



Austin Public Library
Director's Report
June 2015

More Than Books

Highlights

- City of Austin FY2016 General Fund Budget Schedule
July 30 FY 2016 Proposed Budget Presented to Council
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 Windsor Park Branch celebrates its 15 year anniversary on July 15, 4-8 PM.
- The 2015 Mayor's Book Club will feature John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*
- The 2015 Summer Reading Program runs through August 31, a listing of events can be found at <http://library.austintexas.gov/asrp>
- An exhibit of photographs in the David Earl Holt Photo Gallery at the Austin History Center,celebrates the centennial of one of Austin's original performing arts venues: the Paramount Theater. On display through November 1, 2015, the exhibit illustrates many of the changes and transformations to the theater that have taken place over the last century.

Facilities Services

New Central Library Project: The New Central Library (NCL) site remained safely above the reach of Shoal Creek floodwaters during the severe storm event experienced by Central Texas on May 25th, and all construction activities continue to proceed apace at this time. The "skin" of the building, as all passing by can see, is beginning to take form as installation of the exterior sheathing and sheet waterproofing has been initiated on several levels. Installation on the thermal barrier and roofing membrane has started, as well as work on the west side of the art wall that will screen the transformer site just to the north of the NCL. The excavation for the grease interceptor (trap) to service the future NCL Café is also underway on the Cesar Chavez Street side of the building. One challenge for the NCL Project that has emerged in the crowded Seaholm Development District is the need to relocate the contractor's construction trailers to make room for the planned asbestos abatement and deconstruction of the old Austin Energy Control Center building (Block 24) at W. 3rd Street and West Avenue. The project's Commissioning Agent has been asked to provide Photovoltaic (PV) Commissioning Services for the NCL rooftop solar panel array, which will be the largest, local photovoltaic (PV) installation for a non-Austin Energy facility. As per their Fiscal Year 2014-15 Audit Plan, the Office of the City Auditor is currently conducting an audit of the construction management of the NCL to determine if the project complies with contract terms and industry practices. Finally, the Austin City Council approved a resolution directing the publication of an Official Notice of Intention to Issue \$80,655,000 City of Austin, Texas, Certificates of Obligation, including \$12,500,000 in funding to contribute to the overall construction of the NCL. 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: 100% complete Milwood Branch Library Renovation Project plans have been reviewed by the Quality Standards Management Division (QSMD) of the Public Works Department. Further review by the consultant team's Registered Accessibility Specialist (RAS), revealed that the building's restrooms need to be modified to meet the new 2012 American Disability Accessibility Act Guidelines (ADAAG). An amendment to the professional architectural services agreement between the APL and its consultant architects was negotiated and Notice to Proceed issued for the necessary remodel of the restrooms. This month, the design team engaged in updating the project drawings to reflect the remodeling of the restrooms needed to meet 2012 ADA guidelines, and the consultants are expected to resubmit these documents during the week of June 15th. Additionally, APL and the City of Austin ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Office have collaborated with the Public Works Sidewalk Program to modify the exterior site of the Milwood Branch Library for improved access. This work was completed on June 1st. Sedimentation testing results are now awaited prior to restorative work being carried out on the Water Quality Pond structure located beneath the library's parking lot. Work is likewise being coordinated with the Communications Technology Management (CTM) Department 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 18th, Council will be asked to authorize award, negotiation and execution of a 36-month contract with LAPTOPSANYTIME to provide a laptop and tablet distribution system for APL 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. The reopening of the Milwood Branch Library remains

December of 2015.

Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement and HVAC Upgrade Project: This comprehensive renovation project continues to progress well through the Design Development Phase. The Professional Engineering Report (PER) created by the consultant engineers during Schematic Design has been approved by Library Facilities Services and will be forwarded to the Contract Management Department (CMD) and the QSMD of the Public Works Department for review and acceptance. Based on the results of the Schematic Design Phase, the project consultants are developing the renovation design with more specifics in form, materials and products. Following the May 15, meeting with Pleasant Hill Branch Library staff and Facilities Services personnel to discuss desired furniture and equipment, the sub-consultant architects are putting together a preliminary furniture, equipment and shelving layout for the renovation. This layout is scheduled to be reviewed and commented upon by Library staff on June 17. These owner-input decisions will help solidify design issues in preparation for fine-tuning the construction documents and coordinating with building code compliance.

The University Hills Branch Library Parking Lot Expansion Project: The City of Austin's Office of Real Estate Services (ORES) is moving forward with the land acquisition phase required by this project in order to expand the University Hills Branch Library parking lot by twenty-five (25) spaces. A coordination meeting between APL staff and ORES personnel is scheduled for June 26. Other project progress includes the consultant civil engineers composing their proposal to complete full design and construction documents for the parking lot expansion. Also, APL has been in liaison with the Cultural Arts Division of the Economic Development Department to commission a work of art for the site through the Art In Public Places (AIPP) Program. Since 1985, APL and the AIPP Program have collaborated with local and nationally known artists to include the history and values of our community into cultural landmarks at Library locations that have become cornerstones of Austin's identity. By City ordinance, 2% of eligible capital improvement project budgets are allocated to commission art for those projects' sites. On June 8, AIPP Program staff and the APL's project manager secured the approval of the Art in Public Places Panel for the University Hills Branch Library Art Prospectus, a document describing the major features and ideas behind the project and used to help evaluate, test and refine concepts as well as to communicate about the project with review boards and prospective participating artists. The Art In public Places Panel is a seven-member standing committee of volunteer visual artists, appointed by the Arts Commission, for the purpose of advising the Commission on matters relating to the implementation of the AIPP Ordinance. Prior to an August meeting with the Arts Commission, a series of meetings will be conducted in July by AIPP staff and the APL project manager with residents from the neighborhoods nearby the University Hills Branch Library in order to ensure that the community's unique cultural identity and vitality are incorporated into this art project.

Southeast Austin Community Branch Library Foundation/Flatwork Repairs Project: An estimated 90% complete Design Development package from the consultant engineers has been received, reviewed and commented upon by Library Facilities Services prior to forwarding to the Quality Management and Standards Division of the Public Works Department and the Contract Management Department for their review and acceptance. A community input meeting will be hosted by Library Facilities Services on July 30 at the project site to discuss the final concept design for the foundation repairs. Customers of the Southeast Austin Community Branch Library will be invited to the meeting to share their ideas with the project team so that we can deliver the perfect engineering retrofit project for the surrounding neighborhoods. This public input meeting, or charrette, will provide a forum for ideas and will offer the unique advantage for library customers to give immediate feedback to the designers. More importantly, it allows everyone who participates to be a mutual author of 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 has been reviewed and approved by Library Facilities Services and will be forwarded now to the Contract Management department (CMD) and the Quality Management and Standards Division of the Public works Department for their review and acceptance. The PER recommends the full replacement of the existing Dry Pipe system protecting the warehouse with a Wet Pipe Automatic Sprinkler System, which have a history of being much less susceptible to corrosion and more reliable over the long term. Converting to a Wet Pipe system will require that Library Facilities Services be able to heat the building to 40 degrees. Insulation will need to be added to the inside of the warehouse's wood sheathing surface and the building's mechanical system upgraded in order to achieve this capability. It is the engineers' opinion that the cost incurred to heat and condition the warehouse will be fully absorbed, over time, by the maintenance savings accrued through the conversion from a Dry Pipe system to a Wet Pipe system. The PER also suggest that a partial replacement would be in order for the existing Wet Pipe system protecting the mezzanine office spaces, especially replacement of damaged or corroded sprinkler heads. Currently, Facilities Services and the consultants are waiting for the Austin Fire Department to provide as-built drawings of the existing fire sprinkler system at the Zaragoza Warehouse to assist with the Design Phase for this engineering retrofit project.

Renovation of the Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill Project: Having consulted with the owner, APL, and it's customers in order to clarify the project requirements, the consultant architects are now preparing schematic design studies with drawings and specifications to illustrate the scale and relationship of the project's components. As the word "schematic" suggests, these conceptual drawings are intended to show the relationship between building elements in a somewhat loose and informal manner. Schematic drawings tend to include a number of different iterations or schemes, each having a unique feature or focus. It often takes several attempts before arriving at

a particular concept which seems to best embody all the goals and requirements of the project. A design review meeting with the community is currently being planned for July 21, at which the citizens, architects and staff can continue to collaborate on the vision for renovating the Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill. Through brainstorming and design activity, multiple goals can be accomplished during this schematic design review charrette. First, stakeholders develop a vested interest in the ultimate vision of the makeover of the library. Second, the architects are enabled to produce a set of finished documents that address all aspects of the design. Third, since the input of all the stakeholders is gathered at one event, it is possible to avoid the prolonged discussions that often delay building redesign projects. Finally, the finished product is produced more efficiently and cost effectively because the process is collaborative.

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, at the specific request of APL. 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. APL 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 Contract Management Department (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 has been set for June 19th so that the scope of work for this historic building may be prioritized. 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 APL awaits a comprehensive proposal from a rotation list abatement contractor.

Willie Mae Kirk Branch Library Foundation Repairs

Project: The engineering firm assigned to this project by the Contract Management Department (CMD) of the City of Austin have completed their proposal to perform the necessary Professional Engineering Report (PER) and have submitted it to the Library Facilities Services Division for review and comments. 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: The architect's drawings detailing the desired Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements to the entrance of the Little Walnut Creek Branch have been reviewed by the QSMD of the Public Works Department. Subsequently, that group routed a Hazardous Materials consultant to sample the involved building elements for the presence of lead-based paint and it was determined that an abatement of the ramp's handrails and guardrails is required.

Austin History Center

Programming & Outreach

- The AHC hosted its 3rd Annual Beer Garden Social at Scholz Beer Garten on May 3. This year's program was "Music of the Civil War Era." It featured performances by the Frontier Brigade Band out of Dallas, playing traditional American music from the 1860s, and Austin Gospel group Bells of Joy, performing traditional spirituals and Gospel, Blues and Soul music inspired by American Spirituals. The 200 attendees were also treated to tintype photography demonstrations, a historic Sam Houston anti-war speech and presentation by noted scholar James L. Haley, 19th century games and craft projects with ACYS, and a pop-up library with Civil War related materials.
- On May 3, African American Community Archivist LaToya Devezin gave a presentation for the NAACP to honor its president, Nelson Linder, at the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.
- On May 11, Head of Public Services Nancy Toombs, spoke to the North by Northeast Rotary Club, about the AHC and its holdings, as well as the donation process. There were 20 people in attendance. The presentation was very well received, and, at the end, a book was donated to a literacy organization, in honor of the AHC.

Collections

- The AHC received boxes of materials about the Paramount Theater and its restoration in the 1970s from John Bernadoni, one of the founders of the Paramount Theater for the Performing Arts, Inc. Bernadoni was one of the leaders in the effort to save the Paramount Theater in the 1970s, and his company revitalized the theater in the 70s and 80s with new live action and film programming. These papers will augment the existing Paramount Theater Collection at the Center. For more about the Paramount Theater, see the newsletter article about our current exhibit on the centennial of the theater."
- Muralist, Parque Zaragoza, donated three items to the AHC collection.

Exhibits

- Steve Schwolert created an American Music photo exhibit for an Austin History Center Association event on May 11.

Publications

- Research was conducted at the AHC and photos from the AHC were purchased for use in the new book, 1960's Austin Gangsters, by musician Jesse Sublet.
- Research was conducted at the AHC and photos from the AHC were purchased for use in the new book, Murder and Mayhem in Austin, by Richard Zelade, with a planned release for the fall of 2015.

Upcoming Programs

- June 16, 7 PM, AHC. In the Shadow of the Dome: Slave Life in Austin, Texas. Presentation about the Travis County Slave Narratives.

Central Library Services

The Faulk Central Library partnered with the Austin Classical Guitar Society to offer four Sunday concerts throughout May. Each performance was well-attended, culminating in a fifteen guitar ensemble May 31, attended by seventy-five patrons. The Faulk Central Library expanded its offering of computer classes in May. Introduction to Website Development will now be taught 6:00-7:30 the first Thursday of each month. The adult summer reading program begins in June. June 13, Jesse Sublett will play a few songs and read from his new book, *1960s Austin Gangsters: Organized Crime that Rocked the Capital*. The music continued with a June 14 performance by Bill Callahan with over 300 customers in attendance.

Youth Services

The Michael & Susan Dell Foundation continues its support of the Austin Public Library Friends Foundation in the amount of \$187,000 for years seven and eight of the Connected Youth Project at the APL This program features ten Teen Centers providing services to teens and tweens in primarily underserved areas of the community.

Goals for the program include providing activities and after school programs for youth that encourage new ways of thinking, exercising creativity, practicing collaboration, developing critical thinking, and building communication skill. APL, the Austin Public Library Friends Foundation, and the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation work together to provide the up-to-date equipment, software, and resources along with skilled youth staff to help youth develop the skills they need to be successful in school, work, and life.

Recycled Reads

May revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$13,800. Over 4,100 people visited the store. We received donations from approximately 260 people. Our more than twenty volunteers donated over 220 hours of their time to the bookstore.

Goodwill Industries, picked up 24 gaylords of discarded materials from Recycled Reads. We received 154 pallets of materials from the warehouse, branches and donations and sorted approximately 40 pallets of materials representing approximately 62,000 items at the bookstore. We kept approximately 19 tons of materials out of the

landfill. Between sales, donations and weeds from APL we processed over 70,500 items

Recycled Reads had over 2,303 Facebook likes and 482 (a 15% increase) Twitter followers. Our Pinterest board is now part of the APL's Pinterest posts.

Recycled Reads received a letter of support from BookSprings. ARR also received the semi-annual donation of books from the Austin American Statesman. Staff updated our online inventory with Alibris

Volunteer Services

May 2015 - STATISTICS	
Number of Volunteers	230
May - Volunteer hours	1383.50
Volunteer Hourly Value	\$ 22.55
	\$31,197.33

Policy Violations

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

Locations # of Incidents

Faulk Central	29
Little Walnut Creek	17
Terrazas	16
Carver	15
Ruiz	12
Southeast	9
Yarborough	7
Cepeda	6
Hampton at Oak Hill	6
North Village	6
Twin Oaks	6
University Hills	6

Windsor Park	6
Manchaca Road	5
Austin History Center	4
St. John	3
Howson	2
Old Quarry	2
Spicewood Springs	2
Milwood	1
Willie Mae Kirk	1

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

Brenda Branch,
Director of Libraries