


MEETING OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION A G E N D A

DATE: Thursday, March 18, 2021

TIME: 7:00 p.m. LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING

LOCATION: **The Meeting will be held virtually via Zoom. You may click on the link below or copy/paste it into your browser. The meeting password is 154115 You may also dial in using this number: 1(669) 900-9128 Meeting I.D.: 919 3264 6639**
Link: <https://zoom.us/j/91932646639?pwd=VDFjVzgwdUR4eXBvaXdoK3hVZStvQT09>

- Electronic agenda packet viewing is available at: <https://ccclib.org/commission/>
- Hard copy agenda packets are available for viewing at each Contra Costa County Library
- The meeting will be recorded for record keeping purposes

 The Library Commission will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend Library Commission meetings who contact Library Administration at least 72 hours before the meeting, at (925) 608-7730. After 72 hours prior, accommodations will be on a best-efforts basis.

To slow the spread of COVID-19, the Health Officer's Shelter Order of June 16, 2020, prevents public gatherings ([Health Officer Order](#)). In lieu of a public gathering, the Library Commission meeting will be accessible via Zoom to all members of the public as permitted by the Governor's Executive Order N29-20.

Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the Contra Costa County Library Commission to a majority of members of the Library Commission less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at Contra Costa County Library Administration, 777 Arnold Drive, Suite 210, Martinez, CA 94553.

Library Commissioners, please **call Library Administration**, at (925) 608-7700 by 5 p.m. **Wednesday, March 17, 2021 if you will NOT be at the meeting.** A quorum must be established before a meeting can be held. A record is maintained of Commissioner's attendance.

1. **7:00 p.m.**
(5 mins.) **CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**
The Library Commission Chair will call the meeting to order. Walter will do a roll call to determine a quorum of attendees.
2. **7:05 p.m.**
(5 mins.) **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**
Visitors will have an opportunity to introduce themselves; self-introductions are voluntary.
3. **7:10 p.m.**
(5 mins.) **PUBLIC COMMENT –**
Speakers from the audience may address the Library Commission on any relevant issue that is not scheduled for the agenda. Public comment can be made on agenda items when the item is discussed. Public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per speaker and speakers may text your comments/questions to 925-818-0049 during the meeting. Public comment on agenda items can also be e-mailed to the Library Commission at walter.beveridge@library.cccounty.us to be received one day prior to the Library Commission meeting.
4. **7:15 p.m.**
Action
(5 mins.) **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – Attachment 1**
Commissioners will approve or amend the minutes from the January 2021 meeting.
5. **7:20 p.m.**
Information
(20 mins.) **ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**
Commissioners or library staff may make announcements regarding the Library Commission and Library or Friends group activities of interest to other Library Commission members.

PRESENTATIONS

6. **7:40 p.m.**
Information
(15 mins.) **REOPENING THE LIBRARIES –**
County Librarian Alison McKee and Acting County Deputy Librarian Lynne Noone will update the Commission on a timeline for reopening the libraries to the public and the steps being taken to make this happen safely.
7. **7:55 p.m.**
Information
(20 mins.) **TECHNOLOGY & DIGITAL ACCESS INITIATIVES -**
Senior Business Systems Analyst Stacie Deng will update the Commission on new technology issues and systems being put in place at the Library in 2021.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

8. **8:15 p.m.**
Action
(25 mins.) **WORKING COMMITTEE REPORTS – *Attachment 2***
- A. Commissioner A. Smith will report to the Commission on the recent meeting of the Legislative working group and discuss ways to advocate for the library during the current environment. **(15 minutes)**
 - B. Vice-Chair Fischer will discuss the collecting of information for the 2021 Annual Report. **(5 minutes)**
 - C. Commissioner Don McCormick will update the commission on Countywide Foundation efforts. **(5 minutes)**

OTHER BUSINESS

9. **8:40 p.m.**
Action
(5 mins.) **CHANGE SEPTEMBER MEETING DATE -**
As the scheduled September 16 Commission meeting is the last day of Yom Kippur, the Commission will discuss changing the date for reasons of cultural sensitivity and vote on an alternative date for the meeting.
10. **8:45 p.m.**
Information
(10 mins.) **COUNTY LIBRARIAN REPORT - *Attachment 3***
Interim County Librarian Alison McKee will submit a written report on items of interest to Commissioners.
11. **8:55 p.m.**
(5 mins.) **AGENDA SETTING FOR NEXT MEETING and FUTURE TOPICS**
Commissioners will suggest items for future meetings.
12. **9:00 p.m.** **ADJOURNMENT to the May 20, 2021 LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING.**

ITEMS TO CALENDAR

- 1. **Library Commission Meeting / 5-20-21**
- 2. **Library Commission Meeting / 7-15-21**
- 3. **Library Commission Meeting / 9-16-21/TBD**

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION

AGENDA ATTACHMENT 1

MEETING DATE: Thursday, May 20, 2021

AGENDA ITEM #: 4.

ITEM: ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Commission will vote to accept the minutes of the March 18, 2021 meeting with or without edits.

MEETING OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION
Minutes

DATE: Thursday, March 18, 2021

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Peter Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME	TITLE	REPRESENTING	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
	Vacant	Library Commissioner	CCC District 1			
	Vacant	Library Commissioner	Town of Moraga			
	Vacant	Library Commissioner	City of Brentwood			
	Vacant	Library Commissioner	City of San Ramon			
	Vacant	Library Commissioner	City of Orinda (Primary)			
	Vacant	Library Commissioner	City of Lafayette (Alternate)			
Bracken	Katherine	Library Commissioner	City of Pleasant Hill	x		
Campbell-Miller	Brian	Library Commissioner	City of Hercules	x		
DeFraga	Matthew	Library Commissioner	City of Martinez	x		
Dozier	Julia	Library Commissioner	City of Pleasant Hill (Alt)	x		
Ferree	Jacalyn	Library Commissioner	City of Clayton	x		
Fitzpatrick	Arnold	Library Commissioner	City of Oakley (Alternate)	x		
Fischer	Michael	Library Commissioner	City of El Cerrito	x		
Gemmer	Nicole	Library Commissioner	Town of Danville	x		
Harlan-Ogbeidi	Charlene	Library Commissioner	City of San Pablo (Alternate)		x	
Hildreth	Susan	Library Commissioner	CCC District 2	x		
Huh	Dr. John M.	Library Commissioner	City of Antioch	x		
LaLanne	Yvonne	Library Commissioner	City of Walnut Creek	x		
LeFrak-Bellici	Zelda	Library Commissioner	City of Pittsburg	x		
Maher	Janette	Library Commissioner	Town of Moraga (Alternate)	x		
McCormick	Don	Library Commissioner	CCC District 3	x		
Medrano	Antonio	Library Commissioner	City of San Pablo	x		
Merchant	Kathy	Library Commissioner	City of Orinda (Alternate)		x	
Molinelli	Jasun	Library Commissioner	City of Walnut Creek (Alt)		x	
Pena-Mendrek	Yolanda	Library Commissioner	City of Oakley	x		
Pursley	George	Library Commissioner	City of Pinole	x		
Robinson	Rich	Library Commissioner	CCCCD		x	
Mackey	Lynn	Library Commissioner	Office of Education	x		
Smith	Alan	Library Commissioner	CCC District 4			x
Smith	Tommy	Library Commissioner	City of Concord	x		
Swernoff	Michael	Library Commissioner	CCC District 2 (Alt)	x		
Wichlan	Dan	Library Commissioner	CCC District 4 (Alt)	x		

With eighteen commissioners present, a quorum was established.

Total Commission positions: 24
 Commission positions filled: 19
 Commission positions vacant: 5
 Commission quorum: 13

2. **INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Peter Wilson introduced one new commission members (Matt DeFraga/Martinez) to the group.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Public comment.

4. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES** Alison requested one change. In the Leg Group minutes it is stated that Clayton and Baypoint were looking into new libraries. It should read Oakley and Baypoint.

With this change, Commissioner LeFrak made a motion to accept the minutes. This was seconded by Commissioner Mendrek and passed unanimously by consensus vote of the Commission.

5. **ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS –**

Commissioner Hoisington: Took a moment to thank new District 2 commissioners Hildreth and Swernoff who, immediately after becoming commissioners, asked for and used the contact information for all of the District 2 Library Commissioners to meet with them and discuss district issues. She also took a moment to thank members of the Pleasant Hill Friends who have been helping the volunteers at the Lafayette Bookstore to get their books online to keep sales happening and just sharing their knowledge in general. The WOW program and Author Talks continue every month (details of the LLLC website). The Foundation has been very busy, as they are responsible for 53% of the budget at the Lafayette Library. Due to covid, a large portion of the money they make comes from rentals and currently they are not able to rent any of the rooms.

Commissioner Hildreth: Susan also mentioned meeting with the District 2 library commissioners to help her and alternate Commissioner Swernoff get up to speed and thanked all for their time.

Commissioner LeFrak: Saw the East Bay Times article about the Library offering hotspots and wanted to comment on how well done it was and how it put a very positive spin on the library's efforts.

Commissioner Feree: After the previous meeting where Alison made a plea for books for the Juvenile Hall Library, The Clayton Friends reached out to Juvenile Hall and ended up donating 2 large boxes of books that were well received. She encouraged everyone else to reach out in a similar manner.

Vice Chair Fischer: Despite two votes to retain extra hours in El Cerrito even during the pandemic, it seems the city may be gearing up to balance their budget on the backs of the most needy citizens so another battle over open hours at the library may be looming. Michael is also working to convene a group of library-minded citizens and politicians to see what might be done about a new library even in the current environment.

Commissioner Medrano: San Pablo Library Friend have been very busy distributing meals at the library. Since June of 2020 they have either delivered or distributed 11,000 meals. Since last December over 3100 meals have been handed out there. This happens every Tuesday beginning at noon and lasting as long as supplies hold out. This is food that would normally be given out by the schools but the Friends have stepped in to fill that void. Commissioner Medrano has also requested books be added to the collection on the pandemic, white supremacy/privilege and the history of racism in America.

Commissioner Dozier: Pleasant Hill held a town hall meeting about the new library on the 8th which showcased the interior design of the building, including furniture, carpet, colors to be used, etc. The meeting was attended by the Mayor, several members of the City Council and the architect and interior designers for the project.

Commissioner Maher: Highlighted a Washington Post article about Ebooks vs. Amazon (sent previously to commissioners) and recommended everyone read it.

Commissioner Bracken: The Pleasant Hill Foundation has begun a \$50,000 challenge for the month that has almost been reached, leaving another \$1.5mm to go. Patrons of the Friends' Bookstore frequently ask for updates on the library so the demand is overwhelming for the library to be opened!

6. REOPENING THE LIBRARIES -

Interim Deputy County Librarian Lynne Noone presented a PowerPoint slide show that will be appended to these minutes.

7. TECHNOLOGY AND DIGITAL ACCESS INITIATIVES -

Senior Business Systems Analyst Stacie Deng presented a PowerPoint slide show that will be appended to these minutes.

8.A. Legislative Working Group -

Chair Wilson began by mentioning that the Legislative Working Group held a meeting in February and the minutes of that meeting have been added as an attachment to this meeting's agenda. Michael Fischer volunteered to represent the Leg Group and lead the discussion this evening.

Michael began by describing the wide-ranging discussion of state and federal budget issues that were examined by the Leg Group, culminating in the list of five issues to bring to the attention of the full commission for approval. Once approved, the next step would be to craft letters to be signed by the Board of Supervisors seeking their support of these same issues.

1. **ACA-1:** This issue lowers the threshold for passage down to 55% for public housing and infrastructure (including library construction) projects which matches the current requirement for school bonds. This item is already on the BOS' list of issues to support.
2. **Lunch at the Library:** This is an \$800,000 line item in the current budget. It mostly pays for the administration of the program...the food is paid for locally and distributed at the libraries. While this may seem small in terms of the amount of the budget represented, it is an ongoing payment so the group feels it is worthy of support.
3. **California Library Services Act (CLSA):** This item provides a lot of local resource sharing. It was reduced by 50% over last year and this would restore that funding that was cut. Our local area has been able to weather this reduction by planning for some reserve funds. Smaller, more rural libraries will still have a difficult time, as will we without the restoration of the funding. Commissioner Hildreth explained that this issue is supported by the CLA and may be present when Gov. Newsom presents the May revision to his budget.
4. **SB 127:** This is a proposal to provide up to \$5 billion for the purpose of library construction. It's the first time in anyone's memory that the Feds have proposed anything like this. It is specifically aimed at areas that are economically disadvantaged, which means that Oakley and Bay Point might qualify. El Cerrito may or may not, depending upon the specific requirements. Commissioner Hildreth explained that if the \$5 billion funding level is approved that would mean roughly \$505 million for California. The funds would go to the State Library and be distributed from there via some sort of competitive application process.

5. **Institute of Museum & Library Service (IMLS):** The IMLS funds projects all across the country. The \$1.9 trillion relief bill has \$200 million as a one-time infusion.

Chair Wilson and Vice Chair Fischer summed up that what is intended is a request to the BOS for a support position relating to these five items. Michael also mentioned that any commissioners wishing to take these support requests to their respective city councils for support would also be encouraged.

Michael made a motion to support the writing of letters of support to be forwarded to the BOS for their approval and signatures. Commissioner Hildreth seconded that motion. In response to a question from Commissioner Hoisington regarding timing, Alison offered a brief summary of the process and offered to let the commissioners know when the letter had obtained the signatures of the BOS which would then free the commissioners up to endorse the items with their city councils. Of course, everyone is free to support these issues as a citizen. Doing so as a commissioner requires the approval of the BOS.

At this point, the item was approved by unanimous vote of the commission.

Chair Wilson then asked about the \$1.9 trillion in relief funding. Apparently if there is no reduction in the overall amount, Contra Costa County will receive approximately \$225 million as their share, with very little in the way of restrictions on what can be done with it. Peter suggested to Alison that she take a look around the library and come up with a "wish list" of ways funds could be used. Peter then made that into a motion which was seconded by Commissioner Campbell-Miller. By unanimous vote of the Commission, such a letter will be drafted.

8.B. Annual Report Working Group –

Vice Chair Fischer made a brief reminder to continue sending items to Walter to keep track of and that there would be more discussion of this item at the May meeting (mid-point of the year).

8.C. Countywide Library Foundation –

Commissioner McCormick briefly recalled the efforts to date to secure funding for the countywide library foundation in order to become a 501 (c) 3 organization. After some reluctance initially on the part of the existing foundations and some of the Friends groups, they began to understand that they would not be competing against this new foundation but working with it. The idea being that the new foundation would seek to level the playing field for those underserved areas of the county by supporting those initiatives deemed by Alison to accomplish exactly that.

Don explained that he is the District III commissioner, appointed by Sup. Burgis who is the chair of the BOS this year. He has spoken with her about various funding sources. The recent passage of Measure X is one such opportunity. The county has recently announced the formation of a 17 member citizen's advisory board relating to how best to prioritize the distribution of the Measure X funds. 95% of the funds are mostly spoken for but the 5 members of the BOS control what happens to roughly \$4mm and this is one possible source of seed money for the foundation.

Don also mentioned speaking with new CAO Monica Nino about this. She is an ardent supporter of libraries and Don would be happy to see the county pony up the few thousand dollars it would require to seed this new foundation.

9. CHANGE SEPTEMBER MEETING DATE

Due to the September meeting of the Commission falling upon the last evening of Yom Kippur, it seemed prudent to poll the Commissioners to see if rescheduling the meeting on the 16th to another date would be wise. After a brief discussion of who would or would not be able to attend on various dates, September 30th was the overwhelming choice.

Chair Wilson made a motion to change the September meeting date to the 30th. Commissioner T. Smith seconded the motion. By unanimous vote of the Commission, the September meeting will now happen on the 30th at 7pm.

10. COUNTY LIBRARIAN REPORT -

County Librarian Alison McKee announced that the budget for the library had been recently submitted to the BOS. At this time she is able to announce that all libraries that are currently open for the base amount of 35 hours per week will be changing to 40 open hours per week with no additional costs to those cities. For those cities desiring extra open hours they will have three options available to them for an additional 6, 12 or 16 hours per week, each option with a fixed schedule. Alison thanked the library leadership group for working so hard to make this a reality.

11. AGENDA SETTING FOR NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE TOPICS –

Commissioner Faye asked about a presentation about reopening the library. No other topics were offered so commissioners were invited to send any thoughts to Walter.

12. ADJOURNMENT TO THE May 20, 2021, 2021 LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by Walter Beveridge
Executive Secretary, Contra Costa County Library

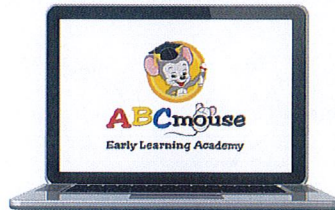
New Digital Technology Presentation



1

Wi-Fi Hotspots

- works anywhere in the United States
- 10 devices
- unlimited data



- 200 hotspots
- 180 have circulated
- 200 requests



2

Wi-Fi Hotspots

$$200 \text{ hotspots} \times \$29.75 \text{ Monthly charge} \times 12 \text{ months} = \$71,400$$



$$200 \text{ Hotspot Cases} \times \$17 = \$3,400$$

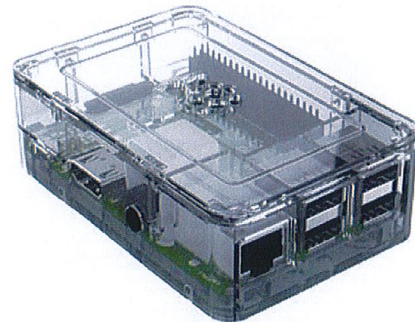
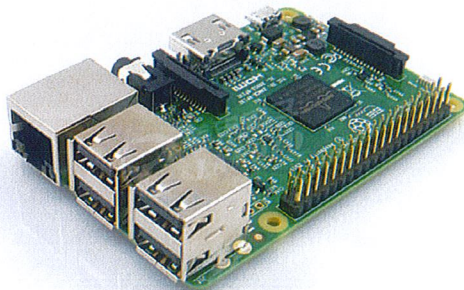
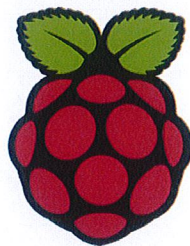


Mobile Device Management Software

\$2,000 annually

3

RASPBERRY PI KIT



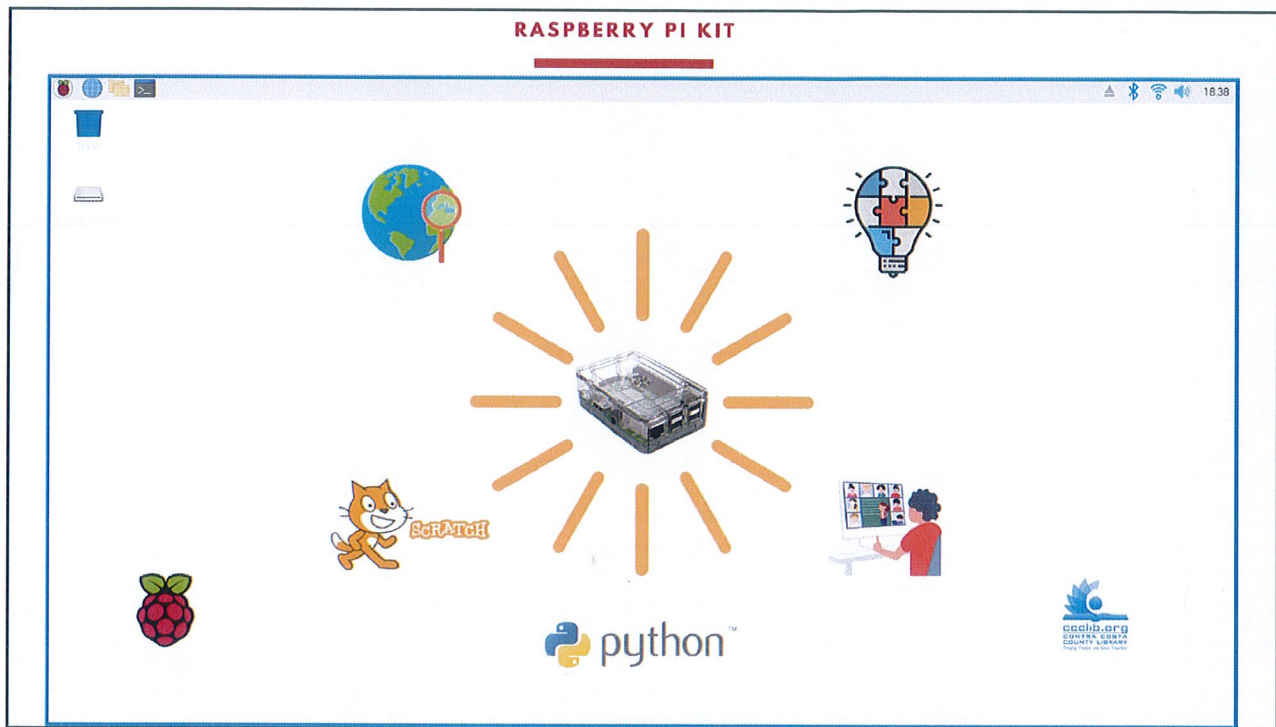
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5



6

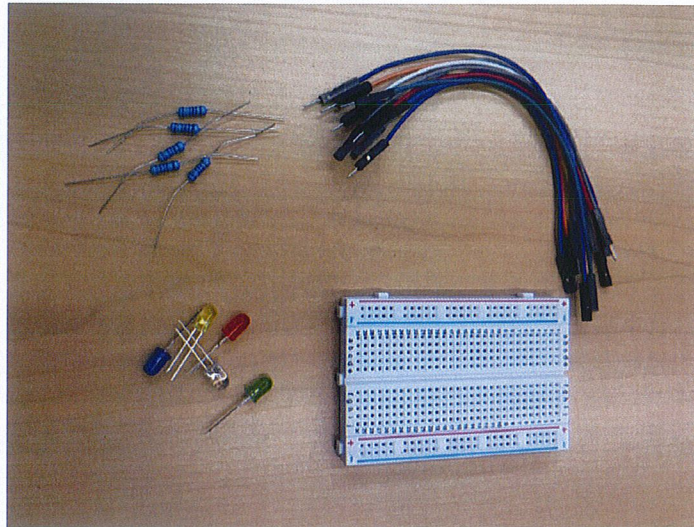
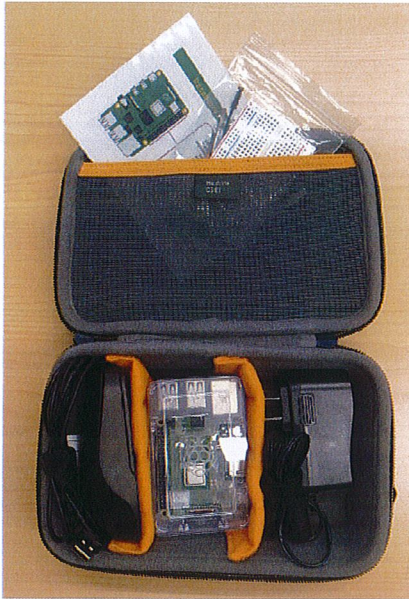


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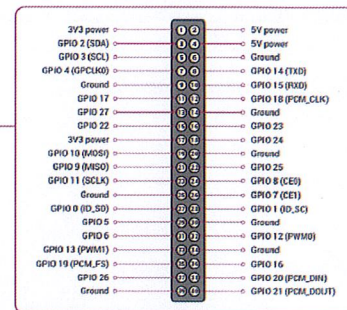
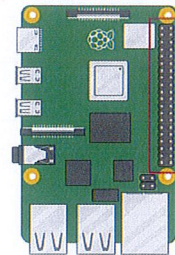
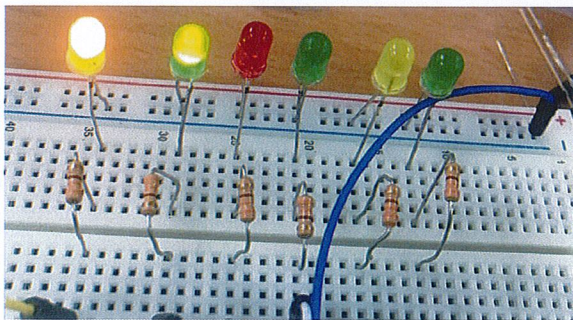
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RASPBERRY PI KIT



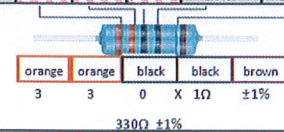
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RASPBERRY PI KIT



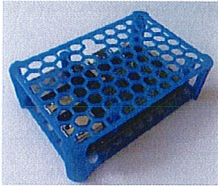
How to Read a Resistor

COLOR	1 ST BAND	2 ND BAND	3 RD BAND	MULTIPLIER	TOLERANCE
Black	0	0	0	1Ω	
Brown	1	1	1	10Ω	± 1% (F)
Red	2	2	2	100Ω	± 2% (G)
Orange	3	3	3	1KΩ	
Yellow	4	4	4	10KΩ	
Green	5	5	5	100KΩ	± 0.5% (D)
Blue	6	6	6	1MΩ	± 0.25% (C)
Violet	7	7	7	10MΩ	± 0.10% (B)
Grey	8	8	8		± 0.05%
White	9	9	9		
Gold				0.1Ω	± 5% (J)
Silver				0.01Ω	± 10% (K)

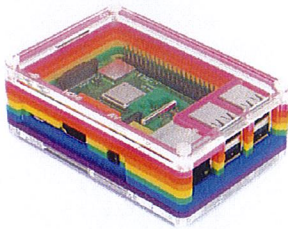


10

RASPBERRY PI KIT



- Raspberry Pi Mini Kits
- Virtual and in person programming
- 3D Printed cases



11

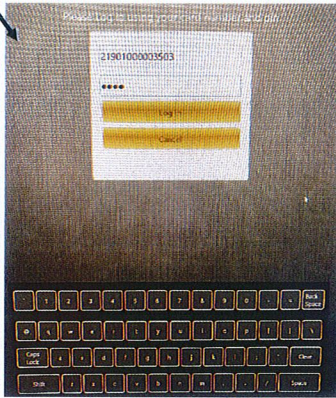
Wireless Printing

- Web Upload from the Library Website
- App Send from your mobile device
- Visit any library branches to print
- [Contra Costa County Library Wireless Printing](#)

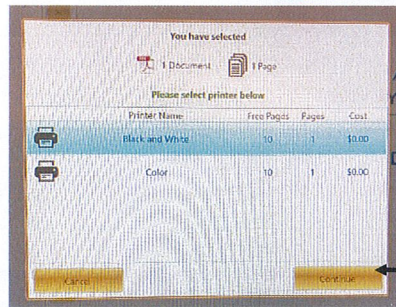
12

Wireless Printing

1. Log in to the "Print Release"



2. Select the print job.
Preview available.



3. Review costs and release.

13

Scanning / Faxing

- Scanning. Output locations including: USB; Email; Dropbox; OneDrive; etc.
- Faxing via the internet
- Restore old, faded photos and documents
- Translation to text and audio
- Multilingual user interface. User can switch on-screen to one of the 25 different languages



Arabic
Chinese Simplified
Chinese Traditional
English
French
French Canadian
German

Greek
Hebrew
Hindi
Italian
Korean
Persian
Polish



Portuguese
Portuguese Brasileiro
Russian
Spanish
Spanish Latin-American

Swedish
Tagalog
Swiss French
Swiss German
Swiss Italian
Vietnamese

Additional Languages Available upon request

14




15


Thank you!

16

WELCOMING THE PUBLIC BACK INSIDE OUR LIBRARIES

April 26th 2021

 **CONTRA COSTA
COUNTY LIBRARY**
Bringing People and Places Together
cclib.org



1

GRAB & GO SERVICES

One Hour Computer Sessions

Check Out and Return Library Materials

Pick Up Items on Hold

Print and Copy Documents

Sign up for a Library Card

Get Account Help

Browse the Shelves

2

SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Staff is now eligible for vaccinations

Customers over the age of two are required to wear a mask or face covering

Social distancing reminders throughout the library

Building capacity limits based on color tier

Request patrons limit their visits to no more than one hour

Hand sanitizer available at entrances

Seating only available at selected public computers to encourage social distancing

Sanitizing wipes available for customers to sanitize shared surfaces

Closing of meeting rooms and study rooms

Toys and high touch play items removed

3

SERVICES NOT AVAILABLE

Chairs and tables for reading and studying

Study rooms

Meeting rooms

In person events

4

SERVICES AVAILABLE FROM HOME



eBooks and eAudiobooks,
streaming movies, online
research databases, digital
magazines



Phone, chat, text and
email assistance



Online storytime, author
chats, book clubs, and
more

5

NEXT STEPS

Physical
modifications

Staff training

6

PHYSICAL MODIFICATIONS



Library is working with Public Works, Risk Management and city partners to prepare facilities for reopening



Installing Plexiglass barriers at service desks



Equipping Facilities with hand sanitizer at entrance points and wipe stations for high touch surfaces



Removing furniture to discourage congregating



Disconnecting drinking fountains



Water bottle filling stations are still available

7

Customer
service

Print and
time
management

STAFF TRAINING

8



QUESTIONS?

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION

AGENDA ATTACHMENT 2

MEETING DATE: Thursday, May 20, 2021

AGENDA ITEM #: 8.A

ITEM: WORKING COMMITTEE REPORTS: LEGISLATIVE
COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Commission will consider a vote to send letters of support for the Senate Budget Committee's Build Back Boldly program to the Board of Supervisors.

Walter Beveridge

From: Alison McKee
Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2021 7:28 AM
To: Walter Beveridge
Subject: Fwd: News From The Capitol
Attachments: ATT00001.txt

Please send to commissioners and include in the agenda packet. Thanks!

From: Wilburn, Yolande <YWilburn@TorranceCA.gov>
Sent: Saturday, May 8, 2021 8:38 AM
To: calix@listserv.cla-net.org
Subject: [Calix] News From The Capitol

Here is the latest "News From The Capitol". Pardon any cross postings.

TO: CLA Members/ Systems/ Network Contacts
FROM: Mike Dillon and Christina DiCaro, CLA Lobbyists
RE: News From the Capitol

SENATE DEMOCRATS "BUILD BACK BOLDLY" PUBLIC LIBRARY PROPOSAL: A "Once-A-Generation" Funding Package Being Elevated at State Capitol

The California State Senate Democrats have unveiled a massive new funding package that they are proposing as part of this year's 2021-22 State Budget negotiations. Entitled, **"Build Back Boldly: Senate Democrats Budget Priorities for 2021-22 and Beyond,"** the proposed plan capitalizes on the state's larger than anticipated Budget surplus, combined with the financial benefits of the federal relief package. "Build Back Boldly" lays out a roadmap in the areas of health and welfare, public education, and the environment, etc. for a "once-a-generation opportunity for California to make bold transformative progress as the economy rebounds from the COVID-19 crisis."

Included in the Senate Democrats' "Build Back Boldly" proposal, is a **"Public Libraries Package"** which includes a very significant \$1 billion for Public Library Infrastructure and Technology investments. The plan reads as follows:

***\$1 Billion for Public Library Infrastructure and Technology Investments**

- Fund public library facilities upgrades and modernization projects
- Expand broadband deployment and public access to libraries through new fiber optics and technology investments.
- Procure new technology devices (IPADs, Tablets) for library users to "check out technology" and for hotspot lending programs.

A second piece of the Senate Democrats' proposal reads: **"Eliminate library debt and provide ongoing sustainable funding for Public Libraries."** The goal of this part of the Plan is to eliminate library patron fines and fees for things such as overdue books. The Senate Democrats feel that these fines and fees tend to disproportionately affect those who can least afford to pay them. Recently the Senate Budget Committee asked CLA to launch a quick survey, in order to get a sense of the fines/fees from 2019 as well as the approximate number of total fines/fees owing "on the books" at the public library. Special thanks to all of you who participated in the survey. Your answers were very helpful to the Senate Budget Committee. The State

Librarian also conducted a survey on this issue, as well as the infrastructure needs of public libraries, in order to assist the Senate Budget Committee.

The Senate Budget Subcommittee on Education Finance will soon be reviewing the Public Library Package and the State Librarian is expected to testify. We continue to work actively with the Senate Budget Committee and the Senate President pro Tem's office on this exciting proposal to provide much needed funding to public libraries. While the Assembly and the Governor will also have to weigh in on the Public Library Plan, CLA is encouraged and appreciates the leadership of the Senate Democrats. The 2021-22 State Budget must be passed by the legislature and sent to the Governor by June 15. We will keep you informed as more details evolve, and will alert you if it appears letters to legislators will be helpful in the next few weeks.

Your Legislative Co-Chairs,

Mike Eitner & Yolande Wilburn

Yolande Wilburn

City Librarian

Torrance Public Library | 3301 Torrance Boulevard | Torrance CA 90503 | 310.618.5953 Voice | 310.755.9392

Mobile

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BUILD BACK BOLDLY

Senate Democrats Budget Priorities for 2021-22 and Beyond



Senator Toni G. Atkins
President pro Tempore

Senator Nancy Skinner
Chair, Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review

Senator John Laird
Chair, Subcommittee 1

Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman
Chair, Subcommittee 3

Senator Maria Elena Durazo
Chair, Subcommittee 5

Senator Bob Wieckowski
Chair, Subcommittee 2

Senator Anna Caballero
Chair, Subcommittee 4



Introduction

Background

The Build Back Boldly budget embraces the once-a-generation opportunity for California to make bold transformative progress as the economy rebounds from the COVID-19 crisis:

- A decade of responsible budgeting enabled California to endure the recession without massive, widespread program cuts or middle class tax increases – which means that unlike in past recoveries, the budget does not need to first restore billions and billions in program cuts before making new investments.
- Tens of billions of available one-time and ongoing General Fund revenues and federal American Rescue Plan funds provide historic levels of resources to take bold action to address existing crisis and make bold transformative progress.
- A proactive federal government that largely shares California’s values appears poised to make bold changes for infrastructure, safety net programs, and health care – all of which will spur the national and state economies to soar and therefore pave the way for more bold transformative progress in California.

The Build Back Boldly budget embraces the “California Way” attitude that has lead the nation in progressive change and “busted” the myths that progressive policies are bad for the economy. From a tax system that relies most on those that can most afford to pay, to expanding the Obamacare subsidies to the middle class, to fighting climate change, to implementing criminal justice reforms, to expanding paid family leave, to phasing in the \$15 minimum wage – California has been the progressive leader. The Build Back Boldly budget calls for more transformative progress.

The goal of the Build Back Boldly budget is to take a strong first step in building a post-pandemic economy that extends prosperity for Californians:

- **A more equitable economy** that supports and improves pathways out of poverty, expands access to wealth to reduce debt and wealth gaps, and dramatically reduces homelessness to end that crisis.
- **A stronger middle class** that improves affordability of housing, healthcare and education, expands access to education from Early Care to Higher Education, protects the environment and improves community environmental quality, and enables small businesses to grow and thrive.
- **A better economy for all** that recognizes the economy does not need to be a “zero-sum game,” with a more equitable economy and stronger middle class improves economic vitality for everyone, including the wealthiest Californians.

The general approach of the Build Back Boldly budget for available American Rescue Plan funds, is as follows:

- Limit ongoing negative impacts of COVID Crisis:
 - Assist economically impacted Californians: rent, mortgage, utilities, student debt.
 - Address mental health challenges for our students, workforce, and families.
- Provide additional direct stimulus relief to struggling Californians and small businesses/nonprofits.

- Fill gaps in other federal stimulus programs to assist local governments, schools, universities, and other programs.
- Fund critical and eligible infrastructure projects, including broadband expansion, clean energy, and the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water program.
- Augment General Fund investments for eligible purposes throughout the budget.

Build Back Boldly Proposals

The Build Back Boldly budget proposes eight transformative proposals and key subcommittee packages:

Transformative Build Back Boldly proposals:

- Debt Free College.
- Path to Universal 0-3 Early Care and Education.
- Homelessness, Housing Affordability & Homeownership.
- Wildfire Prevention and Resilience.
- Drought Protection.
- Health Care Access and Affordability.
- Small Business and Non-Profits Bounce-Back.
- State Systems Improvements.

Key subcommittee Build Back Boldly packages:

- Subcommittee #1:
 - K-12 Education Package
 - Higher Education Package
 - Public Libraries Package
- Subcommittee #2:
 - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Package
 - Pollution Reduction Package
- Subcommittee #3:
 - Strengthening the Safety Net Package
 - Aging Package
 - Public Health Package
- Subcommittee #4:
 - Equitable Recovery Package
- Subcommittee #5:
 - Workforce Package
 - Access to Justice Package
 - Justice Reform Package
 - Fairness and Equity for Court Users Package

Responsible Budgeting

The Build Back Boldly budget continues the responsible budgeting practices Legislative Democrats have championed over the past decade that turned the state's finances around. The Build Back Boldly budget includes:

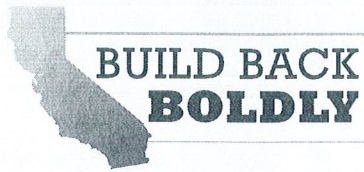
- Replenishing the Rainy Day Fund and Safety Net Reserve to ensure those reserves can protect against future downturns, just as they did during the COVID-19 recession.
- Maximizing paydown of Proposition 98 deferrals to accelerate cash for school and community college districts and to provide room for future deferrals should they be needed to maintain programs during future downturns.
- Repaying special fund loans and unfunded liabilities to further strengthen the state's fiscal condition.
- Ending the practice of building in phony "program suspensions" for future years. Multi-year forecasts that reflect savings from program suspensions do not provide an accurate forecast, since the Legislature is not going to allow cuts to In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), health access, aging programs, and other critical programs to be implemented before other common sense budget solutions.

Additional Thoughts

The Build Back Boldly budget is just the first step of crafting the Budget Act of 2021 and in setting the long-term budget agenda.

- The proposals will be fine-tuned and updated as more is learned about the state's fiscal condition with the updated May forecasts.
- The proposals should work in concert and complement many of the proposals expected to be put forth by the Senate's budget partners: the Assembly and the Governor.
- The proposals go beyond just the sprint to the June 15 budget deadline.

The Build Back Boldly budget outlined in this document embraces the once-a-generation opportunity to make bold transformative progress for the people of California.



Transformative Build Back Boldly Proposals

Debt Free College

The Build Back Boldly budget calls to make higher education available without having to take on student loan debt, which holds graduates back from thriving in the middle class. This proposal expands Cal Grants and the Middle Class Scholarship to help community college students and to ensure all CSU and UC students can graduate without being forced to rely on student debt. And this proposal works to reduce the debt burden for those already carrying student debt.

Part 1: Improve and fill gaps in the current Cal Grant Program:

- Provide full tuition award for Cal Grant B students (currently, lowest income families that get Cal Grant B do not receive tuition support in their first year).
- Replace GPA requirements with “good standing requirement,” to be consistent with other financial aid programs.
- Remove the age cap and “one year out of high school” rules that keep out non-traditional students.
- Expand the Student Success Completion Grant to all community college students, increase the awards, and provide prorated awards for part-time students.

Part 2: Expand the Middle Class Scholarship (MCS 2.0) to all lower and middle income CSU and UC students to replace student debt:

- Enable students – regardless of economic background – to finish college better able to buy a home, start a family – and not be held back by crushing debt.
- The MCS 2.0 will close the gap between the full cost of college and other available resources – to replace student loans – with the following calculation:

Start with Full Cost of Education (tuition, living expenses)
(-) Subtract awarded financial aid grants (Federal, state, others)
(-) Subtract modified “family contribution” from families w/over \$100,000 income
(-) Subtract expected earnings from 15 hrs/week job
= Middle Class Scholarship 2.0 makes up the difference

- This is “debt free” college, not “free” college. All students are expected to contribute from a part time job, and families with over \$100,000 income will have a modest expected contribution.

- The funding level for MCS 2.0 will be set annually in the budget, to reflect “responsible budgeting” principles (similar to CalEITC). The goal will be to fully fund the MCS 2.0 each year and enable students to avoid student loans entirely, but even in years when partially funding, dependence on loans will be dramatically reduced.

Part 3: Assist Californians with current student debt:

- Call on President Biden and the federal government to do the following:
 - Cancel up to \$50,000 of current student debt. This will eliminate student debt for 3 million Californians, and dramatically reduce the debt for nearly 1 million more.
 - Eliminate interest on all remaining federal student loans to keep debts more manageable and balances from accumulating.
- Expand the current state tax deduction of student loan payments:
 - Enable principal and interest to be deducted (currently only interest can be deducted).
 - Increase the annual deduction cap above current \$2,500.
 - Increase the eligible income level above current \$65,000/\$135,000 (individual/joint filers).

Path to “0-3” Universal Access to Early Care and Education

The Build Back Boldly budget takes a major first step and lays the groundwork for universal access to early care and education for children ages 0 to 3:

- Make a significant investment for up to an additional 200,000 childcare slots for working families as next step toward universal access for ages 0 to 3.
- Establish childcare worker apprenticeship/training program.
- Reduce cost to working families by reducing/eliminating family fees.
- Increase rates to achieve livable wage for childcare workers.
- Stabilize and retain providers as the state emerges from the pandemic:
 - Support providers that have remained open during the pandemic by continuing hold harmless policies.
 - Provide one-time funds to help providers who have closed re-open or those who are open to expand.
 - Retain essential worker families in the child care system.

Homelessness, Housing Affordability & Homeownership

The Build Back Boldly budget addresses housing related challenges facing California today, from ending the homelessness crisis, to improving housing affordability, to knocking down barriers to homeownership to enable families to build wealth.

Part 1: \$20 billion, Five-Year Commitment to End the Crisis and Reduce Homelessness:

- Fund acquisition/rehab of multi-family, motels, board & care, more to convert to permanent housing for homeless very low income Californians.

- Fund local efforts to reduce homelessness, with strong accountability measures:
 - Provide multi-year support for local governments to provide transition services for those experiencing homelessness to exit to permanent housing.
 - Provide “first and last month” rental assistance to remove a key barrier for those experiencing homelessness to move back into permanent housing.
 - Provide multi-year flexible funding for homelessness programs that serve populations that are served by programs for such as Adult Protective Services, SSI/SSP, CalWORKs, Child Welfare Services, and Foster Care to direct funds to specific, local needs.

Part 2: Housing Affordability:

- Provide funding for the Senate’s “Building Opportunities for All” Housing Package, which empowers homeowners, provides more land-use tools and flexibility to meet the needs of local governments and community partners, and streamlines procedural hurdles.
- Fund innovative approaches to expanding and preserving affordable housing, such as:
 - Establishing financing tool for Accessory Dwelling Unit construction to produce more affordable units, provide wealth building opportunities for low and moderate income homeowners, and benefit historically disadvantaged communities.
 - Providing incentives to convert vacant or underused commercial and retail space into affordable housing.
 - Assisting local governments, nonprofits, or other qualified buyers acquire foreclosed homes to be used for housing.
- Provide emergency grants to low-income homeowners to avoid foreclosure.
- Bring tax fairness and relief for renters by reforming and expanding the Renters Tax Credit.
- Incentivize Earthquake Retrofit with federal 75 percent match funds.

Part 3: Create new “California Dream For All” First Time Homebuyer Program:

The wealth gap – particularly among racial minorities – is a growing problem throughout the country and here in California. Generation after generation, those with wealth get wealthier, and those without fall further behind. As has been the case so often throughout the nation’s history, this has been made worse by racist barriers constructed to hold communities back – and the impacts of those barriers are still evident today.

The first step to reaching the California dream of thriving in the middle class and building family wealth starts with homeownership. But taking that first step is even more challenging as the cost of California homes grows higher and higher.

The California Dream For All first time homebuyer program aims to address historical and economic barriers to homeownership with a new way for Californians to buy a first home and get a foothold in the middle class and to begin to build family wealth.

The California Dream For All program allows Californians to purchase a first home with a “silent partner,” therefore dramatically reducing the cost for the homebuyer. Here is how it can work:

Basics:

- The California Dream For All program cuts the cost of first-time homebuyers by as much as 40 percent, saving families more than \$12,000 each year.
- A state sponsored corporation would establish a new revolving fund, called the California Dream Fund (Fund), which would be infused with a one-time deposit of available state or federal funds.

- Eligible first-time homebuyers “partner” in purchasing eligible homes, with the Fund. The Fund serves as a “silent partner” and owns a minority share of up to 45 percent of the house.
 - For example, this enables a \$400,000 home to be essentially purchased for a more affordable price of \$220,000, the Fund purchasing the other \$180,000 share.
- Eligibility for the homebuyer will be based on income levels, eligibility of homes will be based on the home price. Sliding scales can be established to avoid any “cliff effects” on eligibility. The eligibility requirements for incomes and home prices will differ by region to reflect the reality that incomes and home prices differ dramatically throughout California.
- Specific outreach efforts to target benefits of the California Dream For All program will be made to underrepresented homeownership communities, those that have still not returned to homeownership after losing homes in the Great Recession, and those with high student debts.

Investors:

- Shares of the Fund would be sold to investors, and the revenues generated by the sale of shares are then used to partner with additional homebuyers.
- As the value of the homes partially owned by the Fund increases, the value of the Fund also increases.
- Investors are free to sell their shares at any time.
- The Fund, and therefore the investors, would not receive any rent payments, so the investment is tied only to the value of the homes. Therefore, to encourage investment:
 - The Fund would not be responsible for any costs of the property, such as: maintenance, property taxes, insurance, etc.
 - Capital gains would be tax free under California law, and the goal would be for the federal government to also make them tax free (treat similarly to municipal bonds).

(It may be the case that the “silent partner” concept can be implanted entirely through private companies and investors, and without a state sponsored. In which case the state role will be limited to establishing eligibility requirements and providing tax incentives.)

Homebuyers:

- The homebuyer is responsible for 100 percent of home maintenance, property taxes, insurance requirements, and any other similar costs.
- The homebuyer can “buy-out” the Fund’s share of the home at any time, at the current fair market price.
- The homebuyer must, in general, use the home as their primary residence.
- As with any first home, homebuyers can use the equity growth from their share of the property to “move-up” in their next home, or stay in that home as long as they would like, and even pass on their home and their ownership share to heirs.

Summary:

- The California Dream For All program can dramatically slash the cost of first time homes for eligible home buyers.
- And unlike most major programs that come with major tax payer costs, this program will come with minimal state costs and instead rely on putting investors’ money (from around the world) to work building wealth for deserving Californians.

- So, Win-Win-Win: Win #1 – homebuyers that can now afford a home and can thrive in the middle class and begin to build wealth; Win #2 – investors that get to protect and build their wealth by investing in California real estate; and Win #3 – California taxpayers and state budget that will face only minimal new costs.

This year's budget action is expected to be the first step of creating this program by directing the State Treasurer and the Administration to develop the program in full detail and present back to the Legislature to be implemented through statute in 2022.

Wildfire Prevention and Resilience

The Build Back Boldly budget builds on the early action Wildfire budget package to provide a sustainable, multi-year commitment to address the wildfire crisis.

- Provide funding consistent with the Senate's "Blueprint for a Fire Safe California" — e.g., provide short- and long-term funding for wildfire, climate, watershed and forest health; implement modern-day vegetation, forest management, and community hardening plans; and train and deploy a fire resiliency workforce.
- Significantly increase multi-year funding to wildfire prevention and resiliency programs and projects to save on suppression costs and wildfire damage. For every dollar spent on prevention saves \$6-\$7 in wildfire damages.
- Focus multi-year funding on projects with both wildfire and drought resilience benefits.

Drought Protection

The Build Back Boldly budget makes a major \$2 billion commitment to address and mitigate the impacts of drought.

- \$500 million for Community Water Investment Fund to help smaller, lower income communities for immediate drinking water, local water supply, and water efficiency investments.
- \$500 million Water Conservation Fund for homeowners/small businesses/local agencies to replace high water consumption landscapes with water efficient landscapes.
- \$300 million for emergency Sustainable Groundwater Management Plan assistance to agriculture/local and regional agencies.
- \$700 million for other one time and immediate investments in water quality, species protections, stormwater, water recycling water monitoring equipment and other investments to reduce drought impacts.

Health Care Access and Affordability

The Build Back Boldly budget renews commitment to expand access and affordability to health care.

- Reduce deductibles and copays for Covered CA policies by building on prior state and new federal expansions of subsidies for middle income families. This will eliminate the \$4,000 deductible that hundreds of thousands of Californians currently pay.
- Expand access to Medi-Cal to all income eligible Californians, regardless of immigration status:
 - Immediate expansion for those age 65 or older.
 - End "age-out" for those enrolled in Medi-Cal when they turn 26 years old.
 - Establish an expansion plan to close the remaining gap for ages 26-64.

- Reform program asset test for Medi-Cal eligibility.
- Commit to addressing health inequities, including mental health, exacerbated by the pandemic by building on and strengthening the Governor's health equity proposals.

Small Business and Non-Profits Bounce-Back

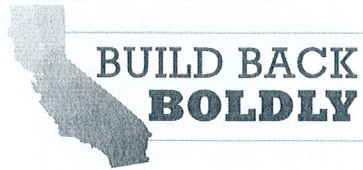
The Build Back Boldly budget continues support for small businesses and non-profits as they work to bounce back from the pandemic.

- Provide additional stimulus grants to small businesses and non-profits.
- Mitigate impacts of federal Unemployment Insurance repayments for small businesses and nonprofits.
- Support community investment by recapitalizing Community Development Financial Institutions through \$70 million in grants.
- Provide additional support for hardest-hit industries, including:
 - \$45 million for Visit California to support tourism.
 - Grants for independent venues and other businesses that focus on live events.
 - Microgrants for the smallest businesses that are not able to access other sources of funding.
- Expand employee hiring and retention tax credits.

State Systems Improvements

The Build Back Boldly budget works to improve government services and customer access.

- Make systems modernization and program improvements for the Employment Development Department and the Department of Motor Vehicles.
- Invest in Broadband Infrastructure to achieve universal internet access. Federal stimulus funds are available for this purpose.
- Explore options for consumers to pay state fee obligations in installments, and for state credits/direct payments to be able to be paid to recipient in installments.
- Expand use of electronic forms and electronic signature for state program forms of all kinds.
- Upgrade aging IT/software systems to improve productivity, customer access at state agencies.



Key Subcommittee Build Back Boldly Packages

Subcommittee #1 on Education

K-12 Education Package

- Provide record level of one-time and ongoing resources to schools, as the Proposition 98 guarantee grows with the rebounding economy.
- Ensure long-term stability of local schools:
 - Maximize pay-down of deferrals, while balancing need for new one-time investments.
 - Provide additional support for school pension stabilization.
- Provide supports for mental health, learning loss, other pandemic related impacts by leveraging education and health policies.
- Increase school nutrition support to better ensure all students are better able to learn.
- Expand funding for Special Education programs.

Higher Education Package

- Eliminate planned ongoing cuts to UC and CSU.
- Increase funding for expand enrollment at UC and CSU:
 - One time funds for capital costs/property acquisition to enable enrollment expansions.
 - Phase down non-resident students to reasonable level, and replace with California resident students – and backfill lost out-of-state tuition revenues for universities.
- Maximize flexible funding for Community Colleges from their share of the anticipated historic growth in Proposition 98 funds.
- Accelerate repayment of Community College Deferrals to relieve cash pressures for community college districts.

Public Library Package

- \$1 Billion for Public Library Infrastructure and Technology Investments:
 - Fund public library facilities upgrades and modernization projects.
 - Expand broadband deployment and public access to libraries through new fiber optics and technology investments.
 - Procure new technology and devices (IPADs, Tablets) for library users to “check out technology” and for hotspot lending programs.
- Eliminate library debt and provide ongoing sustainable funding for Public Libraries.

DRAFT
Contra Costa County Letterhead

Month, Day 2021

The Honorable XXX XXXX
Room XXXX, XXXX Building
Sacramento, CA

Subject: Subject Restoration of Funding for California Library Services Act

Dear XXXX.

Thank you for your continued support of California's public libraries. Despite remarkable challenges from the Covid-19 pandemic, our public libraries have continued to serve and support the public through many innovative programs, both physical and virtual. One of the cornerstones of library service is access to information, allowing for citizens of all walks of life to access and benefit from the knowledge and resources available at public libraries.

Since the 1970s, the Contra Costa Library system has benefited from funding provided by the California Library Services Act (CLSA). The sole purpose of this act is to enable the cooperative sharing of resources across the nine geographic public library regions in California. The Contra Costa County Library relies on these monies to fund the very popular Link+ loan program that provides interlibrary loan services to all patrons of the Contra Costa County Library.

In 2020, CLSA funding was cut by \$1.75 million, leaving only \$1.8 million for annual funding for the Act. This has put a significant strain on library resources to fund the sharing and benefit of resources with the other library regions in California and is expected to result in significant service cuts or elimination if funding is not restored. Thus, on behalf of all Contra Costa County residents, we request your support of the restoration of \$1.75 million in funding to the California Library Services Act.

It is critically important during this time where access to many public services and resources in the state have been significantly restricted, that public libraries are able to continue to act as a resource for sharing, cooperation, and collaboration across the state. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

Diane Burgis
Chair, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

CC:
Board of Supervisors
County Administrator
County Librarian
Library Commission