



**TO:** Chair and Members of the Library Advisory Commission

**SUBMITTED BY:** JoAnne Plummer, Neighborhood Services Director

**PREPARED BY:** Elizabeth Saucedo, City Librarian

**SUBJECT:** Goleta Valley Library Construction and Capital Campaign Update

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- A. Receive an update from the City Librarian on the status of the Goleta Valley Library Americans with Disabilities Act, Safety, and Building Improvement Project and the Interior Design Capital Campaign; and
- B. Receive an update on the Donor Recognition Program for the Interior Design Capital Campaign; and
- C. Provide advisory discussion on the naming of children's area in recognition of the significant donation received from the John C. Mithun Foundation.

**BACKGROUND:**

In April 2026, the Commission received a report on the Goleta Valley Library (Library) Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Safety, and Building Improvements Project (Project) detailing the background of its grant and local funding sources, the infrastructure-specific scope of improvements allowed within the terms of the grant, and an update on its on-track status to meet the grant deadline of June 30, 2027.

That report also included an overview of the origin and launch of the capital campaign to fund interior design updates, which are not a qualifying use of grant funds, and charted the progress of the campaign since its launch in February 2026.

This report and the following presentation (Attachment 1) will provide the Commission with a current status update on the Project and the capital campaign as of May 2026.

Additionally, it will invite discussion on two new elements of the interior design process: the in-development Donor Recognition Program, and the proposed naming of the children's portion of the Library to honor the extremely generous \$550,000 donation made by the John C. Mithun Foundation to fund the redesign of the children's and teen spaces.

## **DISCUSSION:**

### *Project Status*

Since the Library's groundbreaking ceremony in February 2026, the project has remained solidly on track to meet its deadline for completion.

The Project Manager provided the following updates as of May 2026:

- Demolition continued through April, which included the removal of existing interior elements and building components, such as interior walls, which will be reconfigured to accommodate renovated restrooms and other improvements.
- The demolition phase has prepared the space for upgraded building systems, an improved floor plan, and other planned enhancements.
- Utility preparation and related site work have now begun. The contractor is currently installing new plumbing piping, completing structural work, and performing exterior compaction and grading.
- The project is progressing as planned.

### *Campaign Status*

The Library Capital Campaign ("Writing the Next Chapter") will run from February to December 2026. The City of Goleta and the Library are fiscally sponsored by the Santa Barbara Foundation as they seek to raise the remaining funds needed for modern, accessible furnishings.

As of May 2026, the campaign has raised \$885,972, which is 52.12% of its \$1,700,000 goal. Staff have multiple meetings scheduled for early June with prominent local foundations and are actively soliciting donations from area supporters.

The Friends of the Goleta Valley Library remain a strong partner in fundraising efforts and continue to receive direct donations from new and longtime donors alike.

### *Donor Recognition Program*

Interest in the Library's Donor Recognition Program has been expressed by individual donors as well as established nonprofits as supporters plan their gifts for the campaign. Throughout the spring, staff have conducted significant research and assessments to plan a meaningful recognition plan that will capture the impact of donations at various levels and allow them to be celebrated by future visitors to the library.

The Project team recently connected staff with an artist studio to bring the final vision to life. Details are being finalized regarding placement and design, at which point the Donor Recognition Program will be shared with the community.

The elegant yet durable design will be replicated by a local artist and will consist of hand-painted, double-fired porcelain tiles bearing the names of donors to the campaign. It will include cherished elements of local Goleta heritage as well as the spirit of library support that is thriving in this area.

### *Naming of Children's Area*

In December 2025, the John C. Mithun Foundation approached Library staff to express their interest in funding the interior design improvements planned for the children's side of the Library. After meeting with their Executive Director, staff calculated that the remaining funds needed to complete the improvements desired by the community in this area totaled \$550,000. The John C. Mithun Foundation generously committed to funding the entire amount, thereby providing the resources needed to make this vision a reality.

To recognize this milestone donation, staff recommend working with the Executive Director to name the children's side of the Library after the John C. Mithun Foundation. Early discussions on the topic have explored incorporating a creative, library-themed title such as "The Mithun Discovery Den" or "Mithun's Magical Library of Wonders", and many other such variations. The specific wording would be determined in partnership with the Executive Director and the John C. Mithun Foundation.

This naming would apply to the children's side of the Library, while retaining the rededication of the Jake Boysel Reading Nook space.

If the Commission is supportive of this consideration, staff will proceed with the Foundation to finalize a recommendation to carry forward to the City Council.

The Library team will continue to provide the Commission with Project and capital campaign updates during regular meetings.

**Review By:**



Elizabeth Saucedo  
City Librarian

**Approved By:**



JoAnne Plummer  
Neighborhood Services Director

**ATTACHMENT:**

1. Goleta Valley Library Construction and Capital Campaign Update PowerPoint Presentation

**Attachment 1**

Goleta Valley Library Construction and Capital Campaign Update  
PowerPoint Presentation

# Goleta Valley Library Construction & Capital Campaign Update

Library Advisory Commission

June 1, 2026

Presented by:

Elizabeth Saucedo, City Librarian



# The Goleta Valley Library ADA, Safety, and Building Improvements Project

- **Goal:** Bring the building up to current code standards and improve accessibility, safety, and sustainability measures within the facility, including:
  - ADA path of travel and restrooms upgrades
  - Modernization and replacement of HVAC systems
  - Life safety and security installation and upgrades
  - LED lighting retrofits
  - Doors/windows replacements and upgrades
  - Fascia repair and exterior paint



*Goleta Valley Library, 1974*

# Progress Report: May 2026

- Status: On track for June 2027 completion
- **Current Phase: Utility Preparation**
  - The contractor is currently installing new plumbing piping, completing structural work, and performing exterior compaction and grading
  - The project is progressing as planned



*Pre-Demolition Phase*

# Interior Design Capital Campaign

# Scope of Improvements

- **Goal:** Raise funds for new library furnishings to support community aspirations, including:
  - Updated seating for all ages
  - Private study pods for reservable use
  - Upgraded shelving to support the library's broad collection
  - Enhanced children's area with interactive and flexible spaces
  - A designated teen zone
  - Technology upgrades, refreshed common spaces, and more



# Scope of Improvements

## *Renderings*



*Library Exterior*



*Library Lobby &  
Friends' Used Book Sale Area*

# Scope of Improvements

## *Renderings*



*Adult Side of Library*



*Children's Side of Library*

# Opportunities to Support



Display at GVL Express

## Goleta Valley Library Capital Campaign

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### Writing the Next Chapter

Goleta Valley Library opened its doors on Fairview Avenue in 1972, and has been a beloved community treasure for more than 50 years. During this time, the facility has not undergone significant infrastructure upgrade renovations. In October 2023, the City of Goleta received a Building Forward Library Facilities Improvement Program grant (\$4.2 million) from the California State Library to make several infrastructural improvements to the Goleta Valley Library. The project is focused on bringing the building up to the current code standards and improving accessibility, safety, and sustainability measures within the facility. Construction will be completed by June 2027.



Webpage:

[goletavalleylibrary.org/writingthenextchapter](https://goletavalleylibrary.org/writingthenextchapter)

## Four Ways to Support the Goleta Valley Library Interior Design Capital Campaign: Writing the Next Chapter



### SANTA BARBARA FOUNDATION

The Santa Barbara Foundation is the fiscal sponsor of the capital campaign.  
[sbfoundation.org/gvlibrary](https://sbfoundation.org/gvlibrary)



### FRIENDS OF THE GOLETA VALLEY LIBRARY

The Friends will accept donations for the campaign on behalf of the Library.  
[friendsofthegoletavalleylibrary.org](https://friendsofthegoletavalleylibrary.org)



### CITY OF GOLETA

Campaign gifts can be made to the City of Goleta. Contact us for more information.  
[esaucedo@cityofgoleta.gov](mailto:esaucedo@cityofgoleta.gov)

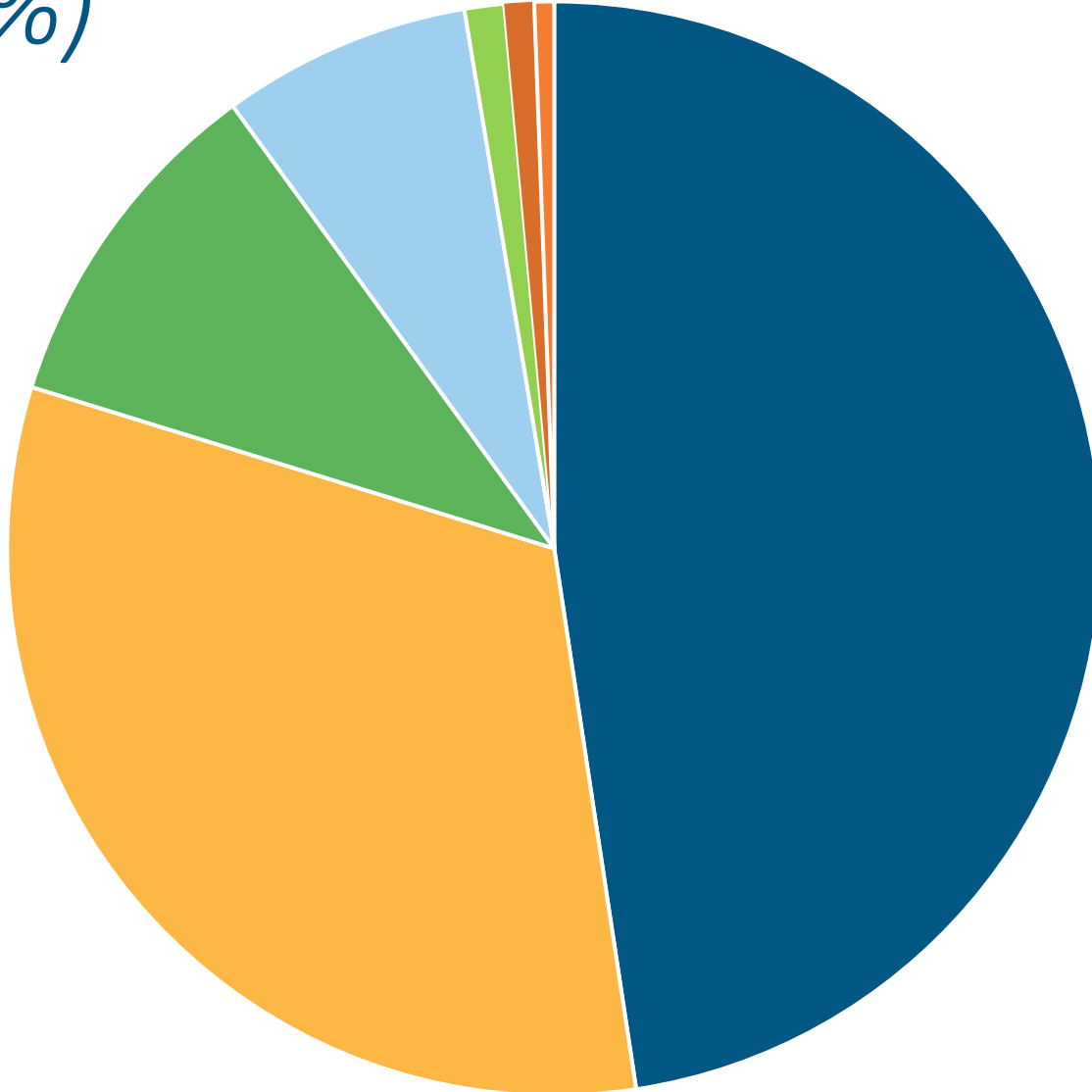


### GVL EXPRESS

Donations can be accepted at the register at GVL Express via cash, card, and check.  
[goletavalleylibrary.org/gvlexpress](https://goletavalleylibrary.org/gvlexpress)

# Progress Report: May 2026

*Campaign Goal: \$1,700,000*  
*Raised: \$885,972 (52.12%)*



- Goal Remaining: \$814,028
- John C. Mithun Foundation: \$550,000
- Friends of the Goleta Valley Library: \$175,000
- Local Organizations: \$116,000
- Patricia Bragg Foundation: \$20,000
- Deckers: \$15,000
- Community Members: \$9,972

# Donor Recognition Program

- High-interest element of capital campaign
- Library team working alongside Project team and artist studio to create a meaningful recognition plan
- Overall concept has been finalized, details are in development
- Tentatively planned for exterior location in porcelain tile medium
- Will include Goleta heritage and Library spirit in design

# Naming of Children's Area

- In December 2025, The John C. Mithun Foundation gifted a milestone donation of \$550,000 to fund the remaining amount needed to update the children and teen spaces at Goleta Valley Library
- Staff recommend naming the children's side of the library after the Foundation, with a consideration of including a creative and library-themed variation
- The rededication of the Jake Boyssel Reading Nook would remain as planned and would not be impacted by naming consideration

# Naming of Children's Area

## ➤ Next Steps:

- If the Commission is supportive of this consideration, staff will proceed with the Foundation to finalize a recommendation to carry forward to the City Council.

# Questions