

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

DEPT: Library

BOARD AGENDA #: B-9

AGENDA DATE: June 14, 2016

SUBJECT:

Approval to Expand Library Operating Hours Effective July 8, 2016

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2016-306

On motion of Supervisor O'Brien, Seconded by Supervisor DeMartini
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Withrow, DeMartini, and Chairman Monteith

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) Approved as recommended


2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

4) Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST:


ELIZABETH A. KING, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

File No.

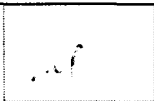
**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
AGENDA ITEM**

DEPT: Library
Urgent Routine

BOARD AGENDA #: B-9

AGENDA DATE: June 14, 2016

CEO CONCURRENCE: 



4/5 Vote Required: Yes No

SUBJECT:

Approval to Expand Library Operating Hours Effective July 8, 2016

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve the expanded Library operating hours effective July 8, 2016 as detailed in Attachment 1.

DISCUSSION:

Early library services in Stanislaus County were originally provided by the cities. On August 14, 1911, the Stanislaus County Free Library (Library) was formed in accordance with State law, creating a city and county partnership model for the delivery of library services. This model provided a high level of library services to library customers for many years.

The passage of Proposition 13 in 1978 brought negative impacts to city and county property tax revenues, reducing the amount of revenue available for library services. The Library's funding challenges became more severe in 1986 when State budget actions forced the Library to cut its budget by 50%. In Fiscal Year 1992-1993, Library revenue was once again reduced by 40% due to a State budget action that shifted property tax funds to education. Each reduction in Library revenue was followed by a large reduction-in-force and decreases in operating hours and services provided. In 1994, the Modesto Library was open just 27 hours per week and the smallest branches were open only 10 hours per week. No children's and teen programs, telephone reference, or access to electronic resources were provided, and very few books and materials could be purchased.

In February 1994, the Stanislaus County Free Library Advisory Board delivered a report to the Board of Supervisors recommending library services be restored to an acceptable level of service funded by a 1/8th cent sales tax. This dedicated sales tax, now the Library's primary source of revenue, was first approved by the voters in 1994 for a period of five years, approved again in 1999 for another five years, in 2004 for eight years, and most recently in 2012 for five years with a sunset date of June 30, 2018.

The revenue generated by the 1/8th cent sales tax enabled the Library to increase services, including opening the Modesto Library seven days a week; the Ceres, Oakdale, Patterson, Riverbank, Turlock and Waterford libraries six days a week; and the Denair, Empire, Hughson, Keyes, Newman and Salida libraries five days a week. Services were expanded at each site. Children's services, including Story Times, readers advisory (a service which involves suggested book titles to a reader through direct and indirect means) and school visits to our

libraries were implemented. Additionally, the library sales tax revenue enabled the Library to provide teen services, telephone reference, home delivery services for the homebound, access to electronic information services for all County residents, and a materials allocation of approximately \$2 per capita. Cities were invited to provide enhanced services at their libraries such as expanded hours, larger book and materials budgets, homework resources, and programs for children and teens, but no city was able to do so.

In May 2008, the Library anticipated a 12% decline in library sales tax for Fiscal Year 2008-2009, and with Board of Supervisor approval revised operating hours effective June 30, 2008 to close each library an additional day per week, reducing library hours from 579 to 487 per week.

On April 27, 2010, due to a projected decrease in library sales tax revenue for Fiscal Year 2010-2011, Board approval was granted to reduce library operating hours once again from 487 to the current level of 474 hours per week. This action allowed the Library to close all branches on Fridays and be opened all other days except for Sundays, with the exception of the four smallest branches (Denair, Empire, Hughson and Newman) also remaining closed on Mondays. The Board Item stated that: "as revenue improved, the Library would anticipate returning to the Board of Supervisors to begin restoring services."

Since Fiscal Year 2010-2011, library sales tax revenue has steadily increased an average of 5.5% each year, growing from \$6.9 million to an estimated \$9.6 million for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016. During this time, the Library's fund balance has steadily increased from \$3,979,953 to \$10,188,898 as of July 1, 2015, an average of \$1.2 million per fiscal year. This additional library sales tax revenue has allowed the Library to add an Outreach Librarian; purchase more library books, materials and e-resources; enhance technology; and make numerous major repairs and improvements to library facilities.

As part of the Library's goal to deliver excellent service to our residents, customer comment cards are available at public service desks to provide customers the opportunity to rate library services and to make suggestions for improving services and access. One of the comments seen repeatedly from customers at most branches is the desire and need for the Library to be open on Fridays.

The library sales tax measure passed in 2012 specified that the revenue would be used to "keep branches open, maintain hours, provide programs for children, teens, adults, and seniors, Story Times, maintain book, CD, DVD, and Reference." As the economy has improved, the Library has worked to restore the collection budget and services such as children's, teen and adult programming.

The next step in fulfilling the Library's promise to the voters is to increase access and restore open hours to pre-recession levels.

Opening on Fridays will allow the Library to make better use of existing resources, as being open another day will increase circulation of materials and allow customers access to existing internet computers and other infrastructure. Students will have better access to materials they need for school, and all community members will have increased access to computers, printing, reference services, and programming for children, teens, and adults.

In many communities throughout the County, the Library also acts as a community center. In small communities like Empire, Denair, and Hughson, the change in hours represents a 20%

increase in library access for customers. Whether they use it to check out books, for internet access, or as a community gathering space, that increased access represents the single greatest improvement that the Library can make to its already excellent service.

Per Attachment 1, "Proposed open hours beginning July 8, 2016," the Library is also requesting the Modesto and Turlock Libraries close one hour earlier on the nights currently open until 9:00 p.m., and opening the Ceres Library two hours earlier on Saturday. Few customers visit the Modesto and Turlock libraries between the hour of 8:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. so this revision will not cause a significant impact since these customers will have the added Friday hours available to visit. Since the remodel of the Ceres Library, the number of families visiting the library with their children has increased substantially. Adding two more hours on Saturdays will increase access for customers to the updated children's area, new technology and newer materials located at the Ceres Library.

Opening the library branches on Fridays will increase the number of hours customers can access library facility services from 474 to 558 per week, an increase of 84 hours per week; and from five days per week to six days per week for most branches, which is consistent with neighboring San Joaquin and Merced Counties. There are no branches open in either of these Counties past 8 p.m.

POLICY ISSUE:

The Library staff recommends that the Board approve the expanded operating hours pursuant to Stanislaus County Code Title 2 Administration; Chapter 2.56 County Office Hours: "All County offices shall be kept open for the transaction of business during such hours and on such days as may be prescribed by the Board of Supervisors by resolution."

FISCAL IMPACT:

\$623,600 for additional full time and part time staff, and security and janitorial operating costs for all library branches to be open on Fridays has been included in the Library's Proposed Budget Year 2016-2017 Budget.

Cost of recommended action:	\$ 623,600
Source(s) of Funding:	
Library Sales and use tax revenue	623,600
Funding Total:	\$ 623,600
Net Cost to County General Fund	\$ -

Fiscal Year:	2016-2017
Budget Adjustment/Appropriations needed:	No

Fund Balance as of May 1, 2016 10,025,914

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PRIORITY:

The recommended action supports the Board's priority of providing A Strong Local Economy by increasing access to recreational, educational and employment information and resources, and promotes the Efficient Delivery of Public Services by adjusting evening hours, when

Approval to Expand Library Operating Hours Effective July 8, 2016

libraries are least used, from 9 p.m. to 8 p.m., and opening the Ceres Library two hours earlier on Saturdays to meet community needs.

STAFFING IMPACT:

No additional positions are being requested. A Librarian II position was restored and five Librarian Assistant I/II positions were funded in the Library's Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Mid-Year Budget to prepare for an increase in hours and to provide a greater level of professional services and continuity to library customers. In order to efficiently and economically provide these expanded hours, following the completion of the meet and confer process with AFSCME, the Department's plan is to have full time staff return to a traditional five eight-hour per day work schedule from the current four ten-hour day schedule. Part time hours will be added to fill in the open hours beyond full time staff schedules, ensuring sufficient staff is available at each branch to provide a safe environment and excellent customer service.

CONTACT PERSON:

Diane McDonnell, County Librarian

Telephone (209) 558-7806

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Proposed open hours beginning July 8, 2016
2. Existing open hours beginning June 26, 2010
3. Library Sales Tax Revenue Chart

Attachment 1

Proposed Open Hours Beginning July 8, 2016

Stanislaus County Library - Proposed
Open Hours Beginning July 8, 2016

Library	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Hours per week
Ceres - District 5 250 Magnolia St. 537-8938	10 - 8	10 - 6	10 - 6	10 - 6	10 - 5	10 - 5	Closed	48 +9
Denair - District 2 4801 Kersey Rd. 634-1283	Closed	12 - 6	12 - 6	12 - 6	11 - 5	11 - 5	Closed	30 +6
Empire - District 1 18 South Abbie St. 524-5505	Closed	12 - 6	12 - 6	12 - 6	11 - 5	11 - 5	Closed	30 +6
Hughson - District 2 2412 A Third St. 883-2293	Closed	12 - 6	12 - 6	12 - 6	11 - 5	11 - 5	Closed	30 +6
Keyes - District 2 4420 Maud Ave. 664-8006	9 - 5:30	9 - 5:30	9 - 5:30	9 - 7:30	9 - 5	Closed	Closed	44 +8
Modesto - District 4 1500 I Street 558-7800	10 - 8	10 - 8	10 - 8	10 - 8	10 - 5	10 - 5	Closed	54 +3
Newman - District 5 1305 Kern St. 862-2010	Closed	12 - 8	10 - 5	10 - 5	10 - 5	10 - 5	Closed	36 +7
Oakdale - District 1 151 South First Ave. 847-4204	10 - 6	10 - 8	10 - 6	10 - 8	10 - 5	10 - 5	Closed	50 +7
Patterson - District 5 46 North Salado Ave. 892-6473	10 - 6	10 - 6	10 - 8	10 - 5	10 - 5	12 - 5	Closed	45 +7
Riverbank - District 1 3442 Santa Fe St. 869-7008	10 - 5	10 - 6	10 - 8	10 - 6	10 - 5	12 - 5	Closed	45 +7
Salida - District 3 4835 Sisk Rd. 543-7353	10 - 8	10 - 8	10 - 6	10 - 6	10 - 5	10 - 5	Closed	50 +7
Turlock - District 2 550 Minaret Ave. 664- 8100	10 - 8	10 - 8	10 - 8	10 - 5	10 - 5	10 - 5	Closed	51 +4
Waterford - District 1 324 E Street 874-2191	10 - 6	10 - 6	10 - 8	10 - 5	10 - 5	12 - 5	Closed	45 +7
Total Number of Open Hours Systemwide								558
Shading indicates new open hours for all branches on Fridays; changes to close at 8 p.m. instead of 9 p.m. at Modesto (Mon-Thurs) & Turlock (Mon-Wed); and an earlier opening on Saturday for Ceres.								

Attachment 2

Existing Open Hours Beginning June 26, 2010

Stanislaus County Library - Existing

Open Hours Beginning June 26, 2010

Library	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Hours per week
Ceres - District 5 250 Magnolia St. 537-8938	10 - 8	10 - 6	10 - 6	10 - 6	Closed	12 - 5	Closed	39
Denair - District 2 4801 Kersey Rd. 634-1283	Closed	12 - 6	12 - 6	12 - 6	Closed	11 - 5	Closed	24
Empire - District 1 18 South Abbie St. 524-5505	Closed	12 - 6	12 - 6	12 - 6	Closed	11 - 5	Closed	24
Hughson - District 2 2412 A Third St. 883-2293	Closed	12 - 6	12 - 6	12 - 6	Closed	11 - 5	Closed	24
Keyes - District 2 4420 Maud Ave. 664-8006	9 - 5:30	9 - 5:30	9 - 5:30	9 - 7:30	Closed	Closed	Closed	36
Modesto - District 4 1500 I Street 558-7800	10 - 9	10 - 9	10 - 9	10 - 9	Closed	10 - 5	Closed	51
Newman - District 5 1305 Kern St. 862-2010	Closed	12 - 8	10 - 5	10 - 5	Closed	10 - 5	Closed	29
Oakdale - District 1 151 South First Ave. 847-4204	10 - 6	10 - 8	10 - 6	10 - 8	Closed	10 - 5	Closed	43
Patterson - District 5 46 North Salado Ave. 892-6473	10 - 6	10 - 6	10 - 8	10 - 5	Closed	12 - 5	Closed	38
Riverbank - District 1 3442 Santa Fe St. 869-7008	10 - 5	10 - 6	10 - 8	10 - 6	Closed	12 - 5	Closed	38
Salida - District 3 4835 Sisk Rd. 543-7353	10 - 8	10 - 8	10 - 6	10 - 6	Closed	10 - 5	Closed	43
Turlock - District 2 550 Minaret Ave. 664-8100	10 - 9	10 - 9	10 - 9	10 - 5	Closed	10 - 5	Closed	47
Waterford - District 1 324 E Street 874-2191	10 - 6	10 - 6	10 - 8	10 - 5	Closed	12 - 5	Closed	38
Total Number of Open Hours Systemwide								474

Attachment 3

Library Sales Tax Revenue Chart

