

Library Jurisdiction Name	<b>Contra Costa County Library</b>	12/02/2019
	by <b>Geneva Moss</b> in <b>Maximizing Learning Spaces - Design Opportunity</b>	id. 14594985
	501 W. 18th Street Antioch, California 94509 United States 925-757-9224 gmooss@ccclib.org	

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<b>Original application</b>	12/02/2019
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SECTION 1 - APPLICANT INFORMATION	n/a
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Library/Organization Director Name	<b>Melinda Cervantes</b>
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Library/Organization Director Title	<b>County Librarian</b>
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Library/Organization Director Email Address	<b>mcervant@ccclib.org</b>
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Library/Organization Director Business Phone Number	<b>925-608-7700</b>
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Library/Organization Director Street Address/P.O. Box	<b>777 Arnold Dr., Suite 210</b>
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Library/Organization Director City	<b>Martinez</b>
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Library/Organization Director Zip Code	<b>94553</b>
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Project Coordinator Name	<b>Geneva Moss</b>
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Project Coordinator Title	<b>Senior Community Library Manager</b>
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Project Coordinator Email Address	<b>gmooss@ccclib.org</b>
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Project Coordinator **925-757-9224**  
Business Phone  
Number

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Name of Learning **Antioch Library**  
Space Location

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Address of Learning **501 W. 18th Street, Antioch CA**  
Space

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SECTION 2 - n/a  
PROJECT  
INFORMATION

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1. Tell us about your community and library and the needs that this project would address.

**The City of Antioch is a dynamic community. The city's official motto is "Opportunity lives here". As of July 2018, Antioch's population was 111,635 (an increase of 8.6% in 8 years), only 21.1% of those age 25 and over hold a bachelor's degree or higher, 14.6% of the population is considered to be in poverty, 16.7% of households do not have broadband Internet subscriptions at home, 21.9% of the population is foreign born, 56% of the community identifies as multi-racial or as a member of a minority group, and 34.9% of people age 5 and older speak a language other than English at home. Antioch has a significant number of citizens who frequently face barriers when trying to access learning spaces such as colleges or other higher learning institutions. The library is a place where people can find help to break through those barriers.**

**The Antioch Library provides storytimes, children's programming, teen programming, programs for adults with disabilities, general adult programs ranging from book clubs to financial planning seminars, and computer docent access. The Library is also home to an office of Project Second Chance – Contra Costa County's adult literacy program. The Library links citizens in the community to resources they may not otherwise be aware of. Part of the power of the Antioch library is that it is a branch of the Contra Costa County Library system. Contra Costa County Library operates 26 libraries in 18 cities and 5 unincorporated areas across the County. Library services include rich collections to meet reading and research needs, knowledgeable and welcoming staff, vibrant programs, wireless access to high-speed internet for personal computing devices, public computers with a variety of personal computing programs, and quiet study space and meeting rooms. Community members in Antioch have access to the County collection of physical materials, online collections, museum passes, and more via their library card. Although the Antioch library offers great customer service and access to technology, the space itself does not serve the community's current needs or reflect the vibrancy of the community. The furnishings and shelving (which range from 13-50 years of age) are worn, outdated and uncomfortable and there are few power outlets throughout the library. The library was last refreshed in 2006 and since then, the needs of library patrons have evolved in significant ways that are no longer supported by the current layout and furnishings of the library. Today, library patrons require and expect a way to quickly and conveniently charge their personal devices and access online services, classes and information. They need space and furniture that supports informal meetups and collaborative group projects and also provides quiet space to do their work.**

**By replacing the current furniture and rearranging our teen and adult areas to better utilize the space we have, we will convey and deliver on the message that "The library is a place for you that supports your desired learning outcomes." We will be able to enforce the City's motto of "Opportunity lives here."**

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2. What sources of information (e.g., surveys, staff and patron feedback) have you used to determine the needs to be addressed in this project?

**The Antioch Library received survey responses via OrangeBoy, feedback from focus groups, and unsolicited patron feedback. Some direct responses we have received from our surveys are as follows: "...there needs to be dedicated space for youth to hang out so that they are not overwhelming the space for others." and "Sometimes we want to gather to study and not open or not enough room for a small or larger group space." In addition, the Library hired a consultant to provide input on the design status of six Contra Costa County Libraries, including the Antioch Library. This process included site analysis and observations to determine how patrons are actually using the space versus how the space was designed to be used, as well as staff participation in designer led workshops so that we could continue to make informed observations and gather data about our libraries from a design perspective.**

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3. Describe your underutilized space including its size, how it is being used today, and its current challenges and limitations.

**The Antioch Libray's primary underutilized space is its quiet area. Adults need a space that, even during the busy after school hours, supports quiet reading, studying and computer work. Currently, the quiet area is located next to the area of the library with tables and chairs that are filled during the after school hours with large groups of students doing homework and hanging out. Additionally, the desktop computer area, which is primarily used by adults doing work, research and job searches, is located next to the teen space, which is also filled to capacity with teens after school. This means that both the computer area and the quiet seating area are noisy and filled with teens after school and the adults have no quiet area in which to do their work. The current teen space is approximately 15' x 18' and the current quiet area is approximately 12' x 21'.**

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4. What objectives do you have for and what outcomes do you expect from a successfully transformed space? Please be specific and include how you will measure success.

**Our objectives for switching the location of the teen and quiet areas and upgrading the furniture and layout of both areas are as follows:**

- There will be clearly designated spaces for teens and adults that support each groups respective and distinct learning goals.**
- Both teen and adult library users will have an increased sense of comfort while simultaneously using the Library.**
- Staff will have more positive interactions with teens during the after school hours.**
- A new, and clean space will inspire more Antioch residents to use the library facility and its services.**

**We will measure success via patron feedback using surveys, tracking whether or not patrons use the spaces as designed, and by monitoring the number of incidents with teens and by tracking overall usage of the library.**

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5. How will your participation align with the project goal of transforming underutilized spaces to maximize their potential for reading, literacy, and learning?

**Redesigning our library to better suit the needs of the community and having that space demonstrate to the community they are valued will result in more community members visiting the library to take advantage of the Library's wide variety of services. We envision greater use of our quiet space when it is surrounded by other quieter areas of the library, such as the computer area. We also envision the addition of powered furniture capable of supporting today's technology needs. Patrons will be able to use this space optimally for its intended use – quiet independent study and reading. We anticipate the teen area being more dynamic and useful to the teens, better enabling their activities such as studying in groups, browsing books, and using library computers/laptops. This will curb their need to spread out throughout the entire library. If the teens have a sense of place and ownership, we feel that this will be a more positive destination for them and encourage reading and learning support for school. Finally, by replacing outdated furniture throughout the library and adding charging stations and areas better situated to support group learning, meetings, tutoring, etc. the remainder of the library can better support literacy activities for all patrons. Based on circulation statistics from other libraries within Contra Costa that have had major refreshes or have had new buildings constructed, we can see that the residents of Contra Costa show up in force when a library is improved upon in a significant way. More citizens obtain library cards, check out items, and attend programs. When people spend more time at the library and/or interact more frequently with library staff we have an opportunity to provide recommendations to them and encouragement needed to maximize patron participation in reading, literacy, and learning activities.**

6. Detail any in-kind, match funding, community participation, or any other support you expect for this project. Identify the group, type of support, and amount of support for each.

**The library has approximately \$80,000 to implement and execute the new design plan once it is created. These funds come from County Library funds that have been allocated to further the initial work done with Margaret Sullivan Studios. We also have a supportive Friends of the Library organization and anticipate that they will be willing to assist us with the project if additional funds are needed. A professional design plan specific to the Antioch Library will allow us to use the funds we have to furnish and refresh the library to its fullest.**

7. Explain how you will ensure the success of your project coordinator and the project itself including any organizational support you will provide.

**The project coordinator will work closely with the Deputy County Librarian and Budget & Finance on contracts, purchasing, and any other items requiring approval above the level of the project coordinator. In addition, there are clear policies and procedures in place that the project coordinator will follow when implementing the project.**

SECTION 3 - Design n/a  
Opportunity  
Questions

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Detail your vision for the future of the space including specific ideas you may for improving it.

**To address to the various issues outlined above, we will switch the location of the teen space with the quiet area. This will mean that the quiet area will be next to the desktop computer area so that there is a distinct and separate quiet area for adults to do their computer work as well as their quiet reading and studying. The quiet area will have powered furniture so that patrons can easily use and charge personal devices. The teen space will then be located next to the study tables, which will make it a natural overflow area for the teens afterschool and cause the least amount of disruption to the quiet area. It will be vibrant, full of seating, and so inviting to the teens that they will prefer utilizing the teen space to using any other space in the library. It will also have powered furniture so that in addition to being able to use library laptops, the teens will also be able to use and charge their personal devices. There will be two desktop computers dedicated to the teen area as well. Finally, by moving the teen space to the current quiet area, staff will have better sight lines and will be able to help maintain a more comfortable environment for all.**

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Provide any estimate(s) you've obtained for this project, describe how you've obtained this information, explain your plans to contract with a designer, and, if applicable, obtain additional funding needed

**We have received an estimate in the amount of \$21,000 from Margaret Sullivan Studios to create a Design Plan and an estimate of approximately \$65,655 from Ross McDonald Co., Inc. for furniture. Our plans to contract with a designer include 4 workshops: a staff & Library Leadership workshop, a community engagement workshop obtaining public input, a presentation of concepts to staff and partners, and a final approval of design and specifications. We propose to use Margaret Sullivan Studios as they have already completed some initial work for the Antioch Library redesign.**

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Share any additional comments or information that supports your participation in this project.

**The citizens of Antioch look to the library as a learning institution. Parents bring their children here when they aren't sure how to help them with their homework, ask for advice on which books their children should be reading, and want to find tutors. Adults come here when they are looking to find materials on how to learn to write resumes, search for jobs, study for job entry tests, and more. We are an educational hub within the community and it is important that we offer an up-to-date and comfortable environment for our users that will support their learning goals.**

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Budget Overview

[Antioch\\_Library\\_Budget\\_Overview.xlsx](#)

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Additional Documents

[B19063\\_Antioch\\_Library\\_Furniture\\_Budget.pdf](#)

[MSS\\_2019-12-01\\_CCCL\\_Fee\\_Proposal.docx](#)

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CIPA  
Acknowledgment

**Not Subject to CIPA Requirements. The CIPA requirements do not apply because no funds made available under this LSTA grant program will be used to purchase computers used to access the Internet or to pay for direct costs associated with accessing the Internet.**

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LIBRARY  
DIRECTOR  
CERTIFICATION

**Melinda Cervantes**

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