

426.12 Southwest Branch Library Land Acquisition

Location: West Valencia Road; located beyond a five mile radius from the existing library branch at Ajo Way and Mission. Property will be acquired along Valencia corridor west of the Santa Cruz River. Three parcels located between Cardinal Avenue and Camino De La Terra Road are under consideration.

Scope: Purchase property of sufficient size (approximately four to five acres) for the future location of a 20,000 square foot stand-alone, full-service Community Branch Library. This project includes the purchase of land as the first phase. Additional funding will be necessary to design and construct the library.

Benefits: A new library will be located adjacent to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Reservation and the Tohono O'odham Nation. Development has restarted in the area on both sides of Valencia from the Tucson Mountains to the junction with Ajo Rd. Valencia Road is being widened from a two lane to a four lane road between Mark and Wade. Additionally, many winter visitors take advantage of all the RV resorts around the area including the Casino del Sol use the library facility. Patrons come in from as far as Sells, Three Points, and Ajo. Fifteen area public and charter schools including those in Altar Valley are served by the current Southwest Library site. There are also plans for commercial developments in the future. According to Census information, there are over 60,000 people living in this area, which ranked as the fifth fastest growing population in the Tucson area. The community will benefit from having access to library materials for homework support; a cutting edge computer center; lending of wireless devices; programming for education, workforce development, and connected learning including focusing on youth media. The future library will include one or more public meeting rooms at 1,000 - 2,000 square feet each; two or more study rooms 50 square feet each with flexible design including collaborative, flexible furnishings and will serve as a community gathering place for neighborhood associations, community groups and clubs.

Total Cost Estimate \$600,000

Bond Funding Estimate: \$600,000

Other Funding Estimate: None identified at this time.

Total Cost Estimate by Major Task: Land acquisition estimated at \$600,000

Implementation Periods: 4

Project Schedule by Major Task: Land acquisition at 6 months.

Project Manager: Pima County

Operator: Pima County Library District

Future Operating and Maintenance Costs: Not applicable.

Regional Benefits: Providing future library services to southwest metro area.