



AGENDA

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Library Commission

Thursday, March 20, 2025

6:00 PM

1025 Escobar St., Room 110
Martinez, CA

352 Shoreline Drive
Pittsburg, CA

Webinar:

[https://zoom.us/j/99019817954?
pwd=Ig6i65bDmwMeoIR8SsAS9IAaG9I
1nH.1](https://zoom.us/j/99019817954?pwd=Ig6i65bDmwMeoIR8SsAS9IAaG9I1nH.1)

Meeting ID: 990 1981 7954

Passcode: 228815

- 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 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) 608-7700. After 72 hours prior, accommodations will be on a best-efforts basis.

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 19th if you will NOT be at the meeting. A quorum must be established in-person before a meeting can be held. A record is maintained of Commissioner's attendance.

1. **CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**
The Library Commission Chair will call the meeting to order.
Walt Beveridge will do a roll call to determine a quorum of attendees.
 2. **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**
Visitors will have an opportunity to introduce themselves; self-introductions are voluntary.
-

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
Speakers from the audience may address the Library Commission on any relevant issue that is not scheduled for the agenda. Public comments 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 prior to 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. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES** – attachment 1 [25-946](#)
Commissioners will approve or amend the minutes from the January 16, 2025, meeting.
Attachments: [LC Jan 2025 Mins](#)
5. **LIBRARY WELLNESS TEAM PRESENTATION - Vicki White and Andrea Melano (Contra Costa Health Services)**
6. **COUNTY LIBRARIAN REPORT** – attachment 2 [25-947](#)
County Librarian Alison McKee will submit a written report on items of interest to Commissioners.
Attachments: [CO Librarian Report 3-20.2025](#)
7. **AGENDA SETTING FOR NEXT MEETING and FUTURE TOPICS**
Commissioners will suggest items for future meetings.
8. **LIBRARY MARKETING PLAN – Brooke Converse**
PIO Brooke Converse will update the Commission on the draft of the new Library Marketing Plan
9. **COMMISSIONER WORK PLAN ACTION ITEMS (Report Out And Current Events)**
Commissioners will report on their 2025 work plan item progress and discuss current events
10. **WORKING COMMITTEE REPORTS**
Commissioner Dozier will report to the Commission on legislative matters
11. **CORRESPONDENCE**
Commissioners will review commission correspondence.
12. **COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS**
Commissioners can use this time to share upcoming events, book sales and any other library-related information

13. ADJOURNMENT to the Thursday, May 15, 2025, LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING.

ITEMS TO CALENDAR

- Thursday, May 15, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday, July 17, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday, September 18, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 4, 2025, 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. @ Walnut Creek Library
- Thursday, November 20, 2025, 6:00 p.m.



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-946

Agenda Date: 3/20/2025

Agenda #: 4.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 16, 2025

6:00 PM

**1025 Escobar St., Room 110
Martinez, CA**

**352 Shoreline Drive
Pittsburg, CA**

**Zoom Webinar Link: [https://zoom.us/j/92440499509?
pwd=MLUCLCJIFTt5cOb50QDbQLvytKEmqA.1](https://zoom.us/j/92440499509?pwd=MLUCLCJIFTt5cOb50QDbQLvytKEmqA.1)**

Webinar ID: 924 4049 9509

Passcode: 135402

Library Commission

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Library Commissioners, please call Library Administration, at (925) 608-7700 by 5 p.m. Wednesday, January 15, 2025, if you will NOT be at the meeting. A quorum must be established in-person before a meeting can be held. A record is maintained of Commissioner’s attendance.

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee.

This was approved.

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The Library Commission Chair will call the meeting to order. Nina Braithwaite will do a roll call to determine a quorum of attendees.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
Roll call was done by Nina Braithwaite and we have a quorum.

Present	Kevin Armonio, Matt DeFraga, Jim Dexter, Robin Eckert, Michael Fischer, Shrikant Garde, Nicole Gemmer, Sue Hamill, Mary Ann Hoisington, Marina Hsieh, John Huh, Amenda Kung, Heather Lurvey, Lynn Mackey, Dennisha Marsh, Jasun Molinelli, George Pursley, Donna Rennie, Rachel Rosekind, Robert Sanguedolce, Tommy Smith, Michael Swernoff, and Bethany Woods
Excused	Julia Dozier, Susan Hildreth, Frederick Page, Amit Prayag, Linda Sendig, and Bryan Thomas
Absent	Arnold Fitzpatrick, Stacie Hinton, Anne Kingsley, Zelda LeFrak-Belleci, Jo Ellen Marcotte, Richard Means, Antonio Medrano, and Dorothy Walker
Late	Vivian Faye

2. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Visitors will have an opportunity to introduce themselves; self-introductions are voluntary.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Speakers from the audience may address the Library Commission on any relevant issue that is not scheduled for the agenda. Public comments can be made on agenda items when the item is discussed. Public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. Public comment on agenda items can also be e-mailed to the Library Commission at nina.braithwaite@library.cccounty.us to be received one day prior to the Library Commission meeting.

There were no Public Comments.

4.

Attachments: [Amended 11-21-24 Commission Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

Michael Fischer noted that at the 11/21/24 Library Commission meeting, during the vote to accept the Minutes from the 9/16/24 Library Commission meeting, it was noted that Bethany Woods abstained, but because she is the Alternate for El Cerrito and Michael Fischer was present to vote, she could not eligible to vote .

Motion: **Ann Hoisington**

Second: **Fischer**

5. COUNTY LIBRARIAN REPORT

County Librarian Alison McKee will report on items of interest to Commissioners.

Alison McKee reported on the following items:

Self Service Sundays Update

Concord Library has been open for six consecutive Sundays and service has gone smoothly with no incidents. This service will continue indefinitely, and the Library is in the beginning stages of identifying potential additional sites.

Racial Equity Action Plan Update

The Library’s Antiracism Task Team with the help of the Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ) has created a roadmap for developing a Racial Equity Action Plan (REAP) which will be used to identify and address racial inequities within the scope of the Library’s work. The four areas of strategic focus will be

- Normalizing Racial Equity
- Language Equity
- Community Engagement
- Strengthening Human Resources Practices (Hiring, Recruitment, Retention)

2024 Anti-Racism Assessment

The Library Department annually assess our anti-racism work using an assessment tool developed by the Urban Libraries Council Anti-Racism Working Group. The 2024 results for the Contra Costa County Libraries are attached.

Questions from the Library Commissioner were answered.

Nina Braithwaite reported that Advisory Board members are required to take the following trainings every two years.

- Brown Act & Better Government Ordinance
- Ethics
- Implicit Bias

Each member will need to complete the training and send the Training Certificate form to Nina Braithwaite. If a member has taken the training within the last two years, they can submit their signed certificate.

Training information will be emailed to the Library Commission members following the meeting.

6. **AGENDA SETTING FOR NEXT MEETING and FUTURE TOPICS**
Commissioners will suggest items for future meetings.

There were no suggestions for future topics.

7.

Attachments: [2025 Work Plan.pdf](#)
 [Implementing the Library Commission 2025 Work Plan.pptx.pdf](#)

The three main goals for implementing the Library Commission's 2025 Work Plan are:

Goal 1: Help Establish Sustainable funding and support for library programs and services to better serve all segments of our patrons.

- Exploring ways of ensuring stable, equitable, and adequate public and private funding for the county library and its various branches
- Advocating for additional funding for branch libraries for increased resources to better serve their local communities
- Providing input to the county and county librarian on budgetary issues and items.

Proposed ways to implement this goal:

- Have a one-on-one conversation with your appointing body letting them know about the funding issues.
- Get on the agenda for a city council meeting and present the Advocacy Ad Hoc group findings or use the Public Comments time.
- Share the information with a Library Friends or Foundation group
- Send the information via email or by mail. Do a letter writing campaign

Goal 2: Collaborate with elected officials, community groups and residents to engender broad support for the library

- Conducting legislative outreach at the local, state, and federal levels to advocate for libraries, the services they provide, and the allocation of resources to them. When possible, meet with legislative leaders in conjunction with other library districts.
- Taking an active role in the American Library Association and California Library Association lobbying efforts.
- Briefing appointing authorities (city/town council, Supervisor, board or agency) periodically on Commission activities, initiatives, and library needs and seeking their advocacy or endorsement.
- Collaborating with library staff to promote library activities and services with public officials at the federal, state and local level.
- Educating organization and individuals at the local, county, state and national level about the value and services offered by the library.
- Involving the local communities in Library Commission meetings.
- Encouraging collaboration between the Library Foundation of Contra Costa, community library friends and foundation groups, and commissioners by convening the Friends and Foundation and holding the annual Friend and Foundations Forum.

Proposed ways to implement this goal:

- If it's easier, plan to do this with a partner, like the alternate Library Commissioner or someone you are comfortable working with.
- Invite Friends or Foundation groups or others to attend the Library Commission meeting so they are aware of what is being done.

Goal 3: Advise the County on library issues

- Understanding the needs, resources, and organization of the local community.
- Providing thoughtful, consistent, sound and prompt advice and counsel to the County Librarian regarding the Library's budget, the strategic plan, changes in policy impacting service and programs, and any other matters raised.

8. REPORT OUTS & PLANS FOR MEETING WITH APPOINTING BODY

Nicole Gemmer & Bob Sanguedolce shared the presentation they gave to the Danville Town Council and the group discussed ways they can reach out to the cities and towns they represent.

9. WORKING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Commissioner Dozier will report to the Commission on legislative matters.

B. Commissioner Rosekind will update the commissioners on the Library Foundation of Contra Costa.

Susan Hildreth reported:

The California State Budget has been released and includes \$6.8 million in one-time funds for the California State Library Parks Pass program and \$332,00 in one-time funds for fiscal year 25-26 and \$282,000 ongoing thereafter for cybersecurity infrastructure support for the state library.

Rachel Rosekind reported:

- New slate of officers appointed in January 2025
 - Susan Hildreth: Chair
 - Rachel Rosekind: Vice-Chair
 - Nicole Gemmer: Treasurer
 - Bob Sanguedolce: Assistant Treasurer
 - Katherine Bracken: Secretary
- Last month we concluded our strategic planning process. We have converged on the following focus areas, which will drive our work over the next three years: fund development, impact, community engagement, and governance & operations.
- We have several ongoing and prospective priority funding projects for 2025: continued initiatives include Programming Equity, Collections Enhancement, and Career Online High School graduation. We are discussing other initiatives aligned with our mission and focus areas.
- We have received the final disbursement of Measure X funds (\$4,268.18) from the 2022 county allocation. All funds were used per the Board of Supervisors' guidance: namely, costs to file our form 1023, fundraising and strategic plan consulting, insurance and accounting costs, and specified operations expenses (such as software costs and filing fees).
- We are still recruiting for open Board positions. If you know of interested candidates or people who are passionate about equity, please reach out to me.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioners will review commission correspondence.

No correspondence was received

11. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioners can use this time to share upcoming events, book sales and any other library-related information.

El Cerrito - Saturday, February 1st is a Black History Month event with Lavira Wilson & Tuesday, February 11th at 6:00 at Care Ohlone there will be a discussion of culture, past and present and the role that Ohlone food plays in today's East Bay culture

Kensington - Tuesday, January 28th at 6:30 p.m. is the Bats at the Library program, and Tuesday, February 18th at 6:00 p.m. is a program on funding sources for fire preparedness.

Pinole - Saturday, January 18th at 10:00 a.m. is a Tibetan storytime.

San Pablo - Wednesday, January 29th at 3:00 p.m. is the Lunar New Year Crafternoon and on Wednesday & Thursday each week the Wellness Team is at the Library, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Lafayette - On February 12th at 2:00 p.m. is a talk by the Asian Art Museum and a show of luxurious lacquer wear.

Walnut Creek - There is now a Walnut Creek Teenage Advisory Board looking for volunteers between the age of 13 & 18.

Concord - They are accepting donations of prom dresses, suits, tuxedos, accessories for the Pop-Up Prom Shop to provide teens with free Prom attire.

12. ADJOURNMENT TO THE MARCH 20, 2025, LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

ITEMS TO CALENDAR

- **Library Commission Meeting, Thursday, March 20, 2025, 6:00 p.m.**
- **Library Commission Meeting, Thursday, May 15, 2025, 6:00 p.m.**
- **Library Commission Meeting, Thursday, July 17, 2025, 6:00 p.m.**
- **Library Commission Meeting, Thursday, September 18, 2025, 6:00 p.m.**
- **Library Commission Meeting, Thursday, November 20, 2025, 6:00 p.m.**
- **FFLC Forum, Saturday, October 4, 2025, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Walnut Creek Library Oak Room**

Contra Costa County Library Commission Implementing the 2025 Work Plan

2025 Work Plan Goals

Goal 1: Help establish sustainable funding and support for library programs and services to better serve all segments of our patrons

- Exploring ways of ensuring stable, equitable, and adequate public and private funding for the county library and its various branches.
- Advocating for additional funding for branch libraries for Increased resources to better serve their local communities.
- Providing input to the county and county librarian on budgetary issues and items.

Goal 2: Collaborate with elected officials, community groups, and residents to engender broad support for the Library

- Conducting legislative outreach at the local, state, and federal levels to advocate for libraries, the services they provide, and the allocation of resources to them. When possible, meet with legislative leaders in conjunction with other library districts.
- Taking an active role in the American Library Association and California Library Association lobbying efforts.
- Briefing appointing authorities (city/town council, Supervisor, board, or agency) periodically on Commission activities, initiatives, and library needs and seeking their advocacy or endorsement.
- Collaborating with library staff to promote library activities and services with public officials at the federal, state, and local level.
- Educating organizations and individuals at the local, county, state and national level about the value and services offered by the library.
- Involving the local communities in Library Commission meetings.
- Encouraging collaboration between the Library Foundation of Contra Costa, community library friends and foundation groups, and commissioners by convening the Friends and Foundation Council and holding the annual Friends and Foundations Forum.

Goal 3: Advise the County on library issues

- Understanding the needs, resources, and organizations of the local community
- Providing thoughtful, consistent, sound and prompt advice and counsel to the County Librarian regarding the Library's budget, the strategic plan, changes in policy impacting service and programs, and any other matters raised.

Brief Appointing Authorities on Commission Activities and Library Needs

Contra Costa County Library Commissioners
Report to Danville Town Council

November 2024

Nicole Gemmer, Library Commissioner

Bob Sanguedolce, Alternate Library Commissioner

Contra Costa County Library Commission Report

- Danville has **27,244 active patrons** with circulation of 199,312 in fiscal year 2023-24
- Danville had 181,566 checkouts of e-books and e-audio books in the Overdrive application
- There are over 65,800 items in the collection at the Danville Library
- The most popular resources include newspapers such as the East Bay Times, the New York Times, the Washington Post, and Consumer Reports
 - Views of the East Bay Times were up 62% in the previous year

Contra Costa County Library Commission Report

- Popular resource: **BrainFuse**
 - A service that provides live real-time homework assistance in multiple languages
- And, a redesigned **Saturday Story Time** has returned

Contra Costa County Library Commission Report

Recently completed additional building upgrades:

- Two new coats of paint throughout the library's interior
- New carpeting in key areas of the library including Periodical Room, Friends' Book Store, Mt. Diablo Room, and staff area
- Refinished all original study tables throughout the library to remove deep scratches and graffiti and expand seating in children's study area
- Deep cleaned tile and grout in all the public and family restrooms plus the library lobby
- Deep steam cleaned all upholstered furniture in the library

Contra Costa County Library Commission Report

Launch of Updated Library Strategic Plan

- Commissioners provided input along with other stakeholders and public surveys
- Goals and objectives modified to more fully address:
 - Rapid digitalization
 - The epidemic of loneliness
 - Low literacy levels
 - The need to address racial and other inequities in services
 - An increase in attacks on intellectual freedom
- Annual progress reports will be published
- In 2025, Danville staff will focus on increasing the number of library cards held through increased visits to schools

Contra Costa County Library Commission Advocacy Ad Hoc Group

- Formed in February 2024
- Goal is to explore alternative additional funding models for the Contra Costa County Library
- Members:
 - Sue Hamill (Co-Chair) – District 4
 - Susan Hildreth (Co-Chair) – District 2
 - Clifton Louie – District 3
 - Rachel Rosekind – District 1
 - Bob Sanguedolce – Town of Danville (Alternate)
 - Alison McKee – County Librarian

Contra Costa County Library Commission Advocacy Ad Hoc Group

Local Income Per Capita (LIPC)

- Metric developed by California State Library
- Compares different funding levels across varying populations
- Calculated by: Library Income divided by residents served
- Data is for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

County Library System	LIPC-Funding per Person
Alameda	\$64.36
Contra Costa	\$36.31
Napa	\$91.83
Marin	\$121.29
Solano	\$ 63.73

CCCL is primarily funded by 1.5% of the 1% county ad valorem property tax ²²

Contra Costa County Library Commission Advocacy Ad Hoc Group

Why are Comparable Library Systems Better Funded?

Library System	Additional County Funding
Alameda	User utility tax
Contra Costa	\$0
Napa	Higher ad valorem of 2.07%
Marin	Measure B \$98 parcel tax
Solano	Measure L 1/8 cent sales tax

Contra Costa County Library Commission Advocacy Ad Hoc Group

Contra Costa County
funds a base of 40
weekly open hours
across its 22 full-service
library branches

40 Base Open Hours Schedule

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 12 - 8

Wednesday: 10 - 6

Thursday: 10 - 6

Friday: 9 - 5

Saturday: 9 - 5

Cities may fund 6, 12, or 16 extra
weekly hours

Contra Costa County Library Commission Advocacy Ad Hoc Group

Let's Talk About Sunday Open Hours at the Library

- Surveys show Sunday open hours one of the most requested features by residents
- All peer libraries offer Sunday hours.
- Contra Costa Library did have some branches open on Sunday prior to Covid but was difficult to staff and cut to save costs.
- A trial of limited Sunday hour services will begin in Concord in December 2024.

Library System	Total number of branches	Number of branches open on Sundays	Number of Sunday open hours	Percent of Branches open on Sundays
Contra Costa	26	0	0	0%
Alameda	12	6	4	50%
Marin	10	2	5	20%
Napa	4	1	4	25%
Solano	9	3	5	33%

Contra Costa County Library Commission Advocacy Ad Hoc Group

A final report was presented by the Advocacy Ad Hoc Group on November 21, 2024. The commission voted and approved the following action:

- Recognize the Contra Costa County Library's limited funding.
- Endorse the goal of 56 fully-staffed service hours per week at all full-service branches - this would result in Danville no longer having to fund additional library hours
- Provide for at least 6 equitably distributed branches to be fully staffed for at least 4 hours on Sunday.
- To thank and close the Advocacy Ad Hoc Group

Other Implementation Methods for Outreach

- Write a letter to your state senate rep, state assemblymember, federal representative, or senator
- Call the board chair for a legislative committee to indicate you are in favor or against specific legislation
- Make public comment at a public hearing or meeting
- Inform community groups you are involved in about library services, value, and need – and encourage them to stay involved!



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-947

Agenda Date: 3/20/2025

Agenda #: 6.

County Librarian’s Report to the Library Commission
 Thursday, March 20, 2025

FY24-25 BUDGET

The Library's draft budget was submitted on time and balanced in February. Kudos and many thanks to our new Chief of Administrative Services, Samantha Fithian, for the incredible amount of work she put into this huge effort. Budget hearings are taking place on Monday April 28rd and Tuesday April 29th. The Library Department will present last on Monday.

INCREASED OPEN HOURS FOR THE SAN RAMON LIBRARY

In June of 2024 the City of San Ramon voted to reduce the number of extra hours they would fund from sixteen (16) to six (6) due to a City budget shortfall in fiscal year 2024-25. In November of 2024, San Ramon voters adopted Measure N, a 1% local sales tax increase. On February 11, 2025, the San Ramon City Council approved a midyear budget adjustment to provide funding to reverse the reduction in hours. Effective March 31, 2025, the San Ramon Library will resume its 56 open hour per week schedule, which is Monday-Thursday 10am-8pm and Friday-Saturday 9am-5pm.

ANNUAL CITY LETTERS

Each year by March 31st, the Library provides a cost estimate for extra hours, technology and facility costs (if applicable) for the next fiscal year to each of our city partners. Extra hour options are for 6, 12, or 16 hours per week. If a City is going to change the number of extra hours they are funding in the next fiscal year, they must inform the Library by May 31st. Current extra hours are:

City	Branch Name	FY24-25	
		County Base	City Extra
Antioch	Antioch	40	0
Antioch	Prewett*	35	n/a
Brentwood	Brentwood	40	12
Clayton	Clayton	40	0
Concord	Concord	40	12
Danville	Danville	40	16
El Cerrito	El Cerrito**	40	6
Hercules	Hercules	40	6
Lafayette	Lafayette	40	16
Martinez	Martinez	40	0
Moraga	Moraga	40	0
Oakley	Oakley***	40	n/a
Orinda	Orinda	40	16
Pinole	Pinole	40	0
Pittsburg	Pittsburg	40	12
Pleasant Hill	Pleasant Hill	40	12
San Pablo	San Pablo	40	12

San Ramon	Dougherty Station	40	6
San Ramon	San Ramon	40	6/16
Walnut Creek	Walnut Creek	40	12
Walnut Creek	Ygnacio Valley	40	12
n/a	Bay Point*	35.5	n/a
n/a	Crockett*	18	6
n/a	EL Sobrante	40	n/a
n/a	Kensington	40	n/a
n/a	Rodeo*	18	6
TOTAL		986.5	177
TOTAL OPEN HOURS		1153.5/1163.5	

*outlets, not full-service libraries

**not eligible to fund more than 6 extra hours due to size limitations of facility

***not eligible to fund extra hours due to size limitations of facility

ANNUAL REPORT

The Library's 2024 Annual Report is completed and posted on our website in the 'newsroom' all way at the bottom of the page and attached to this report.

2025-2026 FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORMS

Every two years, the Board of Supervisors adopts a State Legislative Platform that establishes priorities and policy positions with regard to potential State legislation and regulation. The State Legislative Platform includes County-sponsored bill proposals, legislative or regulatory advocacy priorities for the year, and policies that provide direction and guidance for identification of and advocacy on bills which would affect the services, programs or finances of Contra Costa County. The Board of Supervisors also adopts a Federal Legislative Platform that establishes priorities and policy positions with regard to potential federal legislation and regulation.

FEDERAL FUNDING AFFECTS

The Library Department receives very little federal funding. Some federal funds supplement the Library Department's offerings via resources provided by the State Library to all public libraries in California at no cost. These resources include hundreds of free trainings for library staff annually and New York Times subscription access for all library card holders (a savings of approximately \$35,000 annually). Additionally, the Library receives federal e-rate reimbursements annually. E-rate provides deep discounts for Internet access the Library receives approximately \$118,000 annually in reimbursements.

KENSINGTON LIBRARY CLOSURE

The Kensington Library will be closed Tuesday, March 18 through Friday, March 21 for HVAC repair/maintenance. The library will reopen on Saturday, March 22.

FRIENDS OF THE OAKLEY LIBRARY GRANT AWARD

The Dean & Margaret Leshner Foundation has awarded the Friends of the Oakley Library \$400,000 for the new Oakley Library and Community Center. The money will be paid out over two years, with \$200,000 to be given in 2025 and 2026. The goal for the Friends was to raise one million dollars, and they currently sit at \$980,000. Congratulations Friends of the Oakley Library!

PATRON SURVEY

The Library is working closely with Orange Boy staff to finalize this year's patron survey. Patron surveys are administered every other year. Like last time, we will also have a separate survey for non-library users. Surveys will be available in English, Chinese and Spanish and can be taken online or in hard copy. The survey will be open from May 1 through June 8.

SELF SERVICE SUNDAYS UPDATE

As of this writing, the Concord Library has been open for Self Service for eleven Sundays. Although actual usage has been very modest, the service has gone smoothly and there have been no incidents or concerns. We have every intention to continue this service indefinitely and are in the beginning stages of identifying additional potential locations. Marketing efforts have increased and the service is being promoted in all Library branches as well as at Diablo Valley College (thank you Dist. 5 Commissioner Eckert for that excellent suggestion!).

- 96 patrons are currently approved for Self-Service Sundays.
- 31 people are registered for orientations through April 30, 2025
- Actual usage for each open date (only includes cardholders and not any children)
 - 12/1 4 card users
 - 12/8 3 card users
 - 12/15 1 card user
 - 12/22 0 card users
 - 12/29 1 card user
 - 1/5 0 card users
 - 1/12 2 card users
 - 1/26 2 card users
 - 2/2 3 card users
 - 2/9 0 card users
 - 2/23 3 card users
 - 3/1 4 card users
 - 3/9 4 card users

REVISED BROWN ACT RULES

Commissioners were emailed information in January related to new Brown Act rules. The revised rules now advises that the Americans with Disabilities Act generally requires that an advisory body member who has a qualifying disability that prevents them from attending meetings in person must be allowed to participate remotely from a non-public location.

SUMMER READING 2025

Summer Reading will take place from June 2 - August 2 and is called "Level Up at Your Library" (puzzles and games themed).

Respectfully submitted by Alison McKee, County Librarian