



## CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: November 17, 2010 PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: Consideration of an Appeal of the Historic Site Preservation Board action of October 12, 2010 to deny an application for a Certificate of Approval for remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library, located at 100 S. Palm Canyon Drive; Appellant: City of Palm Springs

FROM: David H. Ready, City Manager

BY: Craig A. Ewing, AICP, Director of Planning Services

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### SUMMARY

An appeal was filed on October 12, 2010 by Council member Mills, requesting the Council overturn the decision of the Historic Site Preservation Board (HSPB) to deny a Certificate of Approval for the remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library. The appeal was filed the day of the HSPB's decision and is therefore timely filed. In accordance with Municipal Code Section 2.05.080, the City Council will conduct a public hearing on the appeal.

### RECOMMENDATION:

1. Adopt Resolution No. \_\_\_\_ "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS CALIFORNIA UPHOLDING THE APPEAL, REVERSING THE DECISION OF THE HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION BOARD, AND GRANTING A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL FOR THE REMODEL OF THE WELWOOD MURRAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY, LOCATED AT 100 S. PALM CANYON DRIVE".

### ACTIONS TAKEN TO DATE

On October 3, 1984, the City Council voted to designate the property at 100 South Palm Canyon Drive, the Welwood Murray Memorial Library as a Class 7 historic site. (Subsequent amendments to the Historic Preservation ordinance converted the Class 7 historic designation to Class 1.)

On May 11, 2010, the Historic Site Preservation Board approved a Certificate of Approval for a remodel and expansion of the library.

ITEM NO. J.A.

On July 13, 2010, the HSPB continued a request to amend the 5/11/10 approval, regarding the design and height of the proposed new roof.

On August 4, 2010, the applicant (City) decided to resubmit the entire project for consideration and approval by the Board.

On October 12, 2010, the Historic Site Preservation Board voted 5-1-1 (Gilmer opposed; Grattan recused) to deny a Certificate of Approval for the remodel and expansion of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library.

On October 12, 2010, Council member Mills notified the City of his appeal of the HSPB decision.

### BACKGROUND

In 1938, George Welwood Murray and Corneilia White gift-deeded an 80' by 100' corner lot, while local residents contributed \$26,500 to erect a 4,500 square foot library. The library was designed by John Porter Clark and constructed by Charles Chamberlin. The new building was completed in 1940 and served as the City's main library until October 1975 when the new library was built at Sunrise Park. For the next several years the Welwood served as a branch to the main library. In 1992, the City closed the library. From 1992 to 2009, the building served as a reading room open to the public, operated by the Save the Welwood Murray Foundation, a private not-for-profit organization.

The Welwood Murray Memorial Library was closed in 2009 in anticipation of a complete interior renovation project. The City has established a new program for the Welwood Murray Memorial Library: It should become a downtown destination, offering the information access of a branch library with opportunities for civic engagement and urban vitality. Further, the City determined that the existing interior configuration, with tall dark book stacks, ordered seating and a large central reference desk, would not serve this vision and a new design was developed.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City now proposes that the building be renovated and re-opened as a branch library. Patrons will be offered a variety of book and media options, computers and internet access. Informal seating would encourage connections between people and information as well as people with each other. This adaptive reuse of the interior allows the main building to be preserved while offering flexible space and self-service research capabilities. In addition, a small dedicated community room is proposed at the west end of the building.

The primary construction project is a 1,589 square foot addition to the rear of the building in the existing courtyard. The existing library building includes a structure commonly named the Billie Lu Floan Room which will be demolished to make room for

the addition. The portion proposed to be demolished was added sometime in the 1950's; a building permit cannot be located. The concrete columns of the original building, located within the space of the Billie Lu Floan Room, will be retained.

The new addition includes a curvilinear glass wall facing the interior plaza, while the new roof will join the main structure just below edge of the existing roof, above the existing clerestory windows. The addition will extend twenty-five (25) feet out into the courtyard area, but does not encroach into a Redevelopment Participation Agreement ten (10) foot access easement that burdens the property.

The new structure will be constructed of galvanized metal, clear tempered and green floating glass. The roof will be made of fibertite roofing and cream-colored ridged foam insulation. The existing concrete columns will be extended to support the higher roof and the extensions will be visibly differentiated from the original columns. The new addition will open directly onto the new landscaped courtyard allowing for an indoor / outdoor experience. Existing mechanical equipment located in the courtyard will be consolidated into a new electric room.

New exterior walls sections are also proposed as part of the rear expansion, and these walls are to be board-formed concrete to match the existing structure. Exterior colors are white to match existing; mint green will be used as an accent color to frame the side windows and entries facing Tahquitz Canyon Way and Palm Canyon Drive.

The interior remodel involves removal of all partition walls, shelving, cabinetry, and plumbing. The revised interior will include handicap bathrooms at the very south end of the building, a dedicated community room at the east end, and modular furnishings (shelving, desks, tables, chairs and sofas, book kiosks and service areas) throughout the remainder of the building. Final interior finishes have not been selected.

### HSPB ACTION

The Historic Site Preservation Board has held three meetings on the proposal, including a review of the entire project on October 12, 2010 (see attached staff report). At the October meeting, the Board discussed the following (draft meeting minutes are attached.):

- Comments of the AAC meeting of October 11, 2010. (The AAC voted to recommend against approval by a vote of 3-0-3);
- If the proposed Categorical Exemption was adequate for the project;
- If the overall program for the library, as prepared by the Council's library programming and design committee, was appropriate;
- The lack of a historic preservation voice on the Council's committee;
- The affect of the proposed addition on the clerestory windows and interior light;
- Insufficient appreciation by the City for the building's authenticity and its potential for restoration; and
- Loss of palm trees in patio caused by the addition.

Following the discussion, the Board voted 5-1-1 to deny the application. Chair Gilmer's vote against the resolution was based on his conclusion that the Board should retain jurisdiction over the project and require preparation of an Environmental Impact Report. Board member Grattan recused herself from the item due to a potential conflict of interest.

### STAFF ANALYSIS:

The project is an initiative of the City Council, which appointed a committee to develop a program for the Welwood Murray Memorial Library. That program proposes an updated branch library of the City's library system, including a range of services suited to the current and anticipated future information needs of the public. Also included is a remodel and expansion of the rear portion of the structure and a renovation of the interior in support of the new range of library services.

The Council committee's design plan is subject to review under Section 8.05 (Historic Preservation) of the Palm Springs Municipal Code. A Certificate of Approval must be granted prior to issuance of a building permit. Further, the site is a public building and the interior as well as exterior are subject to Certificate of Approval review.

Based on the comments of the HSPB (see attachments), the Certificate of Approval was rejected in part because some Board members determined that the City should restore the library to its original appearance – both interior and exterior – and use. Other Board members questioned the Council committee's decision to program the library for contemporary information services, and suggested instead that a "research library / museum" facility be developed using the layout, materials and furnishings of the original building. Concerns were also raised regarding proposed rear addition, including how it might affect the appearance of the exterior clerestory windows (which would become interior to the building under the new roof).

### Applicant's Appeal

In a review of the required findings for granting a Certificate of Approval, the applicant asserts that a faithful restoration of the structure is not mandated; that is, an adaptive re-use of a facility may be allowed. Further, the applicant has provided a review of the proposed addition and reconfiguration against the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, which the applicant believes demonstrates that the proposed project is an appropriate renovation and use of the historic library:

- 1. A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.*

"Though it will remain a Library, it will essentially be given a new use by being updated to an 'Electronic Library' providing access to all available information resources from around the world, by means of all available forms of wireless and digital communication.

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“By updating this traditional Library, it will re-establish the Welwood Murray Memorial Library as a vital resource to the entire community, as well as the many visitors who come to our city from around the world. The Welwood Murray Memorial Library will become a central information and research institution relevant to people from all walks of life, and to all generations. But most important, it will remain relevant to future generations who will look upon the Welwood Murray Memorial Library not as just a glance at the past, but as a valued resource.”

*2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.*

“I believe it can be argued that past changes that enclosed the original patios were in fact detrimental to the building in that it removed the “patio” experience that in itself is part of the overall fabric of Palm Springs Architecture. More important, it is essential that certain modifications are made to the original building in order to provide accessibility as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, which is a Federal Mandate that requires such accommodations be made.”

*3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.*

“Clearly, the proposed Reading Room Expansion is not designed to mimic any Historic Architectural style, such that it attempts to appear as part of the Library’s past history, or to force elements from other historic properties into the design, such as from the neighboring Lloyd Wright designed Oasis Hotel. To the contrary, it clearly adheres to the intent of the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation in that it is ‘designed and constructed to be clearly differentiated from the historic building.’”

*4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.*

“Again, I believe it can be argued that past changes that enclosed the original patios were in fact detrimental to the building in that it removed the ‘patio’ experience that in itself is part of the overall fabric of Palm Springs Architecture.

“Other past alterations, such as the installation of evaporative coolers above the roof of the existing workroom, were accomplished by blocking out windows so that sheet metal ducts could penetrate the building. In the proposed Rehabilitation, all mechanical components will be concealed. And again, it is essential that certain modifications are made to the original building in order to provide accessibility as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, which is a

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Federal Mandate that requires such accommodations be made.”

*5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.*

“The strongest character defining materials and features of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library are best represented on the primary exterior elevations, facing Palm Canyon Drive and Tahquitz Canyon Drive. While secondary exterior elevation features, such as the tile roofing, clerestory windows, patio columns and the exterior wall facing the courtyard will remain visible from the courtyard.”

*6. Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.*

“Because the Welwood Murray Memorial Library is in generally good condition, repair is not needed, except for the interior ceiling as the attic must be accessed for asbestos removal. The building exterior will otherwise be cleaned.

“The ceiling will be replaced with drywall, finished with a similar finish, and the would molding re-installed.”

*7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.*

“Chemical treatments will not be used to clean the building exterior.”

*8. Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.*

“None exist, therefore this does not apply. However, should any artifacts be uncovered during any phase of the project, all appropriate guidelines will be followed.”

*9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.*

“The Reading Room Expansion will effectively restore, and enhance the spatial relationships that characterize this building in original intent, which was to include a ‘patio’ experience, by re-establishing the interior and exterior relationship that once was. And again, it is essential that certain modifications are made to the

original building in order to provide accessibility as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, which is a Federal Mandate that requires such accommodations be made.”

*10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in a such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.*

“The proposed Reading Room Expansion, if removed in the future to facilitate a full ‘Restoration’, can be removed without damage to the original building, fully maintaining it’s essential form, and most important, it’s strongest character defining materials and features.”

The applicant believes that the project can be seen to meet the requirements of the Certificate of Approval and the Standards for Renovation of a historic site. A separate letter prepared by a third-party architectural historian, Page and Turnbull, has been submitted by the applicant in support of the above analysis (see attached letter).

#### Analysis of Appeal

Staff notes that the factors to be considered for issuance of a Certificate of Approval are:

- 1. The historic value and significance, or the architectural value and significance or both, of the structure and its relation to the historic value of the surrounding area;*
- 2. The relationship of the exterior architectural features of any structure to the rest of the structure itself and to the surrounding area;*
- 3. The general compatibility of exterior design, arrangement, texture and material which is proposed by the applicant;*
- 4. Archaeological or ecological significance of the area. (Section 8.05.190)*

In considering these factors, staff believes that the distinctive architectural elements of the building include the architecture of the street-facing walls, the tile roof, and the underlying structure of the building, including the concrete columns of along the rear (plaza-facing) walls. All of these features will be preserved.

The interior elements include wall and ceiling finishes, as well as lighting fixtures, furnishings and wall fixtures, such as attached bookshelves. The building’s interior finishes help define the architectural period and have arguable historic value; new interior finishes have not been selected at this time. The furnishings and fixtures define the library activities of the time, and may also be argued to have historic value. However, other than the general references to the building being the City’s first public library, nothing about the interior of the building was specifically defined as having historic value by the City Council when the site was designated in 1984.

In the Resolution No. 15248, the Council’s designation of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library stated:

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*“NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Palm Springs, California does resolve as follows:*

*Section 1. The Welwood Murray Memorial Library shall be designated a Class 7 Historic Site pursuant to City Ordinance No. 1140.*

*Section 2. No permit for the exterior alteration to the Welwood Murray Memorial Library shall be granted without the prior approval of the City Council.”*

Neither in the background of the resolution nor in the accompanying staff report does the City recognize the interior arrangement of the library as having historic value. The resolution imposes no limits on interior alterations of the building (see attached).

It should also be noted that the Class 7 designation is defined in Ordinance No. 1140 (effective until 1988) as:

*Class 7.*

*Site qualified for designation at Federal, State, County and City level. Archival file will be maintained. Site may not be modified nor object removed without the approval of the City Council. Site will be plaqued. Usage may be limited by the City Council. Eligible for review at any regularly scheduled meeting of the board”*

This classification was redefined when the City overhauled the Historic Preservation ordinance in 1988 with Ordinance 1320. Class 7 was converted to Class 1, which reads:

*Class 1.*

*Structure/site qualified for city designation; may be qualified at the federal, state and/or county level. Archival file will be maintained. Structure/site may not be modified nor objects removed without the approval of the city council; usage may be limited by the city council to the extent that it may impair the integrity of the site. Site will be plaqued. (Intended for use when the structure or site still exists as it did during the historical period or is restorable).*

Two important preservation policies that could affect the building’s interior were carried from the old Class 7 to the new Class 1: That the removal of objects is subject to Council approval, and that usage may be limited by the City Council.

Staff believes that a key element in the evaluation of both the library project and the appeal is that, notwithstanding the clear authority to do so, the Council placed no limits on the usage of the building or interior of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library. Consequently, it appears from the record that the Council’s determination of the historic value of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library is the physical structure and its place as the city’s first library.

Consequently, staff believes that the project can be found to conform to the factors to be considered in granting a Certificate of Approval:



1. *The historic value and significance, or the architectural value and significance or both, of the structure and its relation to the historic value of the surrounding area;*  
The historic value of the site, including the original structure and architectural elements, as well as the use as a public library in the City's original downtown will be preserved.
2. *The relationship of the exterior architectural features of any structure to the rest of the structure itself and to the surrounding area;*  
The original exterior architectural features will be preserved, and the demolition will be of only a non-original element of the building. The new addition provides a clear architectural contrast to the historic structure, and a repaint to original colors will not be a detriment to the overall historic value of the property.
3. *The general compatibility of exterior design, arrangement, texture and material which is proposed by the applicant;*  
The exterior design of the street facades and the roof, as well as the concrete columns facing the interior plaza are preserved. The addition to the rear (plaza-facing) side of the building is larger than the non-historic enclosure proposed to be replaced, but the new enclosure is similarly lower in scale as compared with the original building. Similar board-formed concrete materials are used on certain replacement walls, but the new enclosure uses glass and modern roof materials in ways that distinguish the addition from the original building. There are no false historic elements proposed to be added.
4. *Archaeological or ecological significance of the area.*  
There are no archaeological or ecological issues of significance related to the site or structure.

The interior will be refinished with a contemporary library layout, which does not impact the historic elements of the site, as established by the City Council's 1984 designation resolution. The Council's committee has determined that the existing configuration no longer serves the needs of library patrons today. Instead, an adaptive re-use of the library is proposed that supports the new ways that people use libraries. A more informal, self-directed approach to seeking and exploring library resources will be offered, including the availability of both traditional and non-traditional library media, such as internet access.

The fixtures, colors and materials for the interior have not been selected, nor have final landscape plantings have been chosen. The Council may condition the applicant to return to the Board or staff for final approval of interior finishes, such as trim pieces, paint, and lighting fixtures. (Landscape materials are not part of the historic designation.)

#### ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Staff has reviewed the proposed project against the City's historic designation and has concluded that the proposed project will not cause a substantial change in the significance of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library as a historic resource. Consequently, staff recommends that this project be determined to be categorically

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exempt from environmental review per Section 15301(e)(1) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

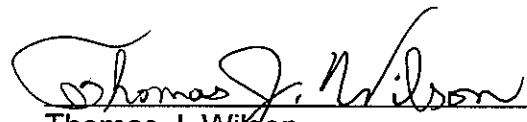
CONCLUSION

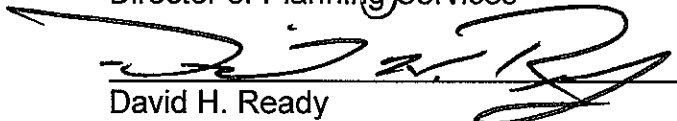
The Historic Site Preservation Board (HSPB) denied a Certificate of Approval for the renovation and expansion of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library. The applicant has filed an appeal. In review of the background information, staff believes that the proposed project meets the required factors to be considered for issuance of a Certificate of Approval. Staff recommends that the City Council uphold the appeal and overturn the decision of the Historic Site Preservation Board. Should the Council grant the Certificate, it may add any conditions it deems appropriate.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact.

  
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Craig A. Ewing, AICP  
Director of Planning Services

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas J. Wilson  
Assistant City Manager, Dev't Svcs

  
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David H. Ready  
City Manager

Attachments:

1. Draft City Council Resolution
2. Vicinity Map
3. Letter from Page & Turnbull, November 2, 2010
4. Appeal memo dated October 13, 2010
5. Minutes of HSPB Board, October 12, 2010 (draft)
6. HSPB Staff report, October 12, 2010, with attachments
7. City Council Resolution No. 15248 (October 3, 1984)
8. City Council Staff Report (October 3, 1984)

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS CALIFORNIA UPHOLDING AN APPEAL, REVERSING THE DECISION OF THE HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION BOARD, AND GRANTING A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL FOR THE REMODEL OF THE WELWOOD MURRAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY, LOCATED AT 100 S. PALM CANYON DRIVE

WHEREAS, the Welwood Murray Memorial Library ("Library"), located at 100 S. Palm Canyon Drive, was built in 1940 as the City's first public library; and

WHEREAS, on October 3, 1984, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 15248, designating the Library a Class 7 historic site (now Class 1), as follows:

"NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Palm Springs, California does resolve as follows:

Section 1. The Welwood Murray Memorial Library shall be designated a Class 7 Historic Site pursuant to City Ordinance No. 1140.

Section 2. No permit for the exterior alteration to the Welwood Murray Memorial Library shall be granted without the prior approval of the City Council."

; and

WHEREAS, on April 13, 2010, the applicant, City of Palm Springs submitted an application for a Certificate of Approval to renovate the Welwood Murray Memorial Library at 100 S. Palm Canyon Drive; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, July 13, and October 12, 2010 the HSPB held public meetings on the application for renovation and expansion of the Library; and at which meetings the HSPB considered a staff report, related exhibits and public testimony; and

WHEREAS, following consideration of all information presented at the meetings, including a complete review of the entire project on October 12, 2010, the HSPB, by a 5 to 1, (Gilmer opposed) with one abstention (Grattan) denied the application for a Certificate of Approval; and

WHEREAS, on October 12, 2010, Council member Mills, on behalf of the Council Ad-hoc Welwood Library Sub-committee, file an appeal with the City Clerk seeking to overturn the decision of the HSPB regarding denial of the Certificate of Approval; and

WHEREAS, on November 17, 2010, the City Council conducted a public hearing on the appeal of the HSPB decision to deny the Certificate of Approval on the Library located at 100 S. Palm Canyon Drive; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has carefully reviewed and considered all of the evidence presented in connection with the meeting on the appeal, including but not limited to the staff report, and all written and oral testimony presented.

THE CITY COUNCIL DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: That the historic value of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library is the physical structure, including the architecture of the original building, the street-facing facades, tile roof and concrete columns, as well as the Library's status as the City's first public library building.

SECTION 2: That the proposed project will not cause a substantial change in the significance of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library as a historic resource; that the historic value of the Library will be preserved and not adversely affected by the proposed renovations; and that the project is, therefore, categorically exempt from environmental review per Section 15301(e)(1) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

SECTION 3: That the project conforms to the factors to be considered in granting a Certificate of Approval as contained in Section 8.05.190, as follows:

1. The historic value and significance, or the architectural value and significance or both, of the structure and its relation to the historic value of the surrounding area;  
The historic value of the site, including the original structure and architectural elements, as well as the use as a public library in the City's original downtown will be preserved.
2. The relationship of the exterior architectural features of any structure to the rest of the structure itself and to the surrounding area;  
The original exterior architectural features will be preserved, and the demolition will be of only a non-original element of the building. The new addition provides a clear architectural contrast to the historic structure, and a repaint to original colors will not be a detriment to the overall historic value of the property.
3. The general compatibility of exterior design, arrangement, texture and material which is proposed by the applicant;  
The exterior design of the street facades and the roof, as well as the concrete columns facing the interior plaza are preserved. The addition to the rear (plaza-facing) side of the building is larger than the non-historic enclosure proposed to be replaced, but the new enclosure is similarly lower in scale as compared with the original building. Similar board-formed concrete materials are used on certain replacement walls, but the new enclosure uses glass and modern roof materials in ways that distinguish the addition from the original building. There are no false historic elements proposed to be added.
4. Archaeological or ecological significance of the area.  
There are no archaeological or ecological issues of significance related to the site or structure.

**SECTION 4:** Based on the above findings, the City Council hereby upholds the appeal, reverses the decision of the Historic Site Preservation Board of October 12, 2010 and approves a Certificate of Approval for the remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library located at 100 S. Palm Canyon Drive, subject to the following condition:

1. That prior to issuance of building permits, the applicant shall submit to the Director of Planning Services for approval all interior floor, wall and ceiling finishes, including trim pieces, attached lighting fixtures and paint colors. Review shall be limited to assuring that the interior finishes are compatible with the historic interior and exterior colors and materials, and the proposed use.

ADOPTED THIS 17<sup>th</sup> of November, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_  
David H. Ready, City Manager

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
James Thompson, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE ) ss.  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS )

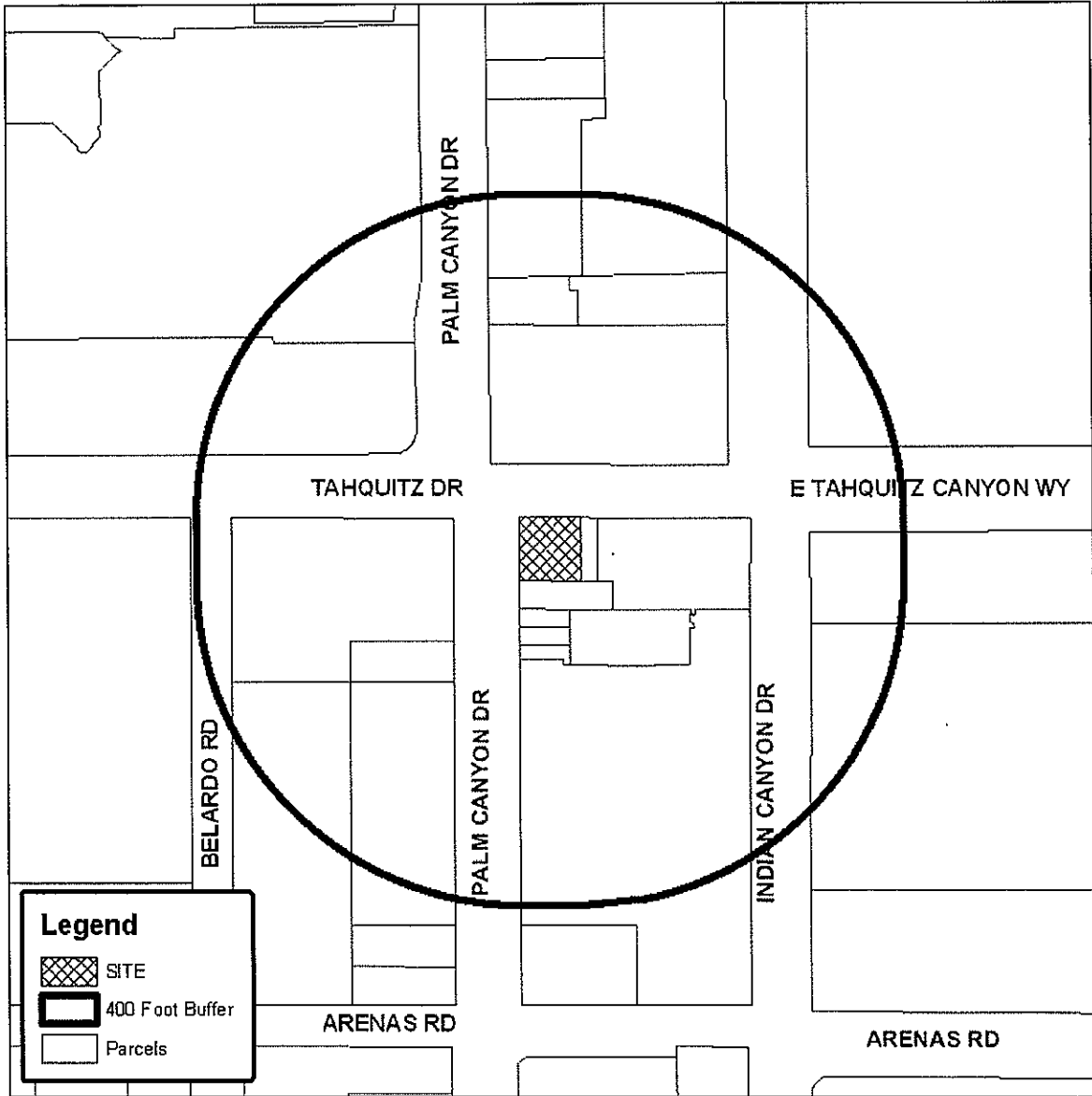
I, JAMES THOMPSON, City Clerk of the City of Palm Springs, hereby certify that Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_ is a full, true and correct copy, and was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Palm Springs on \_\_\_\_\_, by the following vote:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSENT:  
ABSTAIN:




\_\_\_\_\_  
James Thompson, City Clerk  
City of Palm Springs, California



# Department of Planning Services Vicinity Map



**Legend**

-  SITE
-  400 Foot Buffer
-  Parcels

## CITY OF PALM SPRINGS

**CASE NO.:** HSPB - 3  
**APPLICANT:** City of Palm Springs

**DESCRIPTION:** An appeal of the Historic Site Preservation Board action of October 12, 2010 to deny an application for a Certificate of Approval for remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library, located at 100 S. Palm Canyon Drive; Appellant: City of Palm Springs

November 2, 2010

John Rivera  
Escalante Architects  
121 South Palm Canyon Drive, Ste. 222  
Palm Springs, CA 92262  
760.323.1925  
[john.rivera@escalantearchitects.com](mailto:john.rivera@escalantearchitects.com)

RE: Proposed Rehabilitation of Welwood Murray Library, Palm Springs [10173]

Dear Mr. Rivera,

This letter addresses the compliance of the proposed rehabilitation of the Welwood Murray Library at 100 South Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs, California with local, state, and national historic preservation standards and guidelines, including the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Rehabilitation. Currently, the Welwood Murray Library is a locally designated historic resource, and is listed as a Class 1 Historic Site, as defined by Palm Springs Municipal Code Chapter 8.05 "Historic Preservation."

For this project, Page & Turnbull completed the following:

- Reviewed the architectural drawings of the proposed rehabilitation authored by Escalante Architects (received September 21, 2010);
- Reviewed the memorandum produced by Brad Brewster of ESA (dated August 3, 2010)
- Reviewed the historic images provided by the Escalante Architects and conducted a cursory review of available background resources on the internet;
- Conducted an in-person site visit on September 27, 2010. The site visit and project review were conducted by Principal/Historic Architect, John D. Lesak, AIA LEED AP FAPT, and Richard A. Sucre, Senior Architectural Historian. All staff conducting the review of the proposed project meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards in Historic Architecture or Architectural History;
- Reviewed the analysis completed by John Rivera of Escalante Architects (dated October 12, 2010); and
- Attended the City of Palm Springs Historic Site Preservation Board Hearing on October 12, 2010.

Page & Turnbull did not conduct any additional research on the Welwood Murray Library.

ARCHITECTURE  
PLANNING & RESEARCH  
BUILDING TECHNOLOGY



Based upon our review of the proposed project and existing building, the proposed rehabilitation of the Welwood Murray Library is sensitive to the building's historic character and would comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, as well as the provisions of Palm Springs Municipal Code Chapter 8.05.185-190 (Application for Permit to Construct or Alter Structures and Factors To Be Considered Upon Application, respectively). The analysis conducted by Escalante Architects (dated October 12, 2010) does appear to be accurate based upon the information provided to date. Furthermore, the proposed rehabilitation would not affect the primary character-defining features of the Welwood Murray Library, and the building would maintain its eligibility for listing in the local register of historical resources. New construction is clearly differentiated from the existing historic building, the view from the primary facades along Palm Canyon Drive and Tahquitz Canyon Way are preserved and unobstructed, and the new design offers visual cues as to the historic use of certain features of the building, such as the exterior porch. Ultimately, the Welwood Murray Library would maintain its eligibility for listing as a Class 1 Historic Site.

Further refinements in the design of the proposed project could offer interpretative space/exhibit within the interior of the existing library, which could be dedicated towards the history of the library and the surrounding neighborhood. This interpretative space could be offered as a community benefit, and could range in form from wall-mounted histories to historic artifacts. Additional conversations with interior stakeholders would need to occur.

Please let me know if you have any further questions or comments.

Sincerely,

  
Richard A. Sucre  
Senior Architectural Historian

**CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA  
CITY CLERKS DEPARTMENT**



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Craig Ewing, Director of Planning Services  
**FROM:** James Thompson, City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Certificate of Approval HSPB 3  
Welwood Murray Memorial Library  
**DATE:** October 13, 2010

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This serves as notice that I was contacted by Councilmember Mills on behalf of the City Council Ad Hoc Welwood Library Subcommittee, (Councilmember Mills and Councilmember Weigel), to request City Council review of the decision of the Historic Site Preservation Board's denial of the Certificate of Approval submitted and requested by the City, with respect to the Welwood Murray Memorial Library.

The City Council review is subject to the procedure as provided in Chapter 2.05 of the Palm Springs Municipal Code. Please contact me when the Planning Department is prepared to place the Council review on an upcoming agenda.

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA  
 HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION BOARD

**DRAFT**

October 12, 2010 Meeting Minutes  
 Large Conference Room, City Hall

3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, California 92262

BOARD MEMBERS:	Present This Meeting:	Present FY Year-to-Date:	FY: 2010/2011 Excused Absences:
John Gilmer, Chair	X	4	0
Barbara Marshall, Vice Chair	X	4	0
Thomas DeLeeuw	X	4	0
Sheila Grattan	X	4	0
Roxann Ploss	X	4	0
Brian Strahl	X	4	0
Leo Cohen	X	4	0

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Staff Representatives:  
 Craig A. Ewing, AICP  
 Director of Planning Services  
 Staff Liaison,

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1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Gilmer called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.
2. ROLL CALL: Present: Chair Gilmer, Vice Chair Marshall, T. DeLeeuw, S. Grattan, R. Ploss, and B. Strahl. (L. Cohen arrived at 8:45 a.m.)
3. POSTING OF AGENDA: This Agenda was available for public access at the City Hall exterior bulletin board (west side of Council Chamber), City Clerk's office and Planning Services' counter on or before 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 6, 2010.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Richard Kip Serafin, PS Preservation Foundation invited the Board, staff and public to a home tour of the DeBrabant house, 982 Avenida Palmas, on Sunday, October 17, 2010, 2 to 4 p.m.

Gary Johns, commented on Item 7A, asking the Board to consider the interior demolition, the addition of the new structure and the impact of the project on the building.

Ron Marshall, President of Palm Springs Preservation Foundation, commented on Item 7A, asking the Board to give consideration to the special significance of the building to the City.

Ron Duby, read a letter from Sarah James regarding Item 7A, supporting use of the library as a research library / museum.

Eric Rosenau, read a letter from Phillips Welwood Murray regarding Item 7A, recommending a renovation of the existing library.

Chris Menrad, read a letter from Pete Moruzzi of PSMoCom regarding Item 7A, supporting rehabilitation of the existing library.

Dan Tarnoveanu, owner of Renaissance Art, Restoration & Architecture, supported restoration of the Welwood Library and offered his assistance.

~~5. CONSENT CALENDAR:~~

~~M/S/C (Ploss / Grattan, 6-0; Cohen absent) To approve minutes of the August 10, 2010 meeting, including corrections on page 3 offered by Board members Ploss and Grattan.~~

6. PUBLIC HEARING:

None

7. CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL REQUEST(S):

- 7A. Case HSPB 3 (Welwood Murray Library) – An application by the City of Palm Springs to remodel and expand the existing public library at 100 S. Palm Canyon Drive, a Class One historic site, Zone C-B-D, Section 15. (CE)

Director Ewing summarized the staff report.

Board member Grattan recused herself from this item due to a potential conflict of interest, and left the room.

Board members asked questions regarding the review procedures, the historic designation as it applies to the site, the nature of the existing porch enclosure and the proposed CEQA Categorical Exemption.

Allen Smoot, representative of the applicant, summarized the history and purpose of the remodeling project. John Rivera, project architect, submitted an analysis of the proposed project under the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation (36 CFR 67) and described the proposed physical improvements.

Board member Cohen arrived.

Board members raised questions on:

- The new roof as it connects to the existing building wall and columns,
- Compliance with ADA standards,
- The effect of the new roof addition on ambient interior lighting,
- The exterior appearance of the addition
- The purpose of a remodel / expansion versus a full restoration

At the invitation of Chair Gilmer, David Gray, President of the Library Board of Trustees described its work to develop a program for use of the building as a branch library. The HSPB ask about using the library as a research facility.

The Board discussed:

- Comments of the AAC meeting of October 11, 2010. (The AAC voted to recommend against 3-0);
- The inadequacy of the proposed Categorical Exemption;
- The overall program for the library, as prepared by the Council's library programming and design committee;
- The lack of a historic preservation voice on the Council's committee;
- The affect of the proposed addition on the clerestory windows and interior light;
- Insufficient appreciation by the City for the building's authenticity and its potential for restoration; and
- Loss of palm trees in patio caused by the addition.

M/S/C (Marshall / Strahl, 5-1-1; Gilmer opposed; Grattan recused) To deny the application for a Certificate of Approval.

Board member Grattan returned.

8. OTHER BUSINESS:

- 8A. Nomination for National Register of Historic Places; O'Donnell Residence / 447 W. Alejo Road, Adoption of Letter of Support

Staff noted that the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) would meet to review the application on November 5, 2010. A draft letter of support has been presented for the Board's consideration

M/S/C (Marshall / Ploss, 7-0) To direct staff to send the draft letter to SHPO.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 9A. Las Palmas Business Historic District Committee – Board member DeLeeuw reported that work continues on the district research.

- 9B. Public Outreach Committee – Chair Gilmer indicated that the next meeting is set for November 1, 2010. Director Ewing summarized the work of the committee to update and clarify Chapter 8.05 (Historic Preservation).

10. STAFF & OTHER REPORTS:

Director Ewing noted that he will be out of town during the November 9, 2010 Board meeting, and Principal Planner Edward Robertson will be in attendance.

11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Board member Strahl noted the trash bins and maintenance problems next to the Welwood Murray Memorial Library.



## Historic Site Preservation Board Staff Report

Date: October 12, 2010

Case No: 5.1032 – HSPB # 3 – Welwood Murray Memorial Library

Application Type: Certificate of Approval

Location: 100 South Palm Canyon Drive

Applicant: City of Palm Springs

Zone: CBD (Central Business District)

General Plan: CBD (Central Business District)

APN: 513-144-006

From: Craig A. Ewing, AICP, Director of Planning Services

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### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The certificate of approval request is for the renovation of the existing 4,030 square foot library facility; new construction equaling 1,589 square feet in the rear courtyard area, demolition of a non-original addition, and building re-paint. The renovation and new construction will include sustainable energy systems enhancing natural light, and provide for new technology upgrades. The interior will be remodeled to provide updated library services. The Welwood Murray Memorial Library is a Class 1 Historic Site.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Historic Site Preservation Board approves the certificate of approval request for the renovation, expansion and related interior and landscape improvements to the existing library, subject to conditions of approval.

### **PRIOR ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE PROJECT**

On October 3, 1984, the City Council voted to designating<sup>e</sup> the property at 100 South Palm Canyon Drive, the Welwood Murray Memorial Library as a Class 7 historic site.

(Subsequent amendments to the Historic Preservation ordinance converted the Class 7 historic designation to Class 1.)

On May 11, 2010, the Historic Site Preservation Board approved a Certificate of Approval for a remodel and expansion of the library.

On July 13, 2010, the HSPB continued a request to amend the 5/11/10 approval, regarding the design and height of the proposed new roof.

On August 4, 2010, the applicant decided to resubmit the entire project for consideration and approval by the Board.

## **BACKGROUND AND SETTING**

### **Welwood Murray Memorial Library**

Shortly after the City's incorporation in 1938, a group of citizens arranged for the donation of land and construction funds to build a permanent public library in the downtown area. George Welwood Murray and Corneilia White gift-deeded an 80' by 100' corner lot, while local residents contributed \$26,500 to erect a 4,500 square foot library. The Murray parcel was accepted by the City after a special election was held in November 1938 which approved the conditions of the gift. The library was designed by John Porter Clark and constructed by Charles Chamberlin.

The new building was completed in 1940 and served as the City's main library until October 1975 when the new library was built at Sunrise Park. For the next ten years the Welwood served as a branch to the main library and was staffed with one paid employee and a pool of volunteers.

Since 1975 there have been a number of attempts to use the library site for non-library purposes. These have included a tourist information center, a restaurant, and commercial development. The property's gift-deed restrictions, its popular history as a library and litigation have precluded any of these proposed uses from occurring.

In September 1984, the Library Board approved the modification to the rear patio so as to be compatible with the new Wessman development named Plaza de Las Flores.

In March of 1987, the City Council requested the Library Board to prepare a recommendation as to whether the library branch should continue to operate as a public library or, instead, be closed and incorporated into the Wessman project. After lengthy deliberations the Library Board strongly encouraged the City Council to develop the Wessman Project around the Library patio area. In October 1987, the City Council acted to close the library.

Citizens groups initiated a lawsuit to prevent the sale of the property, and an injunction was issued which precluded the library closing. The court ultimately ruled that the City

must continue to operate the facility as a public library and the non-library use of the property would not be permitted.

Finally, construction of Plaza Las Flores located adjacent to the Library site included a Redevelopment Participation Agreement dated November 22, 1988 that affects how the library site may be developed. This document, as amended, defines 10-foot wide easement which restricts the building of any structures and allows public access.

## **DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS**

The Welwood Murray Memorial Library was closed in 2009 in anticipation of a complete interior renovation project. In establishing the new program for the renovation, the City determined that as a branch library, the Welwood Murray Memorial Library should no longer be simply book collections, but should evolve into a destination that simultaneously provides a portal to other places, a space for civic engagement and a locus of urban vitality. Consequently, the existing configuration of tall dark book stacks, ordered seating and a large central reference desk would no longer serves the needs of library patrons.

Looking forward, the applicant proposes the availability of modern connectivity through computers and Internet access, as well as comfortable seating that encourages connections between people and information as well as people with each other. This adaptive reuse of the interior preserves the main building, while offering various book and media options, flexible space and self-service capabilities. In addition, a small dedicated community room is proposed at the west end of the building.

The proposal is to construct a 1,589 square foot addition to the rear of the building in the existing courtyard. The existing library building includes a structure commonly named the Billie Lu Floan Room which will be demolished to make room for the addition. The portion proposed to be demolished was added sometime in the 1950's; a building permit cannot be located.

The new addition includes a curvilinear glass wall facing the interior plaza, while the new roof will join the main structure just below edge of the existing roof, above the existing transom windows. The addition will extend twenty-five (25) feet out into the courtyard area, but does not encroach into the Redevelopment Participation Agreement ten (10) foot access easement.

The new structure will be constructed of galvanized metal, clear tempered and green floating glass. The roof will be made of fibertite roofing and cream-colored ridged foam insulation. This portion of the building will open directly to the new landscaped courtyard allowing for an indoor / outdoor experience. Existing mechanical equipment located in the courtyard will be consolidated into a new electric room.

New exterior walls sections are also proposed as part of the rear expansion, and these walls are to be board-formed concrete to match the existing structure. Exterior colors



are white to match existing; mint green will be used as an accent color to frame the side windows and entries facing Tahquitz Canyon Way and Palm Canyon Drive.

The interior will be remodeled by the removal of all interior partition walls, shelving, cabinetry, and plumbing. The revised interior will include handicap bathrooms at the very south end of the building, a small dedicated community room at the east end, and modular furnishings (shelving, desks, tables, chairs and sofas, book kiosks and service areas) throughout the remainder of the building. Final interior finishes as well as final landscape materials have not been selected.

## REQUIRED FINDINGS

### Definition of an Historic Site.

Section 8.05.020 of the Municipal Code provides the definition of an historic site, as follows:

(a) *Historic Site.*

*An historic site is any real property such as: a building; a structure, including but not limited to archways, tiled areas and similar architectural elements; an archaeological excavation or object that is unique or significant because of its location, design, setting, materials, workmanship or aesthetic effect and:*

*That is associated with events that have made a meaningful contribution to the nation, state or community; or*

- 1. That is associated with lives of persons who made meaningful contribution to national, state or local history; or*
- 2. That reflects or exemplifies a particular period of the national, state or local history; or*
- 3. That embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction; or*
- 4. That presents the work of a master builder, designer, artist, or architect whose individual genius influenced his age; or that possesses high artistic value; or*
- 5. That represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or*
- 6. That has yielded or may be likely to yield information important to national, state or local history or prehistory.*

Staff has evaluated this application for the proposed addition of 1,589 square feet to the rear of the Library building, a re-paint, and the demolition of a rear courtyard portion of the building located at 100 S. Palm Canyon Drive and finds that the project will modify certain elements of the historic nature of the building, especially the building interior.

The site plan as presented will not be in conflict with the Redevelopment Participation Agreement easement requirements by providing a ten (10) foot wide non-construction area for building openings and Staff finds the plan to be in conformance.

The distinctive architectural elements of the building will not be compromised because the new 1,589 square foot courtyard addition is at the rear of the building; the demolition of a small portion of the building is a non-original element; and a repaint to original colors will not be a detriment to the overall aesthetic look of the property. Those elements of the building facing the street which date to 1940 will not be altered, and the rear addition will be complementary to, but not a mimic the look of the original building.

The historic character of the interior will be replaced with a contemporary library layout. The applicant has determined that the existing configuration no longer serves the needs of library patrons today. Instead, the applicant proposes that the interior should support the new ways that people use libraries including a more informal, self-directed approach to seeking and exploring library resources and the availability of both traditional and non-traditional library media, such as internet access.

This adaptive reuse of the interior preserves the main building, but eliminates the stacks of books, ordered seating and central reference desk. In their place, the proposal offers various media options, flexible space and self-service capabilities. In addition, a dedicated community room is proposed at the east end of the building.

The fixtures, colors and materials for the interior have not been selected, nor have final landscape plantings have been chosen. The applicant proposes to return to the Board for final approval of interior finishes and landscaping.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

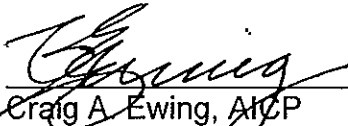
This project is categorically exempt from environmental review per Section 15301(L), (1) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

## **CONCLUSION**

The distinctive architectural elements of the building will not be compromised by the proposal. The new construction in the rear courtyard area (including a demolition of a non-original addition) and building re-paint will renovate the structure to a more useable space, preserve its original street-front exterior and support its continued use as a library. The interior will be adapted to the new role libraries play in society, and will result in removal of many existing elements, including shelving and furnishings. Staff recommends that the HSPB issue a certificate of approval for the project, subject to final approval of the interior finishes and landscape plantings. The Board may wish to offer recommendations on the interior finishes and landscape plantings as part of its conditions of approval.

## **NOTIFICATION**

There are no public notification requirements for this application.



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Craig A. Ewing, AICP  
Director of Planning Services, AICP

#### ATTACHMENTS

1. Exterior Perspective
2. Demolition Plan
3. Site Plan / Floor Plan / Landscape Plan
4. Basement Floor Plan
5. Roof Plan
6. Exterior Elevations
7. Detail Wall Section (New Roof to Existing Wall)
8. Letters from Palm Springs Preservation Foundation w/ attachments



# PALM SPRINGS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

August 30, 2010

Chair, Architectural Advisory Committee  
City of Palm Springs (Planning Services)  
3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way  
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Re: Welwood Murray Memorial Library (WMML) Project

Dear Chair Ortega,

Attachments (1) through (3) are forwarded for your information and to assist you during your deliberations regarding the proposed Welwood Murray Memorial Library project.

PSPF has also established an advocacy page concerning the library project at [http://www.pspreservationfoundation.org/welwood\\_murray.html](http://www.pspreservationfoundation.org/welwood_murray.html).

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the foundation at (760) 837-7117.

Sincerely,

Ron Marshall  
President

**Attachments:**

- (1) Palm Springs Preservation Foundation letter of August 9, 2010
- (2) Mr. Phillips Welwood Murray letter of August 12, 2010
- (3) Ms. Sara S. J. James letter of August 16, 2010

**RECEIVED**

AUG 31 2010

PLANNING SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT



August 9, 2010

The Honorable Steven Pougnet  
3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way  
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Dear Mayor Pougnet,

Re: Welwood Murray Memorial Library (Class 1 Historic Site)

On August 4, 2010 Palm Springs Preservation Foundation board members Ron Marshall and Gary Johns met with members of the Palm Springs city senior staff (i.e., the city manager, assistant city manager, city attorney and director of planning services) to discuss the foundation's concerns regarding the Welwood Murray Memorial Library project. Also present were the chair of the historic site preservation board and the city representative overseeing the project. The meeting was cordial and there was a frank and wide-ranging exchange of views regarding the project. Among the issues raised were:

- failure of the city's "ad hoc" subcommittee charged with the project to include a knowledgeable preservation expert,
- characterization of the project as a minor architectural approval (MAA) rather than a major architectural approval (MAJ) (thereby side-stepping planning commission review),
- minimal solicitation of public comment on the project design,
- failure of the project to meet any of the U.S. Secretary of Interior's standards for the rehabilitation of historic buildings,
- uneven city staff support to the city boards charged with reviewing the project (i.e., the Architectural Advisory Committee and the Historic Site Preservation Board),
- a sense that the project is being "hurried" through the city bureaucracy, and
- PSPF's opinion that because the project constitutes a "significant adverse change" to this historic resource an Environmental Impact Review (EIR) is required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

On a positive note, we emphasized our view that there is a unique opportunity for the city to do a first-rate and sensitive restoration of the library. This opportunity is available because:

- as a Class 1 site there is no debate about the historic or architectural importance of the building,
- there is no developer pressuring the city to "tear the building down,"
- as a civic building the city has control over both the building's interior and exterior, and
- the library is still remarkably intact.

Finally, we asked that an "original design" or "minimum impact design" be offered to the city leadership in tandem with the current over-designed proposal.

Re: Welwood Murray Memorial Library (Class 1 Historic Site)

We thank the city for allowing us the opportunity to express our concerns. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the foundation at (760) 837-7117.

Sincerely,



Ron Marshall  
President

Copy to:  
City Council members (Ginny Foat, Lee Weigel, Chris Mills and Rick Hutcheson)  
City Manager (David Ready)  
City Attorney (Doug Holland)  
Historic Site Preservation Board  
Palm Springs Historical Society  
Palm Springs Modern Committee  
Desert Sun (Mariacar Mendoza)

**PHILLIPS WELWOOD MURRAY**

41261 Woodhaven West Drive  
Palm Desert, CA 92211

August 12, 2010

The Honorable Steve Pougnet  
Mayor of Palm Springs  
3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way  
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Subj: Welwood Murray Memorial Library

Dear Mayor Pougnet,

As a descendent of Palm Springs pioneer Dr. Welwood Murray, I have followed recent events regarding the Welwood Murray Memorial Library project with great interest.

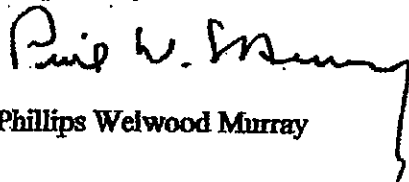
I have been troubled that the proposed project is not a renovation, but rather an unsympathetic (and unnecessary) remodeling which tears off the rear of the building. To add further insult, the project proposes to append an unseemly roof structure that sports a swiss-cheese hole design! Frankly, this proposal is an affront to this historic, and architecturally important, building.

I have been in contact with other relatives of mine and we would be thrilled if the library could be used to house rare and local history books and possibly even include rotating exhibits celebrating the history of Palm Springs and the Coachella Valley. This would attract tourists to the downtown and be a resource to the local community. Finally, not only is a sensitive restoration the smart thing to do, financially it seems far less costly than the plan before you.

I have also been in contact with the Palm Springs Preservation Foundation and applaud their efforts to convince the city to pursue a sensitive renovation of the library.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at (760) 360-4963. I would also be happy to meet with you in person.

Respectfully,



Phillips Welwood Murray

Copy to: Palm Springs City Council members (Foat, Weigel, Mills and Hutchenson), City Manager, Palm Springs Historic Site Preservation Board, Palm Springs Preservation Foundation, Desert Sun newspaper (Attn: Ms. Mendoza)

Sara S. J. James  
4509 Clark Road  
Crozet, Virginia 22932

August 16, 2010

The Honorable Steven Pougnet  
Mayor of Palm Springs  
3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way  
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Re: Welwood Murray Memorial Library

Dear Mayor Pougnet,

It has recently come to the attention of the members of my family that some significant changes are being considered that would affect the appearance and use of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library. As direct descendents of Dr. Welwood Murray (Palm Springs co-founder Welwood Murray was our great-great grandfather), we have a special interest in the future of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library.

We are concerned and alarmed that the city's proposed design for the library's "remodeling" erects new walls, demolishes existing walls and attaches a foreign roof structure to this historically important building. All of these changes would fundamentally and negatively impact the architecture of the building, and do a disservice to architect John Porter Clark's original vision. The Palm Springs Preservation Foundation's ongoing efforts to achieve a sensitive restoration of the original library structure are closely aligned with our hopes to maintain the historical integrity of the Library, and we would ask you to support the Foundation in their efforts.

We would also suggest that the best use of the downtown library would be as a research library resource for the Coachella Valley, housing relevant materials from the main library and the historical society. This would be a use consistent with the restrictions stated in the deed, and fitting for a building with such history.

If you have any questions, I would be glad to speak with you. You can contact me at (434) 960-2286.

On behalf of the descendents of Welwood Murray, sincerely,

Sara S. J. James

Copy to:  
City Council members (G. Foat, L. Weigel, C. Mills and R. Hutchenson)  
City Manager (D. Ready)  
City of Palm Springs Historic Site Preservation Board  
Palm Springs Preservation Foundation



Recorded 8-8-89  
# 266060

RESOLUTION NO. 15248

OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS,  
CALIFORNIA, DESIGNATING THE WELWOOD MURRAY  
MEMORIAL LIBRARY AS A CLASS 7 HISTORIC SITE.

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WHEREAS the Welwood Murray Memorial Library and its associated personages and past events have contributed substantially to the history of the City of Palm Springs; and

WHEREAS the Welwood Murray Memorial Library has long been a landmark for both residents and visitors in the City of Palm Springs; and

WHEREAS Ordinance 1140 of the City of Palm Springs allows for the designation of historic sites; and

WHEREAS on July 9, 1984, the Historic Site Preservation Board initiated proceedings to designate the Welwood Murray Memorial Library as an historic site; and

WHEREAS on September 10, 1984, the Historic Site Preservation Board held a public hearing on said designation and unanimously recommended to the City Council designation of said property as a Class 7 Historic Site; and

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees of the Palm Springs Public Library concurs in the recommendation of the Historic Site Preservation Board; and

WHEREAS the City Council concurs in the recommendation of the Historic Site Preservation Board regarding the historic value of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library; and

WHEREAS the designation of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library shall further the purposes and intent of Ordinance 1140; and

WHEREAS the designation of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library shall promote the sensitive preservation of said site.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Palm Springs, California does resolve as follows:

Section 1. The Welwood Murray Memorial Library shall be designated a Class 7 Historic Site pursuant to City Ordinance No. 1140.

Section 2. No permit for the exterior alteration to the Welwood Murray Memorial Library shall be granted without the prior approval of the City Council.

ADOPTED this 3rd day of October, 1984.

AYES: Councilmembers Birer, Foster, Maryanov and Mayor Bogert  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Councilmember Smith

ATTEST: CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

By [Signature] City Clerk                      [Signature] City Manager

REVIEWED & APPROVED: [Signature]

DATE: October 3, 1984

TO: City Council

FROM: Planning Director via Community Development Director

CASE NO. HSPB-3 - WELWOOD MURRAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

RECOMMENDATION:

The Historic Site Preservation Board (HSPB) recommends that the City Council receive public comment regarding the designation of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library as an historic site, and the HSPB further recommends that the Council designate the Library as a Class 7 Historic Site.

BACKGROUND:

At its meeting of July 9, 1984, the HSPB initiated proceedings to designate the Welwood Murray Memorial Library as a City historic site. The HSPB, on August 13, 1984, held its public hearing regarding the Library's designation but continued the hearing pending recommendation from the Board of Trustees of the Palm Springs Public Library. At its meeting of August 30, 1984, the Library Board unanimously agreed to support the designation of the Welwood Murray Library as a City historic site.

The HSPB, on Sept 10, 1984, based upon written documentation and the support of the Library Board, recommended by unanimous vote (Boyd absent) designation of the Welwood Murray Library as an historic site. The Library is presently eligible for the National Register of Historic Places; however, Stephen Becker, the Riverside County Historian, has advised that any impact to the library structure or site would reduce or even eliminate the possibility of this Federal listing and may affect other designations as well. For this reason, the HSPB recom-

mends that the site receive designation as a Class 7 historic site. Class 7 is the most restrictive category for historic designation allowed for in Ordinance 1140, and reads as follows:

"Site qualified for designation at Federal, State, County and City level. Archival file will be maintained. Site may not be modified nor object removed except by order of the City Council. Site will be plaqued. Usage may be limited by the City Council. Eligible for review at any regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

Concern over this site began during the latter part of 1982, when proposals were being made for the use of the property on which the adjacent McCallum Civic Building stands which would also have involved major changes to the Welwood Murray Library. At its meeting of November 8, 1982, the HSPB, finding that the Library holds intrinsic historic significance in the development of the City of Palm Springs, resolved to unequivacably oppose the sale of the library building or property in general and specifically as a condition of the sale of the adjacent McCallum Civic Building/property; and to further oppose any interior or exterior alteration, infringement of air rights, or intensification of land use in conjunction with the disposition of the adjacent property. None of the proposals for the McCallum Civic Building site were finalized at that time; however, the City is again looking for an interested party to redevelop the adjacent property.

In 1938, George Welwood Murray donated the land on which the library stands as a memorial to his father, Dr. Welwood Murray, with the stipulation that the library building be constructed and maintained by the newly-incorporated City of Palm Springs, and that it be known as Welwood Murray Memorial Library; Cornelia White donated an additional strip of property at the easterly end of the site. The existing

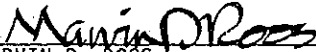
*proved by  
city Council  
10/3/84*


3A1

3A2

structure, designed by John Porter Clark and constructed by Charles Chamberlain, opened for business in Feb. 1941 and was the first permanent home of the Palm Springs Public Library. With the completion of the Library Center at Sunrise Plaza in Oct. 1975, the Welwood Murray Memorial Library became the downtown branch.

The historic site designation has been identified as exempt under the provisions of CEQA.

  
MARVIN D. ROOS  
Director of Planning

APPROVED:   
JOHN A. MANGIONE  
Director of Community Development

APPROVED:   
Alan R. King  
City Manager

ATTACHMENT:

1. Resolution
2. Map
3. HSPB Minutes of 7/9/84, 8/13/84 and 9/10/84
4. Library Board Minutes of 8/30/84



3A4

\* Resource Inventory Update. The survey is complete and Pat Young will be ready to begin the State forms when she returns from vacation with completion anticipated for early August.

\* Palm Springs Historical Society. No report.

Riverside Co. Hist. Commission. Kitty Hayes reported that the July meeting will be held on Wed., July 11 at the Kieley house in Idyllwild at 12 noon.

\* Review of Hist. Site/Dist. Classifications. Discussion ensued that certain classifications as adopted, within Ord. 1140, may not be appropriate or relevant. The Board directed staff to revise and/or clarify the classifications and bring recommendations back to the Board.

Setting of Public Hearings for Hist. Site Designation.

\* MOTION: M/S/C unanimously (Hayes/McKinney) to initiate proceedings to designate the Cornelia White house, the McCallum Adobe and the Welwood Murray Library as City Historic Sites and setting the dates for the public hearing as August 13, 1984.

\* Added Starters:

Historic Site Marker. The mold for the marker has been completed and will be presented at the next meeting.

Desert Fashion Plaza. Kitty Hayes suggested the use of small photos as part of a historical path w/in the shopping center as she had seen in a new shopping center near Old Town, San Diego. Each photo would not require much space and could be placed between the shops.

Election of Officers FY 1984-85. Kitty Hayes nominated the existing officers for the new term - unanimously passed.

El Mirador Hotel. Staff relayed a suggestion from Jacquelyn Weiss that a letter be sent to the new hospital board encouraging them to move forward with negotiations with California Historic Properties regarding adaptive reuse of the Hotel. Chairman Boyd will write a letter to Duke Kosslyn, Hosp. Bd. Chairman, with copies to other board members.

Adjournment.

There being no further business, Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Noel Brush presented the mold of the historic plaque as prepared by Matthews for review by the Board. It received favorable comments from the Board, and Kitty Hayes and Janice Lyle will work with Mr. Brush regarding the lettering style to be used before presentation is made to the Planning Commission and City Council.

\* \* \* \* \*

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**Public Hearings**

Welwood Murray Memorial Library/Historic Site Designation (Case #HSPB-3). Staff presented its recommendation to the Board members. The public hearing was opened with comment from John Courtmeyer, representing the Chamber of Commerce regarding concerns that private properties in the downtown area were being designated historic sites without adequate notice. He was informed that all sites in the area considered for designation thus far have been in the public domain and that public hearing notices have been sent to surrounding property owners. Jacquelyn Weiss commented that the Library Board had not received notice of the hearing although they should have no objection to the designation. Kitty Hayes made additions to the written staff report.

Motion: M/S/C unanimously (Hayes/Lyle) to continue the public hearing to the September 10, 1984, meeting and to direct staff to send notice of said hearing to the Library Board.

Discussion ensued regarding comments from the Chamber of Commerce that they would like to be notified of HSPB actions in the downtown area. Staff agreed to add them to the mailing list to send them meeting agendas.

~~Cornelia White House/Historic Site Designation (Case #HSPB-4). Staff presented its recommendation to the Board members. The public hearing was opened and closed with no public comment. Kitty Hayes made additions to the written staff report.~~

~~Motion: M/S/C unanimously (Hayes/Henderson) to recommend to the City Council that they designate the Cornelia White House as a Class 7 Historic Site.~~

~~McCallum Adobe/Historic Site Designation (Case #HSPB-5). Staff presented its recommendation to the Board members. The public hearing was opened and closed with no public comment. Kitty Hayes made additions to the written staff report.~~

~~Motion: M/S/C unanimously (Hayes/Henderson) to recommend to the City Council that they designate the McCallum Adobe as a Class 7 Historic Site.~~

\* \* \* \* \*

Resource Inventory Update. Pat Young reported that, although the survey is complete, there is much work remaining to complete the State forms. She

3A5

AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

WELWOOD MURRAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY / HISTORIC SITE DESIGNATION (CASE #HSPB-3).

This public hearing was continued from the August 13, 1984, meeting.

Staff commented that the Board of Trustees of the Palm Springs Public Library, at their meeting of August 30, 1984, unanimously endorsed the recommendation of the HSPB to designate the Welwood Murray Library as a Class 7 Historic Site. A letter was received from Dr. Beatrice E. Willard, owner of the property immediately adjacent to the library on the south, in favor of this designation.

The public hearing was closed with no further public comment.

MOTION: M/S/C unanimously (Hayes/Milanovich) to recommend to the City Council that they designate the Welwood Murray Memorial Library as a Class 7 Historic Site.

HOUSE OF MURPHY / HISTORIC SITE DESIGNATION (CASE #HSPB-6).

Staff presented a written staff report along with recommendations to the Board. Discussion ensued regarding the proper classification for designation of this site and the appropriateness of plaquing the site. The public hearing was opened and closed with no public comment.

MOTION: M/S/C unanimously (Hayes/Weiss) to recommend to the City Council that they designate the House of Murphy as a Class 5 Historic Site.

MOTION: M/S/C unanimously (Hayes/Lyle) to forward a letter to Fuddrucker's Restaurant requesting that they fund and erect a plaque commemorating the House of Murphy with the recommendation that such plaque/commemoration include a photograph or some other suitable representation of the original building.

\* \* \* \* \*

- \* Resource Inventory Update. Staff reported that the appropriate steps are being taken to extend Pat Young's contract.
- \* Palm Springs Historical Society. Elizabeth Kieley presented an overview of the coming year's prospects for funding and volunteers. She invited those present to visit the Historical Society museum and thanked the staff for its efforts in the past.
- \* Riverside County Historical Commission. Kitty Hayes reported that Ole Nordland will be made Historian of the Year for Riverside County at the Commission's meeting in October, rather than the September meeting which was cancelled.

Eileen Carey died two weeks ago. She was an early-day teacher in Palm Springs, who later became principal of Frances Stevens School, and served as a volunteer for many organizations, including the Palm Springs Historical Society.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE  
REVISED LIBRARY ORGANIZA-  
TIONAL CHART DUE TO NEW  
MAIN ENTRANCE PROJECT

Motion (Pighetti/Bronstein) to adopt the proposed organizational chart (see agenda packet) as presented effective October 9, 1984 (3-0)

BOARD VACANCY

Trustee Pat Wilson has resigned from the Board effective August 5 because she relocated to San Francisco. Board President Esbitz plans to contact Mayor Bogert to suggest possible replacement candidates.

SCHEDULING OF BOARD  
MEETINGS FISCAL '85

The Board requested that the meeting time be changed to 4:00 p.m. on the last Thursday of each month effective September .

REPORT ON NEW MAIN  
ENTRANCE

Mr. Weiss reported that construction is scheduled to begin on September 4 and conclude (except for restroom modifications) by November 29. A possible display of original presidential documents for the opening ceremonies is being pursued by the City Librarian.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE  
AGREEMENT WITH NANCY WATT  
FOR PROGRAM PLANNING AND  
PUBLIC RELATIONS WORK

Motion (Pighetti/Bronstein) to approve for submission to Council a \$6,800 Agreement with Nancy C. Watt for the program, planning and public relations work for the library division for fiscal 1985 (3-0).

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE  
AGREEMENT WITH SALLY MC-  
MANUS FOR ADMINSTATION  
OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S  
MUSEUM AND LITTLE HOUSE

Motion (Pighetti/Bronstein) to approve for submission to Council an Agreement covering the administration of the Palm Springs Historical Society's Museum and "Little House" for fiscal 1985 (3-0). Mr. Weiss informed the Board that the proposed Agreement included a 6.67% hourly wage increase bringing that amount to \$8.00 per hour.

DISCUSSION OF HISTORIC  
SITE PRESERVATION BOARD'S  
PLAN TO NOMINATE THE WEL-  
WOOD MURRAY MEMORIAL LI-  
BRARY AS AN HISTORIC SITE

Motion (Pighetti/Bronstein) to endorse the Historic Site Preservation Board's nomination of the Welwood Murry Memorial Library as an Historic Site under the City's existing Historic Site Ordinance (3-0).

DISCUSSION OF MEMORIAL  
FOR "MAX" COREY

The Board agreed to honor the memory of "Max" Corey by accessing his works into the Reference Collection; dedicating the Friends of the Palm Springs Library wall in the new entrance to him, and dedicating the joint Palm Springs Unified School District/Library Education Collection to him.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The City Librarian distributed the August 29 draft of the revised Material Selection Policies to the Board for future discussion as a component of the Library Master Plan.

ADDED STARTERS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
*[Signature]*  
Henry Weiss  
City Librarian

3A7





# City of Palm Springs

## Palm Springs Public Library

300 South Sunrise Way • Palm Springs, California 92262-7699  
Tel: (760) 323-READ • Fax: (760) 320-9834 • Web: <http://www.palmspringslibrary.org>

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:20  
CITY CLERK

November 5, 2010

### Board of Library Trustees

David L. Gray  
President

Donna Chabon  
President Pro Tem

Mark J. Zacovic  
Treasurer

Anthony Ellerd  
Trustee

Bruce McCloud  
Trustee

Mayor Steve Pougnet,  
Councilmember Ginny Foat, Councilmember Rick Hutcheson,  
Councilmember Chris Mills & Councilmember Lee Weigel  
City of Palm Springs  
3200 E Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262

Dear Mayor Pougnet and City Council members:

Since late 2008, the Palm Springs Board of Library Trustees has been planning a new service program to reintegrate the Welwood Murray Memorial Library into the Palm Springs library system. It was, and still is, the Board's hope that the repurposed and renovated Welwood Murray Memorial Library branch will act as a community focal point in the downtown corridor. We envision this iconic City landmark as the nexus for residents, the business community, tourists and culture seekers alike, by providing a handicapped-accessible and updated space for community events and gathering, connectivity to information, and the first stop for news and tourist information.

In support of this project, at its regularly scheduled Board Meeting on Friday, February 26, 2010, in a unanimous vote, the Palm Springs Public Library Board of Library Trustees voted to "approve a budget of \$800,000 from the Library Trust Fund for the FF&E (Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment) of the Welwood Murray Library project."

We are very excited by this opportunity to work with the City on this project, and urge the City Council to vote to proceed with the project as currently designed and envisioned. To that end, the Board at its most recent regularly-scheduled board meeting on Friday, October 29, 2010, once again "expressed its support of the Welwood Murray Library project as designed, and reaffirmed its commitment of \$800,000 of Trust Funds to the project."

Sincerely,

David L. Gray  
President

Cc: Barbara Roberts

**Kathie Hart**

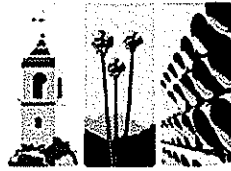
---

**From:** Craig Ewing  
**Sent:** November 03, 2010 4:59 PM  
**To:** Barbara Marshall; 'Brian Strahl'; 'John Gilmer'; Leo Cohen (ps4leo@aol.com); Roxann Ploss (riploss@gmail.com); 'Sheila Grattan'; 'Tom DeLeeuw'  
**Cc:** Jay Thompson; Kathie Hart  
**Subject:** Appeal Hearing on HSPB Decision on Welwood Murray Memorial Library

To All,  
Please note that the City Council will conduct an appeal hearing on the HSPB's denial of the Certificate of Approval for the Welwood Library. The hearing is set for the regular Council meeting of Wednesday, November 17, 2010. The agenda and staff report will be available on the City's web site Thursday morning, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the City Clerk's office if you have any questions about the appeal hearing.

**Craig A. Ewing, AICP**  
**Director of Planning Services**  
City of Palm Springs  
3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way  
Palm Springs, CA 92262  
760-323-8269

When I am working on a problem I never think about beauty.  
I only think about how to solve the problem.  
But when I have finished, if the solution is not beautiful,  
I know it is wrong.  
- Buckminster Fuller (1895-1983)



# PALM SPRINGS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS

2010 NOV -8 PM 3: 14

JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

November 4, 2010

The Honorable Steven Pougnet  
3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way  
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Dear Mayor Pougnet,

Subj: Welwood Murray Memorial Library (Class 1 Historic Site), HSPB #3

The board of directors of the Palm Springs Preservation Foundation has been vigorously advocating the sensitive restoration of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library for many months. Accordingly, in your imminent review of this matter, we ask you to uphold the recent, and overwhelming, decision by the city's Historic Site Preservation Board to deny the Certificate of Approval for the flawed and unnecessary remodeling of this much-loved historic library building.

It is our fervent view that the Welwood Murray Memorial Library should be sensitively restored in accordance with well-established U.S. Department of Interior standards for historic rehabilitation. A sensitively restored historic building of this caliber will quickly become the centerpiece of the downtown area and will attract residents and tourists alike.

Additionally, we ask that future decisions about this important historic resource be informed by an inclusive, community-wide discussion about the Welwood Murray Memorial Library's best and highest uses.

If you have any questions, please contact the foundation at (760) 837-7117 or via email at [info@pspreservationfoundation.org](mailto:info@pspreservationfoundation.org).

Sincerely,

Ron Marshall  
President

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Jerri Freed [jerri.freed@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 08, 2010 10:04 AM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 PM 1:39  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please forward this e-mail to the Palm Springs City Council and place in the official record that this e-mail was sent.

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building..

Thank you,

Jerri Kuttig

Palm Springs

Information from ESET NOD32 Antivirus, version of virus signature database 5602 (20101108)

The message was checked by ESET NOD32 Antivirus.

<http://www.eset.com>

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** ck@christopherkennedy.com  
**Sent:** Monday, November 08, 2010 12:21 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 PM 1:39  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please forward this email to the City Council and place in the official record.  
Dear Palm Springs City Council:

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

As an interior designer with a degree in architecture -- who happens to love Palm Springs -- I ask you to reconsider the re-design and use of this important space. I would gladly donate my time and services to such an endeavor.

Warm regards,

**Christopher Kennedy**  
CHRISTOPHER KENNEDY, INC.

870 EAST RESEARCH DRIVE, SUITE 10  
PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA 92262  
T 760.325.3214 F 760.322.3709  
www.christopherkennedy.com

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Clara Nelson [clara@claravoyantdesign.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 2:40 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** re: Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:12  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please forward this email to the city council and place it in the official record.

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

Thank You.

Sincerely,  
Clara Nelson

**Cindy Berardi**

RECEIVED

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS

**From:** MODERN MECCA [modernmecca@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 2:42 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

2010 NOV -8 AM 9:12

JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

To the Palm Springs city clerk:

Please forward my e-mail to the city council and place in it the official record.

"Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building."

Claudia Andrade-Desbiens  
President, Modern Mecca

--

Modern Mecca  
[www.modernmecca.com](http://www.modernmecca.com)  
Santiago Street Lofts  
736 N Santiago Street  
Santa Ana, CA 92701  
p - 310.245.6097  
e - [modernmecca@gmail.com](mailto:modernmecca@gmail.com)

**Cindy Berardi**

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS

**From:** Ann Thibault [thibault.a@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 2:51 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** WELWOOD MURRAY LIBRARY

2010 NOV -8 AM 9:12

JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Dear City Council,

I am a long time resident of Palm Springs (since 1963) and I am asking that you do NOT support the WelWood Murray Library remodel as it could damage it's historical importance.

Thank you,  
Ann Thibault  
Palm Springs, CA



**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Bonnieruttan@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 2:53 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Cc:** Ginny Foat; Lee Weigel; Steve Pougnet; Chris Mills; Rick Hutcheson  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:12  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

**Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, we ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.**

**Thank you for your consideration of this issue.**

**Bill and Bonnie Ruttan  
1111 Abrigo Rd  
PS**

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** lainscott@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 3:14 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:13  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Dear City of Palm Springs,

"Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building."

Thank you,

Laine Scott

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Hugh Wakeham [hugh@wam.ca]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 3:05 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Cc:** Daryl Morrell; Dennis May; Diane Ross  
**Subject:** Welwood Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:13  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Dear City Clerk,

I would like to ask that this email be forwarded to the city council and placed in the official record.

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

This is an important heritage legacy in the City of Palm Springs, and must be treated as such.

Regards,

**Hugh Wakeham**  
Sponsorship Marketing Group, LLC  
Wakeham + Associates Marketing, Inc.

Direct: 760-832-7563  
www.wam.ca



**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Richard Patenaude [patnod@mac.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 3:18 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** WELWOOD MURRAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

RECEIVED  
 CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
 2010 NOV -8 AM 9:13  
 JAMES THOMPSON  
 CITY CLERK

Honorable Council Members:

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

As the "preservation officer" for the City of Palm Springs from 1984 to 1999, I recall the pride the community had for its fledgling historic preservation program. The Library was one of the first sites to be designated as an official historic structure and she continues to contribute to the special "feel" of Downtown Palm Springs. Without its historic and unique places, Palm Springs would not have the same appeal it enjoys today.

I still recall returning to my City Hall desk after attending a state preservation conference to find a note telling me that, while I was away, someone had altered the windows of the Library. Angry that this could have happened, I rushed Downtown. After to speaking with someone on site, I discovered that the "alterations" were temporary and part of a film shoot. I returned to the office much relieved, finding that the planners were enjoying the joke they had played on me. I tell you this to let you know how important preservation was to me then as a resident and employee of the City; it remains important to me as a visitor, especially since I had a hand in it.

I encourage you to continue to support your historic preservation program and the many places that contribute to the City of Palm Springs as a unique place.

Sincerely,  
 Richard E. Patenaude  
 Planning Manager, City of Hayward

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Paul Kaplan [paulkaplanre@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 3:23 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:13  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

--

**Paul Kaplan**

**Modern Real Estate Group**

Website: [www.MidCenturyModernPS.com](http://www.MidCenturyModernPS.com)

Email: [Paul@PaulKaplanRealtor.com](mailto:Paul@PaulKaplanRealtor.com)

Phone: 760-285-8559

Fax: 760-406-4221

Greater Palm Springs Realty DRE 01325586

[Paul's Home Picks of the week](#)

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Pamela Bieri [rbieri@dc.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 3:39 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:15  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Dear City Clerk

Please forward this email to City Council for official documents. Please do not support the unnecessary and historically damaging prosed remodel of the 1940 John Porter designed Welwood Murray Memorial Library. Please consider a more sensitive restoration of this historic building in downtown Palm Springs.

Thank you!

Pamela Bieri  
(760) 568-4422  
rbieri@dc.rr.com



**PAMELA BIERI MARKETING & MEDIA RELATIONS**  
Telephone/Facsimile 760 568 4422 E-mail: RBIERI@DC.RR.COM  
Post Office Box 10601, Palm Desert, California 92255

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Rod Powers [powersrpm@chartermi.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 3:42 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:15  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Dear City Clerk,

Please, Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

Roderick Powes

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Steven.R.Keylon@wellsfargo.com  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 3:45 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:49  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Dear Sirs –

Please forward my email to the City Council, and make sure it is placed in the official record.

My name is Steven Keylon, I'm on the Board of Directors at Village Green, a National Historic Landmark community in Los Angeles.

I'm writing because I'm very concerned that the proposed remodeling of the wonderful Welwood Murray Memorial Library is completely out of character for the building. The Library building is a valuable historic and cultural property, in a very prominent location in Palm Springs. Please don't destroy more of the historic character in Palm Springs, which is after all why so many people travel to your wonderful city from around the world, to experience so much great mid-century modern architecture and design. Why damage or destroy the historic attractions which make you a draw for tourism?

To ruin such a great resource would truly be a shame. Once these things are gone, they're gone forever. Is what is being proposed going to enhance downtown Palm Springs the way a sensitively restored Welwood Murray Memorial Library building would?

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

Thank you

Steven Keylon  
5250 Village Green  
Los Angeles, CA 90016  
323-293-2868



**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Tom O'Connell [tomoc@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 3:58 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:49  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Dear Mr. Thompson-

This is the type of building that makes Palm Springs so cool and unlike the newer communities.

Please do not support the unnecessary and historically-damaging proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library designed by architect John Porter Clark.

Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important and historic civic building.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Tom

Tom O'Connell  
tomoc@earthlink.net

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Marianne O'Connell [marianneoconnell@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 4:12 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:49  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please do not support the unnecessary and historically-damaging proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important and historic civic building.

Thank you,

Marianne O'Connell  
marianneoconnell@earthlink.net

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Grant and Helen Costello [sabel@xtra.co.nz]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 4:19 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:49  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

To The City Clerk

My husband and I have just returned to New Zealand after a 2 week stay in Palm Springs, something both of us have wanted to do for sometime as Palm Springs represents to us the epicenter of modernism. We spent a marvelous couple of weeks exploring the commercial district and walking / driving around some of the suburbs made famous by the extraordinary beautiful building of the modernist era.

I can honestly say if it wasn't for these buildings we would have seen no reason to visit and would probably have headed north to Las Vegas. Please look after what makes you town so unique you have a goldmine of treasures there that are worth preserving. If you don't Palm Springs will become like all the other faceless towns we drove past. Please look after what few buildings you have left and support sensitively restoring rather than remodeling your commercial buildings - in particular the Welwood Murray Memorial Library.

We have every intention of revisiting Palm Springs in the future as long as its integrity remains.

Kinds Regards  
Helen and Grant Costello

Auckland, New Zealand.

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Marty Danielson [smartmktr@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 4:38 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:49  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

City Council:

Please stop the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building." Palm Springs future depends on it's architectural significance to draw thousands of visitors to the city and not the "West LA" environment found in the East End of the Vally.

Martin A. Danielson  
Palm Springs resident for 14 years

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Sydney Smith [ssmit49@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 4:44 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:49  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building."

Syd Smith

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Paul Schumaker [paulschumakerla@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 4:44 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:49  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

Thank You,

Paul Schumaker  
2154 George Dr.  
Palm Springs, CA 92262

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Jordan & Jonathan [jpdocs2@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 4:59 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Cc:** info@pspreservationfoundation.org  
**Subject:** Wellwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:49  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

I ask that you kindly forward this message to the Palm Springs City Council, and that it be placed in the official record:

Dear City Council Members,  
Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.  
Sincerely,  
Dr. Jonathan Petrie  
(A registered Palm Springs voter)

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Roxanna Suggy [roxannasuggy@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 5:44 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940)

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:49  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

I request that my email be forwarded to the city council and placed in the official record. **“Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark.** Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.”

Thank you for your consideration,

Roxanna Khan  
Cell 949-395-3232

--  
Roxanna

Love never fails. 1 Corinthians 13.8



**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Kirk S. Olsen [kso@kirkolsen.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 6:36 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:49  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please forward this e-mail to the Palm Springs City Council to be placed in the Official Record.

**Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.**

Sincerely,

Kirk S. Olsen

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Dick Burkett [dickburkett@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 6:57 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Wellwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please forward my email to the city council and placed in the official record.as follows: "Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building."

--

***Opportunity will not interest itself  
in the person who isn't interested in it... Napoleon Hill***

Dick Burkett  
760 774 5795 cell  
760 327 2640 tel  
[dickburkett@gmail.com](mailto:dickburkett@gmail.com)

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Karen Strickland [exoticon@mac.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 10:12 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Forward to City Council and Record

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

Sincerely Karen Strickland

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Debra Hovel [debrahovel@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 10:22 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Hello,

My name is Debra Hovel. My husband Richard and I are part time residents of Palm Springs because of the preponderance of mid century and other priceless architecture. We feel that Palm Springs is a gem of a town due to the vigilance of the preservation groups determined to save these significant buildings for future generations. Any damaging of this inheritance would be a real shame. These buildings can not be replaced once they are remodeled or torn down.

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

Debra and Richard Hovel

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** David Keens [dkeens@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 06, 2010 6:09 AM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please forward this email to the Palm Springs City Council, and place it in the official record.

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the John Porter Clark designed Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940). Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building. The rich architectural history of Palm Springs is one of the most important characteristics of the city, making a visit or residence there a unique opportunity to view some of our nation's true treasures. Please respect and preserve the heritage and legacy of this wonderful architectural oasis.

Respectfully,  
David Keens  
Official Texas State Artist  
Professor of Art and Art History  
University of Texas at Arlington,  
Arlington, Texas

480 E. Alto Circle  
Palm Springs, California

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Jim Gadomski [jimgadomski@embarqmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 06, 2010 7:16 AM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

“Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.”

Jim Gadomski  
770-329-9059

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Olaf Olsen [olafolsen@ymail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 06, 2010 10:27 AM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Re: Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Hello,

I am asking that my email be forwarded to the city council and placed in the official record. Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

Olaf Olsen  
910 East Palm Canyon Dr.  
Palm Springs, CA 92264  
(317) 445-1961

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Lisa Gibson [lgibsondesign@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 06, 2010 11:27 AM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library - Proposed Remodel

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

We won't be able to attend the city council meeting and ask that you forward this email to the city council to be placed in the official record.

To the city council,

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, we ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

Sincerely,

Lisa & John Gibson

155 West Hermosa Place  
Unit #22  
Palm Springs, CA



**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Laurie Lerner [lserenity7@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 06, 2010 11:52 AM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** welwood murray library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9: 50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

dear council - i ask for your support - in carefully refurbishing this historical beauty. a large part of palm springs  
charm - is it's old buildings. thank you for your support! Sincerely - Laurie Lerner 12007 St. George Circle

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Claire Victor [cvictor@dc.rr.com]

**Sent:** Saturday, November 06, 2010 3:39 PM

**To:** Jay Thompson; CityClerk; Steve Pougnet; Ginny Foat; Rick Hutcheson; Chris Mills; Lee Weigel

**Cc:** Ron and Barbara Marshall

**Subject:** Against Proposed Remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING

2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50

JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Dear Mr. Thompson,

Please enter my comments below into the public record and distribute copies to City Council.

It has come to my attention that an appeal will likely be heard by City Council against the Historic Site Preservation Board's thoughtful 5-to-1 decision to stop the remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library.

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Victor  
300 East Molino Road  
Palm Springs, CA 92262

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Laura Daniel [laura.fran@mac.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 06, 2010 3:52 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Wellwood Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Dear City Clerk,

Please forward this message to the city council.

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

Thank you,  
Laura Daniel  
Palm Springs home-owner and resident

**Cindy Berardi**

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**From:** Guy Munselle [guy@actuateis.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 06, 2010 6:15 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please forward this to the city council and place it in the official record.

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

Thank you  
Guy Munselle Jr  
[guy@actuateis.com](mailto:guy@actuateis.com)  
760 851 5140

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Arianne Keens [akeens@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 06, 2010 9:14 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS

2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50

JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

To the Palm Springs City Clerk:

I recently received the latest news regarding the Welwood Murray Memorial Library's proposed remodeling. This beautiful building is so prominent along Palm Canyon Drive and as a future resident of Palm Springs, it disappoints me to think that a city with such a well-known history for its mid-century architecture would consider changing such an important structure. I do not support the unnecessary, historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the 1940 Welwood Murray Memorial Library. I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this significant and historic civic building.

Thank you for forwarding this e-mail to the city council and placing it in the official record.

Sincerely,

Arianne Keens  
Gifted and Talented Specialist  
Moseley Elementary School  
Grand Prairie ISD  
Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** anne abercrombie [atabercrombie@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 06, 2010 10:04 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please forward this email to the city council and place in the official record.

Members of the Palm Springs City Council;

Please do not support the historically damaging and unnecessary remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library designed by John Porter Clark. Please support the sensitive restoration of this historic and important civic building.

Anne T. Abercrombie  
Palm Springs

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Penny Hildebrand [palmsspringspenny@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 06, 2010 10:41 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Preserve the Welwood Murray Memoria

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMSON  
CITY CLERK

“Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.”

--

**Penny Hildebrand**  
Realty Executives  
760.660.8542 - Cell  
760.844.7500 - Office  
760.844.7550 - Fax  
[palmsspringspenny@gmail.com](mailto:palmsspringspenny@gmail.com)  
[www.pennyhildebrand.com](http://www.pennyhildebrand.com)  
Lic. #01783944

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** bill Hertel [billhertel@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 07, 2010 12:04 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please don't support the unnecessary and historically damaging proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library. I ask that your support a sensitive restoration of this historic civic building.

Sincerely,

William L. Hertel  
226 N, Airline Dr.  
Palm Springs, CA 92262



**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Thomas Carnase [carnase@carnase.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 07, 2010 4:02 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Cc:** info@pspreservationfoundation.org  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

11/7/10

City Of Palm Spring  
3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way  
Palm Springs, CA 92263

Dear Mr. Thompson,

Please see that this is distributed to the City Council members and made part of the public record.

I do not support the unnecessary and HISTORICALLY DAMAGING proposed re-model of the 1940 Welwood Murray Memorial Library designed by John Porter Clark, however, I do support the sensitive restoration of this important civic building for future generations to enjoy.

Historic sites are never available for re-model!

Thank you kindly,

Thomas Carnase  
300 East Molino Road  
Palm Springs, CA 92262

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Ellen Barr [ewjbar@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 07, 2010 4:50 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please forward this email to the City Council and place it in the official record:

Members of the City Council:

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building. As a descendant of Welwood Murray currently residing in Florida, I request that you respect the integrity of the current building, its historic significance, importance to the community, and the spirit in which it was given to the city of Palm Springs. I was fortunate to have an opportunity to visit the Library a few years ago and was favorably impressed. Welwood Murray wished to make a lasting and positive contribution to the city that was important and dear to him. I hope the City will continue to respect his gift and his wishes. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,  
Ellen Barr

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Dennis May [dennisamay@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 07, 2010 7:51 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Cc:** Hugh Wakeham; Ellen Lockert; Nelson Simmons; Diane Ross; Daryl Morrell; Kevin Naddaf; Nina Jackson  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

Re: Welwood Murray Memorial Library

To the Palm Springs City Council:

We are writing regarding the preservation and restoration of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library. We urge you to support a sensitive restoration of this historic civic building. We ask that you oppose the unnecessary, and historically damaging, proposed remodel of the library.

We are two of a rapidly growing number of Palm Springs residents and property owners who are dedicated to the preservation of historic buildings in and around Palm Springs. We will be immensely disappointed and angered if the Palm Springs City Council allows anything be done to the Welwood Murray Memorial Library that would detract from its original appearance and design.

Dennis May  
Daryl Morrell  
1121 S. Paseo de Marcia  
Palm Springs, CA 92264  
dennisamay@gmail.com  
darylmorrell@gmail.com

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:50  
JAMES THORP  
CITY CLERK

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Vincent Bartz [vhb747@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 07, 2010 9:55 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library Remodel Project

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:52  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am an owner of a mid-century home in Palm Springs. One of the reasons for purchasing a home in Palm Springs was the on-going preservation of the historical architecture that has brought Palm Springs world recognition. To alter or destroy such architecture is to negate the value that historically important buildings bring to Palm Springs in terms of tourist dollars, real estate value and potential business opportunity and growth.

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark.

Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

Thank you,

Vincent H. Bartz

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Judy Slutzky [jjslutzky@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 08, 2010 7:58 AM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:52  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Palm Springs City Council,

Please do not support the historically damaging and unnecessary remodel of the Welwood Murray Library designed by John Porter Clark. Please support the sensitive restoration of this historic civic building..

Thank you,

Judy Slutzky  
1560 Bolero Circle  
PS,  
92264

424 Via LIDO NORD  
NEWPORT EACH, Ca

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Steve Swayze [poolside.5@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 08, 2010 9:02 AM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Wellwood Murry Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -8 AM 9:54  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Palm Springs City Clerk,

Please forward this email to the City Council and have it placed in the official record.

"Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building."

Sincerely,  
Stephen Swayze  
400 W. Arenas. #1  
Palm Springs, CA. 92262

**Cindy Berardi**

**From:** Marilyn Hannah [marilyn\_hannah@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 08, 2010 3:30 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -9 AM 8:05  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Dear Palm Springs City Clerk

I live on the other side of the world in Auckland, New Zealand but have an interest in mid-century architure and have heard about the proposed remodelling of the Welwood Murry Memorial Library.

I'm writing to ask the Council not to support the proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library, which, from what I have read will be historically damaging and is unnecessary.

I have quite a collection of books about Palm Springs mid-century architecture and they show some wonderful buildings but also list many that have been lost. For me, it is that unique architecture that defines Palms Springs and is the reason I plan to visit. We have a similar situation in New Zealand where, following an earthquake in the early 20th century, the city of Napier was rebuilt in the Art Deco style and for that reason is a destination for tourists from around the world.

Please be kind enough to forward my email to the City Council and place it in the official record.

Many thanks and kind regards,

Marilyn Hannah  
Auckland  
New Zealand

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** vapdep [vapdep@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 08, 2010 4:20 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING  
2010 NOV -9 AM 8:05  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please forward this to the City Council,

To Whom it may concern, We are very concerned on the restoration of this historic building. We are not in support of the remodeling of this building that in any way would be damaging to this structure. It should be perserved as it was in 1940. Any deviation of this does not have our support and should be stopped. Vickie Pruter.



**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Caroline Gooden [cmjgood@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 08, 2010 6:01 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Cc:** Sally James  
**Subject:** Welwood Murray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV -9 AM 8:05  
JAMES THOMPSON JR  
CITY CLERK

Please forward this email to the City Council and place it in the official record; thank you.

Members of the City Council:

I am writing to urge you to support the sensitive restoration of the Welwood Murray library, consistent with his original wishes and design for perpetuity, and not as proposed by Clark architects. As a descendant of Welwood Murray, I request that you respect the integrity of the current building, its historic and community significance, and the spirit in which it was given to the city of Palm Springs. Welwood Murray wished to make a positive contribution to the city that was important to him. I hope the City will continue to respect his gift and his wishes, and not support Clark's renovation design. Thank you for your careful consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Caroline Gooden, Lexington, KY



# City of Palm Springs

## Palm Springs Public Library

300 South Sunrise Way • Palm Springs, California 92262-7699  
Tel: (760) 323-READ • Fax: (760) 320-9834 • Web: <http://www.palmspringslibrary.org>

November 5, 2010

### *Board of Library Trustees*

*David L. Gray*  
President

*Donna Chabon*  
President Pro Tem

*Mark J. Zacovic*  
Treasurer

*Anthony Ellerd*  
Trustee

*Bruce McCloud*  
Trustee

Mayor Steve Pougnet,  
Councilmember Ginny Foat, Councilmember Rick Hutcheson,  
Councilmember Chris Mills & Councilmember Lee Weigel  
City of Palm Springs  
3200 E Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262

Dear Mayor Pougnet and City Council members:

Since late 2008, the Palm Springs Board of Library Trustees has been planning a new service program to reintegrate the Welwood Murray Memorial Library into the Palm Springs library system. It was, and still is, the Board's hope that the repurposed and renovated Welwood Murray Memorial Library branch will act as a community focal point in the downtown corridor. We envision this iconic City landmark as the nexus for residents, the business community, tourists and culture seekers alike, by providing a handicapped-accessible and updated space for community events and gathering, connectivity to information, and the first stop for news and tourist information.

In support of this project, at its regularly scheduled Board Meeting on Friday, February 26, 2010, in a unanimous vote, the Palm Springs Public Library Board of Library Trustees voted to "approve a budget of \$800,000 from the Library Trust Fund for the FF&E (Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment) of the Welwood Murray Library project."

We are very excited by this opportunity to work with the City on this project, and urge the City Council to vote to proceed with the project as currently designed and envisioned. To that end, the Board at its most recent regularly-scheduled board meeting on Friday, October 29, 2010, once again "expressed its support of the Welwood Murray Library project as designed, and reaffirmed its commitment of \$800,000 of Trust Funds to the project."

Sincerely,

David L. Gray  
President

Cc: Barbara Roberts

**Cindy Berardi**

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**From:** InsideOutsideInc@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 09, 2010 1:35 PM  
**To:** CityClerk  
**Subject:** WelwoodMurray Memorial Library

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING  
2010 NOV -9 PM 3:30  
JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

Please forward this to the City Council and put in the official record.

thank you,  
William Kopelk

**Cindy Berardi**

---

**From:** Sally James [sallyjames@juno.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 07, 2010 3:32 PM  
**To:** CityClerk

RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRING

2010 NOV 10 PM 12:08

JAMES THOMSON  
CITY CLERK

Hello. My name is Sara James, and I am a descendant of Welwood Murray, residing in Crozet, Virginia.

I have been following the proceedings concerning the remodeling project of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library in Palm Springs. It is with great concern that I request that you please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support a sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building.

I would further ask that this email be forwarded to the city council and placed in official record.

Thank you.  
Sara James

**Cindy Berardi**

---

RECEIVED

**From:** Carol Leibowitz [leibowitz\_c@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 05, 2010 4:39 PM  
**To:** CityClerk

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS

2010 NOV 10 PM 12:08

JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

Please forward this email to the Palm Springs City Council and ask them to place it in the public record.

"Please do not support the unnecessary, and historically-damaging, proposed remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (1940) designed by architect John Porter Clark. Rather, I ask that you support the sensitive restoration of this important, and historic, civic building."

Carol Leibowitz



RECEIVED  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS  
2010 NOV 10 PM 2:17

JAMES THOMPSON  
CITY CLERK

November 10, 2010

Palm Springs City Council  
3400 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way  
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Re: Welwood Murray Library

Dear City Council Members:

Palm Springs Economic Development Corporation (PSEDC) is concerned about the fate of the Welwood Murray Library as it relates to the economic well being of downtown Palm Springs. Our Board of Directors feels the Library is an important asset to our downtown especially since it is located on one of the most important pieces of real estate in the city. Given its location, the Library has the opportunity to enhance the future of our downtown area by creating an updated gathering place for Palm Springs area residents, the business community and tourists.

According to the deed documents, the building must be used for library purposes, or the building will revert to the Welwood heirs. Previous attempts to have non-city tenants run the library have not been successful.

It is our understanding the City of Palm Springs has asked the City Library Board to assume the management of the facility and we feel that is a good decision. The Library Board, along with the City's Welwood Murray Memorial Library Subcommittee, has determined that in order to successfully manage the facility, the interior must be completely reconfigured and the original porches that were cement blocked-in during the 1950's must be replaced with a modern structure, while completely retaining the external elements of the original structure. It also must accommodate modern library services, including new technologies.

The committed Trust Funds of \$800,000 by the Palm Springs Board of Library Trustees for the remodel provide a win-win situation for the City of Palm Springs as renovating this building will bring resurgence to this important corner of our downtown corridor.

In conclusion, PSEDC's Board of Directors supports the Library Board in its intent to operate the Welwood Murray Library as a modern library facility, including complete internal renovation and replacement of the 1950's add on with modern elements. We recommend the Council approve the proposed remodel.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lyndon T. Calderline".

Lyndon T. Calderline  
President

**Palm Springs Economic Development Corporation**  
*"To identify and advocate quality economic development for the greater Palm Springs area"*

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