

## LIBRARIES

PALO ALTO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN  
COMMUNITY SERVICES & FACILITIES ELEMENT

### Five Branches

The Palo Alto City Library operates **five branches** that cater to the needs of all Palo Alto users. **Collections** include adult and children's books, reference material, periodicals, local community archives, and electronic material. Branches offer **services**, including free Wi-Fi, public internet access computers, laptops for loan, and meeting rooms. **Programs** include story times, teen programs, author introductions and non-profit events. Table C-1 summarizes the branches and the facilities and services they provide.

### Technology

The Library offers online reference materials, e-books, audio books, films, music, online training and practice tests, and more. All branches provide efficient self-service check out kiosks.

### Renovations

All branches were renovated between 2006 and 2015. The Mitchell Park Library, completed in 2014, is now the largest branch, with state-of-the-art equipment over 140,000 items, including books in several languages. The Main Library was also completed in 2014, and re-opened with a new name – Rinconada Library which houses new program and group study rooms. The Library completed extensive renovations of the Downtown Branch in 2011 a seismic retrofit and upgrade of the College Terrace Branch in 2009, as well as a major expansion of the Children's Library.

### Community Support and Funding

Friends of the Palo Alto Library (FOPAL) was an active non-profit dedicated to raising funds for a modern, dynamic library system for Palo Alto. With the re-Opening of Rinconada Library on February 14, 2015, the FOPAL ceased operating on June 30, 2015.

The City Library receives funding from a \$76 million general obligation bond and library revenues are supplemented through a variety of fund-raising activities conducted by the Friends of the Palo Alto Public Library.

### Library Branches, Collections, Facilities and Programs

Library Branch Built Renovated	Location	Square Feet	Visits	Collections *June 2015	Facilities	Services and Programs
Mitchell Park 1958 2014	3700 Middlefield Road	41,000	472,596	142,681 items	Conference room, training room, study/meeting rooms, public internet terminals	Wireless internet access, laptops for loan

Rinconada 1958 2015	1213 Newell Road	30,313	54,684	113,398 items	Conference room, meeting/study rooms, public internet terminals,	Wireless internet access, laptops for loan
Downtown 1971 2011	270 Forest Avenue	8,774	110,275	27499 items	Conference room, meeting rooms, public internet terminals	Wireless internet access, laptops for loan
Children's 1940 2007	1276 Harriet Street	6,043	115,851	51,611 items	Children reading space	Wireless internet access, laptops for loan
College Terrace 1936 2009	2300 Wellesley Avenue	2,392	57,556	20,476 items	Public internet access, public reading space	Young Children story time, laptops for loan
Library e-Branch	On-line		1,163,467	73,793 items	Remote access and delivery	NA