



Library Advisory Committee (LAC) Report, Update and Recommendations



April 5, 2016

Overview

- Funding Challenges for the Libraries
- Funding provided by State, County, and cities
- Recent LAC Meeting Discussions and Recommendations
- Options for Public Library Services
- Seek Board Direction

Funding Challenges

- State Funding reductions over the years
- Library Directors state that the libraries are falling behind in hours, staff training, and collections
- Libraries have been using more reserve funds recently for gap funding
- Reserves for some libraries are almost depleted and drastic measures will have to be taken in the next year or two

County Funding

- 17 libraries in County
- County Funding
 - \$3.4 Million
 - \$7.80 per capita
- Operational costs increase annually
- County population increase

State Funding

Santa Barbara County Public Libraries - State Funding Losses - 2003 to 2015

	Transaction Based Reimbursements (TBR's)									
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Lompoc	\$ 62,890.00	\$ 66,693.00	\$ 68,362.00	\$ 69,045.00	\$ 115,343.00	\$ 67,678.00	\$ 42,192.00	\$ 41,697.00	\$ 44,028.00	\$ -
Santa Barbara	\$ 121,751.00	\$ 118,626.00	\$ 122,046.00	\$ 124,952.00	\$ 219,859.00	\$ 140,564.00	\$ 89,140.00	\$ 80,562.00	\$ 95,621.00	\$ -
Santa Maria	\$ 147,260.00	\$ 121,562.00	\$ 151,061.00	\$ 188,114.00	\$ 306,119.00	\$ 105,597.00	\$ 94,930.00	\$ 117,335.00	\$ 119,375.00	\$ -
	Public Library Fund									
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Lompoc	Unknown	Unknown	\$ 28,370.00	\$ 27,820.00	\$ 41,379.00	\$ 27,716.00	\$ 22,558.00	\$ 23,510.00	\$ 22,836.00	\$ 5,168.00
Santa Barbara	Unknown	Unknown	\$ 91,780.00	\$ 90,005.00	\$ 133,873.00	\$ 89,671.00	\$ 77,136.00	\$ 80,525.00	\$ 78,398.00	\$ 17,475.00
Santa Maria	Unknown	Unknown	\$ 46,723.00	\$ 45,821.00	\$ 68,153.00	\$ 45,651.00	\$ 46,256.00	\$ 48,732.00	\$ 47,381.00	\$ 11,443.00

After 2011-12, no State funding for these programs has been available.

TBR's were funds the state reimbursed each library for sharing their items with another jurisdiction. It was a per-item cost, varying each year. Our libraries benefited more than many because of the ease of doing so with the shared computer system.

Public Library Fund dollars were distributed per capita and each library was allowed to use them for whatever their most pressing needs were, no restrictions.

City Contributions

City General Fund Contributions to Libraries		City Population (2013)	Per Capita
Carpinteria	\$35,500	13,532	\$2.62
Santa Barbara	\$4,077,721	90,412	\$45.10
Goleta	\$30,000	30,525	\$0.98
Solvang	\$88,000	5,385	\$16.34
Buellton	\$91,641	4,964	\$18.46
Lompoc	\$915,690	43,509	\$21.05
Santa Maria	\$1,663,660	102,216	\$16.28
Guadalupe	\$20,000	7,225	\$2.77

Impact

- Depleted Reserve Funds
- Reduced Open Hours
- Reduced Standards
 - Staff Training
 - Collection
 - Programming

LAC Discussions

- Past 4 meetings LAC has been discussing funding challenges the libraries face
- Accelerated by Goleta's request that LAC support a library parcel tax measure in unincorporated areas of Goleta
- LAC focused on the needs of all of the County libraries, not just one
- Wanted a County-wide parcel tax measure that would benefit all libraries

LAC Discussions

- LAC decided against placing a County-wide special parcel tax measure on the November 2016 ballot
 - Reasons:
 - Complexity of coordinating 9 ballot measures
 - Tepid support from Friends Groups, with a few that would actively oppose a tax
 - Time constraints for an effective campaign
- Recommended that Board direct staff to pursue options that would structurally allow for a unified County-wide measure at a later election

Options

- Place a measure before the voters on the November 2016 General Election ballot for a possible special tax for each parcel in the unincorporated areas of the County for the purpose of providing public library services; (\$132,000)
 - Unincorporated Parcels = 48,616
 - \$18/parcel = \$875,088
 - \$24/parcel = \$1,166,784
- Place a measure before the voters on the November 2016 General Election ballot for a possible special tax or special tax increase for each parcel in (CSA) No. 3 for the purpose of providing extended library services; (\$52,000)
 - CSA3 Parcels = 8,993
 - \$18/parcel = \$161,874
 - \$24/parcel = \$215,832

Options

- Pursue alternative methods to finance and provide library services in the unincorporated and incorporated areas of the County, for example, a JPA, CSA, CFD, CSD that would allow for placing a special tax for library services before the voters at a future election
- Take no action at this time