



SKYE PATRICK
Library Director



ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

53 July 12, 2022

CELIA ZAVALA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

July 12, 2022

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:

ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM THE CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY FOR “LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY” AND DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE COUNTY LIBRARIAN TO ACCEPT GRANTS IN SUPPORT OF THE “LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY” PROGRAM (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

LA County Library recommends that the Board of Supervisors accept the 2022 California State Library grant award for \$56,250 to fund the Lunch and the Library program and delegate authority to the County Librarian to accept future grants for the program.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15378.
2. Accept the \$56,250 “Lunch at the Library” grant award from the California State Library.
3. Delegate authority to the County Librarian, or her designee, to execute documents, agreements or amendments associated with the acceptance and use of the grant, subject to County Counsel’s approval as to form.
4. Delegate authority to the County Librarian, or her designee, to accept and execute grants and awards from the California State Library, federal, State, and other public and private agencies in support of the Lunch at the Library program, subject to review and approval as to form by County Counsel and notification to Board offices and the Chief Executive Office.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Lunch at the Library is a project of the California State Library, supported with funds from the State of California. Lunch at the Library was developed by the California Library Association and the California Summer Meal Coalition. The summer lunch program is offered in low-income communities where more than 50% of youth qualify for free and reduced-price school lunch programs.

Since the summer of 2015, LA County Library has partnered with the Department of Parks and Recreation and, most recently, the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank to offer free, nutritious lunches to kids 18 and under with its Lunch at the Library Program. In addition to the summer meals, Lunch at the Library sites provide a safe and welcoming space, with learning and enrichment opportunities provided by the Library such as storytimes, performers, STEAM activities and nutrition workshops. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic this program was converted to a “grab and go” format and during the Summer of 2021, the LA County Library distributed over 63,000 meals.

For 2022, the Library was on track to distribute free lunches at 25 libraries through its continued partnership with the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, however, due to staffing issues with their food vendor, the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank is unable to provide lunches for 20 of the 25 libraries. LA County Library will fill this service gap by implementing a Pop-Up Lunch Program at the Library through a contract with the Department of Parks and Recreation’s food service vendor, Revolution Foods.

Between the partnership with the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank and the Library’s Pop-Up Lunch Program, LA County Library will serve free lunches at the 25 libraries listed below by Supervisorial District (SD):

SD1: Baldwin Park, El Monte, La Puente, Montebello, Rowland Heights, San Gabriel, and Sunkist Libraries

SD2: A C Billbrew, Compton, Gardena Mayme Dear, Lawndale, Lennox, and Woodcrest Libraries

SD3: San Fernando Library

SD4: Clifton M. Brakensiek, Huntington Park, Leland R. Weaver, Lynwood, Norwalk, and South Whittier Library

SD5: Lake Los Angeles, Lancaster, Live Oak, Temple City, and Quartz Hill Library

Approval of the recommended actions will allow LA County Library to continue to facilitate, support, and enhance the Lunch at the Library program. The award will be used to purchase operational supplies, equipment, and programming. The Library programming includes learning and enrichment activities, nutrition education, workshops and presenters supporting summer learning and summer discovery. A portion of the funds will also be used to support Library staff time for program implementation.

Approval of the recommended actions will also allow the County Librarian to accept and execute current and future grants and awards from the California State Library, federal, State, and other public and private agencies, allowing the Library to meet time-sensitive grant requirements to fully utilize grant funds efficiently in support of the Lunch at the Library program. The recommended actions will also streamline operations; ensure rapid implementation of the grants requirements; and reduce the amount of time required to implement the Lunch at the Library program for the benefit of

the residents of Los Angeles County.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The County Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Strategy II.2, Support the Wellness of our Communities, Objective II.2.2, Expand Access to Recreational and Cultural Opportunities, and Strategy III.3, Pursue Operational Effectiveness, Fiscal responsibility, and Accountability, Objective III.3.2 Manage and Maximize County Assets. The recommended actions support the Strategic Plan by investing in public infrastructure that will enhance cultural, recreational, and learning opportunities for County residents and visitors, and improve the operational effectiveness of an existing County asset.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The total grant award of \$56,250 is funded by the California State Library, the grant period is through August 5, 2022.

The grant award will be used to purchase services and supplies to implement the project at the 25 libraries. LA County Library's existing Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 Operating Budget has the appropriation to cover grant expenditures.

The Los Angeles Regional Food Bank sponsorship includes the program administration including staff training, purchasing the meals, arranging for delivery, and applying for meal reimbursements from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Summer Food Service Program for 5 library sites. There is no net County cost for this partnership.

The Pop-Up Library Program will be managed directly by LA County Library staff, including the program administration, staff training, purchasing the meals, and arranging for delivery for 20 library sites. The cost of the meals, up to \$172,500, is included in the Library's FY 2021-22 Operating Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

County policy requires that grants be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for acceptance. On December 20, 2016, the Board approved delegated authority to the County Librarian to accept grant awards of up to \$50,000, with advance notification to your office, this grant exceeds the County Librarian's delegated authority. 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 CEQA because they do not constitute a project according to Section 15378 of CEQA.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

This grant will support LA County Library's Lunch at the Library program to continue at 25 libraries throughout the County.

CONCLUSION

If there are any questions or there is a need for additional information, please contact Yolanda De Ramus, Chief Deputy, at (562) 940-8412.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Yolanda De Ramus".

SKYE PATRICK
County Librarian

SP

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Auditor-Controller