

Zoomerang Survey Results

City of Ventura: Community Survey- Providing Public Library Services

This survey is designed to gather your input on what public library services you would like to see delivered in the City of Ventura. Our intention is to make decisions on the future of library service in our community based on your feedback, input from community leaders and library field expertise. We encourage all who live, work or go to school in the City of Ventura to complete this survey. The online survey will be available May 8-27, 2011. Spread the word! Feel free to add the survey link to all social networks. Thank you for taking the time to complete our survey.

1. What is your age?

Under 10 years	24	2%
11-17 years	91	6%
18-24 years	42	3%
25-35 years	139	10%
36-50 years	397	27%
51-64 years	496	34%
65 Plus	274	19%
Total	1463	100%

2. What is your zip code?

93001	353	24%
93002	9	1%
93003	649	44%
93004	286	20%
93005	3	0%
93006	7	0%
93007	4	0%
93009	0	0%
I do not live in the City of Ventura, I work here.	79	5%
I do not live in the City of Ventura, I attend school here.	15	1%
I do not live, work or go to school in the City of Ventura.	59	4%

Total	1464	100%
3. Have you visited a public library in the CITY OF VENTURA in the last 12 months?		
Yes	1126	78%
No	326	22%
Total	1452	100%
4. If Yes, which location?		
E.P Foster, Downtown Ventura, 651 E. Main Street	988	88%
The Avenue, Westside Ventura, 660 N. Ventura Avenue	71	6%
I visit both locations	125	11%
5. If No, why have you not visited the public library in the City of Ventura?		
Library locations are not convenient to my home or school.	180	44%
Other, please specify	164	40%
I use another library outside of the City of Ventura.	93	23%
I get all my information on the internet.	69	17%
I buy any books or magazines that I need at the store.	49	12%
I use the school/college library.	38	9%
The library is not a place I like to visit.	18	4%
I did not know we had a public library in the City of Ventura.	13	3%
6. The services that are provided by public libraries to their community vary from city to city. What services do YOU think are important for a public library to provide. (You may select more than one.)		
Reading for Fun	1126	79%
Literacy, helping all ages learn to read	1096	76%

Lifelong Learning	1034	72%
Homework help and research	996	69%
Find answers to questions	949	66%
Technology, providing technology access to all (Wi-Fi equipment, new technology etc.)	948	66%
Early Reading for newborn to Grade 5	888	62%
Tweens and Teens Services for kids in Grades 6-12	795	55%
Keep citizens informed with accurate, current and reliable information	785	55%
Share culture, art, and music	750	52%
Providing local history and genealogy information	743	52%
Asset of an enlightened and engaged community.	735	51%
Meeting Space for groups or organizations	729	51%
Space to create and explore new things and ideas.	621	43%
Job support: resumes, applications and coaching to find work	608	42%
Instruction on how to evaluate information in all forms books, online and in magazines	606	42%
Support small businesses, non-profits and charities with resources.	472	33%
Celebrate the community and our diversity	431	30%
Welcome new residents to the community	396	28%
Place to meet friends	351	24%
Other, what service roles not listed above are important to you?	281	20%
7. Do you think that a public library is important for our community?		
Yes	1417	99%
No	20	1%
Total	1437	100%
8. What offerings would you like to see MORE of at the current City of Ventura locations? (EP Foster and The Avenue libraries)		
Children's programs/activities	602	45%
Locations	585	43%
Hours	570	42%
Popular books	559	41%
Ebooks, downloadable movies, or music	522	39%

Classes to learn things: for example: how to write : resume or how to build a newsletter	500	37%
Computers	451	33%
Teen programs/services	421	31%
Family events	406	30%
Improved web page for virtual access to information	384	28%
Other?	310	23%
Meeting Rooms	281	21%
GED or Citizenship classes	269	20%
Access to outside space	234	17%
Business resources	223	17%
Customer Service	199	15%
Gaming/Video	99	7%

9. If you DO NOT visit the City of Ventura public libraries what would bring you into the library?

Location closer to home	269	48%
More new books	184	33%
Author visits	174	31%
Programs that interest me	163	29%
Music and Art exhibits	157	28%
More hours	156	28%
More inviting atmosphere	131	24%
Helpful staff	119	21%
Other, please specify	118	21%
Technology	105	19%
Ebooks	97	17%
Cool stuff	91	16%
Teen events	70	13%
Outdoor events	69	12%

10. If you have visited another public library that you REALLY enjoyed, please tell us where the library is located and why you enjoyed your visit.

722 Responses

11. If you would like to receive online updates about the City of Ventura: Strategic Planning for Public Library Service Project please provide your email address below. example: janedoe@gmail.com or jdoe12@iac.net

724 Responses

Thank you for completing the survey. Your input is important to us. The City of Ventura Library Strategic Planning Advisory Board PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CLICK ON THE SUBMIT BUTTON

5. If No, why have you not visited the public library in the City of Ventura?

Respondent #

Response

- 1 I do not like the
- 2 I do not care for the area that the libraries are located
- 3 I use my Ipad to read books.
- 4 Used to use Wright Library. The other locations are not convenient. My kids now have to go to Barnes and Noble to get books and their Foothill High study groups meet there.
- 5 Safety issues with the locations. Too many street people inside. We used to use Wright Library for study sessions.
- 6 Live in Thousand Oaks and use that Library
- 7 I buy books on the internet and don't know library schedules or services
- 8 I do not have children at home but if I did, we would go to the library. My children grew up using the public library.
- 9 You closed my closest library!!
- 10 I use the library at the hospital
- 11 Parking meters, and parking difficult
- 12 Sadly, our [remaining] libraries are pretty awful.
- 13 I used to always use the Wright library, which is now closed
- 14 Go to the Saticoy Library
- 15 I frequent the library much less because the location is not near my home (anymore).
- 16 With gas prices the way they are it's more of a hardship than an inconvenience to drive to the opposite end of the city when I have no other reason to be there.

- 17 I do not need the services of a library at the present time.
- 18 Saticoy Library
- 19 I visit Foster but not very often because it is way over the other side of town
- 20 Unfortunately, I see public library primarily as a place where homeless people access the internet and sit in a sheltered environment

- 21 Wight Library Closed. Very Disappointed!
- 22 Often buy in half.com
- 23 want Wright library to reopen!
- 24 Idiots closed my library (HP Wright)
- 25 To be honest, not sure,,seem just to go to the book store, seem to have forgotten about the library. which I used to love...
- 26 you closed the library that I went to every week, thanks
- 27 Libraries are not integrated in places where I go

- 28 I have been going to the Saticoy library
- 29 Saticoy Library is closest for East Venturans.

- 30 Wright was closed
- 31 Also use Saticoy
- 32 I used Wright which is gone now. Foster is not convenient - parking is too hard.
- 33 Saticoy Library (internet request/pick up there)

- 34 Saticoy Library
- 35 Saticoy Library
- 36 Closure of Wright branch
- 37 iPad
- 38 I use the online site to download audio books and ebooks
- 39 The Day Road Library should still be there!
- 40 I use the internet
- 41 I used to go to Camarillo library; now I got to the Port Hueneme library (it's more convenient than the Ventura library locations).

- 42 I have gone to the Camarillo Library since the closure of Wright. I used to go once a month to Wright library but
- 43 The vagrants that are in the Library make it an unsafe place to be.
- 44 live out of town - mayor is my first cousin
- 45 Refuse to visit since you closed down Wright Library
- 46 Wright Library closed

47 current locations make my kids feel unsafe
48 You closed Wright Library
49 I use the venco library website for many things

50 I preferred the location of the wright library.
51 No library on east end of ventura - I miss the
Wright Library location
52 They closed Wright, which I used once a week
when open.
53 Use mostly Prueter library, Port Hueneme
54 I visit but not as often as I used to before the
other one closed and the city made us pay for
parking.
55 We use Barnes and Noble like a library now and
recently visited the Saticoy Library
56 I all ready visited a library
57 I all ready visited a library.
58 my school libary tells me that we had a public
library then i went to go check it out
59 I do not care about the library
60 I also use the oxnard library.
61 I use the libraries in Meiners Oaks and Ojai
62 Wright Library closed
63 Hours of operation not convenient to my
schedule.
64 the library closest to me closed
65 EP Foster is surrounded and filled with
homeless so I don't take my kids there. The
Saticoy branch is not in a very safe area so I
don't take my kids there. We save or order our
books online and I go to t;he library to pick
them up by myself. If I want to take my kids to
the library we go to Camarillo because it is

66 Barnes & Nobles
67 I rarely get to EP Foster. Day Road was the
place for me.
68 Used the Wright Library
69 Wright Library was most convenient
70 I actually go to the Oxnard public Lib. once a
week while ther on my business.
71 I frequent ojai and oak view libraries
72 bring back wright library!!!
73 Wright Library was my library for 43 years.
74 I have a NOOK for reading books
75 I don't know where to park.
76 I also visit and use the Oxnard Main, the Bard
Oxnard Libraries & The Ventura County Lib. in
Port Hueneme

77 I used to go to the Wright Library, but since its closure, I don't have convenient transportation.

78 sick

79 I won't visit a LSSI run library

80 i used to like the wright library but do not like the others yet i must get books somewhere

81 I go to Ray D Preuter Library

82 We used Wright Library.

83 The preferred library - Wright - is closed. Still a major loss to this city and those of us who do not live downtown.

84 I'm always working

85 I have physical problems that make it difficult to go to the library.

86 Wright was much more convenient.

87 Not since H.P. Wright was closed.

88 I seldom go downtown and I refuse to go to the Avenue branch.

89 i haven't found the time, and i own many books.

90 Employees are rude and the homeless are creepy at the downtown branch.

91 library card was stolen and I didn't replace it

92 Do not like the environment in the Ventura library (dead, dusty & generally unfriendly)

93 I'm still mourning the loss of the Wright library - I refuse to go downtown!

94 I have visited the Saticoy Library

95 not convenient to my home

96 wright library was closer to my home

97 do not like the E.P.Foster library

98 since the branch on Telegraph shut down

99 Oxnard Public Library

100 Better selection & more convenient in TO, Ox & Camarillo

101 I don't visit more because they are not attractive.

102 I used to go to Wright, now I go to Camarillo Library

103 The city council closed the Wright Library near City College

104 I loved Wright and went there.

105 Saticoy

106 eBooks and the Web stores have created revolutionary access to books, periodicals, etc.

107 I have visited E.P. Foster very few times. Sadly, I used to visit the Wright library often with my school-age kids. Distance, inconvenience, and dissatisfaction with E.P. Foster have tended to keep our family away.

108 When young my brother and I always used the library. However later it became the college libraries, then book stores. I used the library for reverse directories a few times, now I read books purchased from used book stores and book sales to support the library.

109 YOU CLOSED OUR NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARY!

110 Hassle to go downtown

111 The library I used to visit is no longer open.

112 Because our city gov. let our local amazing library close at the city college, we need it back.

113 smells kinda funny, too many homeless people, feels unsafe

114 The Wright library is gone.

115 EP Foster is an excellent library but we need one east of Victoria

116 I loved the Wright Library

117 No need at this time

118 I missed the Wright library

119 Haven't had the need.

120 Use Oxnard Public Library

121 Don't like downtown library

122 I have missed the Wright library

123 Central location @ mall near transportation center would be more convenient for the majority of citizens.

124 don't like Foster or ave.

125 travel distance

126 You close one I always end up going to Ventura Jr College

127 In home for ages

128 children section not cozy and inviting

129 Just moved back to ventura

130 I would go more often but the Wright was more accessible. My wife got into an accident with a "double parker" in the Foster lot.

131 Ventura Law Library and Oxnard Hospital Library.

132 Helen Wright Library is my favorite.

133 I have just moved here.

134 Ventura Town House Library

- 135 I would like to use Ventura libraries.
- 136 I hate that Wright Library has closed!
- 137 I used to regularly visit the Day rd. library with my children. However, I became disgusted with the fines they would charge for every book if you were a day late. Children check out several books at a time and the fines should be less accumulative. In Eugene they used to give you a notice if your book was overdue and waive the fine for 15 days to give you a chance to bring back the books. The library should be friendly and inviting, not the Gestapo.
- 138 I like the books on cd are and to buy used books.
- 139 I primarily use the Ventura County e-Library; I visit E.P. Foster occasionally.
- 140 Wright Library CLOSED.
- 141 We used to go to the library by the college until they shut it down.
- 142 The main library in Ventura is not a pleasant place to spend time.
- 143 Wright Library was my convenient library-too many homeless in parking lot of E.P. Foster
- 144 I am a middle school librarian so I access resources
- 145 The branch within walking distance of my house was closed.
- 146 However, I would like to begin to use the library more.
- 147 The Wright Library was closed!
- 148 I usually go to the library with my children and it hasn't been necessary in the past 12 months.
- 149 You closed down the library on our East end of Ventura!
- 150 We used to use HP Wright, but since it was closed, we have not been back.
- 151 The library I enjoyed, was close, and used frequently was the Wright Library.
- 152 We usually go to Oxnard public or the new one in Camarillo
- 153 Last 2 times we visted the Main St. Lctin, it was rude, loud & un-helpfull!
- 154 The Wright Library was much easier for me to use. The parking meter are a big pain.
- 155 HP Wright, the library closest to my home, has been closed.
- 156 I used to visit the Wright Library which was very convenient but is now closed.

- 157 Since Day Rd. closed, it is too far to go to.
- 158 I use a Nook
- 159 Wright library closed
- 160 I go to the Ojai library, where I live

6. The services that are provided by public libraries to their community vary from city to city. What services do YOU think are important for a public library to provide. (You may select more than one.)

Respondent #

Response

- 1 Provide a 'quiet' place of refuge
- 2 Virtual rentals of ebooks and audio books.
- 3 The online service and being able to order books in advance for pick-up are very important to me. Love this service! You're doing a great job!
- 4 Good variety of available books, fiction & non, inter-library transfers.
- 5 Books for children; re-open the Wright Library.
- 6 safe environment
- 7 That other stuff is silly - it's a place to get books - use a computer if one doesn't have one - do some research - it's a library, let's not get carried away
- 8 Teach or provide lessons how to use the Internet for the elderly.
- 9 Sad but true, a place for marginal people to sit, as well have access to computers and books
- 10 Provide newly-published books that people are talking about all over the country.
- 11 Summer reading programs for children with a community service opportunity for other students
- 12 While I value all of these, reading for fun & homework research (computers and books) are the two main reasons my family uses the library
- 13 CDs and DVDs and Ebooks
- 14 just plain old ACCESS to books, any & all
- 15 provide a safe environment for all ages to study.
- 16 Music, videos, DVDs
- 17 Books of all sorts, current and old

- 18 Access to Government documents that are expensive to print like City budget, EIRs, etc. Literacy & language classes of all types, including Spanish classes for kids like those offered at Carpinteria Library; language conversation groups; access to expensive materials such as language tapes, magazine subscriptions, Writer's Market, databases, etc.; safe & comfortable place for homeless individuals to spend the day given that City does not have a year-round shelter
- 19 The book store.
- 20 Books
- 21 Summer Reading Programs for both adults and children
- 22 large selection of books on CDs
- 23 workshops, lectures, demonstrations, art exhibits, films, etc
- 24 Help with research
- 25 Provide safe, quiet space to read and study.
- 26 Paws For Reading-Ability for classes to visit from schools
- 27 reading periodicals
- 28 summer reading programs for children
- 29 a place to find a book for all
- 30 use of written references, such as historic dictionary/specialty encyclopedia/books on single topic
- 31 Large print books for seniors, access to newspapers and magazines
- 32 access to college and university materials databases like UCSB, Cal State, etc. and an interlibrary loan arrangement w/ those schools. Need more college-age and scholarly publications
- 33 A place for people to relax and get away from fast pace
- 34 Paws For Reading-Ability for classes to visit from schools
- 35 Storage of historical works and records
- 36 interlibrary loan
- 37 upgrade your computers to make them faster. Can't do much in the time allowed
- 38 Academic Journals
- 39 Place to buy used books
- 40 To provide FREE access to periodicals, books, music, films, audiobooks, etc.
- 41 Borrowing books
- 42 Author book signings, book clubs

- 43 Provide internet access; periodical reading room; newspaper archive; a repository for donated printed and audio books; models our respect for knowledge and information for the next generation
- 44 reader's advisory
- 45 Finding old books that are really nowhere else.

- 46 online ebooks
- 47 Lectures
- 48 having an updated inventory of newer books
- 49 quiet place to study
- 50 Means to request materials from other libraries

- 51 providing books I want to read
- 52 Lending books!!
- 53 Having access to books to read instead of having to purchase them
- 54 easy access for children (infant to college)
- 55 Technology education
- 56 the obvious: access to a vast selection of books

- 57 ebooks, online-checkout
- 58 Convenient location and hours.
- 59 coffee house by library as in Camarillo for social reasons
- 60 Travel books
- 61 none
- 62 Free access to periodicals for everyone.
- 63 Representation of the City... Non profit, independent
- 64 Confidential, free, non profit...I am opposed to hiring a Maryland for profit company to run a Ventura. CA library!
- 65 The most important thing to me is access to ebooks, audio books in a more user friendly system. It's quite piecemeal now, which makes things hard. I rarely actually need to speak with a librarian
- 66 I was able to locate and borrow a book from UCLA at no charge and within a short time.
- 67 resource for public schools-field trips/research

- 68 availability of books (novels, biographies, non-fiction, reading for pleasure; etc.) and books for sale at a minimal cost (book store)

- 69 Your free online book request service is incredible for our family of homeschoolers. Thank you.

- 70 to celebrate how the library is good to people.
because people like the library and the books
the library has. and they don't ge the books
they want at their house so they go to the
library to find the books they want
- 71 Large Print, AV, DVD, reading lists, kids' summer
reading programs, adult programs
- 72 Place to study and write on a routine basis;
supplement to library services provided in local
schools.
- 73 newspapers magazines
- 74 Online book renewal and reservation?
- 75 Being able to borrow books, and videos,etc. A
great resource!
- 76 Subscribe to either hard copy or online journals
that citizens can access
- 77 City Hall meeting records and videos should be
here.
- 78 Portal for citizens to learn about using
technology
- 79 Reading new publications
- 80 reading resources and research for professional
use. Reading and access to literature. Reading
world literature. For some of us reading is a
professional necessity. It is required for our
profession, especially if it is writing or art!!! And
this isn't implied in any of your options! It is
impossible to have an art center [i.e., new art
city] without a good public library. It is a critical
resource!!!
- 81 availability of Magazines/newspapers
- 82 e-library loan services both within and outside
VC system
- 83 free money
- 84 we need to have like a place where people
meet and hang out and dance
- 85 soad
- 86 More humor in books.
- 87 book clubs
- 88 7 days/week access to facility
- 89 chapter books section
- 90 Provide writing classes.
- 91 Resource for books on tape
- 92 An area set aside where friends could meet and
have a cup of coffee/tea would perhaps
encourage even more people to visit the library
- 93 Monthly bookclub drop-in
- 94 Fiction and non fiction reading

- 95 lifelong learning if that means non-fiction books, not classes given by the library
- 96 Inter and intra-library availability
- 97 Google has replaced finding answers to questions. But books are better; they are tangible.
- 98 A comfortable place to look at magazines.
- 99 Could read books
- 100 Free access to books
- 101 Uh, how about lending books? That's ALL I look for from a library. The rest is just fluff designed to ingratiate libraries with the community.

- 102 continuity of long time staff, interlibrary loan, large print books
- 103 Quiet place to research, study and/or read
- 104 Love the "current" knowledgeable friendly staff

- 105 online access and e-books
- 106 The main purpose of a library is to have a wide variety of books available to check out.

- 107 Have an atmosphere in tune for kids to study as well as have fun reading. The more unique comfortable chairs the better. Help selecting books to read and check out for kinder-2 grade.
Discipline are very helpful
- 108 workshops/programs to help adults in the areas of social issues, employment, and the economy

- 109 Check out new editions of books
- 110 provide free magazines and books to read
- 111 Please put a Lib. book drop off box in 2 or 3 different locations in the city, i can't always get back to the Lib. on time ! Thx.
- 112 access to multicultural/multilingual books and media
- 113 quiet place to study
- 114 computers in a private style like Camarillo, or old Wright Library
- 115 Rooms for meetings or study groups
- 116 The used book store is a good way to exchange used books.
- 117 all of these are important!!
- 118 best sellers available to seniors who can't afford to buy
- 119 Providing access to broad range of publications

- 120 Loan DVDs, stream online movies, make all books available online and downloadable to eReaders such as the Kindle. iBooks. etc.
- 121 Opportunity to read books one cannot afford to buy
- 122 Libraries should modernize, add a franchise coffee/snack shop. Encourage more educational presentation.
- 123 After-school programs for students, birthday parties
- 124 Libraries frequently have computers, which are available to those who don't have computers at home.
- 125 Inform community about educational opportunities. Provide support and space for authors and researchers during project development. Support and aid grant writers. Coordinate educational opportunities with city and schools. Provide after-school programs for extended learning for K-12. English as a second
- 126 Just plain old getting books!
- 127 New books in greater quantities. Most popular books have a long wait list.
- 128 good reference librarian
- 129 Access to affordable, educational & diverse reading materials
- 130 Inter-library loans & Mango Languages
- 131 Place for the homeless
- 132 Separate small rooms designated as quiet places for study.
- 133 I will only support public libraries run by public employees. No "for profit" operation.
- 134 current periodicals and books
- 135 Quiet Reading Environment.
- 136 a library close to us so we do not have to go downtown. instead of having 2 libraries downtown, we should close the Main Street one and open Wright
- 137 Please keep our libraries operated by our public workers and not an outside group.
- 138 When we had the Wright Library there was a community spirit welcoming children and all ages. It felt great to go there. That is lost.
- 139 all of above
- 140 keeping up on what's happening in the us and abroad w/ current periodicals
- 141 That the library provides a safe quiet place for folks who may just want to relax or come in out of the weather.

- 142 Responsive to public interests -- not private management interests
- 143 It's the foundation of knowledge, especially for low income citizens
- 144 KEEP IT LOCAL. KEEP IT LOCAL>
- 145 Provide a wide range of media to address all of the above.
- 146 growing up the library was where many kids hung out waiting for parents to get off work and I think it is important to have a safe space for teens to do homework and be taught how to behave in a public space
- 147 Friends of Library Bookstore
- 148 Shows community commitment to access for everyone
- 149 Being part of a network so that a big selection of books are available for check-out.

- 150 Books on tape/CD for use during travel
- 151 Reading programs for elementary age as at Webster
- 152 reading chapter books
- 153 build and maintain a broad collection of quality books
- 154 Place to go to for relaxing and reading
- 155 Homeschool Family Support
- 156 downloadable ebooks
- 157 Access to books!!!!
- 158 involve social and community clubs with programs ie. girl scouts, cub scouts
- 159 check out books, research information, children reading programs
- 160 Provide input to customers on books and resources.
- 161 audiobooks for the homebound elderly
- 162 The library system should provide a professional atmosphere for academic endeavors

- 163 Access to a wider variety of books with diverse perspectives with current authors not just dead ones
- 164 books, books, books
- 165 book clubs led by librarians
- 166 Book exchange and used book sales
- 167 free internet for homeless
- 168 internet access for those without computers
- 169 Inter-library room
- 170 Continue to provide new books and information. Book mobiles rather than more locations.

- 171 DO NOT HIRE LSSI
- 172 Essential for an effective, enlightened democracy. Book clubs and senior citizen clubs sponsored by the library would be a valuable addition
- 173 story time for preschoolers
- 174 Having a wide variety of books, including new releases. I can't believe this isn't listed as an option.
- 175 Homeschool programs during school hours. Reading programs during the school year.
- 176 Special presentations, reptiles and birds for all ages.
- 177 online access to resources
- 178 Provide books not available from other sources
- 179 a library for people living at the east end of Ventura
- 180 Provide assistance to the community for bill and rent payments.
- 181 Movies
- 182 Access to the Web for those of us who cannot afford a computer & Internet access.
- 183 OBTAIN BOOKS FROM OUT OF THE SYSTEM, MICROFILM USAGE
- 184 All of the above
- 185 Have lots of current books, fiction, non fiction, travel
- 186 More information on environmentally sustainable practices like rainwater harvesting, cultivating local plants for food and beauty, habitat restoration, alternative modes of transportation... i.e. anything that will enhance our community and improve our quality of life.
- 187 Location
- 188 All
- 189 Community event rooms, seminars, etc.
- 190 All these and more. Again a library site east of Victoria Ave is imperative
- 191 Internet Access via Library Computers
- 192 Paws for reading ability for classes to visit
- 193 children's books
- 194 Computer classes, reference resources, periodicals
- 195 source for books to read, duhh
- 196 free progressive reading material from magazines, DVDs, to books.
- 197 Promote enjoyment of reading to youth
- 198 I want the Wright library back

- 199 Staying apart of the county system
- 200 I think all these are good services
- 201 Longer hours of operation
- 202 field trips for child care children.
- 203 computers
- 204 rotate art high tea, music performance
- 205 using the restroom
- 206 speed reading course
- 207 a safe and inviting atmosphere for families
whose families pay for the library with their
taxes. not a haven for transients
- 208 Libraries are the heart and soul of a
community!
- 209 supplying tax documents and forms.
- 210 good interlibrary loan system
- 211 Help with science fair
- 212 Send librarians to school to help educate on local
public libraries. Do you have library day for
school kids to visit with their teachers?

- 213 Book drop off box in the 93003 area
- 214 being able to borrow instead of buy knowledge

- 215 Newspapers, magazines, financial and general
reference materials
- 216 Library #1 for resources and professional people
we can trust.
- 217 Home entertainment
- 218 Tutoring
- 219 art projects
- 220 speed reading course
- 221 Display local art work, discussions, speakers

- 222 quiet place to read and study
- 223 services for kids with special needs
- 224 Borrowing things from other libraries - quick
and free
- 225 Ongoing availability of all printed materials; i.e.
books, newspapers, periodicals

- 226 most of the population of the city is in the
93003 & 93004 zip code, we need service in
that area
- 227 We need a library on the east end of ventura
- 228 You have a big library, a small one! Which one
do you think I would like?: Resources in English
or Spanish
- 229 Personal contact in our community with
librarians- assistance.

- 230 Make books available to listen to while driving. I have started reading authors I wouldn't have if I had not listened to one of their books while driving
- 231 Book exchange, reuse and recycle.
- 232 Let's continue with the present services and expand to small branches throughout the city.
- 233 Value and staff - very important.
- 234 Research newspapers (regional, large cities).
- 235 Religious studies section and multicultural events will be nice to have. Please contact me if you need more information. Adham: (805) 815-8552 cell
- 236 A summer reading program for kids.
- 237 newer books to check out
- 238 Children's Reading Hour and Literary Awareness
- 239 access to movies via video or dvd
- 240 Quiet place to study. Comfortable seating.
- 241 Access to reputable commercial online databases
- 242 OPEN (reopen) location near VC- Wright Library
- 243 eBooks
- 244 Discounted access to cultural things within community museums ect. Check out Jefferson County Library website in Colorado.
- 245 Keeping up to date on current research and news.
- 246 Math and science events.
- 247 web access and support
- 248 Most of these are already provided here.
- 249 A relaxing, quiet place to gather
- 250 Field trips and opportunities for students to come learn about the library and check out books for school projects
- 251 open top floor to quiet reading, better video selection,
- 252 general information resource; reference; learning at any age
- 253 Cuyrrent literature and non-fiction
- 254 ebook checkout, library services via internet
- 255 all aspects above are important to community
- 256 music books! like sheet music, history of music, etc.
- 257 libraries need more newer book for children

258 place to trade & buy used books.

259 interlibrary loans

260 Having convenient access and locations.

261 I really like that you can "order" a book online and it will be delivered to the Ojai library, the service is great and usually really fast

262 a repository for books to check out. That used to be the purpose that the Day Rd library fulfilled. The EP Foster library appears to have very few traditional patrons who go to check out books. It has become a hangout for the homeless and for mostly males using the internet. I think that you should eliminate the computers for internet purposes. That can be obtained at a coffee shop. The library needs to get back to its basic roots as a place where books are made available for check out.

7. Do you think that a public library is important for our community?

Respondent #

Response

- 1 It is absolutely the most crucial part of our community. Even if you do not use the library it demonstrates a focus on culture, education and reading.
- 2 Provides a sanctuary, an escape from outside pressures, distractions, etc.
- 3 it provides safe and educational environment

- 4 Access to information should always be a priority.
- 5 Not everyone has access to the internet in their homes.
- 6 There are people without computers or who are not computer literate who need the information that libraries provide.
- 7 It is a basic service for the American Way of Life. One of the free services available for intellectual growth.
- 8 Important resource for all.
- 9 Access to copyrighted printed material and books not available on the internet.

- 10 Libraries are an important foundation of the community. When I first moved to Ventura, one of the first things I did was visit the library in an effort to feel connected to my new home. I also noticed how it was a safe and nurturing environment for school-aged kids, as it was when I was growing up. As an adult I volunteered in my local library as a literacy tutor. To think that there are many people who want to learn and grow and may be denied an opportunity to enrich themselves because they can't afford to pay for it is truly sad. Civic libraries are a basic public service and definitely should not mingle with privatization, as things can get pretty complicated down the road not to mention higher costs in the long run while not always delivering effectiveness for the price paid. I think the civic contributions made by libraries are very much taken for granted; most people don't realize the huge benefits until they are . . .
- 11 Absolutely. Enhances education, which is important for our children and future generations. Reading for fun is very important for young and old- using all media formats.
- 12 It provides a plethora of resources that cannot be purchased by individuals or even found via the internet. For example: reference librarians are indispensable to those doing research for school or business development.
- 13 Libraries are very important for the books and other reading material they provide. I believe that the whole issue of computer access needs to be examined, especially the role libraries play in offering email access for the homeless. That might best be provided at another type of facility. While computers for Internet research and (eventually) online book downloads/checkouts are part of today's modern library, I am not convinced that we need to have an Internet room for all at the expense of other services.
- 14 I have been taking out books since I before I was in school and love to read. Not everyone can afford to buy a book each time.

- 15 My kids are avid readers and I appreciate so much the inter-library loan system because I would never be able to buy enough books to provide them with the opportunity to read all that they wish to read.
- 16 It is a focal point for knowledge and information within the community. It is a free asset. available and equal to everyone.
- 17 Teaching our children the importance of reading, providing access to books and computers to those who might not otherwise have them
- 18 Resources to encourage kids to read a lot - that is, many, many, books available close to kids' homes. Need to re-open the Wright Library
- 19 Utilizing the resources given from public libraries aids the further growth of an educated society.
- 20 access to books is necessary for a literate society.
- 21 Knowledge is essential to freedom, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, self realization and fulfillment
- 22 See above
- 23 Since not enough parents are doing it today, it can be the place where young children learn and develop an appreciation for reading.
- 24 Just in case someone does not have access to a computer
- 25 It is a free resource for the public to use which allows all citizens to access education and learning.
- 26 The single most important entity of any community. One of the greatest innovations created in the United States.
- 27 It is the single most recognizable location in any city for those seeking assistance of any type.
- 28 It is of the utmost importance for our residents.
- 29 It gives everyone access to learning and enjoyment through books.
- 30 Bricks and mortar libraries need to be transformed from "book stacks" to "interactive/engaging/learning" community activities.
- 31 For those who cannot afford their own library. to provide exposure to many types of books and to provide for learning options

- 32 Everyone needs to have access to books and other materials.
- 33 Very Important to our community specially for children and elderly. My kids love reading and they always look forward to going to the library and picking books. They have grown so much reading various kinds of books, it's amazing to see my little kids having so much information on different subjects, reading about happenings around the world, their culture etc because of reading. Library system is a crucial thing for growing kids, it builds strong individuals with creativity and knowledge.
- 34 A knowledgeable populous is the foundation of a healthy democracy. Internet information will eventually become biased and cluttered with advertisement and personal agendas. An unbiased, intelligent information/knowledge based library organization is still needed, whether the information be presented on digital equipment or on paper.
- 35 It's the basis for devolopement
- 36 Its an important link to our past, present and future. Dreams are dreamed, the past is explored and our future is planned...all in the day at the librarv Amazing
- 37 It is important to have a community resorce for information and reading materials. It represents an educated and evolved culture.
- 38 A literate population makes better informed decisions about their community. Libraries provide an oppportunity for those without much formal eduction to become as well educated as those who have had the advantage of more schooling
- 39 Literacy is important to all communities. The Library is the most accessible support for all ages in our community for literacv.
- 40 resorses not found otherwise
- 41 Civilization demands a physical location with free access to physical books and related services.
- 42 Libraries are important to keeping the public informed and educated. It is a place to explore ideas, learn, and grow. Libraries are especially important for families with young children. Families can introduce their children to books and reading for free

- 43 Duh! Literacy is the cornerstone of any democracy. Books are silent friends. Reading is a joy as well as a basic skill that should be supported
- 44 It is imperative for supporting and encouraging knowledge!
- 45 We use the public library a lot during the summer when the school's library is closed. I love the summer reading programs for my kids. It is also a great resource for our poor and homeless to get help job hunting and finding other resources to improve their lives.
- 46 It provides a place where people can information for free or read for pleasure. Now a days books are at least ten dollars so it makes no sense to buy a book when you can rent them for free
- 47 Having access to books keeps kids and adults stimulated to read more.
- 48 For the reasons checked above
- 49 Everyone should have access to books and information.
- 50 Information access for everyone is vital to democracy. Free access to computers is an equalizer for individuals without computers. It provides a way for people who don't have a computer to apply for jobs or colleges or research an illness or find on-line help or get homework done or find a house for rent. When our computer has temporarily been inflicted with a nasty virus, my son has still been able to get his homework done that requires a computer using the public library. Access to books builds literacy and a love of reading in a community.
- 51 Education. A place to learn about the world of art, music, technology -- lifelong learning and enjoyment.
- 52 Not everyone can afford books, etc. It is a resource that should be available in every community.
- 53 One should be close, according to regions of the City.
- 54 The written word is VITAL to keep alive & available for ALL generations otherwise technology will bury it forever
- 55 for research of local history loan books and internet for those that can't afford it
- 56 see above.

57 shows importance of literacy to our children... a place to teach children to love to read and learn

58 Literacy is a cornerstone of civilization and the libraries in Ventura foster literacy.

59 It's where we are every week, usually several times. This is where my children can find RELIABLE information, different from random web searches on a computer

60 A library is a place where anyone can go and, free of charge, access information and learning. Libraries are critical to the survival of democracy

61 For a child, a public library is one of the first buildings they will identify with in their city. It is extremely important to them, and to parents.

62 Our public libraries are vital for a thriving democracy which demands an educated public willing to learn, propose, and question ideas within the community

63 A library is a place for all in the community to find quality free books to borrow. A library can be a community center as well.

64 Having a physical place to browse semi-randomly for books, a place which is not tied to an of-the-moment mentality like that of a commercial bookstore, allows me to discover and make connections I wouldn't make if only doing a directed search for something.

65 Education and diversity.

66 Libraries are a major contribution to our society by providing public access to information and books no matter the status of the individual all contribute to a free and equal society. KEEP IT PUBLIC

67 1000's of books to read about 1000's of topics

68 I used to get all of my reading material from the Day Rd. Library. Since its closure, I have had limited reading materials. I found that the library was a great place to get information on community events and provide my children with another environment to encourage the love of reading. We have not visited a library since the Day Rd library closed. The other locations are inconvenient for us. I feel that it is impacting the learning and exposure to new different things quite dramatically for our family.

- 69 It is very important. Without the library, we would be without so many good books at our home.
- 70 Andrew Carneige created the public library system for the free access of information. Because we now have the internet and other devices some people think we no longer need libraries. But that's not true. A love of libraries and reading stay with one their whole lives. Not all patrons have access to technological devices. There is no substitute for the experience of reading an actual book and utilizing the resources of a library and librarians. The internet and Kindels don't provide the same
- 71 It supplies books, services etc. to those who can not afford it.
- 72 A library provides resources equally to all in the community. It ensures that learning opportunities are available for all ages and all incomes. A library is also an excellent public meeting place, a natural place to gather for community groups
- 73 It is essential for our community!
- 74 It's an education and information gathering center and encourages learning and curiosity in a modern society. It's a positive aspect of modern life
- 75 In tough economic times such as these, the costs of purchasing books can be prohibitive for a family or individual. The libray allows citizens to access literature and resources that may enlighten them and assist them with employment. The library empowers people and opens up new avenues for them.
- 76 an essential link to resources and further learning
- 77 Public libraries are invaluable for the educational value made accessible to all a communitv's citizens.
- 78 Obsolete now. Nearly everyone at least knows someone with internet access or a smart phone. Those in school can get books on campus.
- 79 information
- 80 I think that it is an invaluable resource to students, not only for research purposes, but also for having a quiet place to study and focus.

- 81 Center of a community. Provides community hub, access to information for all citizens regardless of income, inspires learning and reading
- 82 as noted above (#6)
- 83 Especially during the summer so my kids have access to many books. Summer reading programs are GREAT!
- 84 It is potentially the heart of any community. Unfortunately, our libraries haven't been presented that way. They are a little known, little used asset. Need more community sponsored events, readings, lectures, meetings, author appearances, classes, study groups, etc.
- 85 The community public library is the single most important institution for free learning opportunities for all ages and socio-economic backgrounds
- 86 Access to information and literature must not be the preserve of the affluent.
- 87 For all reasons mentioned in question 6.
- 88 Without books and information our youth will be disadvantaged in the workplace, the marketplace of ideas and in self-expression, our seniors will be limited in low-cost forms of entertainment that are critical to maintaining clear active minds
- 89 A library provides research resources a private home could not possibly afford or would be feasible to house. Kids today think the internet is their only need for research and does not see the value in reading archived articles, journals or encyclopedia. Libraries are great for fostering a love of reading. Again, why buy books you read once and toss aside, when borrowing from the library gives you and others the opportunity to read the same book time and time again? For families on a tight budget, the library offers books, books on tape, DVD's as well as research resources needed for advanced school work.
- 90 We need free and public access to information and tools to be able to grow. It is a sign of a healthy community to have a library.
- 91 It gives access to books and current events to everyone.

- 92 Gives access to books & information to people who may not have financial resources to buy; promotes community and recycling (libraries offer reusable resources); provides computer and internet resources to people who don't have private access.
- 93 There are many people who can not afford to buy books or even have computers, the librariies have these things
- 94 Can provide a gathering place for the people in the community. Lower income children have access to computers. Students find a quiet place to studv
- 95 Important as a reflection of the values of the community and as an assest that supports and maintains the value of real estate. No longer truly important or used by the average person.
- 96 See above.
- 97 There should be a place in our community to obtain accurate,open,and unedited information on all historical and current material. I believe that we citizens deserve the most knowledgeable and learned librarians working in our library to help those seeking help.
- 98 A literate society is a better-informed community and promotes community involvement.
- 99 A place to borrow books is so essential. I couldn't afford to buy new books for myself or mv kids.
- 100 As a mother of two elementary school kids, we love the library. What a great source for so manv different books!!!
- 101 It opens reading up to anyone, not just those who can afford books and computers. Pleasure reading and research for schools, etc.
- 102 Education through reading at every level.
- 103 I would never read the amount of books I do without the library. Such a wealth of knowledge.
- 104 If kids can't read, they drop out of school. Without a decent education, they live at the poverty line/and may endanger all of society if they turn to drug dealing and crime in order to support themselves

- 105 It's critical for providing materials, reference help and other services for ALL of our citizens. A library reflects well on the community. I would not move to a city that did not have a public library. It is an excellent use of tax dollars and needs to remain PUBLIC.
- 106 Many people don't have computers or funds to access books
- 107 Yes it provides valuable resources to those who might not otherwise have access.
- 108 A public library is a necessity for any community. Unless we do not care that everyone may have access to knowledge, then we can just go back to the stone age
- 109 Mainly for kids, both for education and enrichment. Put the internet somewhere else!
- 110 Libraries are vital to a community's education. They are a place to PHYSICALLY connect with the community.
- 111 it is a place to go to open your mind and learn new things as well as to get away from it all for awhile - it is accessible to people from all walks of life
- 112 needs to be IN the community like Wright Library, not at a town center! EP makes developers happy. but not suburbia!
- 113 Reading is important for everyone, especially children and teens. Limiting library accessibility sends the opposite message.
- 114 A public library is: - affordable - diverse - a place of peace - a treasure trove of information - a workplace - a research center - a palace of literature
- 115 Books for research and reading; place of learning.
- 116 Yes, but again, I seem to have forgotten about our library! I am sure am not the only one, I guess with the information highway at my fingertips, I have gotten lazy? We all need to be reminded we have this great resource to browse and touch!
- 117 For all that it can provide - see question 6 above.
- 118 A public library is a great equalizer, offering access to information and technology to everyone. It encourages a love of reading and learning in the very young and allows adults to continue to learn and explore

- 119 Books contain our history, there are our recreation, a good public library is a vital part of our community.
- 120 it is vital in our society.
- 121 To provide access to all information for all residents
- 122 Library gives great opportunity to those who are less advantaged, especially children. Relief to parents who can take kids to story time, get schoolwork help, and see free programs (such as Reader's Theatre or other language oriented performance) that otherwise would not be possible
- 123 It provides an accessible arena for learning and reading, which promotes growth.
- 124 I feel that a convenient library location is important. Ventura chose to shut down the library that I can conveniently use. That meant that I did not have access to large print books for my mother or materials for myself. I no longer use library services, because the location is inconvenient and expensive to get to.
- 125 What is a city without a library?
- 126 Public libraries are absolutely essential components of a free thinking, democratic society. It gives a place where EVERY person can explore diverse points of view that can contribute to informed decision-making
- 127 Knowledge and Creativity
- 128 1) Repository of vital info 2) Place of refuge for research, private reading, contemplation, journal writing, etc. 3) essential for public schools whose own libraries are limited
- 129 The services offered @ a public library are invaluable to the community @ large but especially those who do not have the resources to pay for such services. The public library is the original community one-stop.
- 130 Yes, yes, yes
- 131 A place to research information_ quiet area to study
- 132 The libraries should not be redesigned to accommodate the homeless population.
- 133 People need a place to gather

- 134 public libraries are the last great equalizer for all americans, regardless of age, income, nationality. they should not be run for profit, they are by for and of the people (tax payers), not just a moneymaking venture for a corporation
- 135 books are good
- 136 A city w/o a library? Nonsense
- 137 It is a real place
- 138 A lot of kids would not have access to books if it wasn't for a local library.
- 139 Yes, it is important because you can learn about new things.
- 140 Not everyone can access the Internet for written materials & there is a wider library available in print form.
- 141 The Library concept is outdated. Need to get away from books and instead have technology and to be used as a community center
- 142 it is an important place to learn. Good place to enjoy time off work.
- 143 People find what they look for especially students who do projects.
- 144 It helps people gain knowledge and creates another path towards success.
- 145 A quiet place to do research and homework, borrowing correct literature, encourage reading to kids all ages.
- 146 It helps keep people educated and provide opportunity for further education through self research.
- 147 Because it makes you learn more.
- 148 Public libraries give the community opportunities to learn and grow, which will bring a positive experience to its residents.
- 149 It improves the mind of people of various ages.
- 150 It is among the first places I visit in a community.
- 151 Sometimes the internet can be overwhelming. Also we like the quiet.
- 152 All of the above.
- 153 Too many homes do not provide books for children. There is little parental supervision for homework help. Libraries provide these services
- 154 Besides the Storage of historical works and records, I don't see a need in this day and age.

- 155 It provides a resource for people of all backgrounds.
- 156 It is the place that first opened up the world to me; at age 71 it is still important in my life. I want others to have the same experience.
- 157 Public libraries give everyone a chance to achieve economic and educational equality.
- 158 Provides almost unlimited access to community resources.
- 159 It is the basis of a democracy - an informed, educated electorate.
- 160 Sharing of resources so all may have access to information and ?????? regardless of income.
- 161 It helps bring us together with books.
- 162 Contains info not available elsewhere, or at least easily available.
- 163 Many people use the computers and that helps less people being ignorant and going crazy.
- 164 Literacy is a necessity of modern society and the library facilitates it.
- 165 Without having a public library where would the children & adults go if they didnt have a computer at home in order to reasearch on homework or any study or information they might need
- 166 It is a source of information; information that helps us in shaping our views and actions.
- 167 Vital to a democratic society. People must understand issues before they vote.
- 168 A library is a place that is open to all and has resources for all to learn and be entertained. Enlightened communities value their libraries.
- 169 I think it is especially important for our children as an integral part of their learning and education.
- 170 It allows access to information and literacy for people from all economic groups and walks of life.
- 171 I am very opposed to privatization of public institutions and services. I fear this would eventually mean the rich get the services, the rest of us get damn little
- 172 Libraries are absolutely essential to all communities. They provide information to anyone and everyone absolutely free. No one else does this

173 The library offers countless resources to the community. It is a place that children can do their homework by offering something as simple as space and as grand as computers and tutors! I enjoy reading and would not be able to read as many books as I do if it were not for the library. I enjoy that most of the libraries in Ventura are connected to one another and can borrow books from each other. Another thing that I enjoy about the library is that I can pick up a new hobby by checking out a book!

174 The library provides a collection of fiction and non-fiction that is unobtainable anywhere else. Anybody who values reading whether for research or pleasure needs a library.

175 Very important! It's the heart of the community!

176 A place to take our children to learn about the world through books. Giving them a place filled with adventure, knowledge, languages, etc. Can be a very exciting thing!

177 Without libraries and the implied importance that our population be continually educated our Democracy cannot thrive. I must add: it is important that we keep LOCAL control of the library so it continues to reflect the needs and values of our own community.

178 On the most basic level, this is the only place some people have to get books & access the Internet. On a more complex level, our library provides all of the things listed above.

179 Access to books from an early age is critical for school success. Reading opens up a whole new world and not everyone can afford to buy books all of the time

180 All of the above marked answers in #6

181 because it is a positive place for studies and libraries make reading fun with all the different books.

182 The local history is nowhere else. There needs to be a place that, really, in a sense, honors reading. There needs to be a place where, on the shelves or through the internet, allows kids to explore, learn and compete as students whether or not they have money, a home or a

- 183 It supports people who don't buy books either because they don't have enough money or something.
- 184 Not everyone has a computer or internet access.
- 185 The love of reading should always be encouraged and the amazing diversity of books should always be available.
- 186 to provide an accessible and free source for learning, especially for those that don't have access to resources by other means
- 187 It's the cornerstone of a community, a place where all citizens will find something they need to enrich their lives.
- 188 Has been & continues to be a focal point/place in the community. I also believe that Ventura needs more than one library as I have stated previously to City Council. Ventura is long and lean- neighborhood libraries have been a plus in the past
- 189 It is important that our citizens have access to books!
- 190 Public libraries are both unique and the same throughout this country. It's important that we support them more.
- 191 It supports all of the above and reading and literacy are obviously primary and essential reasons
- 192 Supports availability of books to users at minimal cost to community; provides all the services in question 5
- 193 Freedom
- 194 Community development/ social priorities/ emergency preparedness
- 195 Provides an invaluable resource for reading and research opportunities and a "grounding" place for the community.
- 196 it is important to support learners of all ages; a library is key resource for a literate community; I STRONGLY object to contracting out library services to a private company
- 197 It is critical to have a public library that provides equal access to information and resources to gain knowledge.
- 198 For all of the above reasons
- 199 This asset is essential to well rounded citizens from birth to old age
- 200 To be an educated, civilized society, a library is an essential component.
- 201 Having access to "free" books to read is essential.

- 202 It is the house where the collection of knowledge and cultural events reside for all persons to have access to. It's the archives of our humanity and soul
- 203 Internet
- 204 FREE access to books and learning is essential to this community... Corporate interests and political forces should NOT censor or influence public library collections...all views and interests should be represented!!!!!!!!!! ANd it needs to be free to all.
- 205 I like to read all kinds of books but can't afford to buy them. Having access to a public library encourages reading and result in a more informed public
- 206 It provides an inexpensive place to obtain literature
- 207 Reading is knowledge Knowledge is power
- 208 ABSOLUTELY! It is the basis of education, for adults and children. It is an extension of free public education; the basis of an educated and literate society!
- 209 make books accessible to people cheap
- 210 If we value the educational benefits that prevalent in an library environment - we must not allow that refuge to diminish
- 211 Allows people with limited funds to access books and technology.
- 212 The abundance of info, developing good study environment & habits
- 213 Many people are unable to buy books and don't have computers.
- 214 access to books and magazines
- 215 It is a resource that promotes literacy.
- 216 It's a great place (brick and mortar) to do research for school homework assignments.
- 217 Libraries create equity.
- 218 It serves the whole community's information need.
- 219 A library is a safe and free place to access multiple resources of information to include technology. Since the east end library closed, access to reading materials is at the school library, with limited selection, or having to buy books
- 220 An educated community is a safer and more satisfied and happy community.
- 221 read #6
- 222 Takes public funds from needed public safety

- 223 To give young students a place to research & study. And for adults to have access to literature and news.
- 224 see above list
- 225 Not everyone can afford access to books or internet so this is definately a huge help to people like this. Also there is such a huge variety of subjects at the library. It's fun for kids to go to the library!
- 226 Where else can you go to explore through reading without spending way too much money?
- 227 It is a cultural center that indicates the community values intelligence, learning and supports a wide range of interests. And it is free for all, which is an important value for the community.
- 228 it is vital a community has access to the collective information that libraries provide. This provides avenues for all ages to learn and explore stories, poetry, and reference materials.
- 229 I truly believe that a community is defined by it's library.
- 230 Source of information and resources for educating oneself about almost any topic
- 231 I think all children should have access to as many books as possible, even those without the funds to keep a library at home.
- 232 Provide a sense of community cohesiveness.
- 233 Educates and entertains, shares many resources.
- 234 Especially now, with technology, kids are using books with less frequency. We need to nurture their interest and make the library a place for books and more
- 235 I believe that libraries are a cornerstone to any community that desires to create "community" among it's citizens.
- 236 Books for people who cannot afford to buy Kindles or build personal libraries. Books to stimulate imagination, curiosity, the urge to learn, and improve brain functions. The library demonstrates to the people in the community that the "city" has a positive interest in the intellectual and cultural well-being of its ...
- 237 i borrow 2 - 4 books per week and read them. I enjoy using the internet reservation service
- 238 makes information and books available to all.

- 239 No library = one less resource for improved intelligence of citizens
- 240 It is recycling at its finest! Why buy books?
- 241 Not everyone chooses to have a home computer. As people are downsizing expenses, internet is one of the first things to go.
- 242 It's an important resource for access to information for everyone, regardless of economic status.
- 243 Education and Literacy are everyone's concern. The library makes it possible for those who don't have the finances to go to school or classes can have on going learning.
- 244 Many of the reasons stated above.
- 245 It provides a source of reading materials for people who might not have an other way of reading and learning.
- 246 I think it is essential!
- 247 Reading/books are the basic tool for most life skills
- 248 I have a daughter in 3rd grade who, thankfully, loves to read. By having a public library, I am able to provide as many books for her as she would like, and keep her interested in reading.
- 249 it is vital to provide a center for learning and enriching all ages at all levels. It should be the foundation of the community.
- 250 Everyone should be able to go to their library and check out books and use computers and read magazines. The library should be close to their neighborhood and not all the way down town. Not fair to the young or old of this city.
- 251 To promote literacy in the entire population
- 252 A source of books free.
- 253 because kids like the books.
- 254 Essential
- 255 Reading is a skill that plays a role in your life everyday. For many of us, reading is a hobby that we have enjoyed for years whether it been strictly educational or not. I think reading as opposed to computer images is far better in developing a child's creative thinking and imagination
- 256 only if the people are willing to pay for it...
- 257 Only backward communities would be without a public library; Ventura should not be one of these.

- 258 It is a place for reading and learning
- 259 It provides information, fiction for the imagination, and encourages the search for knowledge for an engaged and enlightened community
- 260 The library can provide resources that some in our community couldn't afford to access any other way.
- 261 It is a place where parents and children can study together. I grew up in South Pasadena. The library there is a mecca for all kinds of community activities that are culture-related.
- 262 Because You can read EVERYWHERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- 263 new tech- e-books
- 264 To encourage kids to read, books can be expensive and takes up alot of space . The joy of having a library to check out book and return them is a huge plus
- 265 For all the reasons libraries were created in the first place.
- 266 A public library helps level the playing field in regards to information access and technological access; it provides a quiet, safe place in which to study, learn and explore; and it opens up the world to people.
- 267 A library all citizens, even those who do cannot use or afford a computer, access to information.
- 268 It provides reading and educational resources for everyone.
- 269 during these difficult economic times, many people cannot afford to buy books or newspapers, or have access to the internet. libraries are more important now than ever before to keep people informed and allow them to enjoy reading what they choose to be important to them
- 270 Doesn't matter if it is public, city or private, only the service and cost matter
- 271 it is a place for information, but also pleasure, community, a 'safe' non-commercial public space
- 272 equal access for ALL to learning and recreational reading
- 273 A public library is essential as a place of community, learning, reading, and intellectualism for the whole citizenry.

274 We don't necessarily want to own every book and CD that we may want to read and listen to.

275 Enriches your mind young and old.

276 It offers free access to information and technology.

277 It is a lifelong value and service that belongs in any enriched city

278 We are defined and judged by our ability to use our language (written and verbal) in obtaining and conveying information - libraries should allow complete access to all of the information that is available

279 Not everyone can afford computers, but everyone needs to be able to use digital communication.

280 A public library is a resource that provides breadth and depth of information resources. Whether in the form of physical books, magazines, or other media it provides access to resources that are difficult or expensive to obtain in other places. For lifelong learning, it fulfills the role of a university library.

281 Because it allows people to read past and current books who otherwise may not be able to afford to.

282 Stress PUBLIC, not run by private companies. For the above reasons.

283 Brainpower is vital in our global economy. The Library should augment and reinforce our educational and cultural institutions

284 It is a true reflection of the community. The fact that we closed Wright is a shame.

285 A public Library is the heart of the community.

286 Invaluable resource.

287 It is important to the community as a relaxing meeting place and a wonderful source of information.

288 IT IS NOT JUST A PRACTICAL TOOL. IT SYMBOLIZES AN ENLIGHTENED AND DEMOCRATIC IDEAL.

289 It is a critical resource if you want to have a viable art community. It is also, as Thomas Jefferson pointed out and fought for, critical to have if you want a true democracy- that is, a polity of informed, literate voters

- 290 I cannot always afford to buy new books, so it makes reading a reality for those who cannot afford to go to Barnes and Noble. Also the library has older books that I would not have access to otherwise
- 291 Gives people a place to go when they have few other options. Is usually a quiet space where one can read or think.
- 292 A place where all the people of a Community can gather to learn regardless of economic status.
- 293 Books, magazines & newspaper
- 294 Books aren't always affordable and it's important that the library offers these for free.
- 295 A library is a product of an enlightened society. It exists for ALL, not just the young or old, not just the families or homeless, not just for the poor, not just for the privileged. The Library is a cornerstone for the community, a place to find information, a place to come together for community issues, a place for enjoyment, or for some quiet time away from daily life. Besides, the library stores all my books for me, so I don't have to try to store them all in my home. I pay taxes for the library and I strongly believe that my money is put to good use for the entire community!!
- 296 We are supposed to be an enlightened society
- 297 Libraries encourage all ages to read, regardless of the format (print, audio, digital) and it's vital to keep libraries open.
- 298 Because more people could read the books.
- 299 because it helps kids learn how to read and they can check out books to
- 300 I think yes because it will help people how to read.
- 301 because you can learn can
- 302 Because more people could borrow the books.
- 303 yes because then people can be smart.
- 304 Yes because then people can be smarter.
- 305 because we can learn about the books that r their
- 306 because people like to read
- 307 Yes, I think a library is important because many people enjoy the library for reading.
- 308 we can make something else in that public area

- 309 Yes because people can come to check out books and music
- 310 so you could do resherch and study people that you are learning adout. Also to read for fun and intertament.
- 311 A public library demonstrates the value that our community places on literacy, reading and getting information and it provides everyone with access to words and ideas in a variety of media
- 312 Place for everyone regardless of education or income level.
- 313 To enlighten people on the past,present and future.
- 314 there is so much available on the internet now we really don't need libraries anymore.
- 315 An informed and educated community is essential for democracy to work for all. Libraries provide access to information and knowledge, especially for the less-advantaged. Using a library develops critical thinking skills, which are essential for a well-governed society. Also, kids need good, safe, quiet places to study and do homework. Home can be a too chaotic environment.
- 316 explore books, reading, information
- 317 history of the community, information about local issues, answers to local problems
- 318 People need a place to find information, do homework, read and visit.
- 319 ABSOLUTELY!!!!!!! & FREE, TOO!!!!!! That is a sign/right of an enlightened society in which education & information are accessible to ALL!!!!!!
- 320 Reading is the foundation of learning and success in life. Libraries encourage and promote reading, and, through reading, learning and growth that can lead to greater success, fulfillment, etc. And for those of us who are already avid readers, libraries support and encourage our habit
- 321 Yes because it helps with education.
- 322 It is the only place where information is sought and shared; where ideas of the past, present and, perhaps, the future are readily available; where imagination can be found on and off the written page; where communities intersect and interreact and all of this is available to everyone at no cost.

- 323 It is a place where anyone can go to read and learn.
- 324 History, literacy, fun.
- 325 How do we tell our kids how important reading is (with an actual printed book) if we take away the very resource they should be able to access for free?
- 326 all of the above. Some people cannot afford internet, additional books in the home. It is an equitable issue. You should not have the have and the have nots because of availability of a library
- 327 Books contain knowledge. Knowledge is power. Not everyone needs books, Everyone needs knowledge.
- 328 THE community center for life long learning for all citizens.
- 329 provides a resource not available otherwise. It does so at a low cost serving large numbers of people.
- 330 Major community resource, the advantages of which many seem unaware
- 331 It provides books for people that can't afford them or people that just like information from reference books but don't want to purchase them
- 332 Yes they offer services in many areas and can compliment the digital age.
- 333 There's no replacement for books. The internet just doesn't cut it; I want to be able to bring my book out to my kid's treehouse and read there, rather than risking my computer to read something in that way
- 334 I want to live in an enlightened and educated community.
- 335 Location is important
- 336 Free access for all citizens to books and information is vital to a well-functioning democracy. It should be a PUBLIC library, not a for-profit enterprise.
- 337 It is inappropriate for a PUBLIC Library to be operated as profit making enterprise.
- 338 Because uninformed people make uninformed decisions
- 339 access to information that is cost prohibitive for each person to own
- 340 To make books (and tapes, CDs, and DVDs, I suppose) available to those who would not otherwise have access to them.

341 A library is at the hub of a community that values learning and uses knowledge as a basis for good decision making and healthy living.

342 See response to 6.

343 I am against privatization. Our public library should not be run by the lowest bidder and we shouldn't be locking ourselves into a financial agreement with a for profit company that has it's owner/shareholders interests in mind, not those of library patrons of Ventura. They will make big promises about what they can do for us, but I can guarantee that the promises will be forgotten when it comes time to pay the shareholders or owners of the company. Public libraries are essential for low income people. It evens the playing field for people and children who may not be able to have books or technology in their home.

344 Libraries provide connection to knowledge for ALL people. Quality and contemporary libraries contribute to the quality of life in our City.

345 A library is a one-of-a-kind facility that serves all people. It is essential.

346 libraries provide access to reading materials & technology that might not otherwise be available to all different socioeconomic groups

347 A place to share books and information is a valued resource for all ages.

348 Absolutely. Way to expensive to read the number of books read. If you ever need donations, give me a holler asoriano@sjm.com

349 we cannot afford to buy books or rent audio/video on a fixed income

350 It provides a platform to disseminate all types and forms of information to the public without bias or cost.

351 It's free and equal service

352 The library is important only if it is meeting the community needs. spending major \$ on technology only helps if library materials area up to date and available. self help law books, more than one or two on each subjece would be helpful. auto repair, and other books to be checkout would be needed when working on

353 it encourages the community to read, its a great tool for parents like myself who loves books and want to pass the passion to our kids.

354 It defines and maintain our culture.

355 It is part of our culture and most needed by the poor and lower middle classes.

356 More resources than any one individual could reasonably assemble, available to many

357 "because when you go there you get to pet the dog (Snoopy) & read books. I like the people who work there (especially Jane and Star). In summer there is a reading book fest and we get to read books and get things. I like the kids magazines "

358 I believe that a public library is important for our community because it opens a world of opportunities for our children, especially for kids who do not have access to books at home. In addition, a public library offers adults in the community access to materials that they need for short periods of time, and then can return the materials without having to purchase it on

359 Education, lifelong learning, activities for all ages, internet help and more.

360 A public library provides a source of equality, all community members can benefit from a public library. A public library can also provide a safe environment for families and kids.

361 In order to accomplish the functions listed in #6! Everyone should have access to free reading materials and now, free internet access! Crucial for a democracy!

362 Education is the key to success in life. Libraries are invaluable!

363 We need to be informed and have easy access to technology

364 The public library offers many resources and connections to the community that no other location can.

365 A quality library is essential for Ventura. Closing Wright was tragic.

366 quiet place to study

367 It builds community, fosters literacy, and helps citizens become and remain well-informed as well as entertained.

368 If a person doesn't read, are they truly well-rounded???

369 It provides access to information, fosters literacy and provides entertainment
370 It is one of the foundations of our democracy.

371 Reading for fun and education

372 this preserves democracy by giving access to information

373 For all the reasons I checked above. Not everyone has computer access.

374 Besides the very important services already mentioned. We need to keep our money in our community and pay a private organization and at the same give them a business to take more money out of our community. There is no privacy in privatization

375 Reading is important. A source for researching questions is important. A place to use a computer is important. Activities that encourage kids to read and make reading fun is important

376 It's important to be able to utilize a library instead of the internet all the time. It's more of a hands on approach.

377 The Foster Library is too far away. When we want a book, we go to the Friends of the Library at Foster. If it isn't there, we go to Barnes and Noble or Amazon to buy it. We don't want to have to go so far away to return a Foster Library. We used to frequent the Wright Library a lot more

378 It is a foundation for learning and expanding our minds and knowledge. PUBLIC libraries are huge assets to any community and should be operated as non profits, owned by the residents!!

379 Information, edu/business support, entertainment, literacy

380 It is a community resource that promotes reading

381 We certainly don't need the original three of them and the remaining two are still too many. One per community (or maybe county) would suffice and that one being bundled with a public institution such as Ventura College or UCSB would be great. What better (and least expensive) way to teach people the importance of higher education than having them go to a college for their homework help during junior and senior high school.

382 As I lifelong library user I can not image a world where children and adults can't access book for free. A love of learning and reading never hinders and always inspires and strengthens a person's present and future.

383 It is getting more and more difficult to find old books. It is also important because people can't afford to buy the books that they want to read and it is time well spent when reading either at the library or at home.

384 Literacy

385 Provide more access to knowledge

386 It provides learning and research

387 Yes, Books and access to information is the best education.

388 Important source of information and reading materials.

389 community enlightenment and connection

390 It is a place where you can find entertainment. If troublemakers look at all of the books, then they might do something constructive.

391 I have used a library all my life. I got my first library card when I was 7 years old and now I am 70. I use the library every week, to get books, audio books , read magazine,look up things etc It is a wonderful place and it is free to the public

392 Libraries promote literacy and demonstrate to our children the value of reading and learning.

393 Provides access to information & entertainment to All residents.

394 because it is a good way for people to gain knowledge on subjects they would not have otherwise been interested in.

395 Books take us to other worlds. Their good for the imagination as well as for educational purposes. Some people are tactile as well as visual learners

396 many people do not have access to the resources that the library provides.

397 Provides valuable services, especially reading material, for general population.

398 Vital to the community. Gives youth a safe place to study. Encourages reading at a young age. Keeps one informed on important subjects.

- 399 It can instill a love of reading at an early age starting with childhood programs. There are too many other positive things about the library to list here
- 400 Absolutely vital for a community. A major resource center, which can grow if modernized and made more of a community meeting place.
- 401 Reading is an essential (and dying) skill. Not everyone has access to research information sources. It is QUIET - people today are surrounded by constant noise
- 402 Educational opportunities, meeting spaces and research (supplies and assistance)
- 403 Because it provides all of the services mentioned in Item 6 and provides a central meeting place to members of the community.
- 404 Libraries should be and remain public services. They should never be run by private entities that will put profit before community service. Libraries are a critical component of a sophisticated society that is capable of solving its own problems and supporting the betterment of all its citizens and immigrants.
- 405 Even in this age of technology, not all trade journals, periodicals, or older books are available for viewing or order on the internet. These materials are invaluable for teaching students how to incorporate written material into their academic research.
- 406 A free public library is a necessity for any community to ensure that all community members have access to art, literature, information, and possibilities for self-education.
- 407 access to books- information- connection...all free!
- 408 Don't have any data but my gut tells me it should remain public. Employees should be protected and as with other private services, costs the same
- 409 Democracy inherently relies on an educated populace. We need public libraries to allow people of all ages access to information, wide book choices & online research

- 410 Provides equal and essential access to information for all income levels, provides children with a love of learning long before they attend school, fosters literacy and an informed populace
- 411 It is the center for life long learning
- 412 I think the public library should be the hub of the community. It should be a place where people of all ages and various socio-economic groups feel they belong.
- 413 A public library is owned by the entire community, and paid for out of their taxes. To put a private company in between the public library and the taxpayer does nothing but take money that should be used for the library and hand it to someone who will use it for bigger houses and expensive cars. That money belongs to us, the citizens of Ventura. Use it for the library and our public librarians, nothing else.
- 414 One of the great strengths of the United States has been up until about 25 years ago was the ability of the citizenry to read, digest information and formulate opinions based on access to information
- 415 because reading influences the imagination and resources are limited without them
- 416 Literacy is crucial to the economy. Not everyone can or should be a dishwasher.
- 417 Where else would we be able to find tons of books and friendly librarians? We need a library for social purposes and educational purposes.
Rennen Wright!
- 418 The library is the hub of any community. A place that embraces and encourages literacy, knowledge and lifelong learning. A sanctuary where people can go to enrich their lives.
- 419 Local center of information ties people together.
- 420 They promote literacy by providing accessibility to various books that people will not normally be able to read due to not having the funds to do so
- 421 Vital for social and educational purposes.
- 422 Reading and learning are essentials to an informed populace. Meeting others who like to read and making books available to those who cannot buy everything they want in a book.
- 423 Why not? I can't think of a single reason why not.

- 424 It represents the City's pro-active support for needed services regarding learning and social activity.
- 425 They help many people
- 426 A community with a vital public library is a more informed community. It is necessary to maintain our democracy
- 427 Providing collective resources that individuals cannot provide on their own. Also, be a center point for the creation of a literate and informed community
- 428 the library provides all of the services listed above which are critical to an engaged and educated city!!! some people have no access to books, magazines, music and many of the services the PUBLIC library does!!! i spend much of my childhood in the library, reading for fun, spending time w/ my dad, doing research and so much more! i love to go to the library
- 429 so kids like i can read and have fun
- 430 They have always been the center of every community. WE all grew up with summer reading programs and using our local library.
- 431 It's a very important component in developing literacy in our community.
- 432 For all the reasons above. Also, libraries are a cornerstone of our freedom, helping us to be informed of the world around us.
- 433 Libraries provide resources for living for all ages.
- 434 Books provide a learning resource for all regardless of income and access to computers and internet.
- 435 Centralized Resource for Lifelong Community Learning and Reading Enjoyment
- 436 everyone deserves the right to knowledge
- 437 It is crucial that a public space for learning is available for all citizens. Libraries have been apart of our nation since our founding.
- 438 It is sad that this question even gets asked. A community without libraries is a step back towards barbarism. I mean it. Learning is the key to human progress, towards peace, equality, justice - towards the most important parts of humanity. Libraries support and encourage and provide access to the very most important freedom we have - the freedom to improve one's own mind. History will condemn communities that close libraries.

439 Stated above

440 A strong democracy depends on readily available information on all subjects and employees who can help find resources. We the people, thru our government (we are the government) should control PUBLIC libraries, not private companies that may have an agenda regarding what kinds of programs and materials

441 It is the promise of knowledge and freedom and it encourages reading in all ages. And it is important that it be well and truly local, that it belong to us as a community, not some giant library conglomerate that will make it like another in their chain

442 It stands for a community's commitment to a civilized society.

443 One of the most important resources to ensure equality regardless of income,race,nationality to all resources available for education and research and helpful guidance for all of us.

444 Anything that promotes education is vital to the community.

445 Libraries are the heart and soul of a community providing all people (residents or not) the opportunity to grow and learn.

446 Simply put, the words, public library, say it all. No matter what your demographic, access to informations and knowledge is available because of public libraries

447 Public access to information and literature helps people to think and feel. It supports our shared culture and humanity.

448 Access to information is essential for an informed community/society.

449 I and friends, relatives, and charitable groups use the library for so many reasons. I'll use a computer now and then, check out a book, read several newspapers, do research, and I have held meetings in the Topping Room, which is a blessing for non-profit groups. It is why I'd hate to see the library run by a corporation for profit, after I have paid, through my taxes for the last 40 years to keep the libraries going. If that happens, I will feel that the corporation that buys the library is no more than a thief and should be treated accordingly.

450 not everyone can afford a required reading book in school, and this gives them options

451 Yes, we need a public community space that provides enrichment and technology access to all. Especially now in this economy, libraries should be places where reading and life long learning can flourish. Libraries are a public service--private companies kick people out, refuse service, and charge too much. The library should not be a profit making institution, should not be run as one, and should not be run by

452 Public libraries are vital in helping to foster and maintain an educated and informed society

453 Libraries are a critical component to all communities. Education is invaluable and everyone should have a library to serve as a place of learning

454 It provides many wonderful services for all ages and income levels. It adds to the diversity and vitality of the community.

455 RUN INTO FRIENDS,SHARE IDEAS

456 Yes, it is the people's university where people can learn new things, read the local newspaper, explore new ideas from free internet, fill out a job application form online, etc. Thanks.

457 It provides resources that are not available any other place.

458 A public library is important for a well educated society to remain democratic.

459 Besides all the services offered (see question 6)The Library is there for the People & is integral to the identity of the People it serves - much like the Chamber of Commerce Visitors Bureau. It is always there for us in good/up times or bad/down (like now) times. A smile and a good read does wonders for the human

460 Literacy and access to information is the cornerstone of our democracy. I believe that readers pursue knowledge more fully and make better decisions than non-readers.

461 Public libraries are the cornerstone of a free society. They also demonstrate that a city or county are interested in the welfare of their

462 By having a public library I can afford to read books. Buying them in a book store is too expensive on my fixed income.

463 A library can be a community hub, an oasis of gathering in this age of the web.

464 For all of the reasons mentioned in question 6.
Public libraries make an enormous contribution
toward the goal of providing open access to
people of all backgrounds and economic
resources

465 And especially important that they not be
privatized. I pay my taxes to support public
employees' work for the common good. A
public library is an essential ingredient of that
good. Our libraries must never become for
profit enterprises

466 Because it's one of the few places where we can
be stimulated intellectually instead of being
passively entertained or being sold a bill of
goods

467 Such a wonderful resource and it's important
our children know where they can go for
help/information

468 It is the learning/literacy hub of the community.

469 Literature is the foundation of civilization

470 It shows the commitment to learning of our
city.

471 A good library is an invaluable resource. Simply
visit the Camarillo or Huntington Beach
libraries. So impressive are these, words are just
not enough to say what they mean to the
community

472 it adds to the awariness of all of the arts and
culture

473 Libraries provide access to information for all
economic levels of the community.

474 safw place to think, read, and learn

475 it should be accessable for more folks - more
people live in the east end of town,lots of
driving to get to Foster. ugh

476 offers a place of broad appeal with something
for children through elderly and a place of
current ideas and information

477 It helps me have a wider amout of books to
read, in other words it means I'm not limited to
the books in mv house

478 To provide access to all to the great ideas
contained in books which is essential to an
enlightened societv.

479 Offers opportunities to access books, magazines
and newspapers at no cost to the citizenry.

480 A public library is important to provide the community with a meeting place and resource center for research and reading materials. The library is the tangible evidence of my tax dollars
at work

481 Access to books is the most important factor in an educated, free society. The ease in which I can find books for myself and my family is one of the main reasons that I live where I do.

482 Everyone should have access to information in all forms.

483 Since I was young, the library has been an invaluable source of information and educational material. It's vital to the development and growth of the people.

484 I couldn't educate my child adequately without it! It's vital! It also introduces the populace to the wider marketplace of ideas in a way that targeted internet searches can't--books can provide those happy accidents that allow for
divergent thinking

485 Because it is a fun place to go with little ones.

486 A full service library should be more centrally located and available to the majority of Ventura's tax-paying residents.

487 A well-engineered library serves as a focal point for information exchange between citizens and can bridge the gap between online search/research and the knowledge bank of an experienced library staff. The value in enhanced community creativity incubation and revenue generation goes far beyond the tax dollars

488 Its a source for all of the above

489 The public library system is important because it provides access for anyone to the resources to be better educated at little to no cost.

490 Public libraries are important to our society. It allows everyone and anyone to gather information and knowledge through the books that are stacked in their shelves and the public
access of computers

491 If books or internet is not available for someone somewhere else they can go to a library to get it.

492 Reading is not only one of the great pleasures in life, it grows the brain in so many ways.

493 Although the internet is available for research, I still think it's important to learn how to get information out of a book.

494 Reading is essential to developing good leadership skills. We need solid leaders in our community.

495 The art of reading must be kept alive, and a library is a great haven to explore books,

496 It counts almost as much as police and fire

497 Reading is essential to an informed community, and libraries are essential to a reading community.

498 Public library is like a hub for the community. The resources provided by the library are integral to personal and community growth, encouraging the joy of reading and learning to all generations and cultures. I LOVE the library.

499 In the current economy people need access to free information more than ever. For a long time book stores such as Borders or Barnes and Noble were serving as alternatives to public libraries, now they are going out of business. Access to information should not be only for the rich.

500 Public Libraries provide a place for the community to get access to information and support literacy.

501 it is important for children especially to be exposed to the library in ways such as story time, and interactive experiences that interest them in reading in such a day of technology.

502 keeps people interested in books, makes ventura a cultural city

503 keeps people interested in books

504 a library is the fundamental center of an educated and informed community.

505 I believe in the not too long term(5-7years), public library's traditional service of books and research periodicals will no longer be in demand primarily due to expanding internet use in the home and the greater use of E Books. Thus, public libraries as we have known them will decline.

506 It encourages literacy and fosters education for our community and provides a safe and welcoming environment for learning.

507 It allows for our family to meet around books and encourages them to love reading

508 So that all Ventura residents can have access to literature and learn to include reading in their lives.

509 Libraries are the truth-tellers in an era of rewritten history. Also, they provide access for those who might not have the means to make their own discoveries, and encourage a life-long love of reading

510 How else do we cultivate an alliance with and an understanding of all who have gone before us and who are sources of wisdom and understanding of our own cultural challenges, strengths and shortcomings. Besides, we need to be able to hold a book in our hands for our brains to be fully functional. Computers are great but reading and decoding a computer screen is NOT the same brain activity as reading from a book page.

511 To educate our children, develop love of reading, and literacy.

512 When I did not have a computer the library was the place I went to for computer support as well as any research that I needed. Without this resource I would of not been able to reach the service that is greatly needed.

513 It is more environmentally sound to borrow rather than buy and discard a book. Many people cannot afford to buy books.

514 Public libraries are the lifeblood of a community, one of the few last remaining truly public spaces where everyone is welcome. That's why the library should remain public, and not be privatized

515 Public access to information, that may not be available to all citizens due to financial constraints.

516 Not everyone can afford to buy new books.

517 Because we all need a place where we can escape reality by reading.

518 The library provides access to books and other materials that people would otherwise not have access to.

519 I really don't think it's really important to our community any more because laptops are affordable now and those who like to read can go to a book store

520 many people do not have resources like magazines and computers, it is great to have them for the community to share.

- 521 It is a place where people of all generations are provided access to information in its many forms, which is necessary to maintain a functioning democracy
- 522 Literacy and information are part of the community's social infrastructure, just as water, electricity and paved roads are part of the physical infrastructure. It's one of those things that's too important to leave to the private sector
- 523 Although the internet seems to be a primary source for reference material, the library system needs to provide an atmosphere that is suitable for academic endeavor, whether it be for research, study, enlightenment. The library needs to be the center of influence for our communities literary needs. Not Barnes and Noble. OPEN A COFFEE SHOP, WIRE FOR WIFI, decorate, buy good books both in print and
- 524 it helps the children to search their books and research and fun to read. summer reading is always an award.
- 525 It should be a place for locals to come together to learn, read and share information. A library should be promoting literacy, there should be outreach to those who want to read more books and the library does not seem to be a part of the local community they need to do more to attempt to meet the changing needs of its population. What happened to the book mobile?
- 526 because it gives kids a great opportunity to use books and computers, It gives them more access to a better education.
- 527 I love public libraries. They can be a valuable place for families to find good books to help their children become good readers and older kids can get the books they need for school and personal reading
- 528 I think a public library is important to Ventura's community because it is an essential part of the community because all the reasons that I checked above
- 529 all of the above
- 530 It is a vital resource for our community because it provides free access to everybody

- 531 Public libraries are like a community center to not only get service, answers and help with navigating information, but provides a social atmosphere for certain groups such as the elderly and teens
- 532 We need to encourage literacy. A library does that.
- 533 Access to books and other literary media especially for school aged persons.
- 534 so all people have access to reading and learning, no matter their economic status.
- 535 A public library plays a vital role in providing free access to learning materials to all citizens. Having access to a wide variety of books gives community members from all walks an opportunity to advance, excel, and explore the world without leaving their neighborhood. It's also a hub of information for the events and services available to the members of the community. Because it is public (not private) it is in a sense owned by all of us, and not a private interest.
- 536 a place where people can go to get accurate information and not have to pay. It is an educational institution that all communities need
- 537 There is nothing to replace a book that you hold in your hands, and I don't want to/can't own every book I want to read! And a library can be so much more than the minimal services we have in Ventura
- 538 A community without benefit of ample libraries is a true wasteland and we in Ventura should be ashamed.
- 539 Many people cannot afford to buy books, magazines, reference materials, and computers. A free and uncensored source/exchange of information is vital to a living democracy.
- 540 It is impartial place to learn about whatever topic you are interested in as well as a open safe space begin learning at any age.
- 541 There isn't a replacement for accessing books in regards to equity issues.
- 542 Not everything is available on the internet such as the collection of sheet music at the EP Foster Library. Plus it is still a place for people to discuss ideas and art in real time together as opposed to being in their own private Idaho mesmerized by a glowing screen all by themselves in cuberpace

- 543 If we don't have one, people will call us
"Ventucky."
- 544 instill literacy skills, provide free access to the
tools necessary to instill/promote literacy
- 545 Because without any other credential than your
interest in learning, you can enter a public
library and access information, support and
education. Libraries are fundamental to society.
Public libraries are fundamental to democratic
society.
- 546 Provide books and information for all who wish
to use it. Should be a neighborhood library
- 547 Resource for the community
- 548 Library is a source of information (and
pleasure).
- 549 Absolutely!
- 550 Literacy is extremely important
- 551 I think it is essential in making unbiased
information available to the public.
- 552 Universal access for history, reference, material,
fun and educational resources.
- 553 We need one that serves the east end of
Ventura.
- 554 It is an important community asset for all to
enjoy and is especially important for the
children.
- 555 Libraries encourage thought. We are beset by
so many serious problems. It behooves us to
study the great thinkers of the past and
present
- 556 Crucial!! Don't privatize the library- doing so
would undermine all of the goals listed above!
- 557 Libraries make for healthy communities.
- 558 to keep community informed, educated,
involved in the education of all ages
- 559 It is a meeting place accessible to all people, for
learning and socialization. You don't need
money to learn at a library. It is absolutely
beautiful
- 560 Everyone needs the opportunity to access
information.
- 561 Each individual of any community deserves
access to learning resources, which a public
library provides.
- 562 Public libraries maintain materials without
regard to content, and that preserves the 1st
Amendment rights of the people. I am afraid
that a private library would not do this

563 Dur!

564 Our schools are failing. We need access to free information. A private/for profit library would suck just like privatized Medicare! Keep those greedy republicans out of the library system. They will screw it up beyond recognition.

565 See #6

566 Reflection of the community

567 It provides to me, a person of modest means, the opportunity to explore ideas and learn. I could never afford to buy, the many books I have read in the Ventura library system or requested from other library systems

568 Because people can be created.

569 It has become a relic of the past. I was a user years ago but now it has no value to me.

570 The library is an integral part of the community. It is a resource of literature, knowledge and research assistance. It is vital for a health public community

571 Having a library is essential to the intellectual growth of children.

572 I do not think we need a library system that tries to be too much. Providing books is great but perhaps we don't need the additional branches or the computers in the libraries.

573 I get all my information on the Internet.

574 A terrific and important resource for everyone, but especially for those with no or limited income. A place to learn and explore. Libraries are an invaluable asset to society as a whole.

575 We must have an open safe&friendly place for quiet contemplation and an open forum for the free exchange of ideas.

576 It helps children learn to read and enjoy reading.

577 Amazon gets expensive after awhile -

578 Everyone needs to read and can't always buy books.

579 Support education

580 It allows access to a wider variety of books that may not otherwise be available.

581 Education and culture are fostered by good public libraries. They should be close to where people live. So what is wrong with a library downtown and on the Avenue? Nothing. But with no library at the east end of the City I find that I am not inclined to go because it difficult to travel all the way downtown where parking is

582 Books are expensive. People still want to read books and do research at the library.

583 Provision of information essential to society.

584 If you are not informed and literate you should not govern yourself!

585 For all the reasons above.

586 It is a place where people can meet each other, share culturally rich experiences and information for free!!!

587 Free access to books

588 Volunteer opportunities and without the library, the community wouldn't be cohesive.

589 It is the safe place that kids can spend quality time.

590 Libraries encourage curiosity to learn and expand not only our minds but what one can look forward to accomplishing. It helps one create goals whether it be learning to read, pursuing a career, or just to enjoy and enhance our lives.

591 I think public libraries are extremely valuable to a community: promoting a love of learning and books across generations; a place to access free information, books, etc. for school and pleasure; storytimes and children's activities (including summer reading programs) are a wonderful asset; some of my fondest memories involve libraries both as a child and as an adult and parent. I read voraciously and it is a way for me to access books without having to pay for them (I will buy books at garage sales and thrift stores even more lately due to my decreased trips to E.P. Foster).

592 The PUBLIC library is a cornerstone of any civilized, informed society. A privatized library is NOT the answer. When the profit motive dominates, democracy is the loser.

- 593 One can find reading and other information in other locations, but the public library is an institution going deep in our nation traditions and a place that belongs to everyone.
- 594 Since the schools do not teach reading, the library does.
- 595 Absolutely! I take my pre-school grandchildren to the story time once a week at E.P.Foster. They do a wonderful job reading and having crafts. We read books in the nooks set up and check out books each week. I pre-order books for myself online and enjoy the choices.
- 596 We need an enlightened citizenry (WELL READ) to support a Democracy. As to social tenor, we can't be surrounded by ignoramuses.... Or can we? This has serious social, economic and political consequences.
- 597 Public libraries provide resources to those who do not have internet access or cash to purchase books and magazines. Ventura's public library also provides a meeting room for social groups.
- 598 Libraries are a means of providing access to information and technology to all - to level the playing field. To expose people to interests, ideas, subjects they might not otherwise have considered
- 599 Absolutely the lifeline of a community!!!
- 600 Free access to all of the reasons listed above. Necessary for democracy--informed citizens!
- 601 Libraries are important because they promote literacy.
- 602 I volunteer to help people to learn to read and we meet at the library.
- 603 Of course it is. A great place for research and to provide vital history of our Community for others not local to become familiar with the great resources we have and provide. When I was younger, the Library was a vital part for school work, art, and other vital opportunities.
- 604 Information can be found on the internet.

- 605 Public libraries provide space to fill an otherwise cultural void, especially in hick towns such as Ventura. People can borrow books, read periodicals, or go online for information. The library staff is a great resource to help direct one to the wealth of information one can find at the library.
- 606 as a Democracy we need access to a free source of varied information. Especially for people who cannot buy information!
- 607 People need access to good literature without having to buy books
- 608 It provides knowledge that is easily accessible to all income levels, ages, and interests.
- 609 It is a storehouse of accumulated knowledge, and even though computers are now quite ubiquitous, I feel that libraries remain a vital component of our communities.
- 610 The library should remain public so it is never influenced by commercial bias, which could lead to political bias one way or the other. Look at Fox Skews
- 611 It is a place where families can go to acquire information about different topics for school research papers and general info.
- 612 It encourages reading, learning, and exploration of new ideas and topics.
- 613 It's a vital resource of a modern, civilized community. Difficult to believe anybody could answer "no."
- 614 It's an unbiased source of information available to everyone, regardless of income.
- 615 Because the library is the beating heart of any enlightened community. It's where people go to learn, discuss, and challenge themselves and others. The library is our public square. It represents the access to free, and hopefully unbiased information. As such it is the embodiment of democracy in our community.

616 The library provides a number of beneficial services (ie every provision listed in number six). It is important that all members of our community have access to resources like books, internet, media. For example, the library enables me to read books I otherwise could not afford. The Ventura county library system allows freedom to get information, the right to get education, and creates a sense of community that I'm proud to be a part of.

617 Public libraries are of paramount importance for maintaining an educated and informed citizenry.

618 Because it has so many resources for all, and it encourages reading at all ages which is the root to learning.

619 There are too many reasons why it's important, let's start with it's American. Ben Franklin founded the first library, it was a brilliant idea then and still is

620 It is a way for people to connect and stay informed within their own community.

621 It is a place where people could get information and inform themselves about subjects for free. It a place where you can broaden your knowledge about things you know and learn about new things that might be interesting to you without having to pay for it (such as reading a book about a subject you might have some interest in but would not spend the money to buy a book on it).

622 learn stuff

623 Books are an important key to learning.

624 A lot of people do not have access to the resources of a public library

625 there is NOTHING like the smell of books. Even with everything the internet has to offer there is something magical about opening a book and discovering new things about the world and one's self. I also think the ability to use books for research is extremely valuable and so

626 Without these services we could become narrow, uninformed. That would not be good.

627 From the crowds I see at Foster library using the internet and magazines, I cannot imagine what those people would do otherwise

- 628 We need a library where Wright used to be.
- 629 ESSENTIAL as a city hall, fire and police.
Libraries are the lifeline of communication for us all!
- 630 Stimulates discovery and learning.
- 631 Library is a central repository of resources accessible to whole community free.
- 632 It's a source of information
- 633 See prior question
- 634 people should read regularly
- 635 a library provides books for learning and enjoyment for free to everyone. It also has computers for those who don't have them. It a place for children to study and learn. Library's just great resources
- 636 Very helpful in many areas to all ages, etc.
- 637 Education and finding answers to problems
- 638 It's a must- Place of young people to have resources
- 639 Interaction with people instead of always sitting at the computer
- 640 it ia an excellent place for learning and "Being"
What will happen to the next generation without the reading programs?
- 641 Reading enlightens our culture on our past. No reading = ignorance and with that comes the power of being easily influenced by others and weakens our ability to think for ourselves.
- 642 Literacy
- 643 So our children learn to read sooner, for research
- 644 Because a lot of people use them.
- 645 Because it gives all of the citizens a free change to learn
- 646 Source of information for academic pleasure and community
- 647 It is a great place to have a resource
- 648 Having the ability to borrow books is incredible and necessary for a good community
- 649 It is a vital community resource for political, social, and economic services.
- 650 The Public Library is an essential component for a balanced society, giving access to knowledge to working class and poorer citisens.
- 651 It is really important for people of all incomes to be able to find resources and information.

- 652 A PUBLIC library is a very important resource for everyone in the community.
- 653 because of previous query (#6,above)
- 654 Reading and technology are very important. Not everyone can afford to buy books and technology equipment.
- 655 Provides free, equitable access to quality information
- 656 Yes, Very important. We also need a library in the 9003 area. The library downtown is old and quite far to use as much as I would like.
- 657 It provides resources for people who can't afford to buy reading material on a regular basis and it encourages people to read, research and learn
- 658 Provides services and access to information and literature to those who would not be able to afford it.
- 659 Same as the difference between digital and film photography - books in print are art not just a accurately reproduced image.
- 660 It may be the only way to access books, internet and assistance with information gathering.Children need a place to research and study. Most important of all the library boois where one learns the love of books and learning
- 661 source of information and reading for all and a necessity for students.
- 662 For all the reasons checked in #6 and libraries are the great equalizer in our democracy, providing all with equal access to information and resources to be informed, participating members of our community and country.
- 663 People need a place to get books - not everyone can afford or wants to buy books. It is especially important for young readers.
- 664 for me its a very basic community asset
- 665 It's the only community hub, for all. As opposed to say, Senior Centers. And many people in our communities can't afford to buy books. It's an invaluable source of reading for our children as well as adults
- 666 If it weren't for the libraries some wouldnt be able to find the help or information that they need and they can know that its reliable.
- 667 Intelligent people read. Intelligent people are an invaluable community asset
- 668 To encourage intellect expansion

669 I like a quiet place to read and books to read

670 Education

671 Answers above

672 yes, because of the reason I checked above for #6

673 Gives an opportunity to further engage in life long learning

674 Its as important as emergency services

675 It helps develop minds of all ages. Your always reading

676 It provides resources that people need such as computers

677 For less privileged people it may be the only way to get internet access- obviously hugely important in our world. When I didn't own a personal computer I needed to use the library computers to check my email. Also for not-wealthy people, it provides valuable access to books without needing to pay for them. not everyone can afford or should got to Barnes and Noble to read a book. Libraries are one of the great functions of our government. it equalizes access to very important resources. whenever I move to a new town, one of the first things I do is sign up for a library card. I think it's important for this to be a government institution because it increases community involvement. Cities should have pride in their library because it's owned by the city. I know a lot of towns where this is the case

678 access to learning

679 It's a cornerstone of democracy.

680 So that everyone gets a chance to have access to information and the internet and great books

681 There will always be those, that do not have computers/internet access.

682 Public education and continuing individual growth make a stronger country.

683 Vital Service

684 computers help people in ventura

685 Libraries are free to the public and therefore are open to all. Libraries are not only an excellent resource to find accurate information, but also a place to find material to read for fun, whether it be for children, teens or adults.

686 small branch libraries to reach more people than hige main library

687 to keep the ignorant at bay

688 Because you can have a place to come and read

689 it is the reflection of the importance of

knowledge by the community and citizenry

690 A library is an extremely valuable asset in that it

provides a means for people to learn, use their

imagination, research topics of interest, and

instill a love of books and reading in young

children. I think that, to be successful, our

community needs people who are educated

and informed, and a public library is one of the

most important ways to promote that.

691 A PUBLIC library provides the diversity of

materials that our community needs.

692 Education for our community, especially our

youth

693 For all the reasons listed in question 6.

694 See above. Libraries are the heart and soul of a

community!

695 Helps to develop the mental and emotional

parts of a human being.

696 It is a resource center for people who can't

afford to buy computers, cell phones and new

books. It is part of our basic education "safety

net "

697 It provides a place to read and learn about our

world,

698 See reasons listed at Point #6

699 Literacy to the illiterate; knowledge to the

ignorant; a home for the homeless.

700 I love to read, I neeeeed books!

701 I am thankful for having had access to books at

a public library throughout my lifetime.

Everyone, from children to adults, benefits from

the services that a library offers. I feel deprived

of those services since the closure of Wright. It

was obvious at the City Council public hearing

at the time, that the council members had

already made the decision to close Wright. In

my opinion it could have remained open with

limited hours as so many other cities have

702 Reading is the foundation of learning. The

library helps us to be life long learners. Reading

is both for enjoyment and education.

703 Libraries are the most visible sign of a civilized

community.

- 704 Libraries are a tangible testament to a literate society's belief that literature, information and a well-educated populace are important.
- 705 It is a privilege and joy to have a library to go to free of charge.
- 706 A library is an absolutely essential part of any community. It is a repository for shared knowledge, connectedness, and understanding. Libraries encourage people to engage with each other, with their communities and with the wider world. They show people that public spaces are important and can serve to better develop a community.
- 707 It's about making knowledge and learning available to all.
- 708 It provides resources, books, educational material and sense of community
- 709 Books and other information should be available to all ages, cultures, and various income levels.
- 710 Access to books
- 711 See question 6, the library provides most if not all of these.
- 712 It gives disadvantaged people/children a place to use computers, books, etc. Not everyone can afford a computer at home.
- 713 Books are not the same as T.V., movies and the internet.
- 714 We need information and books
- 715 It's a place to get books and services paid for by our taxes.
- 716 Allows everyone access to information
- 717 It is essential. Ignorance is expensive.
- 718 Life blood. It provides a world of knowledge for all ages.
- 719 Access to information which is available to all free of charge.
- 720 Extremely important
- 721 Should have computers for those who don't have them at home. More up to date books
- 722 Provides a unique area that promotes knowledge.
- 723 It's free. Informative and peaceful
- 724 good education
- 725 Everyone needs a place to read and look for books.
- 726 The library is a learning place.
- 727 See question 6
- 728 Reading is useful in so many ways

729 Information is key to Democracy
730 Knowledge
731 quiet safe place to better life
732 Reading and learning are vital.
733 INFO should be free access
734 The library is important to all especially the
poor.
735 It helps people read
736 It is a place to learn! You meet great people,
make friends, the staff is awesome.
737 helpful to all , i am self educated because of it

738 It makes an environment that encourages
literacy.
739 cultural institutions are important
740 Because reading/education is very important.

741 It is an invaluable resource.
742 to have books to learn from that dont have at
home
743 spread info, encourage participation, all of the
above
744 more info
745 they are a hallmark of caring, educated and
enlightened communtiy intentto provide a good
qualitv of life.
746 gives access to books i dont have and helps
people learn how to read
747 good source of information on all subjects
748 quiet area to read write study
749 helps our childrwen to explore all different
options on what to read
750 encourage the love of reading
751 many people cant afford to buy all the books
they want to read
752 where else to store books for all information at
no cost
753 free access to resding and education
754 access to inormation
755 It's something that grows, over time, that
reflects the community history, future,
resources, knowledge, and rejoices in free
access.
756 Free access to information is an equality issue.
Also, public libraries are key resources and
critical to lifelong learning.
757 Libraries are important for all of the reasons
listed above in question no. 6.

758 It offers a place to gain information about most subjects. The ability to borrow books never goes out of style. Also it serves as a resource center for events, jobs and other community

happenings
759 We need to continue the tradition of print books, regardless of the success of ebooks. It's a vital part of our culture. The library is a great way to support this value

760 Valuable resources are made available to all, regardless of economic status.

761 In these hard financial times, we need a place to get books and reference materials as well as access to computers

762 We need services for the 70,000+ people in east end.

763 I think it is important because libraries are a great place to learn.

764 It helps people get educated

765 For broadening horizons.

766 It's a great source of learning and entertainment.

767 It is a great cultural center. Open to all sorts of citizens

768 Free access to information and civic need

769 Access to information is extremely important and should not be a luxury

770 It aides students and important for those of us who enjoy reading.

771 So I can read new books and use the internet.

772 Very, very important.

773 Access to books for all types of residents especially those who can't afford it - literacy from a young age.

774 It is very important we will be back.

775 They provide access to information for people without access at home. It is a welcoming environment for all.

776 Libraries provide access to materials I could not afford to purchase on my own.

777 Encourages all ages to read.

778 It is an economically neutral place to find one's way into academics and literature.

779 Yes, because of education and other resources.

780 Where else can you go to access free books and other reading materials in the community?

781 The library books and computer classes.

- 782 American resources for all races and cultures!
- 783 Where would younger children go to do homework?
- 784 It's very important because it's a place where you can find a lot of information and there's a librarian who can help you with everything.
- 785 I wouldn't be using it if I didn't think it was important.
- 786 Provides free access to literature information. I use the computers I could not afford on my own.
- 787 To provide services checked in #6.
- 788 I can't afford to buy books. The E.P Foster Library has a lot of books to use for school.
- 789 Let me count the ways!
- 790 Literacy promotion is essential for all communities.
- 791 Store fronts may be better. Show a costly building- let's spend money on books!
- 792 Love of reading from childhood to senior citizen.
- 793 If we expect citizen's to make informed decisions we should provide resources for them get informed if they cannot do so on their own.
- 794 So everyone can have access to books.
- 795 Free books.
- 796 People need access to information other than the internet.
- 797 Necessary for democracy.
- 798 Because it is the center for learning and information.
- 799 Downtown is too far and overcrowded.
- 800 Because if not for libraries there would be little education.
- 801 At Wright our librarians knew our names, knew we homeschooled, and provided educational support & community.
- 802 reading enhances life: we can learn of other cultures, histories, languages, etc. throughout the world. Libraries also assist students in research for school papers. Some of us cannot afford to purchase necessary educational materials, so the library can open up doors to our futures that wouldn't otherwise be possible.
- 803 If it is inviting!
- 804 book access for everyone

- 805 It is a center point for community advancement.
- 806 A public library is vital to the community because it provides access to information & encourages reading for free.
- 807 Books are part of our heritage. Not everyone has a computer at home. All in question 6
- 808 We cannot purchase all of the books we want to read.
- 809 Provides information. Finding a selection of informative, learning, books for all ages.
- 810 A place where children can use for research and others learn about books. For adults to read for free and not have to buy each one.
- 811 For the services and enjoyment expressed in my response to question 6.
- 812 Because it is a place where you can learn, read and educate yourself and your children
- 813 As above a good place to meet to research together. A nice place for the family to unwind together.
- 814 it's available to all and provides our children the opportunity to gather/research information.
- 815 not everybody has online access nor can afford to purchase books.
- 816 It is a store of knowledge, accessible to all.
- 817 Fostering a love for reading is vital for learning
- 818 Books are important for everyone, and having access to all kinds of information is critical to those who may not be able to buy the books they need. Children and students especially need the services libraries provide.
- 819 Professional library SERVICES (not just books and materials) are needed to help the public find and use reliable information, whether on paper or via the Internet
- 820 Yes because, we can not let the new form of electronic books take over. There are people that are not able to afford the new technology that is required to read ebooks. In addition, our children need to know how to look for things in a book vs. the internet; because what will happen, God forbid, we have a technology melt
- 821 Because we learn more things.
- 822 It's just a good thing to have in your town.
- 823 To expand our access to ideas and information.

- 824 More answers better knowledge (:
- 825 I can't imagine a community without a library in Ventura!
- 826 We had on in Saticoy- don't forget about us.
- 827 A place to read and learn for fun, with lots of books to at will. This helps people understand the community.
- 828 People other than me who need books but don't have money can check out books.
- 829 Kids can learn more from all books.
- 830 Be able to read and find information.
- 831 Keeps people involved.
- 832 All people need the ability to read as well as the opportunity.
- 833 Because you can read and learn.
- 834 It's important!
- 835 Gives us information.
- 836 So people can enjoy reading for free and do research at ease with help.
- 837 Education is so important nowadays. This library is an essential tool for those in school and perhaps the only source of info or learning for those not in school
- 838 It offers a learning experience for all ages and is available to all and affirms the importance of knowledge.
- 839 People need books for info and why buy some books when you can get them for free.
- 840 A place to borrow books and books on tape.
Children's books
- 841 So many age benefit from the library's services.
- 842 Great place to learn.
- 843 In the absence of services not available for free online, libraries are obsolete.
- 844 People need to read.
- 845 For our children.
- 846 Free community education.
- 847 So we will be educated.
- 848 As a child the local library fostered my love of reading and books and I think that is something to preserve for future generations. Recently we were without internet connection and our children used the library as a resource for school research. The library is a great community resource.
- 849 It is a place for all, rich or poor, to have access to knowledge without a cost.

850 foundation of democracy and informed citizens

851 Free access to impartial, quality information is a tenet of democracy. A library is a community gathering place, sanctuary and learning center.

852 Enables all people regardless of social and economic backgrounds to have access to information and knowledge.

853 Places importance on knowledge, education and literacy not retail and night clubs.

854 Absolutely. There are few places left in communities that don't require memberships, admittance fees or purchases. Libraries should be separate from retail establishments and be a place unique to a community where the citizens can have a sense of pride and ownership (since the library is funded by our property tax dollars). A public library can also be run by a private company if that company can provide the services we want at a price we can pay. Organizations such as Friends of the Library shouldn't have to keep raising money and contribute to libraries just so that union employees' jobs can be preserved. A library doesn't have to be a place for a large repository of books anymore. Half the books in libraries don't get checked out and the expense of housing them takes away from other more useful programs. Many books should be archived locally where they are accessible but not in the everyday staffed building.

855 Access to a wide variety of interests and concerns.

856 For all of the reasons outlined in question # 6 above

857 Absolutely, with costs escalating on everything from groceries to gas, it's such as asset being able to borrow books from the library.

858 I have always loved libraries and believe they play an important role in the local community. Libraries allow for individuals of all ages to cultivate and continue their love for the written word, information, and imagination. It is an accessible and affordable way for all members of the community to explore new interests, engage, and discover a sense of themselves within books, both old and new.

- 859 Not everyone has access to computers or can purchase books. Would be nice if it offered more for children to get them in there!
- 860 ABSOLUTELY Important
- 861 People need a place to research and study.
- 862 Because a library is an asset of an enlightened and engaged community
- 863 All children need to get hooked on books early. The library provides the books for children, parents, and teachers at no charge.
- 864 center for learning and sharing. Great for kids to get their start on lifelong learning
- 865 See reasons above. I would like to see a library in Ventura like the ones in Camarillo and Oxnard.
- 866 Access to technology; access to wide variety of information; access to people to help you with the above.
- 867 The Library is the center of reading in the community. It is a resource for students without funds to purchase books and a place where students can go to get information and homework help. Also having computers for families that do not have one at home
- 868 My daughter was raised in the library. She continues to do research there as well as enjoy reading. I go for enjoyment as well.
- 869 The library is a safe place for community members to gain knowledge, read, relax, participate in programs and activities & feel connected to their community.
- 870 It's a powerful resource, especially for those who don't have access to books and technology. It encourages learning.
- 871 For many people the library is the only free access to reading material and computers.
- 872 it is a place where resources are available for little or no cost to community members.
- 873 Children especially need to learn to read while actually holding a book, not something hooked up to the internet. Children of all school ages need to be able to look up current information using a variety of resources for school assignments
- 874 I believe a public library provides access to all individuals across socio-economic levels to books and media that may or may not be readily available to them.

- 875 To encourage reading and make it possible for the community.
- 876 Literacy is crucial and people need to read - keeps them alive and interested in the world. With technology, books are becoming obsolete - libraries need to join the new age!
- 877 Libraries are essential to community growth, and historically essential to child/adult development.
- 878 Probably because I grew up using libraries, so feel that they have so much to offer to the whole community.
- 879 A public library makes it possible for anyone to read without having to buy the book or periodical. Public libraries deserve the public's support, both financial and in donation of newer book titles. I am biased though because I am a journalist and a writer. I'd like to add that libraries are "smart" places to spend time, like a museum or a gallery. Kids need to learn doing smart activities is cool.
- 880 I think it's VERY important and was very disappointed that the best library in Ventura was closed. A library provides access to information, books and other resources to everyone regardless of their economic situation. I would like to see a library located near the eastern part of Ventura.
- 881 Libraries are extremely important to communities because they can provide for all members of the community-- for those who are beginning readers to those who are life-long readers, for those who are able bodied or those who are disabled, for those who are poor or rich, for those seeking knowledge and those seeking pleasure, for those who are advancing in careers to those who just want a quiet, safe place to be for a while. A library can and should be the cornerstone to a community for personal and professional growth, to bond those from all walks of life in a community together, to provide enjoyment without requiring payment. In order to achieve this, libraries must be spread throughout the community.
- 882 All the above listed reasons

883 To provide access to books and assistance especially for children from lower income families. Also for those of us without unlimited resources-it has great access to books.

884 People need a place to check out books, and go online

885 See number 6

886 Don't we want to be an enlightened, intelligent society?

887 If we want children to be literate they need lots of books to read. Many families cannot afford to buy the books children need.

888 Technology is great and all but I truly believe that looking up books and reading the old fashion is great keep our kids learning and improving.

889 It is a resource for so many - pre-school and early readers, books for elementary papers and computers for those who don't have them.

890 Stephen Krashen's research clearly shows that access to books improves young children's performance in schools and later satisfaction in life. The quality of life factor in any community is closely linked to that community's access to public libraries

891 Promotes a vibrant literate community

892 safe place for kids to read/learn/exist

893 It is a central resource for information and entertainment.

894 A privately owned library that is free to the public is also a valid option.

895 An important place of learning and for some families one of the few resources to support family literacy.

896 It's expensive to buy books so library is a better way to read and encourage your kids to read.

897 It is one of the few places that provides a multitude of services that are available to all regardless of income. It's an invaluable resource that a community can not afford to be without.

898 Yes!!! I am a teacher. Families must have access to libraries in order to provide reading material for their kids.

899 A place to borrow books, to read the latest fiction. A place to access technology for research and information. A safe place to do homework

- 900 It's where people go to gain access to information
- 901 It provides the ability to obtain useful materials for short terms without having to buy them.
- 902 it should be an information center
- 903 It is an indication that we care about learning.
- 904 community center
- 905 My children and I use the library on a regular basis to check out books, participate in community events and just relax. We love it!
- 906 An educated, literate general public is better able to be responsible for themselves and better able to participate in our democracy
- 907 For the reasons listed, as well as the statement that a community library makes-That the community values reading, media, literature... and values making it accessible to all.
- 908 It's important to always have a source of information when electronic information is not available.
- 909 because it's a place where people can meet for school projects and have plenty of information available to them
- 910 For all reasons mentioned in above question.
- 911 As a parent & teacher, I know that children will use the library for many reasons if it is there.
- 912 The founding fathers knew they were important, and that's why they exist today.
- 913 Without a library (free literature), our society would read less; become less literate, open minded, and educated. My fifth grade daughter, for example, reads an average of 1000 words of literature a week. She goes through books in a day or two. Without our community library, we could not afford to keep her engaged in reading. She is passionate about reading. Through reading, her vocabulary has improved as well as ideas about people and the world around her.
- 914 Books and reading are important to any society.
- 915 For people to further explore and learn.

- 916 I believe it is a library is vitally important to a community because everyone should have the right to access information, knowledge in an affordable way
- 917 It give everyone access to a book for free. If I had to go and buy books for me and my kids we would probably not read as much as we do.
- 918 Not everyone has access to the internet to enjoy reading. There are so many books to choose from.
- 919 By closing Day Rd which is so close to 2 High Schools, a College and many other schools you are sending a message that the library and literacy is not important
- 920 It provides access to information and resources for people who might otherwise not be able to afford it.
- 921 Research area for our children, especially with the schools closing sown opportunity early! Support summer reading programs.
- 922 I feel it is a vital part of our community in that we are able to encourage young readers to read and to support literacy in every form.
- 923 Reading is vital to education! We need a place for all persons to have access to free reading material, and incentives for children to read, such as the summer programs.
- 924 High levels of literacy and access to information are important for a community to thrive.
- 925 A library shows it's community that it values education and literacy.
- 926 The library is a vital resource for information, pleasure-reading, and community.
- 927 It's a part of our culture that's fading and needs to be preserved.
- 928 It is a place where a student can receive help researching a topic whether in book form or internet
- 929 The library is fundamental to an informed electorate.
- 930 It is important place for people to access books and periodicals free of charge.
- 931 For many of the reasons stated in Question #7

- 932 Reading and research are vital skills that needs to be nurtured in a supportive environment at no cost for all community members.
- 933 For an active reader, it is too expensive to have to constantly buy books. Sharing through the library is the only realistic option.
- 934 Yes, we want to promote literacy.
- 935 It is a vital resource in our community and contains a wealth of information.
- 936 Some kids need a quiet place to learn and do homework because their house is too chaotic. They need a place to use a computer if they don't have one at home and when the school is closed.
- 937 Sharing books is important, a lot of people can't afford to buy all the books they want to read
- 938 Functional libraries create a sense of literate community.
- 939 It's too expensive to keep buying books. We need one place with many resources.
- 940 The Day Rd library served a very good purpose. EP Foster is sadly little used by the city at large, because it is an unpleasant place. I cannot recall ever seeing a young child there, and this is a marked contrast to the Day Rd facility.

8. What offerings would you like to see MORE of at the current City of Ventura locations? (EP Foster and The Avenue libraries)

Respondent #

Response

- 1 Relocate, more central location where security is less of a concern
- 2 plays for kids
- 3 A location toward the
- 4 A library on the east end of ventura.
- 5 Up-to-date technology and science books.
- 6 Fix security issues.
- 7 I don't care about all of the services and activities; I need the library for the books!
- 8 author visits
- 9 re-open the Wright library
- 10 Wright Library PLEASE
- 11 current Christian book selection
- 12 more locations
- 13 Nothing, just keep the current libraries open
- 14 A list of current jobs available in our city and county.

- 15 book clubs/reading programs for all ages
- 16 I am disheartened that in order to visit my public library I have to make a 20 mile round trip. This is extremely inconvenient and for this reason I rarely visit the library. Also, your audio books section IS HORRIBLE! Learn from Oxnard. Many of us take long trips and depend on audio books to get us through. Finally, why can't we request books that are not in the system by email? It seems to take forever to get best
- 17 A library on the west side of town!!
- 18 Not just serving the west side of Ventura
- 19 a branch on the east side of town, nearer to families and away from the sketchy downtown element.
- 20 how to build a website; how to download and store photos
- 21 better security so that the homeless do not take up all of the seating in the computer and reading rooms. They were sleeping in the chairs
- 22 DVDs
- 23 A drop-off spot near Kimball and Telephone or at Government Center.
- 24 more books. you're a library, not a convention center. fill the darn place to the rafters with books!
- 25 Cafe, Wi-Fi
- 26 A pick up/drop off kiosk in the 93003 area for online requested books.
- 27 art shows, music in the garden etc.
- 28 MORE meeting spaces needed
- 29 DVDs and Books on CD
- 30 A less awful, open computer area. Cleaner. Maybe some walls, plants, something other than huge. open. smelly area.
- 31 Adult programs such as author visits, film discussions, book clubs, etc.
- 32 A more solid, larger and varied collection of books
- 33 a library in East End Ventura w/meeting room

- 34 art exhibits, lectures, etc
- 35 genealogy
- 36 library on the east side would be nice
- 37 Less people who seem like the live at the library

- 38 The video library is awesome.

- 39 easier to get books to download, more books on tape, reopen the Wright Library (by 2 major High Schools and Camino Real independent Study as well as 4 Elementary Schools and a Middle School)
- 40 popular DVDs, CDs
- 41 reopen the Wright Library, PLEASE!
- 42 close avenue and reopen wright!
- 43 a dedicated children's library
- 44 hey, why don't you reopen Wright Library... ?
- 45 a connectivity for all county librarys extended

- 46 emphasis on no upfront costs but high benefits, such as non profit presentations
- 47 Re-open Helen P. Wright Library.
- 48 need a library located on the east side!!!!!!!!
- 49 An East Ventura branch would be very welcome.
- 50 Like the bookstores, the libraries should be meeting places for writing, speech and philanthropic clubs, at no to minimal charges. People need more access to the facility as a "virtual office" while on the go w/ a laptop or iPad
- 51 move the periodicals reading area back to the 2nd floor of Foster Library.
- 52 more events that allow people to connect
- 53 Math lab
- 54 JStor access
- 55 more locations especially for children and families
- 56 I need a library with easy access and nearer East Ventura
- 57 Audiobooks
- 58 expanded romance literature section & I would like a library located closer to east end Ventura

- 59 Open on Sundays
- 60 Note more.but a BETTER web page. Why the huge number required for a card? It is also a very non-intuitive web layout. Why is it not specified where to go after you select a book. to get back to your search. Why doesnt it remember who you are, so you don't have to keep putting in your library number for each
- 61 small cafe or kiosk on a patio

62 I'm happy with it the way it is. It seems like we're always getting something new - a new website, more on the e-library, etc. I can always get the books I want

63 literacy tutoring for all ages

64 I;m sort of guessing what others would find to be of value. I have always found the staff to be helpful. I think the concept of classes --not just resumes-- which deal with writing and learning (as the college is so booked-up) would be a nice thought and cause the library to be a gateway to other educational services as libraries evolve.

65 Books on CD, movies on DVD, especially documentaries.

66 I think it is offering excellent services as it is.

67 I'm happy with the present services. Just wish they were closer to E. Ventura, i.e. H. P. Wright.

68 access to historical materials about the community

69 Better journals and a study area that is off limits to those who talk or are sleeping.

70 easy access to videos--the current system does NOT work well

71 Digital audio visual equipment at EP Foster

72 Summer programs like a writing workshop for kids,

73 Don't know as distance and hours of operation does not meet my needs. And have not been to those libraries.

74 satilite locations where I could order a bookand pick up with out having to go all the way downtown.

75 none, close them

76 Periodicals,scholarly journals.

77 How about re-opening the Wright library?

78 Books. Why can't I find a selection of books like Wright library had?

79 All of the above, of course!

80 The website could be better, PLEASE work to make the ebooks & audiobooks services that we can access from home more user-friendly.

81 I would like to see a library offered in our area again-Wright Library

82 I am new to town and have not visited either library.

- 83 The people at Foster library could be more warm and friendly. I get the feeling that they are hall monitors not neighbors
- 84 English speaking classes
- 85 I'm eager for the new location to be built :)
- 86 dogs that say hi to the people and we can play with
- 87 Better catalog, not full of outdated info on books not available
- 88 More books on the shelves (meaning more depth in available book resources.)
- 89 Reopen the Wright, EP. Foster in no longer centrally located; more new books
- 90 Mobil Librarys They were great years ago in the East end of Ventura
- 91 Reopen the Day Road library! Reopen the upstairs of the EP Foster Library to adults.
- 92 Books for sale at discounted prices
- 93 more space in magazine room
- 94 I hope the City can find homes and help for the homeless so they don't need to make the Library their hangout ("more inviting atmosphere" from below would be great); author visits; more locations (reopen Wright!)
- 95 Art workshops, creative writing workshops,
- 96 audio books on CD
- 97 We need a library east of Mills Road
- 98 Nothing - i will not be visiting either of them - too far
- 99 Access to JSTOR or similar information databases
- 100 Re-open Wright library. There are many older people who can no longer go to the library because of the locations of the ones that are now operating
- 101 Faster internet. More diverse non-fiction.
- 102 Cultural, literary and educational events
- 103 NO gaming and video- the kids use this as a distraction to keep from doing homework- keep it OUT of the library!!! More literature. You do not have copies of very important works in the canon
- 104 Hope the Ventura branches don't leave the county system
- 105 No street people, control noise & cellphones
- 106 e-library loan services both within and outside VC system
- 107 haging out with your freinds

- 108 More books on nutrition and vitamins. Thanks for amazing books.
- 109 Please bring Wright Library back
- 110 better book collection overall - more updated books on all subjects
- 111 faster speed computer lines OR specific computers for
- 112 reading classes
- 113 meet the author; putting your thoughts on paper (or the computer); writing prose, poetry; partnerships with performing arts organizations. etc.
- 114 safe place for people to gather. More inviting space
- 115 The above libraries are way out of my way and our family would go to Oxnard or Camarillo first, both of which are more inviting.

- 116 I like the services
- 117 More money for expansion of contemporary titles in all areas of catalog
- 118 More non fantasy science fiction.
- 119 Actually, all of the above; but I've checked those most important to me personally. MORE LOCATIONS is the key.
- 120 I'd like to see a place where the homeless and mentally ill could go for support and services that didn't interfere with those looking for other services from a library
- 121 ability to check availability JUST by one location

- 122 Access to JSTOR, and please bring the Wright Library back. East Ventura needs it!
- 123 A book pick-up and return location in the center of town
- 124 A return to staffing levels to provide individualized service. More staff/patron interaction
- 125 more support from taxpayers
- 126 Many of these are available at other places & should not be duplicated given the limited funds of the library
- 127 Your method for choosing DVDs is ridiculous. It's almost impossible to browse them from a binder filled with a list of titles.
- 128 new award winning books - Booker, Orange
- 129 A variety (not just popular) books
- 130 We tend to visit Barnes and Noble till about 10 on Fridays. ideal to be open a bit later.

- 131 find another location for the homeless so they do not have to hang around the libraries.
- 132 I would like the city to build a library at the Kimball Park. I would like more self check out and I want to be able to use my debit card.
- 133 technology and gaming are fun, but books are needed. technology is only good if it is working. in ventura, the computers are out of order about as often as they are not out of order. the self check out machines rarely work so we stopped using them. the library also needs spanish language books and newspapers. there is a small amount. with the number of spanish speakers in ventura, there should be many more books in spanish. it seems that there is not nearly enough to serve the public.
- 134 homework help centers
- 135 magazines
- 136 stay open past 5pm
- 137 Lib. book/video drop boxes in other parts of town.
- 138 School Outreach programs, field trips to the library
- 139 Books on tape/CD
- 140 Bookmobile to East Ventura.
- 141 various magazines and periodicals, DVDs, and recorded books
- 142 easier access to E. Vta residents
- 143 Periodicals
- 144 Wright Library reopened or equitable location
- 145 wi-fi
- 146 The Wright Library closure was a great loss, something which we hope can be reversed.
- 147 After school extended-learning programs and adult education. Increase community outreach and advertising of library programs. Citizenship programs
- 148 I just wish that the Wright Library would be replaced...downtown can be crowded on weekends.
- 149 A piece of public art, perhaps with a literary theme, incorporated into an outdoor reading area.
- 150 Expanded collection of books, magazines, movies, and music for check-out
- 151 post chart of shelving system -1st floor-have been asking

- 152 newly released books on environment and democracy
- 153 Public employees providing library services
- 154 Better communication about events
- 155 Several of the things listed above sound interesting. However, I don't know if they're available in other places. I don't think it's a good idea to duplicate efforts. On the other hand, it would be good to offer whatever would pull in people and somehow get them hooked. When people feel familiar with a place, they're more likely to visit.
- 156 Foreign language like Mango Languages
- 157 I'm not unhappy with how it is except that some area books are way out-of-date--travel, crafts, art, gardening. That's not so terrible as the magazines upstairs fill in a bit.
- 158 I absolutely love taking my children to E.P. Foster Library. A trip to the library is on our weekly agenda. I love that it is run by our local public workers that are in sync with Ventura and surrounding communities
- 159 expanded hours
- 160 Books on current affairs and history.
- 161 Re-open the Wright Library that had all that a community needs in a library that it no longer has. It was safe, accessible, had an outdoor area great parking. All gone
- 162 book fairs, authors visits
- 163 ART AND MUSIC EXHIBITS
- 164 New paint job on E.P. Foster, back to original colors.
- 165 No video games!
- 166 Public Management -- No external private management!
- 167 Open hours. 7 days, 12 hours. Access is everything.
- 168 a selection of magazines and periodicals including international.
- 169 Better books on CD collection. And keep our libraries public; they are OUR libraries and belong to this community, not like some shop at the mall that you can find in every other town/mall coast to coast
- 170 I liked the magazine section
- 171 In Europe the libraries have cafes and other things that bring the community in and are more like a Borders or Barnes and Noble in that respect. There is a section that is a place you meet friends

- 172 Increase items in catalog.
- 173 author visits! :D
- 174 Spanish language items
- 175 More outreach to the public.
- 176 The collection
- 177 Novels that are more than just popular, more literature, less mystery
- 178 absolutely nothing at these locations
- 179 Advertise the Library! Also need much better parking access as the lot behind EP Foster is really outdated. Future location for a new Ventura Central Library should be nearer the geographic center of the City... closer to Government Center
- 180 Open library back up on East end
- 181 Sad to see Day Road location go.
- 182 Better location where families live. Wright Library was perfect location
- 183 Music, even listening listens once the economy increases and funding improves
- 184 Provide books/DVDs by mail to homebound or disabled residents.
- 185 Technical books, building codes, law, DIY.
- 186 Offer premium literary resources both digital and print
- 187 Where is the book mobil?
- 188 Now that you no longer provide a library for a majority of the city of Ventura I would like it if you would bring back a mobile service. I think you could set up a schedule of deliveries to local schools. For instance on Mondays you are at Elmhurst or Buena, on Tuesdays you're at Saticoy Elementary or Citrus Glen. We can go on-line order our books and you bring them to the mobile stations.
- 189 More books in Spanish to support local dual immersion programs in vusd
- 190 books in spanish for spanish learners
- 191 books on tape
- 192 reopen the library next to VC, this would give easier access to seniors and those who live on that side of town.
- 193 Author visits
- 194 Raise money by charging for more services and providing less free service
- 195 It's fine as is
- 196 We need library services closer to the larger populations-east end!
- 197 Bring the Wright Library back

- 198 Motivation
- 199 This takes money. It comes down to the relationships of the individuals to their community.
- 200 POPULAR BOOKS WERE A BIG DRAW
- 201 I enjoy the library, and the FOL book sales. The downtown branch is an enjoyable place to visit when I go to downtown Ventura. I am an Oxnard resident.
- 202 None
- 203 Free parking - more central location
- 204 The closure of Wright needs to be addressed. To me, the worst policy decision the city has made since my residency which started in 1987.
- 205 Open the Wright Library
- 206 Get a library back for the east end of the city!!!
- 207 more books!
- 208 Faster Wifi and reopen the Wright Library
- 209 writers readings and groups
- 210 Summer camp
- 211 Classes on how to do effective online research & discern the truth from propaganda in today's corporate press output and 'Net blogs.
- 212 not sure
- 213 more new books!
- 214 Improve the quality of the book collection.... it hasn't been kept up to snuff for years
- 215 Less panhandling!
- 216 don't care because I don't go there since Day Road closed
- 217 not sure what offerings are already offered...
- 218 I'd like to see you re-open Wright. People in that part of town need it -college kids, seniors nearby as well as everyone else.
- 219 Seminars with authors, and especially seminars with people who can help us build a more ecologically sustainable and livable community
- 220 Re-open our local library at the city college!
- 221 video/audio resources
- 222 Computer learning classes
- 223 Longer check out times for non-current books, audio books, used books for sale.
- 224 Book discussions and guest presentations
- 225 Newer facilities and technologies to encourage family & community access/use

- 226 location closer to East End with easy parking
- 227 I believe there is a VC career center for job seekers. Keep the library about learning and growth
- 228 Safety for both patrons and staff
- 229 chapter books for very young children (not scary)
- 230 DVD movies
- 231 More inviting seating space with & without desks. Continued sponsorship of ESL.
- 232 What kind of society closes libraries? The Wright deserved better.
- 233 Better access to interlibrary loan
- 234 re-open Wright Library
- 235 Our public libraries really give all of the above, you just have to ask!
- 236 Coffee and snacks. Barnes and Nobel let people read books and magazines in coffee shop and they don't spill. Stuff is still sealable. If you don't want one inside, sponsor one that will make money for the library.
- 237 New books
- 238 Current non fiction books
- 239 More magazines
- 240 Beginner internet class
- 241 Resources, local history
- 242 too noisy
- 243 more adult books
- 244 longer hours
- 245 adult programs
- 246 lending of educational materials
- 247 more music, instruction, books on video
- 248 more no talking areas
- 249 I'd like to see the Wright Library re-opened.
- 250 Enlarge the Used Book Store
- 251 Reopen H.P. Wright
- 252 I live on East Side. It's a long way to drive downtown
- 253 Science Books
- 254 Eastside Library - Longer hours.
- 255 Wright Library
- 256 I noticed you went out of your way to say "current City of Ventura locations? (EP Foster and The Avenue libraries"
- 257 Popular books in ENGLISH OR SPANISH.
- 258 ESL classes

- 259 Books on CD.
- 260 New books
- 261 More craft, knitting, and how-to books.
- 262 More large print books.
- 263 more books
- 264 Have more current books on hand.
- 265 Music (CDs ect.)
- 266 scanned old newspapers
- 267 Locations- Wright Library!
- 268 A safe place for my children. More parking.
- 269 na
- 270 bookmobiles (anybody remember those??)
- 271 Reopen WRIGHT
- 272 Book clubs
- 273 I recently went with my family to the Camarillo library, and was really impressed. That library would be great to have in Ventura.

- 274 New Books!
- 275 Adult literacy programs, "information literacy" instruction for all ages
- 276 Especially "Ebooks, downloadable movies or music"!!!
- 277 More selection of books
- 278 CD's
- 279 College textbooks
- 280 "E" Magazine
- 281 better wifi in library; better tech support for technology available in library and online through the library website
- 282 Book clubs, writing clubs
- 283 Unmarked are already sufficiently supplied.
- 284 The Foster library has become a homeless shelter. A library is much too expensive to run as a homeless shelter, particularly since the great majority of the homeless just want a comfortable place to hang out or use the computer or restrooms.
- 285 unique entertainment by local artists, musicians, dancers, etc. But there is no place at either of the current locations.
- 286 Audio CD's
- 287 More secure parking without dealing with homeless
- 288 A Ventura Newspaper Microfiche Index

289 We need a separate library dedicated to children's services. Library materials suitable for those under 18 years of age, computers with parental filters, good (strong) after school, evening and weekend supervision, staffed with librarians who are familiar with the school curriculum and activities for young children that nurture a love of reading. A library that parents will feel is a safe environment to bring their children, and a place where older kids can read, research and work on school assignments.

290 Re-open the Wright Library!!

291 I am happy with the current offerings.

292 miss the one on Day Road

293 Re-open Wright Library

294 I read that along with the summer reading programs for kids and teens, Moorpark and Camarillo Library are also having summer reading programs for adults. I haven't seen this for Ventura library. Is anything happening for adults to be involved in? Camarillo library has always had adult presentations that I attend and is already planning for multicultural activities for the fall. Will Ventura ever plan anything? I asked once and was told that there was no money for presentations. Will that ever change or should I just keep on going to Camarillo and Moorpark library?

295 esl classes and more books.

296 Bring back H.P. Wright!

297 Better parking.

298 Most important a Library back at Day Rd to serve all the residents there.

299 Feel more welcomed, quiet...Not a nice place to visit!!

300 East side library

301 A convenient location for East Ventura residents.

302 Re-open

303 Get back to the "book basics" of a library. Do not seek to be trendy. Eliminate the computers for internet purposes.

9. If you DO NOT visit the City of Ventura public libraries what would bring you into the library?

Respondent #

Response

1 Better location

- 2 Meeting rooms.
- 3 I live in Ojai but I visit the EP Foster library because of the greater selection of books
- 4 re-open the Wright Library
- 5 Re-open the Wright Library on the west side!
- 6 Quiet areas for studying
- 7 More space, more quiet atmosphere, a place to study quietly, a pleasant and professional staff

- 8 location in mid town
- 9 Lectures, study groups
- 10 a public library near Ventura College
- 11 more books on CDs
- 12 Work with groups to find resources for the homeless to have a place to go during the day.

- 13 Environment that was more commercial; a "Barnes & Noble"-like environment without having to purchase the books
- 14 Less Scary Homeless Types, Library not housed in a cinder block building that is unsafe in an earthquake.
- 15 open wright library on East side of town. you cut the east side off.
- 16 I would go a lot more often if you reopened Wright !
- 17 Integration of library within other amenities...such as a shopping center/community park
- 18 advocacy
- 19 Saticoy is small and old.
- 20 I am old and cranky - make it easier for my cohort.
- 21 business resources
- 22 Re-open the East Ventura library
- 23 nicer librarians---the older ones are mean!
- 24 Help with software
- 25 easy access to drop boxes for overdue books need convenience. Would like a spot where I could order a book and pick it up on the East side. - Downtown is too far and not convenient

- 26 nothing, they are an antiquated drain on public funds
- 27 Re-opening the Wright library
- 28 location with better parking
- 29 Only go to Foster out of necessity; HATE the location and the lack of parking
- 30 Mobil units at shopping area around the city on different days

- 31 The silence that allows for study and concentration, the stacks.
- 32 This question should be rephrased to see if people who come now would come more often with certain changes. Another draw for me: More study carrels. A conscientious interest in providing not just new books, but books of lasting value.
- 33 I love Foster Library, but H.P. Wright Library should not have been closed. It was a much-needed much appreciated resource/gathering place for Venturans, especially nearby seniors, and families.
- 34 I think Ventura's public libraries are already terrific--I only haven't been because I have readier access to the VC library (where I work).

- 35 I went to Wright library more than I go the Foster or Avenue
- 36 Need a location in the East End
- 37 Again, I hope the Ventura branches decide to stay in the County system
- 38 sports stuff because that's my favorite thing to do.
- 39 video games
- 40 money
- 41 bring my ipod because it is boring in there and that keeps me busy
- 42 more computers
- 43 Recommendations of previously read books !

- 44 better parking, closer to home
- 45 a library closer to where I work -- by the college

- 46 A closer open library
- 47 Keep the homeless from destroying the opportunity for others to enjoy the library.
- 48 Magazine presentation similar to that of Barnes and Noble, similar titles.
- 49 homework help
- 50 Wright library
- 51 CAFE
- 52 Modernize and be more of a community center for all to look forward to attending

53 I visit the library, but not as much as I could.
Part of that is a lack of marketing of the library services and outreach into the community.
There is no social networking presence for the library. The website is static. There should be ads in the newspapers about all the goings ons at the library.

54 I am a regular patron, but if LSSI takes over I will never visit the library again.

55 More convenient parking

56 I won't visit a privatized library. NO LSSI !!!!!!!

57 audio books

58 international magazines and newspapers

59 This is OUR library and not something to be farmed out; we don't want the Walmart of libraries.

60 location

61 More books on CD's

62 Bring back exciting story teller hours for different age groups

63 Don't let the homeless park their bikes and shopping carts in front of Foster.

64 I would love to be able to schedule meetings there since it is a public place

65 na

66 Current books for school aged children and adults

67 better parking at Foster library

68 I would visit more if there was a bigger space, more books and resources up to date.

69 More modern... I think of libraries as very old and outdated places. If libraries had more of a Barnes and Noble style, I think they would be more successful

70 The city needs to find away to re-open the HP Wright Library.

71 Poverty

72 Less homeless people sleeping in chairs

73 Re-use a space that we already have, DON'T BUILD NEW!! What about the STAR building or Mervyns. They have the space to create a great library (and senior center with a bus depot!!)

74 more locations. Wright and a far east end are needed badly.

75 I frequented the Wright Library 1x per week when it was open

76 A library at the east end of the city.

- 77 Civics classes that educate the public about how government in this country actually works.
- 78 Please, please consider an east end library for those of us who sorely and dearly miss Wright.
- 79 At this time in our lives, we are very active in our local business and our spare time is spent sailing and family matters. Even though we do not attend the local libraries we support them financially
- 80 The Foster Library could benefit by having homeless people turned away. It makes a tense atmosphere for pan-handlers at the door & inside
- 81 I live in Carpinteria.
- 82 I should. There is no excuse. I just need to make it part of my life.
- 83 Re-open our local library at the city college!
- 84 Newspaper and magazine
- 85 Reopen the Wright library
- 86 Fantasy and horror novels
- 87 More libraries not less
- 88 more seating
- 89 arts and music
- 90 more help finding books, classes would be awesome
- 91 I would visit more if there was a closer library and I didn't have to make a day of going downtown and I didn't have to PAY for parking.
- 92 TO FIND OUT WHY, I CAN'T GET AN AMERICAN JOB! And in more new books in English AND Spanish.
- 93 Please do not turn our system over for profit!
- 94 My daughter brings me.
- 95 Within walking distance
- 96 A safe environment, and convenient parking.
- 97 Downtown location not good.
- 98 Closer to Saticoy!
- 99 I do go
- 100 Especially the location not being close to my home.
- 101 Guest (deaf) readers
- 102 Ability to check out an ereader for travel. Larger used bookstore.
- 103 A large library (ours are way too small and limited for the size of the city).
- 104 Re-open the Wright Library!!

105 this sounds awful-maybe 'homeless free' days?

106 Revamped atmosphere--looks old, delapidated

107 Having a safe library closer to my home/work.

108 refreshment area (coffee, soda, juices, healthy snacks)

109 A branch, even a small one, for seniors and people who cannot get to the other end of Ventrua.

110 basically, it is just easier for us to hold books for me online, and go to Oxnard (closer)

111 East Ventura location resumed

112 Puppet shows and weekly readings

10. If you have visited another public library that you REALLY enjoyed, please tell us where the library is located and why you enjoyed your visit.

Respondent #

Response

1 los angeles, they have a cafe area camarillo has a nice childrens area chicago public downtown-amazing art exhibits

2 Camarillo is my first choice: excellent facility, very comforting atmosphere with good parking, well worth the extra drive. Oxnard library is closer to home, very nice, spacious, fully functional with ample parking. Ventura does not compare, not attractive, no ambience/character, poor locations.

3 Seattle and Santa Monica, both for different reasons. Seattle for the architecture and Santa Monica for its accessibility.

4 Day Road library. I really miss it. It had great parking and a safety factor that E.P. Foster does not offer.

5 I use the Camarillo library because I live in Camarillo. I use Pruetter also; the county gets new books first and has a bigger selection.

6 Library in Reno NV. Great parking, attitude, easy accessible

7 My former local libraries that I truly appreciated were the main library in Huntington Beach and downtown LA Central Library because of how in touch it was to all sorts of things in the community, and people knew they could go there for information. My local LA branches were very small, and it was good to visit for borrowing novels that I would hear about, want to read, but not always want to purchase myself.

8 Camarillo, Newbury Park. Nice safe locations, modern facilities with good parking.

9 Camarillo Library--It's so beautiful and clean with good parking.

10 EP Foster is our favorite! We enjoy the enormous children's section.

11 Long Beach, CA, libraries are very good. My family and I moved to Ventura about a year ago, previously we used the Downtown LB branch, and the California Heights branch. Specifically, they have a giant collection - if you want it, they have it. Ventura seems to be limited in the number of titles available, especially in business development, marketing and sales categories, and related professional topics. The children's department at EP Foster is

12 Thousand Oaks and LA Public (downtown) are the two most familiar to me.. I like each of them.

13 Camarillo Public Library...I would still be going there if I could. NOT impressed with all the homeless people that hang out at the downtown library all day.

14 The Wright Library on Day Road was in a convenient location close to many people's residences that use libraries to read books. The EP Foster library seems to be convenient to homeless people to hang out

15 Camarillo Library has more places to sit, no homeless people, cleaner, and evokes a safer environment.

16 I miss Wright terribly. Now i used the website and search online and then pick up at Saticoy. Russell is very nice and helpful as well.

17 Oxnard - it's beautiful, a pleasure to visit.
Thousand Oaks - ditto. Denver - awesome place

18 Arcadia library, Arcadia, CA

- 19 Lots of natural light and open space.
- 20 E.F. Foster is great for our residnets to use.
- 21 When I was a child, I loved my city library, in Michigan City, IN, and I recently visited it with my children and it was the same great place I remembered. It had egg shaped chairs that gave you this private space to read and imagine. It also had a great reference section and children sections. I think if children use the library when they are young they will always love the library, learning and reading.
- 22 Camarillo
- 23 We really had enjoyed HP Wright library for many yrs. It was very sad that it got closed. EP Foster is far for us so our visits are not lessened compared to the number of visits we used to make to HP Wright. We sometimes go to Saticoy..EP Foster is bigger and has more variety but is far for us...but we still enjoy when ever we go there and my love bringing books
- 24 Oxnard. Has everything pluse a diverse customer base.
- 25 Camarillo, however, we do not have the space or money for such a huge enjoyable library and meeting place. Dreams, yes perhaps one day. Thousand Oaks also. WE used it weekly when we lived there and our children were still at home. A terrific library and still is.
- 26 West Bloomfield, Michigan. It is the most amazing library. They have a huge childrens library section with their own computers and a play area. They have tons of study rooms with wi-fi. They have a seperate area with vending machines & tables & chairs. They have a huge magazine area with a fireplace. There are so many computers there. The restrooms are great. There are no homeless people.
<http://www.wbllib.org/index.php>
- 27 Camarillo I enjoy the atmosphere. It is a great place to escape and enjoy.
- 28 South Oxnard branch of Oxnard Public Libraries - separate rooms for children and teens; nice, welcoming design with natural lighting and lots of open space; more up to date materials; self check out

- 29 Oxnard has a much superior audio books section. Ventura's is PATHETIC. Also, Ventura does not have a system to request new books other than to do it in person. That is inconvenient
- 30 We also go to the Camarillo Library because when we are researching a subject they seem to have more of the books we need. Their children's area is more exciting but I haven't seen Foster's since they made changes. The kids chapter books seem to be more organized (the layout) than normal
- 31 Too numerous to list...check out Camarillo's library on Las Posas.
- 32 The Camarillo Library has every book I've ever looked for. It is clean, very beautiful, and something the city is proud of. The children's section is safe, clean and loaded with a variety of books- audio (which they rent for free), paper, picture, research, and classics. I also love the Thousand Oaks library for many of the same reasons. They are both places I enjoy visiting and am comfortable sitting down and reading in. I am comfortable taking my small children there, which isn't the case downtown.
- 33 I like pretty much every Public Library I've been too - they all have their own charm. I really like the teen/child area at EP Foster library. Great book collection for readers. Locally: The little library in downtown Ojai is very welcoming and friendly. Simi has a great DVD collection. Santa Barbara's library really appeals to me - great book collection, great browsing library.
- 34 The Pasadena Public Library. It is a personal thing -- I like the cozy atmosphere of the older library -- and the enormous selection of new books, fiction and non-fiction.
- 35 Camarillo, CA A world-class library Thousand Oaks...has much to offer
- 36 The Wright Library was a wonderful place & my favorite. The atmosphere was inviting & they had both an excellent quality & quantity of books
- 37 Camarillo Oxnard Children programs for pre-schoolers
- 38 Camarillo, CA
- 39 Camarillo library. Entire package, books, help, coffee, tranquility, accessibility
- 40 Camarillo

- 41 Camarillo Library; well organized, funded and great place to read and study.
- 42 The Camarillo library is amazing in terms of just how large the collection is and how amazing it looks. However, I really like the Chatsworth Library in the SF Valley. It's smaller than EP Foster, but much more welcoming and homey feeling. EP Foster just seems so clinical and unfriendly. It's not really a place you want to ...
- 43 The Camarillo Library is a gorgeous building and a treat to the eyes. The Oxnard Library is bustling and full of activity. The main Los Angeles Public Library has an excellent collection and an incredible range of events, from art exhibits to author discussions. Tucson, Arizona, has a wonderful group of small neighborhood libraries that cater to the people who live nearby.
- 44 Camarillo Library - GREAT selection of children's books, great atmosphere Thousand Oaks Library - same things
- 45 Love the Port Hueneme library (Preuter). It feels safe there and you can always see the dedicated children's librarian. Their story time is more geared toward small children, I feel, and their physical space for children is safer (less risk of your child leaving the area = less stress on mama)
- 46 Camarillo, clean with good book choices. Children's are is very nice.

47 I frequent the Oxnard public library and to a lesser extent, the Camarillo public library. The Oxnard library may lack some of the amenities of the new Camarillo library but I think it offers a realistic vision of how our libraries could improve. Firstly, it has space and offers quiet places to read, study, or sit quietly and relax. Secondly, the stacks are accessible and expansive. New books arrive frequently that are interesting to read and relevant to many readers. Similarly, the periodicals are many and diverse. There are study rooms available for anyone to use. You may use the restrooms without requesting a key. There is a professional and polite staff. There are children and teen areas of the library but they do not dominate the space as they do at our libraries-- the Avenue Library is essentially a children's library and the entire second floor of EP Foster is reserved for children. Upon entering either it's clear that adult literacy isn't a priority. Literacy for everyone should be the priority.

48 We regularly visit the Saticoy Library which the central library system always ignores. It's not a great space and is really limited in size, but the location is convenient and the library staff does a lot with the limited resources it has. The best public library is in Camarillo because of the layout and beauty of the space and especially because of the huge number of books, videos, and audio. The Oxnard Library offers similar resources. The EP Foster Library is not a convenient location from East Ventura and it's layout, facilities, materials, and parking are not even close to that offered in nearby cities.

49 Camarillo - they have a great children's section.

50 oxnard public library - it's pretty and offers the children's reading time

51 Oxnard Locations

52 Livermore, CA - great space for children's reading.

53 Camarillo - I think they have a great set up for kids - very kid friendly. I like the big books they offer for kids. I also like how much they have for kids in terms of books, movies, etc. And i heard their kids program is great.

- 54 I visit the Camarillo Library. I do enjoy that library and keep my card active there too as they sometimes have books that are not in our collection. I used to love to visit the Wright Library as it was closer to my home and more intimate. I've visited the Port Hueneme, Thousand Oaks, Newbury Park and Santa Barbara Libraries, and enjoyed them all in their
- 55 Camarillo Public Library is one of the best I have ever seen. Great children resources, facilities and technology. Great overall environment a place we like to go with the whole family.
- 56 Camarillo
- 57 Oxnard library. The library has many private study rooms, so you can usually get one when you need it. CSUCI library. Nice, quiet places to study or work
- 58 The Camarillo Library is an awesome library for kids and adults, the cafe, etc....
- 59 Downtown L.A. Although its on a grand scale its incredibly warm and appealing. I find Foster to be the most sterile, ugly, unwelcoming Library space I've ever been in. The first time I brought my daughter (she was 4 or 5) she asked if she was getting her teeth cleaned.
- 60 Santa Barbara City Libray- very welcoming (people and atmosphere). Great kids' section. Room to roam and find a quiet place to sit and read.
- 61 Camarillo, Boston, NY...extensive resources
- 62 Oxnard Library is not only a beautiful library, it is also very well organized, staffed, and well stocked with a great variety of books. Since I have to choose between driving to the opposite end of Ventura and to the north end of Oxnard to visit a decent library, I might as well choose to drive the better library (that has better parking).
- 63 saticoy, bc of location
- 64 Camarillo and Oxnard seem to have good programs free for the public.
- 65 Camarillo -- dynamic and vibrant. REALLY alive
- 66 We have books sent to the Saticoy Library because it's the closest to our home. We wish there was a bigger selection there.
- 67 Camarillo. It's clean, safe, great children's area, they even have a cafe.

- 68 Oxnard, Thousand Oaks, Camarillo, Los Angeles downtown library. Wonderful, CLEAN, atmosphere. Community programs, lectures, meetings. Great gift shop at Oxnard. Foster feels runned down and uncared for. Just a warehouse of books rather than an inviting place for community.
- 69 Santa Monica Public Library (main branch). Their information desk staff were friendly and extremely helpful, the location was conveniently near other attractions in the city, and the collection was large and well organized. Also, the library allowed patrons from anywhere in California to aquire a library card
- 70 Camarillo library - appallingly staffed nowadays (everyone working there is wholly confused and incompetent) - but still such a pleasing environment in which to work and think. It's an awful thing to write, but I suspect many people like Camarillo library because it does not attract
- 71 Oxnard Lib, twice a month Lectures of interest
Whole room of books and music on CDs, and movies
- 72 Camarillo Public Library-- the architecture, the interior arrangement and furnishings, the children's area, the kids' art classes, the coffee shop are all great
- 73 The library my family has been using is the branch on "C" Street in Oxnard. I live on the east end of Ventura and it is a toss up whether or not EP Foster or the Oxnard branch is easiest to get to. The Oxnard branch, though, is far superior in their choice of materials for use.
- 74 Camarillo
- 75 Oxnard Library, Santa Barbara. Both have beautiful buildings, and lots of great books and resources.
- 76 Thousand Oaks Library is extraordinary as is the Rancho Mirage Library out in the Desert.
- 77 Camarillo, nice new building, lots of space and books
- 78 Camarillo. It is new, clean, pleasant environment. Few homeless. Study spaces.
- 79 TO - they have a coffee bar and allow food in a small area, the library store, the fish tank...

- 80 Wright Library because of its accessibility to schools. New York Public Library, no explanation needed. iust fabulous.
- 81 Haven't enjoyed a library since I went to Wright and/or Camarillo libraries. Downtown is not inviting or easy to get to (takes 25 min to drive to); Saticoy doesn't have the offerings without interlibrary loan; Blanchard in SP is my main choice these days.
- 82 Camarillo, Oxnard Spacious, clean, organized, kid friendly
- 83 Camarillo Library. Spacious and stocked well. Thousand Oaks Library, research material and reference material great.
- 84 I liked the Wright Library, with the one level, homey feel to it and the very large children's section and books on tape section.
- 85 Red River, NM. Small library in a small town, beautiful wooden building, large local history room, friendly librarian who had time to chat a bit. A branch of the NYPL that has the REAL Winnie-the-Pooh on display in the children's room!
- 86 I DON'T !!!!! think we should use a contract library organization. The library should be run by public employees.
- 87 The City of Camarillo Public Library. It has an upper level for research, and adult services. There is a lower section, dedicated to children. The lower section, has a play area, for kids, and events for kids including a story time. The separation of children and adult areas, make the library function well for both the young and old.
- 88 Camarillo library is beautiful. It has a large selection of everything, private rooms, computers and terrific customer service. The people in that community are proud to go the library, I work in that area and there are people there always
- 89 Wright library, our family could walk to it.
- 90 Cleveland, OH - a huge book and music collection, beautiful architecture, peaceful, quiet environment
- 91 Camarillo - spacious and beautiful! Wright - nostalgic, have missed it a lot Saticoy - very basic, OK in a pinch, wish it were bigger, but is our home library now since we live in east Ventura (can't get over to EP Foster or the Avenue really)

- 92 Wright library was perfect! in neighborhoods, walking to several schools! the kids were served by wright library.
- 93 The Oxnard Library & Camarillo Library are both beautiful, well stocked and well staffed.
- 94 Camarillo Public Library; excellent environment, extensive selection of books, excellent selection of recorded books, great parking HP Wright Library before it closed; neighborhood feel, access easier than downtown location, better parking
- 95 You know the Wright library was well located and well used. I understand that it was quite inexpensive for the location rent. You found millions for bike lanes we don't need and that won't get much use, but 250k for staffing the library was way to much... really ?
- 96 The new Santa Monica library seems to be everything in one place...open design, centrally located, includes ample meeting space.
- 97 The city of Camarillo's library as a facility offers plenty of comfortable spaces for sitting and reading in the different sections of the library. That said, I grew up near a small branch library that was very tiny -- but was able to draw on a large library system so that I was able to get the books I wanted. Being able to borrow from other libraries is crucial -- especially as libraries have less funding to expand their own collections.
- 98 The ability to find and borrow books from the other Ventura County Libraries is a real asset. The association with the other county libraries might continue
- 99 Camarillo
- 100 Camarillo and Oxnard both have superior libraries that have more space and other features. Most other cities of our same population have more emphasis on their libraries. Ours has not been funded adequately or had enough attention paid to it. A starvation budget does not make for quality service to the community.
- 101 Camarillo and the old Wright Library
- 102 Camarillo - I was impressed - I had heard about it but before last spring - for an event - I had not visited
- 103 Camarillo, but BEFORE LSSI took over.

- 104 Camarillo. Clean; quiet; large selection of books, dvd's, cd's; spacious; friendly, helpful staff; easy check-out and return; coffee shop on premises.
- 105 San Jose, CA The broad spectrum of services and resources offered to the community free of charge.
- 106 Camarillo, looked great and children's area was fun
- 107 Los Angeles, awesome displays
- 108 Wright Library - Bring it back!
- 109 New Books Coffee shop book store
- 110 Biblioteca de la Avenida son muy amables.
- 111 oxnard public library due to the size of the building, size of the collection & the availability of parking.
- 112 Camarillo. Clean, updated, friendly.
- 113 LA county Library in Porter Ranch, well lit and spacious, very friendly staff
- 114 Los Angeles, more books and events
- 115 Oxnard
- 116 I love the Camarillo Children's area
- 117 Camarillo - offerings and spaciousness.
- 118 HP Wright Library. Great location! Always lots of children and teens around because of the proximity to schools.
- 119 Saticoy, great staff and Camarillo, amazing facilities.
- 120 Foster City Library Ventura college Library (cool architecture made the place look nice.
- 121 San Luis Obispo - bright open space, friendly staff
- 122 Ventura Community College - longer use of computers and much faster computers
- 123 With Wright Library closed, this is the closest large library.
- 124 Oxnard - its size and comprehensive contents.

- 125 College libraries
- 126 I can't think of a public library I have visited that I really enjoyed. However, when I want to go somewhere to read books and hang out with friends, I usually go to the Barnes & Noble on Telegraph
- 127 Wright Library was very welcoming to children and families
- 128 I really like the Library in Oxnard because of the large variety of books. As a college student I have to write a research paper in almost every class, and having some materials is also helpful.

- 129 Carmel library. easy access, lots of new books, small and cozy
- 130 I've visited libraries that have stores that sell locally-made and artistic items (Los Angeles, Seattle, Rochester Hills, MI) and liked that concept. I appreciate that the Foster Library features art by local artists
- 131 H.P. Wright was our favorite library. We miss it terribly. It was close to home and family friendly.
- 132 Thousand Oaks Public Main library. It's well laid out, has a great selection, is well organized & a special collections dept.
- 133 The Camarillo library was lovely due to the atmosphere and setting but realistically speaking I understand remodeling of libraries is expensive, but having said that the Camarillo library is set up in a way that makes people want to stay and read not check out and leave like F.D. Foster
- 134 The Camarillo library before it was privatized. It was spacious and comfortable. I just looked at the space. I don't know about their services - then or now.
- 135 Camarillo Library. Nice ambience, and a good collection.
- 136 Tualatin, Oregon Comfortable reading space around a circular fireplace, community room for lectures, small coffee/tea shop just outside the main library. Extensive hours.
- 137 Camarillo. Beautiful building. In the children's area was a "ship", where you found children reading. People were very friendly there.
- 138 Library of Congress, Washington, D.C....I'm a card-holder :-)) and my childhood hometown library. Both examples serve the same point: The importance of continuity of our culture of reading; our country has a history of respecting knowledge, exchanging and recording ideas.
- 139 oxnard, los angeles, camarillo, the staff at the other libraries were helpful, got off their chairs, had more reference knowledge,(if they were librarians), and it is easy to tell if they were support staff or professionally trained. They had more books, more on line materials, more popular as well as well written fiction.

140 I've visited most of the Ventura County Libraries. I don't think it's a "better" or "worse" rating system. They all have unique personalities - different buildings, different histories, different staff. Foster is definitely one of my favorites: It's located in my favorite part of Ventura, there's great history behind it, and there's a wonderful staff. But if the City of Ventura splits off from the county system, I may not visit E.P. Foster or the Avenue Library anymore. I support Ventura County Library for all it does and all it has provided me. I want Ventura libraries to stay part of that system. I am also opposed to the wonderful staff I know losing their jobs. I hope the city makes the right choice.

141 I really miss HP Wright Library and the convenience of it. Our family does not visit the library nearly as much as in the past because Foster Library is too inconvenient and does not have that "homey" feeling that Wright always did. I also like Blanchard Library in Santa Paula because it has that feeling to it and reminds me of Wright. Plus, it is about the same distance from my house as Foster is and the parking is better. Occasionally I visit the Saticoy branch because it is closer also even though it is small. Why do they never advertise this branch to the public? It's not even mentioned on this survey.

142 Camarillo Public Library has really cool stuff, helpful staff, lots of hours, and interesting programs. Lots of computers too!

143 I can just say that there is a tipping point with some libraries where they are so comfortable that a number of folks go there to relax and read or computer which draws others that want to be around those others. But most libraries are seeing visitor-decline because people are not reading. Thanks for trying to keep the library energized. It is hard but important work.

144 Thousand Oaks and Camarillo - both have first rate lecture rooms with state of the art technology

145 Oxnard Public Library - enjoyed it because I was able to use the computer with ease. Friendly and helpful staff.

- 146 The city of Oxnard's library is large, clean and centrally located. The main reason the Foster library is underutilized is the large aggressive homeless population that use it as a day shelter. There are many that are terribly smelly and obviously off necessary medications such that families are intimidated. The furniture that they loiter in stinks, and the bathrooms are the same. Until that issue is resolved, the Foster library will not reach it's full potential.
- 147 Oxnard Public Library - large collection of books on CD and movies on DVD, especially "nonfiction" movies.
- 148 Thousand Oaks --- a very attractive library on attractive grounds.
- 149 City of Camarillo. It is a CLEAN, PAINTED, NICELY KEPT UP LIBRARY, w/a coffee shop, outdoor patio, programs of all sorts. It is in an area in which the homeless are NOT there days on end.(They have rights, but when then use the bathrooms to wash, sleep in the chairs and have been seen to masturbate..it causes great concern. Camarillo is a safe environment,especially for children. Foster needs ALOT of work- painting especially. I have visited Valencia and Newhall libraries. They are clean, well-kept up and like Camarillo, do not have parking meters any where near their facilities. I am also familiar with the library in Cerritos.
- 150 Oxnard Library because it was closer to where i used to live.
- 151 I did likethe Wright Library and both the Oxnard A strret and Camarillo are very beautiful and this adds to the expeience
- 152 Fresno Fig Garden Branch--access to books and helpful staff
- 153 Enjoy Oxnard Public Library-many new books, audio's and dvd's; Camarillo Public Library-enjoy the beautiful building and space; Thousand Oaks Library-wonderful choice of audio books and non-fiction dvd's

- 154 Camarillo Public Library. Beautiful place, feels safe. They have knowledgeable, helpful, friendly staff who go out of their way to get what my family needs. There seems to be many more new bestsellers there, and fewer smelly homeless people like those who scare my kids at E.P.Foster. We could not afford to buy books or DVDs so libraries are very important to us. I think it would be awesome if Ventura Libraries could be more like Camarillo's library.
- 155 Camarillo, but before they went to a different system. I miss having access to their inventory of books.
- 156 The old H.P. Wright Library, next to the college, I used it all the time because it was convenient to get to, near my school and had a lot of good books
- 157 Camarillo has a beautiful library with a great selection of books and a cafe next door which is very inviting. The main Los Angeles library is also excellent and I like it because it has such a large selection of resources and has great security so you can usually study without being interrupted by a crazy person.
- 158 Like any other real estate: Location, location, location. Branches need to spread out amongst the community.
- 159 Camarillo Library is amazing in space and comfort
- 160 Santa Barbara. It's a treasure trove of resources and a beautiful place to enjoy.
- 161 Oxnard Public Library is wonderful. The collection is great, the staff is helpful, and community offerings are interesting.
- 162 I have visited the Oxnard library as well the Thousand Oaks library. Very good atmosphere in both of them.
- 163 Camarillo and Pasadena. Both provide an atmosphere conducive to learning and enrichment
- 164 I go to the Ojai library on Monday evenings while my child practices with the Ojai Youth Symphony, which saves me from making a separate trip downtown to Foster. Thank you for this survey. I was not able to make either of the meetings on May 11
- 165 Oxnard. All of the books!!!! The friendliness of the staff. The willingness to reserve or renew.

166 N.Y C. Public - It is immense and awe inspiring...

167 Camarillo...it's just the best library. Our family goes at least 2 times a month, from my husband and I to our grandchildren...and their parents. Now that's a superior library!

168 Wright Library. It was conveniently located and had a wholesome atmosphere.

169 The Wright library was far more convenient for me. Having to go downtown (and parking) is a much greater hassle.

170 Visited Saticoy library, was able to pick up books I'd put on hold using my computer

171 Oxnard Public Library, a beautiful and very functional space. Many different areas of interest and use. Also, great gift shop that helps support the library. It is close to work. Also impressed by the Camarillo library and very nice coffee shop on site. It also supports the library.

172 Camarillo Library is beautiful, new, state of the art, and very large in size. It is a comfortable place to browse books and materials. It feels clean and safe. The parking lot is huge with lots of parking spaces near to the library. EP Foster location is NOT convenient to me and I do not even want to think of parking (a quick in and out would be impossible). The Port Hueneme location is now convenient to me; books I request come from the entire county system so size of collection at Port Hueneme is not a concern. Funny, I live in Ventura but do not even consider the Ventura library locations as a place to go.

173 The Oxnard Public Library has a big selection of new releases.

174 Wright Library for its community feel

175 Camarillo - enjoy the kid space, the large upstairs space; lots of small private rooms; large collection

176 Camarillo: like parking, safe environment, beautiful interior, safe location, like the ability to purchase a drink and or sit out by the fountain, lots of nooks and crannies- especially for kids, warm environment, - generally very fun to go to! Santa Barbara Library is wonderful too. - I always enjoy the art gallery at the library when I go. Love the windows and view too- very inspiring and creative space.

- 177 Ventura College Oxnard City
- 178 The Wright Library, was an ideal one for young children, sadly it no longer is open. The Camarillo Librarv. well run.
- 179 Camarillo for design aesthetics, options are just more comfortable there, available.
- 180 oxnard library. I go there because they have a vast supply of books on c.d.s and tape, staff is friendly and helpful and it is closer to my home.
- 181 Santa Barbara downtown library. Much better building and display of books.
- 182 Camarillo!
- 183 The HP Wright Library on Day Road
- 184 Camarillo- the library is not full of mentally ill and/or homeless people (it's just plain creepy in there sometimes). They also happen to have a wider selection of books
- 185 I like the TO library. It's large, well-lit, has a wonderful outdoor area, plenty of easy to reach parking and no homeless people leaving their vicious dogs outside the library door (yes, this happened to me at Foster & my 2 year old and I had to wait in the car for the man to remove his UNCHAINED pitbull that was outside the library door.) The Ventura library should have chosen to close the one on the avenue, not the one at the college. Who in their right minds closes a library at a college?? At least the Wright library had decent parking & we didn't have to negotiate the downtown traffic to get there.
- 186 Camarillo - friendly staff, updated decor, huge childrens' section, attractive meeting room
- 187 Camarillo. Clean and free of homeless and their shopping carts. The draw for most of those people is computer access. If City thinks public access to computers is important to those users, set up a west end computer lounge separate from that in the existing Ventura libraries, possibly co-located with a store front police department.
- 188 Oxnard is very nice. It always seems easy to maneuver. Haven't been to Camarillo but I understand it is wonderful.

- 189 I met a study group at the Camarillo library. This was the most welcoming inviting library experience I have ever had. I enjoy the mix of outdoor and indoor space, the opportunities for sectioned off group study rooms, the seating area near the fireplace, the decor. It felt like a place that I wanted to spend time.
- 190 I used the Thousand Oaks library for years before moving to ventura. It was modern, offered a wide variety of books and professional
- 191 Manhattan Beach, CA - no 'riff raff' like at the Ventura library Woodside, CA - open, spacious, comfortable Half Moon Bay, CA, spacious, comfortable. quiet.
- 192 Thousand Oaks and Newbury Park Newer, more inviting.
- 193 Camarillo. Automated checkout.
- 194 Thousand Oaks... simply architecturally stunning!
- 195 Camarillo Library--amazing! Beautiful space, great children's area.
- 196 A larger selection of audio books.
- 197 I REALLY enjoyed the Wright library. It was what I thought a library should be. Wright had something for everyone and in a convenient location for many. I think neighborhood libraries make a city a place to enjoy and learn. It isn't necessary that a library be EVERYTHING, it just needs to be a place that is used and serves its primary function.
- 198 Camarillo Public Library. The place offered a friendly look and easy access to the books. It was nice to see the small study/meeting rooms as well.
- 199 More selection of books to check out and better locations with more parking...and no parking meters...
- 200 Camarillo. It is beautiful, set up for learning and the staff are over the top helpful
- 201 Camarillo the boat is wonderful
- 202 The Beverly Hills library is big, lots of new books, bright and cheery
- 203 Thousand Oaks
- 204 Camarillo's library is a favorite. They have such an extensive and user friendly children's section - my seven year-old daughter can roam through there and find books on her own and I feel safe letting her do this there.

- 205 there was a pirate ship and you could go inside of it and read all your books. there is a lot of nice stuff in there and there is a movie place. (parents don't think this is necessary!)
- 206 Oxnard and Camarillo both have much nicer libraries; gee whiz they aren't in the county svstem. is there a message?
- 207 Closer to home (Less than 15 minute drive)
Better hours (10-8 daily, 10-5 weekends)
Children's & teen prgrams (baby sitter classes, craft activities, book clubs) year round, not just summer reading
- 208 Well, the Newberry Library has depth in resources and interesting exhibits as well.
- 209 Oxnard City Library better selection of new fiction readily available. Waiting list for new bestsellers usually very long in Ventura. I would suggest these books not be checked out for longer than ten days to reduce the wait. Also limit the number of books a person can have that are on a waiting list. Too many people keep these books too long, even making them overdue while others wait. If I know there is a waiting list I try and turn a book back within four days at the latest.
- 210 OXnard, and Thousand Oaks Library as they are run by the Cities and not by the County, I don't even care if you contract the service out, but it should be provided and paid for by sales tax increase.and keep the Parking meters
- 211 The Camarillo library. Look at it; it's new, beautiful and offers easy access to information and data. But a library does not have to be on the same scale as Camarillos'. It should just have good access to recent materials,books,and data
- 212 Oxnard Easy access to new auto tapes, videos and new books displays.
- 213 The British Library...an incredible collection of old books and a wonderful place to study.
- 214 After-school teen room in the Clovis,CA library. A place for kids to do homework and a safe place to wait until parents pick them up.

215 South Pasadena public library. Not just a library but a central meeting place for the entire community. They have a wonderful collection of books that have stood the test of time.

216 The public library of Camarillo is very nice, partially due to its large selection of books and its large space

217 Oxnard. They have lots of books on tape and it is a beautiful building.

218 Oxnard Camarillo UCSB

219 Camarillo Library -- beautiful in every way, large selection. Thousand Oaks main library -- atmosphere. layout.

220 I LOVE the Thousand Oaks library--the physical environment is welcoming and accommodating, the selection is fantastic and the organization of books is so easy to navigate.

221 Venice CA library has online archives of old photos showing the city's unique past. Broward County FL has 1000s of DVDs and CDs.

222 Camarillo and Wright Library. Camarillo was majestic, but Wright was cozy and did the job.

223 Like I said, keep Foster (it was always "my" library), but bring back the Wright Library, too. It is a shame that a city this size (and with aspirations of being an "art city" should only have one somewhat sizeable library.

224 Wright - closer to my home, easier access/parking, hours that suited my schedule more closely Camarillo - larger, good meeting spaces for small groups/dyads, coffee shop is fun etc

225 Camarillo Library and Oxnard Library...music concerts...enjoy E.P Foster book sales.

226 Why don't you ask what our libraries are doing right? With limited staff, they offer an astounding amount of information and assistance

227 Thousand Oaks; open space, children's library; fish tank

228 I grew up in Oxnard. The Oxnard Public Library has everything in one place and is huge! Parking is not a problem. also.

229 Wright Library is greatly missed on the east end of our city

- 230 Cleveland Ohio: clean & no waiting for services
Oxnard: more resources, more attractive,
cleaner
- 231 Camarillo has better travel section.
- 232 The thousand oaks library is a model of what
Ventura should be doing in the EAST END of
Ventura. The location downtown is not
conducive to visit my the majority of people in
Ventura. Is has poor parking, and the location is
also bad as it is not near schools or even close
to the geographic center of VEntura.
- 233 Camarillo and Thousand Oaks Libraries, they are
more state of the art and offer more in the way
of digital media.
- 234 Thousand Oaks
- 235 Cerritos and Camarillo have outstanding
facilities that are real centers in their
communitv.
- 236 South Oxnard library -- the light airy ambiance;
it is a welcoming place.
- 237 WHEN WE TRAVEL A LOCAL LIBRARY IS VERY
HELPFUL IN GIVING US AN IDEA OF WHAT
LOCAL THINGS OF INTEREST WE WOULD ENJOY
SEEING. IT IS ALSO A GREAT PLACE TO ACCESS
THE INTERNET IF OUR CELL PROVIDER IS WEAK.
- 238 Seattle and Vancouver- two totally wonderful
libraries. But I really like both the AVe and
downtown libraries, they have wonderul,
fantastic staff, beautiful architecture, and solid
basic collections. Keep them up!! The
downtown's pseudo-deco ardchitecture is
priseless. It could be a tourist attraction ... but
that would require money. But keep that
building whatever you do!!!
- 239 I go to Prueter 2-3 times per week. It is about 2
miles from my home, but I make a point of
going on foot, so I also get some good exercise.
RTW I am retired
- 240 Camarillo Public Library and C.I. University
Library. Access to popular books and good
selectiion of periodicals. At both libraries,
children's section was outstanding
- 241 Camarillo: clean (not like Ventura), quiet (not
like Ventura), efficient, no bums (not like
Ventura)

- 242 We recently visited the Saticoy library and while it's not much to look at from the outside, the staff member was extremely helpful and friendly. We also found exactly what we were looking for and more!
- 243 I would go to the library which is located in downtown
- 244 the reason i enjoy it is because i get to do my homework and play on the computer.
- 245 near my house
- 246 I have visited the collage library
- 247 I have also visited a library that is next to the ventura college I loved that one because their is more books that I enjoy
- 248 no i havent vist another public library
- 249 I visit the Ventura College Library.I enjoyed thier books there is many varites of books.
- 250 my school library becasse they let you lissen to ur ipod and hang out but you cant be late
- 251 There are many libraries that I have visited with excellent aspects, but with a family ultimately the best library is the one closest to home. We really valued having a library in our community near Ventura College. The downtown library is not convenient for the majority of Ventura residents and because of the setting, doesn't really have a family-friendly atmosphere.
- 252 Cerritos Library--beautiful big fish tank.
- 253 Granada Hills,CA. Because the books there were almost as great as the ones in Ventura.
- 254 Santa Barbara City Library. What I liked best was that it seemed that it was always opened. The hours didn't seem curtailed.
- 255 Camarillo - more modern, better collection
- 256 I love both of the libraries in the Ojai Valley. They are both staffed by friendly, helpful people. Both libraries are comfortable and the people cheerful and willing to help you in anyway. Kids especially like the libraries.
- 257 Camarillo library
- 258 I enjoyed the Camarillo library because it had a quiet reading area.You could sit down on a pillow and read a book whenever you wanted to

259 While not exactly a public library, I loved the media center at Foothill Tech High School on Day Road. Comfortable places to sit; computer stations and hookups; helpful and friendly staff; accessible books, magazines, etc. A relaxed and welcoming space.

260 Camarillo library is awesome with its use of space and lighting. Has a beautiful area for children to learn and read.

261 Camarillo. Family friendly. Cafe.

262 SB Library. It FEELS like an institution of higher learning.

263 Amarillo Library- the facility was so nice, excellent children's section and an overall great experience.

264 camarillo. The one by Day road was nice also

265 The Library in Las Vegas when they held a ChaHuely (sp) Exhibit and video of the artist at work. Also the Oxnard Library which has an huge collection of books on tape as well as a substantial book selection

266 Oxnard library for it's large collection of materials for all ages and in all formats. The Camarillo library for its warm & inviting facility, large study areas, cleanliness and lack of vagrant population

267 Camarillo, It is in a safe and clean area

268 Santa paula Public for their attitude and public commitment...why are't we hearing more about their methods, instead of the pre-planned releases to the local press? Another good local library, which is actively used, is in Santa Barbara, plus the College and University libraries in the tri-counties. What are folks here

269 Santa Clara Public Library in Northern California - It was friendly and warm lots of windows so lots of the outside coming in too.

270 Being a former librarian at Mich. State U., the East Lansing public library was excellent, the Delaware County Ohio library has an excellent collection. I go to both Oxnard and Ray Prueter and I would like to see an easier way of suggesting book purchases

- 271 I really enjoyed the Wright Library. The employees were very friendly and helpful. The light, landscaping and space were were comfortable. It was well attended and a place where you always saw somebody you knew.
- 272 Thousand Oaks - It is a beautiful children's gathering place, it's a nice new building and it has many books, cds and movies to rent.
- 273 Wright Library my children remember checking out books during the summer and were excited to receive stickers.
- 274 Central Library in downtown Portland, OR, is in a beautifully restored historic building with a large collection of books and periodicals, expansive public spaces, and a coffee shop. I also enjoyed the Hollywood District library in Portland, OR, because it is a neighborhood library and provides a nice collection of books plus access to the whole collection without having to go all the way downtown to check out or return books.
- 275 I have used Camarillo Library, initially because it was convenient but continued to visit due to it's helpful and knowledgeable staff and readily available materials. However, since the holidays management style seems to have deteriorated. Also, new materials seem to be only fiction best sellers. A Wal-Mart of libraries.
- 276 West Des Moines Iowa. it is bright , clean and has a wide array of literary resources.
- 277 Burbank Library. many activities for children. clean. Story time, outdoor plays for the family and community
- 278 Santa Monica Main Library - it's beautiful, lot's of meeting and study space (I've gone there for workshops), nice outdoor space, onsite coffee shop and it's vibrant
- 279 I always enjoy visiting the Camarillo Library. They have a fantastic ambiance and the book selection is amazing. I also like their used book shop.

280 I really liked the patio with outdoor furniture at Wright Library. It would have been fun to have musical concerts or drama events or book fairs there, but the library was closed before those events could be planned. I really like the comfy furniture for hanging out and reading at Camarillo Library. It's very homey and makes me want to linger. The Foster Library is very cool with it's mid-centuray modern vibe, a real architectural treasure that the city should take advantage of, but it's not very cozy.

281 I regularly visit libraries that have a focus on local history and specialized collections that relate to the communities. I am most impressed by facilities that have advanced search methods and unique local collections. I really love the Seattle Public Library -- with an entire floor devoted to local history and genealogy.

282 A wonderful library I visited is in Hyrum, Ut. It was spacious and provided a lot of quiet nooks for reading. Although it was a small-town facility and I understand they are still building their collections, the atmosphere was

CANTACTIC!!

283 WRIGHT library was my favorite with its ambiance, facilities and wonderful children's area. Also, I live on the EAST end and resent having to travel downtown to use the library.

Now I rarely go

284 Simi Valley...good selection of new books.

285 camarilo library is beautiful and welcoming. they also have a variety of books available

286 the camarillo library has a wonderful children's area

287 I now utilize the Soliz library in El Rio, because it is between my workplace and my home. I miss having the Ventura library near Ventura College - it was nicely located for midtowners and eastenders, had a great ambiance.

288 EP Foster kids section is nice. I would further encourage investment in comfy chairs you wouldnt have access elsewhere. The front fascia of building is not inviting. Desparately needs updating. Green and Green style would be slick. Also neat if library new sylabus for ventura public schools and generated materials geared toward weekly/monthly objectives.

- 289 the old library on day road
- 290 self checkout that worked! self checkin with a receipt! walk up quick use internet computers without having a local library card. areas labled showing what is on the shelves ie: cooking, travel, agatha christy, steven king, and so on. displays with flyers of all the events happening at the library for adults and kids. bookclubs. activities for teen like a teen club. budget information and resources information about the library in a brochure.
- 291 CAMARILLO LIBRARY!... beautiful construction, true to the southern california environment, great selection of books and plenty of room for studying! I woul LOVE to see something like that here in our Ventura! with the adition of art display
- 292 Please re open the wright library! My children hardly go into the EP Foster library and use the online system so I don't have to deal with the parking and the homeless issues. We miss the Wright Library
- 293 In Chapel Hill, NC, the public library is beautiful and clean with tons of magazines and new books with reading areas in front of a wall of windows that face a wooded area.
- 294 "I liked our old library (Wright), I miss that one."
"I liked that I could go outside and feel safe."
- 295 The public library I have visited and I really enjoyed was the Camarillo public library. I enjoyed my visit because in my opinion, they offered services that met the needs of the very young, all the way up to adults
- 296 Oxnard, its lovely, I get a lot of books to listen to in my car & in my home, and videos for my family. I check out other books (non-fiction) on lots of different topics
- 297 Oxnard Public Library, large bilingual section and video selection and great gift shop.
- 298 Beverly Hills---beautiful environment, inviting one to sit and read in comfort! Great collection of music CDs. Also, the newest library at Ventura College is beautiful and provides good reading spaces and lighting for reading. Also, Oxnard Public Library has many resources, many more CD's than Ventura.

- 299 Oak View library has an EXCELLENT staff. They are knowledgeable and friendly. Same with Ojai library. Both have a warm inviting atmosphere. You can sit there reading as comfortably as you can at home
- 300 Ojai - close to home
- 301 Wright library which was close to my home and felt cozy.
- 302 Oxnard library, distance from my house the same as Foster, good selection of books, lovely gift shop. friendly personnel.
- 303 Ojai and Camarillo libraries Attractive open friendly feeling
- 304 Wright Library was so much fun...an amazing selection of biographies and history. This was a homey atmosphere.
- 305 oxnard public library downtown has a much bigger collection and more up-to-date
- 306 Thousand Oaks, classes and presentations of interest
- 307 I have visited several college libraries. I like their reference resources for research purposes and the air of academia.
- 308 I like the Foster Library for it's downtown location.
- 309 Chico State Library Computers were there to help you locate books, they were only used as a catalog & that was nice. There were lots of areas that one could study or just sit back and read quietly. The lighting was soft, but bright enough to see. There were meeting rooms for study groups or conferences; that allowed group discussion without interrupting other patrons. Plus, they had a vast selection of
- 310 THE OXNARD LIBRARY!!! WOW!!! They helped me get an article from the seventies in McCall's magazine through Los Angeles Public Library. Foster library had no clue
- 311 city of Thousand Oaks main library is really nice and the set up is both user friendly and relaxing.
- 312 Oxnard Main, large, lots of resources
- 313 Santa Clara Public Library in Santa Clara CA - a beautiful spacious place with a great selection.
- 314 The Camarillo Library has a wonderful children's section that my two year old son adores. It's fun and whimsical and offers a great atmosphere for curling up and reading a stack of picture books together

- 315 I have visited other libraries, but what makes the library most useful for me is being able to reserve books for pickup from other locations. The online system is fantastic and the staff is very fast at getting them to the E.P. Foster location where I visit
- 316 When Wright Library was closed I was forced to choose Camarillo Library as my new home library. Hate commute but they have books, items I need & support by city council.
- 317 County Library in Camarillo.
- 318 E.P. Foster is the best!
- 319 Great library - E. P. Foster.
- 320 Ojai library and used to prefer to visit Wright because they are more accessible to community, with pleasant atmosphere and staff
- 321 Beverly Hills Library -Ambiance Study Areas
- 322 I lived in Valencia (Santa Clarita Valley) for many years and spent a lot of hours with my children growing up. They loved story times and researching material for school projects etc I checked out movies and music and of course books
- 323 Camarillo library has a much more comprehensive selection of books (especially in the children's section) and is esthetically pleasing. I love that how the children's department is laid out. In the summer months, during the reading program, youth run the reading program which sends a wonderful message to my kids about how fun and important this program is.
- 324 Camarillo Library - great children's reading area; out door fountain, tables, chairs, cafe.
- 325 H.P.Wright Library It was a very convenient location for my family
- 326 I enjoyed the H.P. Wright Library, it was close to home.
- 327 Camarillo is a joy to visit. Everything a library should be. I also enjoyed the now defunct Wright library--a real loss to the community. It was a perfect location
- 328 The Thousand Oaks Library styling is invitingly unique. The Santa Maria Main Library's coffee shop franchise allows a causal coffee house atmosphere and draws many WI-FI laptop computer people; Ala Starbucks..

329 Camarillo, Large, clean.

330 My husband and I briefly visited the Saticoy Library, and, although small, it had a friendly and helpful staff and various magazines and newspapers. (The Saticoy Library is the next closest to us since the Wright Library has closed)

331 Beverly Hills, the main library in Manhattan. I find myself suspect of the libraries that are now privately managed. I am afraid that what I read and research will be tracked and sold, or perhaps worse, shared with organizations I don't approve of. If the Ventura Library were to use a private company to manage the library, it is likely that I would stop using it and begin protesting the use of public funds to pay a private firm for the services. Having to pay for services and the private company's profits is a poor use of tax dollars.

332 Camarillo--it is pleasant and spacious, beautifully decorated, quiet, used by many members of the community, has many convenient, comfortable places to work (desk space with accessible electric outlets for plugging in laptops)

333 Shokan NY-interlibrary loan-submitted a list and they got them for me.

334 Meiners Oaks - small, intimate, lots of activities
Ojai - story time, lectures,

335 Chattanooga, TN. It was near a Children's Discovery Center and was very inviting for little ones. There is a program in TN paid for by Dolly Parton which sends a book a month to the homes of all children in TN to age 5. I favor all children's programs like our "Paws for Reading." Reading space in the library is critical. We need to re-evaluate our 2nd Floor Policy at E.P. Foster. It punishes all as a means to keep out a few undesireables. Most important, I will only support our libraries if they are run by public employees. Public librarians are an essential ingredient in quality library service. I will not support turning our library over to "for profit" LSSI and their understaffing and anemic collections. LSSI, the Wal-Mart of libraries. Disgraceful that our City Council is considering the marketing line of this dishonorable company that has no respect for libraries or the hard working public employees who staff them.

336 Oxnard has more events for kids

337 I think the public library should be the hub of the community. When I visited the TO library recently, they had a coffee cart and an area with a living room atmosphere. It felt welcoming and comfortable. People of all ages were mingling as they pursued their various interests. Also, there were rooms designated as

338 Powell Library @ UCLA. Great collections, great spaces. A great PUBLIC library.

339 Oxnard Public Library. It offers accessibility in terms of hours open and a wide range of materials. Hosts speakers and provides meeting rooms.

340 I've loved libraries since I was a child. I loved being left alone with books but having someone who could answer questions about finding what I wanted. I liked quiet, clean places to read, easy check-out and return.

341 i loved wright library because there were more books than i could imagine, and lots of room to spread out. the people were friendly too.

342 The New York Public Library has large Reading Desk with now electronic plugs to encourage reading rather than online browsing and Facebook.

343 Santa Monica p.l. Tons of staff to answer questions. tons of computers to access internet. Constantly receiving new books in all subjects. They have FOUR branches, and one more being built, in a city of 8 sq. miles. Awesome.

344 The library that was closed on Day road. Please reopen it. A beautiful local library.

345 The Wright Library. We REALLY enjoyed this icon of the small town friendly atmosphere. We use the Foster because we have to but it is not a treat more of a chore and a drive

346 Oxnard Library has more varied resources, more cultural events to bring the public in, and even a gift shop....

347 Camrillo, for its faciities, books on CD/D VD's

348 Thousand Oaks.

349 Mountain View Public Library in Mountain View Calif 94041 - I am in this library often because my grandchildren live here. It is a vital, busy library. The librarians have a very good attitude and it is filled with normal people - I love the Ventura Library and use it all the time but it is a less friendly environment.

350 i've visited the oxnard library and i really like the gift shop, the design, the open space anf the atmosphere!

351 oak view i love it because it has a really good selection of books

352 Boulder, Colorado. Beautiful setting on the creek with mountain views and big windows. lots of new books, computers, several librarians. Near the University of Colorado.

353 Thousand Oaks Library Janss Road ----Large Resources Camarillo Library Los Posas Road --- Used Book Store

354 I also visit the Oxnard Public Library. It's close to work and I check out items for my students. It has spacious and comfortable areas to read and a homework club for kids

- 355 Pacific Beach Public Library, when I was 14 years old. Because I could go there, browse the stacks, check out books, take them home, read them, bring them back and do it again. My life would be hugely less without public libraries. And I doing really good things, for our community, with my life. See the connection? Young person reads, grows up, keeps reading, becomes a contributing citizen, helps make the world a better place. Keep our libraries open. It is shameful that the Wright Library was closed.
- 356 West Covina, Sun Valley Idaho, LA: vast offering, even in the small town of Sun Valley
- 357 Both Montecito and SB because they have better collections and more staff and are generally friendlier and more useful. And, I believe that libraries should be well and fully public institutions, not farmed out to private concerns. It is OUP library
- 358 Port Hueneme is a cute friendly library with helpful staff.
- 359 The city of Palmdale library offers online fine payment, that was very helpful.
- 360 Preuter Library in Port Hueneme, it is close to my home, smaller and seems to be exceptionally friendly.
- 361 HP Wright
- 362 I intend to visit the Camarillo Library because I've heard great things about it.
- 363 In Santa Barbara and Fresno. I was able to use the computer to get directions to an event I was going to, and to let friends know I was in town, and make arrangements spontaneously. I really appreciated that. I could also find out quickly what events were happening those weekends of travel quickly in a new environment.
- 364 Saticoy was nice but in a very unsafe neighborhood
- 365 I believe that the librarians are key to making a good library feel accessible and in making the libraries resources known. I love both the Flagstaff, Arizona and the Northridge Los Angeles County Library branch because the staff seems focused on engaging each person who walks into the library.

- 366 I like the Corona Public Library in Corona California because they have designated study rooms for students looking to meet at the library and study together
- 367 CAMARILLO IS WELCOMING AND HAS A GREAT BOOKSTORE AND COFFEE.MCTIGUELINDA@YAHOO.COM
- 368 Thousand Oaks Public Library - good computers, places to read books and magazines, helpful service desk, meeting rooms and study rooms, etc.
- 369 Camarillo. Well laid out, very good catalog. Lots of chairs, tables to sit at and read.
- 370 no
- 371 Oxnard - it's a community gathering place; they do have a really good collection of books, especially those in Spanish.
- 372 Oxnard Public Library spacious and comfortable - feels good; check out books for one month, large children's section, large new books selections, fiction and non-fiction; large Spanish section. I've attended lectures there. I love this library!
- 373 Oxnard downtown public library. They were fortunate to have had excellent architectural design for their building resulting in very inviting, well arranged and well lit spaces which invite one to explore
- 374 I already provided the other information. Just wanted to be sure my views on privatization were included. Access to information is as essential to a functioning democracy as air and water are to life. All are part of our commons, not commodities to be bought and sold.
- 375 Camarillo for its spaciousness, cafe, fountain, all-around aesthetic beauty.
- 376 Bard School Library---collections of books all grouped by Accelerated reader reading levels in English and Spanish--nice seating areas for students to enjoy. Lot's of computers for student/staff use
- 377 Camarillo, Thousand Oaks - great resources at both
- 378 Camarillo Public Library. It is a beautiful, spacious, inviting facility. It shows that the city of Camarillo values lifelong learning.

379 good libraries are well designed spaces, ample, generous spaces, inspiring, far from institutional. Modern requirements emphasize high speed internet with broad accessibility suited to many connections, streaming at once. A unique community resource would be wimax sponsored in open areas - beaches, harbors, downtown, parks

380 Ojai Library is one of the friendliest libraries in Ventura County. The Portland OR library system is wonderful as is the remodled Minneapolis library

381 Camarillo. Good book selection. Clean, organized facilities.

382 Camarillo - lovely inviting space for kids and families, broad selection of current titles

383 the Camarillo library, because it has this really cool ship thing with puppets and pictures from classics.it's a easy place to be quiet and read in the childrens section.

384 Thousand Oaks library. Exceptional facility. Broad range of classes and wide variety of books and other materials. Camarillo. An inviting facility with lots of offerings

385 Of late I have been buying books, but this is getting very expensive.

386 We love to go to the Camarillo Library. They have defined areas for teens and kids. The space is welcoming and the staff is very friendly. I don't feel scared to leave my tween alone to look for a book. The downtown Ventura library attracts a variety of people that I'm unsure of what they might do.

387 The Thousand Oaks Library on Janss backs to such a beautiful location and is such a great resource for the community in Ventura County.

388 Camarillo because they have a great kids' section with a wonderful, accessible audiobook selection.

389 I really loved the H.P. Wright library. It was bright and had an open feel to it (I don't feel the same at the Foster). The Wright had a garden/open court that added natural lighting to the library and gave it a larger more natural feel

390 Camarillo Library is fabulous--the customer service is excellent, the decor is relaxing and took some careful thought and planning, there are plenty of spaces to do work, and the children's area was created for exploration and discovery.

391 We love the Camarillo Public Library. It is our favorite. The kids section is downstairs and it is amazing. Easy to pick out books and it very well organized, cozy etc. I just can't tell enough good things about it. The only problem that it is a little bit far, but worth the drive.

392 Camarillo library. I love the children's section and the large variety of books available there. Also the librarians there seem to want to be there and help patrons--not the case at the E.B. Foster library down town.

393 I recently spent a Saturday afternoon to visit 5 different libraries to obtain library cards to access their overdrive ebook collections.... Santa Paula/Blanchard, Calabasas, Woodland Hills/LA City, Westlake Village/LA County, and Thousand Oaks. The 2 that stood out were Woodland Hills and Westlake Village. Even though both are part of much larger systems, the courtesy and helpfulness of the front desk staff went far and beyond the others. It made me want to visit those libraries again... something so basic but so important. The other libraries had employees who acted like robots and you could tell they really didn't care about their customers

394 City of Santa Barbara main library has an incredible stock of books Camarillo Public library - same - all books i want used to come from here. Used to go to the Wright Library in Ventura all the time. Horrifying that it is gone!

395 Camarillo library, childrens section adn overall layout

396 H.P Right Library had a calm atmosphere and was close to my home, as well as being far more welcoming to youth than the current two ventura libraries

397 santa barbara

398 Lacey, Washington. Friendly staff, no fines, lots of comfortable seating, no fear of homeless people, good bathrooms without need for a key. Email notification of items available for pickup

399 West Palm Beach Florida. It is so clean and advanced technologically. it has a great children's center. they also put on plays according to the seasonal holidays and have story time. My little cousins enjoy is very much and look forward to time spent there.

400 santa paula library was more kid friendly and busier than ive ever seen our libraries

401 Down town ventura enjoyed the books there

402 I go to libraries in every city I visit. Denver Colorado main library is great, helpful, and has good intuitive staff helping with historical newspaper info

403 Camarillo Library on Las Posas. It is a beautiful atmosphere with current technology and books with lots of organized children activities and great children reading area with puppets.

404 My children and I really like the Camarillo public library, they have a big children area and many books to choose from. It farther away from the adults books so we don't have to be too quiet

405 Oxnard library-beautiful and large location with great children's section and Spanish book section.

406 The libraries in Santa Monica and downtown Los Angeles are magnificent, beautifully designed, and the staffs are friendly, helpful, and accommodating. When one enters the buildings, the feeling of being encompassed by history is palatable.

407 I am a former Wright Library patron. The staff was very customer focused and friendly. The staff at E.P. Foster was abrupt and distrustful whenever I went to that site. Perhaps the difference in the two sites clientele was the reason---the homeless population being a real challenge and calling for increased watchfulness and a different form of services. Now though, with the blending of the two staffs I am seeing a reduction in this anti-patron behavior and an increase in friendliness. This represents a MAJOR improvement and upgrading of service at E.P.Foster. What I do especially like about having to use E.P. Foster is that I get an excuse to go downtown Ventura, which is a wonderful place. I am always reminded when I go downtown of how fortunate I am to live in this city that actually HAS a downtown. Kudos to our city employees, including the library staffs, that contribute to the quality of life here!

408 Wright Library. Location, Location, Location. It was perfect for children, teens, and families and highly utilized. Downtown is far, parking is problem, and the downstairs holds with the

unfair parking
409 College campus libraries,

410 Camarillo and Thousand Oaks

411 New York PL, L.A. Downtown, many others. Such beautiful spaces with huge resources. It's inspiring. Ventura doesn't have the funding for a gorgeous, gigantic library, but within our own means we can provide an inspiring space for members of our community to find solace and

412 Camarillo and Moorpark because everyone was nice, helpful, and I wasn't worried about the creepy homeless guys who use the library to

access porn.
413 Denver and San Francisco main libraries - both had beautiful architecture with lots of light and open space but also had a great variety of books & magazines & journals

414 I mainly visit the downtown library, it is closest to my home.

415 The City of Pleasanton library. It has an open, atrium in the center with tons of light entering the space. The Ventura libraries often feel closed in and dark. I also like the new Camarillo library which feels like a safe place to take my young children. I do not feel this way about EP Foster Library, where there is an element visiting the library that is part of Ventura, but that makes me nervous when visiting with my children. I visit the Ventura library far less often now that H.P. Wright Library is closed.

416 Camarillo has a nicely integrated cafe and used bookstore. Oxnard has a huge selection of videos and reference books.

417 yes i also enjoyed it too.

418 Oxnard's public library is a bit more modern however I cannot say I favored my experience there because that library did not reflect my community. I dont appreciate having to go to another community to receive what I should be able to enjoy at home.

419 Downtown Ventura library.

420 The new Camarillo library. I frequent that one now. It's a beautiful library in a safe location with a great supply of books and nice librarians.

421 camarillo beautiful, spacious, separate classroom for Adult Literacy

422 Santa Barbara and oxnard libraries provide spaces that are toddler friendly with other toys like puzzles, and puppets. At this libraries I enjoy the self checkout machines and the fact they have more private classrooms in case people are having meetings or working on homework.

423 Carlsbad,CA. It was large, clean and equipped with all things I like in a library--lots of books and references.

424 One thing that I enjoy about this library being part of the county system is that I can borrow books from one library in the system and return it at another. As a home visitor that often finds myself in different parts of the county, this is a very convenient feature and greatly aids me in providing resources to the families with whom I

425 We love the Camarillo library for its great architecture and vibe, and we love the large bookstore and cafe there as well. Super kids' area

426 Wright Library!

427 Camarillo. The children's section is amazing.

428 The Camarillo library located on Los Posas Rd. It is a very inviting facility that encourages young readers to visit and partake of its offerings

429 I only didn't visit a library in Ventura because I am traveling & was kept away longer than planned. I go to the city library where I am visiting & one thing I REALLY enjoy here are their book clubs & writer in residence programs. They have a variety of book clubs to suit all interests, led by a member of the library staff, and the copies of the selected books are gathered from all the branches and made available in the location hosting the club. The Writer in Residence program brings a professional writer to give ongoing consultation and advice to local writers with their own work.

430 Ojai Branch/Meiners Oaks Branch. Thank you!

431 Both Camarillo and Oxnard have large easy to navigate libraries with plenty of places to sit and read or research.

432 camarillo library

433 The City of Thousand Oaks Library where I work. Great selection of new and old books, cultural & music events and beautiful architecture

conducive to learning

434 thousand oakd, oxnard

435 Los Angeles - Downtown - puppet theater, beautiful, inspiring buidling. San Francisco - Downtown - beautiful building.

436 I enjoyed the Wright Library, as it was a 10 minute walk from my house, and the staff was friendly and helpful. Bring it back please

437 Santa Paula Library is small, intimate, user friendly. Children's section is cozy and welcoming. Oxnard library and Camarillo library are also wonderful

438 South Pasadena small but ample

439 Need a bigger central library.

440 Saticoy- it functions as a community gathering place where people feel welcome and find help.

441 Downtown LA

- 442 Oxnard City Library and Camarillo City library.
Centrally located and good parking. Parking is
very limited at EP Foster Library.
- 443 Just went to the Camarillo Library and was
amazed by the space and amount of books plus
all the programs.
- 444 Pasadena- I loved all the beauty.
- 445 Camarillo Library is beautiful- best of places to
sit and read.
- 446 the camarillo library is much better. The carpets
are clean, the bathrooms are nice, the furniture
isn't old and dirty like at the library in Ventura.
also, camarillo library has a lot of books for kids
in spanish, and about three long rows of books
in spanish for adults. the computers always
work at Camarillo Library. The workers are
more professional too.
- 447 Oxnard Public Library is very quiet and spacious.
- 448 Oxnard Public Library (main branch): has an
extensive inventory and meeting rooms,
provides passport photo services, is clean and
well-organized, provides ample quiet space for
reading/study
- 449 I really enjoyed the library that was next to the
college, before it closed down.
- 450 Camarillo public library. Beautiful and
comfortable facility with large study and work
tables.
- 451 Camarillo's new library. Fresh floorplan, inviting
visuals, lots of books.
- 452 Both Camarillo & TO and Oxnard have meeting
rooms and casual sitting areas as well as desk
cubbies and large desk areas. They have space!
They also have an auditorium and FREE
convenient PARKING
- 453 Newberg OR - quaint, warm & welcoming
visually - lots of information about what was
happening within the community - quiet places
& space for kids. I hear they have plans to add
an outside space
- 454 Foster- The staff was very helpful
- 455 Estes Park, CO- many resources, nice space.
Jackson, NY.
- 456 Camarillo- It's modern, beautiful and the light is
perfect!
- 457 The books.
- 458 Oxnard has two excellent facilities, the
downtown and the new South Oxnard facility.
Great architecture, excellent resources,
expanding DVD selection

- 459 No I don't
- 460 You have forgotten the Saticoy library. I think libraries should offer books. There is no reason to have the extra expense of computers as kids have computer access at their schools. I do not see why an adult would need access to a computer. If looking for work, they can use the EDD computer lab.
- 461 Libraries are a relic of the past. Years ago I used public facilities but today I find everything I need on the Internet.
- 462 The Library of Congress in Washington D.C.! Simply awesome.
- 463 Reseda- Summer program
- 464 Camarillo City Library is where I go - it has a plethora of books/audio cds/reference materials and it is a beautiful, peaceful library - and the staff will do cartwheels trying to help me - just like they did at Wright - before the city council penalized us for not approving yet another tax increase - enjoying that new cinema
- 465 Santa Monica - long hours, state of the art facilities, great service. Beverly Hills, the same. Santa Barbara, the same. Camarillo, the same. Oxnard the same
- 466 Ventura College Library
- 467 The Wright Library was the most convenient location in town. Near population centers or on the way to some other destination such as the PV Mall or downtown. I used to ride my bike to Wright Library once a week to check out books. The political decision to close it was ill-conceived and lacking in analytical long range
- 468 REOPEN WRIGHT!
- 469 I like to visit the Wright library next to City College. It was not too far away and parking was rarely a problem. I enjoyed being able to go there and browse for interesting books.
- 470 Camarillo Public Library has a huge selection of books and resources and excellent meeting rooms.
- 471 I loved Wright Library. I used to go frequently. Have only gotten down to Foster Library once! I miss Wright so!!!
- 472 Thousand Oaks. They have a lot of events there and beautiful grounds/library.

- 473 The Rancho Mirage Library out near Palm Springs. It is beautiful, great places to sit and read, music performances, longer term lending agreements. Great gallery spaces too, it is a hub of cultural events
- 474 I used to visit Saticoy because of the helpful staff who are no longer there.
- 475 My hometown of Elmhurst, Illinois has an absolutely fantastic library. It is large with a giant kid's section, up-to-date computers in the kid's section with learning-type games, a plenitude of books, a conservatory and park with a large playground across the drive, a beautiful garden with benches nearby. I have to tell you, my son once asked me what heaven was like. I told him to think of a time when he was the happiest. He said, "Oh, that's easy! When we visited your old library, Mom!" That about sums it up.
- 476 Oxnard. Beautiful building, welcoming space, good resources.
- 477 I've been going to public libraries most of my life. It is a familiar and quiet place to browse and learn. They are all very similar. I visited the Oxnard Central Library a few years back when I needed a DVD in a hurry for a program that was announced for a group that I was leading and the DVD did not arrive on time. I was blown away by the resources of this beautiful new edifice and its knowledgeable staff.
- 478 Oxnard library has many more books and the books are arranged more like a book store.
- 479 Saticoy branch because its location is convenient, its small and intimate and the service is great.
- 480 I'm a published writer of antebellum history who frequently uses material contained in library archives, newspapers, journals, rare publications, etc. I liked to use the library for inter library loans of rare or unusual publications. With the closure of the local library I use other means for inter library loans.
- 481 Novato City Library.... They keep their collections up to snuff.
- 482 Oxnard Public Library - atmosphere and size are to my liking. Closer to my home than EP or Westside libraries even though I live in Ventura. I'm on the East end..

- 483 Santa Barbara, New York City, NY
- 484 I only patronize the Ventura Library. Please don't privatize the Library System. We need to, as a Good Community, keep the private sector out of this very vital Service. I am very fearful that it will become ONLY FOR PROFIT and could care less about the vital part the Library plays in the Community success. PLEASE DON'T PRIVATE
- 485 I believe that a private operator could better control the situation.
- 486 The Thousand Oaks, Camarillo, and Oxnard (main) Libraries are all much more modern, have more and newer materials, and have access to private meeting rooms where I tutor students in both literacy and ESL
- 487 Camarillo - it is beautiful and inviting and the used book store is outstanding and a great way to get more funds for the library
- 488 Santa Barbara Main Branch because it has a great selection of books in its art section and I always discover new things that I wasn't looking for among the volumes!
- 489 I enjoy each library I visit, and each library and location provides its own unique environment.
- 490 Portland, Oregon has a great collection of books and music. Suggestion: charge us a nominal amount - 25-50 cents for reserves and interlibrary loans. Other libraries do that. You could also ask more of us to support the library financially
- 491 I absolutely love the Downtown Oxnard Library. It is the best and most beautiful library I have ever used. One of the things I most enjoyed there was the wide selection of current books and topics that I listen to on National Public Radio. They were also very helpful in acquiring books that I wanted to read.
- 492 The Portland Oregon library has a massive and well maintained collection of books and media resources. Please don't privatize! Public libraries are a longstanding and honorable tradition which should never be turned over to private profit making businesses.
- 493 My wife and I loved our local library at the city college, it was well staffed, convenient and loaded with great books, the city still has the cheap lease we need it back

- 494 Camarillo Library in Camarillo, Ca...specially due to the children's section, open spaces to work and study and space for meeting and social events
- 495 Carpinteria has a nice library. Newbury Park does too. It would be better if you did not have to live there to check out books.
- 496 UCSB student library
- 497 Moorpark Library when I visit relatives in that city
- 498 H.P. Wright Library
- 499 Camarillo
- 500 Camarillo, because it is beautiful, new and well set up! Also, it is on the way to see children and grandchildren nearby, and take them there often
- 501 It's a good place to read.
- 502 Camarillo
- 503 Book clubs
- 504 Seattle, Washington. They have a picture collection- for check out
- 505 Arcadi library has small outdoor reading alcoves. Great for noisy children
- 506 Thousand Oaks and Camarillo
- 507 Faulkner Library. Art, huge inventory of books, places to read
- 508 Port Hueneme Library because it is were I live and it is a well organized place. I can find what I'm looking for easily. If they don't have the book I want, they will order it from another library. All done cheerfully and quickly.
- 509 Oxnard, Camarillo. Large selection of items
- 510 Camarillo, much better selection and more organized
- 511 Contest for kids readings, gift cards, writing contests. Wright Library
- 512 Your Extension Branch part of the Grade School in Piru, CA another access point to computers and the internet plus printing when not in Ventura
- 513 Princeville, Hawaii
- 514 Santa Paula. Reading to Dogs had helped many shy children to read. The learning and the place is exciting..art .reading.photography,computers the volunteers and employees,.
- 515 Oxnard library, they have mommy and child reading classes
- 516 Camarillo

- 517 The new camarillo library is amazing the technology and atmosphere is amazing
- 518 VC library
- 519 LA public library, large selection
- 520 Santa Clara, large spaces for working/studying (private)
- 521 Wright because of location to schools
- 522 Camarillo, beautiful architecture
- 523 I used to visit and use 2 times a week the H.P. Wright Library. My son and daughter learned to enjoy the benefits of library at that location.
- 524 Montecito Library has a wonderful inviting reading room with comfy chairs.
- 525 Oxnard, Camarillo, West Los Angeles, they all were much larger in overall workspace.
- 526 Wright library - more convenient, easy parking and short walk from my home.
- 527 Really enjoy Oxnard Public Library. Their Main Library has a great collection and very professional staff. Please do not imitate Camarillo and hire LSSI to manage for you for profit. Despite any promises, service will be compromised for profit
- 528 Thousand Oaks
- 529 Camarillo library: spacious, visually appealing, abundant. I wanted to get comfortable and stay a while! Vancouver (Canada) public library is also a fantastic place. It's huge and is a great resource for young, old, and students of all ages. Lots of different resources and also appealing extras like a cafe, gift stores, etc.
- 530 Bookmobile. Please provide a bookmobile to the H.P. Wright location. The Bookmobile would deliver books that have been placed on hold to be picked up at the H.P. Wright location. The Bookmobile could come once during the week in the evening, say around 6:00pm on Wednesday nights and once again on the weekends, say Saturday at 10:00am. You could place books on hold via the internet and have them loaded on the Bookmobile to pick up at H.P. Wright. I'm sure a lot of people in East Ventura would use this service to get their books rather than go downtown. It would make it convenient, save trips downtown and save on gas.

- 531 Oxnard on 2nd & B - get a great facility. good book resources, lots of families and wide range of users - they let you donate at the check desk!!
- 532 I really enjoyed H.P. Wright Library when it was open. The customer service was helpful. The location was convenient. The atmosphere was friendly, and there were lots of kids there.
- 533 Tuscon libraries - very light and cheery with friendly staff
- 534 Oxnard library, extensive collection of books on tape/cd
- 535 Camarillo
- 536 Love Camarillo . Beautiful and enjoy the shop and cafe
- 537 Camarillo
- 538 T.O and Camarillo
- 539 Bringing back the Wright library
- 540 Oxnard and Saticoy, large variety of items
- 541 Camarillo, pleased atmosphere, quiet, gorgeous surroundings
- 542 I always felt that every community needs a library
- 543 salt lake city library brought in local art, moved though the venue. The city of Madison WI does read-a-thon promoted by the libraries where the whole city reads one book and then they hold many book groups meetings for people to come and talk about it. The topics are usually multicultural or particularity relevant to city
- 544 N/A
- 545 The Camarillo Library. The children's section is AWESOME!!
- 546 The public library I truly miss is the Wright Library. Everyone from the littlest of children to senior citizens were able to enjoy its offerings, including sitting outside on the patio or under the trees in the front. The staff there put enormous effort into the various programs and were most helpful in answering questions. The library also provided many opportunites for young people to volunteer. In other words, the Wright Library was a safe haven. Another plus for our family was that it was within walking distance. We miss Wright!!!
- 547 Meridian Idaho-a very family friendly branch library
- 548 Lincoln School. they love books for kids

549 Oxnard Library and Santa Barbara both offered comfortable chairs and proper reading areas, and easy access to stacks

550 Oxnard

551 Wright Library- small, clean, easy parking, close to home for frequent use, safe and welcoming to adults and children alike.

552 Oxnard library. Vast assortment of books on tape & cd. Ability to renew over the phone. No fines for seniors.

553 Ventura Community College and UCSB both have excellent libraries. As I live in Ventura, the VCC is a convenient place to do research, use computers, find books and periodicals, etc.

554 Oxnard Library, Wright Library.

555 The only other library I have visited lately is Camarillo, and I find more of what I'm looking for at e.p. foster. Also, the staff at Foster was more helpful. The building at Camarillo was impressive, but I found more of what I needed at Foster. What ever happened To building a library at Kimball Park?

556 It is located in the city of Camarillo. The services offered

557 Camarillo. (At least before the take-over)
Relaxing place for kids to explore while adults read. Lots of great books, books on tape and resources

558 thousand oaks library : a would like books at a library or ways to access information, It is not to be an active center.

559 La Canada Flintridge - They always had a place for flyers, etc. about meetings and events. There were local artist's paintings in the meeting room.

560 The Oxnard library is a wonderful place. They have many resources, and their children's room is full of wonderful adventures. To me it is what a library should be.

561 Camarillo: Facility. Lighting. Ambiance. Stacks.
Oxnard: Books on tape. Stacks. Children's section.

562 I live in Ojai and work in Ventura. I love the Ojai library for its intimacy and they know the names of frequent visitors. It is a beautiful facility

563 Oxnard Libraries have great selections, plenty of space to read and work, and are run very well.

- 564 I like the variety of books, access to the catalog via the web. The ability to order books and receive notice that they are in to be picked up.
- 565 Camarillo Library - modern, roomy, good use of space for books and computers, etc. It's not overcrowded feeling.
- 566 Ray D. Prueter Library, It has friendly staff (very helpful). Good programing. Just a very nice place to be.
- 567 Cammarillo, newer and prettier
- 568 Ojai
- 569 Camarillo, its openness, size, selection of books and computers to use. It's a beautiful building
- 570 Camarillo is beautiful design especially for children
- 571 I enjoy the Foster library. It's relatively quite downstairs. The Avenue library is too noisy!
- 572 Camarillo library
- 573 Thousand Oaks
- 574 Camarillo, tranquility and beautiful setting
- 575 Pismo Beach and Santa Barbara
- 576 Public library in Columbia, Missouri. No late fee. If book not turned in then can't check out anvmore till returned
- 577 Santa Barbara and Thousand Oaks.
- 578 Thousand Oaks and Santa Barbara
- 579 Camarillo
- 580 college libaray is more comfortable
- 581 Camarillo
- 582 Santa Barbara, their selection puts your to shame
- 583 smithsonian
- 584 Camarillo library, it is a nice library
- 585 Camarillo Cafe. Neat atmosphere
- 586 ojai and oak view
- 587 I liked the quiet respectful nature. Clean, discouraged, loitering
- 588 camarillo, my dad can pick up books on his way home
- 589 Oxnard
- 590 santa paula lbrary is where i wemt from 5 to 15. it is welcoming and friendly and fostered my love of learning.
- 591 camaRILLO USUALLY APPEALING, great collection, easy self checkout
- 592 camarillo they have a lot of books there

- 593 oxnard public library
- 594 ventura camarillo and ucsb
- 595 this library is good quality . no worries
- 596 love the labelled areas, makes it easier
- 597 oxnard and thousand oaks lots of well
maintained books and childrens books
- 598 camarillo
- 599 San Francisco Library because it had current
information about topics and books. I also like
space to work.
- 600 My husband and I find libraries wherever we
travel. I loved the library in Eugene Oregon
because the children's and teen sections had an
open feeling, clean, fun, and obviously
connected to the community with students'
displays of their art and hobbies. Like a giant
living room of a relative you love to visit.
- 601 I am a Camarillo resident and use the Camarillo
library weekly. Its aesthetics are fantastic and
the children's section is wonderful.
- 602 The Sisters in Crime mystery writers/readers
organization sends free speakers to libraries all
over. That would be a good program to offer.
- 603 Camarillo Library - collection, pleasing spaces,
FOL book store, cafe, wonderful children's area.
Having enough money makes the difference.
- 604 I feel that LSSI would be a bad choice for the
city because the workers would loose
retirement and other benefits that they
currently receive and because LSSI has a history
of high turnover of employees and hiring
librarians fresh out of school that don't really
have experience or expertise so the community
looses. also, I have been talking wiht staff and it
seems that the library needs a new director.
The current director sounds like a dictator. It is
said that she takes her dog to work, leaves
meetings to go and smoke her cigarettes, is
rude to staff, and often calls in sick when she is
supposed to have meetings with the
employees. People don't respect her much. If
the library had a new director I think things
would be much better because the workers at
the library are great
- 605 Camarill Library, plenty of free parking and the
staff is much friendlier and helpful

- 606 Oxnard library, it is available to us in east end
- 607 Oxnard, it allows people to go online for additional hours
- 608 I like E.P. Foster
- 609 Camarillo, Beautiful environment
- 610 Newbury Park Branch Library, Branch of T.O library. Good collection of books and audio
- 611 T.O library, great, interesting space. Engaged people, lots of resources.
- 612 Ray Prueter Library, very comfortable atmosphere.
- 613 Hoquiam Washington. Gardener, NY
- 614 Ojai Reflects, it the city's personality
- 615 Camarillo Library is beautiful and a wonderful space to read and research.
- 616 Camarillo - by children's area - new books.
- 617 I LOVED the camarillo and Kansas City Libraries. They are big and very unique looking.
- 618 The libraries make everything fun and easy.
- 619 T.O., beautiful inside and out.
- 620 The Wright... I need not say more. It was the most popular library in the system for a reason. As a supporter, donor and volunteer, I feel let down by our city leaders. I suspect the loss of the Wright will someday bring support for the "New Park Library" at Kimble and Telephone. Shame on all of us. PS The County should no longer administer our Libraries... Their heart and agenda is questionable.
- 621 Newport Beach (City)Public Library Oxnard (City) Public Library Camarillo Public Library All are large, with plenty of hours and resources, including DVD and books-on-tape
- 622 Why- if you went to the old library which it's to me- the L.A library- it's a library!
- 623 Camarillo and J.O.
- 624 T.O and Santa Barbara- they both have a vast number of new selections.
- 625 Santa Barbara- More newer books and investment resources.
- 626 Oxnard Public Library
- 627 Oxnard Public Library- large acquisition budget.
- 628 Santa Barbara Internet pods, not "cattle" room.

- 629 Oxnard Library has a wonderful children's section with classics as well as new books, magazines, a large selection of books on tape/CD and movies the kids enjoy - both educational and entertaining
- 630 One with brick walls and wood shelves- it gave it an older look.
- 631 The Oxnard Public Library has a better selection of books and programs.
- 632 Oxnard's public Library is a WONDERFUL library.
- 633 The Los Angeles Public Library, Harvard Library, University of Illinois Library, Camarillo Public Library and the Thousand Oaks Public Library.
- 634 Santa Barbara main has dynamic community involvement and art exhibits.
- 635 South Pasadena Public Library.
- 636 I live in Oxnard and visit frequently.
- 637 Just the Avenue.
- 638 I love the Blanchard Community Library, they have so many wonderful programs. My family goes to the library in Santa Paula more than the libraries in Ventura
- 639 Wrihr Library on Day Road, convenient to my home, a wonderful children's section, within walking distance, friendly, knowledgable staff. Used book sales.
- 640 Camarillo. Gorgeous. Great grounds. Indoor and outdoor plentiful seating. Food and drink served. Clean and spacious. Immense research section. New books. Easy to get assistance.
- 641 Camarillo - beautiful facility. Great layout. The children's section gave the feeling that literature is important. Santa Clara - Clean, spacious, easy to find what you need
- 642 Public library in Eugene, Oregon. Extremely inviting!!
- 643 Camarillo, it has a great children's area as well as all the other amenities we want.
- 644 My family visited the Camarillo library. The kids thought it was awesome because of its atmosphere & book collection.
- 645 I like the Oxnard library
- 646 The Public Library in Camarillo. I like the atmosphere, it is inviting. It Has activities (crafts. music. visits from authors. etc)
- 647 I miss the Day Road location, have been downtown one time since closing. I do like the children's area and small store for books.

- 648 Oxnard Public Libraary. Is has a big selection of books, magazines and information in general. They offer activities for kids and computer lab. It is close to my house
- 649 Camarillo library, what a great place.
- 650 I really enjoyed the Wright Library. It was in a family neighborhood and it was a safe environment to allow your teen to conduct research. Downtown and Avenue locations not good. Homeless are outside of buildings. Not as accessible to residents in East Ventura.
- 651 Camarillo library. Very large selection of books. Nice childrens AND adult area. Adult section is not inhabited by homeless, feel safe bring children with me to select books for myself
- 652 Mountain View, California - spacious, light building, modern collection, great staff (10+ years ago). ----- Please do NOT outsource Ventura library services to a private company (ISSI or any other for-profit entity)
- 653 The amount of books.
- 654 Camarillo
- 655 Camarillo Library! It is awesome and I can always find the books we want.
- 656 Thousand Oaks and Camarillo
- 657 Camarillo - Lots of selections.
- 658 The Camarillo Library because of how it looks and the variety inside.
- 659 None
- 660 Redondo Beach Public Library has many open computers and books.
- 661 Camarillo Library. I can always find the books that I am looking for.
- 662 Camarillo new library - big and beautiful.
- 663 Douglas and Jefferson County Libraries in Colorado are AWESOME.
- 664 Camarillo. It was nice and beautiful!
- 665 Oxnard on
- 666 Camarillo Library
- 667 More copies of recent books
- 668 California Library- Teen research center.
- 669 E.P Foster
- 670 Alexandria, Egypt. History renewed.

- 671 Camarillo The lay out and feel are very inviting. The technology is up to date and easy to use, self checkout is useful, cafe is nice touch. A good clean modern place to take your family.
- 672 Well, out of state libraries are sometimes really great! It seems other places support their public libraries more than we tend to do here. Arizona has some lovely branches and they are not huge. Big isn't an indication of a good library. The book collection, an environment that is welcoming, and great programing that engages it's community.
- 673 Camarillo - large comfortable, well-stocked
- 674 Oxnard Public Library is AMAZING. It is spacious, light and very very beautiful.
- 675 Richland Library in Pittsburgh. A large beautiful old building that was refurbished to include a colorful and entertaining children's section with many computers for their level and volunteers to help. A bright, quiet second floor sitting area for comfortable reading or relaxing. Coffee and light snacks.
- 676 The new Library in Thousand Oaks
- 677 camarillo- beautiful setting, coffee close by, clean, wonderful collections
- 678 Conejo Library was very astetically appealing -- had fish tanks that were very interesting to view and a very calming atmosphere - very inviting.
- 679 Oxnard library has friendly staff and more selection of books and other materials.
- 680 Camarillo San Francisco Pt Loma
- 681 Oak View Library in Oak View, CA Good selection of beginning readers
- 682 the one in Camarillo is very impressive, but might not be what Venturas should be/ look like.. I love the librarv!
- 683 Oxnard Public Library, Main Branch. The layout is nice, there is a big selection of books on tape, there are plenty of areas to study quietly.
- 684 Ohio. It was amazingly stocked.
- 685 Camarillo Library it is a beautifully updated large facilted.
- 686 The library at Ventura College was convenient for people on the East end of Ventura
- 687 Camarillo & Oxnard have big, beautiful libraries.

688 I like Camarillo as an overall excellent library model, the best in computer availability. Oxnard excels in computer access and providing a great access to quiet space on the 2nd floor (like Foster used to be), and a nice accessible video/magazine area. South Oxnard branch is another overall good library with excellent interior design, good book selection for a branch library. Finally the Thousand Oaks library also excels in almost all areas, especially the childrens section, with the popular fish tank, and the best "NEW Book" section of all. I am surprized that Ventura does not think enough of their city to accept a lessor status for their library. You should be considering these models for emulation and not any further reduction in services. --Retired Grandpa with two avid grandkid readers.

689 Camarillo Public Library. It is obviously newer than the two Ventura libraries, however, I use that library because it is close to my office.

Honest!

690 I use and visit the Ojai library 3-4 times every month without fail as I live in Ojai. I have now joined the Santa Barbara library system since Ventura closed the best library in the city.

691 Oak View Kids reading program where children were safe while adults could browse

692 Camarillo and Oxnard. Both are more welcoming and feel like a real library. The EP Foster does not have that feeling. It is dreary. The Wright Library had the right feel. Too bad we got rid of that one

693 Oxnard, on Bard Rd

694 I particularly enjoy the Ojai and Meiners Oaks Branches; they are very child-friendly.

695 Camarillo Felt like visiting a place that honors literacy

696 Wright Library. Very conveniently located and very comfortable, welcoming environment.

697 Oxnard Library is large, well stocked and staffed. It is very nice.

698 HP. Wright.

699 Oxnard library has a great books on CD selection. Great for long drives!

- 700 The new library in Camarillo! Wow! Have you SEEN it?? My friend takes his children, ages 9 and 12 to this one also.
- 701 Meiners Oaks Library - convenient location to my home
- 702 oxnard public library. Different mix of lending books.
- 703 Mountain View. It was beautiful. It had so many books I wanted to read beautifully displayed. Lots of people gathered there and were using it. It had greasy hours, comfortable places to read, and even had great movies to rent. As an outsider, I could tell how much their citizens valued learning..from little kids to seniors.
- 704 Oxnard Main Library--very attractive, friendly, and well-run. Camarillo Library--also very attractive, friendly, well-run, good reading, meeting and study rooms...and has cafe! Wright Library in Ventura--was comfortable inside with fireplace and reading chairs, attractive, very friendly, well-run, great kids' space, easily accessible for the community (especially seniors, students, and kids) and with outside
- 705 Thousand Oaks library - Great local art and a BIG children's section.
- 706 Camarillo Library, Oxnard Library, Stockton Library, Provincetown MA Library, Concord MA Librarv
- 707 the one that was on Day Road, right across the street from Foothill Tech. High School (where I am a senior at now). I liked it because it was a good place to meet with a group for projects and/or studying right after school. But now it's closed, which sucks.
- 708 Truly enjoyed Camarillo Library. My kids LOVE the atmosphere & their family events. Clean, well-kept, easy check-out. Every time I go to EP Foster, there are street bums hanging out
inside
- 709 HP Wright Library was within walking distance and had a relaxed outdoor area.

- 710 Ojai library is in a central location, easy to access, and is a pleasant place to visit. Librarians are knowledgeable about making suggestions regarding literature selections. The library is small enough that you don't feel "lost" inside. When my daughters were younger, I felt comfortable allowing them to browse through the shelves themselves, and then go sit outside at the little patio within the library. I wouldn't have felt comfortable letting them browse themselves at some of the larger libraries I have
- 711 Camarillo Library has lots of book choices. The children's area has a better selection for my daughter 9, and son 12. They can find books they are interested in!
- 712 We immensely miss the H.P. Wright Library. We live on the East End and occasionally use the small Saticoy branch, but it's so small that there's not really space to stay there - we just order books and pick them up. EP Foster is way too far to go often, and the parking is horrendous. Our children used to walk on field trips to the library, and it has been devastating not to have a mid-town library.
- 713 Day Road Library because I could get there with ease.
- 714 The one that used to exist next to Ventura College. It was closer to my home instead all the way across town. Helpful, courteous, quiet, great summer programs, and loved the used book purchase program
- 715 My daughters and I used to go to the downtown library all the time when they were young! We loved it! They participated in the summer programs. Then, they each set a record at Balboa for reading in 6th grade!
- 716 The Camarillo public library is AMAZING. The number of events run by the staff, the meeting spaces, and the pirate ship in the children's room (to name a few) all make the Camarillo library a truly fantastic resource!
- 717 Going to the library with your kids as they grow and learn is essential for some families...EVEN on the east end. It is sad that library is closed
- 718 Boston Public Library was super enjoyable, with its great collection and wonderful building.

719 New Camarillo Library and downtown Santa Barbara Library. Beautiful setting, child friendly, large variety, media and group room that hosts regular events

720 Camarillo. I enjoyed my visit with my son due to the kid friendly environment, helpful staff, and the many resources that were provided to me for my child. Also a monthly calendar with events was given to me. It was a very inviting atmosphere

721 The Wright Library near the college because it was clean and inviting and close to my home and school. I could go there after school and on the weekends to meet friends and work on projects. Also, there weren't a lot of scary homeless people wandering around the library.

722 I visit the Ojai library regularly to pick up and check out books only

11. If you would like to receive online updates about the City of Ventura: Strategic Planning for Public Library Service Project please provide your email address below. example: janedoe@gmail.com or jdoe12@iac.net

|

|

|

|

|

|

Vertical line on the left side of the page.

Vertical line on the right side of the page.

|

|

|

|

|

|

Vertical line on the left side of the page.

Vertical line on the right side of the page.

Vertical line on the left side of the page.

Vertical line on the right side of the page.

|

|

Vertical line on the left side of the page.

Vertical line on the right side of the page.

|

|