

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Existing Conditions

The City provides public library services in the City of Glendale. The Library Division administers the library system and operates the following facilities: the Central Library, Brand Library and Art Center; five neighborhood (branch) libraries; and a bookmobile.¹ The location, size of the facility and collection, target service population, actual population served, and hours of operation for each of the libraries are provided in **Table 4.11.4-1**. The Central Library and the Brand Library and Art Center serve the entire City, while the neighborhood libraries serve smaller areas. The newest branch in the Division's system is the Pacific Park Branch, which opened in September 2003. The City's bookmobile provides library services to Glendale residents south of the Ventura Freeway (SR-134).

The City's existing library facilities range in size from approximately 5,000 to 92,000 square feet. The library collections consist primarily of books, and to a lesser extent, videos, and compact discs. The total volume of all facilities is approximately 728,000, with approximately 55 percent of these volumes contained in the Central Library.² Based on the 2003 population estimate for the City of Glendale of 202,700 residents, provided by the State Department of Finance, this collection translates into a volume to resident ratio in the City of 3.59 books per resident.

The Glendale Town Center project site is located within both the Central Library and Pacific Park Branch service areas.³ The Central Library is located at 222 East Harvard Street, one half block east of the project site in Central Park. The Central Library is the largest facility in the City's library system and serves the entire community. The Pacific Park Branch Library is located at 501 South Pacific Avenue, approximately 1 mile south of the project site. This is the newest facility in the City's library system and is a joint venture between the City and the Glendale Unified School District. The location of each of these facilities in relation to the project site is shown in **Figure 4.11.4-1**.

The City does not limit library use to residents of the City. However, while any person may use the City's libraries, the target population or service area is based on residents. The number of registered

¹ Written correspondence from Cindy Cleary, Glendale Library Services Division, to Mark Berry, Project Manager, Glendale Redevelopment Agency, September 2003.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

borrowers in 2000 was 249,901, about 56,000 more than the City's 2000 U.S. Census population. The total library system circulation for fiscal year 2000 was 937,943 transactions.⁴

The hours at Glendale library facilities vary, as shown in **Table 4.11.4-1** below. The Central Library has the longest hours of all City facilities. The Brand Library and Art Center, which has the special art collection, maintains afternoon and evening hours only.

Table 4.11.4-1
City of Glendale Library Facilities

Library and Location	Floor Area (Square feet)	Collection Size	Service Population	Hours of Operation	
Central Library 222 East Harvard Street	92,000	398,154	200,157	Mon – Thurs Fri & Sat Sun	10 AM-9 PM 10 AM-6 PM 1 PM-5 PM
Brand Library and Art Center 1601 W. Mountain Street	26,000	104,563	200,157	Tues & Thurs Wed Fri & Sat	1 PM-9 PM 1 PM-6 PM 1 PM-5 PM
Casa Verdugo Branch Library 1151 North brand Boulevard	4,264	48,643	27,285	Mon & Tues Wed Thurs	1 PM-6 PM 1 PM-8 PM 10 AM-6 PM
Chevy Chase Branch Library 3301 East Chevy Chase Drive	6,452	30,371	8,465	Sat Wed Sat	1 PM-5 PM 1 PM-8 PM 1 PM-5 PM
Grandview Branch Library 1535 Fifth Street	5,267	44,492	42,967	Tues Wed Thurs Fri & Sat	1 PM-8 PM 1 PM-6 PM 10 AM-6 PM 1 PM-5 PM
Montrose Crescenta Branch Library 2465 Honolulu Avenue	10,520	66,909	34,864	Mon & Thurs Tuesday Wed Sat	1 PM-8 PM 1 PM-6 PM 10 AM-6 PM 1 PM-5 PM
Pacific Park Branch Library 501 S. Pacific Avenue	8,300	35,000	N/A	Tues – Thurs Sat	1 PM-8 PM 10 AM-5 PM

Source: City of Glendale Library Services Division, September 2003.

⁴ City of Glendale, *Quality of Life Indicators Report 2002*, January 2003, pg. 35.



FIGURE 4.11.4-1

Central and Pacific Park Library Locations

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The General Plan Community Facilities Element sets forth goals and policies that relate to library services. A description of applicable goals and policies is provided in **Section 4.1, Land Use and Planning**. As discussed in **Section 4.1**, the project does not conflict with all applicable General Plan goals and policies relating to library services.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Methodology

Impacts on library facilities and services associated with the proposed Glendale Town Center project were evaluated based on the 1.75 books per resident standard contained in the General Plan Community Facilities Element.⁵

Thresholds of Significance

The following thresholds for determining the significance of impacts related to library services are contained in the environmental checklist form contained in Appendix G of the most recent update of the California Environmental Quality Act *Guidelines*. Impacts related to library services are considered significant:

- If the project will result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:
 - Fire protection (issue is addressed within **Section 4.11.1, Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services**);
 - Police protection (issued is addressed within **Section 4.11.2, Police Services**);
 - Schools (issue is addressed within **Section 4.11.3, Schools**);
 - Parks (issue is addressed within **Section 4.13 Recreation**); or
 - Other public facilities.

⁵ City Of Glendale, General Plan Community Facilities Element, 1975, pg. 14.

Impact Analysis

The applicable threshold of significance is listed below, and it is followed by analysis of the significance of any potential impacts, the identification and discussion of any design features of the project that would lessen or avoid potential impacts, as well as other measures identified that would lessen or avoid potential impacts. Finally, the significance of potential impacts after the implementation of all identified mitigation measures is presented.

Threshold: **Would the project result in substantial adverse impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for library service.**

Impact Analysis: Impacts to libraries from the proposed project will result from increased demand for library services by residents of the project and occasional and incidental use of library facilities by project employees. As stated in **Section 4.2, Population and Housing**, implementation of the proposed project would introduce 946 new on-site residents and 1,176 off-site residents as well as 1,756 employees.

The Community Facilities Element indicates that cities the size of Glendale should generally maintain a volume to resident ratio of 1.75 books per resident. Based on the 2003 population estimate for the City of Glendale of approximately 202,700 residents, which was provided by the State Department of Finance, the City presently requires about 354,700 volumes to meet this standard. With a total collection of approximately 728,000 volumes, the system presently exceeds this standard by about 373,300 volumes.

The addition of approximately 2,100 residents to the current estimated population of 202,700 would result in a volume to book ratio of 3.55 books per resident, which is approximately one percent below the current ratio of 3.59 books per resident. However, with the Citywide volume per resident ratio above the City standard and with a current inventory of approximately 373,300 volumes in excess of standard requirements, the impact of the proposed project on library services is less than significant.

Project Design Features: None are required.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation: Less than significant.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation: Less than significant.

Cumulative Impacts

The following cumulative analysis evaluates the impact of the proposed project and Citywide Projects on library services in the City of Glendale. The applicable threshold is listed below in bold followed by an analysis of the cumulative impact of the project and Citywide Projects and their potential significance.

Threshold: **Would the project result in substantial adverse impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for library service.**

Cumulative Impact Analysis: As discussed in **Section 4.2, Population and Housing**, the proposed project and Citywide Projects would result in the addition of 3,189 residents and 7,471 employees directly. In addition, employment opportunities associated with these projects could indirectly generate up to an additional 5,000 residents.

Combined, the addition of approximately 8,200 residents to the current estimated population of 202,700 will reduce the present volume to resident ratio. Based on a future population of 210,900 residents, the volume to resident ratio in the City would fall to 3.45 volumes per resident, which is approximately four percent below the current ratio of 3.59 volumes per resident. However, with the Citywide volume per resident ratio well above the City standard and with a current inventory of approximately 373,300 volumes in excess of standard requirements, the cumulative impact of the proposed project and Citywide Projects on library services is less than significant.

Level of Significance before Mitigation: Less than significant.

Mitigation Measures: None are required.

Level of Significance after Mitigation: Less than significant.