



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 20, 2009

AGENDA
7:00 P.M.

SOUTH BRANCH LIBRARY
1901 RUSSELL STREET

The Board of Library Trustees may act on any item on this agenda.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- A. **Call to Order**
- B. **Public Comments (7:00 – 7:30 p.m.)**
(Proposed 30-minute time limit, with speakers allowed 3 minutes each)
- C. **Report from library employees and unions, discussion of staff issues**
Comments / responses to reports and issues addressed in packet.
- D. **Report from Board of Library Trustees**
- E. **Approval of Agenda**

II. ACTION CALENDAR

- A. **Branch Bond Program, FY 2010 and FY 2011 Measure FF Fund (308) Budget**
Recommendation: Adopt a resolution approving the Proposed FY 2010 and FY 2011 Berkeley Public Library Capital Improvement Budget, Measure FF as presented.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

The Board will consider removal and addition of items to the Consent Calendar prior to voting on the Consent Calendar. All items remaining on the Consent Calendar will be approved in one motion.

- A. **Approve minutes of April 14, 2009 Special Meeting**
Recommendation: Approve the minutes of the April 14, 2009 special meeting of the Board of Library Trustees.
- B. **Contract: Field Paoli Architects for architectural services for the replacement or renovation and expansion of the South Branch Library**
Recommendation: Adopt a resolution to recommend City Council approve execution of a contract and any amendments with Field Paoli Architects to provide architectural and engineering services for the South Branch Library renovation and expansion project in an amount not to exceed \$785,000 for all services and reimbursable expenses for the period June 15, 2009 through December 31, 2011.
- C. **Select an architectural services firm for the West Branch and Claremont Branch renovation projects**
Recommendation: Adopt a resolution initiating a process to select an architectural services firm for the West Branch renovation and expansion project and an architectural services firm for the Claremont branch renovation project.
- D. **Agreement with Innovative Interfaces, Inc. for hardware and software maintenance services**
Recommendation: Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of Library Services to enter into an agreement with Innovative Interfaces, Inc. for the provision of hardware and software maintenance services for the Library's circulation system for the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 in a total amount not to exceed \$100,000.

E. Adopt a policy decreasing the maximum number of holds allowable per patron generally and on the number of media items.

Recommendation: Adopt a policy revising the maximum allowable holds per patron from 15 to 12 and decrease the number of holds on media items, including DVDs, VHS, and music CDs to 8 per person effective June 30, 2009.

F. Adopt a resolution discontinuing OCLC based Interlibrary Loan (ILL) services.

Recommendation: Adopt a resolution discontinuing the Library's participation in the OCLC interlibrary loan program effective June 30, 2009.

IV. INFORMATION REPORTS

A. Update on Development of FY 2010 and FY 2011 Berkeley Public Library Biennial Budget

Information on the status of the two-year Library budget's development, Proposed FY 2010 and FY 2011 Berkeley Public Library Budget to be presented for approval in June 2009.

B. Update on the Branch Bond Program

Information on status of activities related to implementation of Measure FF, Branch Library Improvement Program.

C. May 2009 Monthly Report from Library Director Donna Corbeil

- Library Development
- Professional Activities
- Programs, Services and Collections
- Personnel

D. Library events: Calendar of events and press releases for various Library programs are posted at <http://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org>.

V. AGENDA BUILDING

Next regular meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10, 2009 at the **South Branch Library, 1901 Russell Street**, Berkeley.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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Please refrain from wearing scented products at public meetings.

Written materials may be viewed in advance of the meeting at the Central Library Reference Desk (2090 Kittredge Street), or any of the branches, during regular library hours.

To request a meeting agenda in large print, Braille, or on cassette, or to request a sign language interpreter, assistive-listening device or other accommodation for the meeting, please call (510) 981-6195 (voice) or (510) 548-1240 (TDD). Providing at least five (5) working days' notice prior to the meeting will help to ensure availability.

I hereby certify that the agenda for this special meeting of the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley was posted in the display cases located at 2134 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way and in front of the Central Public Library at 2090 Kittredge Street, as well as on the Berkeley Public Library's website on May 14, 2009.



//s//

Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services
Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees

For further information, please call (510) 981-6195.

COMMUNICATIONS

Action on Communications is limited to referral to staff or Trustee for investigation and/or recommendations.

A. **SuperBOLD**



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

ACTION CALENDAR

May 20, 2009

TO: Board of Library Trustees
FROM: Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services
SUBJECT: FY 2010 & FY 2011 – MEASURE FF FUND (308) BUDGET DEVELOPMENT:

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution approving the proposed FY 2010 and FY 2011 Measure FF Fund (308) Budget.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Measure FF Fund (308) is part of the total biennial budget package to be presented to the Board for approval on June 10, 2009.

BACKGROUND

At the regular Board meeting held on February 11, 2009 the Board approved a budget for the \$26,000,000 Neighborhood Branch Library Improvements Project and a project schedule (BOLT Resolution No. R09-14) necessary to initiate the sale of Measure FF bonds by the City.

On March 24, 2009 the Berkeley City Council adopted Resolution No. 64,387–N.S. authorizing the issuance of \$10,000,000 aggregate principal amount of general obligation bonds, series 2009 (Measure FF – Neighborhood Branch Library Improvements Project) in response to the November 2008 voter passage of the \$26,000,000 valued Bond Measure FF and the Library's Board action noted above. The sale of this first series of bonds closed on April 29, 2009 yielding proceeds of \$9,964,575 (net of issuances costs) and was allocated into the Library's new Measure FF Fund (308) on May 11, 2009.

A second series for the remaining \$16,000,000 is anticipated to be issued in mid-2010.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECT

Although the proceeds from the first series bond sales have been allocated to the Measure FF Fund (308) these funds must be appropriated by the Board prior to use. However, a single exception to this practice was allowed with authorization by the City for FY09 startup expenses attributed to consulting services rendered by Rene Cardinaux. This exception was granted in order to propel the project forward and minimize future project delays. Mr Cardinaux's FY09 expenses have been paid and amounted to \$9,276.50. There are no other project expenses expected before FY10.



FY10 and Beyond

Commencing early into FY10 the Library expects project activity to move forward at a relatively quick pace. It is expected that before FY09 closes that both the Project's construction management firm and the architects for the North and South Branch libraries will be under contract, with all firms immediately initiating conceptual design activities for their respective projects. Consequently, based on very approximated project work schedules the Library is prognosticating project expenses as per exhibit *Measure FF Fund (308): 5-Year Analysis* (attachment 1) with major construction commencing at the earliest mid to late FY 2010.

Library management will provide to the Board project budget updates on a regular basis commencing with this report.

Uses of Bond Funds

Recent communication with the consulting attorney on the bond float (ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP) provided some guidance as to the appropriate use of the Measure FF Fund monies in light of what is judged to be necessary and incidental to the project's completion.

There exists little in terms of case law addressing the usage of general obligation bond expenditures. Usage of such funds under the State Constitution states bond monies may only be used for "the acquisition or improvement of real property." Such an extremely broad statement is thus narrowed by the statute or ballot resolution statement. In this case the ballot measure stated, "Shall the City of Berkeley issue general obligation bonds not exceeding \$26,000,000 to renovate, expand, and make seismic and access improvements at four neighborhood branch libraries, but not the Central Library, with annual reporting by the Library Board to the City Council?"

The ballot measure determines the purposes for which the monies may be used and sets the tone for how precisely the determinants are defined. Thus, the degree of flexibility for use exercised by the issuer rests with concerns of reasonableness and what a court may determine the voter collectively thought they were voting for.

In summary, as there does not exist a clear and concise framework from which to determine what is an appropriate use or not, as a guiding principle Library management will assess Measure FF Fund expenditures through an assessment of what is necessary and incidental to fulfill what can be reasonably presumed as having been approved by the voters.

FUTURE ACTION

At the June 10, 2009 Board meeting adopt the FY 2010 & FY 2011 Biennial Budget (inclusive of the Measure FF Fund).

Attachments:

1. Measure FF Fund (308): 5-Year Analysis
2. Resolution

BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

MEASURE FF FUND (308): 5-YEAR ANALYSIS

	FY 2009 ADOPTED	FY 2009 ADJUSTED	FY 2009 PROJECTED	FY 2010 Mod BASE	FY 2011 Mod BASE	FY 2012 PROJECTED	FY 2013 PROJECTED
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ -			\$ 9,956,022	\$ 16,029,737	\$ 3,096,126	\$ 495,390
Revenues							
Net Bond Proceeds		9,964,575	10,000	15,943,320	10,000	6,000	1,500
Misc./ Interest				15,000			
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$ -	\$ 9,964,575	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,958,320	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 1,500
Expenditures							
Operations							
Personnel							
Consultants	\$ 9,277	9,277	9,277	2,915,958	3,818,365	921,261	88,800
Building				6,815,435	8,924,620	1,648,418	395,738
Misc./Utilities/Other				49,423	64,718	11,954	3,985
Public Art				103,788	135,908	25,103	8,368
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	\$ -	\$ 9,277	\$ 9,277	\$ 9,884,605	\$ 12,943,612	\$ 2,606,736	\$ 496,890
Projected Surplus/Shortfall (Rev - Exp)	\$ -	\$ 9,955,299	\$ 724	\$ 6,073,715	\$ (12,933,612)	\$ (2,600,736)	\$ (495,390)
GROSS FUND BALANCE (Bal + Rev - Exp)	\$ -	\$ 9,955,299	\$ 9,956,022	\$ 16,029,737	\$ 3,096,126	\$ 495,390	\$ (0)
Other							
3% Personnel COLA							
Revised Gross Fund Balance {Gross Fund Balance - Budget Recommendations and Adjustments}	\$ -	\$ 9,955,299	\$ 9,956,022	\$ 16,029,737	\$ 3,096,126	\$ 495,390	\$ (0)

Notes:

Assumes second series bond sale mid-FY2010

printed:

14-May-09



**Board of Library Trustees
Resolution No.: 09-39**

**ADOPT A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A PROJECT BUDGET FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD
BRANCH LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, MEASURE FF**

WHEREAS, upon the completion of a 20-year feasibility study in 2008, the Branch Library Master Facilities Plan found the four neighborhood branches and the Tool Library to have serious defects in the areas of seismic and structural systems, energy efficiency, ADA compliance, space constraints and work flow; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Library Trustees is responsible for managing the Library building program funded by voters, Measure FF, a \$26,000,000 bond program and is responsible for making annual reports on the fiscal status of the projects to the Council; and

WHEREAS, the Branch Library Master Facility Plan included recommendations for specific next steps, a Project Schedule, cost estimates and information relevant to the scope of each project; and

WHEREAS, at the November 12, 2008 regular meeting the Board of Library Trustees approved (R08-103) by resolution the initiation of the project schedule, with the process to select architectural services firms for the North Branch Library and the South Branch Library; and

WHEREAS, at the February 11, 2009 regular meeting the Board of Library Trustees approved (R09-14) by resolution a budget for the \$26,000,000 Neighborhood Branch Library Improvements Project and a project schedule necessary to initiate the sale of Measure FF bonds by the City; and

WHEREAS, at the March 24, 2009 regular meeting the Berkeley City Council adopted (No. 64,387-N.S.) by resolution authorizing the issuance of \$10,000,000 aggregate principal amount of general obligation bonds, series 2009 (Measure FF – Neighborhood Branch Library Improvements Project); and

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2009 the sale of this first series of bonds closed yielding proceeds of \$9,964,575 (net of issuances costs); and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2009 proceeds of \$9,964,575 from the sale of the first series of bonds was allocated into the Library's Measure FF Fund (308); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley to appropriate and approve the FY 2010 and FY 2011 budget for the Library Neighborhood Branch Library Improvements Project, Measure FF.

ADOPTED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley at a special meeting on May 20, 2009 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

Darryl Moore, Chairperson

Donna Corbeil, Library Director
Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees

**Berkeley Public Library
Board of Library Trustees**

**Special Meeting
April 14, 2009**

**MINUTES
7:00 p.m.**

**Central Library
2090 Kittredge Street**

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Call to Order

The special meeting of April 14, 2009 was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees Winston Burton, Carolyn Henry-Golphin, Susan Kupfer, Darryl Moore, and Therese Powell

Absent: None

Also present: Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services; Doug Smith, Deputy Director; Dennis Dang, Library Administrative Manager; Suzanne Olawski, Neighborhood Services Manager, Eve Franklin, Administrative Secretary

B. Public Comments

1. Blake Hausman – Children’s Storytime is such an amazing community resource for parents and children. He brought his daughter to story time every week. He asked to continue Storytime.
2. Al Kitt commented on Information Item A regarding folding bikes in the library. He stated folding bicycles should not be allowed inside of the library and should be locked up to the bike racks outside the library. He believes folding bicycles are potentially unwieldy, unstable and dangerous. He urged the Board to enforce library rules of conduct firmly as written.
3. Sheela Jivan – spoke in favor of Children’s Storytime. Her family uses the library and has benefitted immensely from Storytime. The Storytime librarians have been amazing at instilling a love of reading. She implored the Board to fund Storytime.
4. Jane Scantlebury commended Jenifer Shurson for her efforts in human resources, the plans for employee training and path for promotions are greatly appreciated. Jane also spoke regarding budget issues, is aware that library administration is striving for no lay-offs and expressed concerns for staff reductions. The staff is as busy as ever with fewer staff. Further reductions will impact library patrons. Lack of dedicated BIN Support staff will negatively impact the program which is used by other libraries and agencies. Reduction in cataloging will create a backlog in getting new materials to the shelves.
5. Elizabeth Overmyer expressed concerns about budget reductions. She previously worked in Children’s Department. Berkeley’s children’s collection is well respected but the programming aspect is also critical for the community and children. Literacy begins long before a child begins kindergarten. Children’s librarians bring reading to life through Baby Bounces, book discussion groups for elementary and middle school readers. When a library system reduces children’s services staff to a point at which they can no longer offer the programming that build bridges from a child to the library’s collections, they are falling far short of providing children’s services.
6. Mahmoud Mohamed provided the Board with a correspondence regarding his complaints about misuse, mistreatment and theft in the tool lending library. Requested BOLT intervention. [Attachment A]
7. Andrea Moss spoke about the proposed staffing cuts. It’s difficult to accomplish work tasks now and it will become even more so with staffing cuts. The cataloging unit will lose one of 3 positions in the proposed budget. Cutting the number of holds would make a tremendous difference to staff. In her opinion, reducing limit would relieve burden on staff.
8. Lydia Shiozaki - Library staff spend enormous amounts of time processing holds at North branch and are unable to do other tasks such as repairing audio books. Movie processing also takes a great deal of staff time to the detriment of the book collection. The Library should emphasize literacy and books.

C. Report from Union and Employees [Attachment B]

D. Report from Board of Library Trustees

Trustee Moore welcomed Winston Burton to the Board of Library Trustees. Trustee Burton described his participation in the Measure FF campaign as a member of the Library Foundation Board. Glad to see how the community supported the library during the November 2008 election and proud to be part of the process. Trustee Burton hopes to be able to provide a balance between demands and resources as part of the Board.

E. Approval of Agenda

R09-26 Moved by Trustee Henry-Golphin, seconded by Trustee Powell, to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

II. DISCUSSION CALENDAR

A. Biennial Library Budget Development

Discussion of the 2-year Library budget; proposed changes to baseline and direction to staff in preparation for presentation of Proposed FY 2011 and FY 2012 Library budget.

Donna Corbeil, Library Director stated budgeting process has been really difficult. The service provided by the people at the desks and behind the scenes is really important to the success of the library. The goal is to not have any layoffs. We are still working on the impacts of the proposed staff reductions. Staff has been very creative in looking for alternative methods to reduce costs.

Trustee Powell thanks Ms Corbeil and Dennis Dang for efforts.

B. Update on the Branch Bond Program

Discussion of staff report on status of implementation of the Measure FF branch improvement program, to include update on Request for Proposals, schedule, and budget.

Chair Person Moore reported the City has sold \$10,000,000 in Bonds to fund the improvements.

Discussed assumptions regarding schedule which assumes only one branch will be closed at a time. Staff responded overlap would have fiscal impact, taking advantage of economic downturn. Board interested in public's response to revised schedule. In addition, parking downtown might be a negative.

Trustee Powell express importance of active communication program for Bond.

Trustee Moore expressed support of good stewardship to possibly save money on construction costs. Staff is investigating opportunities to collaborate with other agencies for after school hours or alternate sites for young people. Trustee Moore expressed need to balance services and fiscal oversight and encouraged staff to explore services for young people after school.

Staff will bring a revised bond implementation schedule for discussion and review.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

R09-37 Moved by Trustee Kupfer, seconded by Trustee Golphin to approve the Consent Calendar as presented with the recommendation to move Items F and G to the Action calendar. Motion approved with Trustees Powell, Golphin, Kupfer and Moore in favor. Trustee Burton abstained. Motion passed.

R09-27 Approve minutes of the February 11, 2009 Regular Meeting.

R09-28 Approve minutes of February 25, 2009 Special Meeting.

- R09-29 Approve minutes of March 11, 2009 Regular Meeting.
- R09-30 Approve minutes of March 13, 2009 Special Meeting.
- R09-31 Approve the Library Fee Schedule for 2009 and approve the Director of Library Services' submission of the fee schedule to the City of Berkeley, Budget Office, for inclusion in the City of Berkeley's Master Fee Schedule.
- R09-34 Adopt the resolution discontinuing the provision of exam proctoring service by staff for the public.
- R09-35 Adopt the resolution to recommend City Council approve execution of a contract and any amendments with Kitchell CEM to provide project management and construction administration services for the Branch Library Improvement Program, Measure FF in an amount not to exceed \$996,900 for all services and reimbursable expenses for the period May 7, 2009 through October 30, 2012. Trustee Burton voted in favor of this item, it passed unanimously.

IV. ACTION CALENDAR

Consent items F: Acceptance of work of art and Consent item G: Selection of trustee to attend 4X2 committee meetings moved to Action.

Consent Item F: Acceptance of a work of art as a gift to the library.

Trustee Powell expressed concerns about making exceptions to the library's established gift policy and setting policy. The library's established gift/donation policy states: "...Personal property, art objects, memorial or commemorative objects, displays or plaques, portraits, artifacts, antiques, museum objects and similar items are not generally accepted as gifts." This is a lovely and generous offer from the artist and perhaps the library could contact the artist and see if she would be willing to make the donation to the Library Foundation. The Foundation and the artist could decide how the artwork could be used. Donating to the Foundation would carry forward the same value that the artist expressed. Trustee Powell also expressed concerns that the library does not have capability to conserve and preserve these types of objects and it is not the mission on the library to do so.

Trustees Golphin also expressed concerns, not about the gift itself, but we have to be careful about accepting gifts so that we are not setting precedence. Trustee Golphin supported the Trustee Powell's suggestion to have the artist donate to the Foundation. It's a great idea. It's not that we're not accepting the gift, just giving it another avenue.

Trustee Kupfer stated the work might be useful to the library, the image could be used in bookmarks or other public relation material.

- R09-32 Moved by Trustee Powell, seconded by Trustee Golphin, to deny the resolution accepting a donated oil painting, titled Open Book from the artist Alicia DeBrincat and instead to instruct staff to recommend to artist to make the donation to the Library Foundation.** Trustees Burton, Golphin, Moore and Powell voted in favor. Trustee Kupfer voted nay. Motion passed.

Consent item G: Selection of Trustee to attend 4X2 Committee meetings

- R09-33 Adopt the resolution selecting Trustee Golphin to represent the Board of Library Trustees at the 4x2 Committee meetings beginning in FY 2010 for a period of one year with Trustee Moore as the backup and other Trustees rotating as the second attendee.** Motion passed unanimously.

V. INFORMATION REPORTS

- A.** Behavior in the Library Guidelines
- B.** Library's Staff Training and Development Plan
- C.** April 2009 Monthly Report from Library Director Donna Corbeil
- D.** Transforming Life After 50 Baby Boomer Library Project
- E.** Library events: Flyers and press releases for various Library programs. Library Director Donna Corbeil suggested that as a paper saving measure flyers and press releases will be posted on the events calendar on the Library website.

VI. AGENDA BUILDING

- A.** May 13, 2009 meeting is cancelled. A special meeting will be held on May, 20, 2009.
 - 1.** Proposed Budget

VII. ADJOURNMENT

R09-36 **Moved by Trustee Kupfer, seconded by Trustee Powell to adjourn the special meeting of the board at 9:10 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.**

April 13 2009

TO: Berkeley Public Library Board of Trustees

FROM: Mahmoud Mohamed
[REDACTED]
Berkeley, CA 94703

RE: Waste, Abuse, Racism at the tool lending library

This regarding several complaints that I have submitted complaining about abuse, discrimination racism, and mistreatment of the tools lending library's employees. First, I have complained to the south Berkeley branch manager on November 2008, but she did not respond to my complaint. Then, I wrote to the director asking her to conduct investigation and requested a meeting regarding the discrimination, the use of the library's tool by the employees for their own business {see attachment 1 January 12.2009}.

In response to my complaint she asked, Mr. Douglas Smith to schedule me a meeting with him. During the meeting I explained to him in details my complain .instead of conducting investigation he sent me a warning letter and he threatened me that I might lose my library privileges {see attachment 2 January 8, 2009 letter}. Because of this action, I called the director office asking for a meeting that I have been waiting for four months to resolve this matter. On February 2009, I meet with the director Donna Corbeil and again I explained to her what happen to me at the tool library. Instead of investigating my complain she covered it up and retaliated against me by sending my name to a collection agency.

I am here by submitting to the board my complain regarding waste, abuse, misuse of public resource for personal gain, and racism to take appropriate action.

Mahmoud Mohamed
[REDACTED] Berkeley

4/13/09 Statement to the Board from the Community Services Unit of the Berkeley Chapter of SEIU 1021

In these amazing times of change and turbulence; the greatest economical downturn in history on the heels of the election of the first African-American president, there is great value to be found in collaboration and in discarding preconceived notions.

Library services are commonly perceived as something that we can always depend on. The public library has been a familiar part of our American landscape ever since Andrew Carnegie decided that a democracy isn't a democracy until information is accessible to all.

Library Aides are necessary to this most fundamental library service. If books aren't shelved properly or in a timely manner, this basic service is compromised. If staff can't find a book then the public can't find a book. Currently the library has a contractual obligation to employ 33 Aides , a 2002 level, at this time the library employs approximately 23. The Union believes this to be an indication that this most fundamental of services is already compromised.

To extend hours of service to the public at this time would be to further compromise services and increase the workload of current staff. Not just Aides, but all the other classifications that will spend some time looking for that item that wasn't shelved in a timely manner. This is just a sliver of how workload is tied to services which is tied to staffing levels.

The Union sees the dilemma that management is wrestling with: while funding to public libraries is being cut library usage is increasing. According to a recent Oakland Tribune article, Berkeley Public Library use is up 19% from 2007. It is the Union's job to

protect job security and to preserve safe working conditions, which will also be difficult due to the same dilemma that management faces.

The proposal to cut 5 vacant positions is a haphazard approach as far as the Union is concerned. These positions were vacant due to life events that we have little control over. Was there analysis in the decision to cut the 40 hour library assistant position from General Services? General Services is in the midst of its own change and-transition due to a workflow study that it underwent in recent months, lots of changes are due to occur there, the Union questions the elimination of this position . Add to that the 19% and growing, rise in library use and you have a huge workload for a shrinking staff. . As well, promotion from within becomes a double edged sword. A supervisor will think twice about promoting from within knowing that this will result in a position that will be frozen and then possibly cut in the future. The Union encourages a less arbitrary approach to freezing and eliminating positions.

In a recent resolution (senate Concurrent Resolution No. 27) public libraries are recognized for their tremendous value to the public for a number of reasons-lets not allow that value to tarnish and work together to keep the services we have and the staff to provide those services.

The Union wishes to acknowledge the collaborative and respectful approach that Library Director Donna Corbeil has set and hopes to find the same approach from the Board.

Check it out -- It's National library week

By Kristin Bender.

Oakland Tribune

Posted: 04/07/2009 04:38:36 PM PDT

Berkeley - This week is the 51st National Library Week.

But in these lean economic times, there doesn't need to be a Senate proclamation to get people to visit Berkeley libraries to borrow books and materials, librarians said,

The California Senate recently passed a resolution recognizing the value of public libraries that "serve as centers for education, information, knowledge and entertainment by helping the general public, students, faculty, and researchers obtain the best, most accurate and complete information."

The resolution says more than 21 million people use California's public libraries each year.

During the 2007-08 fiscal year, 1.5 million visits were made to the five Berkeley public libraries, a jump of 14 percent over the previous year. At the four branches, the number of visits increased 19 percent.

In 2008, circulation of materials from the library collections jumped more than 8 percent in 2008 - twice the number from the previous year. On average, residents checked out 16 items annually from the library, more than three times the most recent statewide mean, Berkeley library statistics show.

Community Relations Librarian Alan Bern said visits and circulation numbers are up this year as well.

In Berkeley, the libraries might get even busier in the future. Last November, Berkeley voters passed a measure to make the four branch libraries seismically safe and more handicapped-accessible.



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

CONSENT CALENDAR

May 20, 2009

To: Board of Library Trustees

From: Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services

Subject: CONTRACT: FIELD PAOLI ARCHITECTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE REPLACEMENT OR RENOVATION AND EXPANSION OF THE SOUTH BRANCH LIBRARY

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution to recommend City Council approve execution of a contract and any amendments with Field Paoli Architects to provide a full range of architectural and engineering services for the South Branch Library project in an amount not to exceed \$785,000 for all services and reimbursable expenses for the period June 15, 2009 through December 31, 2011.

FISCAL IMPACT

Voters approved the sale of \$26,000,000 in bonds to finance the renovation, expansion, and make seismic and access improvements at four neighborhood branch libraries. Architectural design services are included in the estimated soft costs. Architectural and consulting services for the South Branch Library replacement or renovation and expansion project are included in the estimated soft costs, therefore funding of design services will be solely through use of Library bond funds. On March 24, 2009 Berkeley City Council adopted a Resolution authorizing the issuance of \$10,000,000 aggregate principal amount of general obligation bonds, series 2009 (Measure FF – Branch Library Improvement Project). These funds totaling \$9,964,575 (net of issuance costs) were allocated to the Measure FF Fund (308) on May 11, 2009.

Services provided will include a comprehensive set of architectural design services and specialty consultant services required for the completion of the South Branch project, such as: structural engineering; mechanical, electrical, plumbing, fire protection; LEED documentation; landscape architecture; signage; lighting design; cost estimating and telecommunications. Field Paoli Architects will perform services beginning with program development through conceptual design phase, schematic design phase, design development phase, construction document development, bidding, negotiation and construction observation to completion. They will work with staff to incorporate the city's public art requirement into the project.

This contract is for a lump sum, \$785,000 for all work to be completed as specified in the period specified. Payments will be made upon a schedule agreed to by both parties. Fees will be invoiced on a monthly basis based on percentage of completion.

Approval of this contract will have no adverse fiscal impact on other Library projects or programs.

BACKGROUND

The Branch Library Facility Master Plan, completed in early 2008, documented the serious physical defects of the branches, recommended improvements and established baseline costs and project estimates for design and construction related costs. On November 4, 2008, Berkeley voters approved Measure FF, a Library bond measure not to exceed \$26M to renovate, expand, and make seismic and access improvements at the four branch libraries.

Following the Board's approval in December 2008, staff began implementation of the branch renovation program. The City's Purchasing Department released, on January 16, 2009 a Request for Proposals (RFP): *Architectural Services for the Replacement or Renovation and Expansion of the South Branch Library*. A pre-proposal meeting occurred on January 27, 2009 followed by solicitation for proposals closing on February 12, 2009. The responses received were numerous and therefore the process had been a highly competitive one. A vetting committee, made up of staff, the library's consultant and representatives from the community met twice and considered twenty-five proposals, staff recommended three firms be considered by the Board.

At the March 11, 2009 regular meeting of the Board of Library Trustees the Board interviewed three firms representing the most qualified applicants. These interviews, as well as the applicants' written proposals (RFP responses), background, professional references, and responses to follow-up questions were considered in determining the ranking of firms by qualifications.

At the March 13, 2009 Special meeting of the Board of Library Trustees, by Resolution R09-24, the Board rank ordered the firms interviewed and designated a preference for the firm considered as best meeting the criteria for the project as described in the request for proposals.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Staff has negotiated with Field Paoli Architects to provide a full range of architectural and engineering services for the South Branch Library project and has reached an agreement for services and reimbursable expenses, for a total amount not to exceed \$785,000.

The Board of Library Trustees at the conclusion of the respective competitive selection processes shall recommend to the City Council the execution of architectural design contracts related to the bond measure funded improvements at the four branch libraries.

FUTURE ACTION

No future action is required at this time.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution



RESOLUTION NO. R09-41

**CONTRACT: FIELD PAOLI ARCHITECTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICE FOR THE
REPLACEMENT OR RENOVATION AND EXPANSION OF THE SOUTH BRANCH LIBRARY**

WHEREAS, the Branch Library renovation program is funded by Measure FF bond funds approved by the voters to finance the renovation, expansion, and make seismic and access improvements at four neighborhood branch libraries; and

WHEREAS, architectural design services are included in the estimated project costs for the South Branch project; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley Purchasing Department opened the Requests for Proposals process for *Architectural Services for the Replacement or Renovation and Expansion of the South Branch Library*, on January 16, 2009 and closed said solicitation on February 12, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Board interviewed the three most qualified firms at the March 11, 2009 regular meeting of the Board of Library Trustees and at the March 13, 2009 special meeting of the Board, by Resolution R09-24 designated a preference for the firm of Field Paoli Architects as best meeting the criteria for the South Branch project; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Berkeley code section 3.04.090(E) the Library shall recommend to the City Council the execution of contracts relating to the improvements at the four branch libraries, including but not limited to contracts for design, engineering, construction management and construction;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley adopt a resolution to recommend City Council approve execution of a contract and any amendments with Field Paoli Architects to provide the full range of architectural and engineering services for the South Branch Library project in an amount not to exceed \$785,000 for all services and reimbursable expenses for the period June 15, 2009 through December 31, 2011.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

Darryl Moore, Chairperson

Donna Corbeil, Library Director

Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

CONSENT CALENDAR

May 20, 2009

TO: Board of Library Trustees

FROM: Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services

SUBJECT: PROCESS TO SELECT AN ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FIRM FOR THE WEST BRANCH AND CLAREMONT BRANCH RENOVATION PROJECTS

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution initiating a process to select an architectural services firm for the South Branch renovation and an architectural services firm for the Claremont branch renovation project.

FISCAL IMPACT

Voters approved the sale of \$26M in bonds to finance the renovation, expansion, and make seismic and access improvements at four neighborhood branch libraries. Measure FF bond proceeds will fund the design and construction of the branch library improvements.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Board approved the process to move forward on hiring the design firms for the North and South branch libraries in November 2008. Staff is in the process of completing these activities. The Board of Library Trustees is responsible for managing the Library building program funded by Measure FF. Development of a schedule and approval of key activities is the responsibility of the Board.

To continue the implementation of the proposed project schedule, the Library will work with City staff to initiate a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the West Branch Library and a separate Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Claremont Branch Library. The scope of work in the RFPs will reflect the needs of the branch as detailed in the Branch Library Master Facility Plan.

FUTURE ACTION

The process for these two projects will follow the same process as that of the North and South design team selection. At a subsequent Board meeting, staff will prepare information for review, discussion and approval of the process, to include: status of RFPs, including a pre-proposal meeting for interested firms; vetting of eligible proposals by a committee; and a schedule for Board interviews of finalists and meeting times for decision-making. The responses received for the previous RFPs were numerous and the process was a highly competitive one, we expect



this to be the case with the next two projects. A vetting committee, made up of staff, the library's consultant and representatives from the community will meet and consider the proposals. Staff will recommend three firms for each project to be considered by the Board.

At a to-be-determined meeting of the Board of Library Trustees, the Board will interview three firms representing the most qualified applicants. These interviews, as well as the applicants' written proposals (RFP responses), background, presentations, professional references and responses to follow-up questions will be considered in determining the ranking of firms by qualifications. The Board will rank order the firms interviewed and designate a preference for the firm considered as best meeting the criteria for the project as described in the request for proposals.

Staff will initiate negotiations with the preferred firm to provide a full range of architectural and engineering services; then bring forward an agreement for a set price for services and reimbursable expenses.

The Board of Library Trustees at the conclusion of the respective competitive selection processes shall recommend to the City Council the execution of the design contracts related to the bond measure funded improvements to the four branch libraries

Attachments:

1. Resolution



RESOLUTION NO. 09-42

**PROCESS TO SELECT AN ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FIRM FOR THE WEST BRANCH
AND CLAREMONT BRANCH PROJECTS**

WHEREAS, the Branch Library renovation program is funded by Measure FF bond funds approved by the voters to finance the renovation, expansion, and make seismic and access improvements at four neighborhood branch libraries; and

WHEREAS, architectural design services are included in the estimated project costs for the West and Claremont Branch projects; and

WHEREAS, staff will work with the Purchasing Department to initiate the Requests for Proposals (RFP) process for Architectural; and

WHEREAS, the Board will interview the three most qualified firms at a regular meeting of the Board of Library Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the Board will discuss the qualifications of the firms under consideration, determine their rank order and determine the preferred firm for each project; and

WHEREAS, following contract negotiations staff will prepare an agenda and action item to the Board recommending approval of the terms of agreement, including a not-to-exceed contract amount with the selected design firms; and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of the respective competitive selection processes the board shall recommend to the City Council the execution of architectural design contracts related to the bond measure funded improvements to the four branch libraries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley adopt a resolution initiating a process to select an architectural services firm for the West Branch renovation and an architectural services firm for the Claremont branch renovation project.

ADOPTED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley during a special meeting held on May 20, 2009.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

Darryl Moore, Chairperson

Douglas Smith, Deputy Director
Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

CONSENT CALENDAR

May 20, 2009

TO: Board of Library Trustees

FROM: Alicia Abramson, Manager Library Information Technology

SUBJECT: AGREEMENT WITH INNOVATIVE INTERFACES, INC. FOR HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of Library Services to enter into an agreement with Innovative Interfaces, Inc. for the provision of hardware and software maintenance services for the Library's circulation system for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 in a total amount not to exceed \$100,000.

FISCAL IMPACT

The total cost of the contract, \$100,000 is included in the Proposed FY 2010 Library Budget.

BACKGROUND

Innovative Interfaces, Inc. (III) is the sole source provider for maintenance services on the Millennium circulation software. A new agreement must be signed each fiscal year. The Berkeley Public Library uses INNOPAC as its online public catalog, as well as the circulation, acquisition, serial and cataloging modules that support patrons' access to the Library's collections. The Library also utilizes the INN-Reach (LINK+) module to expand access to collections beyond those owned by the Berkeley Public Library.

The Fiscal Year 2010 contract will include system additions budgeted for but not implemented in Fiscal Year 2009. The annual maintenance contract for FY2010 is anticipated to be approximately \$68,000 without the system additions.

The systems additions include the Encore Discovery (\$23,750 annual subscription plus \$2500 implementation fee) platform and Research Pro (\$5,700 annual subscription) modules of the Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC). These system additions directly address strategic goal number 7 ("Patrons use with ease BPL's content-rich and accessible electronic resources") of the Library's 2008 – 2011 Strategic Plan.

The addition of the Encore Discovery platform and Research Pro will enable library users to simultaneously search multiple library resources at the same time using a single simplified search form similar to Google. Results will be keyword relevance ranked and include Library materials and relevant articles and online reference materials from several of the most popular databases the Library subscribes to.



These system additions will improve and enhance the search process for users who are increasingly accustomed to search systems which remove the barriers of guess work and confusing terminology from the process of searching so that users can more easily and intuitively find the resources they want and need. Features of the Encore Discovery platform include automatic spell check which will help users find the right materials even if they misspell a word in the title or the author's name (e.g. an incorrect spelling results in a response from the system "did you mean..." and the offering of a link to the correct spelling and the results from that search); the ability for users to "tag" library materials with terms more meaningful to them than Library of Congress Subject Headings (e.g. "cook book" instead of "Cookery"); the display of a "tag cloud" which includes both official library catalog subjects as well as user generated tags in result sets; a much simpler interface which doesn't force the user to choose a particular search method, but instead simply allows them to search by whatever term they have (title, keyword, author) to find the materials they want; a "faceted" results display which clusters like items together and aids users in interpreting more complex result sets.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The current agreement between ILL and the Berkeley Public Library began on July 1, 2008 and expires on June 30, 2009. Failure to maintain a maintenance agreement on the automated circulation system could result in operational difficulties and have a negative impact on patrons utilizing Library services. The additional system components will be installed and available to the public by early Fall 2009, meeting the time frame set in the Strategic Plan for usability improvements to the system.

FUTURE ACTION

No further action is required.

Attachments:

1. Resolution



RESOLUTION NO.: 09-43

AUTHORIZE DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH INNOVATIVE INTERFACES, INC. FOR THE PROVISION OF HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE LIBRARY'S CIRCULATION SYSTEM FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2008 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2009 IN A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$100,000

WHEREAS, Innovative Interfaces, Inc. is the sole source provider for maintenance services on the Millennium circulation software; and

WHEREAS, each fiscal year the Berkeley Public Library enters into a new agreement with Innovative Interfaces for maintenance services; and

WHEREAS, failure to enter into a new agreement each year will result in the termination of support for the hardware and software supporting the Library's circulation system; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the annual maintenance agreement is provided for in the FY2009 Budget.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley to authorize Director of Library Services to enter into an agreement with Innovative Interfaces, Inc. for the provision of hardware and software maintenance services for the library's circulation system for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 in a total amount not to exceed \$100,000.

ADOPTED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley during a special meeting held on May 20, 2009 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

Darryl Moore, Chairperson

Donna Corbeil, Library Director
Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

CONSENT CALENDAR

Date: May 20, 2009

TO: Board of Library Trustees

FROM: Jay Dickinson, Circulation Services Manager

SUBJECT: POLICY DECREASING THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF HOLDS ALLOWABLE PER PATRON GENERALLY AND ON THE NUMBER OF MEDIA ITEMS

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a policy revising the maximum allowable holds per patron from 15 to 12 and decrease the number of holds on media items, including DVDs, VHS, and music CDs to 8 per person effective June 30, 2009.

BACKGROUND

The holds function allows patrons to place a total of 15 items on reserve. At each of the five Library locations, staff print a list of items requested for reserve daily, pull these materials from the shelf, place them on the hold shelf, or send them via the Library's delivery system to their proper pickup location. If a reserved item is circulating, staff is alerted at the time of check-in, and the item is then placed on the hold shelf or into transit.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Popularity of the holds function has increased over time with patrons. In January of 2007, 12131 holds were filled system wide. In January of 2008 this number increased to 13001. And in January of 2009 it increased to 16325.

With an increase in the popularity of the Link+ lending system, and recent reductions in vacant staff positions, this increase in workload has proved difficult to keep up with, causing a strain on staff who process the items, including the Library's delivery drivers.

While it is difficult to estimate the impact of the proposed reduction in maximum allowable holds, as the Millennium integrated library system used by the Library does not retain statistics revealing how many patrons are reaching the maximum holds allowed to them at any given time, it is likely that a decrease in the maximum allowable holds will lead to a decrease in the overall number of holds being placed, and therefore handled by staff.

Patrons are currently limited to having 8 DVDs, VHS tapes, and music CDs on their card at any given time. Reducing allowable holds on these item types to 8 will bring hold limits in line with borrowing limits, will further reduce workload, and will ensure a greater number of media items will be available for browsing.



Authorization to proceed with the renewal changes will result in implementation on June 30th, 2009. Notices of the pending changes will be posted in Library (Central and branches) immediately.

FUTURE ACTION

No further action is required.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED

Attachment 1: Resolution

CONTACT PERSON

Jay Dickinson, Library Services Manager

(510) 981-6174



RESOLUTION NO.: 09-44

**APPROVAL TO DECREASE THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF HOLDS ALLOWABLE
PER PATRON GENERALLY AND ON THE NUMBER OF MEDIA ITEMS**

WHEREAS, it has been the practice of the Berkeley Public Library to offer a holds service allowing patrons to place a total of 15 items generally and 8 media items on reserve; and

WHEREAS, the popularity of the holds service has increased greatly overtime with patrons; and

WHEREAS, the popularity of the LINK+ lending service has also increased; and

WHEREAS, the recent reductions in vacant staff positions have made it difficult to keep up with the increased workload, causing strain on staff who process and deliver the items.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley to adopt a policy decreasing the maximum allowable holds per patron to 12 and decrease the number of holds on media items, including DVDs, VHS, and music CDs to 8 per person effective June 30, 2009.

ADOPTED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley during a special meeting held on May 20, 2009 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

Darryl Moore, Chairperson

Donna Corbeil, Library Director

Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

CONSENT CALENDAR

May 20, 2009

TO: Board of Library Trustees
FROM: Douglas Smith, Deputy Director
SUBJECT: DISCONTINUING OCLC BASED INTERLIBRARY LOAN (ILL) SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution to discontinue the Library's participation in the OCLC-based Interlibrary Loan program effective June 30, 2009.

FISCAL IMPACT

This action will have negligible fiscal impact. The loss of the \$2 per-request fee will be offset by the elimination of OCLC mailing costs associated with the service.

BACKGROUND

Since early in its history, the Berkeley Public Library has offered its patrons the ability to obtain items held in other libraries' collections. Traditionally, this has been through the interlibrary loan program, a service whereby Berkeley's patrons may request from libraries outside of Berkeley items not owned locally. Patrons using this service make a written request which the Berkeley Public Library staff receive, determine which libraries own the desired material, request it in turn from one of those institutions, borrow it on behalf of the Berkeley patron, and finally permit the user to borrow it for the normal loan period. Currently, an interlibrary loan request takes from 3-10 weeks to be filled and costs \$2 per request. Additionally, patrons at OCLC member libraries nationwide request items from the Berkeley collection. These requests are processed and filled by local staff.

In 2006, the Berkeley Public Library joined the Link+ network of libraries, which is a networked catalog of 46 California and Nevada libraries using the Innovative Interfaces' Millennium integrated library system. Membership in this network permits Berkeley Public Library borrowers to request items from any of these institutions directly from the Berkeley online public access catalog. In effect, membership in the Link+ network enables Berkeley Public Library patrons to have access to over 32 million items in Library collections. There is no charge to request items through Link+.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The popularity of the Link+ service has grown dramatically since its introduction, in concert with a rapid decrease in the use of interlibrary loan. As shown in the table below, while the need to access items via interlibrary loan has dropped to 196 in the most recent calendar year, Link+ usage has jumped to 16219 individual loans--over 80 times as many items loaned via ILL.

These trends are directly related, and this large difference can be attributed to the ease, speed, and quality of access that membership in the Link+ networked catalog has afforded Berkeley patrons. The Link+ consortium continues to grow, with the Oakland Public Library and University of California, Santa Cruz Libraries soon to join.

	INTERLIBRARY LOANS	LINK+ LOANS
2006	763	[incomplete year]
2007	451	8638
2008	196	16219

Additionally, in the most recent year (2008), Berkeley Public Library staff processed approximately 1500 incoming interlibrary loan requests from other library systems. Ceasing this function will enable the deployment of staff time to assist with the Link+ service which is demonstrably growing in popularity with local patrons. While it does represent the loss of a longtime and traditional service, Berkeley Public Library staff can direct users toward Link+ for most items, and for those not held by Link+ libraries, other options include the California Catalog database and local genealogical libraries such as the Oakland Regional Family History Center.

FUTURE ACTION

No future action is required.

Attachments:

1. Resolution



RESOLUTION NO.: 09-45

**APPROVAL TO DISCONTINUE OCLC BASED
INTERLIBRARY LOAN (ILL) SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Public Library has offered its patrons the ability to obtain items held in other libraries' collections through the interlibrary loan program (ILL); and
WHEREAS, an ILL request takes from 3-10 weeks to be filled and costs \$2 per request; and

WHEREAS, in the 2008, Berkeley Public Library staff processed approximately 1500 incoming ILL requests from other library systems; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Public Library joined the Link+ network of libraries in 2006; and

WHEREAS, membership in the LINK+ network permits Berkeley Public Library borrowers to request items from any of these institutions directly from the Berkeley online public access catalog at no charge; and

WHEREAS, the popularity of the Link+ service has grown dramatically since its introduction, in concert with a rapid decrease in the use of ILL.

WHEREAS, the Link+ consortium continues to grow, with the Oakland Public Library and University of California, Santa Cruz Libraries soon to join.

WHEREAS, ceasing the ILL function will enable the deployment of staff time to assist with the Link+ service; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley Public Library staff can direct users toward Link+ for most items, and for those not held by Link+ libraries, other options include the California Catalog database and local genealogical libraries such as the Oakland Regional Family History Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley to adopt a policy discontinuing the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) services effective June 30, 2009.

ADOPTED by the Board of Library Trustees of the City of Berkeley during a special meeting held on May 20, 2009 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

Darryl Moore, Chairperson

Donna Corbeil, Library Director
Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

INFORMATION CALENDAR

April 14, 2009

TO: Board of Library Trustees
FROM: Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services
SUBJECT: FY 2010 & FY 2011 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT: UPDATE

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no direct fiscal impact from this report. Direction provided by the Board during this meeting will be integrated into the development of the proposed biennial budget to be presented on June 10, 2009.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Library's budget development efforts since the April 14, 2009 Board discussion. At that meeting, the Board requested the Library present a proposed budget on May 20, 2009 for discussion, with approval following in June 2009. Staff anticipated at that time to have the SF Bay area Personal Income Growth (PIG) and Consumer Price Index (CPI) economic indicators in early to mid-May in order to prepare accurate budget projections, present a library tax rate recommendation to Council, and have available definitive information on the state budget as it relates to funding library programs. However, upon release of the unexpected year-over-year decline of the PIG to 0.62% and the unavailability to date of the CPI, the City's Manager's Office has advised the Library to project a 1% increase to the library tax rate for FY 2010. The Library's tax rate may be increased by the greater of these two indicators.

Staff recommends approval of the Library's biennial budget and work plan at the regular Board meeting on June 10, 2009. Doing so will allow the Library's budget to be included in the City Council budget review and discussion scheduled for June 23, 2009. While, this budget development schedule change will reduce the time the Board has to review the final proposed budget, the Library does not anticipate any further reduction to personnel than those presented on April 14 and is proposing all additional reductions be to non-personnel, specifically library materials, in order to bridge the gulf created by reduced revenue expectations. The projected Library Tax fund balance combined with reductions to the material budget will provide a short-term solution to the structural deficit increase of approximately \$300,000 in FY 2010 created by a reduced tax rate increase of 1%. The amount of the reduction to the material budget proposed will depend on the final tax rate increase percentage, the City's estimates of CalPERS increases, which are in the range of 6-10%, and any changes to the proposed state funding of library grant funded programs.



As the assumptions articulated in the April 14, 2009 report to the Board are affected by the greater economic conditions, staff will modify budget recommendations to address them and identify policy issues and decisions for Board consideration.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECT

Balancing Measures

In April, the Board approved several fee increases. While not substantial these increases will contribute to cost recovery efforts for services and materials. At that time, the exam proctoring services was approved for discontinuation as a workload reduction measure.

Position reduction proposals represented an overall loss of 6.0 FTE, or 7 positions, with the addition of one position – a .50 children's Librarian I. All positions proposed for reduction are currently vacant.

Non-Personnel reductions include elimination of funding for miscellaneous professional services / consultants, membership in the Urban Library Council, final payment of the capital loan, reductions to the travel and training budget, a scale-back of the computer replacement program, and a decrease to the capital improvement budget. These reductions were partially offset by contract cost increases related to operations to reflect full funding and built-in cost of living increases.

Additional balancing measures

The Library proposes to continue into FY 2010 temporary deficit reduction measures initiated in February to contribute to future increased savings. These include a selective hiring freeze and controls on the use of overtime.

The May agenda includes several workload reduction measures: the elimination of the ILL program, and reductions to library material hold limits.

Service and Operational Impacts

As requested by the Board, staff will detail to the extent possible the direct impact on services of the proposed reductions, including material budget reductions in the proposed budget presentation; and will continue to do so as staffing reductions and operational and policy changes impact public services and staff workload.

Unanticipated Expenses

In the coming biennial budget cycle there may be several areas that produce unanticipated expenses without a defined funding source, these are:

- Self-check System evaluation / recommendations
- Measure FF continuity of service plan
- Central Library public space plan study recommendations
- Central Library capital needs above allocation



The Board may want to defer adopting any budget increases related to new programs or services, reinstating proposed reductions, or even to consider further reductions until mid-cycle budget development in FY 2010. At that time, the Library's tax rate for FY 2011 may allow an increase to revenues, and there should be a better assessment available of the full impact of the 2012 CalPERS rate increases.

FUTURE ACTION

At the June 10, 2009 Board meeting adopt the FY 2010 & FY 2011 Biennial Library Budget.



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

INFORMATION CALENDAR

May 20, 2009

TO: Board of Library Trustees

FROM: Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services

SUBJECT: MAY 2009 MONTHLY BRANCH RENOVATION PROJECT REPORT FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR

INTRODUCTION

Every month the Library Director gives the Board a report on branch renovation activities and updates from the previous month.

FISCAL IMPACT

This report will have no fiscal impacts.

SUMMARY OF WORK

Project Management and Construction Administration Services

On Tuesday, May 5, City Council approved the execution of a contract and any amendments with Kitchell CEM to provide project management and construction administration services. Staff is in the process of finalizing the contract details and anticipate its execution by the end of May.

Communication Plan

Staff is working on a comprehensive communication plan to promote and increase awareness about the Branch Renovation Project, providing project stakeholders and the branch communities at-large with current information and progress updates. The plan will identify communication opportunities, methods, timeframes and audiences as well as serve as a public relations guide for promotion materials.

Consultants

Four proposals were received for library programming services. The programming consultant will prepare a library building program by which the input of Library staff and the community on the purpose, scope, and function of each library building is gathered, considered, and possibly incorporated into building programming and design. A library building program will be developed for each branch, including recommendations specific to each individual site as defined by their specific quantitative and qualitative needs. A vetting committee comprised of

Library staff will review and rank the finalists and make a selection. Staff will report to the Board on the contract/scope of services/cost; but this is anticipated to be under \$50,000.

The proposal period for technology consulting services closed on Tuesday, May 12, 2009 with five submissions. The library technology consultant will assess existing and anticipate future building technological needs and determine their implications affecting the structure, space, and operation of each building. Proposals will be vetted and interviews scheduled. Contract will be brought to the Board for approval.

Continuity of Services

Continuity of services options may have costs associated with them that are not covered by the Library bond; therefore, the Library will have to incur all costs for any implemented service options from our general operating budget.

The Library is working with a real estate broker to locate a temporary facility for the Tool Library during the closure for construction of the South Branch site and storage space to hold books removed from the affected Branches and to store furniture being refinished or held for future use. Any Tool Lending Library site will require a use permit. Library staff are in the process of pursuing partnerships with neighborhood non-profits, schools and others already serving the student population in order to develop a plan for after-school library services in the community.

WORK ANTICIPATED

Short-term

In the next 60 days: complete contract negotiations with two design firms and project planning and IT consultants, review and revise bond program budget and schedule for BOLT and City Council approval; then issue notice(s) to proceed. Issue West Branch and Claremont Branch RFPs.

KEY PROJECT ISSUES

Schedule Status

Staff will prepare and present to the Board a compressed project schedule for review and approval in the near future, this plan will reflect greater overlap in branch closures, relative to the geographic location and neighborhoods served, i.e. simultaneous closure of South and North; West and Claremont; or Claremont and North, but not West and North per Board direction.

City Planning

Library staff met with representatives from the City Planning department and discussed City planning procedures, CEQA requirements, and site specific issues, such as parking requirements, sidewalk closures and protection. The City's permit, Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) and Zoning Adjustment Board (ZAB) processes will be considered in developing a realistic timeline for each project and will be incorporated into a revised project schedule by the Project management firm.

The historic interior and significant exterior features noted in the LPC Notice of Decision for each West Branch and North Branch were highlighted for architectural compliance. Any building additions should be in character with the historic building but not a replica of the original; additionally, any building demolition and addition and/or build new will trigger an EIR and involve more intensive LPC involvement. Renovation may have a shorter review process. Use permits and parking variances will be required of all branch facilities as described in the Berkeley Zoning Code sections 23c.04.040, 23C.04.06.B, 23B.56.020.A, and 23d.32.080.A. Coast Live Oak trees are the only City protected trees with specific restrictions; other trees such as redwoods

are free game. The estimated process timeframes for the ZAB is 4-6 months and LPC is 6 months to many years.

BUDGET REPORT

Bond Sales

Bond monies totaling \$9,964,575 net of issuance costs have been received by the City and allocated into Fund 308 (Measure FF). Recent communication with the consulting attorney on the bond float (ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP) provided guidance as to appropriate use of these funds in light of what is 'necessary and incidental' to the project's completion – leading to the issue of 'judgment'; therefore, it is arguably necessary and incidental that moving in/out expenses and storage fees may be covered by bond monies as in order to execute the project the building must be vacated. Any allocation of bond funds to these costs could have a direct impact on the availability of funds for design and construction.



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

INFORMATION CALENDAR

May 20, 2008

TO: Board of Library Trustees
FROM: Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services
SUBJECT: MAY 2009 MONTHLY REPORT FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR

INTRODUCTION

Every month the Library Director gives the Board a report on Library activities and updates from the previous month.

FISCAL IMPACT

This report will have no fiscal impacts.

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

Legislative Day in Sacramento, April 15, 2009

Deputy Director Doug Smith led the contingent for BPL: BOLT Trustee Winston Burton, Community Relations Librarian Alan Bern, Supervising Library Assistant Sam Clemons, BPL Foundation Executive Director Roxanne Figueroa, and BPL volunteer/Tech Helper Arlene Oweichik.

His report:

Several BPL folks attended the annual CLA-sponsored Legislative Day at the state capitol in Sacramento. Librarians, trustees, volunteers, adult literacy advocates, gathered there to heighten our legislators' awareness of the contributions libraries make to our communities, schools, and businesses, and to speak directly about specific issues being addressed by our elected officials in the statehouse.

Representing BPL on the daylong journey were BOLT Trustee Winston Burton, Deputy Director Doug Smith, Community Relations Librarian Alan Bern, Supervising Library Assistant Sam Clemons, BPL Foundation Executive Director Roxanne Figueroa, and BPL volunteer/Tech Helper Arlene Oweichik. This group joined other local library advocates in meeting with the staffs of Senator Loni Hancock and Assemblyperson Nancy Skinner, emphasizing how libraries foster economic development in our communities, are an essential part of our state's educational infrastructure, why the PLF fund should be fully funded, and why our public libraries are a fundamental source of lifelong learning in society.

More information about the current issues, CLA legislative priorities, and reports on the current legislative session is available at

<http://www.cla-net.org/legislation/legday.php>

In conjunction with Leg Day, Senator Hancock has written a short article (Attachment 2) praising libraries in which she makes note of us, her hometown library.

In addition, video from April 15th's joint press conference is now available on CLA's Facebook & [YouTube](#) pages.

Community Outreach

Suzanne Olawski and Alan Bern attended the opening activities for the Brower Center on Sunday, May 10. The Center's opening activities included hosting a day of lectures, documentaries, family activities, live music, speeches, and organic sustainable snacks. The nonprofit organizations residing in the Center held "open offices" and spoke to visitors about their environmental organizations. The Center graciously opened up their lobby for local nonprofit organizations to host their own tables and speak to visitors about their services. The Library was one of the *locals* invited and filled a table with library information, including programming and workshop flyers, children/family reading lists, literacy handouts, stickers, pencils, facilities booklets amongst other literature. Thanks to the Brower Center for an excellent location for our outreach table during the opening; we were able to speak to many dozens of attendees about Berkeley Public Library services and programs.

PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND COLLECTIONS

Library cards

In response to a situation that recently occurred staff has developed new library card patron types. While the library had an adult shelter card there was none for young people. We can now issue library cards to children, young Teens and teens temporarily living in a shelter situation.

These new types were created to allow patrons access to computers reserved for specific patron types – namely Children's and Teen's. We've had some instances lately where a patron with children, and residing in a shelter, could not get computer time for their children, since our Shelter patron type has been exclusive to adults up to this point.

To get a shelter card, patrons will still need a letter from the shelter where they are staying, confirming their residence there. If it is a child, and their parent already has a shelter card, they can be used as a reference/secondary party (just like a normal child's card), and a second letter will not be needed. Even if the child alone wants to get a card, the parental signature will still be required (and the letter from the shelter).

Self Check

The Library put out a press release in April informing the public about the process we are engaged in to upgrade the self-check system for library materials in anticipation of the end of the contract with our current vendor 3M. The current self-check system has been in place at Berkeley Public Library at all branch library locations and at Central Library for nearly four years. The notice invites library users to send us input: ideas on what has worked and what has not worked in our current system; experiences with self-check systems at other libraries; and other feedback by May 15, 2009, so that the ideas can be considered before library staff prepares a status report to the Board of Library Trustees.

PERSONNEL

Swine Flu

Staff responded professionally and calmly to the recent flu scare. They shared information internally and were a distribution point for print information for our library visitors.

Volunteers

While not employees, volunteers are an important part of the library's efforts to provide excellent services. The Library's annual Volunteer Appreciation Day is scheduled for Monday, June 1st, 2009 and will include a luncheon and Workshop: "*The Best Way I Can Help You Is ...*".

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Hancock article

**Senator Loni Hancock – On Libraries
April, 2009 CALTAC**

As a child growing up in New York City, I remember the excitement of climbing the steps of New York Public Library's imposing building on Fifth Avenue, looking up in awe at the famous stone lions guarding the entrance and looking forward to the adventures I would soon be discovering inside.

As a young child, I had a plan. I was devoted to the idea of reading *every single children's book, from A-to-Z*, without exception. Unfortunately, I never got past the first three shelves of "A" because the library kept adding new books and I kept reading them. However, I am proud to say that I did read every single book by Louisa May Alcott.

I have never stopped going to libraries. Even with less time to read these days, I have a strong relationship with my hometown public library in Berkeley, where I regularly check out books on tape and CD for the long drive to Sacramento and back.

I've watched libraries grow and expand the definition of information over the years, taking on new roles that are essential for democracy to prosper. Today, as the economic crisis deepens and social service budgets are cut, people are turning to libraries for assistance as never before. In my district, patronage at the Contra Costa County public libraries has jumped from 4,000 visits a day a year ago to almost 9,000 today. The statistics are similar in Alameda County.

At a time when libraries are dealing with ageing buildings, higher operating expenses, new technology demands and tremendous pressures on staff to provide an ever-expanding range of information services, these needs cannot be ignored.

I would like us to be able to fully fund the Public Library Foundation for the first time in its 26 years of existence. It is way past due. We must also look for ways to give local government the flexibility to fund important local priorities, including libraries. I support lowering the vote threshold for approval of local bonds and taxes to 55%. This will allow communities to raise needed funds for library facilities and operations as the state continues to reduce support.

A few years ago, a group of librarians gave me bookmarks with the words, "Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries." I passed them out to my legislative colleagues on the Assembly floor during a budget debate.

Those words are more relevant than ever today. In tough economic times, libraries remain a consistent source of education, inspiration and respite. In an increasingly polarized world, libraries remain a place of "common ground."

--end--

COMMENTARY

Opinions expressed in Daily Planet commentary and letters to the editor are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Daily Planet or its staff.

Climate Action Plan Should Be a Community Effort

By KARL REEH

First and foremost, a Berkeley Climate Action Plan should be a community effort. It should not be a top-down mandate for recommendations that might be effective in other areas, but make little sense and might actually be counterproductive in Berkeley's unusually mild climate.

The plan was made available to the public only a few days before the April 21 City Council meeting. Many attendees report that they were unable to access the document online even up to the start of the council meeting. Why is this plan being rushed to approval? This unseemly haste is no way to "work with the community"—the exact language of the measure passed by Berkeley voters.

Although a Resolution approving the April 2009 draft of the Berkeley Climate Action Plan as the "preferred project" for the purpose of environmental review was not adopted on April 21, the Initial Study was nonetheless issued on April 24 claiming "no impact" for all categories on the initial study checklist.

Clearly, this plan will have far-reaching impacts on Berkeley, and nothing short of a full environmental impact report (EIR) is acceptable. For example, on page 25 of the "Sustainable Transportation and Land Use" chapter of the CAP, the policies sug-

Continued on Page Thirty

Karl Reeh is president of the LeConte Neighborhood Association.

Library Foundation's 'Adopt a Book' Campaign is Hurtful

By LISA HANDWERKER

Many families in the Bay Area's large adoption community have challenged the Berkeley Public Library Foundation's (BPLF) current "Adopt a Book" fundraising campaign slogan. We are deeply disturbed by this unfortunate choice of words. And while we recognize that the usage was unwitting and not intentionally hurtful, we are disappointed that the foundation has ignored our requests to remove the word "adopt" and replace it with an inoffensive yet equally effective one, such as "sponsor" or "read."

Many people do not appreciate that using references to adoption in this commercialized way, applied to inanimate objects or a monetary donation, can be psychologically devastating to adopted and foster children, and offensive to many in the adoption community. The first thing I would urge everyone to do is to take this conversation away from linguistic abstractions and, instead, reflect on the tragic human stories surrounding them. Many children in the foster-care system want nothing more than to have their own, permanent loving-forever families. Because

Continued on Page Thirteen

Lisa Handwerker is a medical anthropologist, and an instructor at California State University East Bay. For seven years she was a member of the Berkeley Community Health Commission. She is the adoptive parent of a kindergartner in the Berkeley public schools, and sits on her school's Governance Council.

Strong Preservation for San Francisco, Berkeley

By JOHN ENGLISH

As Berkeley tackles major planning issues this year, let's note very well some things voters said last November about historic preservation. In Berkeley preservation-minded voters decisively rejected Measure LL. And like-minded San Franciscans approved that city's Proposition J—by a quite similar decisive margin.

One attempted criticism of preservation here had been the claim that little Berkeley has more designated landmarks than big San Francisco (or even than San Francisco and San Jose combined). That argument was wildly misleading. Let's look at the facts.

Berkeley now has about 252 city-designated "landmarks" as such and 43 "structures of merit." (By the way, some 15 of them have been wholly or partly demolished.) San Francisco so far has designated at least 264 "landmarks" per se, under Article 10 of its Planning Code.

But that comparison ignores what both cities call "historic districts." Berkeley has only four or five city-designated districts

and most of them are quite small. Under its Planning Code's Article 10, San Francisco has already enacted 11 or 12 historic districts and some of them are very large. The Alamo Square and Liberty Hill districts each cover literally hundreds of properties.

The comparison also ignores the San Francisco Planning Code's separate Article 11 under which different, and especially strong, preservation controls have been applied within the Downtown C-3 zone. There, 433 or more "significant buildings" or "contributory buildings" have been designated. Also designated there under Article 11 are six "conservation districts." One such district covers nearly all of the big Union Square shopping area.

And a great many other buildings in San Francisco enjoy protection because they've been identified as historic resources by various adopted area plans, by certain surveys, or by inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places and/or the California Register. When alterations to these buildings are proposed, Planning Department staff compares the work against preservation standards. If a proposal doesn't meet these standards, the staff can initiate what the

Planning Code calls "discretionary review."

While San Francisco thus has long had extensive landmark, district, and other substantive controls, preservation lacked till now a strong and clear enough institutional voice within the municipal government. In essence San Francisco's old Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board could merely make recommendations to the Planning Commission and staff. That board's humble status was prominently illustrated when key parts of its advice about the historic Laguna Street campus were ignored by the Planning Commission.

Now, voter-approved Prop. J has amended San Francisco's Charter to correct that institutional weakness. It was sponsored by the Board of Supervisors' then-president Aaron Peskin and backed by important groups including San Francisco Tomorrow, San Francisco Architectural

Continued on Page Thirty

Longtime Berkeley resident John English is an avid aficionado of planning and preservation.

Library's Checkout System is Dysfunctional

By PETER WARFIELD and GENE BERNARDI

Berkeley Public Library recently invited library users to supply "ideas on what has worked and not worked in our current system," so we decided to systematically test it.

We found the existing radio frequency identification (RFID) self-check-out system suffers from serious weaknesses, and the security gates are almost completely non-functional.

In late April and early May, we visited the library's four branches, where we twice observed and tested each location's security system and self-check-out machines, with a 10-day interval between tests. We

also visited the Central Library once. Here is what we found regarding the security system:

- More than half of branch libraries' security gates were not operating at all.

- The security gate at one of the branches operated properly on the first visit, but was unreliable on the second. On our first visit, our unchecked materials near the alarm set it off as we browsed a nearby library book shelf, as did passing materials between the gates. After we checked out the materials, we were able to leave without any alarm sounding. At this visit, we evaluated these gates as operating correctly.

But, on our second visit the alarm did not go off as it should have when we placed

un-checked materials between the gates. Unexpectedly, the alarm went off as we left the library, after we checked out the materials. We walked back in, puzzled—and as we did, the gates did not sound an alarm. The staff told us we were OK, we could leave. As we left a second time with our checked out materials, the gates sounded an alarm again.

These same materials that had set off the

Continued on Page Thirteen

Peter Warfield is executive director of Library Users Association and a member of Berkeleyans Organized for Library Defense (SuperBOLD). Gene Bernardi is a member of SuperBOLD.



'Adopt a Book'

Continued from Page Eleven

the library is free, many of them are frequent visitors. How do you think they feel when they find out that for \$25 a book can be "adopted," when they themselves are not?

There is a growing awareness throughout the country, and especially in places like Berkeley with deep traditions of humanism and tolerance, that "Adopt-a" language contributes to a larger phenomenon, "Adopt-a-Confusion," with accompanying negative social stereotypes. National adoption educator Patricia Irwin Johnston, a 2008 White House Adoption Angel recipient, has spoken out eloquently on this issue. (For more information, see [\[tivenesspress.com/pjadopta.html\]\(http://tivenesspress.com/pjadopta.html\).\)](http://perspec-</p>
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In response to a similar oversight brought to its attention many years ago, the Oakland Zoo was happy to change the language of its "Adopt-an-Animal Campaign" to "Sponsor-an-Animal." This campaign continues to be successful. Numerous recent appeals to BPLF Executive Director Roxanne Figueroa and the entire board, including Abigail Franklin, who is one of the campaign creators, however, have been unavailing.

On March 18, Beth Hall, director of the non-profit Oakland-based Pact, an adoption alliance, serving adopted and foster youth, wrote to Ms. Figueroa, "Adopt-a-projects, with their gimmicky 'adoption certificates' and 'adoptive parent' labels, trade on the primary definition of adoption, which relates to family planning and family building." While adults are clearly

able to distinguish between the adoption of human beings and sponsorships "sold" as adoption, 3-to-12-year-olds often cannot. Research has shown that this can lead to stress and long-term low self-esteem of the foster or adopted child.

Nationally, about six out of 10 people are touched by adoption and foster care; that proportion may well be higher in the dense, diverse East Bay. Thus, many are familiar with the pernicious effects of "Adopt-a" confusion. But many others are not. That such a beloved institution as our local library system has found itself on the wrong side of this issue is itself a measure of just how much public education work lies ahead in this important realm.

Upset by the BPLF campaign, concerned citizens are circulating a petition for submission to Mayor Tom Bates and the Berkeley City Council. We urge the read-

ers of this article to go to www.petitiononline.com/94704lib/petition.html and add their name to the petition. You do not need to be a Berkeley resident to sign.

In the meantime, we again ask the BPLF board publicly what we have repeatedly, and respectfully, implored them to address privately. As Peggy Scott, president of Families With Children From China—Northern California and co-author of this petition states, "This issue is not about overly sensitive or politically correct adults; it is about children who are sometimes vulnerable, and unable to speak for themselves. If you understand that this campaign will hurt even one child, why wouldn't you just change the name?" The obvious solution is to set things right by editing out the hurtful "Adopt a Book" theme from the campaign. What is preventing the BPLF from doing this without delay?

Library Check-Out

Continued from Page Eleven

alarm in the branch gates did not set off the Central Library's alarm when we subsequently entered and exited there.

We tested the Central Library's security system just once. It failed to sound when we passed through the gates a book that was not checked out. But then the alarm did sound when we brought the book back in through the gates.

Our conclusion is that, despite the installation of a brand-new Checkpoint Systems, Inc. RFID system, completed four years ago, with maintenance contracts during that time, the library's RFID security function is not reliable.

Additional information suggests support for our conclusion. At the end of 2008, for example, we learned from reliable sources that the gates at one branch had been turned off for at least eight months because the false alarms were so numerous that staff was simply ignoring them.

Another concern is that the RFID technology is far too easy to circumvent. Even if the security gates are working, their theft-prevention purpose can be rendered ineffective against accidental or intentional blocking of the radio frequency signal in a variety of ways that would allow materials that were not checked out to leave the library completely undetected.

The so-called "self-service" Checkpoint RFID check-out machines are far from self-service, and so unreliable that staff intervention is routinely required. Following are some of the problems:

- Just getting started can be a problem. The self-check machines provide a broad, flat surface that seems to invite patrons to rest their library materials on it prior to beginning the check-out process.

- When a patron rests library materials on the machine and then begins the check-out process by scanning his/her library card as described in the machine's instructions—nothing happens. Check-out is impossible. There is no explanation from the machine. Some of the branches have a hand-written sign warning patrons to scan their library card before resting any library materials on the table. At one branch we were alerted by a staff member just as we rested our materials on the machine to remove them and scan the card first.

- Far from being easy or intuitive to use, the Checkpoint RFID self-check-out machines require a separate step to unlock cases for media such as CDs and DVDs. The patron first checks out the media item, then inserts it into a small black box next to the check-

out machine. These openers appear to be out of order often, but are not always marked as such. We did find, at one branch, an unlocking machine marked "out of order." At another branch the unlocking machine would not at first pull in and unlock the boxed DVD when we inserted it, making noises like grinding gears. We tried again, giving an extra push, and the second time it took in the item. But it did not unlock. The librarian had to unlock the DVD case on an unlocking device at the circulation desk.

We also observed other patrons having difficulty understanding what to do with DVDs and how to operate the DVD/CD case opener.

Self-check-out machines have many functional limitations:

- They do not check out materials if patrons have more than \$10 in fines or fees. The machines cannot accept full or partial payment to eliminate the problem. But staff at the circulation desk can.
- Self-service check-out machines cannot renew a book if the patron does not have it in hand—the circulation desk can.
- Self-check-out machines do not check out interlibrary loan (ILL) materials.
- They do not check out LINK+ materials.
- They do not work with an expired card, which the circulation staff can fix.
- Only one book at a time can be checked out. The machine's instructions tell patrons to pass only one item at a time over the reader. When we tried checking out more than one item at a time, the machines were unable to read two or more items at a time. Once, when passing a CD

and another item over the reader, we received a message saying the case did not contain the CD contents when, in fact, it did. A staff member informed us that incorrect error messages appear all the time, and another said most patrons have trouble with the self-service machines.


One of the major advantages of RFID, according to a 2005 library handout, was that RFID "makes it possible for us to have patrons checking out their own materials in a much more intuitive and user friendly way than our current self-checks."

Importantly, self-check-out machines cannot perform many additional circulation desk functions. The machines cannot say, as circulation desk staff can, "You

have a book due in three days, would you like me to renew it?" Or, "You have books that can be renewed, but you have already renewed your CD and DVD the maximum number of times."

We thank the library for soliciting information from its patrons on the workability of the RFID self-check-out system, and we hope other library users will respond by sending their comments to the Berkeley Daily Planet promptly.

Note: The library Trustees will be discussing the biennial budget at their May 20 meeting. Now is the time for library users to express their opinions about, and suggest alternatives to, the existing RFID self-check-out system.



JEANNE FITZGERALD VON STADE
6/30/1923 – 5/3/2009

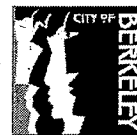
Jeanne peacefully passed away at Kaiser in Oakland with loving family at her side. She now begins her new adventure. Services will be held this Saturday May 9th at 10:30 A.M. St. Ambrose at the corner of Cornell and Gilman, Berkeley. Memorial contributions may be made in her name to American Lung Association/ email address: LungUSA.org no flowers are necessary.

Jeanne is survived by her family: Rebecca (Becky) Partridge, Nancy (Pepper) Hall and husband John, Steven von Stade and wife Antoinette, Scott von Stade and wife Tina with their five children and significant others: Lance von Stade & Jen, Jeremy & Rebekah Grundmann, Alexandra von Stade & Steven, Tyler Williams, Dash von Stade. Her sister Mary Carrel and family. Her life long friend and Artist Modena. She was preceded in death by her close friends Geri Harris, Connie Tinko and Lucille Fogarty. We miss you and celebrate the adventures you shared with us.

Jeanne was raised in Peoria, Illinois. Moved to CA in the 1940's and bought a house in Albany, where she has lived and raised her family. This house she made a home. You could hear the piano playing "five foot two, eyes of blue," or she would vacuum to a Friti Lopez song. She loved Dixieland Jazz festivals and could dance all night long. She worked at Fantasy Records and loved to promote OCR.

Jeanne was Mother Earth. She would wear her enormous hat and a bright orange moo-moo while she gardened. You could see her from Fisherman's Wharf. She loved the water, joined the Oakland Yacht Club. Swam a mile a day at the community center or The Plunge.

Jeanne was cool. Her children never felt like they went without, they never did. She worked very hard to pay for lessons and sports equipment. More importantly, she never missed a dance recital, school play, or sporting event. Kids piled into the station wagon to go to the games. When we got lost, she had the perfect answer, "We're not lost... we're on an adventure". Jeanne is on her new adventure.



CITY OF BERKELEY'S HOUSING TRUST FUND NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY THROUGH AN OPEN APPLICATION PROCESS

Beginning May 8, 2009, the City of Berkeley's Housing Department will accept funding applications for the City's Housing Trust Fund (HTF). The HTF Program includes a combination of federal, state, and local funds for affordable housing development. The City provides loans to qualified developers to create, maintain, or expand the City's below market housing stock. The City's HTF Guidelines permit the set aside of up to one-quarter (1/4) of the funds in the funding round for allocation to proposals received through an Open Application Process, rather than through a Request For Proposals. A total of approximately \$650,000 will be made available for affordable housing projects through this Open Application Process. Under this Open Application Process, the applicant's proposals must benefit low-income households and must conform to HTF Program Guidelines. In order to be considered for funding under this process, applicants must also clearly document why their proposals cannot wait until the next HTF funding cycle and what major benefit to the City that would be foregone if the proposal had to wait for the next HTF Request for Proposals. Preference will be given to projects that are (1) ready to proceed; (2) have a least one major source of financing committed and/or need the City's financial commitment to secure another major source of financing; (3) meet the priorities of the City's EveryOne Home Plan, General Plan, Housing Trust Fund Guidelines; and (4) provide affordable housing that targets low income, at-risk groups, including individuals and households with income below 30% Area Median Income (AMI) and special needs populations (as defined by local and State Multifamily Housing Program guidelines).

Incomplete applications or applications that do not conform to the requirements of the City's Housing Trust Fund Guidelines may not be considered. Issuance of the Notice of an Open Application Process does not obligate the City to award a contract, nor is the City liable for any costs incurred by the applicant in the preparation and submittal of applications for the subject work. The City retains the right to award all or parts of this funding to one or several applicants, to not select any applications, and/or to re-solicit applications. The act of submitting an application is a declaration that the applicant has read HTF Guidelines and understands all the requirements and conditions.

The HTF Guidelines, schedule, and application and application exhibits are available on the Housing Department website www.ci.berkeley.ca.us or by calling City staff at the number below. All applications (an original plus five (5) copies) must be submitted at the address below no later than 3:00 p.m., May 22, 2009. Late and incomplete applications will not be accepted.

For more information please call:
Roger Asterino at (510) 981-5405, email rasterino@ci.berkel.ca.us
or,
Lourdes Chang at (510) 981-5419, email lchang@ci.berkeley.ca.us
City of Berkeley, Housing Department
2180 Milvia Street, 2nd Floor
Berkeley, CA 94704

COMMENTARY

Opinions expressed in Daily Planet commentary and letters to the editor are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Daily Planet or its staff.

Berkeley Ferry and Waterfront Parking

By PAUL KAMEN

I share James McVane's enthusiasm for a Berkeley Ferry, but in this letter of May 5 I believe he has a few very important things wrong.

While it is attractive to believe that ferry traffic will be good for nearby businesses and enhance marina lease revenue, there is actually no basis for this belief. In fact, other Bay Area examples (Larkspur Landing being the most relevant) have demonstrated just the opposite effect. Parking overflow, parking time limits and parking permit requirements all reduce access to nearby businesses, and patronage by ferry-riding commuters falls far short of offsetting these effects. The restaurant closest to the proposed terminal site opposes the project for good reason.

James McVane suggests parking along University Avenue, or in offsite lots with shuttle buses. Presumably the ferry passengers would be prevented from using the free parking areas much closer to the terminal by means of parking permits issued only to those with reasons to park there other than riding the ferry. But this leaves the vast majority of casual marina visitors with no access. Boat owners have guests, kids are brought to Adventure Playground, families picnic in Shorebird Park, people stop to check out sailing or kayak lessons at Cal Sailing Club or Cat Adventures. And a large number of people simply drive to the water to look out over the bay, or take a walk out on the fishing pier.

James, do you really think this kind of access will not be significantly and negatively impacted if they all have to stop to get parking permits first?

More to the point, it's unlikely that remote parking and shuttle buses will ever be feasible from a ferry marketing point of view. That's not what ferry passengers expect. The ferry is only viable for the majority of riders if they can park reasonably close to the boat.

Yes, a true feeder bus system would be great. Not because it would work for most ferry commuters, but because it would improve access to the waterfront for everyone, even those who don't take the ferry. And, because it would divert some of the funding from relatively wasteful ferry subsidies to much more useful local bus routes, I would love to see WETA include this as an integral part of their proposal, but so far they show no inclination to go in that direction.

Now for the "emergency" part of Emergency Transportation. The Berkeley Marina is home port to five Hornblower excursion boats, some of them considerably larger in passenger capacity than the ferries

New Bar Code Checkout System Less Expensive Than Berkeley Library's Aging RFID System

By GENE BERNARDI

The Berkeley Public Library's two-year budget is on the trustees' May 20 meeting agenda. This is an opportune time to inform the trustees of our dissatisfaction with, and the dysfunction of the radiofrequency (RFID) self-checkout system.

Berkeleyans Organizing for Library Defense (SuperBOLD) will make reference at the trustees' meeting to a quote we obtained from an established vendor for a bar code self-checkout and security system to replace the Berkeley Public Library's (BPL) RFID system. The quote, for this new bar code system, including training, shipping, installation and three years maintenance is \$240,303. The library director indicated in a Nov. 10, 2008 memo to the Peace and Justice Commission that maintenance and replacement of aging RFID equipment by the 3M company would cost \$70,000 for the first year and increasing in subsequent years. That means just maintaining and replacing RFID equipment for three years would cost about as much as a brand new, more reliable, bar code self-

checkout system; a system that would not be privacy invasive. For example, your movements can be tracked when you are carrying BPL books or media containing an RFID tag.

The Peace and Justice Commission recommended in early January 2009 that the City Council deny the waiver, but the City Council, nevertheless, approved the waiver in its Jan. 27 resolution that allowed the library to contract with 3M (a company involved in the nuclear industry) to maintain the RFID system. The council realized that "contracting with this vendor... will not violate the intent of the act as no equipment will be purchased from this vendor... and no new software technologies will be produced by 3M." The council limited the contract to two years, requiring the library to come up with an alternative to 3M by that time. A two-year contract at \$36,305 per year, or \$168,915 (enough for three years!) was signed with 3M effective March 15, 2009 through March 14, 2011, presumably for maintenance only and no equipment replacement or software upgrades. Does this make sense, considering that the director said money was need-

Documents Show Persistent Problems With Checkout System

By PETER WARTFIELD

Berkeley Public Library's own records show persistent problems with its Checkout Systems, Inc. radio frequency identification (RFID) checkout and security system.

The records reveal that the library's security gates give false alarms, and the self-service checkout machines and associated unlocking devices for CD and DVD cases frequently don't work. Additionally, we determined that the library's problem tracking system contains incomplete information.

On April 29 we asked the library for information about problems with the "self-service checkout machines and exit (security) gates at the central library and branches" in the previous 18 months. These are public records that must be disclosed under the California Public Records Act. We were provided with 109 pages of problem tracking reports ("Work Orders") from the library's "Track-it" problem tracking system on May 4.

The information we obtained shows the following:

The problems with security gates and

ed for "certain important system components primarily equipment and software updates"? As taxpayers and concerned citizens do we want money to be spent to complete "a bridge to nowhere"? Why not buy new interoperable, more reliable equipment for a bar code self-checkout system, rather than spend money maintaining aging proprietary equipment nearing its life cycle end, equipment the City Council resolution forbids the library to replace?

The time to replace the RFID system with a non-nuclear company's bar code system is now, not two years from now! This will make it possible for the City Council to revoke the waiver of the Nuclear-Free Berkeley Act and for SuperBOLD to stop its legal challenge of the city for violating the act.

The Board of Library Trustees will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 20 at Berkeley's South Branch Library (Russell and Martin Luther King, Jr. Way). Please arrive early, sign up to speak and ask the trustees to replace the RFID system now!

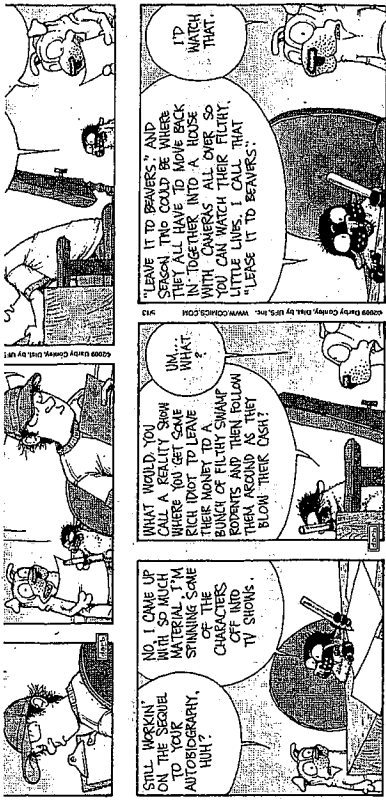
Gene Bernardi is a member of SuperBOLD.

it doesn't work at all. The last track-it [W.O.] got closed but the machine is still having problems... Patrons are annoyed and starting to just not use it." The date reported is May 2, 2008, completed May 12, 2008, 10 days later.

• W.O. 7643: "The unlocking box at the self-checkout station ... is once again unlocking any DVD box you push into it, regardless of whether you have checked out (or even scanned a library card). This was a problem, then it got fixed, now, it seems, the fix has undone itself. I opened the unlocking box and looked at the mechanism but I didn't see anything I could do." This problem was fixed 27 days after it was reported March 1, 2008, according to the W.O., by replacing the lock box.

• W.O. 7460, Central - Fourth Floor Children's Department: "A lot of people seem to be having problems unlocking DVDs. In this past hour, every person who had DVDs had one DVD that the unlocking machine would not even take in. In

Continued on Page Twenty-Three
Peter Warfield is executive director of Library Users Association.



goal is to reduce GHG emissions by 80 percent by 2050 minimum, the minimum, the society, including Many governments and development plans to respond. Nearly 30 California cities have



environmental review and will return to the council for final review. Berkeley's April Action Plan is erkeleyclimate.org. C's submission to the Climate Action Plan is www.foodsecu-

Documents Show Problems with Library Checkout System

Continued from Page Twelve

other words, the patron puts the DVD into the unlocker, but nothing happens. The DVD doesn't even go into the machine. The DVDs are showing on the screen as checked out. Problem entered Jan. 25-2008, completed Feb. 11, 2008, 17 days later.

- W.O. 8,288, South Branch: "A patron walked in with a book from North Branch that was checked out... The gate beeped. Another patron came in with a South DVD ... that was due today and the gate beeped. The gates alarms are going off when checked out materials are being returned. This undermines our use of the gates as security deterrents." This was shown completed Aug. 6, 2008, 27 days after being reported July 11, 2008 with a note, "Tested gates, could not duplicate problem." A year earlier the same branch reported a similar problem: "The gates at South, especially the front one, keep going off after patrons have checked things out. This undermines the whole purpose of them and reflects badly on the library." (W.O. 6,962, reported Nov. 1, 2007, reportedly completed Nov. 14, 2007).

We did not look specifically for back office problems with the library's system, but equipment malfunctions there can also have impacts that are not obvious to patrons, such as problems with checking books in or delays in shelving time-sensitive material. For example:

- W.O. 9,342, North Branch: "RFID computer programmer not working, high priority we can not process magazines for last three weeks." This was reported April 1, 2009 and reportedly completed April 2, 2009, one day later.

Revealing as these work orders may be, the record of RFID problems they provide is incomplete. For example, we conducted a field test of self-check machines and security gates and found problems with this equipment at multiple locations (see "Library's RFID System Dysfunctional,"



Answers to the Sudoku puzzles from the preceding page.

1.	9	6	2	7	8	4	5	1	3
	3	8	7	6	5	1	9	2	4
	1	5	4	9	2	3	8	7	6
	4	2	3	8	1	9	7	6	5
	8	9	6	5	3	7	1	4	2
	5	7	1	2	4	6	3	9	8
	2	1	8	4	9	5	6	3	7
	6	3	5	1	7	2	4	8	9
	7	4	9	3	6	8	2	5	1

2.	8	2	9	6	5	1	4	7	3
	5	1	7	3	4	9	6	2	8
	4	6	3	8	2	7	5	9	1
	2	3	1	7	6	5	8	4	9
	7	8	5	9	3	4	1	6	2
	6	9	4	1	8	2	3	5	7
	3	7	8	5	9	6	2	1	4
	1	5	2	4	7	8	9	3	6
	9	4	6	2	1	3	7	8	5



Notes: The library trustees will be discussing the biennial budget at their May 20 meeting. Now is the time for library users to express their opinions about, and suggest alternatives to, the existing RFID self-check-out system.

EDITOR

turn enough of a profit to reimburse Berkeley taxpayers? I think not. Rescinding Measure G would go a long way to closing this department and provide Berkeley homeowners with significant tax savings.

Enough!

Barbara Witte

TOXICS DEFENDERS

Editors, Daily Planet:

City Council item number 46 (April 21), regarding applying for Obama administration stimulus funds for toxic clean-up of UC's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), which is located in beautiful Strawberry Canyon, was a citizen-inspired effort that Councilmember Jesse Arreguin agreed to place on the agenda.

But Councilmember Linda Maio, once an employee at LBNL, wanted to amend or hold up this timely item. And so, with the agreement of Mayor Bates, five critical words—"to the highest standards available"—were eliminated after the word clean-up.

This means that clean-up as usual will occur at the LBNL labs, i.e. which means minimal and limited. The labs will now likely get millions of stimulus dollars, and they can use the money for demolition and site preparation for more new buildings, instead of for environmental clean-up to the highest standards.

The labs have plans to build 15 gigantic research laboratories within Strawberry Canyon, to be used for synthetic biology in manufacture of biofuels such as controversial cellulosic ethanol. See "GMO Research Dominates BP-UC Partnership in the Planet. Workers in the County Citations at Laboratories ment of gh levels

Mitchell

BACK TO BAR CODES

Editors, Daily Planet:

Libraries are a kind of sacred sanctuary—quiet, full of books and ideas to explore—their librarians the most helpful and pleasant of public institution staffs.

So after reading the May 7 commentary on the Berkeley Public Library's flawed checkout system I am reminded once again of the Orwellian nature of the current moment—in this case the enormous waste of resources that produce more problems than they solve.

Yes, it's true that the technology of security and "do it yourself" book checkout in the public libraries is very faulty. Sometimes the checkout apparatus works, often it doesn't. I have given up on it and go directly to the line for manual checkout. In addition I sometimes get to chat with a human—about a music CD I am borrowing, or a book the librarian has read. A very pleasant and rewarding encounter.

How did the BPL ever go so wrong with the installation of the mechanized checkout system that cost \$643,000 plus interest plus maintenance plus weekly/monthly RFID tags (77 cents each) for the dozens and dozens of magazines and periodicals that must be tagged as they arrive? There was nothing wrong with the bar code stickers. Is this a sane system to save money on employees?

Is this what we want to spend our library tax money on? How about buying books instead? What are our common sense priorities? Can we jump past our culture's obsession with the newest gadgetry and get back to (cheaper) basics—please?

Joan Levinson

LIVING NEAR BROWER CENTER

Editors, Daily Planet:

I live in Oxford Plaza. My apartment overlooks the Oxford Plaza courtyard which, of course, is adjacent to the fairly small patio on the grounds of the David Brower Center.

The David Brower Center has lots of event space and I am sure they hope to rent it for many larger events. They need to factor in their residential neighbors when they place music outdoors.

The courtyard in my building works like an echo chamber. Sound is greatly amplified. If they are going to have loud music on that patio regularly, they are creating unacceptable environmental pollution. Noise is pollution. The Brower Center needs to get clear, right now, that they have hundreds of residential neighbors adjacent to their very small patio. They have to be considerate, good neighbors all the time.

The Brower Center is being a bad neighbor, period. But the Brower Center might not have been thoughtful, might not have realized that blasting music out into the small patio would disturb many

Brower Center's PR stuff related to the grand opening, they like to refer to the cool new apartment building next door so they have no excuse for ignoring their neighbors: they know people live here.

I think the Brower Center should use the small outdoor patio space very carefully. I suggest they treat it as a quiet outdoor space, where people attending events in the indoor space might step outside and enjoy fresh air and a little quiet. I suggest that people who work in the building be able to use the small patio as quiet outdoor space.

For the Center's residential neighbors, this is our home. Please treat it more respectfully.

It's 9:45 p.m. This noise has been going for hours. How many hours of noise pollution do you think is reasonable?

Imagine yourselves in your own homes, imagining an inconsiderate neighbor blasting their stereo for many hours with the hum of many, many conversations. Imagine how a few hours of that would feel like to you in your home.

Tree Fitzpatrick

ISRAEL-PALESTINE

Editors, Daily Planet:

On May 5, Vice President Joseph Biden went before the annual meeting of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) and urged that Israel move toward a "two-state solution" in Israel-Palestine. Since, in the United States, collective amnesia is basic to our culture, this created some news. No one remembers any prior U.S. president or vice president ever having supported such a radical idea as an independent Palestinian state.

When the British withdrew from colonial Palestine in 1947 they were under fire by the Jewish paramilitaries (the Irgun, the Stern Gang, the Palmach) and of course they had no knowledge that the Jews would massacre civilians and declare an independent Jewish State in Palestine, for Lord Balfour's Declaration of 1918 promising Palestine to the European Jews never happened. The Brits slid behind the curtain so that the United Nations might propose Europe's plan for the partition of Palestine into two absurdly unworkable geographic entities to cover the deal. Of course—although dominated by the victorious Western Allied Powers—the UN wasn't implying support for the paramilitaries' ethnic cleansing terror effort (the Naqba) when they accepted Israel on its terms; were they? They were just playing map and board games; certainly they didn't approve of the forced removal of 750,000

LETTERS

Continued from Page Fifteen

material of varying hardness installed along Telegraph Avenue below Ashby every few blocks into North Oakland, and perhaps further to the north and south.

I have been in the business of urban landscaping for nearly 30 years, beginning with my career at the old California Street Nursery, and I can tell you that raised street planters, unless the local merchants or nearby residents adopt them, are a waste. Even if the city or merchant group responsible assigns gardeners to water them, it won't be long before the plants are gone and the barren planters are filled with trash and cigarette butts.

I hate to sound cynical, but this well-meaning project was recently completed in an area with acres of empty and weed-filled sidewalk tree cutouts and planting strips and paper green bins (in the still-unrec occasional

If you n er to the c week for ti City to col To dowr tomer Serv

ences with the Radiofrequency ID system: When I go to the main library with my mother, very often the gate alarm goes off when we are leaving with our checked out books. When this happens, the security person checks our paper receipts, but not our bags of books. It seems most odd that the gate alarm so often goes off for no apparent reason.

At the South Branch, the gate alarm used to go off when anyone passed through and I observed the staff just waving people on through without checking them at all.

I wonder how safe our collection of books really is with this RFID system.

Send your feedback to Director of Library Services Donna Corbeil, 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley, 94704. Or e-mail her at director@berkeleypubliclibrary.org.

Jane Welford

BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

Editors, Daily Planet:

The likely defeat of the propositions on the May 19 strategy used to encourage redevelopment.

When I asked Kriss at a public "Sunshine in Government" meeting how he felt about disclosure regarding government meetings held outside Berkeley, he said he did not have time for that.

Kriss is an alternate for Mayor Bates representing Berkeley on Alameda County Congestion Management Agency, which allocates gas tax monies to transit. Kriss and Mayor Bates, together, represent Berkeley at the AC Transit BRT Policy Steering Committee, which meets in Oakland.

Disclosure of meetings like these that take place outside Berkeley is necessary.

They do "disclosure" in Albany in about five minutes — no big deal, but a critical part of sunshine in government — the people's right to know what's going on. Merrille Mitchell

LIBRARY FEEDBACK

Editors, Daily Planet:

In response to the Berkeley Public Library's April 16 request for feedback from the public about our experi-

Man dies after hit-and-run accident

William Henderson, 55, of Berkeley died Sunday from injuries sustained dur-

Around 11:30 p.m., the Berkeley Police Department received calls of shots fired in the area. Officers respond-

ing to the scene found the 18-year-old in the rear yard of a residence, suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. He was pronounced dead at the scene by Berkeley Fire Department paramedics. The murder was Berkeley's second of

fact the BPD Robbery Detail at 981-5742 or 981-5900. Callers who wish to remain anonymous are asked to call the Bay Area Crime Stoppers Tip Line at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

!!! NEW AND ONLINE!!!

classifieds

ENTER YOUR CLASSIFIED ANY TIME, DAY OR NIGHT.



Do It Online!

CAL RENTALS

Students, Faculty & Staff

- Search rental listings with photos and map links
- Comprehensive rental resources: how, when & where to look

LANDLORDS

ARCHIVE INTERNSHIP

(Paid), Work with director of former international non-profit and others in her home 8 blocks N of UC Berkeley. Hours negotiable, 6am-9pm, 7 days a week. Pw/Ft One weekend shift required. Must be reliable, organized, accurate with details MsWord/Excel & Eudora email fluent, scent & smoke free. Great view and free food. E-mail: archivehip@yahoo.com

CRISIS INTERVENTION COUNSELOR.

Crisis Support Services of Alameda County needs volunteers to answer our 24 hour crisis lines. Most of the work provided by our crisis line volunteers involves supportive communication with people who are struggling with difficult life transitions or situations. Previous experience is not necessary — we offer comprehensive training and ongoing support. Call today! 510-420-2471

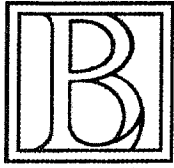
Contemporary Women's

Earthly Goods

Not your only shoes, just your favorites.

DANSKO





News Release
April 16, 2009
Berkeley, California

Contact: Alan Bern
Community Relations Librarian
510-981-6107

Berkeley Public Library
Begins Upgrading of Self-check System

The Berkeley Public Library is currently engaged in the process of upgrading their self-check system for library materials and searching out new vendors in anticipation of the end of the contract with our current vendor 3M. The current self-check system has been in place at Berkeley Public Library at all branch library locations and at Central Library for nearly four years.

Berkeley Public Library invites library users to send us input: ideas on what has worked and what has not worked in our current system; experiences with self-check systems at other libraries; and other feedback by May 15, 2009, so that the ideas can be considered before library staff prepares a status report on the self-check updating process to be presented to the Board of Library Trustees at the June 2009 meeting. Following the June 2009 Board of Library Trustees meeting, a Request for Proposal (RFP) will go out for new vendors to supply software and hardware to operate our self-check system.

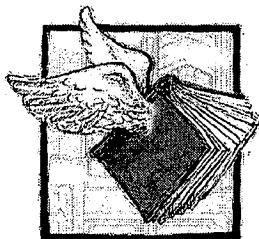
We invite the community to send ideas and feedback to us by email, mail, or phone:

Email: director@berkeleypubliclibrary.org

Mail: Director of Library Services, Berkeley Public Library, 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley, CA 94704

Phone: 510-981-6195 or 510-548-1240 (TTY)

#####



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY
 510-981-6100
www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org

May 2009

what's happening here
 Newsletter of the Berkeley Public Library

學用電腦打中文字
 2009年5月5日(星期二)
 下午 2:00~3:30
 柏克萊公立圖書館(中央)
 電腦室(第3樓)
 在課堂上用的電腦是 Vista
 限收16個學生,名額有限

免費參加

Typing Chinese
 LEARN HOW TO TYPE
 CHINESE CHARACTERS
 ON A COMPUTER

FREE Berkeley Public Library
 Electronic Classroom (3rd Floor)
 2090 Kittredge at Shattuck
 Tuesday, May 5, 2009
 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

The platform used in the Electronic Classroom will be in Vista.

Drop-in class with limited space for 16 students – first come, first served.

Sponsored by Berkeley Public Library

柏克萊公立圖書館贊助

For more information, call 510-981-6136.

Berkeley arts&letters and Berkeley Public Library present a talk, reading, and discussion with one of the country's favorite young novelists

COLSON WHITEHEAD

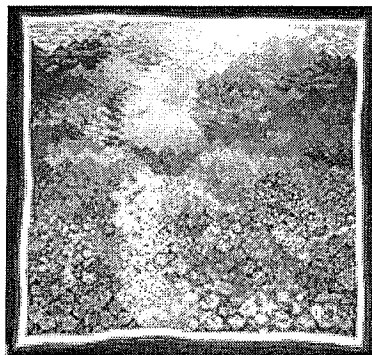
in celebration of his new book *Sag Harbor*



Tuesday, May 19, 2009
 7:00 PM at the Central
 Berkeley Public Library,
 3rd floor Community
 Meeting Room
 2090 Kittredge Street
 at Shattuck Avenue,
 downtown Berkeley

Books will be available for purchase and autographing. Donations to the Berkeley Public Library Foundation happily accepted.

28th Annual Quilt Show



Berkeley Public Library proudly presents our 28th Annual Quilt Show. New this year are the show's location and our theme. Quilts will be displayed at the Central Library, and all are miniature. Within this theme, there will be much variation: antique, contemporary, landscape, portrait, patchwork and more. The show runs April 28 through May 11.

Questions?

Please call 981-6241, the Art & Music department.

Audiobook Narrator Wanda McCaddon at Berkeley Public Library

Saturday, May 23, 2-3:30 p.m.: Wanda McCaddon, AudioFile Magazine's 2008 Best Voice in Fiction and Classics, will be interviewed by arts journalist Jean Schiffman at Berkeley Public's Central Library, 2090 Kittredge at Shattuck, in the 3rd floor Community Meeting Room. McCaddon, who also reads under the names Donada Peters and Nadia May, will talk about her favorite narrations and her life as an actor. Several of McCaddon's most recent audiobooks, including *Vanity Fair*, *Mansfield Park*, *Jane Eyre*, and *Mrs. Dalloway*, are available at the Berkeley Public Library. Interviewer Jean Schiffman, author of *The Actor's Toolkit*, writes about theater for *Back Stage* and the *SF Examiner*. Friends for many years, McCaddon and Schiffman will discuss the rich history of Bay Area theatre and much more.

This **FREE** event is sponsored by the Friends of the Library. For more info, please call 510-981-6241 or visit www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org.

Teen Games

The library's new Nintendo Wii game system makes its debut appearance in May. The Central Library will host teen games twice a month on the second and fourth Fridays. The first sessions will take place on Friday, May 8th and Friday, May 22nd at 3:30-4:30 PM. In the 3rd Floor Community Room, participants will play Wii games, board games, and/or card games. Games include Blokus, chess, Scrabble, and Uno. This program is intended for teenagers. For more info, call Joy at 981-6147 or e-mail bppteens@ci.berkeley.ca.us. Sponsored by the **Friends of the Berkeley Public Library**.

Koto Concert at Berkeley Public Library

To celebrate Asian Pacific Islander month, Berkeley Public Library proudly presents a concert of traditional and contemporary Japanese koto music on **Thursday, May 7, 2009, 12:15 -1 p.m. at the Central Library, 2090 Kittredge (at Shattuck)**. Koto players Shirley Kazuyo Muramoto and Brian Mitsuhiro Wong will perform in the **Art & Music department, on the fifth floor**. Ms. Muramoto, an Oakland native, has performed with cinematic composer Maurice Jarre, the Sacramento Symphony, the Marin Symphony and shakuhachi master John Kaizan Neptune. Mr. Wong is the son of Ms. Muramoto and will play saxophone as well as koto. This free program is sponsored by the **Friends of the Library**. For further info, call 510-981-6241.

→ Free Comic Book Day @Claremont

Saturday, May 2, 2009, 10am – 1pm
2940 Benvenue Ave., Berkeley, CA 94705

→ Free Comic Book Day @West

Saturday, May 2, 2009, 2 – 6pm
1125 University Ave., Berkeley, CA 94702

→ Free Comic Book Day @South

Saturday, May 2, 2009, 3 – 6pm
1901 Russell Street, Berkeley, CA 94703

Teen Services Librarians will be giving away comics in celebration of Free Comic Book Day! Limit 3 per person, free comics are intended for teens and may not be suitable for all ages.

To request a sign language interpreter, real-time materials in large print or Braille, or other accommodations for any Berkeley Public Library public program, call 510-981-6107 or 510-548-1240 (TTY) 5 days before the program. Please refrain from wearing scented products to public meetings or public programs.



from *Salsa Dance Lesson in*

Central Library 2nd floor Historic Lobby

Sunday, April 26, 2009

A wonderful celebration of **Bay Area National Dance week** with a Salsa lesson in the Library, taught by professional Danceasy instructor Gale Robinson.



GASP (Grantwriters Anxiety Support Program)

Now Meets in the East Bay!

Free grantwriting support group meets at the Central Library on Monday, May 11, 5:30-7:30pm. This workshop will cover: proposals, needs statements, project budgets, & outcome/evaluation planning. Meet with other grantwriters and mentors; bring questions and proposals-in-progress for review. **Presented by Development Executives Roundtable and hosted by the Berkeley Public Library.** Program is free but you must register. Send email to gasp@dersf.org to register.

Create a Tall Tale with Anne Isaacs @ Central

Tuesday, May 12, 2009, 3:30 – 4:30pm

Create your own Tall Tale with author Anne Isaacs in this writing workshop. For kids ages 8 and up. For more information, call 510-981-6223.

IN BRIEF

Oakland

MAN SHOT TO DEATH NEAR STREET WHERE FRIEND KILLED: A man was shot to death on an East Oakland street Tuesday night, and police are investigating whether the killing is related to the fatal shooting of another man earlier Tuesday in the same area, investigators said.

Thomas Cousey, 26, was shot about 10:18 p.m. in the 8300 block of Plymouth Avenue. He was shot several times and pronounced dead at the scene.

Sgt. Rachael Van Sloten said Wednesday that police are looking for a motive in Cousey's killing and are trying to determine whether there is a connection between his death and the fatal shooting Tuesday morning of Warren Ingram, 21, a friend of Cousey's.

Ingram was shot about 1:15 a.m. in the 1700 block of 85th Avenue, a short distance from

where Cousey was shot. Ingram was driven by friends to the area of Hillmont and Sunkist drives, where police were notified.

Police don't know the motive in Ingram's slaying.

The two killings brought the city's homicide count for the year to 29. Last year at this time police had investigated 38 homicides.

Police and Crime Stoppers of Oakland are offering as much as \$10,000 in reward money in each case for information leading to the arrests of the killers. Anyone with information may call police at 510-238-3821 or Crime Stoppers at 510-777-8572 or 510-777-3211.

— Sean Maher

Berkeley

CHECK IT OUT — IT'S NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK: This week is the 51st National Library Week. But in these lean economic times, there doesn't need to be a Senate proclamation to get people

to visit Berkeley libraries to borrow books and materials, librarians said.

The California Senate recently passed a resolution recognizing the value of public libraries that "serve as centers for education, information, knowledge and entertainment by helping the general public, students, faculty and researchers obtain the best, most accurate and complete information."

The resolution says more than 21 million people use California's public libraries each year. During the 2007-08 fiscal year, 1.5 million visits were made to the five Berkeley public libraries, a jump of 14 percent over the previous year. At the four branches, the number of visits increased 19 percent.

In 2008, circulation of materials from the library collections jumped more than 8 percent in 2008 — twice the number from the previous year. On average,

residents checked out 16 items annually from the library, more than three times the most recent statewide mean, Berkeley library statistics show.

Community Relations Librarian Alan Bern said visits and circulation numbers are up this year, as well.

In Berkeley, the libraries might get even busier in the future. Last November, Berkeley voters passed a measure to make the four branch libraries seismically safe and more handicapped-accessible.

— Kristin Bender

Oakland

ART AND SOUL FESTIVAL SHORTENED, MOVED UP: The wide-ranging performances at Oakland's ninth annual Art and Soul Festival will have to be packed into two days instead of three this year because the festival will not fall on its usual Labor Day weekend.

The lineup will be announced in July. For details on the Art and Soul Festival, call 510-444-CITY or www.artandsouloakland.com.

Because the Bay Bridge will be closed for construction over the three-day holiday weekend, the downtown festival will be held Aug. 15 and 16 instead.

This isn't new. Over the past nine festivals, three have had date changes because of Bay Bridge construction, said Samee Roberts, executive director for the festival.

Last year, 60,000 attendees came to the festival and hundreds of musicians performed jazz, rock, gospel, Latin, R&B, smooth jazz and blues. The live music will be showcased alongside children's activities, an exotic food market, dance performances and art.

Despite the time constraint, the festival will "still have a full complement of all the different styles of music that we have," Roberts said.

The lineup will be announced in July. For details on the Art and Soul Festival, call 510-444-CITY or www.artandsouloakland.com.

— Anna Rendall

Please recycle this newspaper after reading.

GREAT VALUES FOR OVER

150 YEARS

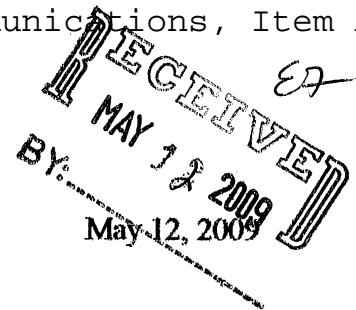
Our sale starts Thursday!
Shop 10am-9pm.*

E A C T E D



SuperBOLD

(Berkeleyans Organizing for Library Defense)



Chair Darryl Moore and
Board of Library Trustees
Berkeley Public Library
2090 Kittredge
Berkeley, CA 94704

Dear Chair Moore and Library Trustees

To coincide with your possible adoption, at your May 20, 2009 meeting, of a biennial budget for FY 2010/2011, we ask that you review Director Corbeil's April 14, 2009 memo recommending that "the Board may want to consider the expenditure of other funds, such as gift funds and the Library Tax carry-over balance for one-time expenditures." Under **Unanticipated Expenses** the first item listed is: "Identification of an alternative vendor for the Library's Checkpoint Self-Check System", (see 4/14/09 BOLT agenda packet Discussion Item A p.5.)

We strongly urge you to heed the Director's recommendation and seriously consider a purchase now of a new barcode self-checkout system for which we have a quote from an established vendor (L.A.T.) with installations in multiple U.S. libraries. The total cost for the entire Berkeley Public Library including equipment, training, shipping, installation and 3 years of maintenance would be \$240,303.

This \$240,303 figure for a new system is close to, and quite likely less than the amount it was originally expected a 3M maintenance contract, including replacement of deteriorating RFID equipment, would cost. The Director's November 10, 2008 memo to the Peace and Justice Commission chair states, "The Library estimates an annual cost of \$70,000 in FY 2009 to cover increased equipment failure as a result of aging equipment.... This expense is projected to increase in future years as equipment nears its life cycle end." (copy 11/10/08 memo enclosed)

Although the current 3M maintenance contract is for \$56,305/year, it presumably does not cover replacing aging equipment, as the January 27, 2009 City Council Resolution waiving the Nuclear Free Berkeley Act states:

"WHEREAS, contracting with the vendor for the stated purpose will not violate the intent of the act, as **no equipment will be purchased from the vendor,...**"
(emphasis added, Resolution No. 64,347 - N.S. enclosed)

As taxpayers, and concerned citizens, we ask that you not spend money to complete "a bridge to nowhere". It makes sense to buy new interoperable, more reliable equipment for a barcode self-checkout system, rather than to spend money maintaining aging proprietary equipment nearing its life cycle end, equipment the City Council Resolution forbids you to replace.

(See attached Summary of, and Notes on Quote.

Also enclosed copy email from San Diego Library's Brian Ruark re: L.A.T.)

We have only given you an example. We ask that you start your Request for Proposals procedure now for a new barcode self-checkout system with a goal of replacing the aging RFID system by the end of 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gene Bernardi".

Gene Bernardi
9 Arden Road
Berkeley, CA 94704



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Date: November 10, 2008

To: Mr. Bob Meola
Chairperson, Peace and Justice Commission

From: Donna Corbeil, Director of Library Services

Re: Maintenance Service and Materials for Library Express Self-Checkout System

The Berkeley Public Library is seeking to enter into a three (3) year contract with an option for two (2) single year extensions with 3M for the purchase of maintenance services and materials pertaining to the existing express self check-out system. The Library requests a waiver of endorsed declarations of the Nuclear Free Disclosure Form and Oppressive States Compliance Statement for Personal Services.

3M, the sole source supplier for the Library's existing system, would be engaged for the single purpose of updating, maintaining, and providing support services for the software and hardware of the express self check-out system. The existing express self check-out system dates to FY05 when the Library contracted with Checkpoint Systems, Inc. for the installation and maintenance of a proprietary based library inventory and circulation management system. Major hardware components of this system include programmers, readers, gates, and inventory wands. Maintenance and support services involve telephone consultations, onsite visits, and equipment exchanges and upgrades.

In 2008, Checkpoint partnered with and conferred upon 3M the exclusive worldwide rights as reseller and customer service provider of Checkpoint's line of library inventory and productivity products. It is as a consequence of this agreement that the Library is obliged to contract with 3M.

3M is a global diversified technology company, developing and producing thousands of products in markets worldwide, including health care, office products and optical films for LCD displays. The Library solutions division is located in 3M Corporate Headquarters in St. Paul, MN.

1) The Intent and Purpose of the Act

Services and material requested herein are in conformance with the intent and purpose of the declarations sought by the City. The Library seeks continuing maintenance and parts servicing for the self check-out system which since FY05 has been incorporated as an essential element into daily library operations enhancing patron services and the provision of a more efficient and quicker circulation of library materials.



BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

2) Availability of Alternative Services, Goods, and Equipment or Other Suppliers Substantially Meeting Required Specifications

Subsequent to the 2008 agreement between Checkpoint and 3M there is not another provider or servicer in regards to the installed Checkpoint proprietary system. The Library may purchase a limited selection of proprietary material from a third party vendor acting as a middleman between the Library and 3M at a marked-up cost. However, certain important system components - primarily equipment and software updates - remain exclusively available through 3M. This exclusivity to 3M renders the increasing likelihood that, without a contract and the means to replace critical components, the Library's investment in the express self check-out system would be fully lost as the system ages and degrades into a state of inoperability.

3) Quantifiable Additional Costs from use of Available Alternatives.

The Library estimates an annual cost of \$70,000 in FY09 to cover increased equipment failure as a result of aging equipment as well as the ongoing costs of proprietary material to operate the system. This expense is projected to increase in future years as equipment nears its life cycle end. Additionally, should the Library be compelled to engage a middleman vendor - for a limited selection of material only - costs would be expected to be substantially higher than a direct purchase through 3M.

Thank you for your consideration of the Library's request for waiver regarding the maintenance and servicing of the Library's express self check-out system. To reiterate, this essential proprietary based system is fully integrated into the Library's daily operations and services the inventory and circulation management processes; any degradation or abandonment of this system would impose significant financial, operational and material hurdles for the Library to overcome. The resulting outcome is not limited to the probable need to abandon the system, which represents a major capital and staffing investment of Library resources, but also would necessitate replacement with another vendor at a substantial cost and accompanying loss of Library assets.

At the present time, the self check-out technology is evolving; its applications and uses are also broadening. Like many nearby public libraries, Berkeley Public Library is monitoring developments and will continue to investigate vendors that may be able to provide complementary or competing software, services, and products for self check-out functions.

If the Library can provide any additional information to assist you in your decision making regarding this matter please let me know, my office number is 981-6195.

RESOLUTION NO. 64,347-N.S.

WAIVING THE CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS OF THE NUCLEAR FREE BERKELEY ACT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 12.90.070 OF THE BERKELEY MUNICIPAL CODE, IN ORDER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH 3M COMPANY OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA FOR ONGOING EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR EXISTING LICENSED SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE FOR THE CHECKPOINT SYSTEMS BRAND INTELLIGENT LIBRARY SYSTEM EQUIPMENT AT THE BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 60,840-N.S. and Chapter 12.90.070 the Nuclear Free Berkeley Act of the Berkeley Municipal Code, in order to enter into a contract with 3M of St. Paul, MN, the City Council must determine that no reasonable alternative exists based on consideration of three factors; and

WHEREAS, the three factors: the intent and purpose of the act, the availability of alternative service providers and quantifiable additional costs resulting from the use of alternative providers have all been considered; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Public Library strives to provide a relevant collection of materials to the community for checkout, and has adopted self check technology to make this process easier and faster, secure individual items from theft and maintain a comprehensive integrated system in which the accurate status of books and other material is available to the public and staff in the online library catalog; and

WHEREAS, contracting with this vendor for the stated purpose will not violate the intent of the act, as no equipment will be purchased from this vendor, no manufacturing by 3M would be involved, no new software technologies will be produced by 3M and any software upgrades would be the product of Checkpoint, therefore, services requested are in conformance with the intent and purpose of the declarations sought by the City; and

WHEREAS, by providing annual maintenance service of capital assets, equipment and software, related to the Checkpoint System brand Intelligent Library System by a vendor that is authorized by the manufacturer to service equipment and licensed software the Library's significant investment is protected from degradation and possible inoperability due to technical problems; and

WHEREAS, the Library is committed to actively seeking alternatives to dependence on a vendor that is not compliant with the Nuclear Free Berkeley Act, while minimizing the direct negative effect on library operations and acting in a fiscally prudent manner to not allow the loss of an asset that represents a major capital and staffing investment before adequately exhausting all other possibilities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley approves a waiver to the "no-contract" provision of the B.M.C. Section 12.90.070 for a period of two years, because no reasonable alternative exists to the services that will be

provided under contract with 3M of St. Paul, MN, and that any extension of the waiver shall require Council approval.

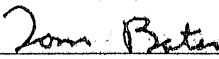
The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Berkeley City Council on January 27, 2009 by the following vote:

Ayes: Capitelli, Maio, Moore, Wengraf, Wozniak and Bates.


Noes: Arreguin and Worthington.

Abstain: Anderson.

Absent: None.



Tom Bates, Mayor

Attest: 

Deanna Despain, Acting City Clerk

SuperBOLD

(Berkeleyans Organizing for Library Defense)

Summary of, and Notes on Quote from Library Automation Technologies, Inc. (L.A.T.) for a Barcode Self-Checkout System for the Berkeley Public Library

Based on the assumption that there would be the same amount of equipment as at present, three (3) Self-Check Machines (and one spare) in the Main Library and two (2) each in three of the four branches (South Berkeley uses only one), the quote is for eleven (11) Self-Check Machines and seven (7) sets of Security Gates, three (3) of those sets for the Main Library. The quote also includes staff training, shipping and installation as follows:

11 Self-Check Machines	@	\$10,498.00 each	\$115,478
7 Sets of Security Gates (14 panels)	@	\$5020.00 each	\$ 70,280
Library Staff Training			\$ 2,796
Shipping (25 items)	@	\$299 each	\$ 7,475
Installation (10 items)	@	\$254 each	\$ <u>2,540</u>
Total			\$198,569

There is a one year free warranty for maintenance. If you sign a three year maintenance contract, purchased in advance, there is a 10% discount on years 2 and 3, making the total for the first 3 year maintenance contract \$41,734 or an average of \$13,911/year for maintenance.

The grand total for a new Bar Code Self-Check System including staff training, shipping and installation and a three year maintenance contract is \$240,303.

This 3 year contract for a brand new Bar Code Self-Check System with maintenance is just \$71,388 more than the 2 year \$168,915 contract signed with 3M, for maintenance only, of the existing RFID self-check system nearing the end of its life cycle.

In preparation for the Barcode Self-Checkout System the existing RFID tags on library materials need not be removed. The RFID tags do not interfere with the operation of a barcode/magnetic strip system. New books can be ordered with magnetic strips as well as the barcodes. Barcode and magnetic strips are standardized, and if necessary, vendors can be switched. To protect patron privacy the RFID tags on Library materials can be disabled by simple procedures, including ones that do not require tag removal.

For security purposes CDs and DVDs may have 2 magnetic strips applied in parallel on each side of the hole in the disc. The same lock boxes now used can be continued.

According to LAT, a device, costing \$450 can be purchased which would prevent a patron from opening the lockbox until after the CD/DVD has been checked out.

We currently have 43 Self Checks from 3 vendors

2 from 3M

3 from Checkpoint

38 from LAT (Library Automation Technologies)

6 more are on order from LAT \

We always have a minimum of 2 at any one library.

We have focused on the LAT self checks, they price out about 2/3's of the price of a 3M or Checkpoint.

We have found LAT easy to work with and so far the machines have held up well.

2 branches which had the self checks since the day they were opened circ just under 70% on the self checks.

Those added to existing libraries experience anywhere from 18% to almost 40%. The numbers are slowly moving up as staff and patrons get used to them.

Brian Ruark

Technical Resource Program Manager

San Diego Public Library

City of San Diego

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From: jane welford [mailto:wibberkeley@yahoo.com]

Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 5:46 PM

To: Barrow, Deborah

Subject: Your Barcode self-checkout system

Dear Director of the San Diego Library,

We are interested in your Barcode Self-checkout system.

Would you let me know how it is working for you and who the manufacturer is.

Thank you,

Jane Welford SuperBOLD in Berkeley