

FACILITY SUMMARIES



Galt Library and site

BRANCH SUMMARY

Despite its relatively young age, the thirteen year old Galt Library is already too small to meet the needs of the growing City of Galt and surrounding communities. Although the library is in good physical condition, the space is impacted on a daily basis as it tries to serve a growing population with too few resources in the library and no room to grow these services.

COMMUNITY

The Galt Library, also known as the Marian O. Lawrence Library after a former mayor and local library supporter, serves the City of Galt in southern Sacramento County and the surrounding communities of Wilton and Herald as well as Acampo, Lockeford, and Clements in San Joaquin County. The population of the area is growing, particularly in the north and east parts of the city, and there is an increasing number of younger families with children. In fact, more than 50% of library users in Galt are children and teens.

SITE

The Galt Library site is generally well located in the community. It is in the city center, near city hall as well as a community center and park. There is room for library expansion on the current site. Site circulation and parking are usually sufficient, except for every Tuesday and Wednesday, when the City flea market is held on the adjacent site. Significant conflicts occur at this time; on a number of occasions the City has had to hire a security guard to patrol the library parking lot during flea markets to prevent its use by flea market customers. The flea market is a long-standing event as well as a significant source of revenue for the City of Galt.

| Service | Current |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Service Area Population | 29,238 pop |
| Year Facility Constructed | 1993 |
| Collection Size | 40,391 volumes |
| Reader Seats | 38 seats |
| Public Computers | 8 computers |
| Community Room | 0 seats |
| Group Study Seats | 0 seats |
| Building Size | 4,225 sq. ft. |

FACILITY SUMMARIES

BUILDING

Built by the City of Galt in 1993, the library is still in fairly good condition. There have been some roof leaks which the City of Galt is addressing. The mechanical system is also not as reliable as it should be given its relative newness. Finishes are holding up well, and natural and indirect lighting is balanced throughout the library. Although the bookdrop location is efficient for staff as it drops directly into the workroom, it is poorly signed on the exterior of the building. It is located at the rear of the building away from the main entry, making it awkward for customers entering the building to easily return their materials. The main door is heavy and can be difficult for some customers to manage. The city plans to install an automatic door to address this problem.

LIBRARY SERVICES

Less than 15 years after its construction, the Galt Library building is showing signs of being too small. Stacks have gotten taller to accommodate the increased collection, but still do not provide enough shelf space for the collection size needed by the community; the taller stacks also block visibility of some public areas from staff service points. Quiet seating within the library is sufficient, but the children's area does not provide enough seating, nor is there enough seating for teens.

The biggest shortcoming of the library is its lack of a community room. This is significant, particularly for a community with a growing family population and with many program needs. Storytimes are held in an area near the building entry, which causes both circulation and noise conflicts. Other programs simply cannot be held.

Computers in the library are heavily used, particularly by children and teens who use them to search the Internet and to do homework. There is nearly always a waiting list to use the computers. Unfortunately, there is no room to expand this important resource.

Staff work areas are small and crowded. Book carts are staged along a narrow hallway, making passage difficult. Storage is at a premium; even the staff restroom is pressed into service as makeshift storage space.



Limited seating and computers



Library book stacks at capacity



Crowded staff corridor

FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

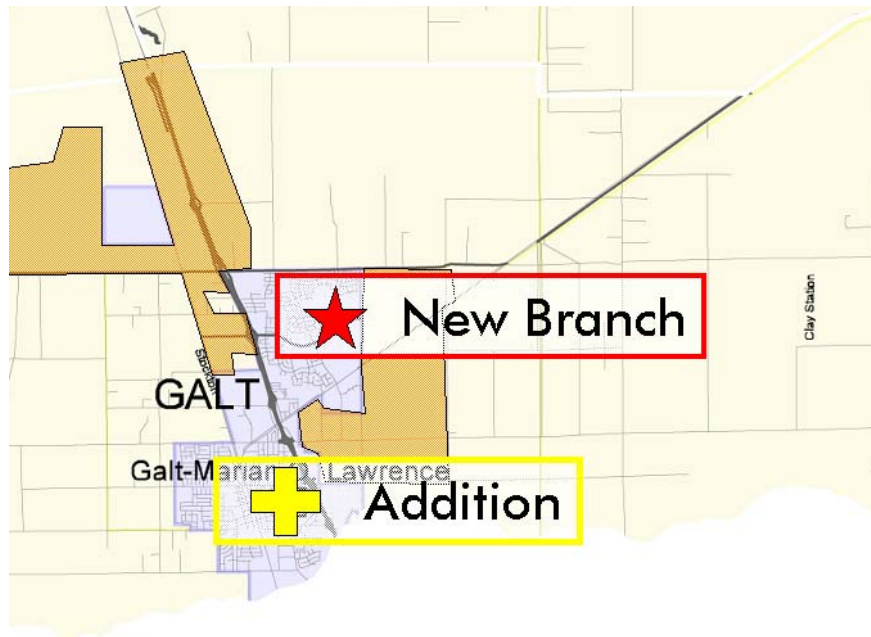


Galt Library and site

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 4,225 square foot Galt Library was completed in 1993. However, due to population growth and changing library needs, it is too small to meet the needs of the community. With no community room and little room for technology and collection, the library is already stretched to capacity, limiting services available at the branch. A new, larger facility in the growing area northeast of Highway 99 will supplement the existing library with a community room, additional collection, technology space, and other community resources. A potential expansion to the existing library which would incorporate a community room and additional general library space is recommended once the new facility is in place (to avoid service interruptions). An alternative that should be evaluated at this time is the cost to replace versus renovate/expand the facility.

- New Galt Library in northeast part of the city
- Renovate / expand existing Galt Library after a second Galt Library opens



| | 2005 | 2015 | 2025 |
|-----------------|--------|----------|----------|
| Population | 29,238 | 35,254 | 49,150 |
| Galt | 4,225 | 4,225 | + 10,000 |
| New Galt Lib. | | * 15,000 | 15,000 |
| Sq. Ft. Deficit | 10,394 | -1,598 | -425 |

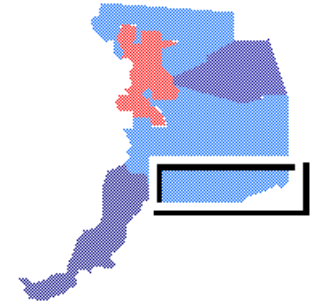
FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

| New 15,000 SF Library | 2007 Dollars |
|---|---------------------|
| Construction Hard Costs | \$7,250,000 |
| Technology, Furniture, and Public Art | \$904,000 |
| Soft Costs | \$2,927,000 |
| Unescalated Project Budget | \$11,081,000 |
| <i>Does not include land, cost escalation, or initial purchase of library materials</i> | |

| Expansion to 10,000 SF | 2007 Dollars |
|---|--------------------|
| Construction Hard Costs | \$5,740,000 |
| Technology, Furniture, and Public Art | \$748,000 |
| Soft Costs | \$2,328,000 |
| Unescalated Project Budget | \$8,816,000 |
| <i>Does not include land, cost escalation, or initial purchase of library materials</i> | |

COST MODEL

The base cost for the new library is in January 2007 dollars and is from the 15,000 square foot template cost model. A preliminary model for the expansion of the existing facility to 10,000 sf is also included. Other site-specific costs will need to be identified once a specific site is identified. Cost Escalation, Land Costs, and initial purchase of Library Materials are not included.



OPPORTUNITIES AND FUNDING

There are possibilities for partnering with other potential developments as they are planned for the northeast part of the city.

NEXT STEPS

- Site Identification
- Funding Identification

