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

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

Our building was innovative for its time. However, today it does not support our expanded mission and we are squeezed into available space. This community deserves a best-in-class resource that can better serve our kids and our education 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 90% of the total $35M working campaign goal secured in gifts and pledges and our board votes to move to the next stage.

**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 plan to be open during 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 CuriOdyssey including access to our exhibits and animals. As of now, we project with the enhanced facilities and programs provided upon re-opening, we would need to charge a fee commensurate with the 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 opportunities to meet animals and touch science throughout construction.

**What will happen to the animals?**

The animals will continue to receive the best of care and will remain in their habitats during construction. However, if construction disturbs 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 $35M to pay for the renovations and enhance our program offerings. The projected building costs are $21M with the remaining funds focused on campaign expenses, relocation expenses and soft costs.

**Who are your campaign chairs?**

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

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

We raised $23 million in gifts and pledges.

**Who are your major donors?**

Major leadership donors include:

The TomKat Charitable Trust, the William K. Bowes Jr. Foundation, 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.

These donors along with CuriOdyssey’ s Board of Trustees invested a combined total of $12 million to launch our campaign. Many other generous individual donors, foundations and corporations joined in to get us beyond the halfway mark.

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

As we are a private 501(c)(3) non-profit organization within the Coyote Point County Park, 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 will work 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 is easy! Please reach out to Kate Korsh, Development Director at CuriOdyssey or go to

[support.curiodyssey.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cjjones%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5C9PQEX7Z0%5Csupport.curiodyssey.org) and click the donate button. You can also contact Kate at kkorsh(at)CuriOdyssey.org, (650) 340-7571.

**About Us**

CuriOdyssey is a 65-year-strong serious science playground. We believe that by giving kids the power of real science they gain 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 is our mission, to help children acquire the tools to deeply understand our changing world. [www.curiodyssey.org](http://www.curiodyssey.org/) .