**Frequently Asked Questions about CuriOdyssey’s Building Plans**

**How did we arrive at the decision to fully renovate CuriOdyssey?**

Our building was cutting edge for its time. But, today it just doesn’t support our expanded mission, and we are squeezing into available space. This community deserves a best-in-class resource that can better serve our kids and our programs.

**What will be in the new building?**

* Twice the number of classrooms (from 2 to 4)
* Triple the exhibit space (from 1,817 to 5,910 SF)
* 48 to 100+ new exhibits
* Universal access, including an ADA approved elevator
* Large outdoor natural play area
* Wildlife observation deck
* Eco-friendly building materials

**When will the renovation start?**

The renovation begins when we have 75% of the total $35M working campaign goal secured in pledges and our board votes to move to the next stage. Thus, we need to have pledges totaling $26.25M to break ground. This is estimated to happen in late 2016.

**How long is the renovation projected to take?**

The renovation is expected to take 18 to 24 months.

**Will you be tearing down the old building?**

We will retain the building footprint and transform the space into a premier serious science playground.

**Will you be open during the renovation?**

We are planning on being open during the renovation. Preliminary plans are underway for a site in Coyote Point Recreation Area. We will provide more details as we approach groundbreaking.

**Will it cost more to visit?**

We plan to continue to offer a robust experience in Coyote Point including access to our exhibits and animals. As of now, we project that with the numerous enhanced facilities and programs provided upon re-opening, we will need to charge a fee commensurate with that experience.

**What will happen to science classes? Science camps?**

Classes and camps will continue. The exact formats and locations are still under discussion.

**What will this mean for members?**

We will continue to offer our members robust opportunities to meet animals and touch science throughout construction.

**What will happen to the animals?**

The animals will be given the best of care and will remain in their habitats during construction. However, if construction is disturbing them, the keepers will decide how to offer alternate care.

**How much will the renovation cost? How are you paying for the renovations?**

We have launched an ambitious fundraising campaign of $35 million to pay for the renovations and enhance our program offerings. $11 million will fund educational programs, exhibit development, campaign costs and partnerships with local schools and community groups. $24 million will go towards expanding and modernizing our main building and creating an outdoor natural play area.

**Who are your campaign chairs?**

Linda Lanier and Kathryn Taylor are our campaign co-chairs.

**How much have you raised so far?**

To date, we raised more than $19 million in gifts and pledges, more than halfway to our goal! Major leadership donors include: The TomKat Charitable Trust, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, John and Marcia Goldman Foundation, Jennifer and Owen Van Natta, and Cathy and Blake Krikorian together with CuriOdyssey’s Board of Trustees, invested a combined total of $12 million to launch our campaign. Plus, many other generous individual donors, foundations and corporations have joined in to get us beyond the halfway mark.

**What is the “*Science is Our Superpower Community Challenge”*?**

To inspire others in the community to get involved in CuriOdyssey's campaign, TomKat Charitable Trust, who also made an early lead campaign gift of $5 million, announced a 1:1 challenge grant to match all new and increased donations up to a total of $2 million.

**Is this new building project approved by Coyote Point Recreation Area and San Mateo County ?**

As we are a private 501(c)(3) non-profit organization within a County Park here at Coyote Point, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in support of our high-level plans for the building. We are working with the San Mateo County Planning and Building department for building permits as we near construction.

**Interested in learning more about the campaign and perhaps contributing?**

It’s easy! Please reach out to Judith Jones, Development Director at CuriOdyssey or go to our

website at [support.curiodyssey.org](file:///C:\Users\jjones\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\9PQEX7Z0\support.curiodyssey.org) and click the donate button. You can also contact Judith Jones,

Director of Development: jjones(at)uriOdyssey.org, 650-340 7571

**About Us in a Nutshell**

CuriOdyssey is a 60-year-strong serious science playground that began a 21st century reinvention eight years ago.  We believe giving kids the power of real science gives them the power to take on the real-world challenges of the future.  Each year more than 100,000 children from all over the Bay Area observe wild animals and experiment with real scientific phenomena through our onsite and mobile programming.  That’s why it’s our mission to transform the way science is taught today. [www.curiodyssey.org](http://www.curiodyssey.org/)