

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, OCTOBER 7 AT 5:00 PM**

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://us06web.zoom.us/j/95002230476>

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Webinar ID: 950 0223 0476

International numbers available: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/95002230476>

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
Vice Chair
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 OCTOBER 7, 2021

5:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Board Members Jamie Goldstein, Carlos Palacios, Casey Estorga and Rosemary Menard

2. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Additional information submitted after distribution of the agenda packet.

3. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA

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 – October 2021 (p.6-7)

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 August 5, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
Staff Recommendation: Approve the August 5, 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.13-42)
- C. Financial Report for 4th Qtr. FY 2020-2021
Staff Recommendation: Accept and File 4th Qtr. Financial Report for FY 2020-2021 (p.43-48)
- D. Accept Grants and Amend the Budget
 - a.) Monterey Peninsula Foundation Grant Matching Funds from FSCPL (p.49)
 - 1. Approve FSCPL matching funds totaling \$159K spent directly to the County for the Boulder Creek (\$75K) and La Selva Beach projects (\$84K).
 - 2. Accept the final FSCPL matching funds totaling \$93K to conclude the matching funds match for the Monterey Peninsula Foundation Grant. These funds are earmarked for Garfield Park (\$84K) and Boulder Creek (\$9K).
 - b.) Approve and amend the FY 21/22 Library Budget in the amount of \$20,105. (p.50-51)

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. Election of Interim Chair and Vice-Chair for October through December 2021
Staff Recommendation: Elect Interim Chair and Vice-Chair for the remainder of 2021 (p.52)

- B. SCPL policies #101, #102 and #103.
Staff Recommendation: Review and discuss (p.53-64)

- C. Salary Savings for Collection Spending
Staff Recommendation: Approve and amend the FY 21/22 Library Budget in the amount of \$250,000; Presentation by Sarah Harbison: SCPL Collections: Challenges and Next Steps (p.65-67)

- D. Remote Teleconference Meetings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361.
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 2021-XX Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 (p.68-72)

12. SCHEDULED UPCOMING MEETINGS

December 2, 2021	Virtual Meeting	Anticipated Upcoming Agenda Items:
9:00 am		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Meeting Schedule 2022 • Sole Source Vendor Approval • 1st Qtr. Reports • Capitola Leases • Commemorative Flag Policy #109

13. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned to the next regular meeting of the LJPA to be held on Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 9:00 am [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

October 2021



Interim Library Director's Report to the JPA

Staffing Changes: New and Re-Hires

Library Aides: Laura Blasingame, Emma Jennings, Brent Johnson, Stephanie O'Hara, Trystan Rundquist, Blythe Uchida,

On-Call Library Assistant IIs: Carolyn Bryks, Robin Horn

On-Call Librarians: Tony Augimeri, Becky Fitzgerald, Dorothy Franks, Sharyn Schwab, Oliver Ziff, April Zilber

Librarians: Essy Barroso-Ramirez, Librarian I, Downtown Youth Services
Ivan Llamas, Librarian I, Scotts Valley

Temp to Regular: Katrina Reeves, DTN - Alejandra Ruiz, LIV - Claire McCoy, DTN – Alicia Hernandez, LSB -

Retirements and Resignations: Susan Nemitz, Retirement, Lynne Sansevero, Resignation

The legacy of the pandemic is still with us, but we are building back and evolving. In September, the Library reopened its community and conference rooms after they had to be closed in March 2020. Patrons can now reserve these spaces for free through the Library's website. The Library integrated a new software application into its site to more easily and effectively manage room reservations. Currently, study rooms, unlike community and conference rooms, must be reserved in person on the same day. We also restored in person tech help, a service that provides one-on-one support for patrons interested in learning how to better use technology. At this time, while children under twelve remain ineligible for vaccinations against Covid, the Library will continue to run children's programming outdoors as well as supporting Library programming in schools and daycares.

Additionally, with the temporary suspension of services at Scotts Valley for its renovation project, the Library has extended service hours at the Felton Branch Library. Felton is now open seven days a week and remains open until 7pm from Monday through Thursday.

While we continue to restore old services in new ways, the entire staff is also very busy planning for the future. Staff continue to assess community needs as part of the development for a new strategic plan. We will be presenting on those developments at the December 2nd meeting. Measure S also continues to drive the Library forward towards a more modern future. On September 14th, the Santa Cruz City Council voted to award the Master Architect contract to Jayson Architecture for the Downtown Library project. Jayson Architecture has successfully worked with the Library to design the remodeled La Selva Beach, Boulder Creek, Live Oak, Branciforte, and Garfield Park Branches. The next chapter for the Downtown Library will be an all new, green building that will be significantly larger than a remodeled version of the existing structure. The Library has also been developing a new partnership with the Aptos History Museum, allowing it to exhibit many of its works at the new Aptos Library, once it is completed.

At our October 7th meeting, we will review how the Library managed its demands for the collection during the pandemic and we will also provide a preview of future plans. Library staff is busy planning the development of exciting new collections for its remodeled and brand-new libraries. Throughout the pandemic, we have experienced many transformations over the past year and a half: from the temporary closure of the Library's buildings in March 2020, to a new curbside model of delivery, then a new lobby service – all while managing with significantly reduced staffing. At the same time, we have been physically shifting the collection around as the Library system closed and opened new libraries. We also eliminated overdue fees. It has been a unique year.

Fortunately, the Library has an excellent team and the individual who leads the development of the Library's collection, Sarah Harbison, has managed to juggle all of those changes while continuing to plan for new libraries in the future. She will present on the lessons learned and the Library's plans for its future collection.

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 AUGUST 5, 2021
9:00 A.M.**

1. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Tina Friend, Steve Jesberg (Alternate for Jamie Goldstein), Martin Bernal,
Carlos Palacios
STAFF: Interim Library Director Eric Howard

2. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

None

3. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA

The Agenda of August 5, 2021 was approved by consensus.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A member of the public asked about the upcoming recruitment of a new Library Director and input from the public.
Another member of the public suggested a video from Warriors' president Murphy about commitment to education and promoting the love of reading in local kids.

5. REPORT BY INTERIM LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Interim Library Director Eric Howard reported on the recent activities of the Library.

6. FRIENDS OF THE SANTA CRUZ PUBLIC LIBRARIES REPORT

Bruce Cotter, Executive Director, submitted his report on the recent activities of the Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries with special emphasis on the Capital Campaign the Friends are engaged in at this time.

7. REPORT BY LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION (LAC)

Lindsay Bass, Chair, reported on the recent LAC meeting of July 19, 2021. Director Friend announced the appointment of Pamela “Peppy” Wall as the new LAC Commissioner representing Scotts Valley.

8. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Director Friend announced her resignation from the City of Scotts Valley and thanked everyone at the Library and the Board. An Interim City Manager will be appointed shortly.

Director Bernal announced his retirement at the end of August and he expressed his gratitude and appreciation for having had the opportunity for serving at this Board. The City Council will have an update on the recruitment process on August 8th.

9. CORRESPONDENCE BY PUBLIC

None

10. CONSENT CALENDAR

**RESULT: APPROVED CONSENT CALENDAR, Items 10 A – J.
Pulled Item 10 I and moved to Item 11 B**

- A. Approved the June 3 and July 6, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes**
- B. Accepted and Filed Recent Articles about SCPL**
- C. Accepted and Filed 4th Qtr. Community Impact Measures for FY 2020-2021**
- D. 4th Qtr. Financial Report for FY 2020-2021 postponed until October meeting**
- E. Accepted and Filed 4th Qtr. Incident Report for FY 2020-2021**
- F. Accepted and Filed 4th Qtr. Work Plan for FY 2020-2021**
- G. Approved and Accepted the Santa Cruz Workforce Collaborative Grant and Amend the FY 21/22 Library Budget**
- H. Approved Staff Training Day to be held on October 14, 2021**
- I. Item pulled and moved to 11. B**
- J. Accepted Funds (Sulzner Trust Fund and FSCPL) and Amended the FY 21 Budget [UNANIMOUS]**

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

A member of the public recommended (via email) to pull Item I and discuss it as part of the Commemorative Flag Policy.

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Meeting Room Policy #315

Interim Library Director Howard introduced the revised meeting room policy. Jessica Goodman, Adult Programs and Services Manager, explained the proposed revisions.

RESULT: Adopted the Revised Meeting Room Policy #315. [UNANIMOUS]

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

B. Commemorative Flag Policy #109 and LGBTQ Pride Flag Display

Interim Library Director Eric Howard explained the background and context for the proposal, mainly the attempt to signal one of the core values of the Library. This is that the Library provides a safe place. Therefore the decision was made to fly the LGBTQ Pride

Flag for a whole year. The policy on Commemorative Flags in general is based on the Watsonville policy.

The Board members discussed the proposal and asked a number of questions and gave suggestions for revision/clarification of the policy. Lindsay Bass, Chair of the LAC, explained the LAC's support of the proposal. The Board focused on questions such as multiple flags being displayed, the prioritization of one group, the possible conflict with other groups, the length of time flags can be flown. The Directors suggested to get input from other groups as well.

A member of the Library Staff commented that since the LGBTQ Flag is displayed many patrons have expressed their appreciation.

A member of the public commented (via email) that the time line for display should be limited to Gay Rights Month. She also pointed out minor inconsistencies in the Library's draft policy.

Another member of the public asked for adoption of the Watsonville policy, which limits the display to 31 days and if 2 flags are being flown, the display should be limited to 15 days each.

A third member of the public echoed the 2nd person's comment.

Result:

Deferred discussion on the display of the LGBTQ Pride Flag while the Commemorative Flag Policy #109 works its way through input and comes back as a final document to the Board while in the interim the Flag can fly at all branches, with the additional direction to get input from other groups and hear their interest. [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Tina Friend

SECONDER: Carlos Palacios

AYES: Friend, Jesberg, Bernal, Palacios

C. Debt Collection Dismissal

Interim Library Director Howard introduced the topic, emphasizing that damaged items are not included in this approach which only refers to late fees. Patrons who damage items will still be held financially responsible for the cost.

A member of the public inquired about the amount of money still outstanding due to damaged and lost materials and the library's attempt to recover that money.

Result: Approved the Forgiveness of Debt Currently on File with the Library's Debt Collection Agency. [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Carlos Palacios

SECONDER: Tina Friend

AYES: Friend, Jesberg, Bernal, Palacios

D. Presentation on Programming

Heather Norquist, Youth Programs and Services Manager, and Jessica Goodman, Adult Programs and Services Manager, gave a comprehensive power point presentation on this year's Summer Reading Program. The Board expressed their appreciation and gratitude for the remarkably creative work of the Managers and their staff.

12. Adjournment

Final Adjournment of the Library Joint Powers Authority Board (LJPA) at 10:57 a.m. to the next regular meeting on October 7, 2021 at 5:00 p.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 Carlos Palacios
Vice Chair Jamie Goldstein
Board Member Rosemary Menard
Board Member Casey Estorga



STAFF REPORT

DATE: October 7, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: Media Packet

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Accept and File the Media Packet for July 26, 2021 through September 28, 2021.

DISCUSSION

This Media packet covers the time period for July 26, 2021 through September 28, 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:

July 26 – September 28, 2021

Santa Cruz Sentinel *News*

Santa Cruz moves forward with master architect for library, housing project

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

PUBLISHED: September 14, 2021 at 8:56 p.m. | UPDATED: September 15, 2021 at 4:14 p.m.

SANTA CRUZ – The Library Mixed-Use Project, an affordable housing project that will also be the home to the new downtown branch of the library, completed the final step of the first phase of the project.

The Santa Cruz City Council on Tuesday awarded the master architect contract for the project to Jayson Architecture, a firm that has a history with the county and libraries. Jayson Architecture has done several library projects within Santa Cruz County. The firm designed the Garfield Park, Branciforte, Boulder Creek, Live Oak and LaSelva Beach libraries.

Additionally, the contract was awarded to the firm due to a desire to go above and beyond the affordable housing requirement set by the council, according to Economic Development Director Bonnie Lipscomb.

When the city first distributed requests for proposal, the project only asked for 50 affordable units. With Jayson Architecture, the concept for the project jumped to 107 affordable units. These will all fall within the very-low-income — 50% of the area median income or lower — and extremely-low-income ranges — 30% of the area median income or lower.

The more than 100% increase in affordable housing units will allow the city to reach its Regional Housing Needs Allocation, which it has to complete by the end of 2023. Currently, the city has exceeded all of its RHNA goals except for its very-low-income allocation. The city has to approve the plans for an additional 123 very-low-income units, 107 of which will be cleared by the Library Mixed-Use project.

“This is what has been the struggle since 2012, is being able to create projects at this very lowest level of affordability because they are just so hard to finance,” Lipscomb said. “This project will be creating units entirely in this category, this category of most need.”

Now that the city has chosen a master architect for the project, the next step is the design and permitting phase. That phase should conclude by the end of 2022, according to Tom Ottenstein, the senior program and construction manager at Griffin Structures, the developer for the project. That timeline allows the city to begin construction at the beginning of 2023. Construction is expected to take about two years, Ottenstein noted. In 2025, the building should be ready for move-in and the grand opening of the library.

Santa Cruz contracted Jayson Architecture to provide its services on the project for \$2,289,550. However, if the project were to be rescinded or not be completed, the city is not on the hook for the full amount, Lipscomb noted. Instead, the city would owe the firm for the amount of work completed.

Current library site

Progress on the Mixed-Use Library project has given the city an opportunity to think about what is next for the current library site. With a new library, and affordable housing, at the parking lot on the corners of Cedar, Lincoln and Cathcart Streets, the old site at Church and Center streets will no longer be needed.

“Once we get to the part where we actually have permits and are starting construction, we’ll pivot quite a bit to the existing library site and the future of that,” Lipscomb said. “We can’t put out a new (request for proposal) until we know the timing of when we’re going to have site control for that.”

The city has explored its options for the current library site through two community outreach meetings. Through that, it has determined the most desired use for the site is a mix between affordable housing and a community plaza. There is also the potential for the farmers market to set up shop at the site.

Currently, the farmers market operates out of the parking lot the Library Mixed-Use project intends to occupy by the end of 2024. Lipscomb does not expect there to be much overlap between the construction of the new library and the conversion of the old site.

Therefore, she noted the need for an interim site for the farmers market. Currently, that interim site is proposed to be the parking lot on the corner of Front and Cathcart Streets behind Kianti’s and Pizza My Heart, also known as Lot 7.

“We were engaged in the revisioning process for the existing library site and are excited about the possibilities that site has long-term for the farmers market,” Lipscomb said. “We’re also continuing our conversations on Lot 7 and what could be there and could that be a good interim site for the farmers market.”

Santa Cruz Sentinel Editorials

Stephen Kessler | The library and the democratic process

September 25, 2021 at 7:00 a.m.

As reported in the Sept. 16 Sentinel, the City of Santa Cruz has signed a \$2,289,550 contract with Jayson Architecture for design of the downtown library mixed-use project, formerly known (unofficially) as the Taj Garage for its combination of a five- or six-story block-long parking structure with the flagship branch of our public library tucked into a corner on the ground floor.

About four years ago, when this concept was just a gleam in the eye of then-City Manager Martín Bernal, then-City Councilwoman Cynthia Mathews, its most powerful political proponent (despite a real estate conflict of interest that disqualified her from voting for it on the Council), told me that the library had to be mixed with a garage because “we need the parking.”

The idea of moving the library, displacing the farmers market and cutting down the heritage trees on Lot 4 in order to construct such a monstrous building did not appeal to most of the community — communications with the Council ran heavily against it — so 50 units of “affordable housing” (meaning that much less parking) were blended into the mix in order to enhance its public appeal. In the latest iteration of the mixed-use project, parking is not even mentioned, and we’re told that not 50 but 107 units of “very-low-income” housing will be included. Why such housing must be combined with the library has not been explained. But the new mixed-use thing, with or without parking, could now be called the housing-project-library complex.

According to the city, the “pre-design, design and permitting” phase of the project should take “approximately 18-24 months,” with construction beginning sometime in 2023, to be completed by the end of 2024. This means that the referendum being organized by the grassroots groups Downtown Commons Advocates and the Campaign for Sustainable Transportation, if successful in collecting enough signatures, has time to be placed as a measure on the November 2022 ballot asking voters whether or not to save Lot 4 as a public plaza, construct affordable housing on other

available sites and renovate the library where it stands, in Civic Center, across from City Hall. Conveniently, Jayson Architecture, at an earlier stage of planning and cost comparisons, has already sketched a design for such a renovation that could easily be the basis for saving the library in place and saving Lot 4 as open space.

The other good news is that despite the signing of the \$2 million-plus contract, “The City will have the discretion to terminate the contract for any reason and the financial obligation to the Master Library Architect will be limited to services performed to the date of termination.” This means that if the voters next year reject the housing-project-library complex, the city can cut its losses despite already having wasted a ton of money.

In their Sentinel guest commentary of Aug. 11, Santa Cruz Mayor Donna Meyers and Councilwoman Martine Watkins made their case for a ballot measure to add a sales tax as a way to raise revenues for city services. “Our confidence in the democratic process underpins our vote to put a potential revenue measure before the voters,” they wrote. It would follow from this that the mayor’s and the Council’s confidence in the democratic process extends to such a controversial project as the garage-housing-library. So, the public may still have a chance to kill the ill-conceived mixed-use housing-library-garage, save the Lot 4 trees and farmers market space, renovate the library in place and build affordable housing elsewhere.

This drama will play out crucially over the next year, with pro-library-renovation and pro-mixed-use forces arguing their respective positions in the best democratic tradition while the people make up their minds about what kind of library, what kind of housing and what kind of parking they want, and where they want them.

The democratic process is in for a vigorous workout.

Santa Cruz Sentinel *Letters*

Letter | Poor planning on Scotts Valley library maintenance closure

July 27, 2021 at 5:00 a.m.

I was amazed to hear that the Scotts Valley Branch of the library will close until spring 2022 for maintenance. The library was closed for almost a year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Why wasn’t this completed during that time? Schools are about to reopen, and the library is an after-school resource for many children as well as those without transportation to the Felton Branch. Great planning on the part of the Library Board.

— *Elise Levinson, Santa Cruz*

Letter | Library article left out one important word: ‘Garage’

September 21, 2021 at 5:00 a.m.

In reading the extensive 494-word article on the status of plans for the new downtown library in Santa Cruz, nowhere did I find the word “garage.” I wonder why.

— *Anne Smith Easley, Santa Cruz*

Letter | Chosen architects have a vision for old library

September 21, 2021 at 5:00 a.m.

I applaud the Santa Cruz City Council’s decision to award the library upgrades to Jayson Architecture. They know how to approach these community projects because they seek and get people’s feedback. Many people regret the City Council’s decision to build a new library instead of giving a new life to the current one. But do many know that Jayson developed a beautiful vision for the old library where it stands? If you’re curious, check out the design at dontburythelibrary.weebly.com/library-visions.html. We could simplify, economize, and improve by keeping our current library where it is. Jayson obviously can do it.

— *Erica Aitken, Santa Cruz*

Letter | Need a 2022 referendum on parking garage/library

September 28, 2021 at 5:00 a.m.

Thanks once again to Stephen Kessler for his spot-on assessment of our need for a renovated Central Library (that we voted for by passing Measure 5 in 2016 with 70% approval) that does NOT impact Lot 4! When I also asked the Councilwoman that next year why we needed to build a monstrous parking garage instead, she answered, as Stephen notes, “We need the parking.” Now do we hear that because the number of housing units will be enlarged from 50 to 107, the number of parking spaces will be reduced? And again I ask: how did affordable housing become the recipient of our tax dollars targeted specifically for library renovation? Or parking for that matter?

I fully support, and will work diligently with, those who are determined to get a referendum on the 2022 ballot so our democratic rights are not crushed by what I feel is bureaucratic larceny.

Santa Cruz Sentinel *Coastlines*

Coast Line | Santa Cruz Public Libraries want you to ‘Get out & Explore’

July 28, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

SANTA CRUZ

Libraries want you to ‘Get out & Explore’

The Santa Cruz Public Libraries want you to get out and explore our natural world. The libraries are offering “Get Out & Explore” kits encourage library users to go outside and experience nature in any of the state parks in Santa Cruz County. The kits focus either on the mountain or beach parks, and each comes with a California State Park day pass, nature guides, a map and equipment to help enjoy the natural world through physical adventuring.

The kits can be reserved and checked out just any other item at the library. Borrowers must be 18 years and older with a valid Santa Cruz Public Libraries library card to check out a kit.

For information, visit santacruzpl.org and search for Get Out & Explore.

Coast Line | Live Oak branch library closing Aug. 21 for remodeling

August 17, 2021 at 12:15 p.m.

LIVE OAK

The Santa Cruz Public Libraries (SCPL) has announced that the Live Oak Branch Library will close for remodeling starting Sunday. The last day the branch will be open for service is Saturday. The renovations, funded by Measure S, revitalizes the children’s area, transforming it into an ocean themed learning space. Improvements include a new acoustic wood ceiling and wall treatments, carpeting, and redesigned seating. A custom designed wall will serve to separate the children’s collections from an “under-the-sea” inspired reading lounge and homework room.

The last day to pick up materials on hold for you there is Saturday. After that, anything on hold at the branch will be sent to the Capitola Branch for pickup. To change the pickup location to a different branch, log into your account online, call 831-427-7713, or email elibrary@santacruzpl.org.

Coast Line | Santa Cruz Public Libraries to eliminate overdue fines

August 19, 2021 at 12:05 p.m.

SANTA CRUZ

The Santa Cruz Public Libraries announced the elimination of overdue fines for all borrowers beginning Sept. 1. In addition to eliminating future fines, existing overdue fines will be waived. Damage and replacement charges for lost and long overdue materials will still be charged.

The library system values free access and is committed to equitable library service, according to a release announcing that policy change. It strives to remove barriers for those who can least afford to lose access to library materials. In early 2020, about 11,500 people were blocked from checking out library materials because they owed more than \$10 on their library accounts.

Eliminating overdue fines does not eliminate due dates. Borrowers will still be expected to return library materials on time, and checkout periods on library materials will remain unchanged. If an

item is long overdue, the borrower will be charged the replacement cost of the item. If an item is damaged, the borrower will be charged according to the current damage/missing parts schedule.

GoodTimes

Things to do in Santa Cruz: July 28-Aug 3

COMMUNITY

AMAH MUTSUN FIRE RELATIONSHIPS (ONLINE) Fire is many things to the Amah Mutsun and other California Indian Tribes: it is sacred, it is a tool gifted by Creator, and it is a way to restore balance to Mother Earth. This presentation hosted by the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History will share more about how the Amah Mutsun are using fire to restore landscapes and relationships in the Santa Cruz mountains and beyond. Lawrence Atencio is the Native Stewardship Corps Field Manager for the Amah Mutsun Land Trust, an initiative of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, which is the vehicle by which the Amah Mutsun access, protect, and steward lands that are integral to their identity and culture. The AMLT returns the tribe to their ancestral lands and restores their role as environmental stewards. For more information or for the registration link, visit santacruzmuseum.org. Tuesday, Aug. 3, 6-7pm.

GRAB AND GO STEAM: MAKE YOUR OWN ROBOTIC HAND! We provide the materials and directions, you pick them up and make them at home. Learn about anatomy and engineering! The strings in your robot hand function much like the tendons in your own hand, which connect muscles to bones and let you bend your fingers. Your muscles create the pull that makes your fingers bend and lets you pick things up, just like your robot hand. Registration for a STEAM kit is required. To request a kit, fill out this form. First come first serve. Registration will close when all kits are claimed. Kits will be ready to pick up at a requested branch on July 28th. These kits are suggested for children over age 6. 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. For more information, visit santacruzpl.libcal.com/event/7831185. Wednesday, July 28, 4-5pm.

OUTDOOR

JAMES HENRY HOUSE OF SAMBA KIDS OUTDOORS EVENT AT ANNA JEAN CUMMINGS PARK IN SOQUEL James Henry, master percussionist, has traveled the world and incorporates cultural wisdom from across the globe into his performances. Expect to dance, sing, and be transported to many areas of the globe through the sounds of drums and percussion. The performance will be outside in the Felton Branch Library parking lot. Please find free alternative parking on the street. Saturday, July 31, 11am-noon. Anna Jean Cummings Park, 461 Old San Jose Road, Soquel.

Things To Do in Santa Cruz: Aug. 4-Aug. 10

EXPLORING THE BURN ZONE: BONNY DOON ECOLOGICAL RESERVE The Bonny Doon Ecological Reserve is an example of the unique Santa Cruz sandhills habitat and home to many of our local rare plants. It has also experienced multiple fire events since 2008, including last year's CZU Lightning Complex. During this Exploring the Burn Zone walk hosted by the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History, Marisa Gomez, public programs manager at the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History, will help you hunt for rare plants, explore the impacts of fire on the landscape, and gather safely with your community in nature. We'll also collect data as part of the

CZU Lightning Complex and Community Science Project. This program is part of the series CZU AND YOU: Resources for Recovery, Preparedness, and Ecological Understanding from the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History and Santa Cruz Public Libraries Saturday, Aug. 7, 10am-noon. Bonny Doon Ecological Reserve, Martin Road, Santa Cruz.

Things To Do in Santa Cruz: Sept. 1-Sept. 7

OUTDOOR

BEE SMARTS! LEARN ALL ABOUT BEES WITH GIRL NEXT DOOR HONEY Sponsored by the Felton Library Friends, learn all about bees and their important role in our ecosystem with Hilary Kearney of Girl Next Door Honey. Grab & Go Kits containing bee-friendly flower seed packets and a honey stick are available at the Felton Branch (supplies limited). Hilary Kearney, author of two books on bees, *Queenspotting* and *The Little Book of Bees*, founded Girl Next Door Honey in 2012 in her hometown of San Diego after graduating from UCSC with a degree in Fine Art. Girl Next Door Honey focuses on bee-centric programs such as natural beekeeping classes, apiary management, classroom presentations, beehive tours, live bee removal and more. For more information, visit santacruzpl.libcal.com/event/8167104. Wednesday, Sept. 1, 1pm.

Why Aptos is Happy to Have the Hideout Back (excerpt only from Wednesday August 4)

Yes Ser! Over at **Ser Winery Tasting Room**, just up the road from the Hideout in Aptos Village, winemaker **Nicole Walsh** and company will be pouring some choice Ser wines on Saturday August 7 out on the green in front of the spacious **New LeafMarket**. Ticket sales benefit Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries. Nice event for a great goal.

Scotts Valley Library Shuts Down for Renovations

Location is undergoing a series of upgrades, from sound dampening to structural improvements. THE SCOTTS VALLEY BRANCH LIBRARY RECENTLY CLOSED TO UNDERGO RENOVATIONS. PHOTO: DREW PENNER/PRESS BANNER

BY [DREW PENNER](#) POSTED ON AUGUST 5, 2021

Just weeks after reopening, following the coronavirus lockdowns, the Scotts Valley Branch Library—one of the most frequented branches in the county—has closed.

This time it's not because more people are contracting Covid-19—although case numbers are rising, again.

The location is undergoing a series of upgrades, from sound dampening to structural improvements. It's the branch's turn in line for a Measure S-tax dollar infusion.

"It's great it's going to be newer," said Paul Williams, a library assistant, who popped out of the closed facility Monday to collect the pile of returns. "They're doing some earthquake retrofits."

Just then, a minivan pulls up. Inside is Bella Cantey, 18, and her mom, Joell. Their timing is excellent.

They hand a stack of books off to Williams without even having to leave the vehicle.

"It's sad," Cantey said of the library closure before flipping quickly to a positive outlook on the future of the space. "I can't wait to see what it looks like. It's pretty exciting."

In 2016, area voters approved [Measure S](#) to generate \$67 million in bonds to fix up or replace all 10 branches in the Santa Cruz Public Library system. Felton just got a brand new library. The

Boulder Creek branch is currently getting work done, too. According to the funding formula, Scotts Valley is in line for \$3.75 million for library branch improvements.

Bella Cantey and her mom Joell manage to pass their book returns to library assistant Paul



Williams. Now that the branch is closed, such interactions are rare. PHOTO: Drew Penner/Press Banner

The Library Renovations Subcommittee worked with city and library officials, a project architect, and a design firm to come up with a list of potential improvements.

That list includes seismic upgrades, automatic doors, a new location for the service desk, moving the computer desk away from the children's area, new furniture, bike racks, benches and new drinking fountains with bottle filling stations.

"The Scotts Valley library is a much-loved absolutely-cherished facility," City Manager Tina Friend said July 30, the day before the closure. "It's one of the busiest places after school."

After handing off the returns, Cantey reflected on how great a place the Scotts Valley branch is for connecting with people.

"I don't talk very much," she said. "But it's nice to just go and sit in the library and just read."

The library is a great place to soak up community energy, she adds.

"When the kids get let out of school, I love going in there and just listening to them talk," she said.

"They'll talk about random things.

“It brings people together.”

The Knight family—Beatrix, 6, dad Beau, and brother Quint, 9—hang out in the shade not far from



the library, which is undergoing improvements, including the installation of sound-dampening equipment. PHOTO: Drew Penner/Press Banner

Just around the corner toward Skypark, the Knight family is relaxing in the shade.

Quint Knight, 9, says he just got a library card a few weeks back.

“It was actually really easy,” he said.

He’s been listening to “One-Punch Man,” a Japanese superhero story, but he says he’d rather be reading it.

“It’s about this guy, Saitama, and he works out every day,” he said, explaining the character can shatter anything with a single punch. “I’d prefer it as a manga. I just feel turning pages is better.”

His younger sister, Beatrix, 6, is a little more digitally-inclined—“You can just click a button,” she points out, characterizing the audio selection or web-browsing process.

Her favorites are Dr. Seuss and Pete the Cat titles.

She says she enjoys “reading time” at school, where the class breaks off into groups and students read to each other.

But the Scotts Valley branch is much bigger than the one at Brook Knoll Elementary School, where they attend.

“That library is like a billion times bigger,” Quint said. “It’s probably, like, a quarter of the skatepark.”

In fact, it’s 100% of the size of a roller rink—because that is what it used to be in its former life.

It was turned into a library in 2011, and has had work done on its HVAC system, and parking lot since then.

But the interior acoustics of a place that’s supposed to be all but silent have been an issue.

“You don’t have a lot of compartmentalization into rooms,” Friend said. “Sound really echoes.”

That’s why the new designs will put a large focus on what’s called “attenuation”—the focused reduction of sound energy.

Three companies submitted bids that were being reviewed by officials this week. S&H Construction, Inc.'s total bid was \$3.6 million, CRW Industries, Inc.'s was \$3.3 million, and Patriot Contracting, Inc.'s was just over \$3 million.

Staff recommended City Council award the contract to Patriot Contracting, Inc. for their "base bid" of \$2.3 million and three additional components—for a total of \$2.9 million (although it could choose to add some extra landscaping work, later).

The City Council was set to consider the item during its Wednesday meeting.

Borrowers can't put items on hold at the Scotts Valley location anymore, and all remaining holds are being sent to the Felton branch.

There are other changes going on behind the scenes, too.

Jim Landreth, who was selected for the Library Advisory Commission by the Scotts Valley City Council in January 2019, resigned. The City Council received an application from Pamela "Peppy" Woll, saying she'd like to serve as the community's representative and was looking at approving her appointment Wednesday.

In about six months, when the library is expected to reopen, it'll be nice to have a place Quint and Beatrix can go again, says dad, Beau.

"It's just cool cultural stuff, even if you don't check out a book," he said, adding there are definitely awesome parts to old-school literacy, too. "There's a certain smell to old books."

Things To Do in Santa Cruz: Sept. 15-21

COMMUNITY

CUÉNTAME UN CUENTO Acompáñanos para una hora de cuentos, actividades y canciones en español. Este programa es para niños de 0-8 y sus familias. La hora será miércoles a las 4:30pm. Nos reuniremos en el porche exterior. Cuéntame un Cuento se llevará a cabo en Capitola durante el período de construcción de Live Oak. En caso de mal clima, se cancelará la hora de cuentos. Join us for Spanish Storytime, activities, and music! This program is best suited for kids ages 0-8 and their families. Storytime takes place on Wednesday at 4:30pm. We will meet on the outside porch. Storytime will take place at Capitola during Live Oak's construction period. In the event of bad weather, storytime will be cancelled. Wednesday, Sept. 15, 4:30pm. Capitola Library A Santa Cruz City County Public Library Branch, 2005 Wharf Road, Capitola.

FELTON TODDLER TIME Join Librarian Julie on our beautiful Felton patio for Toddler Time. Toddler Time is a weekly early literacy program for families with children ages 0-3 years old. Music, movement, stories, fingerplays, rhymes, and songs are a fun way for your child to learn. Let's play and learn together! Make sure to bring something to sit on. We ask that adults please wear a mask. Repeats weekly. Wednesday, Sept. 15, 11am. Felton Branch Library, 6121 Gushee St., Felton.

LA SELVA BEACH PRESCHOOL STORYTIME Join us for a fun interactive storytime. We'll read books, sing songs and use rhythm and movement. This event is suitable for children ages 3-6 years. There will be an arts and crafts project to take home. This event will be held outside on the back patio. Please bring something to sit on and dress for the weather. Masks will be required. Repeats weekly. Tuesday, Sept. 21, 11am. La Selva Beach Branch Library, 316 Estrella Ave., La Selva Beach.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME ON THE FELTON PATIO Join Librarian Jackie on our beautiful Felton patio for Preschool Storytime. Preschool Storytime is a weekly early literacy program for children ages 3-5 years old and their caregivers. Music, movement, stories, fingerplays, rhymes, and songs are a fun way for your child to learn. Let's play and learn together! Make sure to bring something to sit on. We ask that adults as well as children ages 3 and up please wear a mask. Repeats weekly. Thursday, Sept. 16, 11am. Felton Branch Library, 6121 Gushee St., Felton.

Things To Do in Santa Cruz: Sept. 22-28

COMMUNITY

CUÉNTAME UN CUENTO Acompáñanos para una hora de cuentos, actividades y canciones en español. Este programa es para niños de 0-8 y sus familias. La hora será miércoles a las 4:30pm. Nos reuniremos en el porche exterior. Cuéntame un Cuento se llevará a cabo en Capitola durante el período de construcción de Live Oak. En caso de mal clima, se cancelará la hora de cuentos. Join us for Spanish Storytime, activities, and music! This program is best suited for kids ages 0-8 and their families. Storytime takes place on Wednesday at 4:30pm. We will meet on the outside porch. Storytime will take place at Capitola during Live Oak's construction period. In the event of bad weather, storytime will be cancelled. Wednesday, Sept. 22, 4:30pm. Capitola Library A Santa Cruz City County Public Library Branch, 2005 Wharf Road, Capitola.

FELTON TODDLER TIME Join Librarian Julie on our beautiful Felton patio for Toddler Time. Toddler Time is a weekly early literacy program for families with children ages 0-3 years old. Music, movement, stories, fingerplays, rhymes, and songs are a fun way for your child to learn. Let's play and learn together! Make sure to bring something to sit on. We ask that adults please wear a mask. Repeats weekly. Wednesday, Sept. 22, 11am. Felton Branch Library, 6121 Gushee St., Felton.

LA SELVA BEACH PRESCHOOL STORYTIME Join us for a fun interactive storytime. We'll read books, sing songs and use rhythm and movement. This event is suitable for children ages 3-6 years. There will be an arts and crafts project to take home. This event will be held outside on the back patio. Please bring something to sit on and dress for the weather. Masks will be required. Repeats weekly. Tuesday, Sept. 28, 11am. La Selva Beach Branch Library, 316 Estrella Ave., La Selva Beach.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME IN THE SECRET GARDEN Join us in the Secret Garden in Abbott Square at the MAH for storytime! We'll share stories, songs and rhymes in a safe environment! This 30-40 minute program is intended for children aged 2-6. Do it yourself craft kits will be provided every week. Every other week we will feature STEM-related stories and concepts. Tuesday, Sept. 28, 11am. Abbott Square, 118 Cooper St., Santa Cruz.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME ON THE FELTON PATIO Join Librarian Jackie on our beautiful Felton patio for Preschool Storytime. Preschool Storytime is a weekly early literacy program for children ages 3-5 years old and their caregivers. Music, movement, stories, fingerplays, rhymes, and songs are a fun way for your child to learn. Let's play and learn together! Make sure to bring something to sit on. We ask that adults as well as children ages 3 and up please wear a mask. Repeats weekly. Thursday, Sept. 23, 11am. Felton Branch Library, 6121 Gushee St., Felton.

SANTA CRUZ LOCAL
sound local news

Scotts Valley library closed for renovations

<https://mailchi.mp/santacruzlocal/capitola-branch-library-13422554?e=fa1840213f>

The Scotts Valley Branch Library closed Saturday for remodeling. It is expected to reopen in early 2022, city officials said.

Renovations include earthquake retrofitting, new carpet, paint, a new service desk, soundproofing, and reconfiguration of the children's area and lobby, [city leaders wrote](#). The Felton Branch Library is expected to add staff for Scotts Valley patrons.

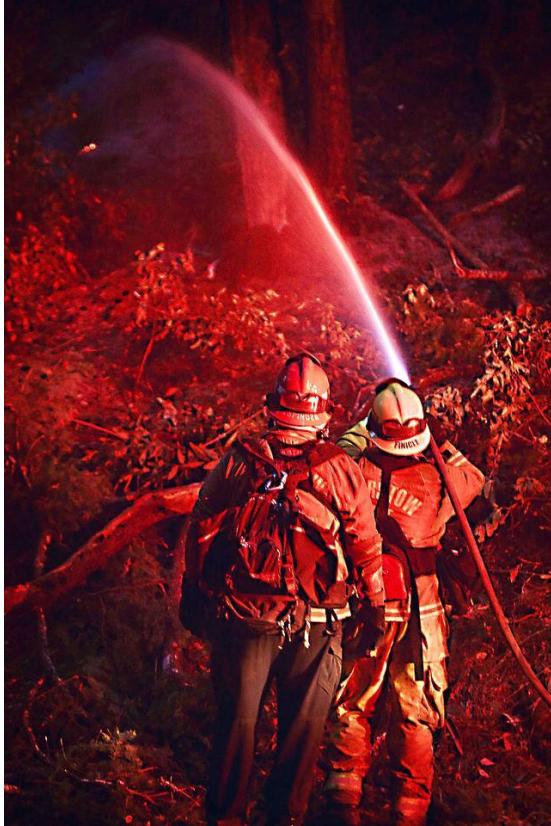
**TP ONLINE
G DAILY**

CZU FIRE: LESSONS LEARNED

written by [See Below](#) July 31, 2021



History and the Santa Cruz Public Libraries present 10 programs about wildfires and lessons learned from the CZU Lightning Complex Fire in August 2020. Most will be online via Zoom; some are in person. All are free, but require registration. To register, visit www.santacruzpl.org/pages/czu-and-you/.



The CZU fire devastated the Santa Cruz/San Mateo mountain region, burned for 38 days, destroyed 1,490 buildings, mostly in Santa Cruz County, burned 86,509 acres, and caused one fatality.

Aug. 3 — Amah Mutsun Fire Relationships: via Zoom at 6 p.m. How the Amah Mutsun use fire to restore landscapes in the Santa Cruz mountains and beyond.

Aug. 5 — Film “Not If, But When: Wildfire Solutions” at 6 p.m. Director/producer team Radu Sava and Rebekah Hood-Sava will screen their documentary followed by Q&A. This film explores the ways we deal with wildfires in America, climate change impact, and integration of indigenous wildfire practices.

Aug. 7 — Exploring the Burn Zone: Bonny Doon Ecological Reserve at 10 a.m. Walk through the Zone with Marisa Gomez, of the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History, and hunt for rare plants, explore impacts of fire on the landscape, and collect data for the CZU Lightning Complex and Community Science Project.

Aug. 11 — Defending Your Home: Fire Prevention and Preparedness. 6 p.m. Central Fire District Fire Marshal Mike DeMars will explain best practices for

fire safety around the home, fire response, and defensible space.

Aug. 14 — Exploring the Burn Zone: Rancho Del Oso, 10 a.m. See the edges of Big Basin’s burn zone with State Park interpreter Richard Fletcher, learn about massive efforts to restore Rancho Del Oso and its Nature Center, and contribute to the CZU Science Project by uploading your observations to iNaturalist.

Aug 16 — A Striking August: Lightning and Wildfires with Chris Giesige, 6 p.m. Online lecture by wildfire researcher and lightning scientist will explore conditions that made the August 2020 lightning events possible.

Aug. 19 — Preparing for Emergencies with the American Red Cross, 6 p.m. How to pack your emergency kit, how to create a plan for you and your family, and what to do when wildfire comes.

Aug. 24 — Learn about fire adapted native plants in the Santa Cruz Mountains with Fire and the Bonny Doon Ecological Reserve with Dr. Jodi McGraw, 6 p.m.

Aug. 28 — Fire as Friend: Exploring Fire Ecology with Kids, 10 a.m. for kids 5-8 and their caretakers, 12:30 p.m. for kids 9-12 and their caretakers, at the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History. Activities showing how fire can be helpful to humans, plants, and animal, practices of Santa Cruz’s Indigenous people, and fire safety tips. Parent/guardian must accompany child.

COMING TOGETHER A YEAR LATER

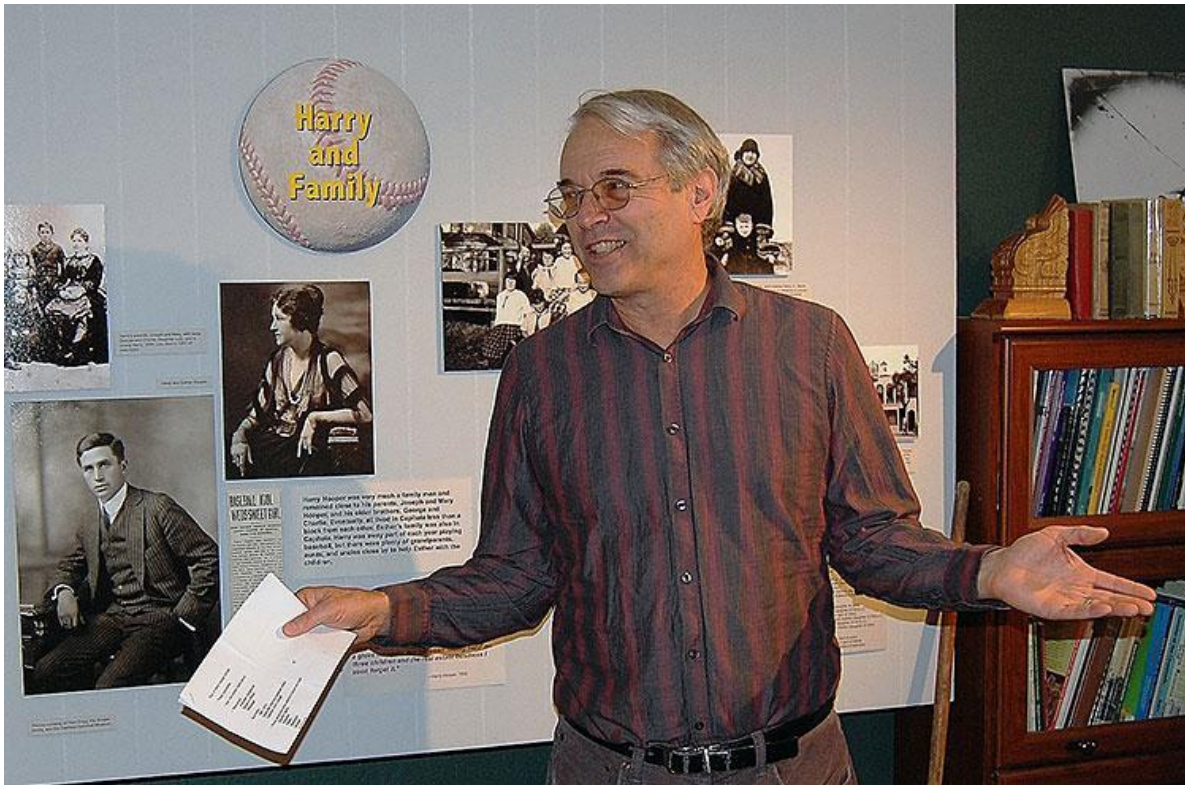
By Bruce McPherson, Supervisor, Fifth District, August 6, 2021

Excerpt only: <https://tpgonlinedaily.com/coming-together-a-year-later/>

In Scotts Valley, there is an upcoming closure, not an opening, that is worth noting. The Scotts Valley Branch Library is expected to close July 31 for renovations that are part of the systemwide Measure S funding approved by voters in 2016. The improvements — which will include seismic retrofitting, new carpet and paint, as well as reworking the entrance, children’s area, and fireside room — are expected to be completed in the spring of 2022.

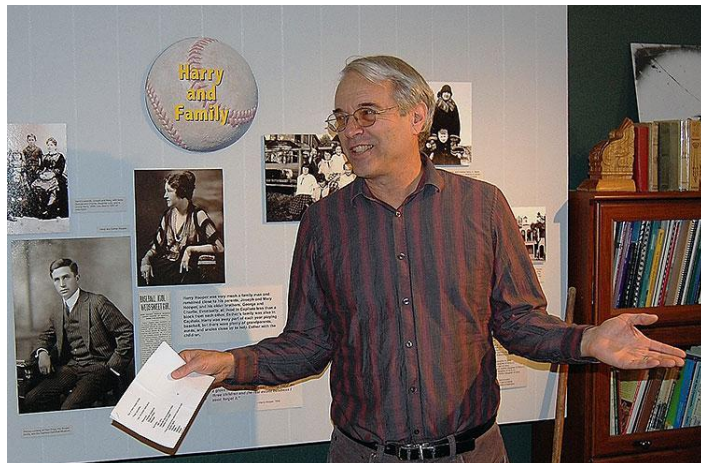
CAPITOLA MUSEUM: FAREWELL FRANK, HELLO DEBORAH

written by [See Below](#) August 6, 2021



Capitola Historical Museum Welcomes New Curator, Says Good-Bye to Perry By Niels Kisling

After eight years at the helm, Frank Perry retired June 30 as museum curator for the Capitola Historical Museum.



"Altogether, my predecessor Carolyn Swift and I poured 28 years of love and care into this little museum," Frank said. "We did everything from accepting gifts of rare artifacts to washing windows. This was never 'just a job,' it was a passion."

Retiring Museum Curator Frank Perry at the opening of the 2014 "Take Me Out to Capitola" exhibit about local baseball star Harry Hooper. • Photo Credit: Niels Kisling

He added, "From the very first day, the museum board, museum volunteers, city staff, and people of Capitola were exceptionally welcoming. I cannot think of a better way to have wrapped up a 50-year career in museums. The curator job gave me the opportunity to apply all that I had learned over the years about running a museum. I had plenty of opportunities to build exhibits, give lectures, produce videos, and do publications—all things I love to do. Most importantly, I got to delve deeply into Capitola's wonderful history and share what I learned."

Your Capitola Museum is lucky to have Deborah Osterberg as our new curator. She has come home to Capitola once again, but when Deborah goes home, she goes home to Bonny Doon and the redwoods that she adores.

Her journey began in grade school in Capitola. She was first a Capitola Viking then went on to graduate as a Knight from Soquel High School in 1979.

Deborah graduated in 1984 from Chico State as a history and geography major, and later took graduate classes at UC Santa Barbara in cultural resource management. Her extensive service to National Park Service parks and monuments reads like several seasons of a reality TV travel show.



Deborah Osterberg, the new Capitola Historical Museum Curator, grew up in Capitola and graduated from Soquel High School in 1979. • Photo Credit: Lacie Gray

Deborah worked at Yellowstone National Park, Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks, Minute Man National Historical Park, Eugene O’Neill National Historic Site, Fort Sumter National Monument, Charles Pinckney National Historic Site, Moore’s Creek National Battlefield, Mount Rainier National Park, and the National Archives at San Francisco.

Needless to say, if you want to find, store, file or research something, Deborah is your top pick.

Deborah put her career on hold to come home in 2014 to organize the estate of her father who passed away after a life well-lived. Last year Deborah evacuated for a month from her home in Bonny Doon

due to the CZU Complex Fire. The residents who remained behind saved the homes on her road by being prepared with equipment needed to fight the ground fire.

In the nick of time, however, a fire crew showed up to douse fire developing in the tree line—a fire that the neighbors may not have been able to handle.

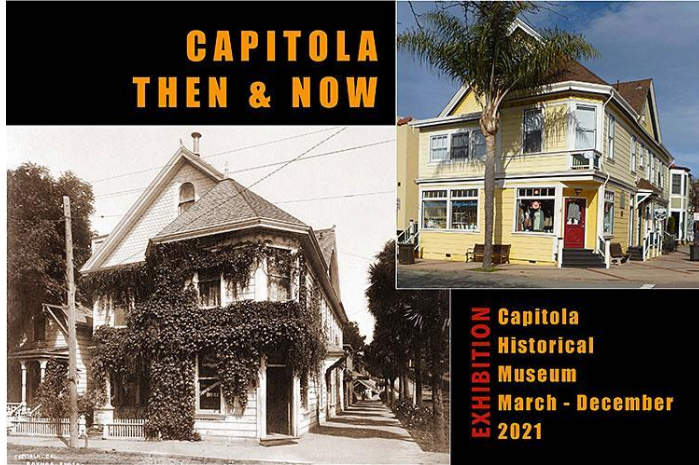
Deborah published a book while her career was on hold. The book, *Historic Tales of Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park – Big Trees Grove*, is a must-read and proves that the redwood forest is deeply imbedded in her soul.

Deborah Osterberg has come home again to Capitola. She is excited about creating future exhibits at the Museum and rotating exhibits at the new Capitola Library.

Once we are past Covid, Deborah hopes to develop some costumed walking tours of the Village. She is excited about the Museum’s future and very proud to be the one chosen to tell the history of her hometown.

The transition from Frank to Deborah has been smooth sailing so far.

The Museum’s current exhibit “Capitola – Then & Now” was installed in the spring of 2020 but was only open to the public for a few weeks due to the pandemic shutdown. That is why it was



decided to keep the exhibit up through 2021 so everyone can enjoy Frank Perry's hard work on the final exhibit he created for the Museum.

The admission-free Capitola Historical Museum at 410 Capitola Ave. is open on Saturday and Sunday from noon until 4 p.m.

Under Deborah's direction we recently published our latest newsletter. Capitola Sunset Summer 2021 is available on the Museum web site:

<https://www.cityofcapitola.org/capitola-museum>

Your Capitola Museum Board is honored to serve Deborah Osterberg, and, at the same time, we are happy for Frank Perry in his retirement. That is a win/win for you and for our hometown museum.

www.cityofcapitola.org/capitola-museum

Aptos Times September 15, 2021

<https://tpgonlinedaily.com/aptos-times-september-15-2021/>

COMMUNITY NEWS

Santa Cruz Public Libraries Measure S Facility Update

The Santa Cruz Public Libraries, 10 branches throughout Santa Cruz County serving more than 200,000 residents, reports on progress to improve facilities, with the goal to inform, inspire and connect via inviting and welcoming centers that enrich lives, promote opportunity and build community. Based on a study that found obsolete infrastructure, antiquated and failing systems, outdated spaces and poor ADA accessibility, voters approved Measure S in June 2016, a \$67 million bond for improvements. Additional funding to complete the work is being raised by Friends of the Library campaigns. Here is a status report:

AFTON: Temporarily closed. Preparing for construction of new building. The original 8,000-square-foot building, built in 1975, has suspended services. The new 12,000-square-foot library will feature flexible community, meeting and study rooms; garden and terrace areas; a local history section; children, teen and adult reading areas; and energy efficiency. Design by Anderson Beale Architects, construction and project management by Bogard Construction. Reopening: late spring, 2023.

BOULDER CREEK: Temporarily closed; construction is underway. Interior remodel of the existing one-story library includes new infrastructure (windows, HVAC, plumbing, electrical, and lighting); upgrades for accessibility standards; re-do of children's area; community space and meeting room. Design by Jayson Architecture; CRW builders, construction management by Bogard. Reopening in December 2021.

BRANCIORTE (Santa Cruz): Temporarily closed; construction underway. Renovation will build on the character of this iconic building (1967), refreshing the 6,800-square-foot interior for more flexibility, function and accessibility with areas for adult reading, children, and teens; community room and outdoor patio; electrical and telecommunication upgrades. Design by Jayson Architecture; JPB Designs builder; construction management by Bogard. Reopening early 2022.

CAPITOLA: Construction is complete. The previous temporary facility has been replaced by a stunning new 11,700-square-foot library, which opened in June and is quite busy. A hub for community activity, the new library has a large meeting room, expanded children's wing, reading rooms, outdoor deck, fireplace, teen space, and solar panels for energy efficiency. Design by Noll and Tam, construction by Otto Construction, construction management by Bogard.

DOWNTOWN SANTA CRUZ: Current

inmedialiv.com

La Selva Beach Library Branch September Activities

Adult Book Discussion Group: 2nd Thursday, 10:30 a.m. Sept. 9, "The Remains of the Day" by Kazuo Ishiguro

Passionate Readers Book Discussion: 4th Thursday, 10:30 a.m. Sept. 23, "Verby" by Carol Edgerton, Oct. 28, "Nomadland" by Jessica Bruder

Weekly Preschool Story Time: Starts Tuesday Sept. 14 at 11 a.m. Information: 831-427-7710

After-school STEAM: Minecraft starts Thursday, Sept. 23, at 4 p.m. Information: 831-427-7710.

Stories for Bedtime: Wednesday, Sept. 8 and 22 at 7 p.m. Join via Facebook or YouTube for Bedtime Stories. Librarian Jackie will read bedtime stories, sing songs, and chant rhymes for families. New programs every other Wednesday and

on the library's YouTube Channel afterward. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/youtubelst-friendship-day> for current and past programs.

Mobile App: Santa Cruz Public Libraries' free mobile app makes it easy to search the library catalog from anywhere. The app also offers account management, integrated access to eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines, and journal articles. Special features include mobile checkout and UPC code lookup to quickly see if the library has a title. Look for "Santa Cruz Public Libraries" in the app stores. ■

La Selva Beach Library Branch is open Tues.-Thurs., 11-6, Fri. & Sat., 12-5, closed Sun.-Mon. Book drops are open 24/7. Call: 831-427-7713 Text: 831-264-0647.

library open; planning underway for new library mixed-use project on Cedar Street. The Santa Cruz City Council voted to proceed with a mixed-use project at Cedar and Lincoln Street (Lot 4, home of the Farmers' Market) incorporating a new library, at least 30 units of affordable housing, and parking for up to 400 cars. Griffin Structures has been retained as owner's representative; Eden Housing and For The Future Housing are the affordable housing team; selection of master architect/design team is expected in August. Community engagement on design and features for the new library will follow. The city has initiated a re-use visioning process for the current library site, and is working to establish a permanent home for the Farmers' Market. Construction to start 2023, completion in 2025.

FELTON: Construction completed. February 2020 and re-opened for browsing. The Felton branch operated for nearly 60 years in a historic church building; charming, but not a modern library. The new 9,000-square-foot branch opened in February 2020 on 2 acres of nearby land, the first Measure S project to be completed. This stunning space includes comfortable reading areas, free computers/WiFi, teen and children's areas, community room and adjacent discovery park. Teall Messer architect, Noll and Tam interior, Thompson Builders contractor.

GARFIELD PARK (Santa Cruz): Temporarily closed; Construction underway. The renovation will bring new life to the historic 2,900-square-foot Carnegie library building (1915) with refreshed and cohesive design. Features include central seating area around the fireplace, children's area, a more open plan, better use of windows for natural light, meeting room and refreshed outdoor space. Design by Jayson Architecture; CRW builders, construction management by Bogard. Reopening in January 2022.

LA SELVA BEACH: Open, renovation

completed March 2021. Renovation included replacement of dilapidated interior finishes plus new lighting, electrical, and mechanical systems. Sliding glass wall between the adult and children's areas improves acoustics, lighting and floodlight. Lounge seating areas for both children and adults for reading, tutoring and community programs; expanded deck increases usable outdoor space. Jayson Architecture design, C2Builders construction.

LIVE OAK: Temporary closure in September 2021 for construction. The Live Oak Library renovation will transform the children's into a learning space with an ocean theme. New acoustic wood ceiling and wall treatments, carpeting and redesigned seating, plus a custom-designed wall to separate the children's collections from an "under-the-sea" inspired reading lounge and homework room. Design by Jayson Architecture. Reopening in December, 2021.

LIVE OAK ANNEX: A new addition to Simpkins Family Swim Center providing a classroom and study rooms — a community learning center to complement existing uses. Design by Noll and Tam; construction documents and permitting being completed. Construction to begin in December, 2021; opening in fall, 2022.

SCOTTS VALLEY: Temporarily closed for construction. This 13,150-square-foot library was opened in 2011 with design by Group 4, transforming a previous roller rink into a contemporary library with flexible space, dedicated areas for children, teens and adults, community room and courtyard. A new roof, HVAC system, and parking lot repairs completed in early 2021; seismic and operational upgrades to be made while the branch is closed. Reopening March 2022. ■

For information: Santa Cruz Public Libraries at <https://www.santacruz.org/> and Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries at <https://scpl.org/>



Farmers market exec: Downtown redevelopment ballot initiative doesn't represent our interests

BY [GRACE STETSON](#) SEP 23, 2021 | 3:26 PM

Following last week's announcement from Our Downtown on a proposed ballot initiative for the Santa Cruz library renovation plan, downtown farmers market director Nesh Dhillon told Lookout in an exclusive interview that the group — which purports to be an advocate for the market — has never reached out.

A mixed-use plan that includes affordable housing — part of the overall project to renovate the downtown Santa Cruz library — has been a hot-button issue since its inception, but more recently [became a point of contention](#) between the city's pro-growth and low-growth factions.

On Sept. 13, the group Our Downtown — led by Rick Longinotti and John Hall, among others — sent a letter to the Santa Cruz City Council imploring its members to reconsider the plan for Lot 4 (the parcel bounded by Lincoln, Cedar and Cathcart streets), advocating for a permanent park for the downtown farmers market over the proposed mixed-use development. But the city council, in a 6-1 vote the following day, approved the master architect contract, declining to deviate from the original mixed-use plan.

In an exclusive interview with Santa Cruz Community Farmers Markets Executive Director Nesh Dhillon this week, Lookout learned that the group has never been in communication with Our Downtown — let alone viewed it as an advocate.

"We have nothing to do with this ballot initiative," Dhillon said. "It's fine if people out there are 'rah rah' about their support, but ultimately we decide where we'll go."

Below are more takeaways from the conversation. Responses have been edited for length and clarity.



Nesh Dhillon. (Event Santa Cruz screen grab)

Had you ever heard of Our Downtown before this initiative was released?

You hear names and all of these new groups popping up ... there's some cross-pollination between factions, I'm guessing, but I've never heard of that group before, no.

This group, other groups, have strong opinions about where they would like to have the farmers market, which is interesting. I don't even know who these guys are — I've never spoken to this group, they've never spoken to us. There are people out there advocating for the market to be somewhere, but that's them, they're not us.

We as an organization will figure out where we need to end up.

Has anyone from Our Downtown reached out to you regarding this proposal?

I've spoken to John Hall previously, mainly regarding his work for [Downtown Commons](#). I knew the initiative was happening because he told me, but I hadn't seen any of the language or anything — nothing's been presented.

The Downtown Commons' mission is to secure open space in the downtown corridor, and feel as though the best space for that is Lot 4. They still advocate for some open space for the community to convene, through special events, a permanent farmers market, however it's designed. The farmers market is only one part of many things that should be part of the permanent space.

It's way, way bigger than just this event that happens four to five hours a week — we're just getting lumped with it.

It would be silly and not a good use of space to say that the only thing that can exist here is the farmers market — what about the antique fair? What about special events? What about having a central plaza or designated place with infrastructure — the farmers market is just one part of many parts.

We've been very forthright and transparent with these groups that we speak for ourselves, no one else speaks for us. The farmers market speaks for the farmers market. John's heart is in the right place, but they're just going about it with a different process.

When Measure S was first approved, what were your thoughts on how it could affect the downtown farmers market?

I never really thought too much about the measure passing and current development plans for Lot 4 — they weren't lined up at that time. The downtown library (currently on Church Street) situation is possibly the most radical situation in that they would just build a new one.

It was never a concern because it wasn't really discussed until two to three years ago, that they would build the new library potentially on Lot 4. That's when we started actively with the city to look at alternative locations.

How has the experience been in working with the city on finding a new space for the market?

It's been phenomenal — they've been supportive and very receptive throughout the process. Bonnie Lipscomb [the city's director of economic development] specifically has been very proactive and supportive; when we've asked their team to look at things from a certain angle, they've always followed up. It's been great, because we've learned a lot in the process, such as what our market footprint can do, how the market can be vastly improved to make it better for the public, and how we can increase the growth of the market and profitability for our farmers.

It's a successful weekday market, but it would be significantly better if we had some infrastructure to support it. Thankfully, the city has been in lockstep with our needs.

Did you feel that the market wanted to stay on Lot 4, or did this align with the market's goal for another location?

What's important for us is to find a suitable permanent location so we don't have to revisit this discussion ever again. I think that's a reasonable request and I think it's appropriate since the market has been around since 1990, showcasing the best of regional farming and providing a space for startup food businesses, like Companion Bakeshop and Farmhouse Culture.

Recognizing that is a strong possibility of development on Lot 4, it would only behoove us (at the market) to take a look at other locations. When things start to jell and move in a direction, we can start working on finding a replacement site, which is where we're at right now.

We're not tied to staying at Lot 4 — we're looking for a location that would allow us to never have to move again. Lot 4 has never been suggested except for a group from the outside.

What are your feelings about redeveloping surface lots across the downtown, and how that relates to this project?

Well, Lot 4 is just one piece of the bigger downtown puzzle. There are a lot of surface parking lots that have been analyzed over many, many years — decades — to redevelop.

What’s important for us is to find a suitable permanent location so we don’t have to revisit this discussion ever again.

There’s always been the concern that the lot was going to be developed, with a similar process before the 2008 downturn. We’ve always been aware of it and known that, at some point, we had to seriously look at other options, so that’s never been a surprise.

It’s interesting how intertwined how the whole concept of developing the surface lots is around housing, best-used space, sustainability, higher-density, and the downtown corridor. The library is a part of it, too — the argument that the old library is beyond repair needs to be taken seriously. Is that lot going to be demolished? What are we going to do with that space?

Everyone talks about the need for more workforce-based housing, but there’s not a lot of places to build housing without creating friction and problems with neighborhoods. It makes the most sense to put housing in the downtown corridor. I really would like to see more housing opportunities for people that live here, and the downtown area seems to have the least amount of impact.

What does this ballot initiative mean on the whole?

My guess is that this ballot initiative is not just about the farmers market, but about bigger, bigger things involving the downtown corridor, the development of downtown, and housing. It’s way, way bigger than just this event that happens four to five hours a week — we’re just getting lumped with it.

There are these groups out there with a vision of what they want to see and where they want to see it, and that’s their prerogative, but that’s not us, that’s not our voice. We’ve been in a shared pursuit to find a permanent home for the market in locations that would support the market’s growth, we just haven’t figured out where that would be. Once this process starts to jell more and more and we get more serious about it, we’ll know where we’ll go.

John **Hall** **responds**

Lookout reached out to Longinotti and Hall for comment. Hall responded via email:

“Nesh and I have had a series of good discussions about Lot 4 and the Downtown Farmers Market over the years, and in the past few months I’ve let him know that a ballot initiative was being developed. He very kindly offered me an opportunity to speak with the farmers market board on Aug. 30 and we had a full discussion of the ballot initiative specifics.

We strongly believe that, when compared to any realistic alternative, the present location of the Downtown Farmers Market, Lot 4, is its best location. The market is tremendously successful there, and with better landscaping, permanent facilities, and other amenities, it can be even better. If Our Downtown, Our Future’s ballot initiative is successful, we look forward to working with the farmers market, the city, and the community to make Lot 4 a public centerpiece of downtown Santa Cruz.”

Check back with Lookout for further updates on the initiative and the plans for Lot 4.



Scotts Valley Library shuts down for renovations

<https://pressbanner.com/scotts-valley-library-shuts-down-for-renovations/>



The Scotts Valley Branch Library recently closed to undergo renovations. — Drew Penner/Press Banner

By: [DREW PENNER](#) August 3, 2021



Just weeks after reopening, following the coronavirus lockdowns, the Scotts Valley Branch Library—one of the most frequented branches in the county—has closed.

This time it's not because more people are contracting Covid-19—although case numbers are rising, again.

The location is undergoing a series of upgrades, from sound dampening to structural improvements. It's the branch's turn in line for a Measure S-tax dollar infusion.

"It's great it's going to be newer," said Paul Williams, a library assistant, who popped out of the closed facility Monday to collect the pile of returns. "They're doing some earthquake retrofits."

Just then, a minivan pulls up. Inside is Bella Cantey, 18, and her mom, Joell. Their timing is excellent.

They hand a stack of books off to Williams without even having to leave the vehicle.

"It's sad," Cantey said of the library closure before flipping quickly to a positive outlook on the future of the space. "I can't wait to see what it looks like. It's pretty exciting."

In 2016, area voters approved [Measure S](#) to generate \$67 million in bonds to fix up or replace all 10 branches in the Santa Cruz Public Library system. Felton just got a brand new library. The Boulder Creek branch is currently getting work done, too.

According to the funding formula, Scotts Valley is in line for \$3.75 million for library branch improvements.

Bella Cantey and her mom Joell manage to pass their book returns to library assistant Paul Williams. Now that the branch is closed, such interactions are rare. — Drew Penner/Press Banner The Library Renovations Subcommittee worked with city and library officials, a project architect, and a design firm to come up with a list of potential improvements.

That list includes seismic upgrades, automatic doors, a new location for the service desk, moving the computer desk away from the children’s area, new furniture, bike racks, benches and new drinking fountains with bottle filling stations.

“The Scotts Valley library is a much-loved absolutely-cherished facility,” City Manager Tina Friend said July 30, the day before the closure. “It’s one of the busiest places after school.”

After handing off the returns, Cantey reflected on how great a place the Scotts Valley branch is for connecting with people.

“I don’t talk very much,” she said. “But it’s nice to just go and sit in the library and just read.”

The library is a great place to soak up community energy, she adds.

“When the kids get let out of school, I love going in there and just listening to them talk,” she said.

“They’ll talk about random things.

“It brings people together.”



The Knight family—Beatrix, 6, dad Beau, and brother Quint, 9—hang out in the shade not far from the library, which is

undergoing improvements, including the installation of sound-dampening equipment. —

Drew Penner/Press

Banner Just around the corner toward Skypark, the Knight family is relaxing in the shade.

Quint Knight, 9,

says he just got a library card a few weeks back.

“It was actually really easy,” he said.

He’s been listening to “One-Punch Man,” a Japanese superhero story, but he says he’d rather be reading it.

“It’s about this guy, Saitama, and he works out every day,” he said, explaining the character can shatter anything with a single punch. “I’d prefer it as a manga. I just feel turning pages is better.”

His younger sister, Beatrix, 6, is a little more digitally-inclined—“You can just click a button,” she points out, characterizing the audio selection or web-browsing process.

Her favorites are Dr. Seuss and Pete the Cat titles.

She says she enjoys “reading time” at school, where the class breaks off into groups and students read to each other.

But the Scotts Valley branch is much bigger than the one at Brook Knoll Elementary School, where they attend.

“That library is like a billion times bigger,” Quint said. “It’s probably, like, a quarter of the skatepark.”

In fact, it’s 100% of the size of a roller rink—because that is what it used to be in its former life. It was turned into a library in 2011, and has had work done on its HVAC system, and parking lot since then.

But the interior acoustics of a place that’s supposed to be all but silent have been an issue.

“You don’t have a lot of compartmentalization into rooms,” Friend said. “Sound really echoes.”

That’s why the new designs will put a large focus on what’s called “attenuation”—the focused reduction of sound energy.

Three companies submitted bids that were being reviewed by officials this week. S&H Construction, Inc.’s total bid was \$3.6 million, CRW Industries, Inc.’s was \$3.3 million, and Patriot Contracting, Inc.’s was just over \$3 million.

Staff recommended City Council award the contract to Patriot Contracting, Inc. for their “base bid” of \$2.3 million and three additional components—for a total of \$2.9 million (although it could choose to add some extra landscaping work, later).

The City Council was set to consider the item during its Wednesday meeting.

Borrowers can’t put items on hold at the Scotts Valley location anymore, and all remaining holds are being sent to the Felton branch.

There are other changes going on behind the scenes, too.

Jim Landreth, who was selected for the Library Advisory Commission by the Scotts Valley City Council in January 2019, resigned. The City Council received an application from Pamela “Peppy” Woll, saying she’d like to serve as the community’s representative and was looking at approving her appointment Wednesday.

In about six months, when the library is expected to reopen, it’ll be nice to have a place Quint and Beatrix can go again, says dad, Beau.

“It’s just cool cultural stuff, even if you don’t check out a book,” he said, adding there are definitely awesome parts to old-school literacy, too. “There’s a certain smell to old books.”

Scotts Valley city projects inch toward completion | Council Briefs

By: [DREW PENNER](#) August 13, 2021 (excerpt only) <https://pressbanner.com/scotts-valley-city-projects-inch-toward-completion-council-briefs/>

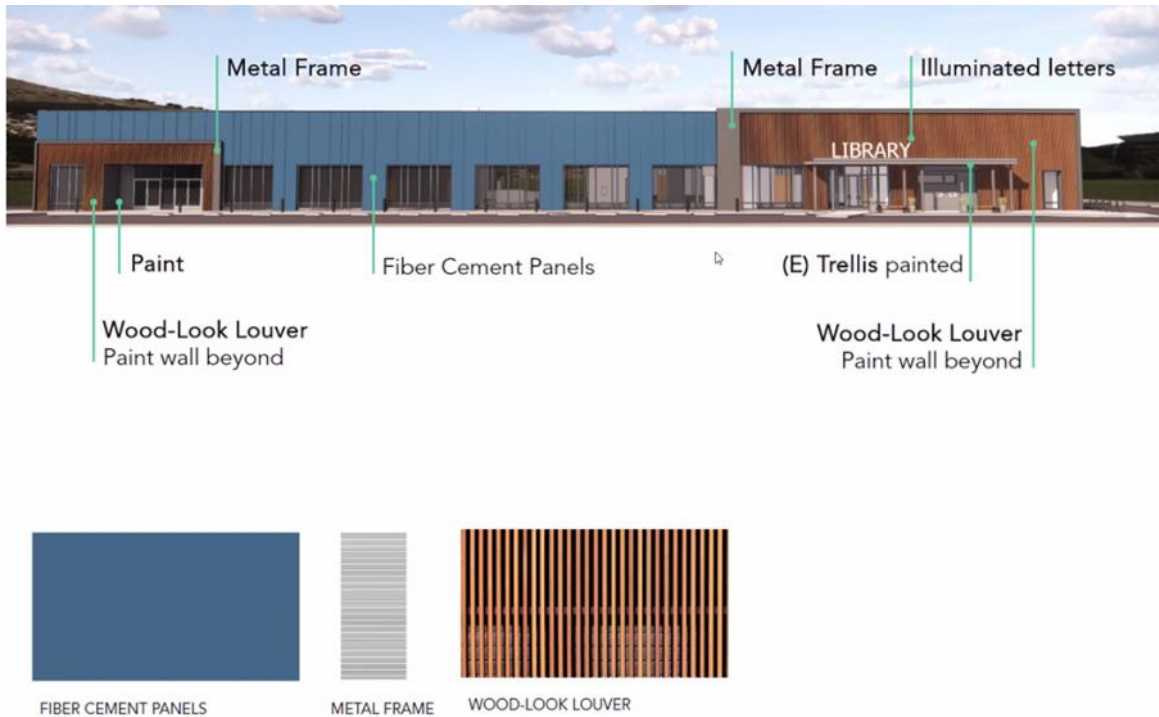
Library Contract Approved

Council unanimously approved deploying \$3,002,150 toward library renovations over the next six months—most of which will come from Measure S funds.

The rest will be sourced from library development impact fees (the current balance of the account is \$363,127) and excess “maintenance of efforts” dollars (money that comes from property taxes—the balance of that account is currently \$592,892).

The General Fund won’t be impacted.

Council handed a \$2,878,450 contract to Patriot Contracting, Inc. to get the job done, and extended a contract with Group 4—up to \$100,000, for extra design work. Both motions were approved unanimously.



Council approved \$3 million in renovations for the Scotts Valley Branch Library, including both interior and exterior updates. — courtesy of the city of Scotts Valley

Councilmember Donna Lind remembers the community effort that allowed a roller rink to morph into a library in the first place.

“We were really proud of that opening, but it has been 10 years,” Lind said, adding she’s excited about the next phase. “I really thank everyone for the work that’s been done on the project.

She added: “Where did 10 years go?”

Friend said a big component of the renovations will be ensuring the structural integrity of the building.

“We’re doing significant seismic upgrades,” she said. “We will know that we have a building that is up to code, that is going to be durable, that is going to be safe for our community.”

But it’s also about boosting visitor experience, she said.

“We’re adding a second set of doors as you enter the library vestibule,” she said. “As you walk in the library now, there’s a single set of doors. And with you, in comes the wind, the leaves, the dirt, and whatever detritus is outside.”

The new automatic doors will make the library accessible to people of all ability levels, she added.

“We’re also reconfiguring the big kids’ and little kids’ areas to freshen it up, to create better separation, to move things like the computers out of the little kids section, and over to a bigger kids section,” Friend said, adding there will also be new carpet and flooring, furnishings, paint and bike racks.

“It really is going to be a wonderful facelift for our library, and also a functional improvement overall,” she said.

Councilmember Randy Johnson said the “curb appeal” of a new building exterior will be an important part of reflecting the interior beauty.

“As great as this is and will be, I think you kind of have to match it with your exterior,” he said.

“Because right now, with all due respect to whoever the architect was back 50 years ago or whatever, it is kind of drab.”

Proposed change to Santa Cruz mixed-use library plan exposes deep divides

BY [GRACE STETSON](#) | SEP 14, 2021 | 1:53 PM

<https://lookout.co/santacruz/civic-life/housing/story/2021-09-14/santa-cruz-city-council-proposed-change-to-mixed-use-library-plan-exposes-deep-divides>

On Monday, two groups sent a proposal to Santa Cruz City Council asking it to reevaluate spending \$2.29 million on the library master architect contract. But some affordable housing advocates say the proposal will take away affordable units from downtown under the guise of more open space for Santa Cruzans.



The front of the Santa Cruz Public Library. (Kevin Painchaud / Lookout Santa Cruz)

A last-minute plea to turn a proposed affordable housing development into a park — and put the housing units elsewhere in Santa Cruz’s downtown — is exposing an increasing lack of trust between the city’s pro-growth and low-growth factions.

Specifically, pro-growth groups claim the proposal from Our Downtown is actually an attempt to stop the project from being built anywhere. Part of the suspicion relates to the involvement of Rick Longinotti, a longtime sustainability and anti-development advocate.

UPDATE: The current version of this story has additional information regarding the Santa Cruz City Council’s decision to hire a master architect for the project.

On Monday, Longinotti — co-chair of the Campaign for Sustainable Transportation, which is working with Our Downtown — released a letter to the Santa Cruz City Council imploring its members to reconsider the plan for Lot 4. Under the current plan, the parcel bounded by Lincoln, Cedar and Cathcart streets would become a parking garage and renovated library space combined with a housing development.

Longinotti said his groups — as well as others — would begin collecting signatures from voters in a bid to allow the public to decide the fate of the mixed-use project, and instead to use the Lot 4 land as a permanent home for the downtown farmers market. If successful, the initiative would be on the ballot in November 2022.

“I urge you to put off spending funds on this project until the voters have had a chance to decide,” he wrote. “This would prevent the City from expending funds unnecessarily.”

Kyle Kelley, a member of Our Downtown by way of Santa Cruz YIMBY, grew perturbed by the group’s messaging surrounding this proposal, and felt the need to speak out against Longinotti’s plan with Lookout.

“It’s been going forward for years now and this is an attempt to stop the project,” he said. “And they’re making it seem like they’re going for something else.”

While the proposal appears to advocate for the farmers market and a central downtown park for Santa Cruzans, Kelley said it ignores what’s actually needed in Santa Cruz.

“The reality is that we need housing in the community,” he said. “People need housing, there’s no denying it.”

When asked to respond to the specific claims about the groups’ larger intentions, Longinotti said he believes moving forward with the current mixed-use development plan would squander the potential for more affordable housing, and that affordable housing advocates should feel the same way.

[Timeline for new Santa Cruz library development revealed, but aspects of big project still in flux](#)
“Why don’t we ask for 100% of what we want?” he asked. “The city has, based on an ill-conceived idea, bit off a project that is way more complex than what may be able to be delivered. It’s a failure waiting to happen.”

As approved by 70% of voters in 2016, Measure S would allow for a \$67 million bond measure toward rebuilding and renovating 10 public library branches across the county by 2025. [At the downtown location](#), the city aims to replace the 52-year-old library building with a renovated space, a 400-space parking garage, and at least 50 affordable housing units.

According to [the Facilities Master Plan](#), the new library alone could cost between \$25 million and \$35 million.

In his letter, Longinotti referred to previous reports that describe downtown as already having too much parking, leading to even less space for affordable housing. John Hall, co-chair for Our Downtown who also collaborates with Longinotti, said via phone Monday that every two parking spaces proposed in the mixed-income building takes away at least one one-bedroom unit.

“What we propose is keeping the same priorities in general, but doing it all in a different way,” Hall said. “That means renovating the library in its existing location, to help keep it as part of the city center, keeping the farmers market where it is, and prioritizing affordable housing development on other city parking lots, on Lot 7 in particular.”

Lot 7 is at the corner of Front and Cathcart streets.

Emily Ham, executive director of the Santa Cruz County Business Council, met with supporters of the mixed-use development just last week in collaboration with the group [Downtown Forward](#). She said she heard of Longinotti and company’s counterproposal for Lot 4 only on Monday when the letter was released.

“There is really fierce neighborhood and community opposition, both with this project and any affordable housing project proposed in Santa Cruz,” she said. “This anti-development opposition has to be a little crafty in how they choose to oppose these types of projects ... it’s frustrating for housing advocates and business leaders who really want to see projects like this happen.”

She further noted that the business council endorsed the original Measure S proposal for the library renovation project from its inception and has continued to support it as “exactly what we need in the city of Santa Cruz, and exactly what the state is asking us to do.”

“When it comes to housing development and development in general, it’s best practice to do mixed-use projects like this, and maximize our space,” she said. “It’s surprising how controversial it’s actually becoming.”

On Tuesday, the Santa Cruz City Council voted 6-1 to select Jayson Architecture as the master architect for the project. The group will lead the community outreach for the project and further represent the city’s interests and goals in the mixed-use development, incorporating community feedback into the plans.

According to spokesperson Elizabeth Smith of the City Manager’s Office, the proposed ballot measure would not impact the project unless it were to be on the Nov. 2022 ballot and pass.

“Unless and until City Council directs us otherwise, we will proceed on the timeline as prescribed,” she said.

Correction: An earlier version of this story listed the sum of the library master architect contract as \$2.9 million; it is \$2.29 million.



Help is at the Library



Homework Help
Offering free academic help at all levels, **Brainfuse** has live online tutoring in elementary, middle school, high school, college, and adult education. Writing a paper? Send your paper to a tutor and receive a response within 24 hours. Maestros en



E-Content
Ebooks & Eaudio: Tumblebooks, Overdrive/Libby, Hoopla

Educational Databases: Explora, In Context, Khan Academy, Sesame Street, PBS, and many many more!



Free Printing
The Santa Cruz Public Library System is pleased to provide wireless printing at no charge. Up to 30 pages or 5 print jobs are allowed per day. Print jobs may be picked up during normal hours. Print jobs may be sent 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. **Choose the**

Reviews Yelp

Felton received a 5 Star Review on August 19

This new library space is amazing. I love libraries and different spaces have unique qualities and this one is one of the special ones, I think. Super accessible, clean, very helpful librarians! I really like the way they designed the space because it feels uncrowded and safe. Its a whole experience, the library, the courtyard and next door discovery park. They also have a giant moth on display! Thank you library!

Google My Business

Capitola received a 5 Star Rating with no review on July 26

Live Oak received a 5 Star Rating with no review on July 27

Felton received a 5 Star Review on July 28

I went to the walk with a SC County parks staff person, listened to Tandy Beal's music presentation on her flat bed truck, and ended with my first visit to the fabulous Felton library. It was a delightful morning. Diane Dearing

Scotts Valley received a 5 Star Rating with no review on July 29

Downtown received a 4 Star Rating with no review on July 31

Capitola received a 5 Star Rating with no review on July 31

Felton received a 5 Star Rating with no review on August 14

Capitola received a 5 Star Review on August 15

Lovely new building.

Capitola received a 4 Star Rating with no review on August 16

Downtown received a 5 Star Rating with no review on August 16

Downtown received a 5 Star Rating with no review on August 19

Capitola received a 1 Star Review on August 19

So glad they RE-built the library only to never be open. Who can go to the library between 10-6 not working people or students who play sports after school. Good use of tax payers money.....

Aptos received a 5 Star Rating with no review on August 22



Felton received a 5 Star Rating with no Review on September 20, 2021

Capitola received a 5 Star Review on September 22

Quiet, spacious and accommodating

Capitola received a 5 Star Rating with no review on September 28

Chair Carlos Palacios
Vice Chair Jamie Goldstein
Board Member Rosemary Menard
Board Member Casey Estorga



STAFF REPORT

DATE: October 7, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Director
RE: 4th Quarter Financial Report

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

DISCUSSION

The fourth quarter or annual financial report covers July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. All financial figures included in this report are unaudited.

Revenues

Total Revenue for this quarter: 100.7%

Sales Tax 105.6%

Maintenance of Effort 102.1%

Expenditures

Total actual expenditures for this quarter: 65.7%

Personnel Costs

Total Personnel costs for this quarter: 81.4%

Regular Full Time 82.5%

Part Time 72.8%

Attachments: 4th Quarter Financial Reports (Expenditure, Personnel and Revenue)

Report Prepared by: Kira Henifin, Principal Management Analyst

Reviewed and Forwarded by: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director

Revenue Balances

Criteria: Summarize By = Report,Fund,Account; As Of = 6/30/2021; Period = 0,1..12; Fund = 951

Acct	Title	Year-To-Date Ado Budget	Year-To-Date Adjustments	Year-To-Date Adj Budget	Year-To-Date Actual	Bdgt. to Act. Variance	Pct. Spent
Fund 951 -- Library Joint Powers Authority							
41211	Sales and use tax	6,913,172.00	1,775,261.00	8,688,433.00	9,176,532.42	(488,099.42)	105.6%
43190	Federal grants - other	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.0%
43210	State operating grants and contributions	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	(10,000.00)	0.0%
43310	Local operating grants and contributions	0.00	311,250.00	311,250.00	317,850.00	(6,600.00)	102.1%
43311	Maintenance of effort contributions	5,795,273.00	0.00	5,795,273.00	5,784,276.11	10,996.89	99.8%
43354	County of SC - reimbursements	0.00	18,780.00	18,780.00	49,347.00	(30,567.00)	262.8%
44630	Room rentals-library JPA	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,640.00	(4,640.00)	0.0%
45131	Library fines	70,250.00	0.00	70,250.00	11,189.38	59,060.62	15.9%
46110	Pooled cash and investment interest	92,840.00	0.00	92,840.00	16,763.41	76,076.59	18.1%
46190	Interest earnings - other	17,610.00	0.00	17,610.00	8,918.64	8,691.36	50.6%
46303	Donations - library	13,100.00	36,735.64	49,835.64	10.00	49,825.64	0.0%
46309	Donations - library - Friends of the Lib	27,923.00	437,249.19	465,172.19	295,217.68	169,954.51	63.5%
46910	Miscellaneous operating revenue	8,500.00	0.00	8,500.00	12,150.07	(3,650.07)	142.9%
46990	Miscellaneous non-operating revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	485.00	(485.00)	0.0%
49105	From Workers' Compensation Fund	33,175.00	0.00	33,175.00	0.00	33,175.00	0.0%
49122	From Library Private Trust Fund	22,190.00	11,702.96	33,892.96	0.00	33,892.96	0.0%
Total Library Joint Powers Authority		12,994,033.00	2,591,978.79	15,586,011.79	15,687,379.71	(101,367.92)	
Total		12,994,033.00	2,591,978.79	15,586,011.79	15,687,379.71	(101,367.92)	

Expenditure Balances

Criteria: Summarize By = Report,Account,Account, As Of = 6/30/2021: Period = 0,1,12; Activity = 36*; Account = 52*,53*,54*,55*,56*,57*,58*,59*

Acct	Title	Year-To-Date Ado Budget	Year-To-Date Adjustments	Year-To-Date Adj Budget	Year-To-Date Actual	Year-To-Date Encumbrances	Bdgt. to Act. Variance	Pct. Spent
52131	Claims management services - outside	12,000.00	0.00	12,000.00	3,200.98	0.00	8,799.02	26.7%
52135	Financial services - outside	485,560.00	0.00	485,560.00	493,255.00	0.00	(7,695.00)	101.6%
52150	Merchant bank fees	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00	304.19	0.00	895.81	25.3%
52155	Courier services	2,410.00	516.45	2,926.45	1,929.55	0.00	996.90	65.9%
52199	Other professional & technical services	162,300.00	8,934.10	171,234.10	61,334.26	0.00	109,899.84	35.8%
52201	Water, sewer and refuse	74,460.00	0.00	74,460.00	66,681.76	0.00	7,778.24	89.6%
52202	Hazardous materials disposal	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.0%
52211	Janitorial services	335,625.00	0.00	335,625.00	231,474.88	0.00	104,150.32	69.0%
52223	Equip annual inventory charge - internal	4,690.00	0.00	4,690.00	0.00	0.00	4,690.00	0.0%
52226	Vehicle work order charges - internal	22,000.00	0.00	22,000.00	10,009.53	0.00	11,990.47	45.5%
52227	Vehicle fuel island charges - internal	16,485.00	0.00	16,485.00	7,700.78	0.00	8,784.22	46.7%
52240	Office equipment operation/maint	7,700.00	0.00	7,700.00	4,598.09	0.00	3,101.91	59.7%
52241	Vehicle maintenance costs - outside	6,500.00	0.00	6,500.00	0.00	0.00	6,500.00	0.0%
52244	Other equipment operation/maintenance	12,650.00	0.00	12,650.00	2,643.75	0.00	10,006.25	20.9%
52246	Building and facility o & m - outside	286,412.00	0.00	286,412.00	128,923.94	0.00	157,488.06	45.0%
52247	Landscaping maintenance services	43,800.00	15,000.00	58,800.00	40,482.82	0.00	18,317.18	68.8%
52248	Software maintenance services	472,329.00	0.00	472,329.00	236,480.44	0.00	235,848.56	50.1%
52249	Hardware maintenance services	43,000.00	0.00	43,000.00	37,288.26	0.00	5,711.74	86.7%
52251	Equipment, building and land rentals	240,452.00	0.00	240,452.00	285,087.50	0.00	(44,635.50)	118.6%
52259	Equipment lease-outside	18,000.00	0.00	18,000.00	25,761.88	0.00	(7,761.88)	143.1%
52302	Travel and meetings	11,200.00	0.00	11,200.00	212.67	0.00	10,987.03	1.9%
52304	Training	82,300.00	0.00	82,300.00	8,734.15	0.00	73,565.85	10.6%
52403	Telecommunications service - outside	221,385.00	0.00	221,385.00	116,097.43	0.00	105,287.57	52.4%
52832	Liability insurance/surety bonds-interna	37,442.00	0.00	37,442.00	37,442.00	0.00	0.00	100.0%
52833	Liability insurance/surety bonds-outside	68,000.00	0.00	68,000.00	56,659.00	0.00	11,341.00	83.3%
52960	Advertising	31,570.00	0.00	31,570.00	14,465.16	0.00	17,104.84	45.8%
52961	Dues and memberships	37,453.00	0.00	37,453.00	33,367.00	0.00	4,086.00	89.1%
52972	Printing and binding-outside	32,600.00	0.00	32,600.00	10,023.00	0.00	22,577.00	30.7%
53101	Postage charges	7,000.00	0.00	7,000.00	3,822.82	0.00	3,177.18	54.6%
53102	Office supplies	23,250.00	0.00	23,250.00	10,542.74	0.00	12,707.26	45.3%
53106	Books and periodicals	1,202,189.00	338,490.48	1,540,678.48	1,111,833.73	0.00	428,844.75	72.2%
53107	Books and periodicals-grants & donations	21,923.00	157,197.31	179,120.31	87,969.95	0.00	91,150.36	49.1%
53108	Safety clothing and equipment	13,910.00	0.00	13,910.00	18,542.96	0.00	(4,632.96)	133.3%
53109	Copier supplies	6,005.00	0.00	6,005.00	0.00	0.00	6,005.00	0.0%
53112	Library functional supplies	171,500.00	0.00	171,500.00	122,851.70	0.00	48,648.30	71.6%
53113	Janitorial supplies	24,750.00	0.00	24,750.00	7,707.82	0.00	17,042.18	31.1%
53311	Electricity	195,525.00	0.00	195,525.00	148,431.94	0.00	47,093.06	75.9%

Expenditure Balances

Criteria: Summarize By = Report,Account,Account; As Of = 6/30/2021; Period = 0,1..12; Activity = 36*; Account = 52*,53*,54*,55*,56*,57*,56*,59*

Acct	Title	Year-To-Date Adc Budget	Year-To-Date Adjustments	Year-To-Date Adj Budget	Year-To-Date Actual	Year-To-Date Encumbrances	Bdgt. to Act. Variance	Pct. Spent
53312	Natural gas	27,550.00	0.00	27,550.00	35,909.18	0.00	(8,359.18)	130.3%
54990	Miscellaneous supplies and services	188,423.00	(12,432.30)	175,990.70	82,454.42	0.00	93,536.28	46.9%
56990	Loans and grants	0.00	600,000.00	600,000.00	265,412.13	0.00	334,587.87	44.2%
56995	Refunded fees and fines	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	223.33	0.00	1,776.67	11.2%
57401	Office furniture/equipment	18,000.00	0.00	18,000.00	19,017.16	0.00	(1,017.16)	105.7%
57409	Computer equipment	150,000.00	13,780.00	168,780.00	93,259.13	8,621.90	66,868.97	60.4%
57990	Other capital outlay	100,000.00	(50,000.00)	50,000.00	19,855.81	0.00	30,144.19	39.7%
Total		4,922,047.00	1,076,486.04	5,998,533.04	3,941,992.94	8,621.90	2,047,918.20	

Expenditure Balances

Criteria: Summarize By = Report,Account,Account; As Of = 6/30/2021; Period = 0,1,12; Activity = 35*; Account = 51*

Acct	Title	Year-To-Date Ado Budget	Year-To-Date Adjustments	Year-To-Date Adj Budget	Year-To-Date Actual	Year-To-Date Encumbrances	Bdgt. to Act. Variance	Pct. Spent
51110	Regular full time	6,062,493.00	0.00	6,062,493.00	5,001,516.58	0.00	1,060,976.42	82.5%
51111	Regular part time	1,105,344.00	0.00	1,105,344.00	604,651.17	0.00	300,482.83	72.8%
51114	Overtime	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	547.07	0.00	4,452.93	10.9%
51115	Termination pay	0.00	0.00	0.00	50,847.80	0.00	(50,847.80)	0.0%
51122	Temporary	713,000.00	(573,398.85)	139,601.15	89,601.15	0.00	50,000.00	64.2%
51130	Other pay	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,489.23	0.00	(3,489.23)	0.0%
51132	Special vacation pay	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,918.70	0.00	(13,918.70)	0.0%
51150	Vehicle-phone-data allowance	2,964.00	0.00	2,964.00	2,973.80	0.00	(9.80)	100.3%
51201	Retirement contribution	460,973.00	0.00	460,973.00	370,645.78	0.00	90,327.22	80.4%
51202	F.I.C.A.	99,960.00	0.00	99,960.00	4,829.87	0.00	95,130.13	4.8%
51203	PERS unfunded liability	1,137,607.00	0.00	1,137,607.00	917,656.51	0.00	219,950.39	80.7%
51206	PERS Unfunded payment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	(0.02)	0.0%
51210	Group health insurance	1,510,209.00	0.00	1,510,209.00	1,302,310.10	0.00	207,898.90	86.2%
51212	Group dental insurance	94,379.00	0.00	94,379.00	86,434.14	0.00	7,944.86	91.6%
51213	Vision insurance	16,033.00	0.00	16,033.00	14,201.47	0.00	1,831.53	88.6%
51214	Medicare insurance	100,571.00	0.00	100,571.00	83,509.20	0.00	17,061.80	83.0%
51215	Employee assistance program	4,152.00	0.00	4,152.00	3,494.61	0.00	657.39	84.2%
51220	Group life insurance	1,847.00	0.00	1,847.00	1,640.37	0.00	206.63	88.8%
51221	Disability insurance	79,098.00	0.00	79,098.00	35,764.35	0.00	43,333.65	45.2%
51222	SDI	30,260.00	0.00	30,260.00	25,390.23	0.00	3,869.77	87.2%
51230	Unemployment insurance	56,992.00	0.00	56,992.00	45,820.59	0.00	11,171.41	80.4%
51240	Workers' compensation	186,741.00	0.00	186,741.00	168,809.06	0.00	17,931.94	90.4%
Total		11,667,623.00	(573,398.85)	11,094,224.15	9,029,261.90	0.00	2,064,962.25	

Chair Carlos Palacios
Vice Chair Jamie Goldstein
Board Member Rosemary Menard
Board Member Casey Estorga



STAFF REPORT

DATE: October 7, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: Approve Monterey Peninsula Foundation
Grant Matching Funds from FSCPL

RECOMMENDATION

1. Approve FSCPL matching funds totaling \$159K spent directly to the County for the Boulder Creek (\$75K) and La Selva Beach projects (\$84K).
2. Accept the final FSCPL matching funds totaling \$93K to conclude the matching funds match for the Monterey Peninsula Foundation Grant. These funds are earmarked for Garfield Park (\$84K) and Boulder Creek (\$9K).

DISCUSSION

The Santa Cruz Public Libraries was awarded a matching grant in the amount of \$300,000 from the Monterey Bay Peninsula Foundation. The grant was awarded to help with building project costs for the Boulder Creek, Garfield Park and La Selva Beach Library Branches.

FSCPL matching funds of \$300K have been set to be split equally between the three building projects. FSCPL paid \$159K directly to the County for the Boulder Creek and La Selva Beach projects.

FSCPL will be transferring its final matching funds to the library to finish funding the Boulder Creek project and the Garfield Park project.

Report Prepared by: Kira Henifin, Principal Management Analyst
Reviewed and Forwarded by: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director

Chair Carlos Palacios
Vice Chair Jamie Goldstein
Board Member Rosemary Menard
Board Member Casey Estorga



STAFF REPORT

DATE: October 7, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: Accept Funds and Amend the FY 22 Budget

RECOMMENDATION

Approve and amend the FY 21/22 Library Budget in the amount of \$20,105.

DISCUSSION

The Friends fundraised \$20,105 in the past few years for the Live Oak Library Branch. They would like these funds transferred to the County of Santa Cruz to help support and enhance the Measure S project at the Live Oak Branch Library.

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: 2021/2022
 Date: 10/07/2021

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

Purpose: Accept funds from FSCPL for Live Oak Library Measure S project. LJPB approved at its 10/7/2021 meeting.

ACCOUNT	PROJECT	REVENUE EDEN ACCOUNT TITLE	AMOUNT
951-36-51-0000-46309		Donations-Library-Friends of the Library	20,105
p360010-508-0-1094		Live Oak Library Branch	
		TOTAL REVENUE	20,105

ACCOUNT	PROJECT	EXPENDITURE EDEN ACCOUNT TITLE	AMOUNT
951-36-51-3601-54990		Misc. Supplies	20,105
p360010-100-2020-0		Live Oak Library Branch	
		TOTAL EXPENDITURE	20,105

NET: \$ -0

REQUESTED BY	DEPARTMENT HEAD APPROVAL	BUDGET/ACCOUNTING* APPROVAL	FINANCE DIRECTOR APPROVAL	CITY MANAGER APPROVAL

Chair Carlos Palacios
 Vice Chair Jamie Goldstein
 Board Member Rosemary Menard
 Board Member Casey Estorga



STAFF REPORT

AGENDA: October 7, 2021
 TO: Board of Directors
 FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
 SUBJECT: Election of Interim Board Chair and Board Vice-Chair

RECOMMENDATION

Elect the Interim Board Chair and Vice-Chair as the County of Santa Cruz and the City of Capitola respectively.

BACKGROUND

The LJPA agreement requires that at the first meeting of the new year (January/February) the Board shall elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair. The Chair is the presiding officer and shall sign all contracts of the LJPA unless otherwise provided by a Board resolution. Due to the resignations of the 2021 Chair (City of Santa Cruz) and the Vice-Chair (City of Scotts Valley) interim Board Chairs have to be nominated.

DISCUSSION

The rotation schedule for 2021 and the next 4 years is as follows:

YEAR	CHAIR	VICE-CHAIR
2021	City of Santa Cruz	City of Scotts Valley
Interim for October through December 2021	County of Santa Cruz	City of Capitola
2022	City of Scotts Valley	County of Santa Cruz
2023	County of Santa Cruz	City of Capitola
2024	City of Capitola	City of Santa Cruz

Report prepared by: Kira Henifin, Principal Management Analyst

Reviewed and Forwarded by: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director

Chair Carlos Palacios
Vice Chair Jamie Goldstein
Board Member Rosemary Menard
Board Member Casey Estorga



STAFF REPORT

DATE: October 7, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: SCPL Policies – Review

RECOMMENDATION

Review and discuss SCPL policies #101, #102 and #103.

DISCUSSION

The Library is asking the LJPB to review the attached policies. No major changes have been made or are suggested.

If no changes are necessary, the Library will bring back to the LJPB in December for approval in updating their next review date.

Attachments:
#101 Alcoholic Beverages Policy
#102 Communications Policy for Board Members
#103 Conflict of Interest Code Policy

Alcoholic Beverages Policy

JPAB Policy # 101
Approved: 5/2018
Last Revised: 6/2015
Five-year Review Schedule: 2/2020

1. Permission to serve alcoholic beverages on library premises must be approved by the Director of Libraries, and be for a designated area only.
2. During regular library hours, the serving of alcoholic beverages is permitted in meeting rooms and lobby areas only. Other areas may be designated when the library facility is closed.
3. The following conditions must be satisfied before permission to serve alcoholic beverages will be granted:
 - a. The applicant must represent a local, not-for-profit group that will directly conduct and benefit from the event.
 - b. Permission must be requested in writing at least 21 days in advance of the proposed event.
4. Selling alcoholic beverages further requires:
 - a. That an Alcoholic Beverage Control License be obtained from Alcoholic Beverage Control
 - b. That the Police or Sheriff's Departments determine staffing levels required for security services. These services will be provided at the group's expense.
 - c. The group must demonstrate that it has complied with the requirements in a. and b. above.
5. Restrictions:
 - a. Alcohol is not permitted at youth activity events or at public hearings, nor may alcohol be served to minors.
 - b. No leftover food or beverages may be left on library premises.
 - c. The applicant is responsible for all additional maintenance and personnel costs resulting from use of alcoholic beverages.

Guidelines for Board Members and Meetings: Communication and Decorum

JPAB Policy #102

Adopted: 9/12/2005

Revised: 9/9/2013

Five-year Review Schedule: 2018

Although the duties of the Library Joint Powers Authority Board include adopting and overseeing the enforcement of rules, regulations, and policies for the Library System, it is the policy of the Library Joint Powers Authority Board that all matters concerning management functions and the day-to-day operations of the Library are the responsibility of the Director of Libraries., and in her absence, the designated person in charge. Therefore, requests for information about library operations will usually be made to the Director, who will respond or direct an appropriate staff member to respond. It is always helpful if requests are made in writing, outlining the purpose and intent of the request, so that the Director and staff can respond as thoroughly as possible. The Director of Libraries or her designees will make every effort to provide all relevant information on the topic.

Work assignments to staff desired by the Board or related to Board activities will also be arranged through the Director of Libraries.

However, members of the Board may have occasion or desire to talk directly with Library staff about library matters. If they do, they should follow the guidelines below, which have been developed to ensure that the Board has access to information about the Library, and to ensure that the information they receive is accurate.

The Library Joint Powers Authority Board welcomes comment from the public either on issues that are part of the regular Agenda, or as part of Oral Communications, when the public may comment on items not on the Agenda.

Communication

Board members should distinguish between operating information questions of fact (Branch open hours, circulation data, etc.) that can easily be answered by most staff, and policy information, which would most appropriately be directed to the Branch Manager or another senior staff member.

Board members will never discuss with staff or ask for information about individual Library personnel matters: hiring, discipline, promotion, complaints about supervisors, or evaluations of other staff members.

Board members will never ask a staff member to research a question or take on a project involving added work. Those requests should be made to the Director of Libraries, who will make an assignment to appropriate staff.

Conversation between library staff and Board members is encouraged as a mechanism to obtain different perspectives on library operations; however, should a Board member be investigating a specific aspect of library operations, common courtesy warrants that the Library Director be informed as appropriate.

Board Meetings Decorum

The following rules will govern behavior at Board meetings.

1. While the Library Joint Powers Authority Board is in session, all persons shall preserve order and decorum. Any person making personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, or becoming boisterous or otherwise disrupting the Board meeting shall be barred by the presiding officer from further attendance at said meeting unless permission for continued attendance is granted by a majority vote of the Board
2. Every member of the public and every Board member desiring to speak shall address the presiding officer, and upon recognition by the presiding officer, shall confine comments to the question under debate, avoiding all indecorous language and references to personalities and abiding by the following rules of civil debate:
 - a) We may disagree, but we will be respectful of one another
 - b) All comments shall be directed to the issue at hand.
 - c) Personal attacks shall be avoided.
3. Members of the public speaking in the Oral Communications section of the Agenda shall limit their remarks to time to be established by the Chair of the Board, and shall abide by the same rules of civil debate.

Conflict of Interest Code Policy

JPAB Policy # 103
Approved: 2015
Last Revised: 3/2020
Annual Review Schedule: 3/2021

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE
SANTA CRUZ LIBRARY-COUNTY
LIBRARY SYSTEM
January 12, 2015**

Table of Contents

Article I Statutory Provisions
Article II Provisions of Conflict of Interest Code
Section 1 Definitions
Section 2 Designated Employees
Section 3 Disclosure Categories
Section 4 Statement of Economic Interests: Place of Filing
Section 5 Statement of Economic Interest: Time of Filing
Section 6 Contents of and Period Covered by Statements of Economic Interests
Section 7 Manner of Reporting
Section 8 Disqualification
Section 9 Manner of Disqualification
Section 10 Assistance of the Board
Section 11 Violations
Appendix A Schedule of Designated Positions and Their Disclosure Categories
Appendix B General Provisions and List of Disclosure Categories

Originally Adopted by Resolution: 2015-001

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE
FOR THE
SANTA CRUZ LIBRARY-COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM**

= ARTICLE I. STATUTORY PROVISIONS

In compliance with the Political Reform Act of 1974, California Government Code Section 81000 et seq., and specifically with Section 87300 et seq., the Santa Cruz Library-County Library System hereby adopts this Conflict of Interest Code which shall be applicable to all designated employees of the Library. The requirements of this Code are in addition to other requirements of the Political Reform Act, such as the general prohibition against conflicts of interest contained in Government Code Section 87100, and are in addition to any other state or local laws pertaining to conflicts of interest.

ARTICLE II. PROVISION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE

Section 1. Definitions.

The definitions contained in the Political Reform act of 1974, Regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission (2 Cal. Admin. Code Sections 18100 et seq.), and any amendments to the Act or regulations, are incorporated by reference into this Conflict of Interest Code.

Section 2. Designated Employees.

The persons holding positions listed in Appendix A are designated employees. It has been determined that these persons make or participate in the making of decisions which may foreseeably have a material effect on financial interests.

Section 3. Disclosure Categories.

This Code does not establish any disclosure obligation for those designated employees who are also specified in Government Code Section 87200 if they are designated in this Code in that same capacity or if the geographical jurisdiction of the Library System is the same or is wholly included within the jurisdiction in which those persons must report their financial interests pursuant to Article 2 of Chapter 7 of the Political Reform Act, Government Code Sections 87200 et seq.¹

Such persons are covered by this Code for disqualification purposes only. With respect to all other designated employees, the disclosure categories set forth in Appendix A specify which kinds of financial interests are reportable. Such a designated employee shall disclose in his or her statement of economic interests those financial interests he or she has which are of the kind described in the disclosure categories to which he or she is assigned in Appendix A. It has been determined that the financial interests set forth in a designated employee's disclosure categories are the kinds of financial interests which he or she foreseeably can affect materially through the conduct of his or her office.

¹ Designated employees who are required to file statements of economic interests under any other agency's conflict of interest code, or under Article 2 for a different jurisdiction, may expand their statement of economic interests to cover reportable interests in both jurisdictions, and file copies of this expanded statement with both entities in lieu of filing separate and distinct statements, provided that each copy of such expanded statement filed in place of an original is signed and verified by the designated employee as if it were an original. See Govt. Code Section 81004.

Section 4. Statement of Economic Interests: Place of Filing.

All designated employees required to submit a statement of economic interest shall file such statements with the Library Board Clerk, who shall be the filing officer.²

Section 5. Statement of Economic Interests: Time of Filing.

- (a) Initial Statements. All designated employees employed by the Library on the effective date of this Code, as originally adopted, promulgated and approved by the Library Board, shall file statements within thirty days after the effective date of this Code. Thereafter, each person already in a position when it is designated by an amendment to this Code shall file an initial statement within thirty days after the effective date of the amendment.
- (b) Assuming Office Statements. All persons assuming designated positions after the effective date of this Code shall file statements within thirty days after assuming the designated positions.
- (c) Annual Statements. All designated employees shall file statements no later than April 1 of each year.
- (d) Leaving Office Statements. All persons who leave designated positions shall file statements within thirty days after leaving office.

Section 6. Contents of and Period Covered by Statements of Economic Interests.

- (a) Contents of Initial Statements. Initial statements shall disclose any reportable investments, interests in real property and business positions held on the effective date of the Code.
- (b) Contents of Assuming Office Statements. Assuming office statements shall disclose any reportable investments, interests in real property and business positions held on the date of assuming office.
- (c) Contents of Annual Statements. Annual statements shall disclose any reportable investments, interests in real property, income and business positions held or received during the previous calendar year provided, however, that the period covered by an employee's first annual statement shall begin on the effective date of the Code or the date of assuming office whichever is later.
- (d) Contents of Leaving Office Statements. Leaving Office Statements shall disclose reportable investments, interests in real property, income and business positions held or received during the period between the closing of the last statement filed and the date of leaving office.

Section 7. Manner of Reporting.

Statements of economic interests shall be made on forms prescribed by the Fair Political Practices Commission and supplied by the Library and shall contain the following information:

² See Govt. Code Section 81010 and 2 Cal.Admin.Code Section 18115 for the duties of filing officers and persons in agencies who make and return copies of Statements and forward the originals to the filing officer.

(a) Investment and Real Property Disclosure. When an investment or an interest in real property³ is required to be reported⁴ the statement shall contain the following:

1. A statement of the nature of the investment or interest;
2. The name of the business entity in which each investment is held and a general description of the business activity in which the business entity is engaged;
3. The address or other precise location of the real property;
4. A statement whether the fair market value of the investment or interest in real property exceeds two thousand dollars (\$2,000), ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), exceeds one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), or exceeds one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

(b) Personal Income Disclosure. When personal income is required to be reported⁵ the statement shall contain:

1. The name and address of each source of income aggregating five hundred dollars (\$500) or more in value, or fifty (\$50) or more in value if the income was a gift, and a general description of the business activity, if any, of each source.
2. A statement whether the aggregate value of income from each source, or in the case of a loan, the highest amount owed to each source, was at least five hundred dollars (\$500), but did not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000), whether it was greater than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), whether it was greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or whether it was greater than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).
3. A description of the consideration, if any, for which the income was received;
4. In the case of a gift, the name, address and business activity of the donor and any intermediary through which the gift was made, a description of the gift, the amount for value of the gift, and the date on which the gift was received.
5. In the case of a loan, the annual interest rate and the security, if any, given for the loan.

(c) Business Entity Income Disclosure. When income of a business entity, including income of a sole proprietorship, is required to be reported⁵ the statement shall contain:

³ For the purpose of disclosure only (not disqualification), an interest in real property does not include the principal residence of the filer.

⁴ Investments and interests in real property which have a joint market value of less than \$1,000 are not investments and interests in real property within the meaning of the Political Reform Act. However, investments or interests in real property of an individual include those held by the individual's spouse and dependent children as well as a pro rata share of any investment or interest in real property of any business entity or trust in which the individual, spouse and dependent children own in the aggregate, a direct, indirect or beneficial interest of 10 percent or greater.

⁵ Designated employee's income includes his or her community property interest in the income of his or her spouse but does not include salary or reimbursement for expenses received from a state, local or federal governmental agency.

⁵ Income of a business entity is reportable if the direct, indirect or beneficial interest of the filer and the filer's spouse in the business entity aggregates a 10 percent or greater interest. In addition, the disclosure of persons who are clients or customers of a business entity is required only if the clients or customers are within one of the disclosure categories of the filer.

1. The name, address, and a general description of the business activity of the business entity.
 2. The name of every person from whom the business entity received payments if the filer's pro rata share of gross receipts from such person was equal to or greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).
- (d) **Business Position Disclosure.** When business positions are required to be reported, a designated employee shall list the name and address of each business entity in which he or she is a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or in which he or she holds any position of management, a description of the business activity in which the business entity is engaged, and the designated employee's position with the business entity.
- (e) **Acquisition or Disposal During Reporting Period.** In the case of an annual or leaving office statement, if an investment or an interest in real property was partially or wholly acquired or disposed of during the period covered by the statement, the statement shall contain the date of acquisition or disposal.

Section 8. Disqualification.

No designated employee shall make, participate in making, or in any way attempt to use his or her official position to influence the making of any governmental decision which he or she knows or has reason to know will have a reasonably foreseeable material financial effect distinguishable from its effect on the public generally, on:

- (a) Any business entity in which the designated employee has a direct or indirect investment worth two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or more;
- (b) Any real property in which the designated employee has a direct or indirect interest worth two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or more;
- (c) Any source of income, other than gifts and other than loans by a commercial lending institution in the regular course of business on terms available to the public without regard to official status, aggregating five hundred dollars (\$500) or more in value provided to, received by or promised to the designated employee within twelve months prior to the time when the decision is made.
- (d) Any business entity in which the designated employee is a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or holds any position of management; or
- (e) Any donor of or any intermediary or agent for a donor of, a gift or gifts aggregating four hundred forty dollars (\$440) or more in value provided to, received by, or promised to the designated employee within 12 months prior to the time when the decision is made.

No designated employee shall be prevented from making or participating in the making of any decision to the extent his or her participation is legally required for the decision to be made. The fact that the vote of a designated employee who is on a voting body is needed to break a tie does not make his or her participation legally required for purposes of this section.

Section 9. Manner of disqualification.

When a designated employee determines that he or she should not make a governmental decision because he or she has a disqualifying interest in it, the determination not to act must be accompanied by disclosure of the disqualifying interest. In the case of a designated employee who is a board member or commissioner, determination and disclosure shall be made at the meeting during which consideration of the decision takes place and shall be made part of the official record of the board or commission; in the case of a designated employee which is the head of a department, this determination and disclosure shall be made in writing to his or her appointing authority; and in the case of other designated employees, this determination and disclosure shall be made in writing to the designated employee's supervisor.

Section 10. Assistance of the Board.

Any designated employee who is unsure of his or her duties under this Code may request assistance from the Fair Political Practices Commission pursuant to Government Code Section 83114 or from the Santa Cruz City attorney provided that nothing in this section requires the Santa Cruz City attorney to issue any formal or informal opinion.

Section 11. Violations.

This Code has the force and effect of law. Designated employees violating any provision of this Code or subject to the administrative, criminal and civil sanctions provided in the Political Reform Act, Government Code Sections 81000-91014. In addition, a decision in relation to which a violation of the disqualification provisions of this Code or of Government Code Section 87100 or 87450 has occurred may be set aside as void pursuant to Government Code Section 91003.

APPENDIX A

Schedule of Designated Positions and Their Disclosure Categories

DESIGNATED POSITIONS	DISCLOSURE CATEGORY
BOARD of DIRECTORS	Govt. Code §87200
ADVISORY COMMISSIONERS	1
DIRECTOR of LIBRARIES	Govt. Code §87200
ASST. DIRECTOR of LIBRARIES	1
TREASURER-CONTROLLER	Govt. Code §87200
REGIONAL MANAGERS	3
PRINCIPAL MANAGEMENT ANALYST	3
LIBRARY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER	3
LIBRARIAN III- COLLECTION MNGT. SERVICES	3
LIBRARIAN II – SELECTION /CATALOGING (Qty. 4)	3
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER /LIBRARIAN II	3
LIBRARY SPECIALISTS (Qty.2)	3
FIELD SERVICE CREW LEADER	3
LEGAL COUNSEL	1
SPECIFIED CONSULTANTS Those consultants likely to participate in the making of a governmental decision as determined by the Library Manager in writing.	1

Updated: March 5, 2020

A - 3

APPENDIX B

General Provisions and List of Disclosure Categories

1. **FULL DISCLOSURE**

What to report? All investments and business positions in business entities, sources of income including gifts, loans and travel payments, and interests in real property located in the Library System.

What Form 700 schedules? All Schedules (A through E)

2. **ALL INCOME, EXCLUDING INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY**

What to report? All investments and business positions in business entities, and sources of income including gifts, loans and travel payments.

What Form 700 schedules? A, C, D, E

3. **LIBRARY SYSTEM/DEPARTMENT-RELATED INCOME**

What to report? All investments and business positions in business entities and sources of income including gifts, loans and travel payments if the source is of a type which provides, manufactures, or supplies goods, materials, equipment, machinery or services, including training or consulting services, of the type utilized by or subject to the review or approval by the Library System or the department in which that person is employed.

What Form 700 schedules? A, C, D, E

4. **LIBRARY SYSTEM/DEPARTMENT-RELATED INCOME, REAL PROPERTY**

What to report? All investments and business positions in business entities and sources of income including gifts, loans and travel payments, and all interests in real property, if the source is of a type which provides, manufactures, or supplies goods, materials, equipment, machinery or services, including training or consulting services, of the type utilized by or subject to the review or approval of the Library System or the department in which that person is employed.

What Form 700 schedules? All Schedules (A through E)

5. **REGULATORY, LAND DEVELOPMENT RELATED INCOME, REAL PROPERTY**

What to report? All investments and business positions in business entities and sources of income including gifts, loans and travel payments, and interests in real property, if the source is of the type that is subject to the regulatory permit or licensing authority by the Library System or department in which that person is employed or the source of income is from land development, construction or the acquisition or sale of real property by the Library.

What Form 700 schedules? All Schedules (A through E)

Chair Carlos Palacios
Vice Chair Jamie Goldstein
Board Member Rosemary Menard
Board Member Casey Estorga



STAFF REPORT

DATE: October 7, 2021
TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board
FROM: Eric Howard, Interim Library Director
RE: Salary Savings for Collection Spending

RECOMMENDATION

Approve and amend the FY 21/22 Library Budget in the amount of \$250,000.

DISCUSSION

The Library has established some personnel savings from unfilled positions. The Library is actively recruiting for these vacant positions but they are in process. Currently, the Library is seeing approximately \$500K in personnel savings from July 1, 2021.

The Library is asking that a portion of these savings, \$250K, be re-routed to the FY 21/22 operating budget for the books and materials budget line.

Over the past 18 months, providing books and media to our patrons was a challenge when our physical locations were closed. In 2020 the library saw many patrons borrowing ematerials for the first time, and many more patrons increasing their use of ematerials. The library was able to shift some of its funds to digital resources, and was able to increase access with financial assistance from the California State Library and The Friends of the Santa Cruz Libraries.

While physical checkouts are on the rise again, the demand for ematerials has remained heavy. In February 2020, SCPL patrons checked out 14,443 titles from OverDrive. The number of checkouts has continued to rise steadily, even as physical checkouts have rebounded. In July 2020, SCPL patrons checked out 27,396 titles from OverDrive. There is an urgent need to reduce the wait times for ebook and eaudio titles. Some patrons are waiting more than six months for a copy of a popular ebook.

When we open new facilities, we want to offer new, high-interest, and relevant titles to the community. As we've seen with the newly opened Felton, La Selva Beach, and Capitola Libraries, the newly opened branches will be heavily used, especially in the first few months. We want to be sure to have enough materials to satisfy demand.

In previous fiscal years, we set aside 10% of our materials budget for future opening day collections.

With that savings, we were able to provide partial Opening Day Collections for Felton, La Selva Beach, and Capitola, spending \$226,156 of reserved funds for new collections for these branches. The Friends groups and private donors supplemented these funds to provide more robust collections.

There is currently \$373,413 saved for providing new materials for Boulder Creek, Garfield Park, and Branciforte, and supplementing the existing collection for Live Oak and Scotts Valley. When the Aptos and Downtown Libraries open, we'll need a healthy reserve for providing new materials for those large branches.

Recommendation: Transfer \$250,000 from personnel to collections to ensure continued access to ematerials and to prepare new physical materials for Boulder Creek, Garfield Park, and Branciforte, and supplementing the existing collection for Live Oak and Scotts Valley.

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: FY22
 Date: 10/07/2021

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

Purpose: Budget salary savings to books and materials.

ACCOUNT	PROJECT	REVENUE EDEN ACCOUNT TITLE	AMOUNT
TOTAL REVENUE			0

ACCOUNT	PROJECT	EXPENDITURE EDEN ACCOUNT TITLE	AMOUNT
951-36-51-3601-51110		Regular Full Time	-250,000
951-36-51-3601-53106	p360814-100-2020-185	Books and Materials	250,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			0

NET: \$ 0 _____

REQUESTED BY	DEPARTMENT HEAD APPROVAL	BUDGET/ACCOUNTING* APPROVAL	FINANCE DIRECTOR APPROVAL	CITY MANAGER APPROVAL
		Edward Torres <small>EDUARDO TORRES TORRES 1000 SANTA CRUZ AVENUE SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060 (831) 426-7000</small>		

STAFF REPORT

AGENDA: October 7, 2021

DATE: October 1, 2021

TO: Library Joint Powers Authority Board

FROM: Mary Haley Ousley, General Counsel

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing the Library Joint Powers Authority to Continue Remote Teleconference Meetings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution No. 2021-XX Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings pursuant to Assembly Bill 361.

DISCUSSION

On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Following that Proclamation, on March 17, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-29-20, which included a provision suspending the traditionally strict provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act (“Brown Act”) relating to holding and participating in meetings via teleconferencing in order to enable safe public meetings while health orders were in place.

On June 11, 2021, the Governor issued Executive Order N-08-21, which stated that the Brown Act teleconferencing suspensions were to expire on September 30, 2021. On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed Assembly Bill 361 (“AB 361”), an urgency measure effective upon signing, which amended the Brown Act to allow legislative bodies to meet via teleconferencing provided that particular conditions are met.

Pursuant to AB 361, legislative bodies may use teleconferencing to conduct public meetings during a proclaimed State of Emergency, as defined under the California Emergency Services Act, if one of the following circumstances apply: (A) State or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; (B) The legislative body is meeting to determine whether, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; or (C) The legislative body has determined that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.⁶

The State of Emergency the Governor proclaimed on March 4, 2020 is still in effect today. Moreover, state and local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing,

⁶ Cal. Gov’t Code § 54953(e)(1)(A)-(C).

as demonstrated by both the California Department of Public Health and the Santa Cruz County Health Officer recommending that individuals continue to wear face coverings in indoor settings.⁷

Additionally, since early August, the highly contagious delta variant has caused an increase in positive cases and hospitalization rates throughout the community. While the CDC has indicated community transmission in Santa Cruz County is moderate, COVID-19 transmission rates are unpredictable and have the potential to rapidly increase. As a result, holding public meetings in person, in an indoor setting, would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees.

Should community transmission decline such that members of the public may safely attend public meetings indoors, it is recommended that hybrid meetings be held starting December of this year. This would give members of the public the option of attending meetings in person or remotely, while also allowing individuals who may be at higher risk of severe COVID-19 illness to continue participating in public meetings remotely.

To continue teleconferenced meetings under AB 361, the Board will need to declare every thirty (30) days that it has reconsidered the circumstances of the State of Emergency, and either (i) the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; or (ii) state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.⁸

Attachment:
Resolution No. 2021-XX

⁷ See CDPH, *Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings* (July 28, 2021), <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>; *Santa Cruz County Health Officer Release* (September 29, 2021), https://www.santacruzhealth.org/Portals/7/pdfs/Coronavirus/Santa%20Cruz%20County%20Moves%20to%20Moderate%20Community%20Transmission_092921.pdf.

⁸ Cal. Gov't Code § 54953(e)(3).

RESOLUTION # 2021-XXX
RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA CRUZ LIBRARY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
BOARD AUTHORIZING THE CONTINUED USE OF TELECONFERENCED
MEETINGS PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 361

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency, pursuant to the Emergency Services Act, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20, which suspended certain requirements of Government Code section 54950 *et seq.*, the Ralph M. Brown Act (“Brown Act”), in order to allow local legislative bodies to conduct meetings telephonically or electronically without a physical meeting place; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21, providing that the provision suspending the Brown Act requirements in Executive Order N-29-20 would remain in effect through September 30, 2021, at which point the suspension would expire; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 (“AB 361”), an urgency measure effective upon adoption, amending the Brown Act to allow legislative bodies to continue teleconferencing during a proclaimed State of Emergency, and either state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or the legislative body determines that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees;

WHEREAS, the State of Emergency proclaimed by the Governor on March 4, 2020, remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, state and local officials have imposed and/or recommended measures to promote social distancing, as demonstrated by both the California Department of Public Health’s and the Santa Cruz County Health Officer’s recommendations that all individuals wear masks indoors; and

WHEREAS, since early August, the highly contagious delta variant has caused increased community transmission and rates of hospitalizations within the County; and

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, community transmission of COVID-19 in Santa Cruz County is moderate, but may increase due to the unpredictable nature of the virus and potential proliferation of COVID-19 variants; and

WHEREAS, the Library Joint Powers Board hereby finds and determines that the above conditions create an imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees should they be required to attend meetings in person in a shared indoor public meeting space; and

WHEREAS, should community transmission decline to a point where members of the public may safely meet in person, by December of this year, the Library Joint Powers Board intends to conduct hybrid meetings – where members of the public will have the option of attending meetings in person, or members may participate remotely, in consideration of those individuals who are at higher risk for severe COVID-19 illness; and

WHEREAS, the Library Joint Powers Board wishes to authorize remote meetings as set forth in this Resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Library Joint Powers Authority Board (“Board”) as follows:

- A. The Board hereby acknowledges the Governor of the State of California’s Proclamation of State of Emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic remains in effect; and
- B. The Board finds that due to the continued threat of COVID-19 transmission in the community, holding in person meetings for the legislative bodies of the Library Joint Powers Authority would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.
- C. The legislative bodies of the Library Joint Powers Authority are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.
- D. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the earlier of (i) thirty days from the adoption of this Resolution, or (ii) such time the Library Joint Powers Authority Board adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the legislative bodies of the Library Joint Powers Authority may continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953.

[remainder of page intentionally blank]

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 7th day of October 2021 by the following votes:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

DISQUALIFIED:

APPROVED

ATTEST

Chair

Board Clerk