



SKYE PATRICK
Library Director



ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

April 23, 2024

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

33 April 23, 2024

JEFF LEVINSON
INTERIM EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

ACCEPT GRANT AWARDS TOTALING \$1,500,000 FROM THE CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY FOR THE NORWOOD LIBRARY REFURBISHMENT PROJECT AND THE YOUNG LEARNERS AND STUDENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE COUNTY LIBRARIAN TO ACCEPT GRANTS IN SUPPORT OF EARLY LEARNING AND STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES (SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 1 AND 4) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

LA County Library (Library) is recommending that the Board of Supervisors accept two grant awards totaling \$1,500,000 from the California State Library (CSL) for the Norwood Library Refurbishment Project (Project) and the Young Learners and Student Support Programs (Programs) and delegate authority to the County Librarian to accept future grants for programs and services that support early learning and student success.

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 grant funding of \$1,500,000 from the California State Library for the Library's Norwood Library Refurbishment Project and the Young Learners and Student Support Programs.
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, County Counsel approved 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 Norwood Library Refurbishment Project, subject to review and approval by Board offices, the Chief Executive Office and County Counsel's approval as to form.

5. 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 early learning and student success programs and services, subject to review and approval to Board offices, the Chief Executive Office and County Counsel's approval as to form.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On July 10, 2023, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 102 which amended the Budget Act of 2023, Chapter 38, making appropriations reflecting legislative priorities related to arts and culture. Through the California State Library (CSL), LA County Library was awarded grants of \$1,000,000 and \$500,000, under CSL's Targeted State Grants program. These funds will be used for the Norwood Library Refurbishment Project and the Young Learners and Student Support Programs.

The Norwood Library Refurbishment Project ("Project"), was awarded grants of \$1,000,000, to completely transform the existing facility by implementing a new space layout, making ADA improvements, and updating flooring, ceilings, lighting, furniture, equipment, and finishes. This comprehensive renovation will enhance the functionality and aesthetics of the library, resulting in an improved experience for all users. The Project was initiated in response to the need for modernization whereas the current layout, infrastructure, and amenities no longer adequately serve the evolving needs of library patrons. The Project seeks to address challenges and to create a welcoming and accessible environment that promotes learning, collaboration, and engagement within the community.

Young Learners and Student Support Programs will consist of mobile outreach, early learning, and Student Success programs at libraries and locations within California's 56th State Assembly district, particularly in communities that have the highest need as identified by the County of Los Angeles' Equity Explorer Mapping Tool. The \$500,000 grant funds will support an eight-week summer tutoring program, the Reading Machine team will visit childcare centers, and the launch of the Library's re-envisioned Smart Start program will update Smart Start Spaces and redesign Smarty Pants Storytime to ensure cultural appropriateness. Funds will be used to purchase program supplies, student support materials, and for program administration and curriculum costs.

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 recreational and cultural opportunities for County residents and visitors and improve the operational effectiveness of an existing County asset and by providing programs for children and students to increase the likelihood of greater success in school.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The \$1,000,000 and \$500,000 grant awards are funded and administered by the California State Library and there is no match requirement.

The grant period will commence upon acceptance of the grant award and will end on January 31, 2026.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

After applying for the California State Library Targeted State Grants, the Library was selected to receive two grants in the amount of \$1,000,000 and \$500,000 for a total of \$1,500,000. The grants are listed in AB 102, Budget Act of 2023, Chapter 38 as:

- “\$1,000,000 to the County of Los Angeles, for the Los Angeles County Norwood Library.”
- “\$500,000 to the County of Los Angeles, for the LA County Library’s Programming and Services.”

County policy requires grants submission to the Board of Supervisors for acceptance. A Grant Management statement is required when the grant amount is \$100,000 or more. (Attachment A).

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The recommended actions are not subject to the CEQA requirements because they do not constitute a project according to Section 15378 of CEQA.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

This grant aims to tackle challenges and establish a welcoming, accessible environment that fosters learning, collaboration, and community engagement. It will also ensure that children have access to high-quality early learning programs, enhancing their chances of academic success, and will create a comfortable, safe learning space for library patrons.

The Norwood Library is projected to close in early 2025 and is anticipated to reopen in mid or late 2026.

CONCLUSION

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

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

4/23/2024

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SKYE PATRICK', with a stylized flourish at the end.

SKYE PATRICK

County Librarian

SP

Enclosures

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

Los Angeles County Chief Administrative Office

Grant Management Statement for Grants \$100,000 or More

Department: LA County Library		
Grant Project Title and Description: Norwood Library Refurbishment Project and Young Learners and Student Support Programs		
Norwood Library Refurbishment Project The Norwood Library refurbishment project aims to modernize the facility with a new space layout, ADA improvements, and upgrades in flooring, ceiling, lighting, furniture, equipment, and finishes. The project's goal is to enhance the library's functionality and aesthetics, providing an improved experience for its users.		
Young Learners and Student Support Programs and Services for Assembly District 56 Programs focused on early learning, mobile outreach, and tutoring will be provided by library staff at select locations and communities in the 56th Assembly District. Funds will support an 8-week summer tutoring program, Reading Machine outreach, and Smart Start early learning programs.		
Funding Agency	Program (Fed. Grant #/State Bill or Code #)	Grant Acceptance Deadline
California State Library	Targeted State Grant Program	unknown
Total Amount of Grant Funding: \$1,500,000		County Match: \$ 0
Grant Period: 4/23/2024 to 1/31/2026	Begin Date: 4/23/2024	End Date: 1/31/2026
Number of Personnel Hired Under This Grant:	Full Time: 0	Part Time: 0
<u>Obligations Imposed on the County When the Grant Expires</u>		
Will all personnel hired for this program be informed this is a grant-funded program?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Will all personnel hired for this program be placed on temporary ("N") items?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the County obligated to continue this program after the grant expires?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If the County is not obligated to continue this program after the grant expires, the Department will:		
a.) Absorb the program cost without reducing other services	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
b.) Identify other revenue sources (describe below)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c.) Eliminate or reduce, as appropriate, positions/program costs funded by the grant.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Impact of additional personnel on existing space:		
N/A		
Other requirements not mentioned above: No		

Department Head Signature _____

Date: 03.13.24

