

MARGARET DONNELLAN TODD
COUNTY LIBRARIAN

July 17, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVE THE JOINT USE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
AND THE ACTON-AGUA DULCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (5)
(3-VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board to sign the attached joint use cooperative agreement between the County and the Acton-Agua Dulce Unified School District.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The joint use cooperative agreement will be part of the County's grant application to the State for matching funds under the California Reading and Literacy Improvement and Public Library Construction and Renovation Bond Act of 2000 ("Bond Act") to construct the Acton/Agua Dulce Library project. The Bond Act grant application and other required supporting documents will be submitted to your Board for approval at a later date. The complete application, including the joint use cooperative agreement, will be submitted to the State Library for the third grant application funding cycle deadline of January 16, 2004.

It is recommended that your Board approve the joint use cooperative agreement with the Acton-Agua Dulce Unified School District ("School District") to provide a jointly operated community learning center as part of the proposed library project. The Bond Act and the

associated State regulations provide first priority funding consideration of projects where the agency that operates the library and one or more school districts have such a cooperative agreement. The Bond Act commits the County and the School District to cooperate with one another to provide the joint use community learning center service or another alternative joint use cooperative library service as may be mutually agreed by them for a term of 20 years.

Approval of the joint use cooperative agreement with the School District will make the County's grant application eligible for first priority consideration for funding by the Bond Act Review Board. The community learning center will provide technology resources, computer training, and homework support for students to enhance their academic achievement, and will support and supplement the local schools' curricula.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the joint use cooperative agreement as part of the Bond Act grant application is consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goal of Fiscal Responsibility since the joint use cooperative agreement ensures first priority funding consideration for the County's application to construct a new library in the Acton/Agua Dulce library service area which represents an investment in public infrastructure. It is also consistent with the goal of Service Excellence since both the proposed community learning center and the new library facility will provide improved service to the residents of the unincorporated communities of Acton and Agua Dulce. Approval is also consistent with the goal of Children and Families' Well-Being as the community learning center and the library will provide educational facilities and programs for enhancing educational/workforce readiness.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Under the proposed agreement the School District will provide six computers for use in the community learning center, and be responsible for replacing the six computers every three years. The County will be responsible for providing two computers and for maintaining all of the computers in the community learning center. The County will also be responsible for providing two part-time Library Pages, each working 20 hours per week, as part of the overall staffing program of the new library facility. If the grant for this project is approved by the State, funding for this staffing will be requested in Fiscal Year 2006-07. The total operating costs for this project will be included in the cost analysis when we return to the Board for approval to submit the application.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On March 7, 2000, California's voters approved Proposition 14, which established the California Reading and Literacy Improvement and Public Library Construction and Renovation Bond Act of 2000, creating a \$350 million State bond program for construction and renovation of library facilities. The Bond Act provides grant funds to local library jurisdictions on a 65%-35% local matching basis. Grant funds are awarded on a competitive basis in three separate application and funding cycles. If the Acton/Agua Dulce Library project grant application, of which this joint use cooperative agreement is a part, is approved by your Board, the application will be submitted for the third funding cycle in January 2004. The proposed joint use agreement will take effect only if a grant is awarded by the State for construction of the library project.

The agreement has been approved as to form by County Counsel and approved by the School District's Board. This joint use cooperative program includes a homework center and a computer center for elementary, middle, and high school students, eight public access computers which seat two students each, eight reader seats, and a core collection of school textbooks and homework-related materials to support the local schools' curricula.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

A separate environmental document is not required for approval of this joint use agreement. The required environmental documentation for this project will be submitted to your Board for approval at a later date with the grant application and other supporting documentation.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

The communities of Acton and Agua Dulce are currently served by the County of Los Angeles Public Library's Santa Clarita Valley Bookmobile. Approval of the joint use cooperative agreement will not impact the existing bookmobile service to these communities.

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CONCLUSION

Please return an adopted copy of this letter and three fully conformed copies of the joint use cooperative agreement with original signatures to the Public Library.

Respectfully submitted,



MARGARET DONNELLAN TODD
County Librarian

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Attachment

C: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel
Department of Public Works Executive
Office, Board of Supervisors