



Community & Economic Development Department  
3900 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92522 | Phone: (951) 826-5371 | RiversideCA.gov

Planning Division

CULTURAL HERITAGE BOARD MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 15, 2023  
AGENDA ITEM NO.:3

PROPOSED PROJECT

<b>Case Numbers</b>	Not Applicable	
<b>Request</b>	To receive and file a presentation and provide input on the conceptual designs for the new SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside Library.	
<b>Applicant</b>	Riverside Public Library	
<b>Project Location</b>	2060 University Avenue, on the south side of University Avenue between Kansas and Douglas Avenues.	
<b>APN</b>	221-040-025	
<b>Ward</b>	1	
<b>Neighborhood</b>	Eastside	
<b>Historic District</b>	Not Applicable	
<b>Historic Designation</b>	National Register listed; City Landmark #49	
<b>Staff Planner</b>	Not Applicable	

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the Cultural Heritage Board receive and file a presentation and provide input on the conceptual designs for the new SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside Library.

BACKGROUND

Originally established in 1998 as a satellite service point of the Riverside Public Library, SPC. Jesus S. Duran Eastside Library (EAS) is now a full-service branch library, having expanded the space occupied by the EAS from 1,500 square feet to 10,816 square feet. However, EAS is the only leased library facility in the City of Riverside. The current space is inadequate for the needs of the Eastside community. A new building is critical to youth programming and the expansion of literacy and adult/youth learning programs.

On April 9, 2019, City Council approved 2060 University Avenue (Cesar Chavez Center) as the proposed site for the new SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside Library (Eastside Library) and the appropriation of \$100,000 from the Measure Z Fund for architectural design services. At the same

hearing, the City Council authorized staff to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an architectural firm to provide Phase I architectural design services for the Eastside Library project (Project). Following the review of the proposal, Cannon Design was selected.

### Design

As part of Phase I Design, Cannon Design, Library, and General Services staff worked together on three initial concepts for a new Eastside Library in the location of the Children's Health, Education, Enrichment and Resource (C.H.E.E.R.) building, facing University Avenue and adjacent to the Cesar Chavez Community Center and soccer field at Bobby Bonds Park (located at 2060 University Avenue). All concepts include a 15,000 square foot library, shaded canopy area to be used by both the Library and Parks, Recreation and Community Services Departments, flexible indoor/outdoor space, and separate children's, teen and adult sections of the Library. The concepts also include a multipurpose room with a separate entrance that is accessible after hours and includes makerspace and arts components and study rooms.

### Community Engagement

On December 13, 2021, Cannon Design architects and City staff shared various design concepts with the Board of Library Trustees for recommendations with the Trustees favoring one concept. As the project will be located on the same site as park facility, staff engaged the Park and Recreation Commission on February 9, 2022 to provide feedback on the concepts presented by Cannon Design. A Ward 2 community meeting was held on April 6, 2022, where Library staff shared the design concepts with the community. Based on feedback, a concept was selected for future investigation.

### Schematic Design Concept

The design concept selected by the library has several unique elements including a coiled façade related to baseball field geometry to create space between the Library and Cesar Chavez Community Center, a new central courtyard and activity space, an overhead door connected to a south shading structure to engage makerspace activities outdoors, and an additional neighborhood pocket park to the southeast of the library.

On August 15, 2023, the City Council approved a an amendment to the Professional Consultant Services Agreement for Architectural Design Services to continue working with Cannon Design on Phase II of the project, Schematic Design..

The project is currently in the design development stage and Public Library seeks input from the Cultural Heritage Board to ensure compatibility with the Cesar Chavez Center (City Landmark #49 - former University Heights Junior High School). Upon completion of the schematic design, a Certificate of Appropriateness request will be submitted for Board review and action.

## STRATEGIC PLAN

This item contributes to the Envision Riverside 2025 City Council Strategic Priority 1, Arts, Culture and Recreation, specifically goal 1.1 (strengthening Riverside's portfolio of arts, culture, recreation, senior, and lifelong learning programs and amenities).

This item aligns with the cross-cutting threads as follows:

1. Community Trust – This report outlines the transparent business practices and inclusive community engagement efforts as it relates to the development of library resources in the Eastside Neighborhood
2. Equity – This report facilitates equitable access to arts, culture, and recreational service offerings to ensure every member of the community has equal access to share the benefits

of the new SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside Library.

3. Fiscal Responsibility – This status report notes staff and design team efforts to make responsible use of taxpayer dollars while striving to achieve strengthening Riverside's portfolio in lifelong learning programs.
4. Innovation – The new SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside Library site at 2060 University is inventive and timely in meeting the community's changing needs and prepares for the future through collaborative partnerships and adaptive processes.
5. Sustainability & Resiliency – The SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside Library lease agreement is set to expire on September 30, 2024, at 4033 Chicago Avenue. Staff began identifying new site and funding options to ensure the needs of the community presently are not compromised with their needs of the future.

## EXHIBITS LIST

1. Aerial/Location Map

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Prepared by: Erin Christmas, Library Director  
Reviewed by: Scott Watson, Historic Preservation Officer  
Approved by: Maribeth Tinio, City Planner