

Vote No on Measure N — it's the wrong library in the wrong place!

Due to cost and location, Measure N is an especially bad deal for seniors, children, and residents of Linda Mar, Manor, and Fairmont.

SAVE SANCHEZ LIBRARY

Sanchez Library serves nearly half of Pacifica's residents. The city's own evaluation shows that it can easily be renovated. It's "mostly accessible...qualifies as a Benchmark Building...is structurally Life-Safe, and in general good condition."

One consequence of Measure N is that our beloved Sanchez Library in Linda Mar would be permanently shut down, destroying a convenient neighborhood library forever. The proceeds from selling Sanchez and Sharp Park libraries would not go toward paying off the bond.

How would car-less kids, seniors, and the disabled get to a distant central library miles away with the infrequent bus service? A roundtrip to the library on SamTrans at the wrong time could take three hours.

A large group of seniors opposed to Measure N called "Citizens United to Defeat the Library Tax" meets every Monday at 6 p.m. at Casa Pacifica.

A BAD DEAL FOR TAXPAYERS

Measure N means \$58+ MILLION in more borrowing, principal, and interest. Pacifica homeowners would pay an average of \$3,000 each.

There's no exemption for seniors or those on fixed or low income.

Measure N would make living in Pacifica even more expensive.

BEACH BOULEVARD IS THE WORST LOCATION

Fairmont residents, already neglected by the city, won't be driving miles out of their way to pick up a library book on Beach Boulevard. The Daly City library is more convenient.

Why construct an expensive library in harm's way? Remember this year's giant sinkholes and collapses on Beach Boulevard less than 500 feet away from the site of the proposed library?

The California Coastal Commission wrote: "... It's not accurate to say that the library's been 'vetted' as safe from flooding at this point..." and further denied that it had even evaluated the project for coastal hazards like flooding.

We witnessed the future in last winter's storm damage. Government maps show the proposed library location vulnerable to coastal erosion and flooding. We taxpayers would have to spend tens of millions of dollars to protect it.

A MONUMENT TO EXCESS

City Hall makes some ridiculous promises about the new library: private bathrooms for staff, open until 11 p.m. on weekends, will lend fishing equipment! What it **doesn't say** is that it is raising your taxes to build new Council Chambers! Each election, City Hall tries to raise our taxes, and each election the voters say "NO."

Instead of a library at the beach, let a private hotel assume the risks and costs of sea-level rise and provide tax revenue for Pacifica. Locate libraries where people can easily access them.

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(Linda Mar resident Dan Stegink wrote this op-ed for the September 13 Pacifica Tribune "My Turn" column. It has been lightly edited for posting here on Riptide.)