



CITY OF TACOMA
Tacoma Public Library

ADDENDUM NO. 1

DATE: October 30, 2019

REVISIONS TO:

**Request for Proposals Specification No. LB19-0357F
Eastside & Hilltop Feasibility Study**

NOTICE TO ALL PROPOSERS:

This addendum is issued to clarify, revise, add to or delete from, the original specification documents for the above project. This addendum, as integrated with the original specification documents, shall form the specification documents. The noted revisions shall take precedence over previously issued specification documents and shall become part of this contract.

REVISIONS TO THE SUBMITTAL DEADLINE:

The submittal deadline has been changed to 11:00 a.m., Pacific Time, Tuesday, December 3, 2019.

REVISIONS TO THE SPECIFICATIONS:

Revise specification to include the Hilltop Library Planning Committee Provided Documents Packet.

NOTE: Acknowledge receipt of this addendum by initialing the corresponding space as indicated on the signature page. Vendors who have already submitted their bid/proposal may contact the Purchasing Division at 253-502-8468 and request return of their bid/proposal for acknowledgment and re-submittal. Or, a letter acknowledging receipt of this addendum may be submitted in an envelope marked Request for Proposals Specification No. LB19-0357F Addendum No. 1. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, including, in certain circumstances, for failure to appropriately acknowledge this addendum.

cc: Kate Larsen, Tacoma Public Library Director

**Concerned Citizens
Affirming the Right to Literacy Community Café Notes
Peace Lutheran Church
2106 South Cushman, Tacoma
February 13, 2014, 6-8 PM**

Purpose for coming:

27 People attended from at least ten different organizations. The meeting started with each person expressing a gift, strength, heartfelt commitment to children, and/or a desire to help or contribute their talents to restoring library services to Hilltop. One participant moved the group by reciting a poem that reminded us that the right to literacy needed to be equitable for all children, a right as non-discriminating as the wind. There was a resounding group value and commitment to being there first and foremost for the children. Personal stories revealed a high community value of literacy and library services or some type of literacy service, a wealth of expertise to include a community history of advocating for and implementing large scale projects. Success in the past was attributed to the community being able to work together and strong community leadership. Several community leaders were mentioned by name. Some examples of previous success stories included the raising of the funds needed to restore the swimming pool in the Phase I Project of the People's Center, the implementation of the MLK library, the literacy services offered by various organizations to include programing at McCarver ES. The group acknowledged their strength in overcoming historical racism in the public system by advocating for community improvements and working together.

Group/Community Strengths or Individual Contributions that Could Support a Literacy Center

Living legacy of passion - spirit for community to come together
NAACP Education Committee
Asking compelling questions to surface the resources
Understand political connections and politics of funding
Expertise/contacts for developing library; persons who may be sympathetic; skill in writing, innovative and focused
Love for children/Literacy United Way Advocacy Volunteers; can help give a voice to youth
Advocacy – volunteers, youth – Varsity letter community service
Connections to First 5 Fundamentals, Thrive by 5, Foundation for Tacoma Schools and Play to Learn Children's Museum
Knowledge about city budget, library trends, organize teams that support, parent/child interaction and need for innovation
Volunteers; youth involvement
Human services knowledge
Knowledge and relationships with many community groups
Ability to bring people together and collaborate on projects and issues
Grant writing for funding
Professional and social contacts to mobilize interest
I would like to explore funding opportunities
Language is a big issue; multilingual is critical; bilingual staff makes huge difference
Experienced professionals

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Small Group Discussion Notes:

Beacon Senior Center downtown as a resource for mentoring; technology and reading together
Imagination opportunities
Adult literacy programs are as important as young children, parents need help with their literacy so they can help their children
Everyone needs access to literacy programs; i.e. children, adults, seniors, (intergenerational) stimulate the intellect
Passion for all ages; birth to death (early learning, school-age, high school and adult literacy)
Physical library may not be the answer BUT something needs to be welcoming
Develop reading with kids by seniors/retirees
Connect UWT students to reading advocacy
Peace Community Center; McCarver Scholars tutoring and mentoring of children
Place for seniors/retirees to help kids read and kids help seniors/retirees learn technology
Need to engage parents
How can the arts be used to increase literacy; i.e. dance, song, poetry, etc.
Variety of literacy resources throughout the Hilltop
Contemporary "literacy" services, technology based, multi-media
Prevention = educated children
Computer labs in Hilltop at Tacoma Community House

The Community Café group harvest revealed three main themes:

- 1. Some sort of physical space that is safe, accessible, welcoming to all ages and families is needed**
- 2. The community needs to be involved, parents in particular, in the design of a culturally relevant literacy center that included multi-media, the arts and was innovative in order to match the interests of children and families**
- 3. Build on existing strengths in the community when considering programs and locations**

We are all here because we see a need for change- not satisfied with what we have now
Keep working as a team
Central location for library plus mini libraries to serve the marginalized and poor neighborhoods; provide food too
Multigenerational and intergenerational space; include literacy for all; community involvement
Creativity when thinking about literacy activities. Literacy can be encouraged in any setting.
Whole community needs to work together-we need to work

Rite-Aid building or a library on wheels; fundraise 4 Million; Need a non-traditional library that can address the whole child in the context of their family, music and dance and is culturally relevant to the children of Hilltop, (e.g. books with people that look like them.)
McCarver Elementary; will be going through renovation soon so why not include a Literacy Center
Physical Space/Reading Cafes/Storytelling/Dramatization/Space has music, friendly color, vibrancy, welcoming, windows open, tablecloths, book clubs, cross between library and living room, little rooms for social gatherings; an iconic space that includes multi- dimensional literacy

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with families to create a workable service City funding should be part of this Project Combination of various facilities/co-location of space (mutual support) to attract people Check out Schools literacy program as part of our Project; upgrade schools literacy plan if needed Check out Brockton High School's (Massachusetts) Active Reading program-literacy is stressed in every activity and school subject. If we want successful kids we need to look at the big picture not just a library but a whole service system based on what is already working well.	We need a physical location, Library/Community Center that brings families together Design the program first before looking for a space (building); need to connect with parents when planning the program and train them Check out the Main library's teen section to get ideas on a design that works well for youth Baker Middle School – Check-out /visit this purposeful intentional center for ideas People/Staff at library need to reflect the community they serve
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Questions from Small Group Work	
Library services; what do we mean? How do we hold program accountable? Does the literacy resource have to be in one place? How can we have culturally competent resources? How do we connect with children of lots of cultural backgrounds? (Need cultural sensitivity) Who in our community has expertise to design a learning resource center? Utilize them – learning activity stations? How to connect boys to literacy services? They're full of energy, talkative, active Should we have a learning resource center instead of a library? How to make it interactive? (Need to think outside the box) What if we were to design a library around kids first instead of adults? What would it look like? What was done to inform community? How to make a library a safe place? How to be welcoming and safe? How do we make changes inerrantly to keep building on our joint efforts without waiting for big \$? Is there empty space in CHC? Plans for computer lab? Library	Questions about reinstating literacy services to the Hilltop <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How to make it sustainable?2. How to get people's attention?3. How to find the \$, Budget to do this?4. How to avoid another token library like the MLK library?5. What should literacy services look like to be relevant and innovative and meaningful and accessible to Hilltop kids?6. How to teach kids and parents to self-educate? How's this going to happen? Where will the funding come? What kind of tech will we have? Where is it going to be? How are we going to find it? What are the standards for literacy that are being taught today? Can our library look like a Bellevue/Mercer Island library? How do we learn from lessons at Baker, with McCarver re-build and keep commitment to joint use and collaboration? How do we identify the people with the most intention, and influence for the development of our kids? (Parents, child care, family members, neighbors) How much knowledge do families/caregivers have about the services and opportunities that exist? How can we improve knowledge and use of

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Space? What are the opportunities to create all ages (intergenerational) spaces and interactions?	resources? Do we need a building for services? If not how could we connect with services together intentionally
What are the existing service providers? How could they work together? How could children mentor and develop other children?	Who's the target group? What age group? Facility versus mobile? Parent involvement? Can we start this without commitment of library building?

Immediate Commitments from Individuals

I will use my skills to work with families as much as possible
Tell someone about the next meeting
Help create new ways to bring literacy to Hilltop
I will continue to work with adult population in the educational/training process; encouraging to set the example of the importance of literacy. (Veronica)
Work with parents to give them tools to help their children read
To support literacy, I will research innovations in the field of literacy (Fannie)
Read to children in the Children of Hope childcare & learning center
I will support a single mother and encourage reading in the home
Talk with an adult about the program
Be on call for advocacy
I will read to and with a child
Mentoring a child/adult - Help work with children
Continue volunteering/donating to Pierce County Library and continue supporting Bil and Al's efforts to return literacy services to Hilltop
Model the joy and benefit of literacy to a child...
Spread the word about upcoming Café's and go home and read to my 5 year old
Support literacy
Work to help connect people and efforts
Support a child into happy readers for life forever

Concerned Citizen's Community Café Harvest
Restore the Right to Literacy!
February 27, 2014, 6 PM- 8:20 PM
Peace Lutheran Church

Background

Community leaders met on February 13th, 2014 to discuss the restoration of literacy services to the Hilltop community. This café community affirmed the importance of library service to Hilltop and realized more community voices, in particular families of Hilltop, were needed to help move this work forward. This first café group committed to help bring more people to the next two café conversations. One of the purposes of this café was to surface questions people had regarding the restoration of library services. Some of the questions they thought needed further conversation were:

1. How can this be made sustainable?
2. How do we get people's attention?
3. How will we fund the restoration of library services?
4. How can we avoid another token library like the MLK library?
5. What should literacy services look like to be relevant and innovative and meaningful and accessible to Hilltop kids?
6. How can this be a place where parents and kids can self-educate?
7. How could we design a center that is more than a traditional library, relevant to the times and culture and involves multi-generations in its programming?
8. How do we make changes without just waiting for big bucks?

More than 70 participants attended the February 28th meeting, largely due to the mobilization efforts of St. John's church. Conversation topics included:

1. How does your child know the community cares about them?
2. What more is possible for families in the Hilltop community if library services were restored?
3. If a library service were designed for your family in particular, what would it look like? What would you be doing when you used it?

Two main ideas emerged during this café. The first was the idea of advocacy not only at the policy level but also with business, the residents of Hilltop and the youth. The second theme was that restoration of literacy services needed a physical location with programing that would include multi-generational involvement. Noteworthy comments were made by several youth in the café community. The youngest youth to participate was 12 years old. General comments from the February 28th café community also included:

- Voices are needed, the children are why this is important
- A library would bring a lot of resources, potential for economic development, job training, business
- Library should have a modern feel like a café that would appeal to youth and be a community gathering space
- Kids need to be involved in community and policy meetings
- Incorporate volunteers
- Create a safe environment to learn - more creative learning that includes the arts

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- We need a library that will change the image of the community
- Younger people teach elders about computers; elders teach kids how to be great parents
- A library run by the community versus paid staff is more relevant and sustainable
- Why didn't people get together like this before the MLK Library closed? People in the community have to be aware of city plans/ meetings that affect the area. How do we get the information out to the people in the community?
- We need to look forward and learn from this, make this an opportunity to design something even better
- Think about policy and money; empower people; value our children
- Why wait; let's access the strengths and let's do something now, create something better than what we had
- Advocacy is the route
- Tax dollars are spent where the loudest voice is heard. We need to be HEARD!
- Strong community leadership; lots of partnerships with churches, community centers, schools, etc.
- Begin staffing the library now – We can be the next Community Board. Pitch this to the younger generation.
- Partner with the school district. They have a facilities and planning budget. Attend those school meetings.
- A community with a library knows and sees their tax \$'s at work

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Action Steps to Restore Library Services

Next Steps:

- Draft a strategic plan
- Develop funding/resource development plan
- Understand and know where we are now with funds and community resources
- Work with a sense of urgency
- Form committees
- Partner with others
- Work within the community and build on community assets and strengths
- Advocate, Inform, Engage

Advocate with Policy Makers

- Form a group to advocate with City Council and other elected officials
- Form a group to develop an advocacy plan
- Attend policy making meetings at the local and state level
- Approach school board and express our concerns and desires
- Write letters; make videos
- Challenge everyone to challenge schools to be more than a day-time institution; go to school board and bring your "asks"
- Show the community we care about kids
- Demand to know what funding they have available now
- Keep this in front of those in authority
- You close a library, you close a mind
- Reading books is a stay out of jail free card!

Grow Community Awareness-Inform/Engage

- Volunteer time to help someone to read and write
- Establish group to help with the planning of the Library for the Hilltop community
- Have more community conversations/work groups/Self organize
- Learn about existing resources that we can use for leverage
- Develop partnerships with schools
- Partnerships with churches and Boys/Girls Club to help promote healthy learning, healthy families
- Involve children in the planning
- Look at non-traditional resources (business)
- Come to McCarver planning meetings
- Work with business leaders to develop creative funding solutions
- Pitch it at high school

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- Inform the community
- Restore the Right to Learn; take out the word literacy; it's a label that too closely resembles a negative stigma
- Police/Fire patrol partners
- Need more mentors from churches to take kids to library
- Kids know what we show them. Action needs to be taken and action speaks

Fundraise

- Participate in fundraising in the community specifically ear-marked for funding the library
- Volunteer my time and skills
- Solicit business support
- Look for non-traditional \$ to fund our library develop a plan by the people for the people
- Research funding sources
- Get an architect and find a building site
- Take the initiative to move things NOW
- Commit a location like the Rite-Aid building
- By having educational facilities available for them; various lots and property space is available on the Hilltop, Sav A Lot recently closed, central area South 11th and MLK

What is Already Working Well in Hilltop

- The Fox Triplett's - We are part of a community and through our actions of caring we demonstrate it daily
- The importance of a community to help develop a child cannot be denied
- By checking up on me; my grades, scholarship and making it easier to get to college
- By feeling safe in their community and neighborhood, being able to get to the services without harm
- Church community shows its care for children through caring adults – surrogate grandparents, aunts and uncles – to make kids feel they are welcome, safe and loved.
- Strong community leadership; lots of partnerships; churches, community centers, schools, etc.
- Care depends on immediate family, immediate neighborhood and on extended community (schools, libraries, parks, etc.)
- Community Outreach; Peace, after school programming Community gardens, RSR, Peace makers & Tacoma Housing
- Community Help: Boys and girls clubs, Late night at the YMCA, Youth Bible studies
- My son's school, Stanley Elementary, shows community cares
- The single mothers in the apartment complex; we help each other
- Being there when they fail
- We listen, we help them, we give them options for after school; parks, libraries, community centers
- We speak up about issues that are important to them
- We show up
- Spending time with them and listening to them

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Church (morals and values)
<p>Vision Statement for the Library</p> <p>General themes: safety, acceptance, hope, opportunity, equity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have to motivate parents to educate themselves and their children• We can show children that we care when children have access to technology and children can take part in all of the many educational opportunities neighborhood libraries can provide• Kids will know that the community cares for them by ... having library accessible, having a boys and girls club in their neighborhood/ community, having a park where they can play and run around.• Equal opportunity• Economic growth and employment• Sense of pride• Knowledge increases productivity which increases the economic value of a community• Hope and opportunities if there were libraries in community• Voice must be heard for our children• A safe place to be- for youth, friends and somewhere to go; safe hangout after school; safe haven• Respectful place
<p>Ideas to Help Inform the Mission of the Library Center</p> <p>Common theme: the library is a source of community pride and ownership, supporting the learning and cultural diversity of all the people of Hilltop throughout their lifespan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economic growth and employment• Parent Involvement, training and parenting support• Library benefits from partnership with parents, teachers, total community• Gain knowledge and access to materials that may not be available in the schools• A place to hold meetings, group studies, research and read new books• Provide a location for family as well as community• Literacy Increases• Good learning environment and activities for kids• Provide resources that teach the history of the community; a library which encourages members/users to remain in the community and care• A library that would represent a home image with an open door for struggling family members• Community Ownership• Volunteer opportunities• Life skills

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Peace Lutheran Church

- Programs to grow and learn; topics to explore (e.g. a world culture or country)
- Confidence
- Family togetherness; it increases family bonding; bonding/interconnection
- Enables the family to develop and support one another
- It is a primary hands on resources for the neighborhood and the family
- It provides healthy association and enrichment for children and families
- A desire to learn and grow is an advantage to Hilltop Community
- Will give children and teenagers the access to knowledge and education outside of school.
- Parents will benefit by having access to computers and financial info; this lets Hilltop families have an eye opening that someone cares.
- Endless possibilities
- Build/create ideas
- Explore other worlds/travel
- Build relationships with librarian, friends, neighborhoods, etc.
- It opens up the world for knowledge and awareness outside the community
- It brings a level of respect to the neighborhood
- Positive influence in the community
- Self-discovery in library
- Meeting/helping people where they are at
- Teaching parents to help kids in school/teach
- To share and keep wisdom
- Help keep children focused and off the street
- Have more self-worth to become a knowledgeable self-confident person
- Library is a good resource of information
- Provides resources close to them versus having to leave the community to have those needs met
- A place where the children and community can gather to network, have meetings, etc. Provides entertainment (movies, music, magazines)
- Access to new material for the kids
- Gives kids access to more adults and resources
- A library is very important to our family because we a family that is always on the go so we need those quick study
- We need a library to strengthen the community especially in the Hilltop where it may be challenging
- I believe the hope of our children depends on the parents and how involved they are in their children's lives
- Spending quality time with children; tutoring and providing youth an opportunity to voice their opinions
- Volunteers coming into schools and communities
- Community members and others conferring to discuss community issues, problems and resolutions

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- Local church groups; church support
- Parent and family support
- Organizations helping
- We listen, we help them, we give them options for after school; parks, libraries, community centers
- We speak up about issues that are important to them
- We show up
- Spending time with them and listening to them
- Spending quality time instead of material items; books-libraries
- An opportunity to have their voice be heard
- Providing for their needs, physically emotionally and intellectually
- Without public education there will not be a democracy; libraries are essential to public education. Children know the community cares by the resources available -parks, libraries, gyms
- Care depends on immediate family, immediate neighborhood and on extended community (schools, libraries, parks, etc.)

Programming and Design Ideas

- Community Centers, Boys and Girls Club, after school events/activities
- Access to paperback books, quality books
- Reading aloud time for children
- Computers; tablets to read e-books
- Families can spend time together learning
- Community can commune
- Take trips together and explore other cultures
- Safe street/safe kid initiatives
- Multigenerational connections (kids, teach adults technology and adults model values and teach life skills)
- "I want my own library card to put in my own wallet".
- Accessibility for all
- Community members and others conferring to discuss community issues, problems and resolutions
- Parent and family support
- Non-threatening self-learning computer stations
- Parent support for lads and teens, children
- Expose to art, movies, different styles of living
- Library that emphasizes STEM (Coding classes); improve math scores of our children
- Parents and family involvement

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February 27, 2014, 6 PM- 8:20 PM
Peace Lutheran Church

- 24-hour library; create jobs and stimulate the economy
- Open next to a park
- Library as an extension of the home
- Community hub
- Kids should be able to safely walk
- A library that has a community café feel to it to appeal to youth
- A library with extended hours
- Include a small museum
- Community garden
- Themed rooms (diversity, nature, homework, tutoring, physical movement, multi-media)
- Book clubs for children/adults
- Story times, story creating rooms, robotics, and elders teaching youth
- Social media where kids could talk with kids about other cultures
- Accessibility for elderly and disabled
- Netflix account to allow movies in specific areas
- Life classes; cooking, budgeting, career, college, ESL and adult literacy, job search, etc.
- Community liaison point person
- Teach culturally significant things (i.e. Black history month is more than MLK) about the cultures that are represented in the community
- Have events hosted at the library that will introduce the services of library
- Services such as flu shots, bold pressure checks, health screenings
- Digital-access resources on-line
- Multi-level, multistory, beautiful architecture with community garden on roof
- Parenting classes, support groups for parents; Big Brothers/Sisters
- Training to care for high risk kid
- Homework assistance-Volunteer tsutors available for kids
- Staff are representative of the community
- Integrating arts and literacy
- Ready! Set, Read-Tacoma! Pre-school literacy program that prepares children for kindergarten and encourage reading at home with families
- Mini libraries – advertising on Twitter, Facebook and an app to find locations (Maybe a scavenger hunt to find different books or messages)
- After school programs, connect to community, development internships for 3rd to 14 grades
- Like I'm reading a book on my comfy chair in front of a fireplace
- Access to media – write papers

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- Have school text books available for use
- Having a space for early learners
- Preschool story time
- Pre-School Café with specialty services
- Specialty area for early learners
 - Club-like, Café-like (being in a place kids will enjoy; "Bella Latte", Starbuck's like (could create its own revenue)
- Modernize it; look @YMCA's for ideas on different spaces
- Café educational events; combine with coffee and sweets
- Opportunities to link adults with teens
- Multicultural
- Multigenerational
- Quiet space for thinking/meditation
- Adventure learning opportunities and nature walks
- Programs where the library worked with the homeless population
- Library would be current and mirror library in University of WA where client respects property and access outside 9-5 online
- Multi-generational, community governance, youth board
- Streaming live example: classes
- Auditorium
- Mini Champion Center
- A building that we could gather that would be like a family; help communication between young and old (older provide tutoring) and build relationships (young explain technology).
- Movie Library
- A library can be anywhere even at church
- Computers printing service For FREE
- Provide MacBook's, services that support a parent's needs

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February 27, 2014, 6 PM- 8:20 PM

Peace Lutheran Church



CONCERNED CITIZENS COMMUNITY CAFÉ HARVEST



Café Conversation Purpose:

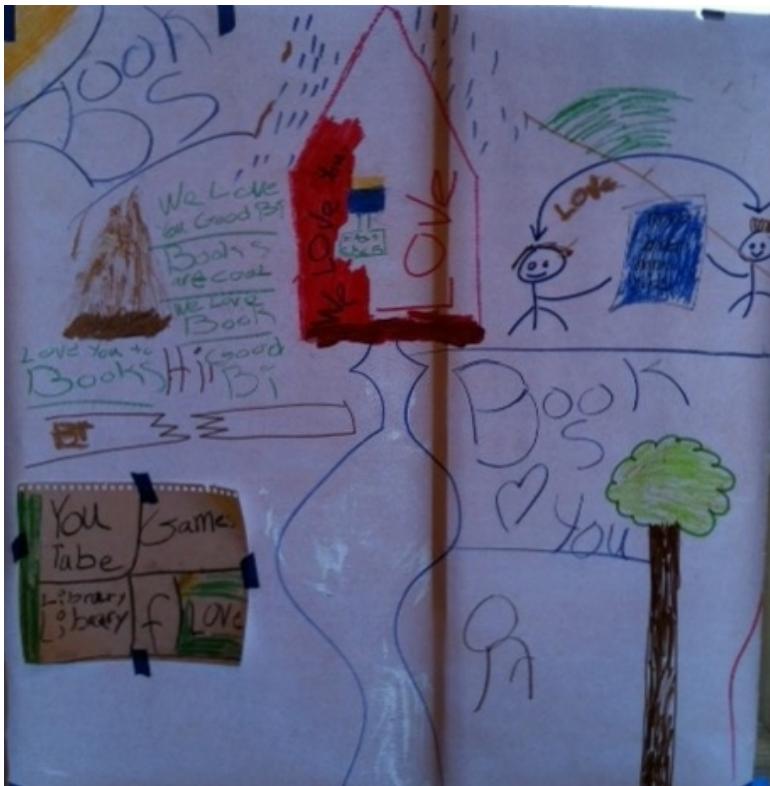
- Discover what literacy resources are priorities for families in the Hilltop community
- Discover what immediate and long range actions are important to the community
- Document commitments by members of the group
- Establish next steps

Host Bil Moss began this Community Café by grounding the group in the importance of reading at grade-level by the third grade. Nearly 50 participants were given dots to vote for their top advocacy activities and their top 12 literacy service priorities. (See voting results below.) After voting, a subsequent conversation built momentum for acting on several key components for restoring literacy services in the Hilltop community:

1. Research existing, successful library models and develop a library service proposal to include a budget
2. Develop a communication plan to advocate, inform and engage the Hilltop community to include businesses
3. Plan and implement programming that could start sooner, based on the assets in the community.

Several participants expressed interest in being on a steering committee that would oversee and coordinate activities of established work groups. In addition to forming work groups with targeted actions and objectives, the group decided it was important to continue the community dialogues, especially as a means to including children and youth. Some participants explored the idea of exchanging knowledge between youth who are fluent in digital devices and elders whose wisdom is of value to parents of early readers and young people themselves, and are interested in holding a fourth café event to explore this facet of community literacy.

- What advocacy actions can be done now, and, what is important but needs to wait?
- What is something you would have chosen if you had another dot and why?
- What would you say is really important, plus, you think it could start now based on the assets in the community?



A young participant explains the mural he made to express his thoughts about the conversation, "The rain helps the library to grow, the sun is like books, the library spreads love between parents and children"

Advocate, Inform, Engage (see chart for more details)

Treat this like a political/electoral campaign – create a strategy for advocating/informing

- Generate ‘buy-in’ from established businesses and community members
- “Doorbelling” is effective; distribute resources to families at the same time
- Use Social Media-Twitter (#httl – Hill Top Tacoma Library, or #hilltopllibrary or #hilloptacomalibrary), Facebook
- Advertise throughout the community (at locations of community partners,) concerts, school events, PTA meetings, via school phone system, publicize at local festivals, spread the word within your own social circles

Advocate and bring awareness to politicians

- Integrate literacy development within existing/proposed city planning, area business plans
- Present to the school board

- Forward meeting minutes to city council for information purposes
- State politicians

Build community partnerships

- Faith community – offer/emphasize evening programs to tutor and expand literacy programs
- Local businesses/organizations
- Lawyers – help navigate political processes
- Community/Youth centers (Boys and Girls Club) – potential satellite libraries
- Job/career fairs – inform parents
- Collaborate with businesses on creative funding solutions
- Co-apply for grants with youth-serving agencies/organizations
- Co-design internships, work-study, and volunteer opportunities for {PLU, UW, UPS} college students to mentor/tutor kids

Activities to Do Now (see chart for more details)

1. Leverage local initiatives/assets in the community: Develop asset map of where we can make use of activities and spaces already happening to add a library service component

Ready Set Read @ McCarver (Tues. & Wed. 10-2 during the summer) After-school programs Jason Lee Middle School "Tacoma Makes A Difference" program Entertainment/arts events at People's Park City of Tacoma Child Care Aware lending library DSHS School community (pre-K through 12 schools, school boards, teachers, tutors, volunteers) Local colleges {Bates Technical College, U. of Puget Sound, UW Tacoma, Pacific Lutheran University, Evergreen, Tacoma Community College}, specifically Human Services majors Boys and Girls Club Tacoma Community Centers Day Care Centers	Grocery stores Local businesses City Council (i.e. Lauren Walker)/City Planner Metro Park (summer activities) Chamber of Commerce Computer Clubhouse of Tacoma United Way Lincoln Hardwares of the world Major Foundation Newspaper reporter Spirit 105 Christian Radio Children's museum City of Tacoma Child Care Aware Family Friend and Neighbor Program People's Community Center Places of worship/faith community
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2. Research traditional and non-traditional funding sources

3. Research sites and costs for implementation:

- Rite Aid building – remake MLK Library with statue of him
- Martin Luther King Jr. Library on the hill at the old Save-A-Lot
- Frank Russell building (name after black business owner)
- Donaldson building
- Former MLK Housing Assoc. property owned by the Dept. of commerce/State of WA

4. Improving literacy – multiple strategies

- Increase access to library
 - Inform about existing services
 - Expand hours, transit options, language interpretation, etc.
- Build on tutoring services
 - Engage school volunteers/tutors, match them with children within the main library
- Improve quality of reading experiences
 - Increase access to quality books
 - Partner with parents to establish good habits at home
- Create/use phone apps to help
- Make going to the library safe
- Use social media for help with homework and applying to college
- Social Media communication tools: Create a YouTube channel for posting 'spoken word' videos about the library closing (how it's affecting communities, what feelings we have, what resources we need to use, etc.)
 - Facebook
 - YouTube
 - Twitter
 - LinkedIn
 - Google+
 - Instagram
 - Myspace

- Saturday morning play/read/activity time and other early learning activities
- Create Library Satellites – place/pick up holds, take out/return books
 - Bookmobiles
 - Book kiosks at churches
 - Borrowing books online

HILLTOP PROGRAMMING ACTIVITIES

# of votes	Service or Activity
21	Opportunities to link adults with teens
20	Computers, printers
19	Ready! Set, Read – Tacoma! Pre-school literacy program that prepares children for kindergarten and encourage reading at home with families
18	Multigenerational connections (kids, teach adults technology and adults model values and teach life skills)
18	After school programs – development internships for 3rd to 14 grades
17	Homework assistance-volunteer tutors available for kids
16	Access to paperback books, quality books
16	Staff are representative of the community
15	Tablets to read e-books
14	Kids should be able to safely walk
14	Social media where kids could talk with kids about other cultures
13	Library that emphasizes STEM
13	A library with extended hours
13	Life classes; cooking, budgeting, career, college, ESL and adult literacy, job search, etc.
13	Multicultural
12	Community Centers, Boys and Girls Club, after school events/activities
12	Parents and family involvement
12	Integrating arts and literacy
10	Teach culturally significant things (i.e. Black History Month is about more than MLK)
9	Having a space for early learners
8	Expose to art, movies, different styles of living
8	Have school text books available for use
8	Preschool story time
8	Multigenerational
7	A library that has a community café feel to it (to appeal to youth)
7	Book clubs for children/adults
7	Specialty area for early learners
7	Programs for the homeless
6	"I want my own library card to put in my own wallet"
6	Themed rooms (diversity, nature, homework, tutoring, physical movement, multi-media)
6	Learning activities such as story creating rooms, robotics, and elders teaching youth
6	Quiet space for thinking/meditation

6	Adventure learning opportunities and nature walks
6	Multi-generational, community governance, youth board
6	Live streaming for classes, etc.
6	A library can be anywhere, even at church
5	24-hour library
5	Open next to a park
5	Club-like, Café-like (being in a place kids will enjoy; "Bella Latte", Starbucks-like
4	Safe street/safe kid initiatives
4	Parent and family support such as Big Brothers, Big Sisters
4	Modernize it; look @ YMCA's for ideas on different spaces
3	Family destination
3	Take trips together and explore other cultures
3	Library as an extension of the home
3	Community liaison point person
3	Digital-access resources on-line
3	Pre-School Café with specialty services
3	Auditorium
3	Provide MacBooks - services that support a parent's needs
2	Incorporate other community attractors such as a garden or museum
2	Have events hosted at the library that will introduce the services of library
2	Mini libraries – advertising on Twitter, Facebook and an app to find locations
2	Like I'm reading a book on my comfy chair in front of a fireplace
2	Mini Champion Center
1	Community members and others conferring on community issues
1	Services such as flu shots, blood pressure checks, health screenings
1	Café educational events; combine with coffee and sweets
0	Multi-level, multi-story, beautiful architecture with community garden on roof
0	Library would be current and mirror library in University of WA

ADVOCATE, INFORM, ENGAGE:
RESTORE LIBRARY SERVICES BACK TO THE HILLTOP COMMUNITY

# of votes	Activity
19	Form a group to advocate with City Council and other elected officials
19	Involve children in the planning
14	Partnerships with churches and Boys/Girls Club
14	Inform the community
13	Work with business leaders to develop creative funding solutions
13	Mobilize community
13	Take the initiative to move things NOW based on assets in the community
12	Show the community we care about kids
11	Form a group to develop an advocacy plan
11	Approach school board and express our concerns and desires
11	Look for non-traditional \$ to fund our library develop a plan by the people for the people
10	Establish group to help with the planning of the Library for the Hilltop community
9	Attend policy making meetings at the local and state level-keep this in front of those in authority
9	Look at non-traditional resources (business)
7	Develop partnerships with schools
7	Research funding sources
6	Advocate and inform with Facebook, Social Media
6	Come to McCarver planning meetings
6	Solicit business support
6	Explore possible locations then commit a location like the Rite-Aid building, Sav-a-Lot
5	Write letters
5	Pitch it at high school
4	Make videos
4	Volunteer time to help someone to read and write
4	Mobilize mentors from churches to take kids to library
3	Recruit volunteers
2	Participate in fundraising in the community specifically ear-marked for funding the library
1	Mobilize to challenge schools to be more than a day-time institution; go to school board and bring "asks"
1	Demand to know what funding they have available now
1	Have more community conversations-form work groups
1	Get an architect and find a building site
0	Learn about existing resources that we can use for leverage
0	Develop partnerships with Police/Fire patrol

CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR THE RESTORATION OF LIBRARY SERVICES

EARLY LITERACY STRATEGIC PLAN FOR HILLTOP TACOMA

March 31, 2014 – DECEMBER 31, 2014

Background:

THE STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS



A series of three Community Cafés¹ were hosted in the Hilltop community, by Bil Moss and Alvin Nurse, as a response to the closure of the Martin Luther King, Jr. library. In partnership with Child Care Aware Tacoma/Pierce County and the Community Café Collaborative, these cafés engaged over 120 Hilltop community members, and organizational representatives in the drafting this strategic plan. Families, youth, elders, community members, stakeholders, agency partners, including more than twenty people who care informally for other children, met on February 13th, February 27th and March 6th, to discuss the restoration of literacy services to the Hilltop community.

On February 13th, 27 people attended the first Community Café to include representatives from at least ten different organizations. Bil Moss and Alvin Nurse met or had individual conversations with 33 community leaders, agency representatives, church leaders, and organizations providing services to the Hilltop area in preparation for this Community Café. Café conversations revealed a wealth of expertise to include a community history of advocating for and implementing, large scale projects. Success in the past was attributed to the community being able to work together and strong community leadership. Several community leaders were mentioned by name. The group acknowledged their strength in challenging racism by advocating for community improvements and working together. They agreed that library service to Hilltop is a critical need and expressed

¹ For more information on Community Cafés go to www.thecommunitycafe.com

that more community voices, in particular families of Hilltop, needed to be engaged. One of the purposes of this café was to surface questions people had regarding the restoration of library services. Questions they thought needed further conversation inspired the next café agenda. Questions included:

- *How can this be made sustainable?*
- *How do we get people's attention?*
- *How will we fund the restoration of library services?*
- *How can we avoid another token library like the MLK library?*
- *What should literacy services look like to be relevant and innovative and meaningful and accessible to Hilltop kids?*
- *How can this be a place where parents and kids can self-educate?*
- *How can programming engage elders, parents, youth and children working together?*
- *How do we make changes without just waiting for big bucks?*

More than 70 participants attended the February 28th café, largely due to the mobilization efforts of St. John's church. The first was the theme to emerge was the need for advocacy not only at the policy level but also with business, the residents of Hilltop and the youth. The second theme was that Hilltop needed the restoration of a physical, library space with programing that would include multi-generational involvement. Noteworthy was the high level of youth involvement in the café. The youngest youth to participate was 12 years old. General comments from the February 28th café community also included:

- *A good library design would bring a lot of resources, potential for economic development, job training, business*
- *Library should have a modern feel like a café that would appeal to youth and be a community gathering space*
- *Kids/youth/parents need to be involved in community and policy meetings*
- *It needs to incorporate volunteers*
- *An ideal library would include multi-media learning, the arts, multi-generational programming that would be comparable to the level of service in the rest of Pierce County and Seattle*
- *We need a library that will change the image of the community*
- *Younger people teach elders about computers; elders teach kids how to be great parents*
- *A library run by the community is more relevant and sustainable*
- *We need to look forward and learn from this, make this an opportunity to design something even better*
- *Why wait; let's access the strengths and let's do something now, create something better than what we had*

Host Bil Moss began the March 6th Community Café by sharing a story that grounded the group in the importance of reading at grade level by the third grade. More than 50 participants then prioritized advocacy activities and needed literacy services. A subsequent conversation determined the overarching goals for this strategic plan and strategies.

In addition to forming work groups with targeted actions and objectives, the group decided it was important to continue the community dialogues, especially as a means of including children and

youth. Some participants explored the idea of exchanging knowledge between youth who are fluent in digital devices and elders whose wisdom is of value to parents of early readers and young people themselves, and are interested in holding a fourth café event to explore this facet of community literacy.

Vision Statement for this Plan

Provide a vision of hope for underserved families in their community so they can access knowledge and improve their academic opportunities and lives



Graphic recording by George Ngo Tang

Mission Statement:

Create an accessible, responsive, relevant library for Hilltop

Core Values & Assumptions:

- Culturally relevant, accessible library services for families in Hilltop are essential to early literacy.
- Services that facilitate multi-generational interactions would best leverage community assets.
- The children of Hilltop deserve and desire the same access to library services and resources as the rest of Pierce County
- The Hilltop community is rich in culture, history and assets.
- Children, youth and families must be involved in designing literacy and library services

Strategic Plan Goals

1. A library service proposal to include a budget is developed
2. A communication plan to advocate, inform and engage public and private entities in the restoration of library services is developed
3. Programming to support early literacy is implemented from existing assets and resources in the community



A young participant drew this mural during a café then explained, "Books were like the sun; rain is making the library grow; we need more love between kids and parents."

<p>Strengths:</p> <p>Growing list of contacts</p> <p>High interest from community members and motivation participate and volunteer</p> <p>Partnerships and alliances already established by the steering committee such as the People's Center, Peace Center, Child Care Aware Pierce County/Tacoma, Metropolitan Parks District</p> <p>Restoring library service is a socially just thing to do that is readily understood and supported (those surveyed were unanimously in favor)</p> <p>Research backs the need for families with young children to have access to books and reading multiple times a day to ensure literacy</p> <p>Community Leadership</p> <p>Past history of successful advocacy and collaboration</p>	<p>Challenges:</p> <p>Long history of racism and the closing of the library reinforces barriers such as a lack of trust or belief that the larger system doesn't care about the children in Hilltop</p> <p>Leadership's limited time, lack of resources such as staff support</p> <p>Perception of no hope or economic mobility</p> <p>Beliefs similar to "My participation won't make a difference."</p> <p>Mobilizing already busy parents</p>
<p>Opportunities:</p> <p>County council budget being written right now</p> <p>McCarver and People's Center being renovated</p> <p>Stanley summer program</p> <p>Child Care Aware has funds to spend before the end of June 2014 on early literacy service programming for family, friend and neighbor care</p> <p>City Manager expressed support</p> <p>Vacant buildings in Hilltop</p> <p>Current literacy projects that are happening in the community</p>	<p>Threats:</p> <p>An argument was made of the lack of usage of the MLK library</p> <p>High cost of an affordable, accessible location</p> <p>There are currently no funds already set aside, or commitments to fund a library service in Hilltop from the city, county and library systems</p> <p>Short time frame to request public support for this coming year</p>

School property manager open to parent involvement School district exploring the idea of community hubs	
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Strategies and Actions

Goal	Strategies	Action	Time-line	Lead	Indicators of Success
Develop a library service proposal to include a budget	<p>Establish community think tank to research existing innovative models</p> <p>“Make the case” for a community library</p> <p>Develop a tiered budget proposal to include a continuum of service from satellite access to a community learning center</p> <p>Communications and short turn-around work coordinated by a Steering Committee comprised of Hilltop residents and partners</p>	<p>Develop a draft proposal and gather data</p> <p>Gather data such as library usage and reading scores of students</p> <p>Establish short term proposal team to develop a budget</p> <p>Coordinate work groups and convene community meetings</p>	Now Now May 1 st ASAP 	Research team Research team Budget Team/ Steering Committee Coordinate 	Short and long term design submitted to the budget committee Proposal approved and distributed to Hilltop community Proposals submitted and distributed to potential supporters Work groups are aware of each other's work and community members know who to contact regarding
A plan to advocate, inform and engage public and private entities in the restoration of library services is developed	<p>Advocate, inform, engage residents, business community and public/private organizations</p> <p>Children, youth and families are engaged in conversations about restoring library</p>	<p>Develop advocacy plan</p> <p>Maintain communication and conversation with those on the contact list</p>	ASAP On-going	Advocacy Team All teams	More people on contact list Businesses commit support Attendance at next meeting Facebook,

	<p>services to Hilltop</p> <p>Use social media to advocate and inform</p> <p>Mass market information sharing</p>	<p>Host more community meetings</p> <p>Enlist youth volunteers to design social media campaign</p> <p>Doorbell campaign to inform and get information related to library design</p>	<p>TBD</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>May</p>	<p>Steering Committee</p> <p>Advocacy Team</p> <p>Advocacy Team</p>	<p>twitter, etc. in use</p> <p>Increased number of visits to Hilltop from community members</p> <p>Library cards are issued</p>
<i>Programming to support early literacy is implemented from existing assets and resources in the community</i>	<p>Provide parents with information and literacy resources with a special emphasis on 0-8</p> <p>Elders mentor parents and caregivers</p> <p>Create asset map of free literacy activities for young children</p>	<p>Doorbelling to learn and inform regarding early literacy and student resources</p> <p>Community Café</p> <p>Team to work with partner agencies and schools</p>	<p>May/ June</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>March 24th</p>	<p>Advocacy Team</p> <p>All</p> <p>Program Work Group</p>	<p>Parents receive early literacy information</p> <p>Students referred to college prep, ACT & SAT prep And scholarship assistance</p> <p>Parents informed of free activities</p> <p>Information sheet produced with free resources</p>

Financial Plan

This portion of the plan will be completed by the Steering Committee and Fundraising Team-the anticipated date for completion is April, 2014.

Next Steps

Four committees have been established and have already begun working. They will develop their work plans in accordance with this strategic plan. Another community meeting will occur to update residents on the progress made, and enlist volunteers for specific jobs. After completion of the library design and budget, teams will continue to work towards establishing a library service in Hilltop.

TNT 4-8-2015
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Rebuilt McCarver might include community library

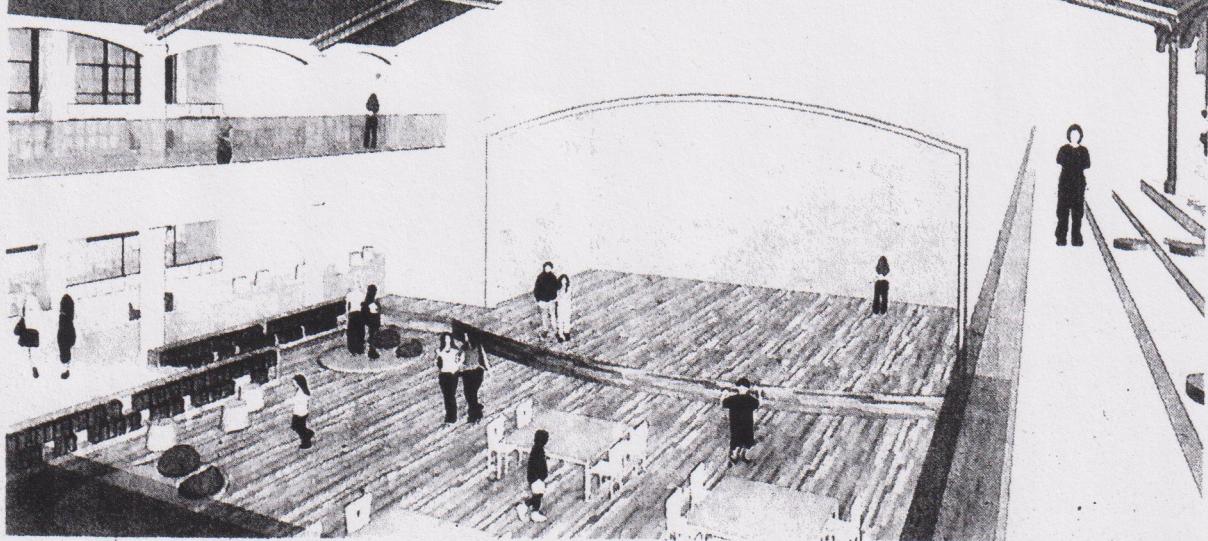
BY DEBBIE CAFAZZO*Staff writer*

McCarver Elementary School has been a neighborhood landmark and a symbol for educational experimentation on Tacoma's Hilltop since the school opened in 1925.

And with the historic brown brick school set for a \$39 million renovation beginning this summer, the Tacoma School District hopes McCarver will continue as a beacon of innovation well into the future.

So do the Hilltop and school communities, which are focusing attention on the new school library

See MCCARVER, A16



Courtesy of Tacoma Public Schools

McCarver Square includes the open-concept library space.

TNT 4-8-2015 (2)

MCCARVER

From A1

planned as part of the renovation.

A citizen group called the Hilltop Library Planning Committee has asked both the school district and the Tacoma Public Library about keeping McCarver's new library open for public use several days a week, after school lets out.

Nobody has said "No" to the idea yet, but neither has anyone said a definite "Yes," according to committee members. School district and library officials say they're actively exploring the options.

"We are working to try to get a library on the Hilltop, and McCarver School is the prime site," said Al

GET INVOLVED

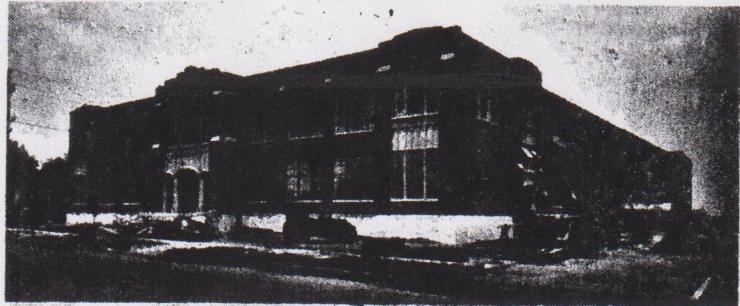
Nurse, a member of the committee who lives in University Place but who attends church and who mentors kids at the Al Davies Boys & Girls Club in the Hilltop neighborhood.

Committee members aren't asking for a full-service branch

library. Rather, they hope for afternoon and early-evening hours, a few days a week.

For now, they want a place where neighborhood children can go after school to study, work on computers and check out books for fun.

Committee members say it's a



News Tribune file photo

McCarver opened as an Intermediate School in 1925.

MCCARVER HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Created first as an intermediate school in 1925 for students in grades seven through nine, it was later rechristened a junior high, then transformed into its current use as an elementary school.

In 1968, McCarver became the nation's first magnet school, open to students from throughout the city. It was an effort to desegregate what was then the city's most racially isolated school, with a population that was over 90 percent African American. Student recruitment efforts and program improvements helped diversify the school; in 1970, African American students made up less than half of the McCarver population. McCarver has attracted national attention and accolades for its partnership with the Tacoma Housing Authority. The program offers struggling families low-cost rent, job training, child care, parenting classes and more, as long as families pledge to keep their children at McCarver through fifth grade. The goal is to create more stability for children and help boost learning.

WHERE WILL KIDS GO DURING CONSTRUCTION?

The school district plans to break ground at McCarver this summer. Students in preschool, kindergarten and first grade will remain onsite in an existing auxiliary school building next school year. Second- through fifth-grade students will be bused to the old McKinley Elementary at 3702 E. McKinley Ave. for the year of construction.

The new McCarver is scheduled to open in September 2016.

worried that kids will throw things over the guardrail safety barriers.

"The architects are seeking design awards, the school board is seeking recognition for the library

Tacoma Avenue South might seem close, but he points out that parents are reluctant to send their children downtown. Prior to its closure in 2011 due to budget cuts,

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"We are working to try to get a
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GET INVOLVED

The Hilltop
Library Planning
Committee meets
next at 10 a.m. Thursday
at People's
Community
Center, 1602
Martin Luther
King Jr. Way,
Tacoma.

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afternoon and early-evening
hours, a few days a week.

For now, they want a place
where neighborhood children can
go after school to study, work on
computers and check out books
for fun.

Committee members say it's a
matter of equity for a racially
diverse, low-income
neighborhood. Last spring, 95
percent of McCarver's students
qualified for free or reduced-price
lunches.

"We want to change the picture
of the Hilltop," Nurse said.

Meanwhile, some members of
McCarver's staff have raised issues
with how the school's new library
has been designed.

Lori Goodrich, a reading and
math support teacher at the
school, says she speaks for several
members of the staff.

"One of our biggest concerns
with the new building is the
library," she said. "It is beautiful.
But it's not being built as a place
to teach kids."

Staff members' main
complaint, according to Goodrich:
The library is designed using an
open-space concept, without
exterior hallway walls.

"Books will be on the shelves,
open to the hallways, with no way to
secure them," Goodrich said.
"When classes go through the
halls, it would interrupt"
instruction."

She and others are also
concerned about a two-story
atrium with a second-floor
hallway overlooking the library.

Students could "call out, yell
from one hall to the other if they
see somebody passing," Goodrich
said. Other staff members are

News Tribune file photo
McCarver opened as an intermediate school in 1925.

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The new McCarver is scheduled to open in September 2016.

TNT 4-8-2015 (3)

worried that kids will throw
things over the guardrail safety
barriers.

"The architects are seeking
design awards, the school board is
seeking recognition for the library
of the future, and no one seems
concerned about the educational
impact of this transparent
library," Goodrich said.

Stephen Murakami, the school
district's chief operations officer,
said the district wants to include
the new library into a concept it
calls McCarver Square.

"We want to make the library
the front porch for the school — a
place everybody will pass through,"
he said, noting that the new library
will include more technology and
spaces where small groups of
students can work.

He said atria and open-space
concepts have been employed at
other schools without causing
disruption. The hope is that
students will respect a new,
beautiful space that's designed to
invite them in.

Murakami acknowledges that
the planned new McCarver
library may not be comfortable
for traditional librarians.

"We are trying to define what
the library of the future will be,"
he said.

Any type of library at McCarver
appeals to the library planning
committee, as long as it's open a
few days a week for after-school
use. The group's goal is to
promote early literacy skills for
children.

Nurse points out that the
Hilltop hasn't had a library in
recent years. The main library on

Tacoma Avenue South might
seem close, but he points out that
parents are reluctant to send their
children downtown. Prior to its
closure in 2011 due to budget cuts,
the Martin Luther King Jr. library
at South 19th and Cedar streets
was the closest branch.

He said the social and
economic impact of an
after-hours library at McCarver
might not be felt for years. But he
and others say it would send an
immediate message to children
that they matter to the larger
community.

Both school district and library
officials agree. They plan to meet
with the Hilltop committee later
this month.

Plans posted on the school
district website already call for a
"community resource center
inside the building, with separate
entrance and controlled access
into the elementary school."

Some of the biggest questions
are how to staff the library and
how much it would cost. Tacoma
Public Library director Susan
Odencrantz said in a memo to the
committee that the library has an
agreement with its labor union to
have no fewer than two library
employees at any library site, for
safety reasons.

Committee members are
heartened by the positive talk, but
realize that with construction at
McCarver scheduled to begin this
summer, they must act quickly.

"The window is closing fast,"
Nurse said.

Debbie Caffuso: 253-597-8036

10-22-xxx
①

After-hours McCarver library takes a baby step

BY DEBBIE CAFAZZO

dcafazzo@thenewstribune.com

A community request for an after-school library at McCarver Elementary School took a small step forward earlier this month with a line item in a pro-

posed city of Tacoma budget.

The proposal, for the 2017-2018 city budget cycle, includes \$50,000 to staff a library at McCarver. The historic Hilltop school, built in 1924, reopened in September after a \$39 million renovation

by Tacoma Public Schools.

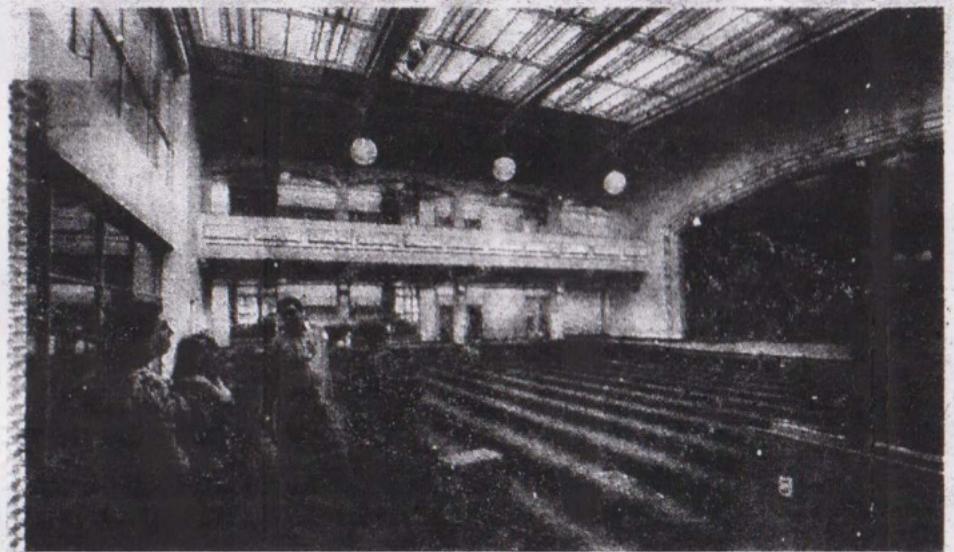
Included in the renovation is McCarver Square, an open space that includes the school's library-without-walls, a restored stage and other areas designed to be flexible.

Stephen Murakami, the

school district administrator who oversees its building program, has said the library space was designed to function as "the front porch of the school — a place everybody will pass through."

Officials of Tacoma Public Schools and Tacoma Public Library have been discussing the idea for more than a year. The school district has said it is willing to accommodate an after-school library, but

SEE LIBRARY, 4A



PETER HALEY phaley@thenewstribune.com

McCarver Square, seen during renovation in August, is a library and performance space at the center of McCarver Elementary School.

10 - 22 - 2016

FROM PAGE 3A

LIBRARY

that staffing would have to come through the library system, which is funded by the city.

Murakami said this week that McCarver was designed for after-school use by the community. Classroom spaces can be closed off while McCarver Square on the main floor — or the kitchen and eating area on the lower floor — is opened to the public.

The idea to open McCarver's library as a public library after school hours sprang from a citizen group called the Hilltop Library Planning Committee. In 2015, they asked for the library to be open during afternoon and early evening a few days a week.

The Hilltop's closest library branch, the Martin Luther King Jr. library at South 19th and Cedar streets, closed in 2011. Now the closest is the main library, but library committee leaders say parents worry about sending children downtown by themselves.

Murakami said many details need to be ironed out, should the city fund the part-time staff for McCarver. Those details

include:

- Hours and days of operation.
- Will the after-school library check out school district materials, Tacoma Public Library materials, or both?
- Will the McCarver after-school library include only children's materials, or will there be books or other items for adults to check out?

Murakami said the school district is eager to join with the city and other

community groups at McCarver.

He said district officials are looking forward to a discussion about what the library of the future will look like.

"We are ready for the conversation," he said.

City Council members are due to vote on the budget in November.

Debbie Cafazzo:
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McCarver might get literacy program instead of library

BY DEBBIE CAFAZZO

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Proponents of a public library for Tacoma's Hilltop community say they don't expect it to be based at McCarver Elementary School — a possibility previously reported in The News Tribune.

Instead, the citizens

group known as the Hilltop Library Planning Committee say they have been working with both Tacoma Public Schools and the Tacoma Public Library on an after-school literacy enrichment program to be based at McCarver.

A proposal in the 2017-2018 city budget cycle includes \$50,000 for staffing at a library at

TNT
11-5-

2016
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McCarver. The Tacoma City Council, which funds library services in the city, is scheduled to vote on the budget this month.

Last month, a school district official indicated the district was open to the concept of a library at the Hilltop school, as long as staffing was funded through the city library.

But Tacoma Public Library Director Susan



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253-593-4474

Certain Women (R)

Sat-Thu: 1:00, 3:30, 6:15, 8:45

THERE WILL BE A DISCUSSION FOLLOWING THE 1:00 PM SCREENING ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Odencrantz said the money in the budget proposal is intended for a

SEE MCCARVER, 4A

Dway
For Sup

Endorsed by these and many
Chief Justice Gerry Alexander
Retired, WA State Supreme Court

Judge Rosanne Buckner
Retired, Pierce County Superior Court

Judge Bruce Cohoe
Retired, Pierce County Superior Court

Commissioner Mary Dicke
Pierce County Superior Court

Q

TNT 11-5 - 2016

FROM PAGE 3A

MCCARVER

two-year pilot literacy program at McCarver aimed at elementary school children. If funding is approved, the program would operate after school hours in the newly remodeled school's library, but won't serve as a traditional public library, she said.

The city money would pay for part-time contract employees, who would

operate the McCarver program three or four afternoons a week, Odencrantz said.

Library services for the Hilltop neighborhood have been the topic of public discussion for several years. The Hilltop's closest public library branch, the Martin Luther King Jr. library at South 19th and Cedar streets, closed in

2011. Now the closest is the main downtown library, but citizen committee leaders say parents worry about sending children downtown alone.

Al Nurse, from the Hilltop Library Planning Committee, said his group's long-term goal is to bring a public library to the Hilltop. But he said the McCarver project is something different.

"It is a literacy enhancement program for elementary students," he said. "It's a time for rein-

forcement of learning."

Components of the program would include homework help, as well as activities designed to reinforce reading skills.

"The details and dynamics are going to have to evolve," Odencrantz said.

She said another goal would be to help kids become more aware of Tacoma Public Library resources, including digital materials.

Amanda Scott-Thomas, the school district's direc-

tor of community partnerships, said the idea has been presented to the Tacoma School Board, but that many details still need to be worked out before the program can be launched. She, too, said the McCarver project is not a traditional, stand-alone public library.

"The district has heard the proposal and is open to exploring opportunities to partner and collaborate," Scott-Thomas said.

If the city approves funding for program staff,

the library and the school district would create a written agreement outlining the program.

McCarver, built in 1924, reopened in September after a \$39-million renovation by Tacoma Public Schools. Included in the renovation is McCarver Square, an open space that houses the school's library-without-walls and a restored stage. School officials say McCarver was designed for after-school use by the community.

Sunday 2/28/16

Event raises awareness of need for library on Hilltop



DEAN J. KOEFLER dkoepler@thenewstribune.com

Saturday during Literacy on the Hilltop, a free community fair at the Tacoma Public Library downtown branch, children were rapt as storyteller and educator Kimi Irene Ginn engaged them with tales and songs.

The two-hour event was organized by Hilltop Library Planning Committee

Community leaders tried for three years to return a library to the Hilltop

Libraries are the backbone of a successful community, committee members say

BY BRYNN GRIMLEY
bgrimley@thenewstribune.com

Members of the Hilltop Library Planning Committee took over the downtown branch of the Tacoma Public Library on Saturday to raise awareness about their efforts to see a library returned to Tacoma's Hilltop neighborhood.

The two-hour event was driven by the question, "What more would be possible for families if a Hilltop library existed?" The goal: To bring all ages to the library to show its value to the community.

Upstairs, children ran around bookshelves, participated in arts and crafts, and waited to have their faces painted.

In another area, storyteller and educator Kimi Irene Ginn engaged children with story songs about Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks, followed by a second story about the importance of working together.

Ginn, who has been a storyteller for 35 years, was happy to be part of Saturday's lineup.

"The importance of literacy is empowering people to be self-sufficient," she said.

That's why it's important to have easily accessible libraries in communities, Ginn said.

The Hilltop neighborhood hasn't had a library since the Martin Luther King Jr. library

SEE HILLTOP, 8B

66

"WE FEEL A LIBRARY IS A CORNERSTONE IN A SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY."

Alvin Nurse, co-chairman, Hilltop Library Planning Committee

FROM PAGE 1B

HILLTOP

closed at South 19th and Cedar streets in 2011. It was the closest branch to the Hilltop community.

Now people must come to the downtown Tacoma branch if they want to access library services.

That can be problematic for families with limited transportation or for children whose parents worry about them being downtown by themselves, said Alvin Nurse, co-chairman of the library planning committee.

Community leaders have worked for three years to return a library, or library services, to the community.

"We feel a library is a cornerstone in a successful community," Nurse said. "A library in Hilltop would be an anchor in the community."

Charmaine Boulanger brought her 2-year-old grandson to the event Saturday.

"There are lots of kids that live there and could stand to use the library's resources," said Boulanger, who is an education board member of the NAACP.

Boulanger lives in Fircrest but has three grandchildren living in the Hilltop area. A library within walking distance for families is important for the health of a community, she said.

Other programs offered Saturday included guest speakers, interactive poetry and interactive animation sessions for kids.

"This is an open house to see what actually hap-

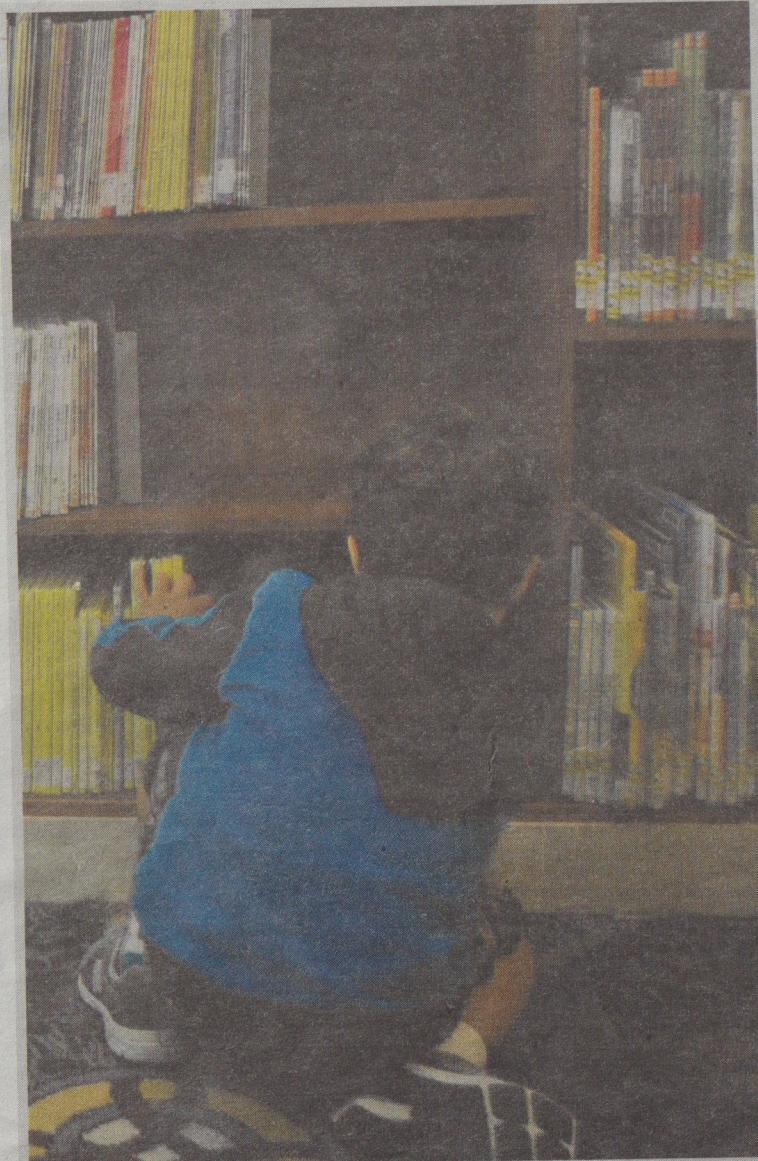


DEAN J. KOEFLER dkoepler@thenewstribune.com

Shaley Jones, a community engagement assistant with KBTC Public Television in Tacoma, feeds her 3-month-old son, Jurnee, Saturday during Literacy on the Hilltop.

pens at a library," Nurse said. "We're serving every member of the family; we're serving everybody in the community."

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Hilltop Library Planning Committee

By Mary Cogger

You may have read or heard about the Hilltop Library Planning Committee (HLPC). The group of concerned citizens have worked tirelessly for 5 years to restore equity to residents of the Hilltop Area. It has been a long journey including community cafes, trips to Tacoma City Council meetings, giving information at festivals and street fairs, letter writing, and so on. This year HLPC made a goal of being included in the mid-term budget. One major step was to hold an essay contest for 4-6th grade student residents of the Hilltop. The prompt was simple: "Why I want a library in the Hilltop." Contest entrants and guests were recognized at a regular HLPC Community Meeting on September 27th. Specific information can be found elsewhere in this issue by reading Hilltop Library Planning Committee News Release. The Tacoma City Council recognized essay winners at its regular meeting on October 16th. Several contestants read their essays and all council members were presented with bound reprints of their essays. Chair Bil Moss followed with a request that the council make budget con-

siderations for its upcoming budget. At the meeting, Councilmember Blocker recognized the importance of the library and vowed to continue his support of a Hilltop Library. Ending this part of the evening's agenda Councilmember Hunter spoke. She said she was a member of the library board when the MLK and Swan Creek branches were closed. She stated that they were in the worst physical condition in the most underserved areas. Hunter continued, "To close those was sad if not shameful." "I would submit that we never had a decent library on the Hilltop and that we need a fresh start." Ms. Hunter ended by formally requesting the council to revisit the library budget and include a feasibility study. It was a powerful statement and step forward for a Hilltop Library. HLPC was notified on Nov. 6th by councilperson Ushka that "There is money for a feasibility study for library services in the Hilltop and Eastside." Hilltop Library Planning Committee supports a strong collaboration among all concerned parties including the Tacoma Public Library, Tacoma City Council and members of the community. With this teamwork we can realize a qual-

ity brick and board library to suit the needs of the Hilltop Community. If you want to get involved, you can attend HLPC meetings. Planning committee meetings convene at the Red Elm Café, 1114 MLK Jr. Way from 10 A.M. to noon every 2nd Thursday. Community meetings begin at 5 P.M. at the Allen Russell Conference Center, 1321 MLK Jr. Way every 4th Thursday. Another way to be involved is to email or phone your Tacoma City Council Members.

Author's Note: I am pleased that TPL and TCC have added the Eastside to their planning. Both underserved areas need to be recognized and served by the city.

*Hilltop Action Journal
March-April 2019.*

Hilltop Library Planning Committee

Hilltop Action
Journal, July-Aug
2018

By Bil Moss

Over four years ago, service providers, organizational and agency representatives, and concerned citizens met to address the loss of library services to the Hilltop Community caused by the closure/sale of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library.

Four Community Cafes, including over 120 persons, committed to advocacy and to working to acquire a physical library space with programming that would emphasize the arts and multi-generational programming comparable to the service levels in the rest of Tacoma and Pierce County. General comments of the Cafes indicated citizens were anxious to get started on the projects and the last Café meeting was concluded with the statement, "why wait, let us assess our strengths and do something now; let us create something better than what we had"!

Committees were formed to oversee and coordinate the work required. In addition to forming work groups with targeted objectives and actions, a decision was made that it was important to continue the community

dialogues. Participants explored the ideas of working with children in Kindergarten through Third Grade and exchanging knowledge between youth who are fluent in digital devices with those elders whose wisdom would be of value to parents of young people and early learners. Thus, the Hilltop Library Planning Committee (HLPC) was born!

The Hilltop Library Planning Committee has worked long and tirelessly holding bi-monthly planning, community, and other sessions addressing the Vision, Mission, and Values of the community as derived from the citizens of the Hilltop Community. Committee members have engaged in numerous meetings of the Tacoma City Council, Tacoma City Manager, Tacoma Public Library Board of Directors, employees of the Tacoma School District, Directors of Tacoma Housing Authority, Metro Park District, and Tacoma's Faith Community. HLPC members have discussed, on various occasions, the issues, needs, timing, culture, programming, equity and equality. HLPC members have participated in tools to enhance better communication and understanding, including festivals, letters, fly-

ers, posters, surveys, programming, and establishment of a new website.

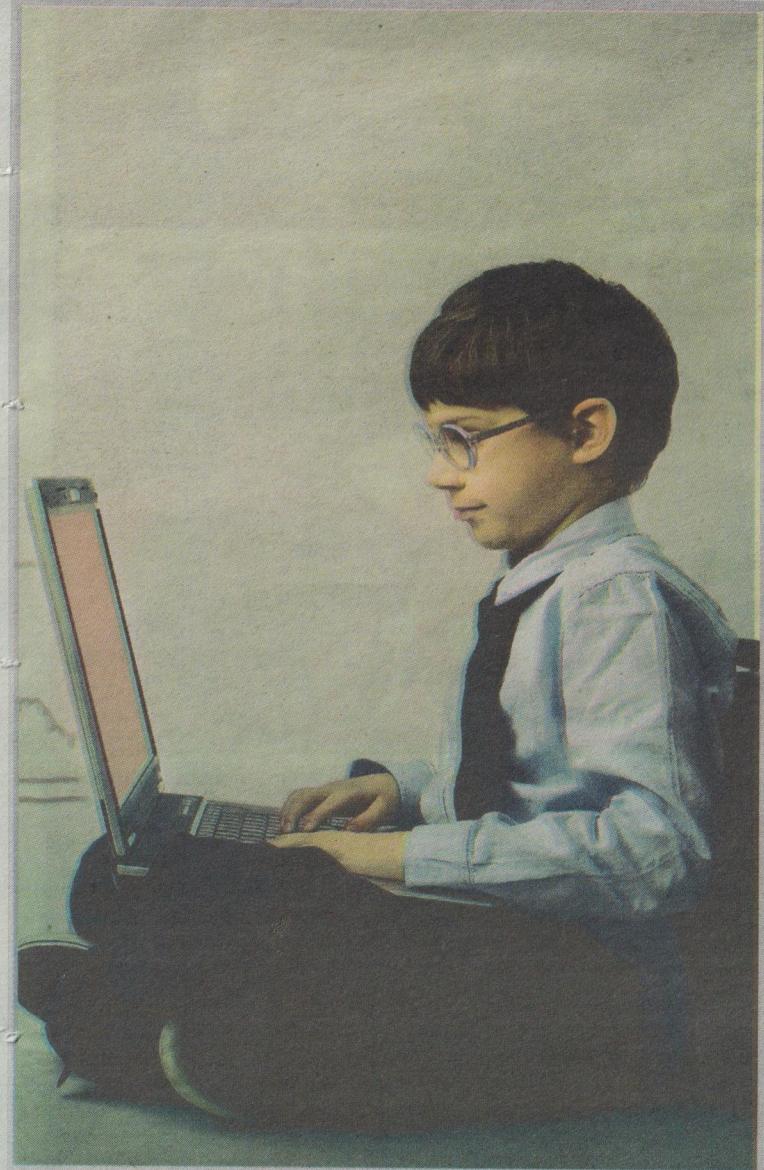
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PRESENT

The Tacoma City Council will be addressing its mid-term budget over the next few months. There may be consideration of budget ramifications for Tacoma Public Library. It is imperative that concerned citizens are present at every opportunity to express the need and desire to procure a library facility in the Hilltop Community.

Thanks so much for your assistance in this matter.
Bil Moss, Chairperson
Hilltop Library Planning Committee

More information can be obtained by attending the monthly meetings as follows:
2nd Thursdays 10AM @ Red Elm Café, 1114 MLK, Jr. Way
4th Thursdays 6PM (June-September), 5PM (October - May) @ Allen Russell Conference Center, 1321 MLK, Jr. Way and by accessing our website: tacomahilltoplibrary.org.



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