

New, bigger library for downtown Clovis gets Fresno County support

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Fresno County supervisors gave their support Tuesday to a plan that will use \$8 million to \$10 million for a new, larger library in downtown Clovis.

The city of Clovis will help raise between \$2 million and \$4 million to build the library. The site is near Third Street and Clovis Avenue, and is part of a larger community center that will feature a new senior center and city transit hub.

The new library will be 30,000 square feet in size. The existing library, in the city's civic center on Fifth Street, covers about 8,600 square feet.

Timelines in a staff report indicate completion in 2020, but Clovis City Manager Rob Woolley said he would like to see the library finished before then. He said the city will work with the county to accomplish that goal.

Last year, county supervisors approved a new library in Fresno at the former site of a Fresh & Easy store at Cedar and Shields avenues.

Fresno County Librarian Laurel Prysiazny said the county also plans to build a 15,000-square-foot library in downtown Reedley.

The supervisors also approved purchasing 1.3 acres near Teilman and Nielsen avenues for an 8,000-square-foot animal shelter and administrative offices.

The land will be bought with \$200,000 in tobacco settlement funds. The county has set aside about \$2 million for construction of the new shelter.

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