



**Austin Public Library
Director's Report
July 2015**

More Than Books

Highlights

- August 10, 12 Department Budget Presentations
August 20 Budget/Tax Rate/Utility Rate Public Hearing
August 27 Budget/Tax Rate Public Hearing
September 8-10 Budget/Tax Rate Adoption
- The 2015 Mayor's Book Club will feature John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*. Programs will be announced
- The 2015 Summer Reading Program runs through August 31, a listing of events can be found at <http://library.austintexas.gov/asrp>
- It is now possible to pay fines online at <https://library.payments.austintexas.gov/pay/>

Facilities Services

New Central Library Project: With the onset of drier weather in July, it proved possible to accelerate construction at the New Central Library site. MEP (mechanical/electrical/plumbing) rough-in activities are now in progress on the first through the fifth floor. The major schedule key for the commencement of "MEP rough-in" is completed framing installation and calls for laying out the basic mechanical, electrical and plumbing lines that will later be concealed, without making the final connections until approval by building inspectors is secured. Steel installation is nearing completion on the roof, including the high roof structure, allowing other roofing activities to proceed at this time, such as installation of the thermal barrier, sheet waterproofing and roofing membrane. On the East, West, North and South elevations of the building, sheet waterproofing, insulation and exterior sheathing are currently being installed at a rapid pace. In order to meet the changing criteria of Austin Energy for rooftop solar panel arrays connected to the downtown electrical grid, the services of the Integral Group, a nationwide engineering firm specializing in the design of cost-effective systems for high-performance buildings, has been retained by the joint venture team of Lake|Flato and Shepley Bulfinch Architects to redesign the photovoltaic (solar PV power) system planned for the New Central Library. 90% complete design drawings and specifications were received by the City of Austin on July 14th and favorably reviewed by all interested parties on July 17th. A proposal for commissioning the New Central Library PV System has subsequently been received from Sebesta, the project's Commissioning Agent, and is currently being reviewed by City of Austin personnel for completeness. In yet another project development, the installers of the Art in Public Places sculpture intended to be mounted on an atrium wall in the New Central Library have been meeting with the project's contractors, architects, engineers and assigned City staff to hammer out the details of an art installation plan, including lift specifications, path of travel, location (including the outrigger pads for the personnel lift required). On July 22nd, a follow-up Partnering Discussion between Lake|Flato and Shepley Bulfinch Architects, the joint venture design team for the New Central Library, and Hensel Phelps, the project's Contractor at Risk, was conducted in the meeting room at the Twin Oaks Branch

Library. The project schedule for the New Central Library remains as follows:

- ~ August 2013 ~ Site Development Permit received
- ~ August 2013 ~ Construction Begins
- ~ February 2014 ~ Garage Building Permit received
- ~ October 2014 ~ Complete Building Permit received
- ~ Spring 2016 ~ Building Construction completed
- ~ November 2016 ~ Grand Opening Ceremony

Milwood Branch Library Renovation Project: On June 12, the project's design team submitted drawings detailing the required remodeling of the branch library's restrooms to meet 2012 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines, and a response from the Quality Standards Management Division (QSMD) of the Public Works Department is expected on July 17. The Library Department anticipates receiving approval from QSMD to proceed with securing a Job Order Contract (JOC) from the Contract Management Department for the renovation of this City of Austin facility. Sedimentation testing results have now been received by the Library Department, allowing restorative work to be carried out on the Water Quality Pond structure located beneath the Milwood Branch Library's parking lot. Retrofit Voice/Data work is also being coordinated with the Communications Technology Management (CTM) Department at this time in order to upgrade CAT6 cabling inside the building and new cabling is now scheduled for installation throughout the month of July. Category 6 network cable, commonly referred to as Cat 6, is the recognized standard for cabling infrastructure, superseding Cat 5 by featuring more stringent, high performance specifications for crosstalk and system noise. On June 23, the Austin City Council authorized the award, negotiation and execution of a 36-month contract with LAPTOPSANYTIME to provide a laptop and tablet distribution system for the Austin Public Library in an amount not to exceed \$85,361, with two 12-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$7,437 each, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$100,235. The contract is for the purchase of a laptop and tablet distribution kiosk system for use at the Milwood Branch Library, including maintenance and support. While the Milwood Branch Library is being renovated, the service model is being adapted to include providing customers with the use of a computing device via an automated self-service computer dispensing kiosk. The self-service kiosk will allow for circulation (loaning) of multiple types of computers as well as the running of various operating systems (Windows, Chrome OS, OS X, and IOS) to meet a variety of customer needs. Procurement procedures to acquire new furniture for the Milwood Branch Library were initiated this month so that the branch library will have a new inventory of various types of seating and seating areas. The reopening the Milwood Branch Library remains anticipated for December of 2015.

Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement and HVAC Upgrade Project: This comprehensive renovation project is proceeding apace through the Design Development Phase at this time. The Professional Engineering Report (PER) for the project, composed by the consultant engineers during Schematic Design, has been approved by Library Facilities Services and is now under review by the Quality Standards and Management Division of the Public Works Department. Based on the results of the Schematic Design Phase, the project consultants are now developing the renovation design with more specifics in form, materials and products. Following discussions with Pleasant Hill Branch Library staff and Facilities Services personnel, the sub-consultant architects compiled a furniture, equipment and shelving layout for the renovation. This layout was subsequently reviewed, corrected and commented upon by Library staff to resolve any remaining design issues and allow for fine-tuning of the construction documents and coordination with building code compliance.

The University Hills Branch Library Parking Lot Expansion Project: The City of Austin's Office of Real Estate Services (ORES) continues to move forward with the land acquisition required to expand the University Hills Branch Library parking lot. A coordination meeting between Austin Public Library (APL) staff and ORES personnel regarding the procurement of property was conducted on June 29. The Library Department has been in liaison with the Cultural Arts Division of the Economic Development Department to commission a work of art for the University Branch Library site by means of the Art In Public Places (AIPP) Program. On June 11, the first of a series of meetings was conducted by AIPP staff and the APL project manager for residents of neighborhoods nearby the University Hills Branch Library to ensure that the community's unique cultural identity and vitality are incorporated into this art project. A second meeting was held on July 22, at the library, and area residents are invited to help develop the public art goals for this upcoming AIPP project. A Request for Qualifications is anticipated to be released in late August for interested artists, after the AIPP and the Art Commission approves the prospectus, which will include the project goals developed with neighborhood representatives.

Southeast Austin Community Branch Library Foundation/Flatwork Repairs Project: The Quality Standards Management Division of the Public Works Department has completed its review of the 90% complete Design Development package and returned them to the consultant engineers with comments. Any revisions required will be implemented in the 100% complete design drawings and specifications. The first of two community input meetings will be hosted by Library Facilities Services on July 30, from 6:30 until 8:30 PM, at the Southeast Austin Community Branch Library to discuss the final concept design for the foundation repairs. Customers of the Southeast Austin Community Branch Library are invited to share their ideas with the project team so that the perfect engineering retrofit project can be delivered for the surrounding neighborhoods. This public input meeting, or charrette, will provide a forum for ideas about the repair project and will offer a unique opportunity for library customers to give direct feedback to the design engineers.

More importantly, the meeting will allow every participant to contribute to the action plan for structural and site improvements at the Southeast Austin Community Branch Library.

Zaragoza Warehouse Fire Sprinkler Upgrade Project: The Professional Engineering Report for the Zaragoza Warehouse Fire Sprinkler Upgrade is presently being reviewed by the Quality Management and Standards Division of the Public Works Department. However, the Contract Management Department (CMD) has determined that this project exceeds the limitations of the Job Order Contract program, based on their emerging departmental philosophy that job order contracts should typically be used for well-defined, recurring or repetitive work where quick execution is essential, not for single projects. Therefore, the construction delivery method for the Zaragoza Warehouse Fire Sprinkler Upgrade project will be Invitation for Bid (IFB), more commonly known as the Design/Bid/Build approach. The Design/Bid/Build project delivery method is thought of as the traditional method by most people in the construction industry, and many owner organizations, particularly in the public sector, continue to be oriented primarily to this method. Design/Bid/Build is a logical and orderly method that easily meets all procurement procedure requirements such as providing a clear and transparent method for obtaining competition for a fully described and illustrated end product before construction starts. Issues with this traditional method include the fact that the pre-construction phase is fairly lengthy and some of the best sources of construction technology and practical construction methods (specialty sub-contractors and building product manufacturers) are not easily involved in the design process in this method. The Library's professional project manager met with the consultant engineers on July 23 to initiate the repackaging of the project for the Invitation for Bid (IFB) process.

Renovation of the Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill Project: The Austin Public Library invited community members to a design charrette at the Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill on July 22, to discuss the upcoming renovations at the facility. Improvements to be made include replacing the roof and skylights, as well as the library's worn furniture, fixtures and equipment. The mechanical (heating, ventilation and air-conditioning), electrical and plumbing systems will also be modernized and otherwise upgraded. Architectural modifications are also planned to ensure that the building is in compliance with recently enhanced Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

Austin History Center Interior and Exterior Improvements Project: The consultant assignment for the Austin History Center Interior and Exterior Improvements Project was awarded to Limbacher & Godfrey Architects by the Contract Management Department (CMD), at the specific request of the Library Department. It was subsequently decided by Library Facilities Services that a preliminary architectural scope report should be performed prior to proceeding with design of the project. Serving much the same function as a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), the preliminary scope report will provide a description of building needs to be addressed, projections

of future needs, and descriptions of alternative renovation solutions, including cost estimates for each alternative. In early meetings with the architects, Library Facilities Services spoke to its preference of utilizing open invitation for construction bidding as the construction delivery method for this particular project, with City of Austin prequalification restrictions. Prequalification is a method of determining bidder responsibility and expertise. As this project is a renovation of a historic building, prequalification is recommended to restrict the bidding to a group of bidders meeting predetermined responsibility and expertise standards in the area of historic preservation work. The Library Department has accepted the proposal from Limbacher & Godfrey Architects to perform the preliminary scope report, and Notice to Proceed (NTP) with the work was issued by the CMD. The preliminary scoping of work and documentation of as-built drawings is currently anticipated to take sixty (60) working days. A meeting to review this report was held on June 19th in order to prioritize the scope of work for this historic building. A meeting has also been conducted with the City of Austin Asbestos, Lead & Mold Group (ALMG) to elicit a proposal for the lead-based paint abatement required before the building's wrought iron balconies can be refurbished. A preliminary cost estimate for abatement has been received, but the Library Department awaits a comprehensive proposal from a rotation list abatement contractor.

Willie Mae Kirk Branch Library Foundation Repairs

Project: An on-site meeting was held with the assigned consultant engineers on July 14, to discuss the scope of work in greater detail. Due to the complex nature of the project, coupled with the necessity of using heavy equipment to achieve data for the Geotechnical Soils Investigative Report, maintaining safe conditions for both Library customers and staff during the process proved paramount in the ensuing discussion. The rather daunting prospect of using heavy equipment on-site, quite possibly during normal business hours, inspired staff and consultants to examine every possible hazardous condition in detail and begin the process of creating safety procedures to mitigate the risks involved. The consultant engineers are now engaged in creating the necessary Professional Engineering Report (PER) in coordination with the Library Facilities Services Division. The PER will provide the technical explanation needed to understand the existing building settling situation, analyze any corrective alternatives, and propose a specific action plan based upon the most reasonable solution. The PER will also provide a cost summary for the preferred alternative, including an itemized estimate of the project administration and construction costs based on the anticipated period of construction. The PER should include adequate documentation, using technical supporting information (reports, studies, lab analyses, Etc. as necessary), describe how the project will be implemented and any special concerns regarding implementation, and provide a project schedule.

Little Walnut Creek Branch Library Accessibility Improvement Project:

Consultant engineers have been assigned to this project intended to make ADA improvements at the entrance of the Little Walnut Creek Branch Library. A meeting of the consultant engineers with involved Library staff is currently being scheduled so

that the Scope of Work can be established and a proposal devised to design the improvements.

Austin History Center

Programming & Outreach

- On June 2, Exhibits Coordinator, Steve Schwolert, gave a tour of the Divided City exhibit to 8 visitors from the Atria Senior Living Center.
- African American Community Archivist LaToya Devezin was interviewed for a KLRU program about Confederate monuments and schools in Austin, as well as assisted the producers in research. The program aired on Sunday, June 28. LaToya also presented a program for the NAACP Captain Louie White Juneteenth Program for 85 people on June 19 and represented the AHC at the Carver Museum and Greater East Austin Youth Association Juneteenth Celebrations.
- On June 10, Manager Mike Miller gave a presentation to the Northwest Neighbors about the AHC's book Austin's First Cookbook and early food history of Austin. Forty member of the group, a women's social organization in northwest Austin, attended the event.

Collections

- AHC staff finished processing 2 collections, the Turney Family Photograph Album, the Inez Lung Lee Photograph Album, and placed EAD encoded finding aids for the collections on the Internet at the TARO website. The finding aids are available online at: http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse_ahc1.html.
- Media Archivist Nicole Davis recently completed an exhaustive guide to the Photographic holdings of the Center. The Photography Resources Guide, available online at: <http://www.austinlibrary.com/ahc/downloads/Photography%20Resources%20Guide.pdf>, offers a comprehensive inventory of the photography collections and how to access them.
- Among the recent donations received by the AHC is a small collection of items about or by the local cartoonist Sam Hurt, creator of the comic strip Eyebeam. The collection includes all his published work and biographical material.

Exhibits

- The exhibit "Austin 175: From Cabins to Skyscrapers" joined the list of former AHC exhibits traveling to branch library locations when it opened at the Oak Hill Branch in June. The AHC also created a small exhibit of large mural prints from previous exhibits, "Exhibiting the Past: Photographs from Recent Exhibits at the Austin History Center," to hang on the 2nd floor of the John Henry Faulk building.

Publications

- The AHC was featured in the new book Archives Alive: Expanding Engagement with Public Library Archives and Special Collections, published by ALA editions. The AHC is featured in one chapter, and our exhibits and community archives programs are featured in 2 other chapters.
- Research was conducted at the AHC and photos from the AHC were purchased for use in a KLRU documentary about Eastside High, documentaries about Public Access TV and Richard Linklater, an article on Austin golf for Austin Monthly, educational brochures about Highland Mall, an exhibit about segregation at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, and upcoming books about Kyle, TX, and the Supreme Court of

Texas.

Upcoming Programs

- August 26, 6:30 PM, AHC. Screening of La Loma (Or the Place Sometimes Called Hungry Hill), followed by a panel discussion of the documentary.
- September 16, 6:30 PM, AHC. Opening Reception for "Making the Grade: Austin's First Public Schools."
- September 20, 2 PM, AHC. Presentation by Jesse Sublett about his new book, 1960s Austin Gangsters. This is also Austin Museum Day.

Central Library Services

The Faulk Central Library hosted two concerts in June: Jesse Sublett and Bill Callahan. The Bill Callahan show drew over 300 attendees and received praise from The Statesman, KUTX, and attendees on social media. As part of APL's Craft Crawl, the Faulk Central Library hosted crafter Vickie Howell for a metallic leather wristbands craft workshop Sunday, July 12. The Faulk Central Library has resumed offering a monthly Basic Computer Skills class. The class meets the first Wednesday of each month 6:15-7:45 PM.

Branch Services

Spicewood Springs had one of its busiest months on record, –almost 65,000 items were circulated and over 23,000 customers visited the branch.

Little Walnut's Talk time met five times in June with a total of 27 students attending. Students were from Venezuela, Taiwan, Brazil, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Russia, Spain, Cuba and Korea.

University Hill's game night for adults had 35 customers attend; the highlight was the introduction of X-Box Freeplay. This was the first month of the program and staff are planning to continue it. The customers were receptive to the idea and appreciative of the variety of games and game systems.

The Windsor Park Book Club had 13 readers at the meeting on June 9, discussing In the Garden of Beast by Eric Larson. Customer Stephen Ashley lent the branch part of his collection of fossils discovered in Walnut Creek for the display case.

About 55 people attended the 6th installment of Terrazas' Aural Literature program. They hosted a reading that featured young writers with Austin Bat Cave, a summer writing camp. This provided an opportunity for students to read their creative compositions to an audience. Staff was impressed by the confidence the readers displayed and hopes this experience will encourage them to continue writing.

Grants

The Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), in recognition of the APL's ongoing efforts to raise awareness of the value of the library in the community, donated \$6000 to the APL. These funds will be used to continue the Geek the Library campaign. In Austin, all location features striking posters of people in our community who Geek the Library.

Youth Services

Youth Services hosted the Youth Summer Reading Program Kick Off at the Ruiz Branch. A large crowd of almost 200 turned out for the variety of activities including Elizabeth Kohura and the Linder Elementary Mariachi Group.

Kathleen Houlihan, Youth Services' Librarian, presented information about the Youth Services' Summer Reading Program and the Play Read Grow program on KAZI 88.7 in June. Kathleen discussed APL's literacy programs for the summer as well as promoting all of Youth Services' terrific services and programs.

Several Youth Services' librarians hosted a teen Summer Reading Program called Fantastic Felt Forest Friends at Twin Oaks Branch. Over 30 folks showed up and enjoyed an evening of crafting that kicked off the teen Summer Reading Program activities.

Recycled Reads

June revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$12,800. Over 4,000 people visited the store, including over 400 attending the 24 scheduled events. Donations were received from approximately 270 people. More than twenty volunteers donated over 200 hours of their time to the bookstore.

Goodwill Industries picked up 32 gaylords of discarded materials from Recycled Reads. Staff received 20 pallets of materials from the warehouse, branches and donations and sorted approximately 40 pallets of materials representing approximately 56,000 items at the bookstore. Approximately 19 tons of materials were kept out of the landfill. Between sales, donations and weeds from APL, over 70,500 items were processed.

The Office of Innovation invited Mindy Reed, store manager, to participate in the Third Annual ATX Hack for Change, where a project for the Parks and Recreation Department, an activities app, was championed. The manager attended the ALA Conference in San Francisco; and participated in the Sustainability Round Table meetings and discussions as well as giving a presentation on APL's Talk Green to Me Series

Staff met with Austin Resource Recovery regarding community zero waste initiatives and working to get ARR and APL involved in Fix-it Clinics and possible tool lending. ARR has clinics scheduled for October, November and December, which will be promoted by Austin Resource Recovery.

Volunteer Services

June 2015 - STATISTICS

Number of Volunteers	231
June - Volunteer hours	2071.07
Volunteer Hourly Value	\$ 23.07*
	\$47,779.58

(*rate change in June from \$22.55)

Policy Violations

23	Theft of Library, staff or customer property
22	Harassment of Library staff or customers (Not Sexual)
20	Disturbing others using the Library
13	Sleeping in the Library
11	Disorderly conduct
10	Using obscene language
8	Intoxication resulting from alcohol or drugs
7	Mistreatment or vandalism of Library facilities, materials or equipment
7	Unintended use of restrooms
7	Appropriate clothing is required
5	Physically attack or threaten to attack another person
5	Indecent exposure
4	Violating Internet Policy
3	Bringing animals into the Library
3	Strong odor
3	Destruction of Library property
3	Abandoning children or failing to supervise children in the Library
3	Blocking access to Library entrances, passageways or resources
2	Child abuse
2	Sexual harassment of Library staff or customers
1	Public Lewdness
1	Soliciting and panhandling
1	Smoking in the Library
1	No outside food or beverage allowed in the Library
1	Leaving personal belongings unattended
157	Total

Locations # of Incidents

ACE	32
ARZ	14
ATO	13
ALW	11
ATB	11
AUH	7
AWP	7
AYB	6
APH	5
ACB	4
AMR	4
ASE	4
ANV	3
AOK	3
ASJ	3
ASR	3
ACP	2
AHC	2
AOQ	2
AWK	2
AOS	1

To see the complete up to date listing of events visit
<http://library.austintexas.gov/events>

Brenda Branch,
Director of Libraries