



## STANISLAUS COUNTY LIBRARY

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# Fact Sheet

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## Library budget reduction plan

- A 1/8-cent dedicated sales tax is the library's primary source of funding, providing 84 percent of the current year's revenues. Sales tax revenues peaked at \$9,095,534 in the 2007-2008 budget year and have fallen steadily ever since. Projected sales tax revenue for 2010-2011 is just \$6,200,000.
- In addition to revenue losses, the cost of doing business is increasing. The Library anticipates increases as a result of negotiated salary increases, health care costs, unemployment insurance, retirement costs, general operational costs and increases in fuel and utilities.
- The proposed 2010-2011 Library budget is \$8,387,667, a reduction of \$1,417,617 from the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year.
- On April 27, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors will be asked to approve a budget reduction plan that will include closing the Modesto Library and the Keyes Library one additional day per week.
- Business hours of other libraries will be adjusted to align with the closure of the Modesto Library on Fridays, as the Modesto Library provides support to all branches. The alignment of Friday closures will not result in the loss of open hours at any other libraries.
- If approved by the Board of Supervisors, the changes will take effect June 26, 2010.
- Prior reductions were made in 2008. Each of the county's libraries closed one additional day per week and staff was reduced by three full-time positions, eight vacant full-time positions remained unfilled and 68 part-time positions were eliminated. The book budget was also reduced by 56 percent in 2008.
- As a result of the continuing revenue decreases, further reductions in force will be made. We are projecting a loss of as many as nine full-time positions and 14 part-time positions. Additional savings will come from a countywide 5 percent salary reduction. These factors combined are expected to result in a 14 percent savings in salaries and benefits overall.
- Additional savings will come from reductions in:
  - the library's book budget by 61% to \$200,000.
  - deferring maintenance projects unless they are safety related.
  - the library's IT budget to \$50,000 from \$139,000.
  - costs related to the additional day closure such as electricity and janitorial use.

- Although open hours are reduced, library customers can still access the library the library's virtual branch – [www.stanislauslibrary.org](http://www.stanislauslibrary.org) – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Customers can search the library catalog, place items on hold, renew items that are already checked out, apply for a library card and submit reference questions. Many print materials, such as magazine articles, biographies, and car repair manuals, are available online through the library's web site.
- Currently, 13 Stanislaus County Libraries are open 487 hours per week. The reduction in hours will result in 474 open hours per week. This compares to just 240 open hours before the library's sales tax funding was put in place in 1995.