
economy of scale possible by consolidating service in one facility. Additional square footage could be added on a second floor of the new facility which was designed to accommodate future expansion. However, the usage patterns for the new Rohnert Park-Cotati Regional Library should be studied for the first two years of operation to see if Cotati residents are accessing the library at the new location adequately. If not, the additional square footage may need to be located more centrally in Cotati with a new library.

Implementation

The new Rohnert Park-Cotati Regional Library is expected to meet the needs of the service area for the next decade, and as such is in priority Group 3. Patron usage patterns should be studied after the new library has been open for about two years in order to gauge how well it meets the needs of the service area.

The new library has been designed to accommodate a second floor addition in the future. One approach to meet future needs would be to expand the new library. Another would be to create a separate Cotati service area; this option would likely increase the needed 2025 building area due to the need for duplicated services in a separate library facility, and would certainly increase operating costs for the Sonoma County Library.

Both of these options should be the subject of a feasibility study. Planning should begin in about two years with an update of library service needs and a building program. These should be undertaken as part of a focused predesign study by experienced professionals that sets out project requirements, budget, and schedule in detail.



*Rohnert Park-Cotati
Regional Library*

What residents said:

“My child loves to read and learn, partly due to having this library!”
survey respondent

“3,000 years from now, surviving humans will dig up our library and find out if anyone ever returned that book I needed last week.”
survey respondent

“The library is the foundation of education and a symbol of freedom and opportunity. Without the library, there is no community. It’s the catalyst bridging the past to the future.”
survey respondent

“Without the non-fiction books I read, I would degenerate by drying up and dying. Mind exercise is essential to life.”
survey respondent