



## REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

ITEM NO. 10.

**DATE OF REQUEST:** January 12, 2009

**REQUESTED BY:** Mike Taylor, Library Director

**SHORT TITLE:** Review of Executive Summary of Topsail Regional Library Building Program

**BACKGROUND:** The County has contracted with Library Building Consultant Phillip Barton of Salisbury, NC to write a detailed facility program for the Topsail Regional Branch Library. Mr. Barton presented the program in great detail to the Library Advisory Board on January 15. Attached herein is an executive summary of the broad overview of the program.

**SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED:** Review for informational purposes in advance of CIP review during the Board of County Commissioners' retreat.

A building program has been developed for a facility to house the new Topsail Regional Library, a branch of the Pender County Public Library System. This regional facility replaces the existing Hampstead Branch.

The building program is based on the Pender County Public Library Strategic Plan for Library Facilities, which was done by this consultant in 2008. One of the recommendations of that study was a regional library facility to serve the rapidly growing area of Topsail Township, which represents one of three proposed library service areas for Pender County. The new library is projected to serve this area of Pender County for the next 20-year period. The building program also reflects community input obtained through two public forums and meetings with key library staff and the Topsail Regional Library Building Committee.

The library facility described in this building program consists of 21,000 square feet. The library will accommodate a significant expansion of public library resources and services for the citizens living in this coastal area of Pender County. Noted below are some of the features of the proposed library:

- shelving capacity for 78,000 items, including
  - 23,000 children's books
  - 46,000 adult and teen books
  - 9,000 audiovisual items;
- "behaviorally usable" seating for 96 people, including study and leisure seating for children, teens and adults, three individual study/tutor rooms and two group study rooms;
- a large children's area designed with lots of "child appeal" that includes a computer center with six workstations and a storytime area for children's programs that can accommodate small groups of up to 30 children;
- a public computer center for teens and adults with 12 workstations that can also serve as an instructional area for computer literacy programs;
- an area designed especially for teens, including a browsing collection of popular materials and a combination of study and leisure seating;
- a public meeting room for library programming, community events and meetings with seating for 120 people, a catering kitchen and storage area (This room will be designed to function as two smaller meeting rooms that can accommodate smaller groups);
- a building that is compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and is accessible and convenient for people who are able-bodied, as well as people with disabilities;
- adequate and ergonomically designed staff work space;
- a technologically modern building, featuring wireless, electrical and telecommunications wiring systems that are flexible, expandable, and easily accessible;
- an inviting and comfortable environment conducive to the specific pursuits of the people using the facility;
- open and flexible interior spaces that can be easily monitored by staff and rearranged when necessary; and
- adequate and efficient lighting, including lots of natural lighting;
- and state of the art mechanical systems.

**SPACE SUMMARY**

<b>SPACE</b>	<b>ASSIGNABLE SQUARE FEET</b>
COLLECTIONS.....	6,648
PUBLIC SEATING.....	2,905
PUBLIC COMPUTERS.....	860
SPECIAL USE.....	1,227
MEETING & PROGRAMMING SPACE.....	1,700
STAFF.....	1,314
	<b>TOTAL NET SQUARE FEET 14,654</b>
	<b>TOTAL GROSS SQUARE FEET 21,000</b>

*\*Net square footage represents the space that can be applied directly toward library services. In this case, the net square footage totals.*

*\*\* Gross square footage represents the total square footage of a facility. It includes all the space for library services, as well as non-assignable space, which is that portion of the building that cannot be applied directly toward library services (e.g. mechanical rooms, restrooms, custodial closets, hallways, etc.). Nonassignable space generally comprises between 20 to 30 per cent of the overall, or gross square footage of the finished building. Assuming a 70:30 balance between assignable and nonassignable space, gross square footage is calculated as follows:*

*Assignable, or net space square feet  $14,654 \div 0.70 = 21,000$  gross square feet  
(rounded to nearest hundred)*