

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Fresno County Public Library

A place to grow.



Libraries must stay attuned to the unique and diverse needs of the community to maintain relevancy and maximize impact. Since 1892, Fresno County Public Library has been a cornerstone of the community, driven by values of service, respect, connections, and inspiration. FCPL honors diverse and individual perspectives through the exchange of ideas, collaboration, and learning in all forms. FCPL moves beyond simply curating books and materials to serving as an agent of change that meets evolving community needs while transforming lives. 🌱

Mission

Our mission reflects the commitment we are making to the community.

WE ENRICH LIVES AND BUILD COMMUNITY.

Vision

Our vision articulates what success will look like in the future.

A LIBRARY CARD IN EVERY HAND.





GREETINGS!

I'm happy to report that the Library had a very prosperous year with our offering many new services.

We now have College Prep Centers at eight libraries throughout the county. These centers are designed to help prospective college students negotiate the maze to properly apply to an institution of higher learning. We also have implemented Citizenship Corners at 12 sites where we provide immigration and naturalization information to immigrants. In partnership with the Fresno Adult School, we also offer citizenship classes and this year we have partnered to have naturalization ceremonies at some of our libraries.

We now have a Veterans Resource Center at the Central Library, providing information to veterans about available state and federal programs. I'm happy to report that even one of our own staff members found assistance through this program!

Lunch @ the Library has become a showcase program for the Library. Partnering with the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission, we are able to provide lunch to kids at select sites during the Summer Reading Challenge. Each year we have expanded the program and we are now serving lunch at seven sites. Soon we will pilot a program with the EOC to serve a late afternoon snack throughout the school year at the Betty Rodriguez Regional Library. The program will likely begin in 2017.

Our support agencies are doing great things, too! The Friends of the Library just completed their sixth annual book drive, raising over \$40,000 to support library services and programs. Our Foundation just held its third annual fundraiser – the Boots 'n Books Hoedown, with over 300 people in attendance. Aside from several more people coming out for the event, revenues were almost double that of last year. This was the official kickoff to the capital campaign for the new Clovis Regional Library. The Foundation's focus for the next couple of years will be on raising \$4M for the new library.

So lots of things are happening at our libraries! Our facilities are busy, vibrant community hubs where anyone can come in and meet their personal goals, whatever they may be. Please join us...

Sincerely,

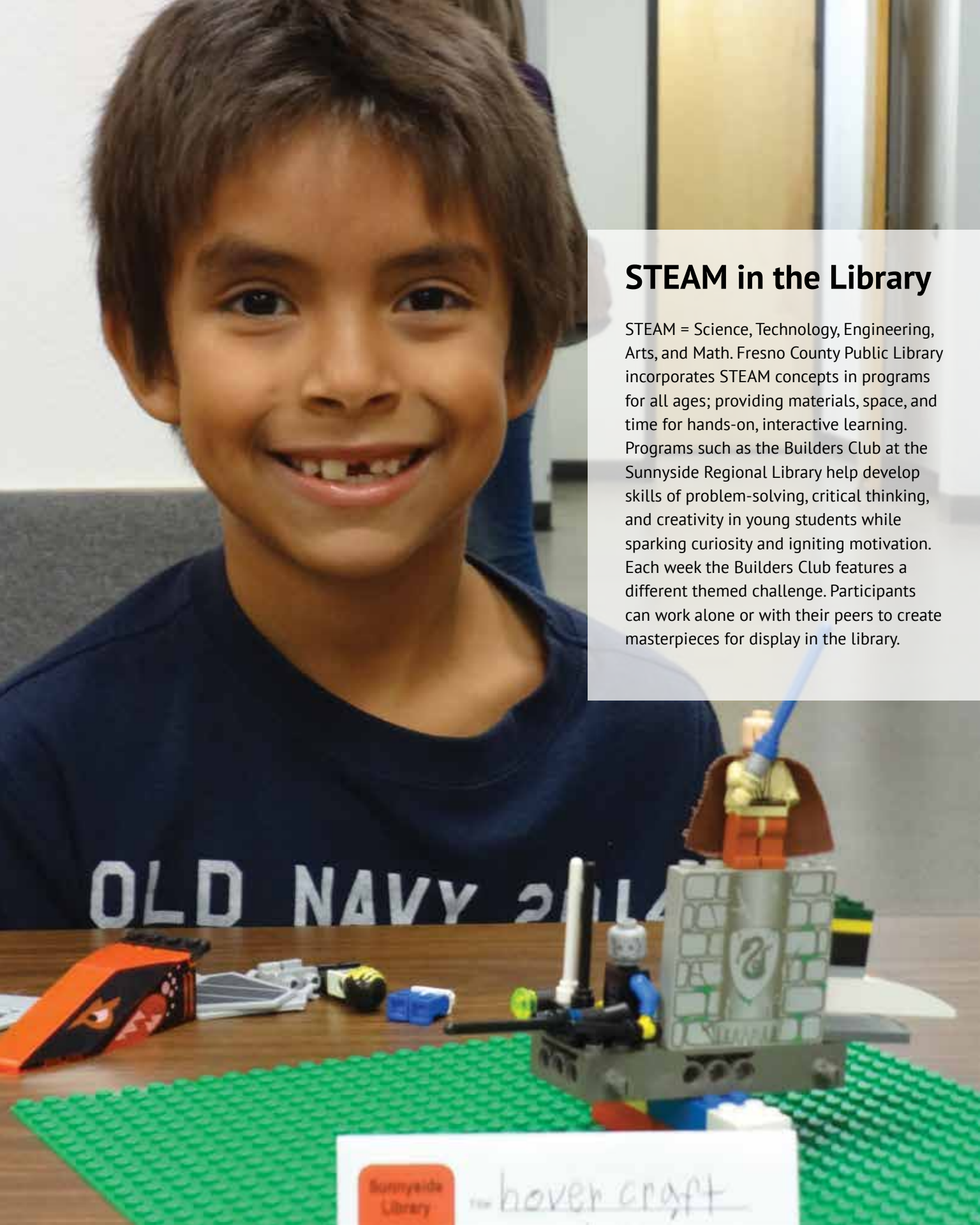
Laurel C. Prysiazny
County Librarian



Bringing the Library to You!

STEAM in the Library

STEAM = Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math. Fresno County Public Library incorporates STEAM concepts in programs for all ages; providing materials, space, and time for hands-on, interactive learning. Programs such as the Builders Club at the Sunnyside Regional Library help develop skills of problem-solving, critical thinking, and creativity in young students while sparking curiosity and igniting motivation. Each week the Builders Club features a different themed challenge. Participants can work alone or with their peers to create masterpieces for display in the library.



WoW! Pop-Up Library

2.5K
Items Circulated
1.2K
Visitors



Bringing materials and library cards to the communities beyond library walls.

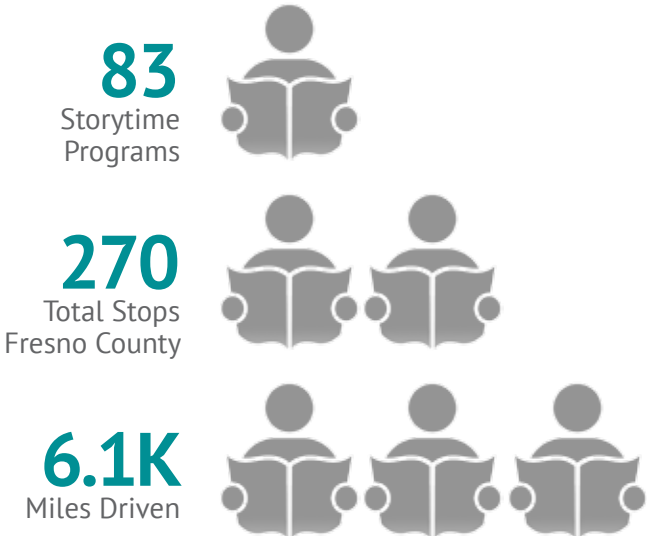
Aprendo Van



Bringing bilingual early literacy materials and workshops to parents and caregivers.



Bookmobile



Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies, Healthy Communities



LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY

Over 70% of youth in Fresno County qualify for no-cost or reduced-cost meals during the school year. During summer months, children and teens may lack access to nutritious meals. Poor nutrition can lead to inactivity, obesity, and summer learning loss. FCPL partners with the Coalition for Summer Meals, the Fresno EOC, and the California Library Association to offer free lunches for youth ages 1-18 at seven library branches during summer months. Participating locations include: Betty Rodriguez, Central, Fowler, Mendota, Orange Cove, Sanger, and Sunnyside. An enrichment activity accompanies each lunch to keep both bodies and minds healthy over the summer months. For 2016, FCPL served over 260 meals to 6,861 children and 774 teens.



SUMMER READING

Children and teens who don't participate in enriching activities over the summer can experience summer learning loss and lose up to two months of grade level equivalency in both reading and math. Students who start the school year behind their peers may have a challenge catching up and keeping up, and the achievement gap tends to widen. To combat the *summer slide*, FCPL offers the **Summer Reading Challenge** for all ages at all library branches and locations. Incentives keep the community reading, while programs and enrichment activities keep youth active and engaged in the months between school years. The 2016 Summer Reading Challenge had over 16,000 participants county-wide and provided a diverse array of activities, including gaming programs, coding classes, Zumba fitness, magic, bubbles, and reptile shows.



POETRY CONTEST

In its 16th year, FCPL's annual poetry contest attracts literary talent from across Fresno County. The contest brings in between 100-200 entries annually from diverse communities, including Auberry, Biola, Caruthers, Clovis, Fresno, Firebaugh, Kerman, Kingsburg, Laton, Sanger, Selma, and Squaw Valley. Participants range in age from eight years to adults. The contest culminates in a formal awards ceremony hosted by the County Librarian that features guest speakers, poetry readings, displays of winning poems, booths from literary organizations, musical entertainment, and refreshments. Awards are generously sponsored by the Friends of the Fresno County Public Library.



ADULT HEALTH & FITNESS

The Fig Garden Regional Library connects healthy minds and healthy bodies by offering popular health programs for adults and older seniors. **Tai Chi** is a form of martial arts that features controlled, low-impact movements. Practicing Tai Chi can help adults and seniors increase balance and coordination and also improve flexibility through mild exercise. The Library's **Sit and Be Fit** program offers a safe, media-based health and wellness option. The low-impact, chair-based programs offer a fitness plan to keep bodies active and engaged with a focus on balancing muscles and strengthening posture.

BETTY RODRIGUEZ REGIONAL LIBRARY



Now and Then

On January 9, 2016, the **Betty Rodriguez Regional Library** opened its doors in an exciting grand opening ceremony. Hundreds of people caught their first glimpse of this innovative community center. The regional branch echoes the vibrancy of the community and the notion of libraries as transformative change agents. The **Innovation Lab** encourages collaborative projects and exploration with new technologies such as a 3D printer. From its roots as the College Branch at Fresno State Teacher's College in 1922 to its former home at the intersection of Cedar and Clinton Avenues from 1976-2016, the Betty Rodriguez Regional Library continues to meet the unique and diverse needs of its community while staying current on trends and developments.



Old Cedar-Clinton Branch Library

Rebuilding a Sense of Connection:

Coming together to meet community needs and improve lives.



BEAR MOUNTAIN RECOVERY GRANT

The Rough Fire, sparked by lightning on July 31, 2015, was the largest fire of the year in the state of California. Over 3,700 firefighters battled to contain and control over 150,000 acres of burning land in the Sierra National Forest, Sequoia National Forest, and Kings Canyon National Park. The grounds surrounding FCPL's **Bear Mountain Branch Library** became a makeshift base for firefighters as they rested, regrouped, and recharged in tents on the property. FCPL received a \$15,000 grant from the California State Library to increase resources relating to disaster response and recovery so communities affected by such devastating events have resources for assistance.



TAIL WAGGIN' TUTORS

Is there a more natural, fun combination for a program than children, stories, and animals? The **Tail Waggin' Tutors** program is a collaboration between FCPL and local Chapter 220 of Therapy Dogs, International. The program provides a safe, positive environment for children to practice reading to a non-judgmental furry listener; building confidence, reading ability, and enjoyment. Barriers break down and smiles expand as children enjoy the novelty and comfort of reading to these new friends. Dogs undergo extensive training and temperament testing to become registered therapy dogs with TDI. Currently, FCPL has many teams of dogs and volunteers visiting branches throughout Fresno County, including metro, rural, and mountain branches.



VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers at FCPL are a direct link between the Library and the community. In 2015, 667 people selflessly donated time and energy to strengthen programs and services while supporting the Library's mission and values. Volunteers provided over 38,610 hours of assistance in the past year, including help with arts and crafts programs, facilitating book clubs, processing holds, presenting computer classes, supervising gaming programs, reading to children, tutoring in literacy, helping with lunch at the library, assisting with homework, and more. A formal volunteer tea reception in May allowed the Library to show our gratitude and celebrate the incredible ways people give their time to the Library.



HERITAGE CENTER

The San Joaquin Valley Heritage and Genealogy Center is in its 23rd year of collaboration between Fresno County Public Library and the Fresno County Genealogy Society. The Center holds tens of thousands of items in various formats related to Fresno County history and American genealogy. Materials also focus on William Saroyan and San Joaquin Valley history. Knowledgeable staff fill customer inquiries in person or via phone, mail, or email.

Promoting early literacy and kindergarten readiness through creative play.

Early Learning Centers

The first three years of a child's life establish the foundation for learning and future success. Language-rich interactions of talking, reading and singing between child and caregiver build literacy skills and can greatly influence the child's social, emotional, and cognitive well-being. Early Learning Centers enhance interactions by encouraging curiosity, imagination and dramatic play between child and adult. Activities and materials in the colorful, enticing Centers also help children develop motor skills, coordination, creativity, and problem-solving skills to help promote success upon entering kindergarten and beyond. ELCs also provide a family-centered space ideal for hosting workshops on child development, early literacy, health, and nutrition. FCPL currently has ELCs in nine branches.



The Foundation

Established in 2012, the Foundation for Fresno County Public Library is a non-profit charitable organization that serves as the fundraising arm of FCPL. The Foundation supports new facilities, Early Learning Centers, capital improvements, special collections, and programming for all ages, while enhancing the Library to meet changing community needs. Through fundraising, advocacy, and innovative programming, the Foundation promotes greater awareness of FCPL and its valuable resources. The Foundation has funded five of the Library's Early Learning Centers and has helped to fund the Digi-Bus mobile computer lab that will start offering service in rural areas of the county in January 2017. The Foundation is now focussed on raising \$4M to help build the new Clovis Regional Library.

Friends of FCPL

Formed in 1980, the Friends of the Fresno County Public Library consists of concerned residents that serve as a link between the Library and the community. As a 501 (C) (3) non-profit, the FOL raises money to support special projects. Members of the Friends of the Library are generous supporters of FCPL through donations, volunteering, and advocacy. With branch chapters in 19 locations, the FOL holds book sales, develops support programs, and is a great advocate for the Library. This past year, Friends of Fresno County Public Library had 4,329 members.

What's Next?

Moving forward, FCPL will reach beyond the mission to enrich lives and build community and serve as an agent of change to transform lives and impact communities. Discarding the antiquated notion of libraries as curators of information, FCPL is ready to increase the impact of libraries on communities. FCPL will approach community partnerships and collaborations with a proactive stance of influencing civic and social engagement. As a trusted institution and cornerstone in Fresno County communities for over 120 years, the Library has an obligation to advocate for its customers and provide the most current, relevant services to meet unique and diverse needs.

To better engage communities, FCPL is adopting practices from the Harwood Institute of "turning outward." This involves training staff to facilitate community conversations to better recognize pressing needs of county residents in order to enable change and improve lives. Information from community meetings will help tailor programs, services, and community collaborations to meet needs in a current, relevant, and impactful manner.

"My interest in libraries is that they're essential to the civic life of communities,...they're gateways for immigrants, for nontraditional learners, for people learning financial literacy skills, for all of us in terms of deepening our knowledge...Libraries still have a great reservoir of trust in communities that a lot of community and public institutions no longer have. I think they're essential right now to helping us rebuild our sense of connection to one another, and the ability of communities to come together and solve problems together." – Rich Harwood

Thank You



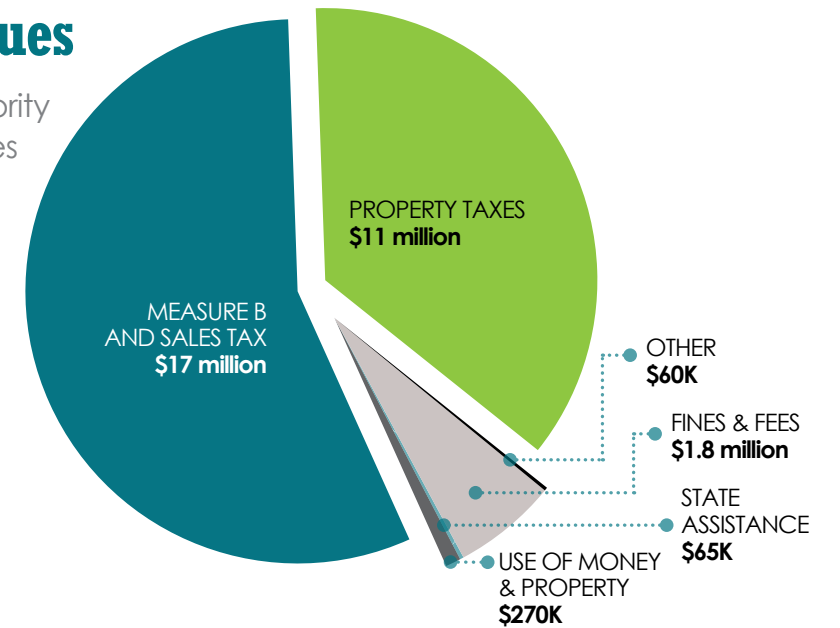
Revenue | Expenditures

Total Revenues

The majority of FCPL's revenues for 2016 came from Measure B at 56%.

Revenues

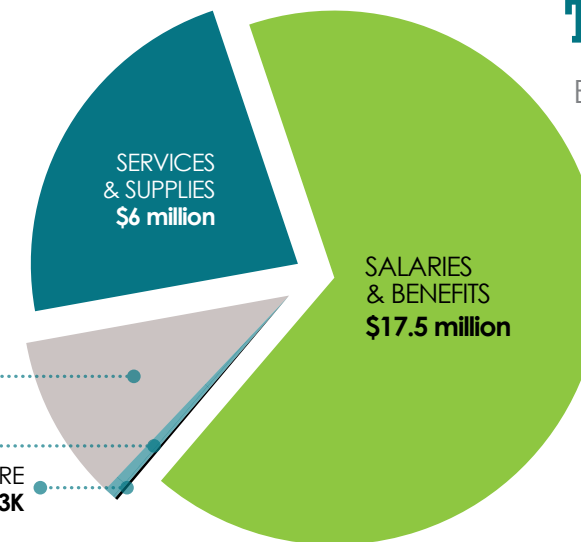
- Property Taxes
- Measure B & Sales Tax
- Use of Money & Property
- State Assistance
- Fines & Fees
- Other



Total Expenditures

Expenditures have increased to 31 million, with more funds for services and supplies, staffing, and increased service hours.

- COLLECTIONS \$2.6 million
- CAPITAL \$200K
- FURNITURE \$13K



Expenditures

- Salaries & Benefits
- Services & Supplies
- Library Collections
- Capital Lease Building
- Furniture & Equipment



ADMINISTRATION

County Librarian
Laurel C. Prysiazny

Associate County Librarian
Kelley Landano

Executive Assistant
Karen Coletti

Business Manager
Jeannie Hurtado

Division Managers
Raman Bath, Manager of Property Services

Deborah Janzen, Manager of Public Services

Lisa Lindsay, Manager of Community Services

Susan Mann, Manager of Support Services

Development Officer
Susan Renfro

Community Relations Analyst
Rocky Vang



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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District 2
Andreas Borgeas

District 3
Henry Perea

District 4
Buddy Mendes

District 5
Debbie Poochigian

County Administrative Officer
Jean Rousseau



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