that the library be open only to children during school hours.

### SITE

The library occupies a portion of the Isleton Elementary School campus, and in fact serves as the school library while school is in session (during which time it is not open to the public), and as a public library when school is not in session. The site and building are school-owned, and are at risk of being taken back if it is needed by the school, especially as the proposed growth to the community impacts the school's space needs. In addition to both size and operational constraints of the site, the leased nature of the facility precludes opportunities for expanding the building at its current location. The library does not have its own parking area; street parking is the only nearby parking for staff and customers.

Service	Current
Service Area Population	2,699 pop
Year Facility Leased	1993
Collection Size	20,266 volumes
Reader Seats	18 seats
Public Computers	6 computers
Community Room	0 seats
Group Study Seats	0 seats
Building Size	1,700 sq. ft.

## FACILITY SUMMARIES

### BUILDING

The building envelope leaks both air and water. Thermal comfort has improved since the installation of air conditioning units sponsored by the Branch Friends of the Library. The building suffers from some accessibility shortcomings, such as in the narrow hallways.

Although the library building is small, it still offers poor visibility of public areas from staff service points, due in part to the high stacks needed to accommodate the needed collection in such a limited space. Visibility of the teen area is a particular problem due to its location vis-à-vis the staff desk.

### LIBRARY SERVICES

For children and teens, the most popular services at the library include the six Internet computers for both homework and recreational use. Adults gravitate toward recreational reading materials as well as periodicals and new materials.

The library lacks sufficient seating in general as well as different seating areas for different library uses (such as quiet reading, group study, etc.). It lacks a program space, and programs are held at the front of the library only after moving the children's area's furniture around. There is also little separation between children and adult areas, creating noise conflicts in the space both during programs and during normal operations.

There is no separate work area for staff; all staff work takes place at the service desk or in public areas of the library. A small area partitioned off by shelving at the rear of the children's area acts as a staff workstation, children's library storage, and break area.



*Crowded book stacks*



*Limited computers*



*Staff areas out in open/public*

**COURTLAND,  
ISLETON,  
WALNUT GROVE**

**FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS**



*Courtland Library*



*Isleton Library on Isleton Elementary School campus*

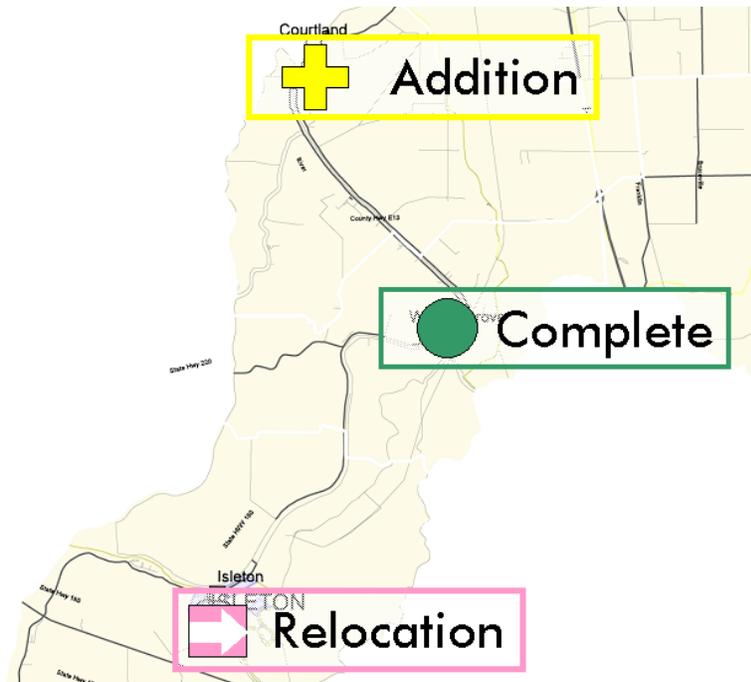


*Walnut Grove Library*

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Courtland library is recommended for expansion at its current site. The expansion of this building by one more modular unit would allow for greater capacity for computers, class visits and staff work area. The Walnut Grove Library has just been expanded to include the courtroom space as a community room. The facility is considered complete with this expansion accomplished.

The Isleton Library is housed in a joint-use, school-owned facility on the Isleton Elementary School campus. As the community grows, the school district will likely require use of this space to accommodate additional students at the Isleton Elementary School. If this happens, the Isleton Library will need to find a new home. It is recommended that a new site be acquired and facility built at that time. A site geographically located near the commercial district and the school, near to the current library, will be desirable. The timeline for this development will depend on how quickly development occurs.



	2005	2015	2025
Population	5,390	5,980	6,650
Courtland	1,365	+	2,050
Walnut Grove	●	3,580	3,580
Isleton	1,700	1,700	→
Sq. Ft. Deficit	-	-	-

## FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Expand the Courtland Library by one modular unit
- The Walnut Grove Library has been expanded within the existing County-owned building.
- Relocate and expand the Isleton Library as it becomes necessary and as site and funding are identified.

### COST MODEL

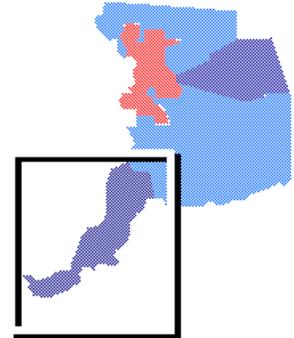
Costs for the expansion of the Courtland Library will need to include the cost for the new modular as well as the costs to modify the site and existing building. The previous modular building cost approximately \$237,000 (in 2003 dollars).

The costs for the Isleton facility have yet to be identified. Land costs and other site specific costs will need to be determined once a site is identified.

### OPPORTUNITIES AND FUNDING

Additional Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are one potential source of funding for an expansion of the Courtland Library. There are currently no other funding mechanisms identified for this area.

There is currently no funding identified for the Isleton project although there may be some opportunities for redevelopment and Community Development Block Grant funding. Potential sites are being identified on an on-going basis.



### NEXT STEPS

- Site Identification
- Funding Identification
- Planning efforts with City and County

