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"Enriching Lives"

Margaret Donnellan Todd
County Librarian

April 21, 2009

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

Dear Supervisors:

**ACCEPT THE BIG READ GRANT
FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
FOR THE LIBRARIES IN THE CITY OF NORWALK:
NORWALK LIBRARY AND ALONDRA LIBRARY
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 4) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Public Library is recommending that the Board accept a Big Read grant in the amount of $20,000 for the Norwalk Library and Alondra Library from the National Endowment for the Arts, in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services, to revitalize the role of literature in American culture. Both libraries are located in the City of Norwalk.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Accept The Big Read grant in the amount of $20,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts, in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest, for the Norwalk and Alondra Libraries located in the City of Norwalk.

2. Authorize and delegate authority to the County Librarian to execute any documents and agreements related to the acceptance and use of the grant funds, to expend the grant funds as necessary for the completion of the grant project, and to meet the conditions of the grant award.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Public Library is requesting Board acceptance of The Big Read grant in the amount of $20,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts, in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest. The grant was awarded to the Public Library for the two libraries located in the City of Norwalk -- Norwalk Library and Alondra Library -- to revitalize the role of literature in American culture and to encourage local communities to inspire literary reading. The Big Read grant will allow these libraries to help meet the educational and cultural needs of the residents in the City of Norwalk.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the recommended action is consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goals in the areas of Organizational Effectiveness (1) and Community and Municipal Services (3).

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Big Read grant, which is federal funds, is a one-to-one matching grant. In order to receive the full grant of $20,000, the Public Library must contribute at least $20,000 of in-kind match consisting of existing staffing and programs, bringing the total project expenses to at least $40,000.

The grant funds will be used for the purchase of library materials and necessary services and supplies to implement the grant project. The Public Library's operating budget has the appropriation to cover expenditures from this grant. Acceptance of this one-time grant does not commit the County to provide ongoing services.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

County policy requires that grants be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for acceptance. A Grant Management statement is not required for this grant because the grant amount is under $100,000.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The recommended actions are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because they do not constitute a project according to Section 15378 of CEQA.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

This Big Read grant will enable the two libraries in the City of Norwalk and the local community to provide reading programs and materials to revitalize the role of literature in American culture.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Public Library.

Respectfully submitted,

MARGARET DONNELLAN TODD
County Librarian

MDT:TM:MR:bf

c: County Counsel
Auditor-Controller