



11.14 Public Services and Utilities Correspondence



BEAUMONT LIBRARY DISTRICT

125 E. 8th St. Beaumont, CA 92223

951-845-1357

In response to the Beaumont Heights Business Center Project Environmental Impact Report, sent by Michael Baker International, the Beaumont Library District is providing survey answers below:

1. Please list and describe existing library facilities serving the proposed project site/area (i.e., square footage of facility, number of volumes, number of employees and volunteers, etc.). Are these facilities currently adequate?

The Beaumont Library District owns a 11,697 sq. ft. facility on the corner of 8th Street and California Ave. The original building was built through a grant funded by Andrew Carnegie in 1914. In 1965, an addition of approx. 6500 sq. ft. was added and in 1982, another 1000 sq. ft. community room was completed. Since then, the population of our service area has quintupled and no other building expansions have occurred. The library size is currently inadequate for serving the current population and an expansion project is underway which will be detailed in the response to question 3. The current building houses 40,154 volumes in print, employs 7 full-time and 13 part-time personnel, and 23 tutor or teen volunteers. It utilizes an automated material handling system and self-check kiosks in order to maximize efficiency, space, and staff time. Space is limited and the library consistently faces issues with accessibility. Many rooms throughout the building serve multiple purposes and every corner of the facility is utilized.

2. What services/programs does the library system currently offer?

In addition to traditional library services such as making available items for checkout: books, magazines, audiobooks, playaways, launchpads, movies, and periodicals, the library also offers State Park Passes, Museum Passes, iFix-it Kits, Stargazing kits, Early Literacy kits, homeschooling kits, and solar charging systems. Services also include public wi-fi, public computing and printing, Literacy and ESL, DMV test prep classes, Digital Literacy classes, and citizenship classes. The Beaumont Library offers a comprehensive Early Literacy program which focuses on the growth and development as well as teaching early literacy skills to ages 0-5. We hold a book club, Lego club, and STEAM story times for school-aged children as well as bilingual storytime and additional monthly recreational programs for enrichment.

3. Are there any planned additions to existing library resources or facilities?

Yes, the Library is breaking ground on an expansion and renovation project in January 2025. The expansion will almost double the current size and include a new children's room, teen room, large meeting

room (for 100+ people), conference room, staff workspace, and a bookmobile garage. The historic portion of the building will be completely restored to house our historical collection and Literacy Services.

4. How are library service needs/standards determined (i.e., volumes/population)?

Service needs vastly differ from community to community and are determined by conducting regular community needs assessments and performing community outreach. Service standards are determined by professional organizations such as the American Library Association (ALA), the Public Library Association (PLA) and the California Library Association (CLA) as well as the California State Library system.

5. What are the current sources of revenue or funds for the library? Are there any new developments assessed fees and if so, what are the amounts?

The Beaumont Library District operates on revenue provided through a dedicated property tax on properties located within District boundaries. District boundaries include the City of Beaumont, the community of Cherry Valley, and some unincorporated areas of Riverside County. Other revenue sources include Federal and State grants, gifted donations, and fees paid from lost materials. We expect to start receiving impact fees for the first time ever, beginning in 2025.

6. Do you anticipate any significant impacts from the project on current services and capacity at the library? If so, please describe how this determination came to be in as much detail as possible.

Direct impact from this project would be limited. However, indirect impact will include increased traffic congestion concerns along the area of Highway 79, California Avenue, and First Street for library patrons and employees who live on the South side of Interstate 10.

7. Do you anticipate that the project implementation would result in the need for physical additions to the library?

No. With the exception of increased traffic congestion and heavy semi-trucks on underdeveloped and aging roads, Industrial developments present little impact to Library services.

8. Do you have any recommended mitigation measures for the project's potentially significant impacts?

Traffic Light installation at California Avenue and SR-79 and California Avenue and First Street, appropriate lane additions for trucks entering/exiting SR-79. Ideally, the state should build overpass connections directly from SR-79 to SR-60 and I-10. This would fix everything by avoiding the increasing problems on the Beaumont Avenue overpass.

9. Please include any additional information you feel is pertinent to the environmental analysis of the proposed project.

Nothing to add.