

PUBLIC ADVISORY REGARDING COVID-19 AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Consistent with Executive Order No. N-29-20 issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, and the County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency Shelter In Place Public Health Order dated March 31, 2020, the regular meetings of the:

**LIBRARIES FACILITIES FINANCING AUTHORITY (LFFA) AND
THE LIBRARY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY (LJPA) BOARD
ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 5 AT 9:00 AM**

This meeting will be held via Zoom teleconference ONLY

Board Members and Library Staff Members will be participating remotely via videoconference.

Public Viewing:

The meeting will be broadcast through the Santa Cruz Libraries YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/SantaCruzPL> which you can access through the Santa Cruz Libraries website by scrolling to the bottom of the page and clicking on the YouTube icon.

Public Participation:

For those wishing to participate via Zoom you can join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device by entering or clicking on the following URL:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/92590609803>

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +16699006833,,92590609803# or +13462487799,,92590609803#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or 833 548 0282 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5247 (Toll Free) or 888 788 0099 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0276 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 925 9060 9803

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/abNC7V9cJK>

The meetings will be recorded and posted for viewing after the meetings on the Santa Cruz Public Libraries website <http://www.santacruzpl.org/>

There are four ways to comment during meetings. All comments must be received prior to the close of public comment on that agenda item:

1. How to comment on agenda items via email before the meeting begins:

Members of the public may provide public comment by sending comments via email to the Library Board Clerk at clerk@santacruzpl.org

- Identify the agenda item number in the subject line of the email.
- Emailed comments should be a maximum of 500 words, which corresponds to approximately 3 minutes of speaking time.
- Each emailed comment will be read aloud for up to three minutes.
- Emails received by clerk@santacruzpl.org outside of the comment period outlined above will not be included in the record.

2. How to comment on agenda items during the meeting and prior to the close of public comment on an item, via the Zoom Q&A feature:

- Type your comment using the Q&A feature found on the Zoom teleconference control bar.
- Identify the agenda item first, then type your comment
- Your comment will be read aloud

3. How to comment aloud on agenda items, during the meeting and prior to the close of public comment on an item, via the Zoom “raise hand” feature:

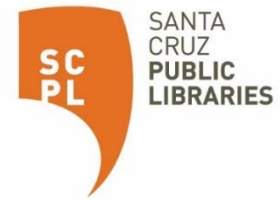
If you are accessing the meeting using the Zoom app and computer audio:

- Use the “raise hand” icon found on the Zoom teleconference control bar
- The moderator will announce your name or the last 3 digits of your phone number
- Unmute yourself using the microphone icon
- Identify the agenda item
- Introduce yourself using your first and last name.
- You will have three minutes of speaking time.

If you are accessing the Zoom teleconference using telephone audio:

- Press *9 to raise your hand during the comment period for that agenda item.
- The moderator will announce your name or the last 3 digits of your phone number when it is your turn.
- Unmute yourself using *6 – to toggle the mute/unmute.
- Identify the agenda item
- Introduce yourself using your first and last name.
- You will have three minutes of speaking time.

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



**SANTA CRUZ CITY/COUNTY LIBRARIES
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**[IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SANTA CRUZ LIBRARIES
FACILITIES FINANCING AUTHORITY (LFFA)]**

THURSDAY AUGUST 5, 2021

9:00 A.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Board Members Jamie Goldstein, Carlos Palacios, Martin Bernal and Tina Friend

2. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Additional information submitted after distribution of the agenda packet.

3. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Report out from Closed Session of June 3, 2021.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATION

Any member of the audience may address the Board on any matter either on or off the agenda that is within the Board's jurisdiction. Note, however, that the Board is not able to undertake extended discussion or act on non-agendized items. Such items can be referred to staff for appropriate action which may include placement on a future agenda. If you intend to address a subject that is on the Agenda, please hold your comments regarding that item until it is before the Board so that we may properly address all comments on that subject at the same time. In general, 3 minutes will be permitted per speaker during Oral Communication; A MAXIMUM of 30 MINUTES is set aside for Oral Communications at this time.

5. REPORT BY LIBRARY DIRECTOR

- A. Interim Library Director’s Report – August 2021 (p.7)

6. REPORT BY FRIENDS OF THE SANTA CRUZ PUBLIC LIBRARIES

- A. Friends of SCPL – Report (oral)

7. REPORT BY LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION (LAC)

- A. Commissioners’ Report (oral)

8. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

9. CORRESPONDENCE BY PUBLIC

10. CONSENT CALENDAR

All items listed in the “Consent Calendar” will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion on these items prior to the time the Board votes on the action unless members of the public or the Board request specific items to be discussed for separate review. Items pulled for separate discussion will be considered following General Business.

- A. Consider the June 3, 2021 and July 6, 2021 LJPA Board Meeting Minutes
Staff Recommendation: Approve the June 3, 2021 and July 6, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes (p.8-12)
- B. Recent Articles about Santa Cruz Public Libraries.
Staff Recommendation: Accept and File Recent Articles about SCPL (p.13-54)
- C. Community Impact Measures for 4th Qtr. FY 2020-2021
Staff Recommendation: Accept and File 4th Qtr. Community Impact Measures for FY 2020-2021 (p.55-65)
- D. Financial Report for 4th Qtr. FY 2020-2021
Staff Recommendation: 4th Qtr. Financial Report for FY 2020-2021 postponed until October meeting (p.66)
- E. Incident Report for 4th Qtr. FY 2020-2021
Staff Recommendation: Accept and File 4th Qtr. Incident Report for FY 2020-2021. (p.67-70)
- F. Work Plan for 4th Qtr. FY 2020-2021
Staff Recommendation: Accept and File 4th Qtr. Work Plan for FY 2020-2021 (p.71-78)
- G. Santa Cruz Workforce Collaborative grant and amend the FY 21/22 Library Budget.
Staff Recommendation: Approve and Accept the Santa Cruz Workforce Collaborative Grant and Amend the FY 21/22 Library Budget (p.79)

- H. Annual Staff Training Day
Staff Recommendation: Approve Staff Training Day to be held on October 14, 2021 (p.80-81)
- I. LGBTQ Pride Flag Display
Staff Recommendation: Endorse the Library Advisory Commission's vote for the Library to fly the LGBTQ Pride flag throughout the year (p.82-83)
- J. Accept Funds and Amend the FY 21 Budget
Staff Recommendation: Accept Funds (Sulzner Trust Fund and FSCPL) and Amend the FY 21 Budget (p.84-85)

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

Other Business items are intended to provide an opportunity for public discussion of each item listed. The following procedure is followed for each Business item: 1) Staff explanation; 2) Board questions; 3) Public comment; 4) Board deliberation; 5) Decision.

- A. Meeting Room Policy #315
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Meeting Room Policy #315 (p.86-91)
- B. Commemorative Flag Policy #109
Staff Recommendation: Provide input on the draft Library Policy for Commemorative Flags (p.92-97)
- C. Debt Collection Dismissal
Staff Recommendation: Approve the forgiveness of debt currently on file with the Library's debt collection agency. (p.98)
- D. Presentation on Programming
Staff Recommendation: Provide input on the staff's current and future programming plans (p.99-100)

12. SCHEDULED UPCOMING MEETINGS

October 7, 2021	Virtual Meeting	Anticipated Upcoming Agenda Items:
5:00 pm		Capitola Leases 4th Qtr. Financial Reports License Agreement County, Library and PG&E

13. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned to the next regular meeting of the LJPA to be held on Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 5:00 pm [immediately following the LFFA meeting] via Zoom teleconference.

The Santa Cruz City-County Library System does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. Out of consideration for people with chemical sensitivities, we ask that you attend fragrance free. Upon request, the agenda can be provided in a format to accommodate special needs. Additionally, if you wish to attend this public meeting and will require assistance such as an interpreter for American Sign Language, Spanish, or other special equipment please call the Library Administration Office at (831)427-7706 at least five days in advance so that we can arrange for such special assistance, or email library_admin@santacruzpl.org

August 2021



Interim Director's Report to the JPA

This year has been a study in perpetual change. After several transformations in service models in response to staff reductions and Covid restrictions, the Library is now fully open and has expanded its hours over the summer. We also offered live outdoor events in July to call attention to the Library's Summer Reading program and our new open hours. The new Capitola Library is bursting with energy and enjoys a constant flow of patrons. The Library is aggressively pursuing recruitments with an eye towards expanding hours further in the fall. We have successfully recruited two new excellent librarians and when they are fully on board, I would like to introduce them to you as well other new staff that we hope to have on board by the fall. June Garcia, the recruiter for the new Library Director, has held multiple meetings with Library staff, Library Advisory Commissioners and board members from the Friends of the Library. She is soliciting input from them that she will use in her recruitment material.

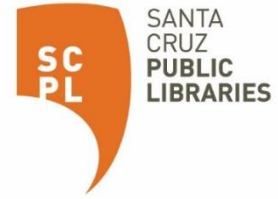
In addition to expanding hours, Santa Cruz Public Libraries has rejoined the Inter-Library Loan Service. We have also made it easier for patrons to request books that they would like the Library to purchase.

In today's meeting, we hope to hear input from the members of the Joint Powers Authority on the Library's programs and services following the presentation by our leaders on adult and youth services, Jessica Goodman and Heather Norquist. The Library's fourth quarter workplan, included in this packet, provides a review of the innovative changes that the Library staff have pursued as well as the Library's evolution during this past year. When we meet again in September, we will hear from Sarah Harbison, the division manager for the development and management of the Library's collection. She will offer insights into how the management of the collection had to evolve during the pandemic, including the increase in the Library's purchase of ebooks. She managed these changes while also preparing new branches with an opening day collection. And also, in October, we will begin our discussion with you on the progress of the Strategic Plan. In our December meeting with the Joint Powers Authority, we will also return to a review of Summer Reading and begin to discuss the future of programming and services as the Strategic Plan begins to take form. And later this month, I have scheduled a time to sit down with the subcommittee from the Joint Powers Authority to begin its review of the Library's staffing levels.

This week, we say goodbye to Library Director Susan Nemitz who retires this month after five years of successfully leading the organization through multiple transformations. I have greatly appreciated her kindness, wisdom and dedication to our community.

Lastly, while there are too many upcoming Library programs to list, I'd like to call everyone's attention to a series of programs that the Library supports through its partnership with County organizations to raise awareness around the CZU Fires, the County's recovery, our preparedness and the future health of our region. A full list of those programs can be found on the Library's [calendar](#). These programs exemplify how the Library works hard to use information and Library resources to make our community stronger and healthier.

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



**SANTA CRUZ CITY/COUNTY LIBRARIES
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD
(LJPA)**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Virtual Meeting

**THURSDAY JUNE 3, 2021
5:00 P.M.**

1. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Tina Friend, Jamie Goldstein, Martin Bernal, Carlos Palacios
STAFF: Library Director Susan Nemitz, Assistant Director Eric Howard

2. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

None

3. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA

The Agenda of June 3, 2021 was approved by consensus.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

5. REPORT BY LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Susan Nemitz reported on the recent activities of the Library and announced her retirement.

6. FRIENDS OF THE SANTA CRUZ PUBLIC LIBRARIES REPORT

Bruce Cotter, Executive Director, reported on the recent activities of the Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries

7. REPORT BY LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION (LAC)

Lindsay Bass, Chair, reported on the recent LAC meeting of May 17, 2021

8. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

None

9. CORRESPONDENCE BY PUBLIC

None

10. CONSENT CALENDAR

RESULT: APPROVED CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approved the May 6, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes**
- B. Accepted and Filed Recent Articles about SCPL**
- C. Approved the Recommended Budget Adjustment for Sales Tax Revenue and Library Materials Expenditure Budgets**
- D. Approved the Transfer of Unused Capital Funds, \$50K, from the Operating Budget to the Library’s Capital Funds Account [UNANIMOUS]**

MOVER: Carlos Palacios
SECONDER: Tina Friend
AYES: Friend, Goldstein, Bernal, Palacios

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. FY2022 Santa Cruz Public Library Budget Recommendation

Library Director Nemitz gave a short summary of the recommended budget items and the Board requested a few clarifications in the budget report. The Board members expressed their appreciation for the Library Director’s service and leadership over the last five years and especially during the pandemic.

RESULT: Adopted the Proposed FY2021-2022 Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Budget as presented with two additional directions: 1. that staff report back at the next meeting with the reconciliation of the fund balance and 2. that the Management Analyst position will not be filled until a new Interim Director has been appointed.

[UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Carlos Palacios
SECONDER: Jamie Goldstein
AYES: Friend, Goldstein, Bernal, Palacios

B. Plan for the Development of the Library's Strategic Plan

Assistant Director Eric Howard explained the goals of the plan which will kick off next week with the announcement of the team/committee involved in its creation. The plan is considered to be a tool to actualize the mission, vision, values and goals of the library. The team has spent considerable time looking into equity issues within the organization as well as the services provided. The team is going to be involved in gathering data and is going to be part of the process for the next three years with quarterly meetings. A new Library Director, once appointed, will benefit from the data and have the opportunity of getting involved.

Result: Reviewed and Endorsed the Plan for the Development of the Library's Strategic Plan [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Carlos Palacios
SECONDER: Jamie Goldstein
AYES: Friend, Goldstein, Bernal, Palacios

12. Adjournment to Closed Session

Final Adjournment of the Library Joint Powers Authority Board (LJPA) at 6:10 p.m. to the next regular meeting on August 5, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. [immediately following the LFFA meeting] via Zoom teleconference.

ATTEST: _____
Helga Smith, Clerk of the Board

All documents referred to in these minutes are available in the Santa Cruz Public Libraries – Library Headquarters Office, 117 Union Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



**SANTA CRUZ CITY/COUNTY LIBRARIES
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD
(LJPA)**

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Virtual Meeting

**THURSDAY JULY 6, 2021
9:00 A.M.**

1. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Tina Friend, Jamie Goldstein, Carlos Palacios

STAFF: Library Director Susan Nemitz, Assistant Director Eric Howard, HR Director
Lisa Murphy

ABSENT: Martin Bernal

2. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

None

3. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA

The Agenda of July 6, 2021 was approved by consensus.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Recruitment Plan and Contract Approval

HR Director Lisa Murphy gave a short power point presentation highlighting the main points of the Proposal for Executive Recruitment Services offered by June Garcia LLC.

The Board accepted the proposal and contract after confirming that the formerly established subcommittee (comprised of Directors Jamie Goldstein and Carlos Palacios) will continue to be involved in the application and recruitment process.

RESULT: Approved Library Director Recruitment Services Agreement in the amount of \$19,000. [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Carlos Palacios
SECONDER: Jamie Goldstein
AYES: Friend, Goldstein, Palacios
ABSENT: Martin Bernal

B. Appointment of Interim Library Director

Result: Appointed Eric Howard, Assistant Library Director, to serve as Interim Library Director effective August 3, 2021 [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Jamie Goldstein
SECONDER: Carlos Palacios
AYES: Friend, Goldstein, Palacios
ABSENT: Martin Bernal

5. Adjournment

Final Adjournment of the Library Joint Powers Authority Board (LJPA) Special Meeting at 9:25 a.m. to the next regular meeting on August 5, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. [immediately following the LFFA meeting] via Zoom teleconference.

ATTEST: _____
Helga Smith, Clerk of the Board

All documents referred to in these minutes are available in the Santa Cruz Public Libraries – Library Headquarters Office, 117 Union Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 5, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: Media Packet

RECOMMENDATION

Accept and File the Media Packet for May 26, 2021 through July 26, 2021.

DISCUSSION

This Media packet covers the time period for May 26, 2021 through July 26, 2021.

Attachment: Media Packet

Report Prepared by: Diane Cowen,
 Communications Manager

Reviewed and Forwarded by: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director

In the News and Media:

May 26 – July 26, 2021
Regional Library News

UC SANTA CRUZ

NEWSCENTER

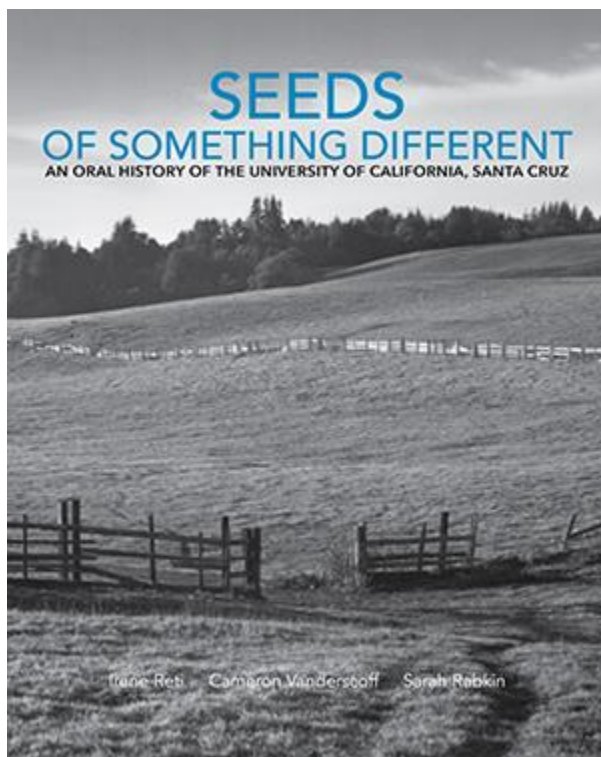
[Home](#) / [2021](#) / [July](#) / Library Community Archiving Program

Library's new Community Archiving Program to broaden scope of Regional History Project
July 06, 2021 By [Scott Rappaport](#)



*Filipino
Community of
Watsonville
Parade Float.
Courtesy Special
Collections,
University
Library, UC
Santa Cruz
(Santa Cruz
County historic
photograph*

collection). *Canning Strike*. Courtesy Special Collections, University Library, UC Santa Cruz.
(Santa Cruz County historic photograph collection).



Seeds of Something Different: An Oral History of the University of California, Santa Cruz, the first comprehensive history of UCSC.

The University Library has announced the establishment of a new Community Archiving Program that will build on the foundation of its decades-old Regional History Project (RHP).

With the retirement of longtime RHP director Irene Reti, the Library has now re-envisioned the project to broaden its scope and will soon be launching a national search for a newly created position of Community Archivist.

The new Community Archivist will continue to promote oral history as a means to capture the rich diversity of stories of the campus and region, with a particular focus on reaching out to traditionally under-represented communities. They will partner with the campus and community to develop and facilitate oral history projects, serving as a resource to those interested in using the methodology in their own research or in documenting the history of their own communities.

The Community Archivist will also seek out partnerships with community organizations and leaders to support the preservation of community history through other means, such as the establishment of formal archival collections and public history projects.

"I am so pleased to bring this position into the Library which will lead to the increased diversity of our collections and deepen our engagement with the campus and Santa Cruz County by offering tools and methodologies to collect stories and histories from all community members," said University Librarian Elizabeth Cowell.

UCSC head of Special Collections & Archives Teresa Mora noted that she was excited to continue the Library's commitment to oral history in a way that will foster partnerships with the broader community and engage with students.

"I see this as an opportunity to build upon the excellent work of the Regional History Project which has provided so many opportunities for student engagement over the years, seen most recently in the student-led oral history project, [The Empty Year](#), said Mora. "I look forward to lending our support to such important community-led collaborations as [Watsonville is in the Heart](#) and to further identify opportunities to support our faculty and students in similar research."

Mora added that community archiving is a relatively recent trend within the archival profession that focuses on collaboration with community partners in an effort to allow community groups—often those who are traditionally



underrepresented within formal archives—the agency to tell their own stories. Oral history is a powerful tool in many of these projects as tangible artifacts may no longer exist.

"The community archivist reflects the university's real commitment to elevating and amplifying local voices," said UCSC associate professor of sociology Steven McKay, a lead researcher on the Watsonville project. "Our community partners are excited to share their perspectives and experiences that have generally been neglected or overlooked in local and Asian American history. We are equally excited to preserve and promote these important narratives and connect our partners with a professional archivist dedicated to the histories of the too-often unheard." UCSC dean of humanities Jasmine Alinder added: "As a public historian myself, I am particularly excited to work with a new Community Archivist. This position and the Community Archives program will broaden our potential for impact, emphasizing community-engaged scholarship and the co-creation of knowledge."

Founded in 1963, the Regional History Project has been instrumental in documenting the history of both the campus and the community and has served as a training ground for students and faculty in the field of oral history. Projects have included student-led oral histories documenting the aftermath of the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake and the impact of Covid-19 on the UCSC Community.

The program has actively engaged with the local community since its inception, publishing oral histories on topics such as the history of agriculture on the Central Coast and working closely with other local history groups to provide guidance in developing their own oral history projects.

Under the direction of Reti, the RHP produced more than 60 oral histories, documenting the history of both the campus and Santa Cruz County. Reti conducted oral histories with such notable local and campus figures as Sam Farr, Donna Haraway and George Blumenthal. She also edited the compendium oral history volumes, *Cultivating A Movement: An Oral History of Organic Farming and Sustainable Agriculture on California's Central Coast* and *Out in the Redwoods: Documenting Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender History at the University of California, Santa Cruz 1965-2003*.

In 2020, Reti, with co-authors Sarah Rabkin and Cameron Vanderscoff, published *Seeds of Something Different: An Oral History of the University of California, Santa Cruz*, the first comprehensive history of UCSC.

Santa Cruz Sentinel *News*

Santa Cruz City Council previews 2022 city budget

By [RYAN STUART](#) | rstuart@santacruzsentinel.com | Santa Cruz Sentinel

PUBLISHED: May 28, 2021 at 5:15 p.m. | UPDATED: May 30, 2021 at 1:42 p.m.

SANTA CRUZ – Santa Cruz City Council got a preview of what the proposed budget for fiscal year 2022 will look like before it lands on the council's agenda at its next meeting.

The preview highlighted a fiscal issue the city has been facing for several years. Since the middle of 2018, the city's general fund reserves have been on a downward trend, according to a forecast graph from Director of Finance Kim Krause.

This trend has been a focus of city officials for some time and was exacerbated by the pandemic. In fact, the Interim Recovery Plan is an effort to mitigate the budget deficit and return the general fund back to the reserve goal or above.

Transit occupancy tax revenues were roughly 19% below their mark from 2019, while admissions taxes fell by 97%, according to Krause. However, the city projects to make a full recovery on revenue in 2024.

With the current trend, the city is expected to drain reserves by this time next year and go approximately \$16 million in the negative by the end of the decade. However, the recent passage of the American Rescue Plan in March boosted the city's finances and will keep it from bankruptcy.

“Without the federal stimulus, it’s a pretty steep decline to no reserves in fiscal year 2023,” Krause said.

Despite federal help, the general fund is still expected to trend downwards during the next decade. The \$14.2 million in aid helped Santa Cruz leap over its reserve goal for a short while, but continued yearly expenditures are expected to continue to create the deficit, in a less extreme manor. The fund balance is now expected to remain positive at the end of the decade.

“With the stimulus we get back to our reserve goal, but we still have a structural deficit,” Krause said. “You can see the stimulus does buy us some time to make a decision on how to handle the structural deficit in our budget.”

The downward trend in the general fund indicates that expenditures are exceeding revenue within various departments across the city. Therefore, it was important for departments to determine where money can be saved.

Proposed budget reductions would save the city more than \$1.2 million. The finance department will have its budget reduced by \$79,317 while economic development will see a proposed cut of \$181,166.

The two biggest cuts will be in the Public Works Department, with a reduction of \$347,998, and the Parks and Recreation Department, which could see a reduction of \$617,171. However, public works is expected to add more than \$495,000 in revenue this year, a majority of which is from parking fees.

With a more sizable reduction to make, parks and recreation had to identify areas where it could make bigger cuts. One such identification was the Civic Auditorium, a money pit for the department.

The auditorium costs the city about \$1 million a year to operate, but only covers half of its operating cost in revenue. To do so, the department will have to scale back staff at the center, according to Director Tony Elliot.

Support of events at the civic auditorium will be scaled back to save money, as well. This does not include the Santa Cruz Symphony or the Cabrillo Festival. Parks and recreation will also need to scale back support of Woody’s on the Wharf, the Aloha Polynesian Festival and the Japanese Cultural fair.

“This is not a judgment call on the value or the importance of these events to the community, but simply a need and facing structural deficits across city where we think we can make cuts and still work with our partners,” Elliot said. “We want to make sure these cuts we make are strategic and allow us to build back in the future.”

Despite declining reserves, the city still needs to operate. Paychecks need to be signed and capital improvement projects need to be carried out to improve the city. The Santa Cruz County library system is currently in the process of rebuilding or remodeling multiple library branches across the county using Measure S funds that were passed by voters in 2016.

However, economic development and parks and recreation have big projects that need to be taken care of during the next year. The economic development department has mainly focused its efforts on the creation of affordable housing during fiscal year 2022, according to Director Bonnie Lipscomb.

Three major affordable housing projects in motion by the city could cost more than \$9.6 million dollars. Those are the Library Mixed-Use project, Pacific Station North and Pacific Station South. Between the three of them, the city could add 210-235 affordable housing units.

Economic development has also been the beneficiary of several grants that have not been added to the budget, yet. The city recently received \$620,000 in federal money for repairs to the wharf and \$5 million in housing funds. The department is also up for \$94 million to \$117 million in federal grants to fund various projects.

Parks and recreation also has a few projects that requires funding from the city. The Civic Auditorium needs roof repairs which could cost the city about \$20,000. Additionally, the lights at Harvey West Park are in need of replacement. Elliot estimates the project will cost the city and additional \$320,000. The department would need to find more funding for the project elsewhere.

The budget is not official yet and will need final approval from City Council at its next meeting. The council will look over the final proposed budget for 2022 on June 8.

Capitola library branch to open for tours Saturday

Organizers ready to bring community together through COVID-19



Libraries maintenance worker Cesar Gallardo gets LED reading lamps operations in the new Capitola library. (Shmuel Thaler – Santa Cruz Sentinel)

By [MELISSA HARTMAN](mailto:mhartman@santacruzsentinel.com) | mhartman@santacruzsentinel.com |

PUBLISHED: June 9, 2021 at 4:25 p.m. | UPDATED: June 9, 2021 at 5:14 p.m.

CAPITOLA — A project more than 20 years in the works is finally opening up to the public this weekend — the new Capitola Library.

Made possible through Measure S, city funds and charitable contributions, the library will come to life Saturday both in-person and online. First, an online ceremony featuring Mayor Yvette Brooks, City Manager Jamie Goldstein, Project Manager David Tanza and more will open the festivities at 10 a.m. and last about two hours. Later, 15-minute tours of the branch will be available by appointment between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.



Donors to the new Capitola library are acknowledged in inscribed pavers outside the branch. (Shmuel Thaler – Santa Cruz Sentinel)

Library director Susan Nemitz teased the reinvention of a normal branch opening [when she spoke with the Sentinel](#) in April. On Wednesday, she was excited to announce all in-person tours for Saturday had been reserved.

“We have about 150 (registered) in-person tours. The next two weeks are filling up fast,” she said. “We might extend tours into the summer if people are interested.”

The interest in the facility has been building even before the [construction was delayed by a year](#) because of the pandemic.

“COVID throws a wrench in just about everything, but we are excited to get the community into the building,” Nemitz said. “There was a crew filming in the building last night after dark so all the lights were on. You could see how beautiful the interiors are. Everyone kept sticking their nose on the glass, looking inside.”

[A look inside](#)

Communications manager Diane Cowen explained the filming was for a 3-D experience the library system is planning for viewers who can’t make it out to Wharf Road. It isn’t ready yet, but co-chair of the library campaign Gayle Ortiz [walked viewers through the library virtually](#) with the same intention.

Ortiz’s tour started as she drove up, moving into the foyer where seating around a fireplace, shelves and even a display from the Capitola History Museum are available. Cowen said the fireplace is one of her favorite features of the new library.

Those skittish of returning to a somewhat normal routine after COVID-19 will be happy with the electronic check-out option at the front of the library. The digital setup is available right in the entryway, so contact is not required.

Off the seating area are library offices with windows that look out onto Rispin Mansion Park. The meeting and multipurpose rooms, too, feature views of oak and eucalyptus trees across the street.



Gayle Ortiz walks through the new Capitola Branch Library prior to taping a virtual tour of the site. Ortiz, a former mayor of Capitola, was co-chair of the capital campaign that raised funds to make the dream of a modern library in Capitola a reality. (Shmuel Thaler – Santa Cruz Sentinel)

Those who walk back out into the main library area may look up and notice the wood-paneled ceiling, an intentional move to make the library look nautical, Ortiz explains in the video.

“We wanted it to feel like it was placed in a coastal community,” she said. “So every effort has been made to make it feel like an old wooden boat inside.”

A dedicated teen room lays aside movable bookshelves and tables so that students can have easy access to a place for education and relaxation. Different styles of seating as well as a screen and whiteboards were installed to accommodate various ways of learning and the necessity to take breaks from time to time.

In fact, the flexible seating extends past the teen and main rooms, through the gallery and into the children’s room. The children’s room, themed with trees and owls throughout, provides small, round tables to play and color as well as little nooks in one wall to curl up with a good book. The nooks are Cowen’s other favorite feature.

Tables and chairs near the corners of the library provide room for visitors who want a quiet space to read or work away from the noise.

Alternatively, those looking to socialize can do so by pulling furniture out onto the library’s new patio after events at the center conclude. Wi-Fi extends outside at any hour so that visitors who want to work in the nice summer weather can. Ortiz envisioned parents sitting on the patio and watching their kids play on the adjacent playground, a part of the library project called “the tot lot.” Nemitz said that the windows and natural light are the best attributes of the library in her mind, carefully thought out elements that bring the outside inside and the inside outside.

“I’m definitely of the generation that grew up in fluorescents,” she said. “(This) is a beautiful place to work in, to read in. It’s an interesting aesthetic feature that you can’t always describe or even notice.”

Nemitz, who feels the building will be well-loved, will retire in August to focus on her health, according to a press release sent out by Santa Cruz Public Libraries this month. The Capitola branch is her swan song.

“It’s really a high note to go out on,” she said. “I’ve been a director for 17 years, five in Santa Cruz. There’s nothing like being able to bring these facilities to this community. It’s spectacular.”

To attend the virtual premiere of the library, register at bit.ly/CapitolaGrandOpening. To request an in-person tour, visit bit.ly/TourCapitola.

Photo Gallery | New Capitola Library features reading nooks, study rooms and fireplace

New Capitola Branch Library on Wharf Road opens on Saturday. (Shmuel Thaler - Santa Cruz Sentinel)

By [SHMUEL THALER](#) | sthaler@santacruzsentinel.com | Santa Cruz Sentinel

June 9, 2021 at 4:55 p.m.







Capitola Branch Library Manager Melanee Barash finds a transitory moment of rest and quiet in the children's section of the new library between the myriad tasks she is performing as staff prepare for [Saturday's grand opening celebration](#). The original Capitola Library was opened in the 1930s and was housed in the post office, and was subsequently moved six times, including to a temporary building at the current location in 1999. Along the way, the branch was closed in 1981 in the wake of funding losses after the passage of California State Proposition 13.

The branch is the fourth library in the Santa Cruz Public Libraries system to complete construction from Measure S bond funds approved by voters in 2016. Significant funds from the City of Capitola also contributed to the project. The Branch was completely rebuilt, expanding its footprint from 4,300 to 11,700 square feet. The new library features a dedicated children's room, a dedicated teen room, study rooms, community rooms, more public computers, a fireplace, comfortable reading nooks, desks with outlets for devices and laptops, and a light and airy aesthetic with floor to ceiling windows along most of the walls.

The Capital Campaign raised more than \$750,000 for enhancements such as the fireplace, meeting rooms, upgraded furniture and more. The Friends of the Capitola Branch Library continue to raise additional funds for rooftop solar panels through sales from the Capitola Friends Bookstore. (Shmuel Thaler – Santa Cruz Sentinel)

Despite obvious impacts of crises, Santa Cruz County Supervisors hopeful about next budget (Excerpt Only)

Santa Cruz County to focus on community investments

An interactive tool designed and publicized by the County of Santa Cruz displays a breakdown of where expenditures are allocated to go if supervisors pass the 2021-2022 budget as drafted. The supervisors began discussing each category on Monday and will conclude their discussions next Tuesday, June 29. (Courtesy of the County of Santa Cruz)

By [MELISSA HARTMAN](#) | mhartman@santacruzsentinel.com |

PUBLISHED: June 22, 2021 at 4:42 p.m. | UPDATED: June 22, 2021 at 4:45 p.m.

SANTA CRUZ — Though efforts to relieve numerous crises in 2020 decreased county funds and limited expenditures for the next fiscal year by \$55 million, or 13%, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors remained optimistic about what could be done to improve services and facilities for the community with an \$881 million budget.

Mostly, the positivity comes from what short-staffed county departments did with less money in the previous fiscal year. As the supervisors participated in their second budget hearing on Tuesday, all of them marveled over projects completed during the pandemic despite so much effort and money being funneled into COVID-19 and fire recovery initiatives.

As the supervisors participated in their [second budget hearing Tuesday](#), all of the members marveled over projects completed during the pandemic despite so much effort and money being funneled into COVID-19 and fire recovery initiatives.

For example, County Administrative Officer Carlos J. Palacios pointed out in his introduction to [the proposed budget](#), county departments oversaw the construction and renovation of libraries, the establishment of LEO's Haven or the first fully accessible playground in the area and a youth-focused program to deliver mental health services.

"The past year was not one any of us would want to repeat, but we are now seeing the first signs of recovery here and throughout the U.S., and we are grateful for the commitment of County staff who have gone to extraordinary lengths to help navigate us through the COVID-19 pandemic and CZU Lightning Fires," he wrote.

So, after every presentation from staff members, the supervisors started with expressing their gratitude. Then they got to the nitty-gritty. *This article continues*

Library annex, child care additions to Live Oak center moves ahead

Project will return to planning commissioners for design review



1 - VIEW FROM PLAZA ENTRY

A rendering included in the staff report shows just one view of the proposed library annex. The annex and other suggested additions will go to the Board of Supervisors after its summer recess. (Courtesy of Noll & Tam Architects)

By [MELISSA HARTMAN](#) | mhartman@santacruzsentinel.com |

PUBLISHED: July 14, 2021 at 2:51 p.m. | UPDATED: July 14, 2021 at 2:52 p.m.

LIVE OAK — An addition to the Simpkins Swim Center off of 17th Avenue, featuring more than 2,500 square feet of space for library activities and child care, will go to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors for consideration after its summer recess.

The Santa Cruz County Planning Commission on Wednesday morning unanimously approved the library annex plans, [first proposed as a community benefit in 2017](#), with the condition that Noll & Tam Architects and county project planners return to the commission before the construction of the second phase of the building. This condition came from concerns from a few members of the public and most of the commissioners present that the design for the childcare center at the rear of the building may have a negative impact on the adjacent riparian corridor.

“This is more than adding a building to the project. It includes increased intrusion into the riparian buffer zone,” said county resident Michael Lewis, referring to the area of vegetation that serves as a habitat for fish and wildlife. “I’m really concerned that this part of phase two be addressed now and not be a ministerial decision — a decision taken without public input.”

Noll & Tam Architects representative Leah Marthinsen reassured attendees that planners were looking to be as mindful of the whole area as possible, including only using just enough lighting features to keep the area safe. County Parks Director Jeff Gaffney said his team has been involved in the project design and has sought to protect, not invade, the riparian region specifically.

“We want to embrace it,” he said, later referencing recent fires and homeless occupation in the corridor that had likely caused some damage. “It is not necessarily outlined exactly what we are going to do, but we want to improve the riparian corridor and protect it and do a better job of that.” Hearing Gaffney’s comment, Third District alternate Denise Holbert said she didn’t think construction should go ahead on the second phase without a strong sense of public transparency. “I’m concerned that when we talk about it, they say, ‘We don’t know what we are going to do,’” Holbert said of planners. “The fact that it’s theoretical at this stage concerns me.”

Benefits of the addition

The library annex space would be able to supplement the nearby Live Oak library branch, limited in parking especially by its proximity to East Cliff Drive and a protected marsh. Library Regional Manager Heather Norquist explained that the annex could allow for more child-oriented, creative and sometimes loud activities that would otherwise not fit in at the library branch.

“We have some very popular programs that are very well-attended but so many people come that there’s nowhere for them to park,” Norquist said. “This annex would allow us the opportunity to invite huge numbers. For example, our ‘Toddler Time’ gets up to 70 people attending and that’s a noisy program with a lot of movement and action. It’d be great to offer that at the annex.”

It could also ease transportation for kids and teens that utilize the Boys & Girls Club or attend Shoreline Middle School, as those are both within the area of Simpkins Swim Center, Norquist added. There, they could utilize small conference, group study and tutoring rooms currently planned for the annex, Project Manager Damon Adlao said. The plaza outside is being redesigned to accommodate their programs, too.

“(It would) develop a sense of place for Live Oak, we thought this was an ideal space for that,” Adlao said.

Planner Randall Adams said that the proposed addition and partial remodel of the existing facility would match the architectural style of the swim center building as well as the Boys and Girls Club and the middle school. Marthinsen concurred. The style is just one of many elements built upon feedback from [four community meetings conducted in 2018 and 2019](#).

“I know I shouldn’t say this, but it will be beautiful,” she said.

If the supervisors vote to approve the project, funding from the Measure S library facilities bond passed by voters in 2016 will be used to raise the annex and its related additions.

Santa Cruz Sentinel Editorials

Stephen Kessler | Public health, architecture and parks

June 26, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

By Stephen Kessler

Try this thought experiment. Imagine you are a public official — a public servant, a city planner or council member — and the value you hold in highest regard, along with fiscal diligence and environmental stewardship, is public health. You work and live in a small city growing steadily more urban because it is well situated, the climate is good and it has been discovered as a desirable place to live. In a rapidly developing downtown, where five-, six- and seven-story buildings are springing up like new growth after a wildfire, there’s a city parking lot that takes up half a block and has a cluster of large trees in the middle. Two proposals have been presented to redevelop the site: a five-story concrete parking structure with some other uses mixed in, or a public park where people would be able to take a break in some open space amid the increasingly vertical, building-crowded cityscape.

Suppose someone said your city could save some money by putting the public library in a corner of the garage and could help meet the growing need for “affordable housing” by slapping some cheap apartments on the façade to conceal the parking. Would the library have the cultural and architectural dignity such an essential institution demands? Would the apartments be more than window-dressing?

What if the garage-library idea was still so unpopular that its promoters found a way to double the amount of housing — low-income housing, no less. Who could object to that? At the expense of how many parking spaces it is unclear. Maybe they’ll add a couple more stories to the building.

Maybe they'll mix in some other uses. Whatever other uses are mixed into the structure, it will dominate its surroundings like a gigantic monolith.

In your small but more-urbane-than-ever city, such a large building should be architecturally distinctive, a work of urban art that would compensate in beauty, in sculptural elegance, for its disproportionate size. It should be a tourist attraction. But can the city afford to hire an architect with that kind of vision and artistry? And would any such architect want to invest their imagination in a building that hides a library under layers of housing and parking?

But there are other city lots on which housing can be built, so these uses could be unmixed and a housing project erected elsewhere.

The park or plaza proposal is less complicated, less fraught with contradictions and millions of dollars less costly to realize. The stand of mature trees — a green carbon collector and shady oasis — would be the park's centerpiece. The asphalt of the surrounding parking lot would be torn up and replaced by a tastefully landscaped public square with paths and benches, a children's playground, a performance space where seating could be set up or a lawn spread out, and market space as well, where artisans and farmers can sell their goods and engage directly in social and commercial intercourse with their customers.

In terms of public health, which is healthier — landscaped usable open space or a block-long, 60-foot-high rectangular mass? Which is better for people's mental health — a massive multistory structure or a pedestrian-friendly town commons? Which is more climate friendly — the cutting of 11 mature trees to make way for construction, or the planting of more trees? Does the energy efficiency and "greenness" of the building compensate for the destruction of the trees? Is the open space at the center of downtown as appropriate a setting for such a building as the rapidly developing corridor just two blocks east?

Perhaps the promoters of the giant mixed-use housing-garage have persuaded you that it's the only place your public library can go. But wait, there's already a public library a few blocks away. With \$30 or \$40 million — in public funds and private donations (about the same amount it will take to build it in the housing-garage) — it could be renovated where it is with the dignity and respect it deserves.

Stephen Kessler's column appears on Saturdays.

Guest Commentary | How Brown stood up to other councilmembers to prevent regressive sales tax

July 1, 2021 at 5:00 a.m.

By Chris Krohn

That was an ugly Santa Cruz City Council meeting last week. An emergency vote was called for by a revenue subcommittee's recommendation. The issue of putting before voters a half-cent increase in the current 9.25% sales tax rate turned into an hours-long bully-fest as Councilmember Sandy Brown, the lone holdout, became the object of so much council angst and derision. The Santa Cruz mayor even mentioned she had been working on her for hours, but Brown stood tall, which is difficult to do when trapped inside a Zoom box. Unless the council approved a bonus for frontline city workers and immediately brought the lowest paid up to the city's approved living wage, Councilmember Brown would be voting no.

You could cut the Zoom-room with a knife; the tension was leaking out from my computer screen. When Brown was attacked for not trusting other councilmembers, she took a deep breath and calmly explained, "There is a systemic lack of interest on this council in supporting our lowest wage workers," which there is. It was not personal, it was about the failed direction of the city coming out of the pandemic. City workers seemed to be an afterthought because on the same council agenda there was a \$500,000 contract for consultants to work on redrawing the lines of downtown and extending it to other neighborhoods, so that bigger development projects could be permitted.

The vote to raise the sales tax had to be unanimous because it was an emergency measure and state law dictates that the entire City Council has to vote affirmatively to place it on the ballot. If passed, it would potentially raise around \$6 million. And so it was, one of only two members of the council who hold Ph.Ds., Dr. Sandra Brown, tried a compromise, but other members of the council were not in a compromising mood.

This “tyranny of the majority,” as Alexis de Tocqueville might’ve called it, certainly looked heavy-handed to those watching on Community TV, but Sandy Brown did not knuckle under. The tyranny of the majority only reflects the ham-fisted, steam-roller approach councilmembers maintain when locals appear before them on Zoom. This council majority seeks to appease all manner of out-of-town Realtors and market-rate housing developers, but not the city’s working-class voters. One councilmember even invoked “calling the question” in order to cut off debate and hurry the vote, seemingly wanting to see Brown squirm and succumb to hours-long haranguing, but Brown held firm. It was the only thing she could do to ensure workers of having a voice at the table.

Perhaps Councilmember Brown was mindful of a pandemic crisis full of bureaucratic incompetence and fellow councilmember overreach.

Brown’s message is simple. She represents constituents who want affordable, not luxury, housing; a downtown central park and permanent home for the Farmers Market; a remodeled library as the cornerstone of a downtown municipal plaza; and most importantly, fair and livable wages for those trying desperately to live here.

Brown also makes the point that a sales tax increase is regressive. Why not, instead, put before voters a hotel tax increase that affects tourists with disposable income, or an “empty homes tax” which asks those with second and third homes to pay if they leave their places vacant, or a real estate transfer tax so the city can cash in, along with the homeowner, on our ridiculous sky-high home prices?

Perhaps Brown’s no vote was a vote of no confidence too. This city is hemorrhaging staff and may soon be on administrative life support: the fire chief, City Manager, library, water, and finance directors are all bailing.

Instead of passing this tax, it should be a time to do some sober reflection and in-depth analysis of where the city finds itself post-pandemic, and where we are headed, instead of passing a regressive sales tax increase.

Chris Krohn is a former member of the Santa Cruz City Council.

Guest Commentary | Santa Cruz County acting deceptively on Live Oak Library ‘Annex’

July 15, 2021 at 6:11 a.m. By Judi Grunstra

When is a library not a library?

When it masquerades as one in order to use \$6 million meant to upgrade, renew and repair 10 libraries in our countywide library system. Measure S funds will be now be used to build an addition to the Simpkins Swim Center, a Santa Cruz County Parks property, calling it an “annex” while in fact creating an 11th branch that will have to be maintained in perpetuity.

The Live Oak Library Annex within the walls of the Simpkins Center will have no bookshelves and no books. It will have computers only and no other reading materials, audiobooks, or DVDs to check out. Library staff will be present only when there are scheduled programs. At other times, we are assured that county employees will staff the facility. Yet it is traditionally librarians who are trained to assist patrons with questions as well as monitor social behavior.

There is certainly nothing wrong with the county wanting to renovate and spruce up the Simpkins Center Community Room or even build a child care center within its walls. But this should come solely from the County Parks budget, not Measure S funds.

The County Planning Commission was asked to approve this project at their meeting Wednesday. The staff report notes that the lobby and interior will be remodeled, and there will be a new entrance to the Simpkins Swim Center, driveway modifications and landscape improvements.

Measure S funds will be for the 1691-square-foot addition and its furnishings. To be fair, it is County Parks budget funds, not Measure S funds, that will be used to do most, but not all, of the interior remodeling of the existing Simpkins Swim Center. But 75% of the extensive exterior landscaping and concrete patio work is proposed to be built with Measure S funds, with only 25% of the from the County Parks budget.

Is this sleight of hand – creating a library annex – what voters envisioned when they voted for upgrades to county libraries?

The existing Live Oak branch, a mere mile away, could have used the \$6 million for roof-top solar, especially since its utility bills are quite high. A lost opportunity to design and build outdoor patio tables with shade umbrellas, suggested by residents, could have been planned and built – a prescient idea to accommodate post-COVID-19 distancing. Instead, the existing Live Oak branch is getting a pittance for an aesthetic upgrade to its children’s area. And the handrail that has been in disrepair for more than 10 years may continue to advertise poor decisions on how to use Measure S funds to do what voters expected to be done – that is, fix what we already have instead of building additional infrastructure that will likely also go wanting for proper maintenance in the future.

This is what happens when there is no Citizen Oversight Committee for bond measures.

The Santa Cruz Library website repeatedly refers to a library system consisting of 10 branches. If this annex is not a branch, it should not be receiving Measure S money. There was nothing in the Measure S ballot language referring to the addition of an annex. As with the downtown library/garage bait and switch, the current Live Oak Annex scheme was hatched in 2016 without voters countywide knowing about it.

In our opinion, the Board of Supervisors should not have approved the project. Certainly the Library Joint Powers Authority should have more carefully evaluated this deceptive, albeit well-intentioned, project in light of present and future needs of the 10 existing branches.

As of Wednesday, the Planning Commission gave the go-ahead to proceed with this dubious project. We remain in opposition, for reasons explained. Measure S funds have been wisely spent on other branches. We wish the same could have occurred with the Live Oak branch.

Judi Grunstra is a librarian and a Santa Cruz resident. Jean Brocklebank, a Live Oak resident, co-authored this commentary.

Stephen Kessler | Green buildings, water hookups and magical thinking

July 17, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

With at least a half dozen big-footprint five- to seven-story downtown developments approved by the Santa Cruz City Council in various stages of planning and construction, it’s a good time to take a hard look at the environmental impacts of such buildings and their implications for public health. One of the biggest projects is a luxury hotel, a couple are supposed to be affordable housing, and the rest market-rate (read: unaffordable) housing, typically mixed with other uses such as restaurants, retail shops and, in one famous case, a public library and parking garage, also known as the Taj Garage.

This is the reality we’re facing in the next few years: a densely urbanized semi-highrised little cityscape whose boundaries are creeping gradually outward as well as upward. As with any reality, a realistic understanding must take context into account, and the present context in which we’re all living, like it or not, is one of an altered climate of predictably extreme weather including current conditions of extreme drought. The governor has asked us to conserve water, but progressive-minded Santa Cruzans have been so conscientious in conserving water in recent years that our water managers have told us that, for now — this year at least — our taps will not run dry.

Responsible locals can pat themselves on the back for taking shorter showers, running their dishwashers only when full, installing low-flow toilets, ripping out lawns and planting yards of drought-tolerant native plants and succulents. It is thanks to these measures that we’re not in

worse shape as we scan the skies for relief. Some may draw on Indigenous traditions to invoke the gods' mercy and call for downpours on the increasingly parched earth. Others may simply pray for rain. Whatever our preferred mode of magical thinking — including the city's feel-good slogans of “health in all policies” and “bold climate action” — we must figure out ways to keep our main water source, the San Lorenzo River, flowing and our mountain reservoir, Loch Lomond, as full as possible. People dependent on wells must fend for themselves.

With the housing market as hot as it is and homelessness out of control, something must be done to accommodate demand, and that's why downtown growth is inevitable. The hundreds of units of housing planned in all the new buildings will supposedly address the dire need for more homes. Each of these new buildings will no doubt be as “green” as possible with every energy-saving innovation. Each new unit of housing will also require a water hookup to maintain the health, hygiene, hydration and sanitation needs of its residents. Where the water will come from to meet these needs, when we are likely to be rationing the diminished water we have, is a question to which we have heard no credible answer.

Another question worth asking is, in the frenzy of new construction, how many trees will be sacrificed to the gods of “green” building and what effect that will have on our ability to mitigate and adapt to the increased heat scientists have been documenting. Cities with lots of trees tend to be measurably cooler than cities with lots of concrete. Will the alleged greenness of all the big new concrete buildings compensate for the leafy canopies they're replacing?

We know that in the case of the Taj Garage a long-established group of large magnolias and liquidambar is destined for destruction if the “Mixed-use Downtown Library project” is brought to realization. While proponents claim that this development comports with public health and climate sensitivities, the truth of such claims has not been convincingly demonstrated. Opponents have argued more persuasively that a public plaza or town commons on that city-owned property, with more trees planted to absorb more carbon and cast more shade, would be cooler, and healthier, and use less water than the promised 110 new residences. This is not a matter of pro-growth or anti-growth opinion, but of a sustainable balance of human needs and existing natural resources. *Stephen Kessler's column appears on Saturdays.*

Santa Cruz Sentinel *Letters*

Letter | Give Santa Cruz chance to vote on library project

June 1, 2021 at 6:15 a.m.

I was so glad to see Stephen Kessler's column in Saturday's Sentinel. It is urgent that we focus attention on the disastrous library/parking lot project before it goes any further. We have never had an opportunity to vote on this monstrous idea that would take down trees, displace the weekly Farmers Market, and give center stage to a parking garage. We could instead have a lovely plaza in the heart of downtown, thus preserving the character of our town, its trees and weekly Farmers Market.

Who stands to benefit from the parking garage fiasco? Not the general public, but perhaps a property owner. Give us a chance to vote on this expensive, permanent structure that would negatively change the character of our downtown. Don't let this happen.

— *Myra Morris, Santa Cruz*

Letter | Santa Cruz Library/garage plan feels like a scam

June 4, 2021 at 5:00 a.m.

Thank you Stephen Kessler for continuing to keep the library /garage issue in front of us. We, who abhor the proposed combination of a huge concrete parking garage with our public library, (with the come-on of “affordable housing” as the “spoonful of sugar”) are grateful for your insistence that the matter is NOT a done deal. Thank heavens. When Andrew Carnegie set about

ensuring the citizens of even small towns a fine building to house the public library, he made sure the architects were first rate and the edifices were a pride of community. The present library is not up to speed as all agree.

We need affordable housing, yes. But why aren't present parking lots the sites for higher density usage? Could it be that Measure S funds we voted for libraries would not be at the city's disposal? It certainly feels like a scam to many of us.

— *Susan I Stuart, Santa Cruz*

Letter | Supports Brown's vote on 'regressive' sales tax

June 26, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

I wholeheartedly support Council member Sandy Brown's vote on the regressive sales tax, which, by definition weighs more heavily on people of lower income. It makes more sense to save money by paying less for the salaries of the top city employees and for consultants, especially when their findings aren't even followed, as happened with the proposed library cum parking structure boondoggle.

— *Roland Saber, Santa Cruz*

Letter | Santa Cruz tax increases have been a hoax

June 29, 2021 at 5:00 a.m.

After several voter approved tax increases to "fix the library" the people of Santa Cruz are now realizing that it was all a clever hoax.

The City snuck in a phrase into the last bond issue that is now being used to abandon the main library that voters repeatedly voted to fund and restore.

Now the City wants another sales tax increase. Are we supposed to continue to trust these scammers?

Thanks to Councilmember Sandy Brown for her efforts to expose this hoax and get the facts known and some accountability from the out-of-control City bureaucracy.

— *Fred J. Geiger, Santa Cruz*

Letter | Value what we have and don't add development

July 2, 2021 at 5:00 a.m.

Stephen Kessler's Commentary (June 26) cuts to the heart of the garage-library-housing issue: How much do we value that which sustains us? People flock to Santa Cruz because where they live lacks something innately pleasurable and peaceful. Somehow, sterile monolithic housing blocks, and pollution-belching traffic do not substitute for trees, trails, streams, blue skies, birds and beaches. Here in Santa Cruz, we have fragments of these environmental amenities struggling to survive; yet it seems that state, city and county planners, hand-in-hand with developers, continue oblivious to the health effects of their projects on people and on other living things. More and bigger is definitely not better.

— *Catherine Webb, Santa Cruz*

Letter | Had enough of Kessler's 'rants' and self-absorption

July 13, 2021 at 5:00 a.m.

You can do much better than Stephen Kessler! Can you please find other local columnists? Could anyone be more self absorbed; "...even though you were never as good looking as me..." ? Or as poor a writer; he rambles, doesn't come to a coherent point and has opinions on everything without researching; for example, his views on the proposed library.

I am only one of many who think this about his rants?

— *Susan Brown, Santa Cruz*

Letter | Live Oak library ‘annex’ a deceptive addition

July 19, 2021 at 6:30 a.m.

The Guest Commentary Thursday regarding Measure S funding is spot on – the measure specifically states 10 libraries. This sleight of hand of calling another library an “annex” is disgraceful. The supervisors who voted for this deception need a refresher course in ethics. The Live Oak library is certainly justified in obtaining its share of upgrade funds – another library close by is not warranted.

If a “computer library” is needed it should be placed downtown where it will attract a large attendance and should be part of the upgrade of the present downtown library, which would remain as a “book library.”

Stephen Kessler is absolutely correct about the garage/library boondoggle. Downtown Santa Cruz needs a “green space” – a park/plaza – and this will become more obvious with all the high-rise development that’s planned. If the city requires more parking it should look into adding two floors onto the downtown garage.

— *James Duffy, Santa Cruz*

Letter | Live Oak Library was placed in wrong spot

July 20, 2021 at 5:00 a.m.

My issue with the Live Oak Library goes back to the original decision to plunk a branch library on the oceanfront, across a busy street — virtually inaccessible to the community it supposedly serves. It should have been in the center of Live Oak as close as possible to high-density walking populations. So, now they cannot build up or out to expand? Cars from the apartment complex across the street regularly fill the few parking spaces, as well as car-picnickers enjoying the view. Foolish placement of a library should not preclude an expansion/annex that offers greater access. I’m just not sure the swimming complex serves the community any better. A storefront would make more sense. Someplace where users could walk to easily maybe even pushing a stroller?

— *Johanna Bowen, Live Oak*

Letter | Let voters decide on multi-use library project

July 22, 2021 at 7:00 a.m.

A cabal seems to be forming against the Sentinel’s independent-minded columnist Stephen Kessler. The most recent complainer, a former mayor, is “getting tired” of his columns. Instead, he should get tired of the dysfunctional city planning process that Kessler laments.

The former mayor doesn’t mention the subjects of Kessler’s columns – saving the Heritage trees on Lot 4, avoiding building a costly and unnecessary parking garage, and the “bait and switch” using Measure S bond funds to build a new library and displace the Farmers’ Market, rather than renovating the existing library as was proposed during the bond campaign.

Instead, he asks how Kessler proposes to get more affordable housing in Santa Cruz. I can think of at least one way: build affordable housing on Lot 7 behind the Del Mar Theater, keep the Farmers’ Market where it is, and renovate the Library at its Civic Center location. Let voters decide!

— *John Hall, Santa Cruz*

Letter | Yet another bad downtown project in works

July 22, 2021 at 7:00 a.m.

We often look to Santa Barbara as a model of downtown design and architectural standards. We clearly have failed, the River Street sign being the most egregious example. Then there is the

new Cooperhouse which our local and most enduring writer, Bruce Bratton, has aptly called a series of temporary buildings. And the vastly and ghastly out of scale Cinema Nine building that looms 10 stories over my small restaurant.

And still city leaders plow on with a plan to eliminate our one sorely needed event space and build another parking structure to combine with and exploit library funding. When I implored a new council member to stop the project she threw up her hands and said it was all approved...when in truth just some planning money has been approved.

There are plans to mount a referendum against the project which would likely kill it ... more time and money for no reason.

— Paul Cocking, Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz Sentinel *Calendar*

SANTA CRUZ

Tom Noddy's Bubble Magic

June 16, 1 p.m. — 2 p.m.

In his 20-plus-year career as America's Bubble Guy Tom Noddy has appeared on numerous prime time television shows, as well as night clubs and universities, and is now bringing his virtually magic to the Santa Cruz Public Library.



News By [Avery Johnson](#) Published [June 3, 2021](#) 11:17 AM

Santa Cruz libraries host 'Snapshot Stories' event to share memories, photos of Black communities



Santa Cruz Public Libraries

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. (KION) The Santa Cruz Public Libraries are hosting a photo scanning event to share memories and photos of Black communities in honor of Juneteenth.

The "Snapshot Stories" event will be held on June 19 from 1 to 4 p.m., and community members can bring historical photos from their family archives- including photos of people, neighborhoods and landmarks- to be scanned and

return with a USB flash drive containing an electric copy of the photos.

The images scanned will be added to the Santa Cruz Public Libraries' Local History Photo Collection, an online database that the libraries say is the most popular feature on the website. It currently contains more than 1,500 pictures dating back as far as the 1860s. The photos also include details about the date, location, occasion and people pictured. The libraries said the collections are used by historians and genealogists around the world.

"SCPL strives to offer inclusive collections that reflect the diversity of our community and history. The stories of historically marginalized communities are underrepresented in our digital local history collections. Adding your photos and experiences will create a more complete picture of Santa Cruz County's diverse history. This ongoing project will continue after Juneteenth through scanning appointments made with library staff and submissions of digital photos," the Santa Cruz Public Libraries wrote in a statement.

Juneteenth- an abbreviation of June 19th- marks the day that Union Army Major General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, TX in 1865 to tell slaves about their emancipation.

The City of Santa Cruz selects developers for its Downtown Mixed Used Library Project
<https://kion546.com/news/2021/06/10/the-city-of-santa-cruz-selects-developers-for-its-downtown-mixed-used-library-project/>

By [Melody Waintal](#) June 10, 2021 6:52 PM Published [June 10, 2021](#) 11:27 AM

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. (KION) Almost a year since [approving the project](#), the City of Santa Cruz chose [Eden Housing](#) and [For the Future Housing](#) FTF to be the developers for the affordable housing complex and library project.

According to their [press release](#), the project is expected to provide housing for 107 units, twice the number that was mandated by the City Council. The units are reserved for individuals and families who are considered "very low income" by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, earning 30-50% below the median income.

"We saw this as a huge opportunity site. Just the different project component we thought lent itself to a large family project with the integration of the library. We really wanted to capitalize on that," Jim Rendler, Director of Development of FTF. "We really wanted to try to give the city another option what we thought would bring potentially some additional units and also create a better open space and tenant experience while really understanding the key to this site is the library. we really want the library to shine."

In addition to housing, the proposal will include on-site services for disabled individuals and their families, as well as child care facility.

The development team is also thinking green, planning to create an all-electric low-energy building with rooftop solar panels, high-performance windows and rainwater catchment systems. The City is also in the process of selecting a master architect to design the overall look and feel of the structure with the input of the development team and the community.

Eden Housing is a housing developer that's been around since 1968 with over 10,000 units in 140 communities across California. Eden will mainly provide financial support entitlement and design of the project. FTF is a real estate development that will be handling the entitlements and design of the project. Both companies have experience with developing affordable housing.



Researchers Use Virtual Reality to Show Dangers of Sea Level Rise

Team uses virtual reality to show a Santa Cruz affected by sea level rise
LOCAL STARTUP VIRTUAL PLANET TECHNOLOGIES HAS CREATED AN IMMERSIVE VIRTUAL REALITY EXPERIENCE THAT GIVES USERS AN EYE-OPENING VIEW OF A FUTURE SANTA CRUZ. PHOTO: COURTESY OF VIRTUAL PLANET
BY [ISABELLA BACKMAN](#) POSTED ON MAY 25, 2021

Communicating the effects of climate change such as sea level rise can be a daunting task, especially when the change is gradual and the most severe impacts are still years away.

It may seem like the most effective way to convince community leaders and the public to take action is to time travel into the future and show the damages to come.

Now, researchers have worked together to provide the next best thing: using virtual reality to show the residents of coastal cities, including Santa Cruz, the fate of their home as a result of sea level rise.

The team—including researchers from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, Stanford’s Virtual Human Interaction Lab, the Lemann Center at Stanford, the Nature Conservancy, the city of Santa Cruz and Virtual Planet Technologies—explored virtual reality as a tool for communicating the challenges of sea level rise. They published their research on May 13 in the peer-reviewed journal *Water*.

“This is the first time that people can actually see and experience what the future of their communities could look like in a way that can help inform a conversation about the future,” says Juliano Calil, senior research fellow at Middlebury Institute of International Studies’ Center for the Blue Economy and lead researcher on the project.

Calil started off his career as an IT consultant. Eventually, he began to desire a more fulfilling career path that would benefit the planet. He quit his job to pursue a Ph.D. in ocean sciences at UCSC. While flying drones to study how king tides affect Santa Cruz for his research, he realized he could use the high-quality visuals from the drone to communicate sea level rise to the community.

“Through the Ph.D. program, I found the need for a different way to communicate some of the complex issues related to climate change,” he says.

His time as a Ph.D. student and passion for technology inspired him to start Virtual Planet Technologies. This climate communication startup, based in Santa Cruz, develops immersive and innovative ways to inspire people to have conversations about issues such as sea level rise. It also led to the creation of the [Sea Level Rise Explorer Framework](#), a virtual reality experience of various coastal cities around the U.S., including Long Beach and Santa Cruz.

For the Santa Cruz project, Calil teamed up with Tiffany Wise-West. She is the program manager for the [Resilient Coast Santa Cruz initiative](#), which focuses on ways to adapt the Santa Cruz coastline to address the impacts of climate change. In addition to its coastal management efforts, the initiative involves robust community engagement—and using virtual reality proved to be a powerful communication tool.

“It’s an immersive and tangible way to make concepts like climate change real for people,” Wise-West says.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF VIRTUAL PLANET

The Santa Cruz team organized more than 50 events that led to some 1,500 conversations with city residents and stakeholders. Through virtual reality headsets, participants became immersed in a hyper-realistic future Santa Cruz that has been affected by sea level rise.

The visuals were created using 360° aerial images of beaches and West Cliff Drive, layered with the projected shoreline changes for these areas. In addition to viewing the city's potential future, participants learned about the problems sea level rise creates and potential solutions for addressing them. After the experience, they were asked to complete a brief exit survey to help researchers better understand the participants' awareness of sea level rise and their preferences for various coastal management solutions.

"There was a huge difference between how people were talking about [sea level rise] and how engaged they were after seeing things in virtual reality," says Calil.

The team also set up a virtual reality exhibit at the downtown branch of the Santa Cruz Public Library in November 2019. The exhibit reached about 250 people before the library closed three months later due to [Covid-19](#).

According to librarian Bjorn Jones, the most exciting part for library staff was seeing the reaction participants had when they returned to the front desk and shared their experience.

“People were excited about trying the new technology and were quite surprised at the information they were receiving through the program,” he says.

Jones agrees that the exhibit had a powerful impact, and the data supports this. The first question on the exit survey, for example, asked participants to rate how their awareness of sea level rise has changed as a result of the experience, with four being the most significant change. Out of more than 160 exit surveys, the average change was 3.1.

Although the pandemic put a temporary halt on in-person outreach events, the team developed mobile phone and web-based applications to continue bringing the virtual reality experience to people.

Santa Cruz is already experiencing substantial damages from sea level rise. Parts of the scenic West Cliff drive, for instance, are rapidly eroding into the Pacific, and strong El Niño years can leave coastal roads under water for weeks.

If left unchecked, scientists predict that the effects of sea level rise on Santa Cruz will be extensive and costly—the city will need to replace its [coastal armoring](#) by 2060, for example, to hold back the sea and protect its \$1 billion of at-risk property and infrastructure. Statewide, sea level rise and erosion could swallow [67% of California's beaches](#).

Katherine O’Dea, executive director for the nonprofit Save Our Shores, says that taking action to adapt the shoreline and make it more resilient is essential for conserving California’s coast. Using virtual reality, she adds, is an effective way to promote this message.

“If you watch the experience and see what’s happening, particularly around Main Beach, it’s alarming,” says O’Dea. “It’s hard for people not to become aware, seeing it visually.”

Experience the Sea Level Rise Explorer and see how sea level rise will affect Santa Cruz at [virtualplanet.tech/santa-cruz](#).

Things To Do in Santa Cruz: May 26-June 1

COMMUNITY

TEACHERS OF NATURE MEET DELRITA THE ELEPHANT/CONOCE A DELRITA EL ELEFANTE Calling all elephant lovers! In this amazing and interactive class, students will learn all about the endangered Asian elephant, and meet one of the Endangered Ark Foundation’s favorite residents, Delrita! Delrita will show you her trunk and all the incredible things she can do with it. Drink, pick things up, and even paint! She will also show you her teeth, her feet and a close-up of her skin! How many teeth does an elephant have? How many toes? Is the skin soft or tough? Join us to find out, and ask all your questions! This event will be bilingual, presented in English with a Spanish language interpreter. ¡Atención amantes de elefantes! En esta clase increíble e interactiva, los estudiantes aprenderán sobre el elefante asiático y conocerán a uno de los residentes más populares de Endangered Ark Foundation, Delrita. ¡Delrita les mostrará su tromba y todas las cosas increíbles que puede hacer con ella, como beber, recoger cosas, e incluso pintar! También nos mostrará sus dientes, pies, y su piel. ¿Cuántos dientes tiene un elefante? ¿Cuántos dedos? ¿La piel es suave o áspera? ¡Acompáñanos para averiguarlo y haz todas tus preguntas! Wednesday, May 26, 11am-noon. Santa Cruz Public Libraries, 117 Union St., Santa Cruz.

Things To Do in Santa Cruz: June 9-15

COMMUNITY

CAPITOLA BRANCH LIBRARY GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION You’re invited to the grand opening celebration of the Capitola Branch Library! The festivities will begin virtually with an online

ceremony from 10am-12pm. After the virtual ceremony, tours of the branch in small groups will be available to the community by appointment between 1-5pm. To attend the virtual ceremony, register to receive the Zoom information. Tour appointments are available at 10-minute intervals through an online signup sheet located at bit.ly/tourcapitola. For those without internet access, please call 831-427-7713 and library staff will schedule your appointment. These tours will offer a short visit, no library services or book checkout will be available on the day of the Grand Opening. Tours will continue for two weeks after the branch opens for active browsing service beginning on Tuesday, June 15. Saturday, June 12, 10am-5pm.

GRAB AND GO STEAM: MAKE YOUR OWN MINI FLASHLIGHT We provide the materials and directions – you pick them up and make them at home! Light up the dark with this simple flashlight while illuminating the very basics of electric circuits. Also a great introduction to measurement. These kits are suggested for children over age eight. Choking hazard: this kit contains small pieces and is not suitable for young children without adult supervision. Adult assistance may be required for some children. Registration for a kit is required. To request a kit, visit <https://santacruzpl.libcal.com/event/7763567>. First come first served. Registration will close when all kits are claimed. Kits will be ready to pick up at a requested branch on June 9. Santa Cruz Public Libraries, 117 Union St., Santa Cruz.

OUTDOOR

NORCAL BATS NorCalBats is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and release of bats throughout Northern California. Live bats will be presented along with a slide show geared to dispel myths and prejudices against bats that can lead to the destruction of their roosts and colonies. Saturday, June 12, 1-2pm. Santa Cruz Public Libraries, 117 Union St., Santa Cruz.

Letter to the Editor: How Green is that Concrete?

POSTED ON JULY 7, 2021

As Santa Cruz is rapidly being transformed into a sea of tall concrete buildings here, there and everywhere, one wonders how this rush to build-build-build coincides with the city's Climate Action Plan, or Health in All Policies. The filling in of the entirety of Lot 4, where the Farmers' Market is held, will likely be seen one day as an irreversible mistake by our city planners. We who live here now, and future generations, will have missed the chance to create a community space that can welcome all, reflecting "Santa Cruz values" so much more than a fifth downtown parking garage that requires the cutting down of heritage trees. Participants in the recent "re-envisioning" for the current library site placed a high value on open space downtown. For all the ideas they suggested, Lot 4 is the preferred location for a town commons, qualities described by the consultant from Projects for Public Spaces.

While hundreds of other communities, large and small, are favoring fewer cars in their downtowns and more open space, Santa Cruz is moving in the opposite direction.

City voters may soon have an opportunity to vote on which scenario will come to pass. Until then, you can still try to make your voices heard. Visit Downtown Commons Advocates' website at downtowncommonsadvocates.weebly.com.

Judi

Grunstra

Santa Cruz

GOOD IDEA POSTED ON JULY 14, 2021

BOOK RETURN

There's been a bit of confusion about the changes throughout the county's library branches this month. So here's the deal: the Aptos, Boulder Creek, Branciforte, and Garfield Park branches

remain closed for construction. The correct extended hours at open branches—Downtown Santa Cruz, Capitola, Felton, La Selva Beach, Live Oak and Scotts Valley—can be found at santacruzpl.org/branches. The Scotts Valley branch will close on July 31st for remodeling, which is expected to be completed in the Spring of 2022. The Live Oak Branch will also close for remodeling later this year.

SANTA CRUZ LOCAL
sound local news

**New branch library to open for browsing June 15, ceremony June 12
9 a.m. Tuesday May 25 / [Online](#) or by phone**



The Capitola Branch Library at 2005 Wharf Road is set to open for browsing June 15. (Santa Cruz Public Libraries)

The new Capitola Branch Library at 2005 Wharf Road is expected to open to patrons on June 15 with an opening ceremony and quick tours of the building June 12.

Paid for by voter-approved [Measure S in 2016](#), the branch expanded from 4,300 square feet to 11,700 square feet, library officials said. The new building has study rooms, community rooms, a teen room, fireplace, many public computers and study desks.

The branch library is the fourth of 10 libraries expected to be renovated with Measure S money.

An online ceremony will take place from 10 a.m. to noon June 12. In-person tours of the library are available by appointment 1-5 p.m. that day, but no library services or book checkout will be available. Tours also will be available June 15-30.

Register online for the [ceremony](#) and [tours](#), or call 831-427-7713 to schedule a tour.

Hours through July 10:

- Tuesday and Thursday 1-6 p.m.
- Wednesday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Friday and Saturday 12-5 p.m.

Hours after July 10

- Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Friday through Sunday 12-5 p.m.

EXCERPT ONLY from article Budget Approval By Kara Meyberg Guzman |June 9, 2021

<https://santacruzlocal.org/2021/06/09/homeless-camp-limits-approved-in-santa-cruz/>

During public comment Tuesday, resident Judi Grunstra urged the council not to cut Civic Auditorium staff.

“Only a few years ago, the city was celebrating the Civic’s 75th anniversary and inviting people to share their memories. Many many people have great memories of events they’ve attended there. We’ve seen what happened when the 50-year-old library was neglected. So let’s not throw the Civic under the bus.”

Santa Cruz sales tax hike stalls

By Kara Meyberg Guzman|June 23, 2021

SANTA CRUZ >> A Santa Cruz City Council committee’s proposal for a city sales tax increase failed to advance Tuesday. The proposal will die unless the council can approve it in a special meeting before an Aug. 6 deadline.

In an eleven-hour meeting Tuesday, the council also advanced a regional bike share program, heard updates on the downtown library site’s future, agreed to revisit services and limits for overnight RV parking, and approved a contractor to oversee a study of downtown expansion.



[CAPITOLA/SOQUEL](#)
CAPITOLA LIBRARY ONLINE PREVIEW
written by [See Below](#) June 7, 2021





Mark your calendar for June 12: That's the day the beautiful new Capitola branch library will open — virtually.

The Gallery with artwork from the Capitola BookCafe before it is framed and put up on the walls.

• Photo Credit: Gayle Ortiz

The \$13 million project with 11,700 square foot of space is nearly ready for patrons of all ages, young and young-at-heart.

The virtual grand opening will be 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, June 12.

The Capitola Branch Library is part of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries, which is hosting the festivities, which feature a video tour, a ribbon cutting, and speakers, including:

- Capitola Mayor Yvette Brooks
- Capitola City Manager Jamie Goldstein
- Project Manager David Tanza
- Noll and Tam Architects
- Carl Barrett, president, Otto Construction
- Library Director Susan Nemitz
- Gayle Ortiz, co-chair of capital campaign

To attend the virtual ceremony, register at: bit.ly/CapitolaGrandOpening

Main Reading Room. • Photo Credit: Gayle Ortiz



Afterward, tours of the library at 2005 Wharf Road will be available to small groups by appointment between 1 and 5 p.m. at 10-minute intervals. The online signup sheet is at bit.ly/TourCapitola. For those without internet access, call 831-427-7713 and library staff will schedule your appointment. These tours will offer a short visit, so no library services will be available that day.

Tours will continue for two weeks after the branch opens for Active Browsing service on Tuesday, June 15

The Capitola Branch is the fourth library in the system to complete construction from the 2016 Measure S funds.

The City of Capitola contributed significant funds to the project, which expanded the library footprint from 4,300 to 11,700 square feet.

This modern new library features: a dedicated children's room, a dedicated teen room, study rooms, community rooms, more public computers, a fireplace, comfortable reading nooks, desks with outlets for devices and laptops, and a plenty of natural light with floor-to-ceiling windows along most of the walls.



Photo Courtesy of Santa Cruz Public Libraries

The capital campaign, led by former mayor Gayle Ortiz, raised more than \$750,000 for enhancements such as the fireplace, meeting rooms, upgraded furniture, and more. The Friends of the Capitola Branch Library are raising additional money for rooftop solar panels through sales at the Capitola Friends Bookstore in the Capitola Mall.

The Capitola Library began in the 1930s, located in the Post Office. The library changed location a few times, then

moved in 1953 to 411 Capitola Ave. The building was expanded in 1963. The branch closed in 1985 due to budget cuts, and did not open again until 1999 when a temporary portable building was installed on Wharf Road.

This location, across from the Rispin Mansion, was so popular it was clear a larger facility was needed. Portable buildings do not last forever and eventually must be replaced.

In 2016 voters approved Measure S sales tax to renovate all 10 library branches, and groundbreaking for Capitola's new modern library began Nov. 9, 2018.

A virtual tour is on Youtube: youtu.be/5Jx-gCBo-9E

•••

Summer hours at the Capitola Branch until July 10 will be:

- Tuesday & Thursday: 1- 6 p.m.
- Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Friday & Saturday: Noon – 5 p.m.

After July 10, summer hours will be:

- Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Friday through Sunday: Noon – 5 p.m.

Hours for the Friends bookstore are:

- Mondays: 1-4 p.m.
- Wednesdays: Noon-6 p.m.
- Fridays: 12:30-4 p.m.
- Saturdays: 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Sundays: 1-4 p.m.

For information see capitolalibraryfriends.org/

...

Gayle Ortiz, former Capitola mayor, snapped her photos when she got a tour and shared them with our readers.

LIBRARY, ZONING, WHARF & SUMMER CAMPS

written by [See Below](#) June 10, 2021

EXCERPT ONLY <https://tpgonlinedaily.com/library-zoning-wharf-summer-camps/>

Capitola Library Ribbon Cutting June 12

After nearly a generation of planning, our new library is getting set to open. Thank you to all of the volunteers, Santa Cruz Public Library, City of Capitola and generous donors who made all of this happen.

Please join us June 12 for our virtual grand opening from 10-12, or in person tours that same afternoon (subject to reservation). For more information, or to register for a tour on June 12, please do so online.

SUMMER BRINGING LOTS OF CHANGES

written by [See Below](#) July 9, 2021 (excerpt only)



Capitola Library Complete

I am happy to announce the Capitola Public Library is now open. The virtual grand opening was so much fun with over 300 attendees registered!

I again would like to thank all of the work done by City staff, staff of the Santa Cruz Public Library, Capitola City Council members and donors. We could not have done this without all of you.

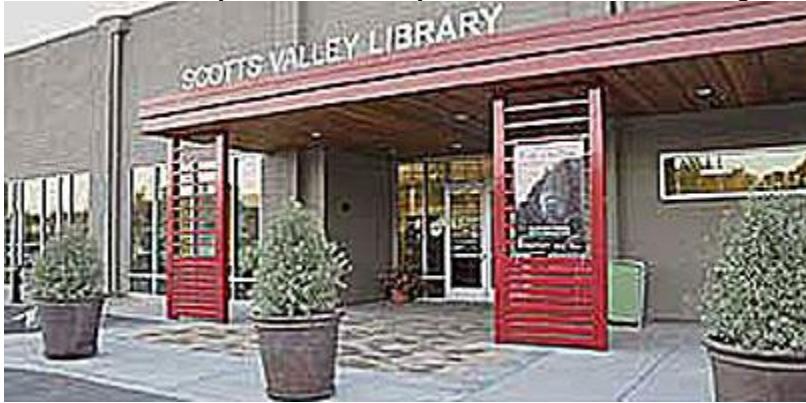
To learn more about visiting the library, visit the Santa Cruz Public Library's website www.santacruzpl.org/.

SANTA CRUZ PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

written by [See Below](#) July 9, 2021

Scotts Valley Library Closing For Remodeling

The Scotts Valley Branch Library will close for remodeling on July 31.



Beginning on July 23, you will no longer be able to put materials on hold at the branch; all holds remaining at Scotts Valley will be sent to Felton, where hours are:

- Monday – Thursday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Saturday & Sunday: 1-5 p.m.

You may change the hold

location of your outstanding requests through your account online at santacruzpl.org.

Remodeling is expected to conclude in spring 2022

So When is the Capitola Library Open?



Capitola residents have a beautiful new library, but it's not open every day and some days, it doesn't open until 1 p.m., in which case the book drop-off has to suffice.

Hours for right now are:

- Tuesday and Thursday: 1-6 p.m.
- Wednesday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Friday and Saturday: Noon to 5 p.m.

The plan is to expand operating hours beginning July 11, when the library will be open Monday through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CAPITOLA SOQUEL TIMES: JULY 2021

So When is the Capitola Library Open?

Capitola residents have a beautiful new library, but it's not open every day and some days, it doesn't open

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Tuesday and Thursday: 1-6 p.m.

Wednesday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday and Saturday: Noon to 5 p.m.

The plan is to expand operating hours beginning July 11, when the library will be open Monday through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. ■

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Photo Credit:
Jondi Gumz



SCOTTS VALLEY TIMES: JULY 2021

SV Library Closing For Remodel

The Scotts Valley Branch Library will close for remodeling on July 31.

Beginning on July 23, you will no longer be able to put materials on hold at the branch; all holds remaining at Scotts Valley will be sent to Felton, where hours are:

Monday – Thursday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday: 1-5 p.m.

You may change the hold location of your outstanding requests through your account online at santacruzpl.org.

Remodeling is expected to conclude in spring 2022.



Growing up in Santa Cruz July 2021

The New Capitola Library

Bringing the Outside In
BY SUJO WESSLING



The years of fundraising, wrangling over details, and suffering through closure and construction have paid off: the Capitola Library is open and it's beautiful!

Melrose Rarash, Branch Manager, showed me around before opening day and I was astounded by the thought put into the project, which was designed by architects Nell & Tera. There were several important elements that they wanted to integrate:

- The old library was comprised of several portables joined together, and thus didn't have a single large meeting space.
- Located in a seaside town, they wanted a non-childish nautical theme and connection to nature.
- The library is used by so many different members of the community and its space had to reflect their needs.

The result is a building built with you in mind, no matter who you are! The children's section is large and beautifully fun, offering leaf-shaped seating set into the walls, child-height tables, computer desks, and book racks, and a direct connection with the outdoor play area.

For popular events, the community meeting room's walls can be opened so that the space flows together.

Smaller study rooms can be open to the sky interior, or closed so that small groups or tutors can work undisturbed.

And perhaps the crowning achievement here is the new Teen Room.

"Before we had an aisle with books [for teens]," Melrose Rarash explains. "We're hoping, 'If you build it, they'll come.' We have teen materials, cool spaces for them to sit and plug in, a whiteboard for them to do work."

Like the meeting rooms, the teen room is connected with the library's interior, but can be closed off to contain noise.

Standing in the interior near the fireplace, I pointed out that no matter where you are, the glass walls allow you to see the space as a contiguous whole, as well as always being connected with the trees and blue sky of the neighborhood. "It's the modern library," Rarash says. "[Library staff worked] with the architects to design it not just for the modern now but the future, because this building's going to be here for a while!"

Visit the Capitola Library at 1001 Wharf Road or online at CapitolaLibraryInc.org and SantaCruzPL.org.



The years of fundraising, wrangling over details, and suffering through closure and construction have paid off: the Capitola Library is open and it's beautiful



SANTA CRUZ PUBLIC LIBRARIES

SUMMER READING PROGRAM
PROGRAMA DE LECTURA DE VERANO
santacruzpl.org/srp
 June 1 - July 31 • 1 de junio - 31 de julio

Earn a book and raffle entries for reading this summer.
 Complete activities to collect virtual badges and earn extra raffle entries. \$10 Atlantis Fantasyworld credit upon sign-up for kids & teens!

Gana un libro y entradas a la rifa por leer este verano.
 Completa las actividades para coleccionar medallas virtuales y entradas extras a la rifa. ¡\$10 crédito de Atlantis Fantasyworld para niños y adolescentes al registrarse!

BOOK 2 ACTION

The Watsonville and Santa Cruz Public Libraries invite all teens and adults in Santa Cruz County to participate in Book 2 Action. We have selected the book *Dear America: Notes of an Undiscovered Citizen* by Jose Antonio Vargas and invite all to read the book and participate. Books will be available starting in May.

Las Bibliotecas Públicas de Watsonville y Santa Cruz invitan a todos los jóvenes y adultos del Condado de Santa Cruz a participar en el programa Book 2 Action. Hemos seleccionado el libro *Querida América: notas de un ciudadano indocumentado* escrito por José Antonio Vargas e invitamos a todos a leer el libro y participar. Los libros estarán disponibles a partir de mayo.



Jose Antonio Vargas, author of “Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen.”



‘What does it mean to be an American?’: Book To Action uses immigrant story ‘Dear America’ to spark discourse

BY [WALLACE BAINE](#) Source: Lookout Santa Cruz

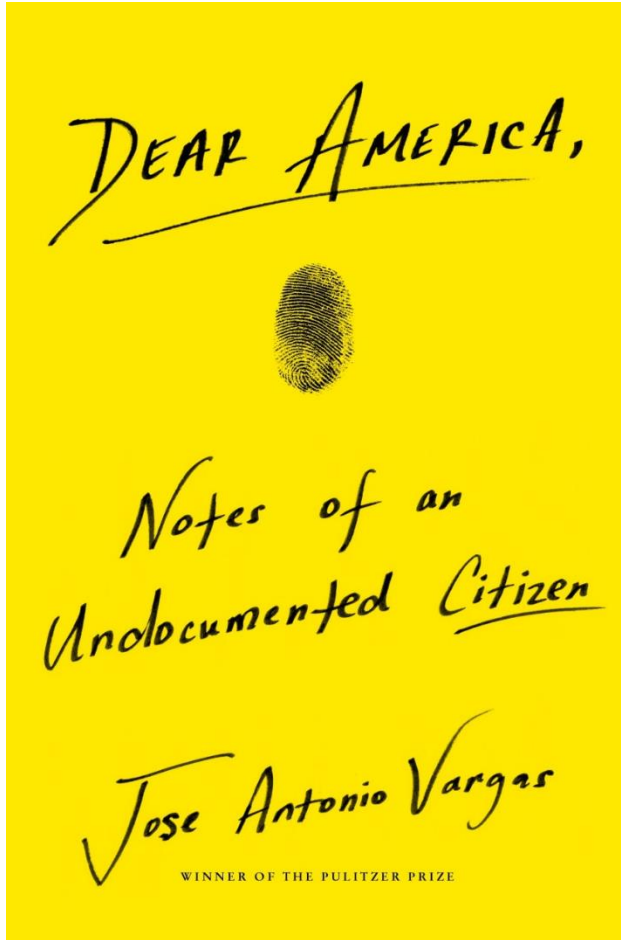
<https://lookout.co/santacruz/wallace-baine/the-here-now/story/2021-06-23/jose-antonio-vargas-dear-america-white-is-not-a-country-santa-cruz-watsonville-libraries>

The Santa Cruz Public Libraries and the Watsonville Public Library are combining forces this year to promote a deep dive into “Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen” by journalist and activist Jose Antonio Vargas.

Reading is not a passive activity. In fact, it’s often the first step toward meaningful political or social engagement.

At least that’s the principle behind Book to Action, a public-library program designed to get readers immersed in a crucial public issue through the portal of a particular book.

The Santa Cruz Public Libraries and the Watsonville Public Library are combining forces this year to promote a deep dive into “Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen” by journalist and activist Jose Antonio Vargas.



The author himself will take part in the program with a [live Zoom event](#) on Thursday at 7 p.m. (I am honored to have been chosen as the evening's moderator.)

"The aim of the program is to bring the community together through literature, to better understand ourselves, each other, and the world," said Diane Cowen, communications manager for the Santa Cruz Public Libraries.

In May, the county's public library system and the Watsonville Public Library (Watsonville is a separate entity and is not part of the county system) made available in print, digital, and audio forms "Dear America" in a campaign to get the book in front of as many local readers as possible.

On top of that, a film created by Vargas was also disseminated through an online video link. KSQD (90.7 FM) has also contributed to the program with the airing of its immigration series "[Pastures of Plenty](#)." The Community Action Board (CAB) will sponsor a webinar on issues facing local immigrants July 15.

The program culminates in Vargas's live appearance Thursday, and an [online panel discussion](#) on "Dear America" on July 17.

Santa Cruz City Council axes sales tax increase, shares few changes on

homelessness

BY [NEIL STREBIG](#) Source: Lookout Santa Cruz

One of the most contested items Tuesday night was a pending measure to increase the city's sales tax from 9.25% to 9.75%. Councilmember Sandy Brown dissented, urging the council to find ways to help provide living wages for residents who are working jobs with substandard pay. Those who hung around for public comment at Tuesday's Santa Cruz City Council meeting might be eligible for sainthood.

During the 11-hour meeting (14 for councilmembers), which felt more in line with the opportune length for an opera than a local government meeting, councilmembers got hung up on several items for hourlong stretches at a time.

One of the most contested was the pending measure that would increase the [city's sales tax from 9.25% to 9.75%](#) and bring in a projected \$6 million in additional revenue. The council's discussion clocked in near the three-hour mark before a motion and vote were ever made.



[The Great Santa Cruz Reopening: Business owners welcome new reality — even if that’s still being figured out](#)

“All of our local businesses are struggling,” Mayor Donna Meyers said regarding the sales tax measure, adding that there was some “caution” from restaurant owners who were worried about competition in nearby communities that might have a lower sales tax, but no outright opposition to the proposal.

The tax measure required a consensus to pass and did not get enough support, with Councilmember Sandy Brown dissenting. Brown argued that there was not enough information available at this time to support the proposal and urged the council to find ways to help provide living wages for residents who are working jobs with substandard pay.

“We can hold a general meeting to discuss further,” Brown said, adding that additional conversations were needed over salaries and living wages. “Right now I cannot support this.”

If passed, the sales tax measure would have gone to a public vote this November or during the pending gubernatorial recall election. In a bit of bureaucratic irony, the council decided to discuss alternatives to the sales tax measure and initiatives to help improve wages for residents in greater detail at a later date.

The disagreement set the mood for the remainder of the night. As the [meeting continued at its marathon pace](#), the council remained caught in a no man’s land between peer compliments and everlasting counterpoints in lukewarm litigation.

“We had created an ad hoc committee to focus on this,” Councilmember Shebreh Kalantari-Johnson said. “And I’m sorry that in the short time we’ve been together there’s already distrust.”

After 9 p.m., the council was able to get to the evening agenda, highlighting a progress report on the downtown library’s adaptive reuse project and an update on the council’s [homelessness initiative, Camping Services & Standards Ordinance \(CSSO\)](#).

In a slide presentation, the council saw a few potential suggestions for the library site. The offering presented some new findings from a 515-person survey that largely supported creating a mix of affordable housing, park and open space. There was also some support for keeping the existing building and renovating it into a market or community hub.

Similarly, not much action or change has happened regarding the CSSO. The update, presented by City Planning Director Lee Butler, did address that five organizations have responded to the city's Request for Qualifications for Verified Services but did not specify which, adding only that the RFQ is rolling, so interested parties can continue inquiring.

As some of the emergency COVID-19 relief and displacement at hotels and veterans' halls comes to a close, Butler addressed a few proposed initiatives, including expanding the Paul Lee Loft Shelter in Santa Cruz, acquiring a [Project Homekey property](#) and incentives for landlords or property management companies interested in real estate partnerships to help with homelessness.

Get your summer reads on: Santa Cruz libraries expanding hours

Beginning Saturday, the downtown, Live Oak, Capitola, Scotts Valley, Felton and La Selva Beach branches will all have extended hours as county facilities continue their post-pandemic reopening.

JUL 8, 2021 | 10:32 AM

The post-pandemic reading experience is starting to feel a bit more like the olden times.

Many Santa Cruz Public Libraries will have extended hours come Saturday as public spaces continue to reopen and expand offerings following nearly a year and half of pandemic uncertainty. Here's a look at the branches adding hours:

- **Downtown:** Sunday 1-5 p.m.; Monday-Thursday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday-Saturday noon-5 p.m.
- **Live Oak:** Closed Sunday-Monday; Tuesday-Thursday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday noon-5 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- **Capitola:** Sunday 1-5 p.m.; Monday-Thursday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday-Saturday noon-5 p.m.
- **Scotts Valley:** Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 1-6 p.m.; Wednesday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Friday noon-5 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday closed.
- **Felton:** Sunday 1-5 p.m.; Monday-Thursday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday closed; Saturday 1-5 p.m.
- **La Selva Beach:** Closed Sunday-Monday; Tuesday-Thursday 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday-Saturday noon-5 p.m.

Three branches [remain closed for construction](#) — Aptos, Boulder Creek and Garfield Park — and the Scotts Valley Library is due to close for remodeling July 31.



EXCERPT ONLY for SCPL mention in article

Scotts Valley delays tourism district deal By: [DREW PENNER](#) June 8, 2021

<https://pressbanner.com/scotts-valley-delays-tourism-district-deal/>

The TMD decided to remove an exemption for nonprofit groups, hoping to cash in, for example, on the backpackers from around the world who stay at the Hostelling International location in Santa Cruz, which books around 7,000 guests a year and is run as a nonprofit, according to a Santa Cruz Public Libraries database.



KSQD
COMMUNITY RADIO

TALK OF THE BAY, TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 5 PM: POLITICAL REPORT WITH CHRIS KROHN: GARAGE READING? Posted by [Ronnie Lipschutz](#) | Jun 16, 2021 | [All Talk](#), [Business](#), [Chris Krohn](#), [Local](#), [Politics](#), [Talk of the Bay](#) | [0](#)



Don Lane of Housing Matters



Susan Nemitz, Director of the Santa Cruz Library System



John Hall, Downtown Commons Advocates

KSQD 90.7 FM Santa Cruz <https://ksqd.org/talk-of-the-bay-tuesday-june-15-5-pm-political-report-with-chris-krohn-garage-reading/>

Talk of the Bay, Tuesday, June 15, 5 PM: Political Report with Chris Krohn: Garage reading? [Download file](#) | [Play in new window](#) | Duration: 55 | Recorded on June 15, 2021

The Santa Cruz Library-garage issue has taken yet another turn. This past week the city announced they found a developer would build “up to 107 units” of affordable housing to go along with a 400-space parking garage and a library on Lot 4 where the Downtown Farmer’s Market sits. This would mean moving the library from a place it has been for 118 years to a place where many envision a central park for Santa Cruz. What would happen to the old library space? Does Santa Cruz need a 400-space garage given that the seas are rising as a result of climate change? And is Santa Cruz in the throes of a greed-driven building boom and this project is some kind of municipal collateral damage? On Talk of the Bay today, former mayor Don Lane and Library Director Susan Nemitz go head to head with Downtown Commons Advocate, John Hall as well as a member of the Campaign for Sustainable Transportation. Join your host Chris Krohn on Talk of the Bay at 5 PM.

Reviews

Yelp

Capitola received a 5 Star Review on July 21

This library may not be big but the inside is spacious. High ceilings, with a clean and contemporary design. Friendly and helpful staff. Lovely outdoor seating and children's area. I haven't had any trouble finding a spot to sit and enjoy a good book but that's not to say that there are lots of tables, I can imagine it gets busy some days. I'm grateful to have this cute little library nearby.

Google My Business

La Selva Beach received a 5 Star Rating with no review on May 27

Felton received a 5 Star Rating with no review on June 1

Felton received a 5 Star Rating with no review on June 4

Capitola received a 5 Star Rating with no review on June 4

Capitola received a 5 Star Rating with no review on June 13

Capitola received a 5 Star Review on June 23

Wonderful new building. Lots of space and good books for the kids. Little one had lots of fun...

Downtown received a 4 Star Review on June 26

Great to have the library open again Really missed it during lock down!

Capitola received a 5 Star Rating with no review on June 30

Capitola received a 5 Star Rating with no review on July 7

La Selva Beach received a 4 Star Rating with no review on July 8

Downtown received a 4 Star Rating with no review on July 13

Capitola received a 5 Star Review on July 16

Library in Capitola is beautiful. Everyone there was so helpful and they had a pretty good selection. I can see it getting better and better!

Capitola received a 4 Star Review on July 21

Cool building. Not sure of stacks.

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 5, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: 4th Qtr. Report Community Impact Measures

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Accept and File Community Impact Measures for 4th Qtr. 2020-2021

DISCUSSION

This 4th quarter report covers the time period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and compares this data to the previous year.

Due to the impact of COVID-19 protective measures, the library system closed all branches on March 15, 2020. The Library quickly assessed budget shortfalls, staffing and continuing library services. Virtual programs continued almost immediately. However, because of the virtual nature of the program's attendance was unable to be tracked. Curbside service began to be available late May first at Aptos, Downtown, and Scotts Valley. Quickly followed by Felton and Live Oak. Curbside visitors were not able to be counted.

Given these unprecedented circumstances the closures have had dramatic effects on our community impact measures.

- Total circulation system-wide increased by 32%.
- Total visitors by branch system-wide: Branches have been closed since March 15, 2020.
- Total number of new registrations increased by 60%.

- Total hours of public internet computer use system-wide: Branches have been closed since March 15, 2020.
- Total hours of wireless internet sessions: Branches have been closed since March 15, 2020.
- Total sessions of public internet use: Branches have been closed since March 15, 2020.
- Total number of public wifi sessions: Branches have been closed since March 15, 2020.
- Total hours of meeting room use system-wide: Branches have been closed since March 15, 2020.
- The total number of programs held system-wide decreased by and system-wide program attendance decreased by 78%.

Attachment:

4th Quarter Community Impact Measures

Report Prepared by: Kira Henifin, Principal Management Analyst
Christine Campbell, Library Assistant IV

Reviewed and Forwarded by: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director

CIRCULATION BY BRANCH														
	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY 20/21
Aptos	57,622	17,414	-69.8%	52,919	17,289	-67%	45,835	17,425	-62%	3,823	12,505	227%	160,199	64,633
Boulder Creek	10,589	0	-100.0%	9,387	43	-100%	5,567	0	-100%	0	0	0%	25,543	43
Branciforte	20,325	164	-99.2%	18,534	552	-97%	16,901	42	-100%	28	0	-100%	55,788	758
Capitola	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	7,967	0%	0	7,967
Downtown	59,841	19,912	-66.7%	54,533	19,584	-64%	46,755	21,611	-54%	4,970	25,530	414%	166,099	86,637
Felton	6,258	5,572	-11.0%	2,600	9,445	263%	8,807	9,148	4%	1,015	14,712	1349%	18,680	38,877
Garfield Park	14,077	57	-99.6%	13,585	39	-100%	11,698	20	-100%	3	0	-100%	39,363	116
La Selva Beach	3,803	22	-99.4%	22	1	-95%	0	106	0%	0	3,367	0%	3,825	3,496
Live Oak	46,950	12,703	-72.9%	44,236	13,476	-70%	38,089	14,185	-63%	1,778	20,231	1038%	131,053	60,595
Scotts Valley	47,723	8,561	-82.1%	46,643	5,734	-88%	40,423	9,212	-77%	3,663	16,736	357%	138,452	40,243
Outreach	9,732	1,689	-82.6%	9,796	2,874	-71%	8,969	4,451	-50%	1,613	5,007	210%	30,110	14,021
TOTAL	276,920	66,094	-76.1%	252,255	69,037	-73%	223,044	76,200	-66%	16,893	106,055	528%	769,112	317,386
Digital Branch	85,739	119,424	39.3%	85,148	117,922	38%	103,408	120,687	17%	146,523	109,842	-25%	420,818	467,875
Total incl. DB	362,659	185,518	-48.8%	337,403	186,959	-45%	326,452	196,887	-40%	163,416	215,897	32%	1,189,930	785,261

VISITORS BY BRANCH														
	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21
Aptos	38,126	0	-100.0%	33,943		-100%	29,908		-100%	0		#DIV/0!	101,977	0
Boulder Creek	8,701	0	-100.0%	5,438		-100%	851		-100%	0		#DIV/0!	14,990	0
Branciforte	22,904	0	-100.0%	22,318		-100%	19,237		-100%	0		#DIV/0!	64,459	0
Capitola	0	0	0.0%	0		0%	0		0%	0		#DIV/0!	0	0
Downtown	89,823	0	-100.0%	80,621		-100%	73,501		-100%	0		#DIV/0!	243,945	0
Felton	6,129	0	-100.0%	2,176	8,499	291%	11,695	9,353	-20%	0	10,708	#DIV/0!	20,000	28,560

Garfield Park	18,134	0	-100.0%	18,592		-100%	14,683		-100%	0		#DIV/0!	51,409	0
La Selva Beach	7,704	0	-100.0%	0		0%	0		0%	0		#DIV/0!	7,704	0
Live Oak	42,943	0	-100.0%	38,143		-100%	32,081		-100%	0		#DIV/0!	113,167	0
Scotts Valley	45,511	0	-100.0%	44,331		-100%	33,785		-100%	0		#DIV/0!	123,627	0
Outreach	6,513	0	-100.0%	6,105		-100%	5,445		-100%	0		#DIV/0!	18,063	0
TOTAL	286,488	0	-100.0%	251,667	8,499	-97%	221,186		-100%	0		#DIV/0!	759,341	8,499

NEW REGISTRATIONS														
	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21
Aptos	341	214	-37.2%	338	185	-45%	291	168	-42%	118	120	2%	1,088	687
Boulder Creek	77	15	-80.5%	70	19	-73%	55	17	-69%	12	19	58%	214	70
Branciforte	123	43	-65.0%	129	33	-74%	99	33	-67%	35	32	-9%	386	141
Capitola	35	91	160.0%	27	78	189%	14	83	493%	39	283	626%	115	535
Downtown	729	370	-49.2%	669	294	-56%	575	405	-30%	377	371	-2%	2,350	1,440
Felton	61	46	-24.6%	58	75	29%	230	78	-66%	46	103	124%	395	302
Garfield Park	71	23	-67.6%	72	22	-69%	72	28	-61%	22	15	-32%	237	88
La Selva Beach	28	0	-100.0%	4	9	125%	4	14	250%	20	41	105%	56	64
Live Oak	283	111	-60.8%	284	132	-54%	232	101	-56%	53	150	183%	852	494
Scotts Valley	293	73	-75.1%	250	88	-65%	188	107	-43%	60	144	140%	791	412
Outreach	121	48	-60.3%	320	43	-87%	95	213	124%	40	34	-15%	576	338
TOTAL	2,162	1,034	-52.2%	2,221	978	-56%	1,855	1,247	-33%	822	1,312	60%	7,060	4,571

HOURS OF PUBLIC INTERNET COMPUTER USE														
	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21
Aptos	4,354	0	-100.0%	4,095	118	-97%	3,367	0	-100%	0	511	#DIV/0!	11,816	629
Boulder Creek	880	0	-100.0%	826		-100%	536	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	2,242	0
Branciforte	1,388	0	-100.0%	1,366		-100%	1,134	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	3,888	0
Capitola	0	0	0.0%	0		0%	0	0	-100%	0	93	#DIV/0!	0	93
Downtown	18,367	0	-100.0%	16,954	80	-100%	13,057	0	-100%	0	1,204	#DIV/0!	48,378	1,284
Felton	341	0	-100.0%	108	17	-84%	195	0	-100%	0	445	#DIV/0!	644	462
Garfield Park	1,253	0	-100.0%	900		-100%	756	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	2,909	0
La Selva Beach	121	0	-100.0%	0		-100%	0	0	-100%	0	30	#DIV/0!	121	30
Live Oak	4,183	0	-100.0%	3,489		-100%	2,937	0	-100%	0	89	#DIV/0!	10,609	89
Scotts Valley	2,283	0	-100.0%	1,976	110	-94%	1,626	0	-100%	0	531	#DIV/0!	5,885	641
TOTAL SYSTEM HRS	33,170	0	-100.0%	29,714	325	-99%	23,608	0	-100%	0	2,903	#DIV/0!	86,492	3,228

HOURS OF WIRELESS INTERNET SESSIONS														
	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21
Aptos	5,994	0	-100.0%	4435	9,686	118%	4,692	10,941	133%	1667	10413	525%	16,788	31,040
Boulder Creek	1,816	0	-100.0%	1661	15	-99%	1,062	0	-100%	0	0	0%	4,539	15
Branciforte	2,154	0	-100.0%	2087	12,218	485%	2,500	11,173	347%	1218	0	-100%	7,959	23,391
Capitola	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	4985	0%	0	4,985
Downtown	9,823	0	-100.0%	7838	30,172	285%	8,102	28,789	255%	2922	29130	897%	28,685	88,091
Felton	1,233	0	-100.0%	586	10,545	1699%	1,294	9,576	640%	1386	11406	723%	4,499	31,527
Garfield Park	1,442	0	-100.0%	1300	6,496	400%	1,299	3,456	166%	801	0	-100%	4,842	9,952
Headquarters	1,008	0	-100.0%	878	4,234	382%	872	5,028	477%	392	8825	2151%	3,150	18,087
La Selva Beach	774	0	-100.0%	0	0	0%	0	254	0%	0	1716	0%	774	1,970

Live Oak	3,691	0	-100.0%	3058	7,545	147%	3,385	9,619	184%	1571	8667	452%	11,705	25,831
Scotts Valley	5,576	0	-100.0%	4692	7,600	62%	4,452	8,969	101%	1868	11408	511%	16,588	27,977
TOTAL SYSTEM HRS	33,511	0	-100.0%	26,535	88,511	234%	27,658	87,805	217%	11,825	86,550	632%	99,529	262,866

* some data was lost from September 2018, so these numbers are lower than actual.

**Data unavailable for the reporting period.

SESSIONS OF PUBLIC INTERNET USE														
	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21
Aptos	5,872	0	-100.0%	4,892	0	-100%	4,167	0	-100%	0	703	#DIV/0!	14,931	703
Boulder Creek	1,214	0	-100.0%	1,150	0	-100%	772	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	3,136	0
Branciforte	2,055	0	-100.0%	1,940	0	-100%	1,716	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	5,711	0
Capitola	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%		0	0%	0	221	#DIV/0!	0	221
Downtown	18,580	0	-100.0%	16,346	0	-100%	13,038	0	-100%	0	1403	#DIV/0!	47,964	1,403
Felton	562	0	-100.0%	195	0	-100%	402	0	-100%	0	599	#DIV/0!	1,159	599
Garfield Park	1,366	0	-100.0%	1,192	0	-100%	1,043	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	3,601	0
La Selva Beach	168	0	-100.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	58	#DIV/0!	168	58
Live Oak	5,733	0	-100.0%	4,901	0	-100%	4,203	0	-100%	0	191	#DIV/0!	14,837	191
Scotts Valley	3,809	0	-100.0%	3,391	0	-100%	2,825	0	-100%	0	735	#DIV/0!	10,025	735
TOTAL SYSTEM HRS	39,359	0	-100.0%	34,007	0	-100%	28,166	0	-100%	0	3910	#DIV/0!	101,532	3,910

NUMBER OF PUBLIC WIFI SESSIONS														
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	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21
Aptos	30,262	0	-100.0%	20,131	21,149	5%	18,447	22,999	25%	7,783	21,025	170%	76,623	65,173
Boulder Creek	6,027	0	-100.0%	4,936	8	-100%	3,258	0	-100%	0	0	0%	14,221	8
Branciforte	7,532	0	-100.0%	6,556	8,183	25%	7,109	5,549	-22%	4,536	0	-100%	25,733	13,732
Capitola	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	8,110	0%	0	8,110
Downtown	38,094	0	-100.0%	28,765	26,837	-7%	27,193	28,313	4%	10,265	33,016	222%	104,317	88,166
Felton	6,779	0	-100.0%	3,221	11,483	257%	3,744	11,916	218%	4,656	11,700	151%	18,400	35,099
Garfield Park	4,863	0	-100.0%	4,546	4,054	-11%	4,500	2,103	-53%	2,766	0	-100%	16,675	6,157
Headquarters	3,711	0	-100.0%	2,896	3,072	6%	2,726	3,734	37%	1,282	7,418	479%	10,615	14,224
La Selva Beach	2,455	0	-100.0%	0	0	0%	0	315	0%	0	1,253	0%	2,455	1,568
Live Oak	10,760	0	-100.0%	8,240	10,456	27%	8,391	11,571	38%	4,662	11,291	142%	32,053	33,318
Scotts Valley	20,627	0	-100.0%	15,131	13,664	-10%	14,548	15,488	6%	7,802	15,414	98%	58,108	44,566
TOTAL SYSTEM HRS	131,110	0	-100.0%	94,422	98,906	5%	89,916	101,988	13%	43,752	109,227	150%	359,200	310,121

* some data was lost from September 2018, so these numbers are lower than actual.

COMPUTER LAB USAGE: HOURS OF PUBLIC INTERNET COMPUTER USE (NEW TRACKING STREAM)														
	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21
Aptos	0	0	0.0%	0	118	0%	0	98	0%			#DIV/0!	0	216
Boulder Creek	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%			#DIV/0!	0	0
Branciforte	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%			#DIV/0!	0	0
Capitola	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%			#DIV/0!	0	0
Downtown	0	0	0.0%	0	80	0%	0	101	0%			#DIV/0!	0	181
Felton	0	0	0.0%	0	17	0%	0	82	0%			#DIV/0!	0	99
Garfield Park	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%			#DIV/0!	0	0
Headquarters	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%			#DIV/0!	0	0
La Selva Beach	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%			#DIV/0!	0	0

Live Oak	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%			#DIV/0!	0	0
Scotts Valley	0	0	0.0%	0	110	0%	0	79	0%			#DIV/0!	0	189
TOTAL SYSTEM HRS	0	0	0	0	325	0	0	360	0%			#DIV/0!	0	685

COMPUTER LAB USAGE: NUMBER OF SESSIONS OF PUBLIC INTERNET USE

	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21
Aptos	0	0	0.0%	0	118	0%	0	127	0%				0	245
Boulder Creek	0	0	0.0%	0	53	0%	0	0	0%				0	53
Branciforte	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%				0	0
Capitola	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%				0	0
Downtown	0	0	0.0%	0	122	0%	0	135	0%				0	257
Felton	0	0	0.0%	0	14	0%	0	104	0%				0	118
Garfield Park	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%				0	0
Headquarters	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%				0	0
La Selva Beach	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%				0	0
Live Oak	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%				0	0
Scotts Valley	0	0	0.0%	0	161	0%	0	103	0%				0	264
TOTAL SYSTEM HRS	0	0	0.0%	0	468	0	0	469	0%	0	0	0	0	937

NUMBER OF PUBLIC WIFI SESSIONS

	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21
Aptos	30,262	0	-100.0%	20,131	21,149	5%	18,447	22,999	25%	7,783	0	-100%	76,623	44,148
Boulder Creek	6,027	0	-100.0%	4,936	8	-100%	3,258	0	-100%	0	0	0%	14,221	8

Branciforte	7,532	0	-100.0%	6,556	8,183	25%	7,109	5,549	-22%	4,536	0	-100%	25,733	13,732
Capitola	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0
Downtown	38,094	0	-100.0%	28,765	26,837	-7%	27,193	28,313	4%	10,265	0	-100%	104,317	55,150
Felton	6,779	0	-100.0%	3,221	11,483	257%	3,744	11,916	218%	4,656	0	-100%	18,400	23,399
Garfield Park	4,863	0	-100.0%	4,546	4,054	-11%	4,500	2,103	-53%	2,766	0	-100%	16,675	6,157
Headquarters	3,711	0	-100.0%	2,896	3,072	6%	2,726	3,734	37%	1,282	0	-100%	10,615	6,806
La Selva Beach	2,455	0	-100.0%	0	0	0%	0	315	0%	0	0	0%	2,455	315
Live Oak	10,760	0	-100.0%	8,240	10,456	27%	8,391	11,571	38%	4,662	0	-100%	32,053	22,027
Scotts Valley	20,627	0	-100.0%	15,131	13,664	-10%	14,548	15,488	6%	7,802	0	-100%	58,108	29,152
TOTAL SYSTEM HRS	131,110	0	-100.0%	94,422	98,906	5%	89,916	101,988	13%	43,752	0	-100%	359,200	200,894

HOURS OF MEETING ROOM USE																
	FY19/20			FY20/21			FY19/20			FY20/21			FY19/20		FY20/21	
	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21		
Aptos	437	0	-100.0%	447	0	-100%	468	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	1,352	0		
Boulder Creek	150	0	-100.0%	261	0	-100%	4	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	415	0		
Downtown	532	0	-100.0%	432	0	-100%	485	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	1,449	0		
Felton	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0%	232	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	232	0		
Scotts Valley	368	0	-100.0%	475	0	-100%	359	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	1,202	0		
TOTAL HOURS	1,487	0	-100.0%	1,615	0	-100%	1,548	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	4,650	0		

NUMBER OF PROGRAMS																
	FY19/20			FY20/21			FY19/20			FY20/21			FY19/20		FY20/21	
	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21		
Aptos	84	0	-100.0%	150	0	-100%	111	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	345	0		
Boulder Creek	37	0	-100.0%	47	0	-100%	10	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	94	0		
Branciforte	49	0	-100.0%	86	0	-100%	65	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	200	0		

Capitola	6	0	-100.0%	11	0	-100%	9	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	26	0
Downtown	163	0	-100.0%	206	0	-100%	204	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	573	0
Felton	6	0	-100.0%	1	0	-100%	25	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	32	0
Garfield Park	36	0	-100.0%	42	0	-100%	33	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	111	0
La Selva Beach	54	0	-100.0%	12	0	-100%	19	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	85	0
Live Oak	76	0	-100.0%	130	0	-100%	108	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	314	0
Scotts Valley	118	0	-100.0%	125	0	-100%	81	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	324	0
Outreach	26	58	123.1%	27	29	7%	17	18	6%	72	16	-78%	142	121
TOTAL	655	58	-91.1%	837	0	-100%	682	18	-97%	72	16	-78%	2,246	92

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE														
	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21	% Change	FY19/20	FY20/21
Aptos	1,002	0	-100.0%	2,178	0	-100%	1,192	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	4,372	0
Boulder Creek	224	0	-100.0%	276	0	-100%	121	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	621	0
Branciforte	793	0	-100.0%	1,028	0	-100%	739	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	2,560	0
Capitola	137	0	-100.0%	139	0	-100%	156	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	432	0

Downtown	1,978	0	-100.0%	2,253	0	-100%	1,742	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	5,973	0
Felton	125	0	-100.0%	10	0	-100%	138	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	273	0
Garfield Park	385	0	-100.0%	503	0	-100%	323	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	1,211	0
La Selva Beach	1,005	0	-100.0%	157	0	-100%	338	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	1,500	0
Live Oak	1,828	0	-100.0%	1,597	0	-100%	1,170	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	4,595	0
Scotts Valley	2,277	0	-100.0%	2,167	0	-100%	1,618	0	-100%	0	0	#DIV/0!	6,062	0
Outreach	717	628	-12.4%	748	329	-56%	467	422	-10%	2,268	483	-79%	4,200	1,862
TOTAL	10,471	628	-94.0%	11,056	0	-100%	8,004	422	-95%	2,268	483	-79%	31,799	1,533

Capitola Opening on June 12, 2021
 La Selva Beach Closure on September 1, 2019
 Felton Closure on November 1, 2019
 Felton Opening on February 22, 2020
 Boulder Creek Closure on February 22, 2020
 System-wide Closure on March 15, 2020 due to COVID-19
 La Selva Beach Opening in March , 2021

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 5, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: 4th Quarter (Annual) Financial Report

RECOMMENDATION

None

DISCUSSION

The fourth quarter financial report covers July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021.

Due to work still in process we are postponing this 4th Quarter/year-end financial report until the October LJPB meeting. The City of Santa Cruz Finance Department is still processing budget adjustments and end of year invoices. Financial reports run at this time would not be accurate.

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 5, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: 4th Qtr. SCPL Incident Report

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Accept and File Incident Report for 4th Qtr. 2020-2021

DISCUSSION

The 4th quarter incident report articulates the number of incidents that have occurred system-wide, the categories or infractions in which the incidents occurred, and the number of suspensions issued.

Attachment: Incident Report for 4th Qtr. FY 2020-2021

Prepared by: Kira Henifin,
Principal Management Analyst

Reviewed and Forwarded by: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director

SCPL Incident Report by Branch - FY 20/21

	QTR 1			QTR 2			QTR 3			QTR 4			YTD Totals		
	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change
Aptos	21	19	-10%	18	2	-89%	8	5	-38%	8	0	-100%	55	26	-52.7%
Boulder Creek	3	0	-100%	13	0	-100%	7	0	-100%	0	0	-100%	23	0	-100.0%
Branciforte	15	16	7%	18	9	-50%	27	9	-67%	0	1	-100%	60	35	-41.7%
Capitola	N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed	
Downtown	68	5	-93%	74	6	-92%	57	5	-91%	29	14	-52%	228	30	-86.8%
Felton	Closed	0		Closed	0		Closed	1	#VALUE!	N/A	0		N/A	0	
Garfield Park	7	3	-57%	2	7	250%	8	2	-75%	6	0	-100%	23	12	-47.8%
La Selva Beach	N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed	
Live Oak	21	11	-48%	13	12	-8%	9	2	-78%	6	0	-100%	49	25	-49.0%
Scotts Valley	2	1	-50%	2	0	-100%	2	1	-50%	1	1	0%	7	3	-57.1%
TOTAL	137	65	-60%	140	36	-74%	118	25	-79%	50	16	-68%	445	132	-70.3%

Code of Conduct: 1. Interferes with a Comfortable & Welcoming Environment															
	QTR 1			QTR 2			QTR 3			QTR 4			YTD Totals		
	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change
Aptos	2	0	-100%	3	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	7	0	-100.0%
Boulder Creek	1	0	-100%	3	0	-100%	2	0	-100%	0	0	-100%	6	0	-100.0%
Branciforte	6	1	-83%	1	2	100%	3	0	-100%	0	0	-100%	10	2	-70.0%
Capitola	N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed	
Downtown	15	0	-100%	15	3	-80%	7	1	-86%	2	5	150%	39	4	-76.9%
Felton	N/A	Closed		N/A	0		NA	1		Closed	0		Closed	0	
Garfield Park	1	0	-100%	0	1		0	0		0	0		0	0	
La Selva Beach	N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed		N/A	Closed		1	1	0.0%
Live Oak	4	1	-75%	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	0	0	-100%	6	1	-83.3%
Scotts Valley	0	0		0	0		2	0	-100%	0	0	-100%	2	0	-100.0%
TOTAL	29	2	-93%	23	6	-74%	16	2	-88%	3	5	67%	71	15	-78.9%

* Branch Closures due to COVID-19, effective 3/14/20, resulted in significant reductions.

Code of Conduct: 2. Interferes with Making Information Resources & Materials Accessible for All															
	QTR 1			QTR 2			QTR 3			QTR 4			YTD Totals		
	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change
Aptos	0	0		2	0	-100%	0	0	-100%	2	0	-100%	4	0	-100.0%
Boulder Creek	2	0	-100%	4	0	-100%	3	0	-100%	0	0	-100%	9	0	-100.0%
Branciforte	4	4	0%	3	1	-67%	6	2	-67%	0	0	-100%	13	7	-46.2%
Capitola	Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed	
Downtown	11	1	-91%	25	0	-100%	18	1	-94%	7	6	-14%	61	8	-86.9%
Felton	Closed	Closed		Closed	0		Closed	0		Closed	0		Closed	0	
Garfield Park	2	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	0	0	-100%	0	0	-100%	3	0	-100.0%
La Selva Beach	Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed	
Live Oak	2	0	-100%	7	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	0	0	-100%	10	0	-100.0%
Scotts Valley	2	0	-100%	0	0		1	0	-100%	0	0	-100%	3	0	-100.0%
TOTAL	23	5	-78%	42	1	-98%	29	3	-90%	9	6	-33%	103	15	-85.4%

Code of Conduct: 3. Conduct that Does Not Ensure a Safe & Secure Environment															
	QTR 1			QTR 2			QTR 3			QTR 4			YTD Totals		
	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change
Aptos	20	18	-10%	16	1	-94%	7	2	-71%	5	0	-100%	48	21	-56.3%
Boulder Creek	2	0	-100%	7	0	-100%	7	0	-100%	0	0	-100%	16	0	-100.0%
Branciforte	15	15	0%	14	9	-36%	25	9	-64%	12	1	-92%	66	34	-48.5%
Capitola	Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed	
Downtown	64	1	-98%	62	3	-95%	42	3	-93%	28	11	-61%	196	18	-90.8%
Felton	Closed	Closed		Closed	0		Closed	1		Closed	0		Closed	0	
Garfield Park	5	3	-40%	2	7	250%	1	2	100%	5	0	-100%	13	12	-7.7%
La Selva Beach	Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed	
Live Oak	19	9	-53%	11	10	-9%	7	2	-71%	5	0	-100%	42	21	-50.0%
Scotts Valley	1	1	0%	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	4	1	-75.0%
TOTAL	126	47	-63%	113	30	-73%	90	19	-79%	56	12	-79%	385	108	-71.9%

* Branch Closures due to COVID-19, effective 3/14/20, resulted in significant reductions.

Code of Conduct: 4. Conduct that Does Not Maintain a Healthy and Clean Environment															
	QTR 1			QTR 2			QTR 3			QTR 4			YTD Totals		
	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change
Aptos	1	1	0%	4	1	-75%	1	1	0%	1	0	-100%	7	3	-57.1%
Boulder Creek	0	0		5	0	-100%	3	0	-100%	0	0		8	0	-100.0%
Branciforte	2	5	150%	0	1		4	2	-50%	0	0		6	8	33.3%
Capitola	Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed				
Downtown	3	1	-67%	12	0	-100%	1	2	100%	2	6	200%	18	9	-50.0%
Felton	Closed	Closed		Closed	0		Closed	0		Closed	0		Closed	0	
Garfield Park	4	0	-100%	0	0		7	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	12	0	-100.0%
La Selva Beach	Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed	
Live Oak	2	3	50%	1	1	0%	0	0		0	0		3	4	33.3%
Scotts Valley	0	0		1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	0	0		2	0	-100.0%
TOTAL	12	10	-17%	21	3	-87%	17	5	-71%	4	6	50%	56	24	-57.1%
Suspensions by Branch															
	QTR 1			QTR 2			QTR 3			QTR 4			YTD Totals		
	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	% Change
Aptos	2	0	-100%	2	1	-50%	0	0		0	0		4	1	-75.0%
Boulder Creek	0	0		1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	0	0		2	0	-100.0%
Branciforte	5	0	-100%	0	0		4	0	-100%	0	0		9	0	-100.0%
Capitola	Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed				
Downtown	17	1	-94%	27	2	-93%	13	1	-92%	0	6		57	10	-82.5%
Felton	0	0		Closed	0		Closed	0		0	0		1	0	-100.0%
Garfield Park	1	0	-100%	0	0		0	0		0	0		N/A	0	
La Selva Beach	Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		Closed	Closed		N/A	Closed	
Live Oak	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	1	0	-100%	0	0		3	0	-100.0%
Scotts Valley	0	0	0%	0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0	
TOTAL	26	1	-96%	31	3	-90%	19	1	-95%	0	6		76	11	-85.5%

* Branch Closures due to COVID-19, effective 3/14/20, resulted in significant reductions.

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 5, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: 4th Quarter Workplan FY 2020/2021

RECOMMENDATION

Accept and File Workplan for 4th Qtr. FY 2020/2021.

DISCUSSION

Attached, please find the fourth quarter workplan. The fourth quarter plan runs from April through the end of June and the report attempts to capture the Library's operations and high impact programs and services within this quarter across five areas: 1. Learning 2. Digital Inclusion 3. Transformative Spaces 4. User Experience 5. Organizational Capacity.

WORKPLAN: QUARTER 4

<p>1. LEARNING</p>	<p>Adult Programming: <i>Creative Aging and Life Skills</i></p> <p>Youth Programming: <i>Kindergarten Readiness</i> <i>Student Success</i> <i>Safe Afterschool</i> <i>School Partnerships</i></p> <p>Outreach: <i>Bookmobile</i> <i>Jails</i> <i>Kermit</i> <i>Events</i></p>	
<p>2. DIGITAL INCLUSION</p>	<p>Tools Resources Innovation</p>	
<p>3. TRANSFORMATIVE SPACES</p>	<p>Aptos Boulder Creek Branciforte Capitola Downtown</p>	<p>Felton Garfield Park La Selva Beach Live Oak Scotts Valley</p>
<p>4. USER EXPERIENCE</p>	<p>Staffing Collections Convenience Security Localization</p>	
<p>5. ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY</p>	<p>Administration Friends of the Library Volunteers Staff Training Succession Planning</p>	

1. Learning Accomplishments:

Quarter 4

ADULT

“The author’s story is one that I can relate to. It is important for me and our community to see ourselves reflected in stories and programs of the library. Thank you for choosing this book and opening up conversations about immigration, belonging, acceptance and more.”

- Patron response to the Library’s program, Book to Action

“This change everything for me. You guys are doing a really wonderful thing. I’m telling everyone I know! [about this service]”

- Patron response to the services provided through the Library’s partnership with the Wings Homeless Advocates

“I’m challenging myself & I’m trying to reverse how I feel about my education and my ability to learn”

- Patron response to the Library’s program, People and Stories

Virtual Programming Series

- Conversations for Change: Climate Solutions and Communication After Covid, had 39 participants. ([Featured in Sentinel Article](#))
- People & Stories reading and discussion program (biweekly teleclasses and self-paced classes for County Correctional Facilities) engaged 143 total participants.
- Community Resilience Project “Celebrating Foster Care Awareness Month” discussion panel was developed in a collaborative partnership with CASA of Santa Cruz County. 19 participants. In the survey results of this program, 100% of those participating in the survey were more aware of issues in their community, 80% felt more confident about becoming involved in their community.
- Genealogical Society of SC County lecture series: Attendance has grown dramatically with the Zoom-based virtual program environment. Keys to Obituary Research: 69 participants. Researching the History of Your House: 63 participants

New and Seasonal Programming

- Adult Summer Reading Program “Book to Action” program series was designed to bring community members together through literature to better understand ourselves and each other, tackle important issues, and encourage reading, discussion, and action. This summer, SCPL partnered with the Watsonville Public Library to create the Book to Action Series for adults and teens that examines the themes of equity, immigration, citizenship, and identity. Participants read and engaged with the book “Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen” by Jose Antonio Vargas. The program was funded by \$7000 grant from California Center for the Book. 285 participants. The largest event, the author talk with Jose

- Antonio Vargas in Zoom, was the first time SCPL used a live, simultaneous Spanish-language interpreter for virtual programs
- Juneteenth Snapshot Stories - SCPL provided a photo scanning event at the 2021 Juneteenth Celebration at London Nelson Center. Snapshot Stories tells the world the unique story of Santa Cruz County's local and regional history. People are encouraged to bring historical photos from their family archives. SCPL strives to offer inclusive collections that reflect the diversity of our community and history. The stories of historically marginalized communities are underrepresented in our digital local history collections. Adding community members' photos and experiences will create a more complete picture of Santa Cruz County's diverse history. The digital images scanned during Snapshot Stories are added to the Santa Cruz Public Libraries' Local History Photo Collection, an online database that is the most popular feature of the library website.
 - SCPL organized and produced the Zoom side of the Capitola Branch Grand Opening. In-person speakers were: Yvette Brooks, Jamie Goldstein, Gayle Ortiz, Susan Nemitz, Melanee Barash. This was the first hybrid event for SCPL and one of the most complex from a production standpoint.

Quarter 4 YOUTH

"The kids enjoyed making the flashlights sooo much!! "

- Special Education Teacher complimenting staff on their Grab and Go STEAM kits.

"Thank you. We so appreciate this service!"

- Patron complimenting the Library for its Book Bundle program.

School Outreach

- Staff provided a virtual presentation on the SCPL Summer Reading Program to attendees at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education Family Night on May 24. The SCCOE also posted our SRP information and pdfs of reading logs on their website and in their teacher newsletter, *Bits and Bytes*. K12 Outreach Librarians sent PDFs of reading logs to its contact list for school librarians and teachers.
- Staff provided 9 class visits to students at Bayview and Gault Elementary at their school sites. They talked about Summer Reading, read stories and distributed take-home crafts and provided virtual class visits to the Chrysalis school for children with autism.
- This summer the Library provided Outreach SRP Programming at 8 summer meal sites: Beach Flats, Bayview Elementary, Gault Elementary, B40 Middle School, Del Mar Elementary, Shapiro Knolls, Boys and Girls Club (new this year), Sycamore. In June the Library distributed books to keep, craft kits, jump ropes, and Summer Reading Logs to 496 children and teens.
- The Library also partnered with the Scotts Valley School District to offer access to its Overdrive ebook collection through the SORA App, which allows students to check out ebooks using their school ID.

Virtual Programming Series

- The Youth Programs team continued to offer virtual programming for youth on a regular basis, including: Cuéntame un Cuento, Zoom Class Visits, Zoom Preschool Storytimes, Zoom Toddler Time, Zoom Tales to Tails, Zoom JavaScript Coding, and Zoom Dungeons and Dragons.
- The Library also created recorded videos: Stories for Bedtime, (including special presentations for Earth Day, Juneteenth and Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month and Pride), and Cuentos y Experimentos.

New and Seasonal Programming

- The Library presented two interactive Zoom performances: a bilingual puppet show featuring the Magical Moonshine Theater presenting “Puppylocks and the Three Bears.” And Teachers of Nature - Meet Delrita the Elephant (Bilingual – English / Spanish).
- The Library Celebrated Día del Niño and Children’s Book Week in May by distributing 160 Grab and Go Craft Kits for creating tiny books.
- The children's area of the new Capitola Branch is almost never empty! They are checking out books quicker than the Library can get them on the shelves! The deck is a great place for snacks and relaxing for patrons of all ages. Camp Capitola is bringing each group of Campers to the new Capitola Branch for a visit, to read and play on the playground, and pick up books as well.
- The Library provided Book Bundles for Youth and Teens when the Library was closed to browsing.

Summer Reading

- SCPL’s Summer Reading Program opened for sign ups on June 1. The Library has a new sponsor in addition to Atlantis Fantasyworld and Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries: Penny Ice Creamery is donating a free scoop coupon to every child and teen who completes 20 hours of reading. Signups are easy and can still occur at a Library or online. Programs include Grab and Go STEAM craft kits, online programming and three outdoor live programs.

SRP participation numbers are significantly higher than last year. This table show signups as of June 30 for this year and last year. People can continue to sign up through July 31.

# of participants registered for SRP	All ages	Children 0-11	Teens 12-8	Adults 19+
6/30/2021	1928	1165	234	529
6/30/2020	879	562	132	185

2. Digital Inclusion Accomplishments:

Quarter 4

“Austin and Bjorn are a good team. They're focused on their presentation...not trying to cover too much too fast! Keep them coming for us seniors. Many thanks to both!”

- Compliment from a patron for the Library’s, Tech Talks

Tech Talks technology literacy program series

- 7 events
- 115 participants
- Topics: Android & iPhone 101, Password Management, News Apps & Strategies, Exploring the Library App, All About Photos

3. Transformative Spaces Accomplishments:

Quarter 4

The Library transformed its spaces multiple times this year in order to accommodate the changing health restrictions. Libraries are now fully open and during this quarter, the Library also closed its Aptos location and opened the new Capitola Branch Library.

On Saturday, June 12, the community celebrated the grand opening of the new Capitola Branch Library building. The Library and Friends of the Capitola Branch Library presented a virtual celebration with speakers, a ribbon cutting, and a virtual tour. After the virtual ceremony, Library Staff and Friends provided regular in-person tours.

The design team for the Aptos Measure S project selected furniture for the future branch.

4. User Experience Accomplishments:

Quarter 4

Collections

- Provided an engaging collection for the new Capitola Branch, including a new Local History collection that highlights the unique and fascinating history of Capitola and the Santa Cruz region.
- Introduced Get Out & Explore kits. The new Get Out & Explore kits encourage library users to go outside and experience nature in any of the fantastic State Parks in Santa Cruz County (and beyond). Get Out & Explore kits make available the opportunity to explore the natural wonders of Santa Cruz County, strengthening an individual's connection to the environment and inspiring everyone to explore and learn more about the natural world around them. Each kit comes with a California State Park Day Pass, nature guides, a map, and equipment to help enjoy the natural world through physical adventuring.

Services

- Restored in-person reference librarian service at Downtown branch library
- Continued to meet high demand for phone and online information & research assistance. Answered 3764 telephone information calls and answered 925 LibAnswers information, circulation, account, and research tickets

5. Organizational Capacity:

Quarter 4

Volunteer Office

- Celebrated and recognized 200+ volunteers and organizational partners for National Volunteer Week (April 18 - 24.) Mailed custom SCPL face masks designed to look like library cards to volunteers' homes. Volunteers were encouraged to wear their SCPL logo masks in the community as library ambassadors. Masks were also provided to branches & programs where in-person volunteers and organizational partners were serving our community.

- Staff distributed Earth Day Grab and Go kits that included everything needed to grow wildflowers. Each volunteer assembled 200 kits and delivered them to a branch for Grab and Go Pickup. The Library created a tutorial video explaining to the volunteers how to put the contents together.
- According to the [Independent Sector](#), the hourly value of volunteer time in California is estimated at \$33.61. (National volunteer time value is \$28.54/ hour.) During fiscal year 2020/2021, the Santa Cruz Public Libraries both empowered and leaned heavily on volunteers and partnering organizations who invested their time to support, enhance and energize the library's mission to connect, inspire and inform.

SCPL volunteers shifted from supporting programs in person to virtual, such as our early literacy program, Tales to Tails. Partnering organization, Wings Homeless Advocacy, headed outdoors and fully masked to continue supporting the work of the Life Literacy Center. Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries and Chapters pivoted to designing and leading virtual programs and events. The Genealogical Society expanded its impact by offering virtual workshops. Plus, new relationships were cultivated with representatives from community organizations serving on panel discussions for SCPL virtual programs, such as the Shelter in Faith series and Community Resilience Project. Teens and local organizations who were recruiting teen volunteers even got in on the action with our first ever Volunteer to Career (virtual) Teen Expo. Then, this past month the Library created the Summer Reading Branch Host position placing volunteers front and center at our open branches.

From an investment portfolio perspective, the Santa Cruz Public Libraries benefited from diverse and wide-ranging volunteer investments from SCPL volunteers, Friends of SCPL and Organizational Partnerships. Based on the Independent Sector formula, all these contributions of time add up to over **\$365,000.**

Summer Reading Program (Adult & Youth,) Volunteer Office

Recruited volunteers for the Summer Reading Program (SRP) Branch Hosts, a newly created volunteer on-site/ in-person opportunity.

- Volunteers provided a welcoming and informative experience for Library visitors to learn about the Summer Reading Program. SRP Branch Hosts were situated in highly visible outdoor locations where they provided materials, assistance with sign-ups and to answer questions related to the Summer Reading Program. SRP Branch Hosts added the personal and technical touch to support the library goal to increase SRP participation, esp. with the youth.
- Filled 29 shifts total @ 2 hours per shift. According to the Independent Sector, the value of volunteer time in CA is \$33.61 per hour. This calculates to a **ROI of \$1,950** for this particular volunteer position serving library branches, Capitola, La Selva Beach, Live Oak and Scotts Valley.
- Especially exciting were the number of teens who volunteered for the SRP Branch Host position. A total of 8 teens volunteered at the various branches. Half of the teens were already SCPL volunteers with the Advisory Council of Teens & half were newly recruited.

Recruited volunteers for the SRP Craft Grab & Go kits, a newly created off-site volunteer position.

- Volunteers picked up supplies from Library Headquarters, assembled kits at their homes and then delivered them to designated branches.
- Eight volunteers (mix of current & newly recruited) invested a combined total of 96 hours creating over 1,000 kits. According to the Independent Sector, the **ROI is \$3,226.**

Lunch @ the Library, Volunteer Office

- Seven volunteers assembled 350+ craft kits at the Downtown Library meeting room (masked and socially distanced) for the Lunch at the Library outreach sites. Invested a combined total of 21 hours with an Independent Sector **ROI value of \$705.**

Grants

- Received an \$8000 grant from the California State Library to offer pop-up Summer Reading programming at 8 summer meal sites (*Lunch@the Library Grant.*)
- Awarded \$100,000 grant to support the development of Workforce programming for adults & teens.

Partners

- Welcomed back the Genealogical Society volunteers to the Downtown branch library
- Welcomed back the Encompass Downtown Outreach workers to the Life Literacies Center in the Downtown branch library. Between April-June, they served 85 people.

Staff Contributions to the Field of Librarianship

- Librarian Jenn Hooker participated in a panel presentation at the California Library Association conference on “Second Responders: Natural Disasters, Collective Responsibility, and Oral Histories.” The panel discussed how libraries and museums can support community healing by gathering oral histories after traumatic events, the power of memory work in community-based archives, secondary PTSD, and best practices for capturing these stories.
 - Librarian David Addison gave two presentations statewide to 65 other participating libraries. The first panel’s topic was on the importance of attending the veterans collaborative meetings and the second panel discussed the benefits of hiring VA approved work study students to work in the Library’s Veterans Information Center at the Downtown branch library.
 - The California Library Association's PRe**xc**ellence Awards Committee selected SCPL’s ["Play It Forward Santa Cruz,"](#) as the winner in the **\$10 Million+ Budget Event or Campaign** category. As the project architect and project manager for “Play it Forward Santa Cruz,” Judy Russell, SCPL Volunteer Coordinator, collaborated with Sarah Jones to produce the [Award Video](#) featured at the California Library Association’s annual conference. Librarian Diane Cowen and the lead for the organization on marketing and PR directed the public relations for this event.
-

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 5, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: Accept Grant Monies

RECOMMENDATION

LJPB to approve and accept the Santa Cruz Workforce Collaborative grant and amend the FY 21/22 Library Budget.

DISCUSSION

The Santa Cruz Public Library was awarded a grant in the amount of \$100,000 from the California State Library.

The Santa Cruz Workforce Collaborative grant project will offer a holistic approach to jobseekers at various levels of need by bringing together information about local workforce programs in the library's Navigation Center, creating a much needed roadmap of services, and providing bilingual, 1-on-1, and workshop-based support to individuals in navigating the career development process. The project is primarily intended to serve adults and teens in greatest need, including our unhoused neighbors, low income, and marginalized groups.

The grant funds will be used to hire a temporary Library Assistant II for one (1) year, pay for bus passes for participants to get to and from interviews, provide hotspots and Chromebook for checkout, and provide a career coach tool.

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 5, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: Annual Staff Training Day

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Staff Training Day to be held on October 14, 2021

DISCUSSION

In September 2013 the LJPA Board approved an annual and recurring all day staff training day which would require all branches to be closed on Columbus Day. The Library is requesting to change this annual closure for staff training to October 14th 2021 in order to give as many staff as possible the opportunity to attend this important event. Since our Library system is a seven days operation, with most staff working either Sunday through Thursday or Tuesday through Saturday, Monday All Staff Trainings inevitably exclude some of the Library's staff and creates other scheduling challenges.

Attachment: September 3, 2013 LJPA motion

Report Prepared by: Kira Henifin, Principal Management Analyst

Reviewed and Forwarded by: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director

STAFF REPORT

DATE: September 3, 2013
TO: Library Joint Powers Board
FROM: Director
RE: Annual & Reoccurring All Day Staff Training

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Motion to approve closure for staff day on Monday October 14, 2013.
2. Motion to approve closure on the day observed as Columbus Day in future years.

The Library would like to close all branches on Monday, October 14, 2013 in order to conduct an All Day Staff Training. This year's focus will be on Single Point of Service.

Also, the Library would like to tentatively schedule a reoccurring staff day to happen on the Columbus Holiday of each year. The Library believes this would be the least disruptive non-service day to patrons since many other businesses recognize this as a holiday and/or assume most government services are closed.

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 5, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: Displaying the LGBTQ Pride Flag Throughout the Year

RECOMMENDATION

Endorse the Library Advisory Commission's vote for the Library to fly the LGBTQ Pride flag throughout the year.

DISCUSSION

In order to demonstrate the Library's commitment to equity the Library raised the LGBTQ flag in June. The Library works hard to build empathy, equity and to provide safe places for its community members. The LGBTQ Pride flag signals to its patrons that the Library is a safe and supportive space.

Sadly, LGBTQ youth are disproportionately harmed from bullying. The United States government provides data on that bullying at its site: <https://stopbullying.gov/bullying/lgbtq>. The Library is committed to working throughout the year to stop bullying and provide safe places. Continuing to fly the flag throughout the year is one way the Library signals to the public and its youth that we care about everyone's human dignity and safety and that our spaces are safe and supportive.

According to the Trevor Project (www.thetrevorproject.org) suicide is the second leading cause of death among young people ages 10 to 24. LGB youth are almost five times as likely to have attempted suicide compared to heterosexual youth.

From the United States' site on bullying, its first recommendation to reduce bullying is as follows:

- Build strong connections with LGBTQ youth to demonstrate acceptance and keep the lines of communication open. Often, LGBTQ youth feel rejected. It is important for them to know that their families, friends, schools, and communities support them.

The Library pursued its practice of seeking an endorsement on this action from the Library Advisory Commission on issues that relate to community values. On July 19th, the Library Advisory Commission (LAC) endorsed the Library's practice of flying the LGBTQ Pride Flag throughout the year. We are also asking for the members of the Library Joint Powers Authority Board to endorse the flying of the LGBTQ Pride flag all year long at Library branches in order to demonstrate their support for the LGBTQ community. The LAC requested a report from the Library in a year on its impact in creating safer more inclusive spaces.

Through this process, the Library also recognized that while it does have a practice for considering actions related to community values, it would benefit from also having a specific policy on commemorative flags. The Library is also providing a draft commemorative flag policy, based on the policy adopted by the City of Watsonville, in the August 5th Joint Powers Authority Board meeting. The endorsement by the Library Joint Powers Authority Board for the flying of the Pride Flag for a year would be consistent with the proposed draft policy.

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 5, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: Accept Funds and Amend the FY 21 Budget

RECOMMENDATION

The LJPB to approve and amend the FY 20/21 Library Budget.

Sulzner trust funds received:

\$13,500

\$14,300

\$49,317

FSCPL transfer from Nowicki family in the amount of \$9,200.

DISCUSSION

The Friends transfer in the amount of \$9,200 was donated by the Nowicki family. The funds are being used for kids books at Capitola.

The Sulzner funds are being earmarked for the collections at our branches opening soon after being remodeled. There are three locations Boulder Creek, Branciforte and Garfield Park.

Attachment: FY 20/21 Budget Adjustment

Report Prepared by: Kira Henifin, Principal Management Analyst

Reviewed and Forwarded by: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director

Council Approval
 Administrative Approval

City of Santa Cruz
BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUEST

Clear Form

Fiscal Year: 2020/2021
 Date: 08/05/2021

CM/FN Use Only:
 Reso #:
 JE Post#:

Purpose: Budget adjustments approved by the LJPB at its August 5, 2021 meeting.

ACCOUNT	PROJECT	REVENUE EDEN ACCOUNT TITLE	AMOUNT
951-36-51-0000-46309	p360814-983-5012-1087	Donations-Library-Friends of the Library	42,900
951-36-51-0000-46309	p360814-508-0-1094	Donations-Library-Friends of the Library	9,200
TOTAL REVENUE			52,100

ACCOUNT	PROJECT	EXPENDITURE EDEN ACCOUNT TITLE	AMOUNT
951-36-51-3601-53107	p360814-100-2020-271	Books and Periodicals	42,900
951-36-51-3601-53107	p360814-100-2020-487	Books and Periodicals	9,200
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			52,100

NET: \$ 0

REQUESTED BY	DEPARTMENT HEAD APPROVAL	BUDGET/ACCOUNTING* APPROVAL	FINANCE DIRECTOR APPROVAL	CITY MANAGER APPROVAL
Kira Henifin <small>Digitally signed by Kira Henifin Date: 2021.06.22 11:56:42 -0700</small>				

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 5, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: Meeting Room Policy # 315

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt revised meeting room policy #315

DISCUSSION

In January 2020, the Library Advisory Commission [unanimously endorsed the Library's new Meeting Room Policy recommendation](#). The Library Joint Powers Board adopted a new [meeting room policy](#) for the Santa Cruz Public Libraries in [March 2020](#). Unfortunately, use of library meeting rooms had to be suspended almost immediately due to the COVID pandemic. Now that we are reopening, we are looking forward to hosting library programs and community groups in our meeting rooms once again beginning in September. We now additionally have the eagerly anticipated new meeting rooms in the beautiful new Felton and Capitola branch library buildings.

In the meantime, we have identified a few minor revisions we would like to make to the policy before the rooms become available for booking. These are marked on the revision document attached.

- In the Community Rooms terms of use #2, add an emphasis on “groups” to indicate that the community rooms are not intended for use by a single individual.
- Change the Study Rooms to be same-day-only use, instead of being reservable the day before. We believe that advance reservations online can unintentionally favor people with greater access to technology while limiting the access of those, such as students,
-

who are present and ready to use these high-demand spaces.

- Remove the section that describes the types of rooms available at the various branches. While this is valuable information, it can change over time and is meant to be informative rather than a system of guiding principles that is stated by an official policy. The information about the locations and types of rooms will be available on our website and printed marketing materials. This revision will remove the section between the end of the conference room terms & conditions and the beginning of the section about reserving community rooms outside of regular hours.
- Replace the contact information for requests to become a library partner. Instead of the three different regional managers, a structure we do not currently have, groups will be directed to call Library Administration. Library Administration will connect the group with the appropriate manager.

Attachment: Meeting Room Policy # 315

Report Prepared by: Jessica Goodman, Adult Programs & Services Manager

Reviewed and Forwarded by: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director



Meeting Room Policy

JPAB Policy #315
Adopted: March 2020
Five-year Review Schedule: March 2025

Why does the Library provide public access to community rooms?

The Santa Cruz Public Library's room policy seeks to support the Library's mission to "connect, inspire, inform" and to support its vision to "transform lives and strengthen communities." Public spaces make it possible for the residents of Santa Cruz County to collaborate and build knowledge and understanding of one another as a community.

Priority for room reservations is given to Library sponsored programs. If the Library has not reserved the room for itself, priority is then given to government agencies.

[Click here to see policies and details on other available space to reserve](#)

Terms of Use for Community Rooms

1. Reservations require a library card.
2. Rooms can be reserved **by groups** two months in advance of their event and up until one business day prior to their event. Rooms can't be reserved more than four times by one group in one calendar year. (The Library, including its sponsored programming, Friends of the Library and government agencies are exempt from this rule.)
3. Publicity material must also state that the Library neither approves nor disapproves of any viewpoint.
4. Groups may use rooms only for the hours booked in advance. All set-up and clean-up must be accomplished within the reserved time. Groups must return any space to the condition in which they found it unless staff requests otherwise.
5. All meetings must be open to the general public. (The Library and government agencies are exempt from this rule.)
6. All programs shall not discriminate against any individuals or groups of individuals because of race, religion, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or citizenship. The arrangement of the room must also comply with ADA access.
7. All participants must abide by the [Library's Code of Conduct](#).
8. Library spaces are not intended for commercial use. No admission fee may be charged; no collections may be taken on the premises, no fund or business solicited or direct sales made except for sales by the Library or Friends of the Library or their agent. Some exceptions may apply and can be approved by the Library Director. For example, the Director would need to approve suggested donations by program organizers or author



- book sales, and in such cases the Library would require that 15% of the donations goes to the Friends of the Library in order to benefit the Library. However, donations for programs can't be a condition for participation.
9. Signs, posters, displays and decorations may be put up with prior permission from the branch manager.
 10. Libraries are fragrance-free facilities. No incense may be used and fire regulations prohibit the use of candles however exceptions for special events may be approved by the library director.
 11. The Library reserves the right to cancel a reservation due to circumstances beyond its control. The Library will notify the group of the reservation cancellation as soon as possible.
 12. Library spaces are not intended for private parties, such as weddings, birthday parties or other types of private celebrations.
 13. Failure to comply with these terms could disqualify the group or individual from reserving library space in the future.

Care and Use of the Community Room

1. Alcoholic beverages may be served only with special permission; this is secured using procedures outlined in the [Alcohol Beverages Policy](#).
2. Users are responsible for cleaning up and for any damage to Library property or the facility. Repair or cleaning costs may be assessed if damage occurs.
3. No food or other items may be left or stored in the meeting room or kitchen.
4. Trash and recyclables that do not fit into the provided receptacles must be removed by the user. The Library may assess charges for damage or cleaning.
5. The Library assumes no responsibility for personal belongings.

Other Available Spaces:

Study Rooms: (Can accommodate up to four individuals)

1. Study room reservation requires a library card.
2. Rooms should be left neatly after use. Condition of the room may be noted on the Library card holder's account and could affect future reservations.
3. ~~Study rooms are available for reservation the day before its use.~~ **Study rooms are available on a same-day only basis.**
4. Reservations are forfeited if the user isn't present within the first 15 minutes.
5. Study rooms are available up to two hours and can be reserved immediately after that time for an additional hour if there is no other reservation on the room.
6. The Library reserves the right to block (reserve the room) times for its learning/program purposes or to support the work of a learning institution.



Conference Rooms: (Some conference rooms provide a capacity of up to eight and some up to twenty individuals.)

1. Conference room reservation requires a library card.
2. Rooms should be left neatly after use. Condition of the room may be noted on the Library card holder's account and could affect future reservations.
3. Conference rooms are available two months in advance of its use and can be reserved twelve times per year.
4. Reservations are forfeited if the user isn't present within the first 15 minutes.
5. Conference rooms are available up to two hours and can be reserved immediately after that time for an additional hour if there is no other reservation on the room.
6. Library spaces are not intended for commercial use. No admission fee may be charged; no collections may be taken on the premises, no fund or business solicited or direct sales made except for sales by the Library or Friends of the Library or their agent. Some exceptions may apply and can be approved by the Library Director. For example, the Director would need to approve suggested donations by program organizers or author book sales, and in such cases the Library would require that 15% of the donations goes to the Friends of the Library in order to benefit the Library. However, donations for programs can't be a condition for participation.
7. There must be at least two people present in order to occupy the conference room.
8. The Library reserves the right to block (reserve the room) times for its learning/program purposes or to support the work of a learning institution.

~~The Library also has multipurpose rooms at the Downtown Library and the Felton Branch. These spaces are intended to be flexible and are available only for Library programs/services or for partners of the Library. **~~

Available Study Rooms at Santa Cruz Public Libraries:

~~The Library currently offers study rooms (spaces that can accommodate up to four individuals) at Scotts Valley and Branciforte. In 2020, study rooms will be available at Capitola and Felton. And in 2021, study rooms will also be available at Aptos.~~

Available Conference Rooms at Santa Cruz Public Libraries:

~~The Library also currently offers conference rooms (spaces that can accommodate up to eight individuals) at Scotts Valley. In 2020, conference rooms will also be available at Capitola. And in 2021, Aptos will also gain a conference room.~~



Reserving Community Rooms Outside of Regular Library Hours

Groups seeking to use Library space after the normal library hours of operation must first become a library partner. Library partners support the Library's strategic plan and program goals of the Library. We require that partners meet with Library staff and complete an MOU, Program Room Contract and participate in an on-site orientation. If you are interested in starting the process to become a library partner, please contact **Library Administration at 831-427-7706 to get connected with the appropriate manager.** one of the following Regional Managers:

Laura Whaley, Regional Manager for Scotts Valley, Boulder Creek and Felton Branch Libraries: 831-427-7700 x 7734, whaley1@santacruzpl.org

Jessica Goodman, Regional Manager for the Downtown Library and the Branciforte and Garfield Park Branch Libraries: 831-427-7700x 7612, goodmanj@santacruzpl.org

Heather Norquist, Regional Manager for La Selva Beach, Aptos, Live Oak and Capitola Branch Libraries: 831-427-7700 x 7698, norquisthe@santacruzpl.org

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 5, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: Commemorative Flag Policy #109

RECOMMENDATION

Provide input on the draft library policy for commemorative flags.

DISCUSSION

The Library is currently flying a commemorative flag and seeks to support future decisions on commemorative flag flying through a dedicated policy. Largely based on the policy adopted by the City of Watsonville (see attached) and in consultation with the Library's legal services, ABC Law, the Library developed the attached draft policy. The Library seeks input from the Library Joint Powers Authority Board on its draft policy for flying commemorative flags.

After reviewing this policy at the August 5th Joint Powers Authority Board meeting, the Library will bring any changes to this draft to the September 20th Library Advisory Commission meeting for their review and endorsement. The Library will then bring any updates from the Commission to the October 7th Joint Powers Board meeting for a vote.

Attachments: 1. Commemorative Flag DRAFT Policy #109
2. Resolution No. 48-21 (CM)



Commemorative Flag Policy

JPAB Policy # 109

Approved:

Five-year Review Schedule:

PURPOSE:

This Policy shall guide the outdoor display of commemorative flags at all branch locations for the Santa Cruz Public Libraries (hereafter “Library”).

In adopting this policy, the Library Joint Powers Board declares that Library flagpoles are not intended to serve as a forum for free expression of the public, but rather for the display of Federal, and State flags, and any commemorative flags as may be recommended by the Library Director, endorsed by the Library Advisory Commission (“LAC”) and authorized by the Library Joint Powers Authority (“LJPA”) as an expression of the Library’s official sentiments. Those sentiments must be rooted in the values that underpin the Library’s Strategic Plan and its mission.

Commemorative Flags

1. For purposes of this Policy, the term “commemorative flag” shall mean any flag that identifies with a specific date, historical event, cause, nation, or group of people, whereby the Library honors or commemorates the date, event, cause, nation, or people by displaying the flag.
2. The Library’s flagpoles are not a forum for free expression for or by the public.
3. The Library shall display commemorative flags on Library flagpoles only if previously endorsed by the LAC and authorized by the LJPA.
4. The Library shall only consider a request for authorization to display a commemorative flag on Library flagpoles from the Library Director. The Library will not display a commemorative flag based on a request from a third party.
5. Commemorative flags shall be displayed for a period of time endorsed by the LAC and authorized by the LJPA.
6. Authorization for display is an expression of the Library’s official sentiments and must be consistent with the Library’s mission and Strategic Plan and should incorporate themes of diversity, equity, social justice, and inclusion.
7. Commemorative flags shall be flown in accordance with all applicable provisions of federal and state laws.

RESOLUTION NO. 48-21 (CM)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE ESTABLISHING A COUNCIL POLICY FOR THE OUTDOOR DISPLAY OF COMMEMORATIVE FLAGS AT THE WATSONVILLE CIVIC PLAZA

WHEREAS, the City of Watsonville displays the United States Flag, the California State Flag and the City of Watsonville Flag at the Watsonville Civic Plaza; and

WHEREAS, the City complies with Chapter 1 (the Flag) of Title 4 of the United States Code and Executive Order 10834 of August 21, 1959, to display the U.S. Flag and treats the California State Flag similarly; and

WHEREAS, the City of Watsonville does not have a policy regarding the display of commemorative flags; and

WHEREAS, at its January 19, 2021 meeting, Mayor Pro Tempore Parker requested that City staff bring a flag display policy for Council consideration; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to establish a policy that provides guidance and standards for the outdoor display of commemorative flags other than the United States, California, and City flags.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, AS FOLLOWS:

That the Council hereby establishes a Council Policy for the Outdoor Display of Commemorative Flags at the Watsonville Civic Plaza, a copy of which Policy is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

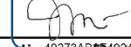
The foregoing resolution was introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Watsonville, held on the 9th day of February, **2021**, by Member Montesino, who moved its adoption, which motion being duly seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Parker, was upon roll call carried and the resolution adopted by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: **Estrada, García, Gonzalez, Hurst, Montesino, Parker, Dutra**

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: **None**

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: **None**

DocuSigned by:



Jimmy Dutra, Mayor

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:



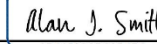
Beatriz Vázquez Flores
City Clerk

2/16/2021 | 9:56 AM PST

Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DocuSigned by:



Alan J. Smith
City Attorney

I, Beatriz Vázquez Flores, City Clerk of the City of Watsonville, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 48-21 (CM) was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the Watsonville City Council at a meeting thereof held on the 9th day of February, 2021, and that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of said Resolution.

DocuSigned by:



Beatriz Vázquez Flores, City Clerk

2/16/2021 | 9:56 AM PST

Date

**COUNCIL POLICY FOR THE OUTDOOR DISPLAY OF
COMMEMORATIVE FLAGS AT THE WATSONVILLE CIVIC PLAZA**

PURPOSE:

This Policy shall guide the outdoor display of commemorative flags at the entrance of the Watsonville Civic Plaza at 275 Main Street, on the Corner of Main and Second Streets (Civic Plaza Flagpoles).

In adopting this policy, the City Council declares that the City of Watsonville's flagpoles are not intended to serve as a forum free expression of the public, but rather for the display of Federal, State, and City flags, and any commemorative flags as may be authorized by the City Council as an expression of the City Council's official sentiments.

GUIDANCE:

Commemorative Flags

1. For purposes of this Policy, the term "commemorative flag" shall mean any flag that identifies with a specific date, historical event, cause, nation or group of people, whereby the City honors or commemorates the date, event, cause, nation or people by displaying the flag.
2. The Civic Plaza Flagpoles are not a forum for free expression for or by the public.
3. Unless previously approved by Council, Commemorative flags shall not be displayed on flag poles inside or outside City facilities except the one Civic Plaza Flag pole on which the City flag is flown. Commemorative flags shall be displayed below the City of Watsonville flag.
4. The City shall display commemorative flags only if authorized by the Council.
5. The Council shall only consider a request for authorization to display a commemorative flag if made by a member of the Watsonville City Council.
 - a. Such authorization shall be only by resolution at a regular or special meeting of the Council and approved by the affirmative vote of at least four members of the Council.
 - b. All requests shall be submitted at least forty-five (45) days prior to the requested date to allow time to add to the City Council agenda. Council will not consider more than one request per calendar from the same group or person. A picture of the official flag shall be submitted by the group or person submitting the request to a Council Member.
 - c. Both the City and commemorative flags shall be the same size and not to exceed 4' x 6' when displayed at the same time.
 - d. The City will bear the cost, not to exceed \$100 of any commemorative flag authorized by Council resolution.
6. Commemorative flags shall be authorized for display for a period of time that is reasonable or customary for the ceremony or the subject to be commemorated,

but no longer than thirty-one (31) continuous days. If the Council authorizes more than two (2) flags for one month, then each flag shall be displayed no more than fifteen (15) days each.

7. Authorization for display is an expression of the official sentiments of the Council, consistent with the City's values and should incorporate themes of diversity, equity, social justice, and inclusion.
8. Commemorative flags will be flown in accordance with all applicable provisions of federal and state laws.

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 5, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: Debt Collection Dismissal

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the forgiveness of debt currently on file with the Library. The balance is approximately \$325K to date.

DISCUSSION

At the LJPB May 2021 meeting the Board was in support of overdue fine forgiveness for patrons as a way to eliminate barriers to usage for all patrons, increase circulation, and help to recover materials. The Library will cease charging overdue fines, and would like to extend that forgiveness to our patrons who are currently on file with a debt balance for overdue fines.

The Library has been temporarily ceasing overdue fines since the COVID-19 related closures, and the CZU Lighting Complex fires related closure made returning library materials difficult.

According to the Library's records, this forgiveness would affect approximately 33,080 patrons dating back to 5/7/2003.

Report Prepared by: Kira Henifin, Principal Management Analyst, and Christine Campbell, ILS Coordinator

Reviewed and Forwarded by: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director

Chair Martin Bernal
Vice Chair Tina Friend
Board Member Carlos Palacios
Board Member Jamie Goldstein



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 5, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: Presentation on Programming

RECOMMENDATION

Through this presentation, the Santa Cruz Public Libraries (SCPL) seeks input from the Library Joint Powers Authority Board on the staff's current and future programming plans and services. Specifically, it would benefit the Library to hear the questions that the Board would like the Library to pursue during its strategic planning process as it seeks to find the optimum balance between providing services to meet community needs, while allocating staff resources to manage open hours at its branches.

DISCUSSION

Within the literature and discussion among the professional public library world is the idea that the public library is much more than books. Public libraries are community hubs. Information and knowledge, a central component of what is considered within the public library's purview to support and manage, is seen as a key to unlocking many opportunities and possibilities for the community. But that information and knowledge must be accessible and relevant to the public for it to have value. The public library can strengthen communities by bridging differences and building empathy and awareness and by building literacy, supporting lifelong learning, life skills, career development, and supporting equity and much more.

The work represented in the fourth quarter workplan illustrates that these ideas animate the services provided by the Santa Cruz Public Libraries and it is what many members of the community expect from its Library. This has never been truer than during the pandemic. The unprecedented past year has forced the Library to re-invent how and what it delivers through its programming. Library staff successfully expanded its outreach activities beyond its walls to meet with children and families at school lunch sites across the County. The significant increase in participation in this year's virtual summer reading program compared to last year's numbers is a testament to the rapid and successful development of services undertaken by SCPL staff.

The Library kicked off its strategic planning process in July and will formally seek input from the community in September on those plans. The Strategic Plan will ultimately guide the direction of

programming and services, but the process will be iterative. The Library always seeks to evolve and improve its services. Collecting input in forums like this are critical to the Library's goal to remain relevant and to ensure it is meeting the needs of the community.

Beginning in September, the Library will restart in-person programming inside its buildings. (The Library ran outdoor programming this summer.) The Library is also exploring three types of programs: Virtual programming, in-person, and a hybrid version of virtual and in-person programming. Hybrid versions require greater resources in time, staffing and money, but this year has demonstrated the value in virtual programming and the Library will continue to experiment with these new mediums.

The Library, through a new grant, will expand its workforce development this year. And through the course of the pandemic and the wildfires, the Library responded to greater and greater needs. Additionally, as much as patrons and staff would like a hybrid version for all of its programming, it is not always practical. The Library must make choices about allocating its resources within the medium that it runs its programs and services as well as deciding on which services and programs to offer. The Strategic Plan will seek to guide the Library in making those choices in addition to others. Over the next six months the Library will focus its attention on strategically deciding which community needs to support and how to achieve those aims. Ultimately, the Library will also have to decide on which metrics to use for measuring the impacts that those Library services provide the community.

Providing more equitable services, a central tenet to the strategic plan, will most likely require the Library to continue and potentially expand its reach beyond its walls. Additionally, staff support is essential for community members themselves to successfully lead engaging programs relevant to the community at their libraries. Choosing between different types of services will likely generate potentially competing values within the community. Similarly, deciding to provide more open hours versus potentially allocating resources towards services that support a greater degree of equity could also create competing values among patrons. The Library Advisory Commission has been the public sounding board for how the Library publicly processes community values and their relation to the Library's work. The Strategic Plan will expand the public forums for examining those values, but the Library will still rely on the Commission for taking a central role in considering potentially competing values.

Jessica Goodman and Heather Norquist will provide the presentation. Jessica oversees adult services for the Library and Heather oversees youth services.