

Friends of the Fort Bragg Library, Inc.

PO Box 2718

Fort Bragg, California 95437



April 25, 2023

Board of Supervisors
Mendocino County
501 Low Gap Rd.
Ukiah, CA 95482

Esteemed Supervisors,

In 2016 the planning of an expansion to the Fort Bragg branch of the Mendocino County Library was given a go-ahead by the Board of Supervisors. Since that date, the Friends of the Library have completed the following steps towards reaching the goal of a larger building to serve the Fort Bragg community.

On September 15, 2016, we purchased the lot just north of the current library building at 421 N. Whipple St. for \$180,000. Most of this money came from generous donors and some from our own fundraising efforts, such as book sales. Ninety-two residents of the county have joined the "\$1,000 Club" by donating at least that amount to the expansion project.

In 2019, we hired Aum Construction of Mendocino to remove the run-down house and two outbuildings that were located on the property and to clear the lot for \$32,000. We have retained a local landscaper, Rafael Cen, to mow and maintain the lot year-round.

We sought input from the community through an advertisement in the newspaper in 2021 to learn what they want from their public library branch. Everyone wants more space, especially for children and young adults.

To kick off financial goals for another fundraiser, we sought estimates from local architect Todd Newberger, which ranged from \$11,000,000-16,000,000. Then, local builder Daniel Zenefski referred us to Planning Consultant Marie Jones, who had served as the Community Development Director for the City of Fort Bragg for 13 years. The up-to-date estimate to add 3,500 square feet to the 6,000 square foot layout is \$2,920,000, which includes numerous upgrades to the current building such as replacing the HVAC system and adding solar panels and battery back-up. We are excited about the upcoming grant opportunity that would pay 75% of the project cost.

The Friends are committed to providing an additional \$500,000 towards the expansion to help pay for the cost of the build. We are ready to help the County move forward by transferring the property deed so that an extension of the current Fort Bragg branch can be built onto it and for this purpose only.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carole Poma". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Carole Poma
Vice President, Fort Bragg Friends of the Library