

# City of Belmont Proposed Library Project



## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Why do we need a new library?**

**A:** Our library, built 40 years ago, has run out of space and is technologically inadequate.

Space is severely limited. It is the smallest library in San Mateo County and many residents travel to other libraries to get the materials they need. Nearly 500 people use the Belmont Library daily, with approximately 156,000 items circulated annually, as compared to about 97,000 items in 1960. Every time a new book is purchased, another must come off the shelves. Seating in the library is also inadequate especially after school.

Belmont residents have stated they want a library that is technologically equipped. The current library has inadequate space and wiring for computers and other technologies.

**Q: Where will the new library be built?**

**A:** At the existing site at 1110 Alameda de las Pulgas.

**Q: How many square feet is the new library?**

**A:** Compared to the 5,600 s.f. now, the new library will be dramatically larger between 18,000 and 21,000 s.f., depending upon private donations.

**Q: When will the new library open?**

**A:** The library is scheduled to open in March 2006.

**Q: How will a new library be funded?**

**A:** On March 6, 2001, 78% of the voters approved imposition of a 30 Year, Mello Roos special tax for the purposes of financing \$8,650,000 in bonds and fund ongoing maintenance for a library.

The annual special tax is \$71/dwelling unit for residential and \$.085/sq. ft for commercial.

**Q: When is the effective date of the tax assessment?**

**A:** The special tax levy will begin appearing on the property tax statements for the Fiscal Year 2003-4 billing cycle.