



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: June 16, 2015

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Library Department

SUBJECT: Request For Funding The Buellton Library As Part Of The Santa Barbara Public Library System

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Increase estimated revenues by \$35,000 in Fiscal Year 2015 representing the expected balance in County reserves for the benefit of the Buellton Library to be transferred to the City of Santa Barbara;
- B. Increase appropriations by \$20,000, funded from the expected receipt of the reserves in the City of Santa Barbara County Library Fund Fiscal Year 2015 budget to cover expected costs to operate the Buellton Library through June 30, 2015; and
- C. Increase estimated revenues and appropriations totaling \$191,000 in the County Library Fund Fiscal Year 2016 budget for ongoing operations at the Buellton Library.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On April 29, 2015, the Santa Barbara County Library Advisory Board recommended to the Board of Supervisors that the Buellton Library, which is currently in Zone 2 (Lompoc) be moved to Zone 1 (Santa Barbara).

On June 2, 2015, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara voted to implement this recommendation and approve the zone change. The annual Agreement for Operations of a County-wide Library System for Fiscal Year 2016 will legally reflect the move of the Buellton Library from the jurisdiction of the Lompoc Public Library to the jurisdiction of the Santa Barbara Public Library System and provide appropriate funding for Fiscal Year 2016.

DISCUSSION:

The existing Agreement for Operations of a County-wide Library System assigns the Buellton Library to the Lompoc Public Library and assigns the Solvang Library to the Santa Barbara Public Library System. The annual Agreement among the County of Santa Barbara, City of Santa Maria, City of Lompoc, and City of Santa Barbara provides for library services throughout the county and provides funding on a per capita basis.

In the past, it has been proposed several times that the Solvang and Buellton Libraries be administered by the same zone. The proposal for Buellton to become part of the Santa Barbara Public Library System has in the past been dismissed due to the differences in staffing costs. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2016, the Lompoc Public Library will become a department of the City of Lompoc. Staffing costs for the Buellton library will increase significantly and to a level of parity with library staffing costs in the Santa Barbara Public Library System. In addition, the Santa Barbara System offers more services than can be provided by the Lompoc Public Library. Given the change at Lompoc Public Library, the County moved forward on June 2 with the request to transfer the Buellton Library from Lompoc to Santa Barbara.

Santa Barbara Library staff believes that the opportunity to bring Buellton into Zone 1 will provide a higher level of library access and services to the residents in the Santa Ynez valley, and provide continuity in policies, programs, access and outreach to library users.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Fiscal Year 2015

There is an immediate need for funding in order to open the Buellton Library as a branch of the Santa Barbara Public Library System on July 1, 2015. County reserves of \$35,000 for the benefit of the Buellton Library will be transferred to the City. In addition to receiving the reserves for the Buellton Library, staff requests approval for appropriations in the amount of \$20,000 for Fiscal Year 2015 to cover expected costs through June 30 in anticipation of opening the Buellton Library as part of the Santa Barbara Public Library System on July 1.

Fiscal Year 2016

The change in the County Library Agreement was not anticipated during the preparation for the Library Department's two-year budget (Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017). Therefore, revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$191,000 are requested for operation of the Buellton Library in Fiscal Year 2016. These funds are to begin initial operations starting July 1. Changes and refinements to the appropriations and revenues for the Buellton Library will be made when the County Library Agreement for Fiscal Year 2016 is finalized.

PREPARED BY: Margaret Esther, Library Services Manager

SUBMITTED BY: Irene Macias, Library Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office