

CITY COUNCIL

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Reso No. _____

File No. _____

Ord No. _____

Agenda Item No.: 13

Date: April 28, 2010

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Laura Mitchell, City Librarian

SUBJECT: Main Library Renovation Project Update

RECOMMENDATION:

It is requested that Council review the progress of the library renovation and approve changes to the library's open hours.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Absorbing required budget reductions of \$40,000 will impact staffing levels and will result in fewer additional hours open at the Main Library.

CORRELATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL ACTION PLAN:

This item relates to the Council's Action Plan regarding Image and Appearance, in that it will greatly enhance the appearance of the Main Library. In addition, it relates to Infrastructure and Public Facilities refurbishment to meet the goal to provide safe and well maintained facilities in the City.

BACKGROUND:

The Library renovation was approved by the City Council in May 2007 to fund new elevator motors and air conditioning units; new lighting, carpet and signage; new book and media shelves and display fixtures; additional computers; reupholstered and new furniture; updated restrooms, patio and landscaping; and painting inside and out. Additional work still in progress is: roof repair, installation of new shelving and signage, and parking lot re-paving.

The Main Library is scheduled to reopen on Saturday, May 15, 2010, with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 10:00 a.m., followed by music tours of the renovated facility, and activities for children. New murals in the Children's Room and the Teen area will be unveiled, along with a meet-and-greet for the artists. The East Valley Branch Library, which has extended its hours of operation while the Main Library was closed, will return to shorter hours after Thursday, May 13, 2010.

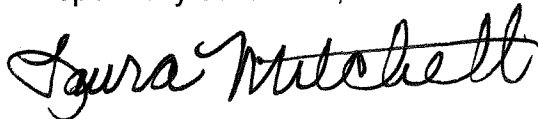
In addition to the physical changes, this renovation will result in a much more efficient and customer-friendly facility. Service points will be reduced from seven to four, and that, combined with new self-

service features such as self-checkout, will free up staff time and make scheduling more flexible. Although current staff will be stretched more thinly, the result is that the library will be able to add hours back into its schedule.

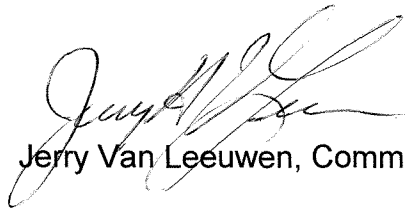
Continuing the library's staffing at the current level, without absorbing required budget reductions of \$40,000, will enable an increases in hours open of 10 additional hours at the Main Library including two evenings a week and re-opening on Fridays. In addition, we will be able to add 8 additional hours at the East Valley Branch Library, so that the Branch will be open 3 full days, rather than one full day and two half days. Total hours at the Main Library per week would be 52, and at the Branch would be 24, for a total for the two facilities of 76 hours per week (as opposed to the current 57 for both).

Absorbing required budget reductions of \$40,000 will impact staffing levels and will limit additional hours open at the Main Library. It would still be possible to open the two evenings per week and extend Branch hours, but not open on Fridays at Main.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Mitchell, City Librarian



Jerry Van Leeuwen, Community Services Director