



# Administrative Report

---

J.2., File # RP22-3971

Meeting Date: 4/13/2022

---

**TO:** RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION  
**FROM:** CAMERON HARDING, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

## **TITLE**

RECEIVE AND FILE DATA FROM THE COMMUNITY AND CONCESSIONAIRE SURVEYS REGARDING FUTURE USES OF THE VETERANS PARK COMMUNITY CENTER/HISTORIC LIBRARY FACILITY.

DISCUSSION AND INPUT REGARDING THE FOLLOWING:

- USE OF THE FACILITY INCLUDING ITS USE AS A POP-UP SPACE WITH ROTATING USES;
- A SHARED USE WITH MULTIPLE AMENITIES; AND
- HOW BEST TO PROVIDE THE FACILITY FOR COMMUNITY USE

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In 1991, the City Council approved the repurposing of the former Main Library building located in Veterans Park as a banquet and special events center to be operated by a private concessionaire. The building was re-named the Veterans Park Community Center ("facility") and was seismically retrofitted and renovated to accommodate its new use. The initial catering and facility management agreement was awarded to Spectrum Holding Company, Inc. ("Spectrum") in 1996. This contract was renewed in 2013 and remained active until it expired on October 31, 2020. At that time, the vendor elected not to pursue a renewed contract and vacated the facility. The facility remains closed as a result of precautionary measures associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

On January 4, 2022, Staff presented a draft RFP to the City Council that would provide an opportunity for a concessionaire to manage the facility in a similar model as was done previously by Spectrum. The City Council desired to pause on the issuance of the proposed RFP and requested for staff to outreach with the community to solicit feedback on how the facility should be used and to determine if there are other preferred uses and models for the management of the facility. Staff developed a series of outreach opportunities for the community to provide its input including an online survey, an Open House, and multiple community discussions at Commission meetings. Staff desires to have the Commission provide feedback on key survey results to refine input for the City Council's consideration at a subsequent meeting.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Veterans Park Community Center is an 11,400 square foot landmark building listed on the

National Register of Historic Places. It served as the city's Main Library from 1930 through 1991. In January 1991, the building incurred substantial seismic damage as a result of the Sierra Madre earthquake, forcing its closure to the public. In late 1991, the City Council approved the repurposing of the facility as a banquet and events center and initiated plans for construction of a new library facility adjacent to the Civic Center. The former main library building was renamed the Veterans Park Community Center ("facility") and was renovated to include seismic upgrades and a historic restoration to accommodate its new use. Following completion of the renovation in 1995, the city issued an RFP for the facility's catering and management operations. Spectrum was awarded the contract for operation of the facility in 1996. This contract was renewed in 2013 and remained active until its expiration on October 31, 2020. At that time, the vendor elected not to pursue a renewed contract and vacated the facility. The facility has remained closed due to precautionary measures associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

On January 4, 2022, Staff presented a draft RFP to the City Council that would provide an opportunity for a concessionaire to manage the facility in a similar model as was done previously by Spectrum. The City Council desired to pause on the issuance of the proposed RFP and requested for staff to outreach with the community to solicit feedback on how the facility should be used and to determine if there are other preferred uses and models for the management of the facility. Staff developed a series of outreach opportunities for the community to provide its input including the following:

- Online survey for the community and potential concessionaires from March 7 - 24;
- Open House held on Thursday, March 10 from 10:00am to 12:00pm to capitalize on increased park visitors attending the Farmers' Market. An estimated fifty people attended the event; and
- Community discussions held at several Commission meetings including tonight's Recreation and Parks Commission meeting and the Public Art Commission scheduled for May 25.

A copy of the outreach promotional materials is included as Attachment 1.

#### Community and Concessionaire Survey

A series of surveys were made available online from March 7 - 24 including a community survey, consisting of six questions; and a concessionaire survey consisting of five questions. The community survey received a total of 312 responses and the concessionaire survey received eleven. A copy of the survey data is included as Attachments 2 and 3.

Overall, Staff is pleased with the volume of survey responses as well as the thoughtful feedback provided by the community. Results from the community survey included the following:

- 91% of respondents were residents of Redondo Beach;
- On average, approximately 75% of respondents were relatively familiar with the facility;
- 50% of respondents have attended an event or activity at the facility before;
- An outdoor patio space and a performance area/bandshell were the two most desired new amenities; and
- A traditional community center and a pop-up space for rotating uses were the two most preferred facility uses. Other uses such as an art museum, an art gallery, café or daily food service, and a rental facility for private events were relatively equal in score thereafter.

Additionally, survey respondents provided a lot of valuable qualitative data byway of comments and suggestions, which included the following most popular themes:

- An overwhelming desire to utilize the facility in a way that would provide it for events or meetings at a low cost for residents;
- Utilization of the facility with an art-focus such as a gallery, museum, and/or sculpture garden; and
- Utilization of the facility as a café or restaurant that would extend to an outdoor patio or picnic space.

Responses received from participating concessionaires was very supportive of similar facility uses.

Considering the survey responses, Staff desires for the Commission to provide input on certain data points so that the City Council will have supplemental feedback to consider. Therefore, Staff requests the Commission provide its input on the following:

1. Considering the desire to utilize the facility as a pop-up space, are there certain uses that you would prefer? Are there certain uses that would not be favorable?
2. What preferred uses should be considered as part of a shared use concept? (i.e. art gallery during the day and rental facility in the evenings).
3. How best can the City support the community's desire to have the facility available to them for low cost while utilizing it to its fullest potential?

Looking ahead, Staff will be providing a similar presentation and discussion to the Public Art Commission at its meeting on May 25. Input received from the Recreation & Parks and the Public Art Commissions will be provided to the City Council at a subsequent meeting where it will provide direction on the implementation of a usage plan and the preferred path forward for the facility.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Community Outreach Flyer
2. Community Survey Results
3. Concessionaire Survey Results



# Administrative Report

---

J.2., File # RP22-3971

Meeting Date: 4/13/2022

---

**TO:** RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION  
**FROM:** CAMERON HARDING, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

## **TITLE**

RECEIVE AND FILE DATA FROM THE COMMUNITY AND CONCESSIONAIRE SURVEYS REGARDING FUTURE USES OF THE VETERANS PARK COMMUNITY CENTER/HISTORIC LIBRARY FACILITY.

DISCUSSION AND INPUT REGARDING THE FOLLOWING:

- USE OF THE FACILITY INCLUDING ITS USE AS A POP-UP SPACE WITH ROTATING USES;
- A SHARED USE WITH MULTIPLE AMENITIES; AND
- HOW BEST TO PROVIDE THE FACILITY FOR COMMUNITY USE

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In 1991, the City Council approved the repurposing of the former Main Library building located in Veterans Park as a banquet and special events center to be operated by a private concessionaire. The building was re-named the Veterans Park Community Center ("facility") and was seismically retrofitted and renovated to accommodate its new use. The initial catering and facility management agreement was awarded to Spectrum Holding Company, Inc. ("Spectrum") in 1996. This contract was renewed in 2013 and remained active until it expired on October 31, 2020. At that time, the vendor elected not to pursue a renewed contract and vacated the facility. The facility remains closed as a result of precautionary measures associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

On January 4, 2022, Staff presented a draft RFP to the City Council that would provide an opportunity for a concessionaire to manage the facility in a similar model as was done previously by Spectrum. The City Council desired to pause on the issuance of the proposed RFP and requested for staff to outreach with the community to solicit feedback on how the facility should be used and to determine if there are other preferred uses and models for the management of the facility. Staff developed a series of outreach opportunities for the community to provide its input including an online survey, an Open House, and multiple community discussions at Commission meetings. Staff desires to have the Commission provide feedback on key survey results to refine input for the City Council's consideration at a subsequent meeting.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Veterans Park Community Center is an 11,400 square foot landmark building listed on the

National Register of Historic Places. It served as the city's Main Library from 1930 through 1991. In January 1991, the building incurred substantial seismic damage as a result of the Sierra Madre earthquake, forcing its closure to the public. In late 1991, the City Council approved the repurposing of the facility as a banquet and events center and initiated plans for construction of a new library facility adjacent to the Civic Center. The former main library building was renamed the Veterans Park Community Center ("facility") and was renovated to include seismic upgrades and a historic restoration to accommodate its new use. Following completion of the renovation in 1995, the city issued an RFP for the facility's catering and management operations. Spectrum was awarded the contract for operation of the facility in 1996. This contract was renewed in 2013 and remained active until its expiration on October 31, 2020. At that time, the vendor elected not to pursue a renewed contract and vacated the facility. The facility has remained closed due to precautionary measures associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

On January 4, 2022, Staff presented a draft RFP to the City Council that would provide an opportunity for a concessionaire to manage the facility in a similar model as was done previously by Spectrum. The City Council desired to pause on the issuance of the proposed RFP and requested for staff to outreach with the community to solicit feedback on how the facility should be used and to determine if there are other preferred uses and models for the management of the facility. Staff developed a series of outreach opportunities for the community to provide its input including the following:

- Online survey for the community and potential concessionaires from March 7 - 24;
- Open House held on Thursday, March 10 from 10:00am to 12:00pm to capitalize on increased park visitors attending the Farmers' Market. An estimated fifty people attended the event; and
- Community discussions held at several Commission meetings including tonight's Recreation and Parks Commission meeting and the Public Art Commission scheduled for May 25.

A copy of the outreach promotional materials is included as Attachment 1.

#### Community and Concessionaire Survey

A series of surveys were made available online from March 7 - 24 including a community survey, consisting of six questions; and a concessionaire survey consisting of five questions. The community survey received a total of 312 responses and the concessionaire survey received eleven. A copy of the survey data is included as Attachments 2 and 3.

Overall, Staff is pleased with the volume of survey responses as well as the thoughtful feedback provided by the community. Results from the community survey included the following:

- 91% of respondents were residents of Redondo Beach;
- On average, approximately 75% of respondents were relatively familiar with the facility;
- 50% of respondents have attended an event or activity at the facility before;
- An outdoor patio space and a performance area/bandshell were the two most desired new amenities; and
- A traditional community center and a pop-up space for rotating uses were the two most preferred facility uses. Other uses such as an art museum, an art gallery, café or daily food service, and a rental facility for private events were relatively equal in score thereafter.

Additionally, survey respondents provided a lot of valuable qualitative data byway of comments and suggestions, which included the following most popular themes:

- An overwhelming desire to utilize the facility in a way that would provide it for events or meetings at a low cost for residents;
- Utilization of the facility with an art-focus such as a gallery, museum, and/or sculpture garden; and
- Utilization of the facility as a café or restaurant that would extend to an outdoor patio or picnic space.

Responses received from participating concessionaires was very supportive of similar facility uses.

Considering the survey responses, Staff desires for the Commission to provide input on certain data points so that the City Council will have supplemental feedback to consider. Therefore, Staff requests the Commission provide its input on the following:

1. Considering the desire to utilize the facility as a pop-up space, are there certain uses that you would prefer? Are there certain uses that would not be favorable?
2. What preferred uses should be considered as part of a shared use concept? (i.e. art gallery during the day and rental facility in the evenings).
3. How best can the City support the community's desire to have the facility available to them for low cost while utilizing it to its fullest potential?

Looking ahead, Staff will be providing a similar presentation and discussion to the Public Art Commission at its meeting on May 25. Input received from the Recreation & Parks and the Public Art Commissions will be provided to the City Council at a subsequent meeting where it will provide direction on the implementation of a usage plan and the preferred path forward for the facility.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Community Outreach Flyer
2. Community Survey Results
3. Concessionaire Survey Results

City of Redondo Beach Community Services Department



# VETERANS PARK COMMUNITY CENTER/HISTORIC LIBRARY

## *Facility Use Outreach*

The City of Redondo Beach is seeking the community's input on preferred future uses of the Veterans Park Community Center, which is the former historic library located at Veterans Park.



### ONLINE SURVEY

available online March 7 - 24

Survey can be found at the following link or by using the QR code on your phone's photo reader:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VeteransFacilitySurvey>



### OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, March 10 • 10:00am - Noon

Stop by to see the facility and provide your feedback to staff.



### COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Recreation & Parks Commission Meeting: April 13

Public Art Commission Meeting: May 25

Meetings will begin at 7:00pm. Please check the city website for details and how to participate.

Are you a **CONCESSIONAIRE** interested in sharing your ideas on how the facility can be used?

Please complete the survey to provide your input and to be contacted regarding future project updates. The survey can be found at the following link or by using the QR code on your phone's photo reader:

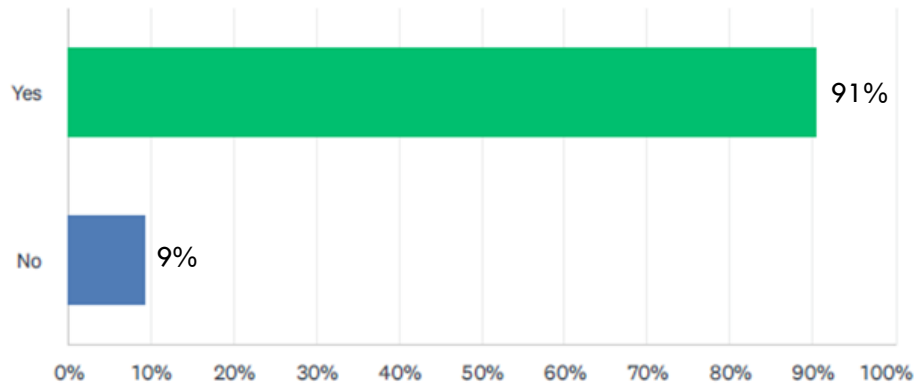
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VeteransFacilityConcessionaire>



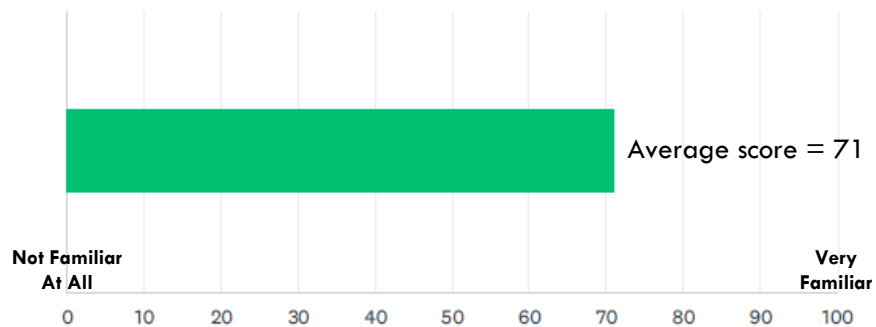
# Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library

Facility Use *COMMUNITY* Survey Data (312 submissions)

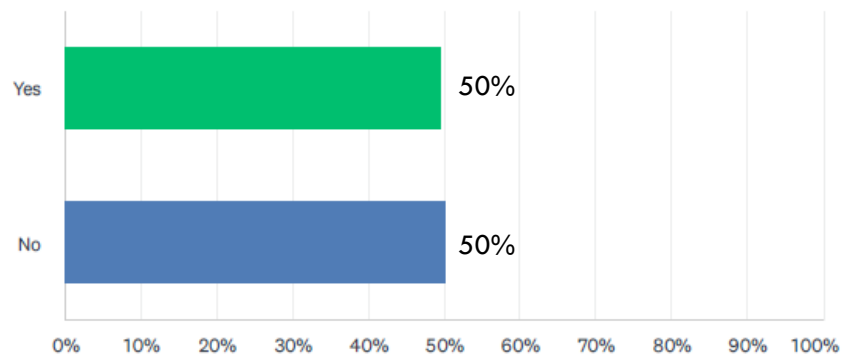
## 1. Are you a Redondo Beach resident?



## 2. How familiar are you with the Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library facility?

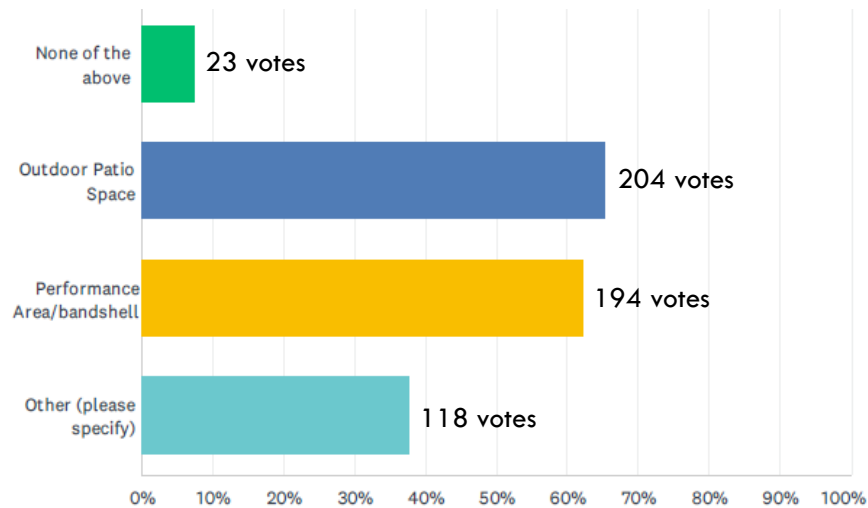


## 3. Have you ever attended an event or activity at the Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library facility?





**4. Please select the following new amenities that you would like the City to consider incorporating into future uses of the Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library facility? Select all that apply.**



**OTHER Option Results**

- Low-cost Community space/Events/Meetings – 37
- Art/Sculpture Garden – 29
- Café/Restaurant + Outdoor Patio/picnic Area – 21
- Restore Public Library - 10
- Scout House – 8
- Museum – 6
- Live Performance/Music – 6
- Senior Center – 3
- Shared Work Space – 2
- Splash Pad – 2
- Wellness Center
- Walking path to other parks

*Additional comments...*

Keep as natural and close to its original state as possible  
 Book kiosk for free books  
 Better lighting with the ground floor  
 Prominent signage for no dogs in the park``  
 Benches for rest reading nature area  
 Keep as historic building  
 Amenities for families (several)

**5. Please provide your interest for each of the following potential uses of the Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library facility.**

	Not Interested at All	Not Very Interested	No Opinion	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested	Weighted Average
<b>Art Museum</b>	13%	18%	7%	32%	30%	3.49
<b>Art Gallery</b>	15%	16%	5%	30%	34%	3.54
<b>Café or daily food service</b>	17%	12%	6%	34%	30%	3.47
<b>Rental facility for private events</b>	11%	12%	14%	31%	32%	3.62
<b>Traditional Community Center</b>	6%	9%	7%	34%	44%	4.02
<b>Pop-up Space for Rotating Uses</b>	1%	4%	36%	36%	56%	4.41

**OTHER Option Results**

- Art-focused Facility - 10
- Low-cost Community space/Events/Meetings – 7
- Library - 7
- Scout House - 6
- Café/Restaurant + Outdoor Patio/picnic Area – 5
- Scout House – 8
- Museum – 4
- Live Performance/Music – 3
- Splash Pad

**6. Please provide any other comments or suggestions regarding future uses of the Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library facility.**

No entrance fees

Just keep it as close to natural state as possible. Also, there's a park and greenery for kids to run around which is very much appreciated. I'd prefer if the new amenities didn't attract a crowd of people so the park still remains a safe and clean space for kids and families to enjoy.

As an artist, I would love to see an art museum in that building. It will change the entire tone for the city. It will attract high spending tourists as well. It needs to be a museum of global standards though, not another local art center.

Art Gallery with music and poetry as well.

I would be interested in it being a city museum and/or reading room. Making it an art gallery or art museum or community center is going to require construction and destroying the historic interior facings of the library (Have you seen art exhibits recently? They change everything about a room, sometimes even the flooring). I want a use that doesn't destroy it.

It was a lovely space as a library. It would be wonderful to hang out at.

Redondo needs a visual art center. Several community based nonprofits Redondo Beach Art Group, Friends of Redondo Beach Arts, South Bay Hands on Art all 501 3C need a place to have meetings. Should have affordable artist studio space and gallery space to share local artists work with the public. The artists could have workshops for the public. Our community needs a visual arts center not a private wedding venue.

Need more arts to Redondo Beach.

Maybe a mix of uses.....I know they hosted private events but they were always generous with allowing special events for the Historical Society. A beautiful venue with a lot of local history.

Friends of Redondo Beach Arts and Redondo Beach Art Group have been focused on one goal for many years now. We are hoping to bring the arts to Redondo Beach by having a central location available to the community. A Creative Arts Center at the Veterans Park Historical library would be an ideal location to continue celebrating the beauty and history of Redondo Beach.

---

Get the Elks lodge to donate or lease parking for events at the library when they don't need it.

---

Needs a makeover; then jazz/classical music center with restaurant/coffee shop/sandwich shop

---

This space would be ideal for a Redondo Beach Creative Arts Center. It would be a place to showcase various art forms; a place for exhibitions, demonstrations, classes; a place for possible studio space for artists. The two major art groups in Redondo Beach, Redondo Beach Art Group (RBAG) and Friends of Redondo Beach Arts (FRBA), have long been looking for a permanent home to call a Creative Art Center. This space and location would be a perfect place for that and would be such a wonderful asset and addition to our city. I have belonged to, and been active with, both of these groups for many years. I am also a mosaic artist who has created several pieces of public art for our city. This is something that would enhance Redondo Beach and benefit the community immensely. I hope you will please consider this as a viable option for the use of this space. Thank you.

---

Redondo lacks an Art Center. All the other cities in the area have one.

---

Fine dining and art gallery outside ocean view dining

---

Leadership Redondo Alumni showcase of projects and historical markers. Meet the legends of

---

Redondo. Ted x venue

---

Add selected Redondo Beach themed historical artwork, paintings, photographs, etc. for wall display inside.

---

Uses should generate enough revenue to maintain the building at a high standard

---

A gallery for local artists

---

The Girl and Boy Scouts of South Redondo Beach need a home. A place to hold events and meetings and support our community service.

---

None

---

RESTORE the bandshell. Make the library the Cultural Arts Center and semi-permanent home of RBAG & FRBA. Have CA101 there permanently. Have other art classes and galleries and lessons there like PVAC. Let others rent out space there amongst the art. Have musical performances. Have things be docent led. Have South Bay Hands on Art things there. Have events. Make rentals happen but give priority to the local art groups that have existed in our community with hardly any support like RBAG & FRBA.

---

programs that serve the community

---

This site could be a cultural arts center, having art shows, art events, art classes, art group meetings, and other art related events. As it is, Redondo Beach is one of the few cities in the south bay lacking such a place. This site would fulfill this need.

---

Looking forward to CA101

---

I spent my childhood in the children's section of the library and got married there in 2005. it's one of my favorite places!

---

N/A

---

None at this time thanks for doing this outreach.

---

art center for music, poetry, performance, and definitely an excellent cafe with espresso and wine

---

maybe Something like Torrance Cultural Arts Center / I like displaying old pictures of Redondo Beach and some local art

---

I am born and raised in Redondo Beach and still live here in the city. I have 3 daughters in Girl Scouts and am their troop leader. I would love to have a space for meetings.

---

Keep up the good work

---

ability to have small food/coffe/drink at location. Meeting space for small events, meetings.

---

I'd like to see it out into great condition

---

Girl Scouts are in need of a central meeting location. Please make this space available free of charge to local scouts!

---

This would be amazing space for girls and Boy Scouts. They could hold meetings here and do community outreach events.

---

It would need more maintenance to open it up for a food or restaurant to keep its beauty but as a local who studied there it would be great to have coffee or hear music or have art shows there.

---

We need a scout house for Girl Scouts in Redondo beach- let's empower female leaders!! Girl Scouts must meet in leaders homes

---

Can we get a scout house? Did you know 1 in 4 girls in south redondo are a part of Girl Scouts and we don't have a "home"! We have been desperately seeking a place to hold meetings or events!

---

Include the original reading area by the ocean front windows

---

Would love for this space to be more open to folks. Rotating uses would offer opportunities for different interests.

---

What about a Redondo Beach Historical Museum? Do we have one already??

---

Thank you for considering our input!

---

This is the perfect location for an Creative Arts Center.

---

Creative Art Center

---

Art Gallery with an outdoor seating area for coffee and pastries are my #1 choice. I live on Broadway near Torrance Blvd.

---

I've loved this library since the 60s when we gathered after school to study...and gather. 😊 Such a golden opportunity for RB to open as a gathering spot again. When I travel I often search for libraries or like gathering places Often many have cafes. Local news items and event calenders would be great. A visitor center! Ps perhaps a portion for occasional rentals would be nice. I had my husband's memorial service there. A beautiful place to honor his life ♥

---

I realize revenue needs to be generated to maintain the building but I encourage you to implement a mix of uses; in particular balancing revenue generating uses with free access to the building. For example a cafe or private rental space PLUS some community programs or classes.

---

I would like the structure itself to remain intact. It's beautiful. Don't replace with patio space.

---

The city very much needs a splash pad!!

---

Something for children or back to library

---

Meeting space for Redondo Beach-based non-profit community groups (non business/Chamber of Commerce related)

---

The library should be a community center that can be used for programming by the city and by non-profits for non-political uses. The City could rent it out for private events. We were promised a replacement bandshell at the natural amphitheater just north of the library. It should be replaced and used for concerts and Shakespeare by the Sea.

---

I would like to see the history of this site displayed. Quite a story! Part time Visitors Center.

---

Enjoyed the library right where it is! Bring back reading areas, meditaiton quiet room areas to enjoy the gorgeous beach view & gorgeous old trees!

---

Would love to be able to take dogs to the farmers market.

---

We've tried to rent it for our RUHS Cross Country / Track Booster Club Fall & Spring Banquet but vendor doesn't allow potluck & fee was exorbitant.

---

N/a

---

Is the use of this facility to raise funds for maintenance and activities?

---

It is a great venue for private events. I do not think it should be changed inside, however the large trees and fencing are pretty ugly. Seems like it could be fenced in better and better landscape.

---

---

Thank you for all you now do

---

Add Bicycle parking, and replace visitor auto parking with more parkland.

---

I worry about preserving the historic nature of the library by having it fully open to the public. We got married there and I would hate to see it destroyed. It felt special it was not open all the time.

---

An electric bike or other fun vehicles with wheels of most kinds should not be used in the park is there any ordinance on this situation.

---

I miss it as a library. But it really needs to be enjoyed more by locals.

---

It's such a beautiful facility, will be great to get additional use out of it beyond the occasional wedding

---

We're excited about the future plans for use of this beautiful and historic site. Future plans should focus on Reviving the building to its full potential inside and out- I like the idea of an area to enjoy concerts and local musical talents. I also like the idea of a little book store/gift shop supporting local artists and cafe.

---

I would like it to be a accessible space that gets variety of uses. Not at all interested in becoming a private party rental place

---

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to participate! So excited for the future of our veterans Park community Center!

---

Na

---

Selling food there would potential create trash issues for both the park and the ocean. Food should stay down on the pier, unless it is part of an event. (Catered)

---

Concert series

---

Community service classes during the day guest speakers in the evening

---

Historical exhibits

---

Art museum and preserving Redondo History could draw visitors to the pier, veterans park, etc. Food service like the Huntington Library- serving high tea would bring in additional revenue.

---

Perfect for weddings! Would like to see better use of this as well as the senior community center. Also need more daycare for small children and a place to go after school

---

Thanks for asking Redondo about this! The options listed for interest options are on track! I think the renting this space out kind of dulls the utility for the community personally; It's like is it open to the public or not? Let's keep it alive for everyone to come. We really need something like this in Redondo. Setup a schedule where kids and people can come to learn things and give back to the community. The schedule could have regular classes ie arts & crafts and also mix in one time gatherings ie the parkland conservation group wants to hold a fundraiser or show some videos about what's being planted to raise awareness and get people excited about volunteering. On weekend nights there could be outdoor movies, concerts (acoustic ie noise is a neighborhood issue) and gallery exhibits especially for young artists. Invite young artists from outside of our immediate community to participate. Oh and concessions. Hot teas coffee drinks like lemonade, snacks ice cream etc.

---

I just think it should have more going there in general. I pass it every day and it's very pretty but not being used. Thank you!

---

There are a lot of homeless people in that area. Careful consideration should be taken to avoid creating a space that would make it even more attractive to the unhoused as a spot to camp. Please be thoughtful in your decision making. Sometimes we have the best intentions at heart for a park, but the end product does not give the desired result or creates new problems.

---

The building is beautiful. I hope whatever it is used for keeps the space intact and the indoor area preserved.

---

parking and noise are issues in this location so anything that adds to those is not good

---

Community space!

---

Such a beautiful building should be used by the citizens much more. Kids play area should also be very nice

---



Wellness center inc yoga/tai chi/fitness classes, meditation room, massage/spa services, coffee bar and private sun deck, also gift shop. Could be a wonderful unique place for locals and enhance visits to pier merchants. And art gallery could be included.

Make available and affordable for local Residents to use.

Security to remove homeless people. With so many homeless people there, no one will go there.

I would like to see it as a place to offer affordable child/teen art programs with an ocean theme as a nod to the location of the building.

Add some shade and make it a botanic garden type space

None

Residence preferred

Museum/Library

It's a treasure of this city

Please make sure you use the lovely outdoor space too! And keep the interior and exterior true to its history :)

Keep it simple. Keep the history front and center. Keep it local influenced.

Small childrens museum or childrens library. Would be so great to pair that with the park and pier

None!

A Changing calendar of events that the neighborhood could participate in would be great. Open this back up for cultural events like chamber music concerts, holiday family story time, poetry events, art shows, scout sleepovers, RUHS class Reunions, etc. The neighborhood has been shut out of our beautiful and historic building.

It should stay as is

It's too nice of a building, to sit unused for longer periods of time. How about a children's theatre play, for toddlers. Or perhaps story time events. Bring some youth into it, some vibrancy.

N/A

Keep it as much as it is. It's ok to give people more access. Don't destroy history for the sake of trendy progress.

As Redondo residents, it was so nice to be able to have our wedding right in Redondo on the water. It was relatively affordable and very meaningful. I think continuing to use the Historic Library as a space for such events is a great service to the community.

What about a once a month co-rec space for kids to gather and dance and be kids. Or a space for art classes or music lessons. Community breakfasts are fun too. It could be a great space to use for post events such as free concerts for fun runs that happen at the village.

Maybe partial use, coffee shop, not Starbucks. Mostly interested in focus on local art gallery and featuring local artist.

We need some time to think about this. It's so important!

Historic memorabilia space with events

Please maintain the beautiful exterior

Please keep that big tree

This is a great historical building.

Marine education center

social/family events for residents. Commercial uses should be part of the pier. keep as much open space as possible.

I would like the city of Redondo Beach to pay attention to the state and shape this building is currently in. Just a few years ago it has been restored and used for private events by the city and just 2 years of the pandemic and lack of care put this truly historical landmark to the state of neglect. It's very visible for the local people who walk by this building every day. As a resident of Redondo I really would like the city officials to consider not only utilizing it for private events which clearly bring a lot of money but also more community functions/fundraising. Perhaps turning the building to a foundation of some sort. It would be great if the Veterans Park Community Center/ Historic Library can be used more by locals from Redondo/Torrance/Hermosa area. It is one of the kind venues in South Bay and it would be nice that local residents CAN AFFORD to utilize it.
Concerts for local bands. Art gallery/exhibits for local artists.
Having events at the community center would be amazing. Outdoor music and art days would bring life to the area
I would like to see the building open to the public, not utilized for private events only. I remember going to the library and I would like to visit it again.
Rentals only for weddings and organizations with limit capacity. The views are spectacular at sunset
Music center
please keep it affordable if the space will be rented
Caterer to provide income to our city and create memorable events of weddings, corporate dining and all things musical.
N/a
A community co-working space complete with wifi and maybe a small cafe for students, people who can work remote. Etc.
N/A
Low cost or fee to community. Current leader is local scouts and past booster high school president and PTA.
The city should develop a call for guest curators to develop events and exhibitions for the space.
X
Classes offered through RB should have priority access to the space.
I'm a former Redondo beach resident currently living in Manhattan beach. I love the park area and the library building. Would love to see it used for special events like weddings, showers, celebrations of life, birthdays, etc.
Needs to have one "tenant" to run the operations smoothly and without compromising from quality. In other words, don't rent out parts of the building independently to more than one vendor. Let the museum, for example, chose and be responsible/accountable for its own F&B subcontractor.
We love the library and as a Redondo Beach Caterer we look forward to seeing this amazing building up and running as a venue that is for the South Bay Residents to enjoy. That's we like the idea of a Museum with an Area to sit and be able to have Grab and Go food available. We would love for it to be open to School children to take a tour. We would love to see it open on important days such as Memorial Day, Veterans Day, etc. Too many times during these celebrations the doors to this Community Center were locked - we feel it should be open for tours, etc. I could go on and on!
Thank you for asking for community input.
It is a beautiful building that should be preserved and used. Thank you for your hard work.

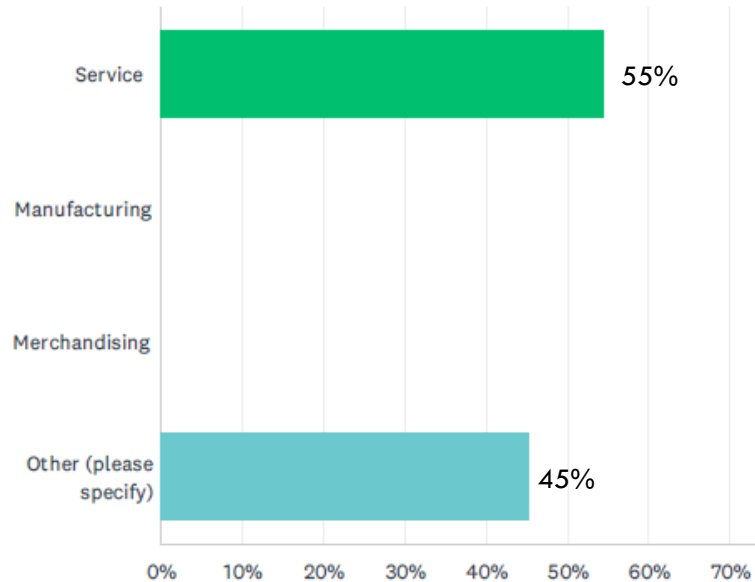
Positive cultural impact
Please keep the outside architecture and historic building.
Discount price for school events and non-profits.
Discount price for school and other non-profit Redondo organizations.
This is such a great asset. Any use would be great.
Keep in mind, I'm visiting from Wisconsin. Locals should choose.
Various uses. Movies/TV filming.
Just use it. It's such a nice amenity to have.



# Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library

Facility Use *VENDOR* Survey Data (11 submissions)

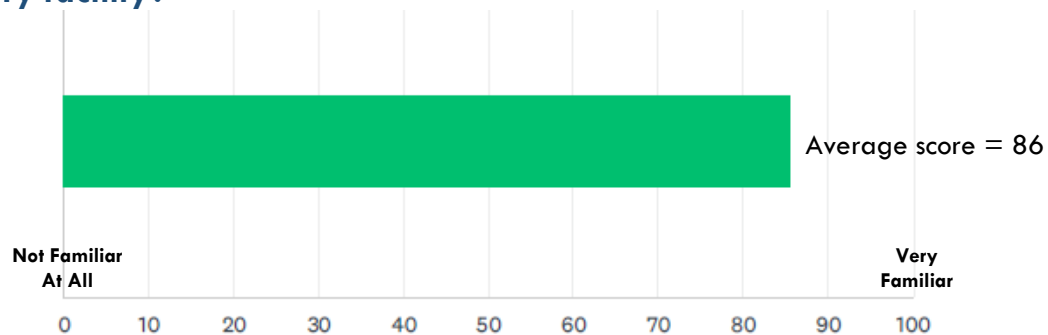
## 1. Please select the type of company that you represent.



### OTHER Option Results

- Catering - 2
- Nonprofit Organization

## 2. How familiar are you with the Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library facility?



### 3. What type of use do you envision at the Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library facility? Please be as descriptive as possible.\

Our vision involves repurposing the Historic Library and its environs as a world-class art museum that will also incorporate a Museum Café, located on a purpose-built deck adjacent to the western façade of the historic building, facing the ocean. Our concept further includes an outdoor sculpture garden that will double as a public/private event space with a bandshell in the adjoining park area. We believe that by turning the Historic Library into a cultural hub for the City of Redondo Beach, we will create a win-win situation for the residents, visitors, businesses, and the tourism/hospitality industry, alike. We expect for the City to generate significant sales tax revenues from our operations.

---

Chef Dora and her Team would love to share the Historic Library facility as a warm hospitable event site for all walks of life and a wide range of gatherings. Likewise, Redondo Beach is a vibrant community of people from a myriad of social and cultural backgrounds who have come together to form a multifaceted melting pot of individuals, businesses and local institutions. Within this thriving community many people are eager to get involved and help design and implement proactive educational programs focused on creating mutually beneficial learning experiences, with the ultimate goal of achieving healthier lifestyles throughout the Redondo Beach community. This will be made possible through collaboration amongst locally-based world-class health and nutrition professionals across a range of fields of expertise including: Personal Trainers Licensed Nutritionists Medical Professionals Hospitals and Medical Research Institutions Local Family Farmers Food and Nutrition Product Purveyors Farm to Table Chefs Long term care facilities for aging members of the community Early childhood development programs Mental health organizations Educational institutions (both public and private) Sports and athletics associations The Veterans Park Community Center is uniquely positioned to serve as the focal point for creating positive experiences and becoming the preferred meeting place for community members to come together and share their favorite flavors, life experiences and helpful insights to a healthier, happier, and more fulfilling life. Redondo Beach has all the resources to create a successful example of a health and wellness center fueled by collaboration BY fellow community members FOR fellow community members...with inclusivity and cultural awareness as the centerpiece of the shared community table. Where spending time and breaking bread with your friends and neighbors promotes a greater common understanding, a healthier lifestyle, and ultimately an elevated sense of well-being for all to share every day...for the long run!

---

We envision this beautiful space used for community events - lovely weddings, food and wine tastings, anniversaries, company galas, pop-up garden café, Paint & Pour galleries, showers, bar/bat mitzvahs, celebrations of life, milestone birthdays, Cooking with Chef Meg classes, seasonal/holiday events, commemorative occasions, etc.

---

I would like to see it as a venue for public events, mostly centered around the arts: rotating exhibits, book and poetry readings, intimate music recitals, maybe a space for community classes in the mornings? A destination with a comfortable corner to read a book while you gaze out at the ocean. Would LOVE to see a small coffee/pastry type of cafe, where one could sit outside and have a great espresso, croissants, etc., or maybe even a glass of wine and tapas in the evenings. Bocce ball, chess boards, a labyrinth, and other adult "amusements" constructed around the space would make it more interactive. The South Bay Parkland Conservancy could surround the site with beautiful native gardens, that would be both educational and will bring the birds and the butterflies.

---

Maybe part cafe/ museum history of redondo

---

A beautiful beach venue for corporate, social and weddings.

---

We envision this beautiful space used for community events - lovely weddings, food and wine tastings, anniversaries, company galas, pop-up garden café, Paint & Pour galleries, showers,

bar/bat mitzvahs, celebrations of life, milestone birthdays, Cooking with Chef Meg classes, seasonal/holiday events, commemorative occasions, etc.

---

Event Rentals - provide an affordable place for the community to host memorable events and celebrate milestones in their life in a historic, beautiful and serene setting. This will help the community and at the same time being revenue to the city.

---

The ocean views combine with an updated historic facility to create a gorgeous place for social events and weddings. It's a perfect spot for a baby shower, birthday party, small wedding, etc. It's a bit harder to do larger events as the park area is open to the public so areas utilized really need to take advantage of the building's footprint, backdrop, and smaller areas that don't impede on the public's use of the space.

---

Food hall similar to Citizen Public Market or Eataly

---

Special Events including Weddings, Anniversaries, Birthday parties and private events. Lastly, we can host school functions, holidays parties and city events. The Veterans Park Community Center that have a prefer vendor list and use different Catering companies, Flowers, Music, Photographers, Rentals.

---

#### 4. How could your company support future uses of the Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library facility?

---

As an established regional real estate investment and management company, celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2022, Beach Front Properties LLC has vast experience in property development and management in South Bay and beyond. We will partner with the City of Redondo Beach in planning and implementing necessary renovations and alterations during the initial conversion stage. Beach Front Properties LLC will then assume the role of the sole Concessionaire, handling both the museum-related programming and F&B related booking and operations. While Beach Front Properties LLC will hire the services of leading experts and sub-concessionaires as required, the firm's owners bring to the table substantial experience in arts patronage and philanthropy, on a national scale. We will also make significant use of our quality control expertise to ensure the highest quality of renovations, programming, and operations.

---

Over the last two decades Chef Dora has developed her business with a holistic approach to health and well-being at the core of her mission. She has integrated this focus on nutrition that benefits the mind, body and social aspects of life into every aspect of the services she offers, from Special Event Catering and Private Chef Services to Nutrition Management and Meal Planning for clients ranging from professional athletes to elderly cancer patients, and from new mothers to special needs children...all of whom require heightened attention to their intricate dietary needs. Making nutrition management available to people from all walks of life within a physical space that emphasizes community fellowship, cultural sensitivity and inclusivity for all has been a lifelong goal for Chef Dora. In order to accomplish this, Chef Dora and her team is committed to proactively collaborating with long-time local institutions with a view to making some of the best practices developed by trusted local organizations more available to Redondo Beach community members that might not be aware of or have access to such programs. Exercise, Nutrition, Community Involvement and Multi-cultural Culinary Fun In addition to providing proactive Nutrition Management programs to community members, utilizing the Veterans Park Community Center to help community members actively adopt ways of integrating more exercise and physical activity into their daily lifestyle at the same time as seamlessly melding healthy food choices into the mix on a daily/weekly/monthly basis for life-long healthy living is the ultimate goal of Chef Dora's team. Here are a few examples of the programs Chef Dora and her team would be ready to put in place within a few months of opening to the public: Pre-natal and Post-natal nutrition planning Fun Food For Kids (aka making healthy food choices more fun) Healthy Meal Planning for Kids and their Adults Proactive Supplemental Nutrition Planning for Seniors in their Active Golden Years Interactive Cooking Courses for Parents and their Children Weekly Farmers' Market Culinary Treasure Hunt (every Thursday morning) Wellness Cooking Courses (with rotating themes) Post Fitness Recovery for active community members of all ages

We would love to invest in the future of the Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library facility by: Investing in AND/OR establishing an accrual fund for continuous improvement. This would include working with the city of RB on social media campaigns, advertising, marketing plan, sustainability initiatives, décor upgrades in the library, smallwares for events, kitchen equipment, etc.

I am a Board Member of the South Bay Parkland Conservancy and we could develop a beautiful native gardens around or within any outdoor seating areas for the improved aesthetic and the native wildlife it will bring. Parents can enjoy a coffee surrounded by flowers, birds and butterflies, while watching their children play on the grass.

None

Catering, operations and venue bookings - we already operate Verandas Beach House in Manhattan Beach and the Historic Library would be a lovely sister venue to offer clients interested in beachside weddings!

We would love to invest in the future of the Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library facility by: Investing in AND/OR establishing an accrual fund for continuous improvement. This would include working with the city of RB on social media campaigns, advertising, marketing plan, sustainability initiatives, décor upgrades in the library, smallwares for events, kitchen equipment, etc.

Rentals of the historic Library and providing all the services to support the rentals.

We're a local catering company focused on high end events. We're currently operating Verandas Beach House in Manhattan Beach and have a flow of local customers interested in ocean views and beautiful pictures that would be a great fit with the VPC/ Historic Library facility.

We would be regular visitors since we live nearby. A cool industrial food hall could also draw revenue to the city from tourists and Angelenos since dining options currently at the pier are very slacking.

Event Planning Private events and corporate is our expertise.

## 5. Please provide any other comments or suggestions regarding future uses of the Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library facility.

We believe that our proposed functional mix, consisting of i.) a globally recognized art museum to be developed in cooperation with some of the great museums of Los Angeles County; ii.) a world-class restaurant/café concept that serves affordable but high-quality food and beverages; iii.) purpose-designed spaces for indoor and outdoor public/private events; iv.) an outdoor bandshell for summer concerts/movies; will turn this historic building and the surrounding park into a cultural hub not only for Redondo Beach, but for the entire South Bay. We will incorporate educational programs in cooperation with local schools and foundations. This cultural complex will serve Redondo Beach residents and visitors six days a week and from morning hours until late evening. We believe that such a delicate, but harmonious mix of functions needs to be managed as one single entity by a single Concessionaire. We would be happy to discuss the distribution of responsibilities during the conversion and renovation phase with the City of Redondo Beach and its various agencies. We are a local company with significant experience in catering to the needs and demands of Redondo Beach residents. Additionally, we also have the vision and in-house expertise for successfully implementing a major project of this caliber that will put Redondo Beach on the map of great destinations here and abroad. Thank you very much for your consideration. We look forward to becoming a partner of the City of Redondo Beach in this landmark project.

Chef Dora Presents will continue to utilize the facility as an event site on weekends during the traditional event season in order to generate revenue to help sustain other programs

The beauty of the Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library facility should be shared, celebrated and enjoyed by families and groups coming together!



The Library definitely needs a makeover. So little is left of its former glory. I encourage the City to hire an historical architect to assist in any remodeling of the facility. It's a beautiful building, it's a shame to let it deteriorate and be "repaired" or "upgraded" without maintaining and enhancing its architectural integrity. Activating this space will create a great destination for both locals and visitors alike.

---

It's an incredible venue with so much potential for a range of events. We would love the opportunity to provide wonderful catering and service!

---

The beauty of the Veterans Park Community Center/Historic Library facility should be shared, celebrated and enjoyed by families and groups coming together!

---

The hall can host city community special events on a regular basis to give an opportunity for the residents to visit and also do the rentals at the same time!

---

As a Southbay resident I think we as a community have really lost out on time spend with friends and family. I think having this jewel of a facility open up to help locals get married and celebrate the other milestones of life with family and friends would be fantastic. I think creating a small preferred list of high quality vendors at different price points would enable the neighborhood to utilize a variety of different vendors while protecting the building/ the park from irresponsible actors and maximize facility occupancy/ revenues.

---

I would love to have the opportunity to be part of this beautiful venue. Bring to the community memorable events. I am a Redondo Beach residence for the last 22 years.

---