



Agenda Item B.1
PRESENTATION
Meeting Date: October 7, 2024

TO: Chair and Members of the Library Advisory Commission

SUBMITTED BY: JoAnne Plummer, Neighborhood Services Director

PREPARED BY: Elizabeth Saucedo, City Librarian

SUBJECT: Goleta Valley Library, Director's Report

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a presentation from the City Librarian about the activities of the Goleta Valley Library, programs and events, and the status of various long-term initiatives.

DISCUSSION:

Following is a presentation to the Commission referencing operational activities at the Goleta Valley Library (Library). This presentation includes areas such as programs, statistics, grants, collection development, calendared programs, and events. This report covers library activity from July and August 2024, with updates from September and October 2024 included where relevant. A PowerPoint presentation is included as well (Attachment 1).

PROGRAMMING:

2024 Summer Reading Program

The 2024 Summer Reading Program ran for seven weeks from Saturday, June 15th through Saturday, July 27th at Goleta Valley Library, Buellton Library, Solvang Library, and the Bookvan. This annual program encourages reading in between school years to prevent learning loss and promotes literacy in the community.

Staff noted high community participation from all ages across the library's branches, as children, teens, and adults attended a variety of performances and staff-led programs and earned prizes set at specific reading milestones. Over 1,500 children in grades K-6 and over 160 teens in grades 7-12 signed up and received reading logs, and adults read over 700 books for a chance to be entered into weekly drawings.

The program is made possible through the applaudable efforts of a team of dedicated volunteers, which this year included a record-breaking total of 80 teens and adults. Volunteers listened to youth participants report on their reading, awarded prizes, and assisted with behind-the-scenes work on a variety of library programs.

At the program's conclusion, the much-anticipated Stuffed Animal Sleepover returned to Goleta Valley Library for a summer campout themed overnight adventure, where another record was broken as 400 beloved stuffies were dropped off by enthusiastic children. Other highlights included the return of favorite annual performers such as magician Shawn McMaster and puppeteer Luce Puppet Company, as well as new creative events like the "Adventures in Geology" Dibblee map workshop at Solvang Library and the Camp Out Craft Day at Buellton Library. The goal of these programs is to expand learning opportunities, build social emotional skills, and to center the library as a hub within the community.

Final data has been consolidated and submitted to the California State Library as part of its annual evaluation process.

Third Annual Creek Week Art Contest

Goleta Valley Library held its third annual Creek Week Art Contest in partnership with the City of Goleta's Environmental Services Division. Community members were invited to submit an original piece of art in celebration of this year's theme, "Goleta the Goodland: Ocean, Creeks and Watersheds." A total of 114 submissions were received, exactly double the 57 submissions received last year.

The Library's Community Room transformed into a Creek Week Art Gallery from September 10th – 29th. Serving as judges for the contest were Goleta Mayor Paula Perotte and guest judge Kelly Hildner with the Goleta Valley Art Association. Community members were encouraged to visit the Art Gallery to not only view the artwork but also to vote for the People's Choice Award which was introduced last year. The winners were then announced at a reception in the Community Room on September 26th, where a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, along with Honorable Mention and People's Choice, were awarded for each age category: adults (18+), teens (7th-12th grade), and children (6th grade and below).

A cheerful group of over 100 attendees enjoyed the reception, which included Creek Week Art Contest participants, their families and friends, and members of the community, who gathered in celebration of our patrons' talents and appreciation for our coastal environment.

STAFFING:

Filled Positions

On Monday, August 19th the newest member joined the library team as a Library Assistant on the Bookvan. Since then, she has completed training and has participated in two

outreach events at the Mexican Independence Day Festival at the Goleta Community Center and the Lemon Run at Rancho La Patera & Stow House.

Open Recruitments

Recruitments are currently in progress for three positions: the Supervising Librarian position at Goleta Valley Library, and a Library Assistant at Goleta Valley Library and Buellton Library.

Solvang Library branch supervisor Carey McKinnon has announced her retirement after 25 years of public service. We thank her for her many years of serving the Solvang, Los Olivos, and Santa Ynez communities. A recruitment will be underway soon.

REGULAR DAILY BUSINESS OF THE LIBRARY:

During July and August 2024, there were 32,524 visits to the library. Patrons accessed the public computers for internet, printing, word processing, gaming, streaming and more during 1,513 unique sessions. Over 1,607.5 volunteer hours were contributed by the library's teen and adult volunteers, with 1,208.5 hours volunteers by teens alone. The library was open for 401 hours. There were 53 in-person programs and two passive activities held with a total of 3,722 patrons participating overall.

Data from Fiscal Year 2023/2024 is currently being gathered for the annual California State Library Public Libraries Survey, which is due at the end of October. A review of this data will be shared at a future LAC meeting.

GRANTS:

Zip Books

At the June 4, 2024 City Council Meeting, Council adopted the Zip Books Policy and Procedure and approved applying for the grant in future application cycles. The City Librarian subsequently applied for \$20,000 in Zip Books grant funds for the 2024/25 grant period and was recently notified that our application has been approved to receive the award this year. Details regarding award amounts and program start dates are forthcoming.

Staff look forward to providing this popular program, which increases access to information, promotes equity in library services to the community, and involves library patrons in the collection development process.

Building Forward

In October 2023, the City received a Building Forward Library Facilities Improvement Program grant (\$4.2 million) from the California State Library to make several infrastructural improvements to the Goleta Valley Library. On December 19, 2023,

Council authorized the City Manager to accept the grant funds and execute the grant agreement. On May 21, 2024, Council authorized the City Manager to execute an agreement with Jeffrey Miller Architect and Design (JMAD) for Architectural and Engineering services for the Goleta Valley Library ADA, Safety, and Building Improvements Project (CIP No. 9130) and to accept a donation of \$250,000 from the Friends of the Goleta Valley Library to fund the City's grant match for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) restroom improvements portion of the project.

The project will result in the following improvements to the Goleta Valley Library:

- ADA Path of Travel and Restrooms Upgrades
- Modernization and Replacement of HVAC Systems
- Life Safety and Security Installation and Upgrades
- Light-Emitting Diode (LED) Lighting Retrofits
- Doors/Windows Replacements and Upgrades
- Fascia Repair and Exterior Paint

The project must be fully completed by June 30, 2027. Given the age of the facility, the project's complexity (e.g., moving load-bearing walls, hazardous material abatement, and prolonged utility shut-offs, etc.), the June 30, 2027 grant deadline, while possible to meet, does not leave room for delay. The project team evaluated options to phase the work to avoid full closure, but the nature of the work, in addition to the tight timeline, eliminated this approach from further consideration.

As such, the Library must close to the public and to staff for approximately 18-24 months to allow for: 1) the transition to the temporary offsite location; 2) the construction of the Project; and 3) a prudent contingency to accommodate unknowns encountered during construction on the 50-year-old structure.

JMAD is currently finalizing plans for the project. Staff will first present the project to the Library Advisory Commission and then to Council to request authorization to advertise the construction bid. While the project is still under development, staff is basing planning decisions on the premise that construction could begin as early as June 2025. The facility would be closed for approximately two months prior to construction to allow for workstations and other materials to be moved from the Library to a new temporary, offsite location.

On October 1, 2024 the General Services and Neighborhood Services Departments presented an item to Council for consideration of five (5) options for the provision of temporary, offsite delivery of modified Library services during construction. After a thorough evaluation of each option, the project team confirmed that only two of the options were attainable. Options 1 and 2 below: 1) could feasibly be implemented; and 2) could be implemented by the potential June 1, 2025 construction commencement date.

Options Considered:

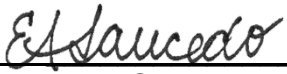
1. Provide modified Library services from the Goleta Community Center and postpone the Goleta Community Center ADA Improvements Project until the Library Project concludes (est. June 2027).

2. Provide modified Library services from a new modular classroom to be sited on the GCC campus.
3. Rent or lease commercial or institutional space.
4. Provide Library services from the GCC while concurrently constructing the Goleta Community Center ADA Improvements Project.
5. Provide Library services to City of Goleta residents exclusively through the existing Bookvan.

These options, including a variety of considerations and implications for each option, were discussed during the Council meeting. Council advised that staff prepare additional data for Options 1 – 3 for presentation at the November 19, 2024 Council meeting.

Further updates and timelines will be shared at this Commission and with the community as information become available.

Review By:



Elizabeth Saucedo
City Librarian

Approved By:



JoAnne Plummer
Neighborhood Services Director

ATTACHMENT:

1. Library Advisory Commission Director's Report PowerPoint

Attachment 1

Library Advisory Commission Director's Report PowerPoint

Goleta Valley Library Director's Report

Library Advisory Commission
October 7, 2024

Presented by:

Elizabeth Saucedo, City Librarian



Program Highlights

Summer Reading Program: Statistics

- Encourages reading during the summer
- June 15 through July 27
- Participants from Goleta Valley, Buellton and Solvang Libraries, and the Bookvan
- Over 1500 children in grades K – 6
- Over 160 teens in grades 7 – 12
- Adults read over 700 books
- Record breaking volunteer numbers with 80 teens and adults

Summer Reading Program: Events

- 400 beloved stuffies were dropped off for their summer campout themed overnight adventure
- Magician Shawn McMaster and puppeteer Luce Puppet Company
- Adventures in Geology Dibblee map workshop at Solvang Library
- Camp Out Craft Day at Buellton Library



Creek Week Art Contest

- Theme: “Goleta the Goodland: Oceans, Creeks, and Watersheds”
- 114 submissions from all age categories
- Certificates awarded at reception, including People’s Choice



Staffing Updates

- Bookvan: Newest Library Assistant has been hired and completed training, participating in Fall outreach events
- Goleta Valley Library: Recruitment has closed for Supervising Librarian and Library Assistant
- Buellton Branch: Recruitment will begin soon for Library Assistant
- Solvang Branch: Carey McKinnon, Solvang Library Branch Supervisor, has announced her upcoming retirement after 25 years. Recruitment will begin soon.

Goleta Valley Library: July - August

Visits to the Library: 32,524

Computer Use: 1,513

Volunteer Hours: 1,607.5

Operational Hours: 401

Total Programs: 55

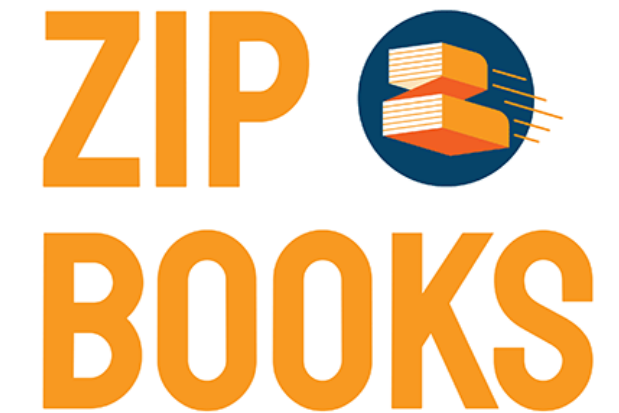
Program Attendance: 3,722



Grants

Zip Grants

- 2024/25 application submitted July 2024
- Notification of Award received – details pending



Building Forward Library Facilities Improvement Program

- \$4.2M awarded for seven specific categories
- Design documents presented to LAC in December

Building Forward: Service Update

- The nature of the construction being completed requires a full closure, resulting in temporary offsite library services
 - Anticipated closure length: 18-24 months
 - Anticipated closure date: Spring 2025
- Modified service options presented at 10/1 Council meeting
- Staff were advised to gather additional information
- Staff will seek authorization for an option at the 11/19 Council meeting

Questions