HOOVER BRANCH LIBRARY FEASIBILITY STUDY

TASK 2: RESEARCH + IMMERSION SUMMARY

Issued: November 7, 2023
North Oakland Branch Library opened in 1888 and closed in 1981. After almost 100 years of service - without it, we have experienced

• Travel distances of greater than one mile to the closest branch library
• Reduced availability of social service resources and access to knowledge centers
• Elimination of children and elder development spaces
• Lack of safe spaces for residents

The challenge of the Feasibility Study is to align the opinions, definitions, and actions which will support the building of a new branch library based on community input.
PEOPLE
1925. Delilah Beasley
1943. Dr. Lloyd Ferguson
1977. Lionel Wilson

PLACES
1970. The East Bay Negro Historical
1978. Hoover Foster Middle School

ART + CULTURE
Oakland Superheroes Mural

MAIN STREETS
San Pablo Avenue

BRING BACK OUR LIBRARY!
### EXISTING

#### ZONING HISTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1900’s</th>
<th>1950’s</th>
<th>1970’s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At this time, residential districts were zoned “A-One-Family District”. West/ Northwest Oakland had three containment zones where African American residents were relegated. None were assigned the protective zoning description “A – One – Family District”.</td>
<td>‘Urban Renewal’ eroded the protective social adhesion provided by single-family home ownership with a preference for multi-unit leased housing. Urban Renewal and Federal Highway construction effectively removed the foundation required to maintain existing small businesses which supported the community.</td>
<td>Zoning ordinances and other urban planning tools allowed the construction of 3 major highways decisively separating Hoover from Longfellow. <strong>When the highway was constructed, two community libraries were removed.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All three containment zones permitted industrial uses surrounding and dispersed among residences.

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AMENITIES + BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Existing
As of 2023, within the service area there are:

- (4) Recreation centers
- (1) Senior center
- (5) Schools
- (0) Middle schools

Near
The closest public middle school lies outside the service area and is approximately a 26-minute walk, or a 22-minute bus ride.

- Westlake Middle School

Gone
Two types of publicly-owned amenities no longer exist in the central Hoover Branch catchment area.

- Senior Centers*
- Libraries

*St. Mary’s Center is a 510(c)3 public charity.
The OakWifi Initiative allows students, seniors, job seekers, small businesses, the underserved, and the unconnected around San Pablo Ave to receive free Internet access.

Today, OakWiki does not reach all corners of the project’s service area.
2,728

Resident youth 18 and under live within the service area. A majority of the age groups do not overlap geographically and rely on youth centers and schools within the outer edges of service area to gather.
ELDERS

8%

Of the population are elders attributed to a lack of transit access, social isolation, older adult isolation, and linguistic isolation which are indicators of social isolation.
Along the San Pablo corridor, 72, 72M, 72R, 802 & 88 are the most critical bus lines servicing schools, recreation and senior centers along these North-South bus routes.

Bus lines 88 & 36 serve McClymonds High School and Hoover Elementary School, respectively.
Multiple aspects of the built environment in Alameda County contribute to making some neighborhoods hotter than others. A recent heat wave (September 1, 2017) was used to model temperatures experienced during an extreme heat event. Land surface temperature (degrees Fahrenheit) were averaged within census tracts (source: NASA MODIS/Terra Land Surface Temperature/Emissivity Daily L3 Global 1km). The most extreme daytime temperatures were experienced near Dublin/Pleasanton and from San Leandro to Fremont. This layer also reveals areas that experience the least temperature relief moving from daytime to evening and night.

Ways to reduce land surface temperatures from the built environment include greening and lightening rooftops, lightening the color of roads, increasing the tree canopy, and reducing impervious surfaces.

Tree canopy is defined as the percent area, population-weighted, not covered by tree canopy by census tract (CalBRACE project 2011 - National Land Cover Database). This is a proxy measure for access to green space and shaded areas, where there can be some relief from temperature.
EXISTING CULTURE

Oakland Public Conservatory of Music

California Hotel

Marcus Bookstore

Fantastic Negrito

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### OPD Closed Calls for Service in the last 24 hrs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Number</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Call Date</th>
<th>Police Beat</th>
<th>Council District</th>
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<td>ST&amp;YGNACIO AV</td>
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<td>CCD4</td>
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<td>LOP230726000545</td>
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<td>MISCELLANEOUS/UNKNOWN</td>
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<td>27X</td>
<td>CCD5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**CASE STUDY:** Employment rates in Medellín rose by nearly 7 percent between the years 2002 and 2017. Within the same period, communities with Library Parks experienced a 17 percent higher employment growth rate than those without.
In general, small branch libraries are punching above their weight - offering a significant number of programs despite size - making the recommended size for Hoover an open question.
LIBRARIES

A selection of library designs from across the world wide.

AHMED BABA INSTITUTE
WARAK KAYU
ESWATINI - ROUND LIVING
BIBLIOTECA PUBLICO PILOTO

BIBLIOTECA MUNICIPAL
REEMDOOGA - MUSIC GARDEN
ANANDALOY THERAPY
BEbetECAS
HYUNDAI CARD COOKING

BRING BACK OUR LIBRARY!
“Libraries are the window to the world” - Mayor Ridwan Kami of Bandung, Indonesia
SURVEY RESULTS

From June to August 2023, 561 surveys were completed.
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From June to August 2023, 561 surveys were completed, and respondents indicated their preferred location for the future library.
NEXT STEPS
Existing Facilities Analysis

Stay up to date by subscribing to our newsletter at:

https://www.oaklandca.gov/topics/hooover-branch-library

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