

Yachats Library Commission Proposal to the Yachats City Council for Relocating the Library to the 501 Building

The Yachats City Council (City) has asked the Yachats Library Commission (Commission) to consider moving the Yachats Public Library from its present location to the 501 building. In response, the Commission has solicited comments from library volunteers and the community at large on both the positive and negative issues associated with such a move and has taken those comments into account as part of their deliberations.

In summary, the Commission supports moving the library to the 501 building for the following reasons and given the attendant conditions:

- The Commission envisions a more visible facility that will provide enhanced opportunities and space for a variety of purposes and activities, including but not limited to:
 - ▷ Increased space for current and future needs related to shelving and display areas for all of the library's collections
 - ▷ Improved facilities and increased space for expanding children's reading and summer programs
 - ▷ Increased space for storage and sorting of excess and book sale items
 - ▷ Broader based and increased community usage through improved access to:
 - Expanded and more comfortable informal "quiet" areas for reading/browsing/ congregating
 - Available meeting rooms as gathering places for local community groups
 - Expanded and more usable technical facilities and resources
 - ▷ Extended hours, as needed
- The Commission also recognizes that a move to the 501 building entails a significant commitment of both time and resources. This commitment includes preparing the building for occupancy as well as the actual management and operation of the facility. In order to help ensure the successful transition to the new facility, the Commission believes the following conditions to be critically important.
 - ▷ The City, in consultation with the Commission, will assume responsibility for 1) planning designing, and financing the reconstruction of the building, 2) the installation of those permanent fixtures necessary to library operations, 3) the physical move of all library furnishings and inventory to the new facility, and 4) ongoing cleaning and maintenance once the facility is operational. This work will be done in accordance with all relevant code and other legal requirements associated with a public library.
 - ▷ The Commission will commit to providing funds in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 to be leveraged against matching funds from grants and The Friends of the Yachats Library for the purchase of furnishings and other accessories designed to create an inviting and comfortable environment for library patrons. The source of these funds will be the Hall bequest to the library, and, as part of this project, the Commission will identify a suitable means for recognizing the generosity this bequest represents.
 - ▷ The City will dedicate exclusive use of the building to the library in perpetuity, and will grant the Commission or its designees control over all uses of building space.
 - ▷ The City will establish a time table for the project with starting and completion dates to be mutually agreed upon by the parties.

The Commission believes that this opportunity is of sufficient importance to warrant a written Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Commission outlining these conditions. The Commission is prepared to participate in the preparation of such a memorandum.

The Commission greatly appreciates the opportunity granted it by the City to pursue this move and believes it could result in the library becoming a more active and integrated part of the community.