MEETING OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION
AGENDA

DATE: Thursday, September 30, 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 226631 You may also dial in using this number: 1(669) 900-9128 Meeting I.D.: 949 4770 6590
Link: https://zoom.us/j/94947706590?pwd=Z0hSQnRPK1NVU1NpZVNXeHJvV3Bhdz09

- 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, September 29, 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.
(3 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. 7:03 p.m.
(5 mins.) WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
Visitors will have an opportunity to introduce themselves; self-introductions are voluntary.

3. 7:08 p.m.
(10 mins.) PROJECT SECOND CHANCE AWARDS PRESENTATION – Attachment 1
PSC Director Elaine Kociolek will present the volunteer tutor and staff appreciation awards during the Library Commission meeting.

4. 7:18 p.m.
(2 mins.) PUBLIC COMMENT - Attachment 2
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 925-723-2873 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.
5. **7:20 p.m.**
   **Action (5 mins.)**
   ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – *Attachment 3*
   Commissioners will approve or amend the minutes from the July 2020 meeting.

6. **7:25 p.m.**
   **Information (10 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.

7. **7:35 p.m.**
   **Discussion (15 mins.)**
   STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE –
   Deputy County Librarian Gail McPartland and SCLM’s Patrick Remer (PHL) and Gia Paolini (SPL) will report on Strategic Plan progress and discuss what comes next.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**CONTINUED BUSINESS**

8. **7:50 p.m.**
   **Presentation (45 minutes)**
   WORKING COMMITTEE REPORTS – *Attachments 4,5,6*
   
   A. Commissioner Hildreth will report to the Commission on current legislative matters. *(5 minutes)*
   B. Vice-Chair Fischer will discuss the collecting of information for the 2020 Annual Report. *(20 minutes)*
   C. County Librarian Alison McKee will share her Public Comment Speaker Worksheet with the Commission. *(10 minutes)*
   D. Commissioner Gemmer will update the Commission on Contra Costa County Library Foundation Exploratory Committee activities. *(10 minutes)*

**OTHER BUSINESS**

9. **8:35 p.m.**
   **Action (10 mins.)**
   FORMATION OF A NOMINATING COMMITTEE
   If the Commission cares to proceed in the same manner as last year, a motion will be required to form an ad hoc Nominating Committee of three commissioners to meet twice for the purpose of identifying and contacting Commissioners to determine their interest in serving as the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Commission for 2022. A slate of candidates will be presented at the November commission meeting as well as accepting nominations from the floor. As a point or order, anyone serving on the ad hoc Nominating Committee should not be one of the nominees. Keeping this in mind, volunteers for the committee will be accepted.

10. **8:45 p.m.**
    **Information (10 mins.)**
    COUNTY LIBRARIAN REPORT - *Attachment 7*
    County Librarian Alison McKee will submit a written report on items of interest to Commissioners.

11. **8:55 p.m.**
    **Information (6 mins.)**
    AGENDA SETTING FOR NEXT MEETING and FUTURE TOPICS -
    Commissioners will suggest items for future meetings.

12. **9:00 p.m.**
    **Adjournment**
    ADJOURNMENT to the November 18, 2021 LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING.
ITEMS TO CALENDAR

1. Library Commission Meeting / Nov. 18, Location: PSC Offices 2151 Salvio Street Suite 299, Concord, CA 94520 (across the street from Todos Santos Plaza)
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION

AGENDA ATTACHMENT 1

MEETING DATE: Thursday, September 30, 2021
AGENDA ITEM #: 3.
ITEM: PROJECT SECOND CHANCE AWARDS PRESENTATION

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
None required.
2021 Project Second Chance Awards

The Margaret Lesher Award acknowledges groups or organizations that have demonstrated exceptional partnership with Project Second Chance. The award is named for Margaret Lesher, who was Project Second Chance’s original “patron saint.” She contributed the financial resources to create our non-profit board, donated newspaper ads to recruit volunteers, and saw to it that there was a weekly column in the Contra Costa Times written especially for adult literacy students. This year’s Lesher Award recipients are Gia Paolini and the San Pablo Library staff for their exceptional support for Project Second Chance services and patrons in West County.

The Anne Cain Award acknowledges individuals who have made a significant contribution to PSC in a non-tutoring capacity. The award is named for Anne Cain, County Librarian from 1999 until her retirement in 2010. She keenly understood that the cause of literacy needs a consistent presence in the community and made Project Second Chance an integral part of the Library’s strategic plan. This year’s Cain Award recipient is Amy Mockoski for her enthusiastic and skilled collaboration in the creation of Project Second Chance’s family literacy program.

As a volunteer-based program, volunteer tutors are the heart of Project Second Chance’s work. Project Second Chance recognizes the following volunteers for milestone levels of service:

- **Janice Hicks** – Special Achievement Award for over 1,900 hours of volunteer service
- **Sherry Sankey** – 1,000 hours of volunteer service
- **Bev Farrell** – 500 hours of volunteer service
- **Mary Nordheim** – 500 hours of volunteer service
- **Damon Toroian** – 500 hours of volunteer service

Thank you to the Library Commission for helping Project Second Chance recognize these wonderful supporters who have been integral to the success of the Library’s adult literacy program over the past year.
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION
AGENDA ATTACHMENT 2

MEETING DATE: Thursday, September 30, 2021
AGENDA ITEM #: 4.
ITEM: PUBLIC COMMENT

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Commissioners will refer patron concern to Library Administration for follow up.
Why won't Contra Costa Libraries open for tutoring?

Contra Costa libraries are refusing to open for one on one volunteer tutoring until at least January. Students across the county and especially in areas like mine (El Sobrante) have students who badly need free tutoring as the school year starts in earnest. Schools are open in far more crowded conditions. Library staff will be required to be vaccinated soon and masks will be worn by all. Most students will be vaccinated too. COVID transmission risk is very low. The argument that libraries can only open tutoring if all library programs are open is ridiculous. In any case I see no reason why all programs can't open now with precautions. The El Sobrante library is practically empty. There is nothing much for the fully paid staff to do. Tax dollars, volunteer good will and opportunities for our most needy children are being wasted. Please do something about this.

SUSAN BOUDREAU

sueboudreau2004@yahoo.com

(510) 393-9252
MEETING DATE: Thursday, September 30, 2021
AGENDA ITEM #: 5.
ITEM: ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Commissioners will approve (with or without corrections) the minutes of the July 15, 2021 Library Commission meeting.
MEETING OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION
Minutes

DATE: Thursday, July 15, 2021

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER / ROLL CALL
Chair Peter Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

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With twenty commissioners present, a quorum was established.
Total Commission positions: 24
Commission positions filled: 20
Commission positions vacant: 4
Commission quorum: 13

2. INTRODUCTIONS
Chair Peter Wilson introduced five new commission members to the group:
- Linda Sendig / Brentwood
- Shrikant Garde / Orinda
- Sarah Morgan / Moraga
- Dorothy Walker / Lafayette (Alt)
- Ly Mac / San Ramon

At this time Peter asked for a moment of silence for two former colleagues; Carolyn Knoll / District 2 Alternate and Richard Rainey.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT
No Public comment.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES
Chairman Peter Wilson made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. No changes were suggested, so Vice Chair Michael Fischer seconded the motion:

The motion passed unanimously by consensus vote of the Commission.

5. ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE COMMISSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS –

Commissioner Hoisington: The bookstore at the Lafayette Library is once again open for business. Many thanks to the Pleasant Hill Friends whose bookstore workers shared their knowledge of scanning books so they could be sold online and gave their time and effort to help Lafayette. Also, the regular WOW series at the library had its July installment yesterday.

Commissioner Fraga: Volunteers at the Martinez Library have returned and the manager there is excited to have the help. The Martinez Friends group is considering going the way of the PHL and Lafayette libraries and digitizing their materials for sale. Some members of the group are more tech-savvy than others so there is some hesitation. The Martinez Bookstore opened on July 10th. There is an upcoming book sale on July 31st. The children’s librarian at Martinez recently completed a round of outreach to the local schools detailing events at the library and providing promotional materials to the librarians and Principals there.

Commissioner Swernoff: Shared that he and Shrikant Garde (new commissioner from Orinda) participated in the Orinda 4th of July parade carrying the Orinda Library banner along with another dozen or so Friends. The public seemed to be receptive and happy to see folks from the library.

Commissioner Garde: Agreed with Comm. Swernoff’s thoughts on the crowd and the reception to seeing library supporters. He also thought getting out and participating in visible forums like this would benefit any library that chose to participate in these sorts of activities.

Commissioner Ferree: Like many other cities, the Clayton Friends Book Store is now open once again. There will be a large, one-day sale on July 24th.
Commissioner Faye: Although it is not staffed daily, the bookstore at Brentwood is also open frequently. They are considering changing from monthly to quarterly book sale events. Vivian also attended the recent WOW program at Lafayette and thought it was a wonderful experience.

Vice-Chair Fischer: After originally voting 3 to 2 to not have additional open hours at the El Cerrito Library for the new fiscal year, the library community there rallied and at the last City Council meeting there were 80 letters of support and 30 people showed up to speak. The result was an original 2 to 3 loss was reversed to a 4 to 1 win and extra hours were approved! Michael also noted that all but one primary commissioner seats have been filled but that a number of vacant alternate seats exist. Walter has made the case to those cities to consider filling the vacancies to no avail. Perhaps if those commissioners without an alternate in place were to make the case to their cities the result might be different.

Commissioner Morgan: Just wanted to introduce herself to the group. She is the new commissioner from Moraga. Sarah also is the school teacher/librarian from Campolindo High School.

6. MEASURE X PRESENTATION -
County Librarian Alison McKee’s PowerPoint presentation is attached to these minutes.

Chair Wilson asked when Public Comment would happen on the presentation date, before or after the presentations? Alison responded that she would ask Walter to include this information in the email he would be sending to the commissioners along with the link to the zoom meeting and several other items he would be sending. A short discussion ensued regarding having the commissioners reach out to their mayors and city council members to ask them to chime in with their support.

Commissioner Gemmer asked if the letters need to be received by the 28th or would after be sufficient. Alison responded that even though it would be a tight timeline, before would be better than afterward.

Vice-Chair Fischer mentioned that any commissioner whose city council meets between now and the 28th, could attend that meeting and ask for a letter of support during public comment. Because it is an “emergency situation”, they could ask the council to vote on doing so that evening. Michael added that it would be better if commissioners showed up with a letter already drafted. He also said he would be writing one and would be happy to have it shared. He also said if there were no meetings planned, commissioners could reach out to their mayors and city council members and ask them individually for their support.

Commissioner Pursley asked if people had to show up on zoom to be heard or if there was a way to put their comments in writing and still have them heard. Alison said in-writing was an option but the letters would need to reach Walter’s desk within a week in order to be included. She also said Walter would include information on how to submit those in the email he will be sending.

Commissioner T. Smith summarized the ask for the group regarding timing and what exactly was being asked for and from whom. He mentioned that everything needed to be in Walter’s hands by the morning of the 22nd in order for it to be included. Tommy also asked if this was an all-or-nothing request or if there is a bargaining component. Alison responded that there was the possibility of some negotiating if it became necessary.

Alison ended with a shout out to staff that worked so hard to crunch numbers for this effort. They really worked hard to get her what she needed for the presentation.

7. SOCIAL MEDIA AMBASSADOR PART 2 –
Commissioner Brian Campbell-Miller’s PowerPoint presentation is attached to these minutes.

8.A. Legislative Working Group –
Vice Chair Fischer began by welcoming back Commissioner A. Smith. He then stated that the focus of his update would be the state budget, which is full of good news for libraries. First item is $439 million in grants for infrastructure (including libraries). This is state money with a top limit of $10 million with a one-to-one
match for the cities. Priority will be given to impoverished areas and areas where there are life safety and critical infrastructure needs.

There is $6 million to be used for increased connections to CENIC for more broadband. There is also a one-time $35 million for expanding broadband (CENIC driven).

Another item not many expected to be funded was a $1.8 million ongoing appropriation for the Library Services Act, money that goes directly to the PLP for disbursement.

There will be $1 million available for zip books, another $800,000 ongoing funding for Lunch at the Library and a one-time $3 million funding for bookmobiles and vans. There will be a one-time $5 million for early learning and after-school programs, a $15 million one-time funding for ESL learners, a two-year pilot of $6.4 million for online and in-person tutoring. There will be a one-time, $1.6 million, then annually $220,000, for a pilot program of technology for visually impaired Californians. There will also be a one-time, $3 million funding for Career Online High School, and a whopping $6 billion in funding for improved broadband infrastructure, not just for libraries but statewide. This funding is not yet fully approved, as the trailer bills make their way through the various houses.

The last item is the Build America’s Libraries Act, which, if it tries to go it alone, will not pass as 60 votes are required and it won’t clear that hurdle. There is quite a contingent lobbying to have this included as part of the overall Jobs/infrastructure act. If this happens, the bar is lowered to 50 votes and $5 billion will be available, $500 million of which should come to California. Funding will be administered by the California State Librarian.

Alison asked if Michael had a letter requesting support that he could share with the commission and Michael said he had shared it with a few commissioners but he would send it to Walter and have him forward it to everyone.

8.B. Annual Report Working Group –
Vice Chair Fischer began by asking the commissioners to please submit a list of their activities in 2021 to Walter by September first so that he will have time to compile them into a first version of the report to the BOS in December. He asked that submissions are as broad as possible and warned that if you do not submit anything, he will call you to get it.

8.C. Countywide Library Foundation –
Commissioner Gemmer (as background for the new commissioners) explained that the formation of an independent CCCLF Foundation was another idea proposed to increase funding to the library system by the Promoting Excellence in Library Service report from 2016 that has been previously mentioned in these meetings. The committee has added an additional member, bringing the total to 6, including 4 library commissioners, 1 former commissioner, and Alison. The additional member has broadened the geographical representation of the committee. The CCCLF Organizing Committee has been actively engaged in reaching out to similar county library foundations in the state and around the Bay Area, including those from Ventura, Santa Clara, San Mateo, and Alameda counties. These meetings have provided critical insight as to the potential structure, operational framework, and partnerships for a county foundation. The Committee has also been engaged in meetings with county leaders, including the members of the board of supervisors and the CCC Health Foundation. These leaders have been positive and supportive (on the whole) regarding the effort to create an independent foundation for the county library system, and the leaders have provided numerous potential contacts and ideas to support the formation of the foundation. The next priority will be to connect again with individual Friends and Foundation groups to discuss a proposed partnership structure that will be mutually beneficial to all library foundations in the county. In addition, the committee will focus on synthesizing the information gathered to date to create a strategic plan for the proposed foundation. As always, please let Nicole know if there are questions or input to this effort.

9. COUNTY LIBRARIAN REPORT -
Alison began by letting everyone know that the Pinole Library has reopened. It was back in business on July 6. Also as of July 15th, all the library chairs, desks and computers are available for public use as well. The
one-hour time limit is gone, the toys are out for use and water fountains are no longer roped off. The final frontier for reopening is live programming. Staff is providing input and everyone is trying to figure out the best way to make this work while keeping everyone safe. The soonest would be in the Fall, if not January 2022. The return of live story times seems to be what is missed the most. Administration is aware of this, but at the same time aware that we are dealing with unvaccinated children in close proximity, so keeping everyone out of harms way is important.

A modified version of Lunch at the Library is happening now. It is entirely Grab-n-Go, as no lunches are being served or consumed at the libraries.

Alison has been attending meetings for all the Friends and Foundation groups. Her most recent visit was to the Moraga Friends, where she learned from Commissioner Maher that she had shared Commissioner Fraga’s (Martinez) report last meeting about setting up a table at the local farmer’s market, and now the Moraga Friends are doing the same thing. Another way to show the importance of sharing out during the meetings!

10. **AGENDA SETTING FOR NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE TOPICS** –
No topics were offered so commissioners were invited to send any thoughts to Walter.

11. **ADJOURNMENT TO THE September 30, 2021, LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

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Submitted by Walter Beveridge
Executive Secretary, Contra Costa County Library
Social Media Ambassadors

Contra Costa County library system is currently going off the Strategic plan created in 2019 with the following:

- **Objective A** – Increase opportunities for literacy, education, and lifelong learning by a minimum of 10 percent.

- **Objective B** – Increase library visits by 10 percent.

- **Objective C** – Increase website visits by 10 percent.

- **Objective D** – Increase active users by 10 percent annually.

- **Objective E** – Increase circulation by 10 percent annually.

One way that the library is trying to meet these objectives is by creating a plan to promote targeted outreach by utilizing data and customer feedback to create outreach opportunities across the county to gain new cardholders. One such planned program is the Social Media Ambassadors program. Social media ambassadors raise awareness of the Library through social media by spreading the word about what they love about CCCL.
The Details

Who: People like you who love the library and want to share that love on social media.

How: Sign up to an email list (that's it) with a name, email, library branch and social media platform.

What: Each month ambassadors receive a short, personal message from a library staff person encouraging them to use a certain hashtag or post about a library program or service in their own words. They do not provide specific text.

Why: Free, organic reach on multiple social media platforms, minimal staff time required, no social media budget or dedicated social media staff needed.

When: Ambassadors will only receive an email from staff about once a month, but can post as often as they want about things related to the library—either using a hashtag or by tagging the library to encourage engagement.

Where: Virtually, using a smartphone, tablet or computer. It does not require them to come into the library and they do not have to go through the volunteer process.

Social Media Ambassadors
Volunteer with the library by becoming a social media ambassador.

Name *
First
Last

Email *

Library Branch *
Choose your local library branch.

Social Media Platforms *
Mark the platforms you plan to use. Choose all that apply.

Facebook
Instagram
Next Door
Pinterest
Snapchat
TikTok
Twitter

Submit

Signing Up is Easy
Demonstration

Brian Will Walk us through an Example of a Social Ambassadors Post
WHAT IS IT?

- ½ cent sales tax throughout Contra Costa
- Passed by voters in November 2020
- Started in April 2021
- Lasts 20 years
- Estimated to bring in approx. $81 million annually
- Measure X Community Advisory Board will make recommendations to BOS
MEASURE X
NEEDS ASSESSMENT
FINDINGS

- public health
- housing needs
- safety-net programs
- early childcare and education
THE CURRENT PICTURE

- County-provided open hours: 40
- 12 Cities Purchase Extra Hours
- 56 Open Hours/Week Maximum
- Cities are Responsible for Facility Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>No. extra hours</th>
<th>Total open hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antioch</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bay Point</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Crockett</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Dougherty Station</td>
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<td>46</td>
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<tr>
<td>El Cerrito</td>
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<tr>
<td>El Sobrante</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hercules</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kensington</td>
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<td>Lafayette</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martinez</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ignacio Valley</td>
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</table>
HOW WE COMPARE

“Contra Costa County Library per capita operating income, expenditures and books fall well below the median for libraries statewide, and below that of all other bay area county libraries...” -Promoting Excellence in Library Service in Contra Costa County, CCC Library Commission, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Funding per Person</th>
<th>No. of residents/servi ce area</th>
<th>No. of Libraries</th>
<th>Library budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contra Costa</td>
<td>$32.89</td>
<td>1,042,344</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>$35,714,141</td>
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<td>Alameda</td>
<td>$49.54</td>
<td>613,679</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$35,234,732</td>
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<td>Solano</td>
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<td>389,856</td>
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<td>Napa</td>
<td>$77.85</td>
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<td>$122.83</td>
<td>142,424</td>
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<td>$19,993,341</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
LIBRARY REVENUE*

- 1.5 percent of 1% of property tax for all properties (except in City of Richmond)
- City contributions
- Contributions from Friends and Foundations

*.97% OF THE COUNTY'S BUDGET
COUNTY RECOMMENDATIONS

CCC General Plan 2005-2020

- Services provided by the County Library System shall be maintained and improved by providing adequate funding for ongoing operations, and by providing new library facilities to meet the needs of County residents, particularly in growing areas where library service standards are not being met.

- Ensure the County's budget provides adequate funding for maintaining and improving library operations.
Identify areas where library service standards are not being met and seek funding to provide new library facilities that will achieve the standards.
COMMISSION FINDINGS

Promoting Excellence in Library Service in Contra Costa County, Contra Costa County Library Commission, 2016

- The Committee observed that the... the Library's funding model... puts some community libraries at a distinct disadvantage in comparison to their peer libraries located within the county's wealthier communities.

- Our primary conclusions are that funding for the Library is not adequate... and that inequities in Library services continue despite the expressed need for the Library to reach out to underserved populations.
COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Promoting Excellence in Library Service in Contra Costa County, CCC Library Commission, 2016

- Identify mechanisms to increase county support of library services that could include a future ballot measure.
READING AND LITERACY ARE OUR CORE

- Literacy and reading are core skills every person needs to achieve their full potential -
  CCCL Strategic Plan 2019
EQUITY IS OUR GOAL

- PSC family literacy initiative
- Libraries at JHL and OYR
- Book Rich Environment
- Stories to Go
- Reach out and Read
- North Richmond outreach
- And so much more

- Summer Lunch/meals at the library
- Spanish language collections
- Bilingual staff
- Wi-Fi hotspots
- Coffee and Conversation
- More Discover & Go passes assigned to impacted zip codes
- Narcan
OUR FOUNDATION

- Staff, open hours and facilities are our foundation
- Five county-owned library facilities with significant deferred maintenance

- ANT
- KEN
- PNL
- ROD
- YVL