

FACILITY SUMMARIES



Martin Luther King, Jr. Library



BRANCH SUMMARY

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Library is an important resource in southwestern Sacramento City. However, its size and location both present some challenges to the library’s ability to meet the community’s library service needs.

COMMUNITY

Located in the southwestern part of the City of Sacramento, the King Library serves a diverse population that is roughly one-third white, one-third African-American, and one-third Asian (including Hmong, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Japanese). There is a significant senior population as well as a large number of latchkey children.

SITE

The library is located along a very busy street, which provides good visibility but makes access difficult for both vehicles and pedestrians. The site is a bit isolated from other community resources; the properties on either side of the library site are currently empty fields, but there are some plans to develop these areas making a more park-like setting. Although there are some apartment houses to the rear of the library, most residential areas are not within easy walking distance of the library.

The parking lot is adequate to meet demand. There are few shade trees for hot weather parking.

BUILDING

The building was remodeled in the late 1990s, at which time the main building entrance was moved from the street side to the parking lot side to better serve customers, as this is the main entry point given the library’s current orientation away from the street. The building envelope, finishes,

Service	Current
Population Served	49,441 pop
Year Facility Constructed	1970
Collection Size	123,992 volumes
Reader Seats	83 seats
Public Computers	16 computers
Community Room	0 seats
Group Study Seats	0 seats
Building Size	15,078 sq. ft.

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and systems are in reasonably good condition. The heating system and air conditioning are old and need frequent attention as they were not addressed in the 1990's remodel. Glare can be a problem in some of the public areas. Visibility from the staff desk to the children's area and distant parts of the library is not ideal due to the tall stacks needed to accommodate the collection.

The renovation also converted the community room into staff offices, while maintaining the original staff offices as the staff workroom and as back storage for library materials. Recent library policy has changed to encourage weeding and display of materials, especially at branch facilities, so that there is no longer need for this type of back of house storage. This may allow for the reconfiguration of this space to try to recapture the community room for programming, as the lack of a community room in this facility limits library programming. Because the community room is in use for staff offices, programs are held in public areas of the library. Library programs can attract as many as 30 adults, while storytimes and other children's programs have 90 or more attendees.

LIBRARY SERVICES

DVDs and videos are the highest-circulating materials at the King Library. Magazines, audiotapes, and graphic novels are also popular, as is the special African-American collection. Large print and fiction materials are enjoyed by seniors. The lack of space for adequate variety of type of seating in the library is a potential obstacle for some users; library staff report that some users are not staying and working at the library due to noise issues and space constraints. One of the reasons for seating and noise issues was the frequent line for computers. With the addition of the new computer lab, seats were freed up and noise has been reduced. More comfortable "living room" type seating and a separate teen area would help further address these issues.

Computers are an important resource for this community. Programs on how to use computers, email, and the Internet are in great demand. The library's public use computers are heavily used. Computers in a lab setting have recently been added and are being well-received.

The staff workroom is currently inefficient, with surplus shelves and other furnishings crowding the area as well as poor access to the book drop bins. Thermal comfort can be a problem in the workroom.



Library book stacks at capacity



Crowded computers



Staff workroom

FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

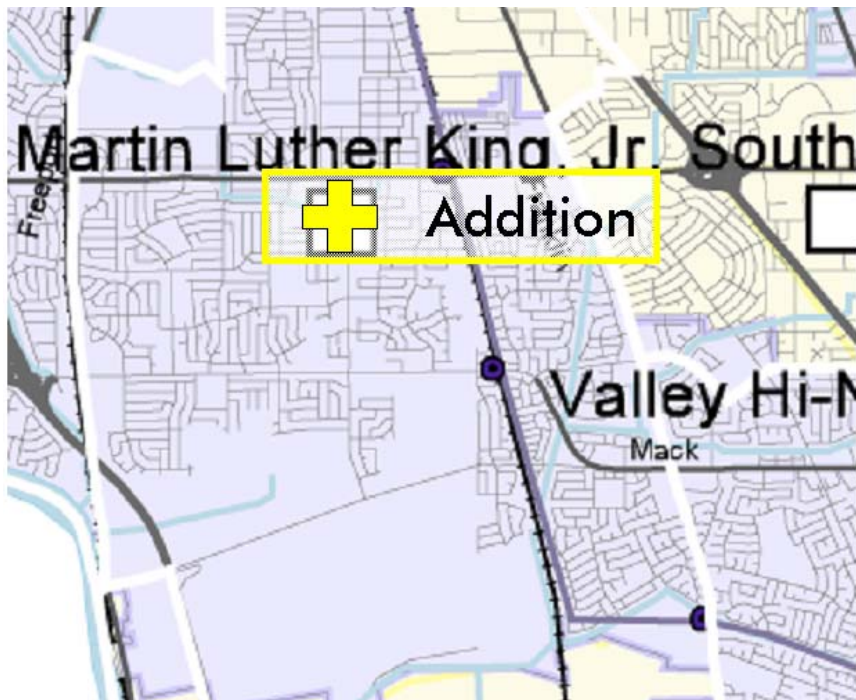


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RECOMMENDATIONS

The Martin Luther King, Jr., Library is located on a busy bypass that makes it difficult for some residents to access. A more civic presence on the street, as well as potential development and/or transportation improvements around the site, could help make the library more visually and physically accessible. Today’s population is also sufficient to demand a significant expansion to the MLK library to increase all library services. An expansion of the facility to approximately twice the size of the current facility, to approximately 30,000 sf, is recommended.

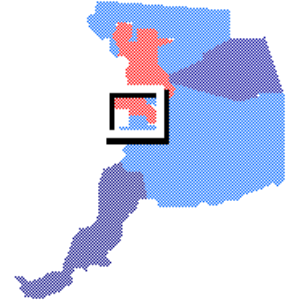
- Expand and Renovate the Martin Luther King, Jr., Branch



	2005	2015	2025
Population	49,441	57,529	64,175
Martin Luther King Jr.	15,078	15,078	+ 30,000
Sq. Ft. Deficit	9,643	13,687	2,088

FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Expansion to 30,000 SF	2007 Dollars
Construction Hard Costs	\$13,245,000
Technology, Furniture, and Public Art	\$1,948,000
Soft Costs	\$5,450,000
Unescalated Project Budget	\$20,643,000
<i>Does not include land, cost escalation, or initial purchase of library materials</i>	

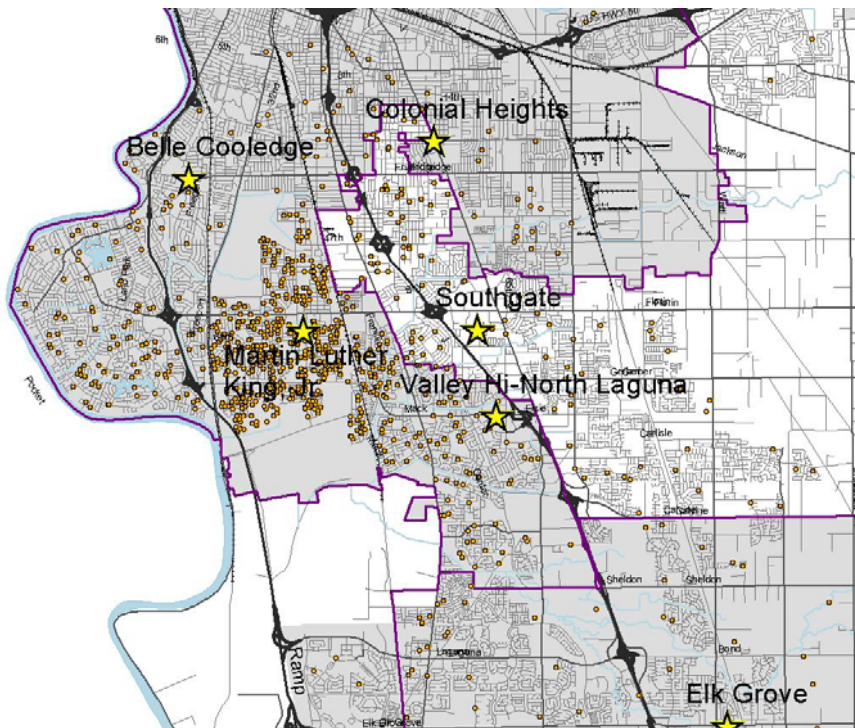


COST MODEL

The base cost for this library is in January 2007 dollars and is from the 30,000 square foot template cost model. 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 currently no funding mechanisms identified for this area.



NEXT STEPS

- Site Identification
- Funding Identification
- Planning efforts with City