



## *Supporting Excellence in Library Services*

*Mesa Verde Branch Library  
2969 Mesa Verde Drive East  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
Phone: 714-546-6274*

*Costa Mesa Branch Library  
1855 Park Avenue  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627  
Phone: 949-546-8845*

*Costa Mesa Technology Library  
3033 Bristol Avenue, Suite Q  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
Phone: 714-754-4431*

May 31, 2005

Mr. Allan Roeder  
City Manager  
City of Costa Mesa  
PO Box 1200  
Costa Mesa, CA 92628-1200

Dear Mr. Roeder,

A top priority of the Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries is to address the shortfall in public library facilities in our city. The long-term goal is to build a Central Library that will meet community needs at a level comparable to our peer cities. In the meantime, the Friends will mitigate the facility shortfall by strengthening its bookstore operations to generate funds that will supplement activities at our existing Branch Libraries.

Expanding The Friends Bookstore cannot be accomplished within the already limited library space, so we contacted the Newport-Mesa Unified School District regarding the availability of a surplus portable building (relocatable classroom) that might be available to purchase. The prices quoted made it appear that we would have to consider other options.

A subsequent call from the superintendent of the school district put us back on track. The district considered our community service and decided we could purchase a portable building for \$1. Wow! What a gift to the Friends! The 960 square foot building meets building codes - it is fully electrified, has an air conditioner, heater and insulation, is earthquake protected and ADA compliant. All we need do is transport the building from Kaiser Elementary School to the Mesa Verde Library site. Immediately, discussions began with city staff as well as County Librarian John Adams to investigate where and how we could do this.

While moving the building is our responsibility, the cost is much higher than expected (\$7,500). Also, we are faced with the application fee for a Minor Conditional Use Permit (\$805). To help get this project off to a strong start, The Friends requests the City of Costa Mesa to become a partner as follows:

1. The School District donates the building (value \$30,000).
2. The City donates the \$7,500 moving and set-up expense and the \$805 Minor CUP application fee.
3. The Friends donate interior furnishings, monthly operating expenses and provide volunteers to operate the bookstore for the sole benefit of the Costa Mesa Public Libraries.

Here are more reasons for the City to become a partner in this operation:

1. The City is considering using similar buildings at Fairview Park to house some local organizations. The Friends Bookstore would prove the concept.
2. When the Central Library is built and the main book selling activities are shifted to that library, the portable building would be available to move to Fairview Park.

Will the City become a partner in this operation? We think it is a win-win situation for everyone and hope your answer is "Yes." The school district requires us to move the building not later than July 1, 2005. Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

We want to thank you for all the considerations you have given the Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries. Pulling together has really been making a difference.

Sincerely,



Mary Ellen Goddard  
President,  
Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries  
2901 Palau Pl  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

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