

MARIN COUNTY FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION



Lana Adlawan

Director of County Library Services

Library Administration

3051 Civic Center Drive
Suite 414
San Rafael, CA 94903
Phone: 415.473.3220
Fax: 415. 473.3786
CRS 711

MARIN COUNTY FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION

Proposed Agenda

Wednesday, September 09, 2026

4:00 p.m.

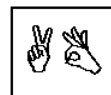
Novato Library

1720 Novato Blvd, Novato, CA 94947

Directions: Highway 101 to DeLong Avenue/Downtown exit. Cross over the freeway continue to Novato Blvd (4th stop light), turn right. Continue north on Novato Blvd going through next traffic light. Go past the intersection, and the Library is on the right-hand side with a red tile roof.

NOTICE: Members of the public may address the Library Commission on any matter during Open Time for Public Expression. Statements should be no more than 2 minutes per person.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
<u>4:00pm</u>		
(1 min) 1.	Call to Order	Christian Action
(5 min) 2.	Welcome, Introductions & Meeting Agreements	Christian Information
(1 min) 3.	Approval of Agenda	Christian Action
(1 min) 4.	Approval of August 12, 2026, meeting minutes	Christian Action
(15 min) 5.	Open Time for Public Expression	Christian Information
(5 min) 6.	Announcements/Book Recommendation(s)	Wilson Information
(5 min) 7.	Reading & Correspondence File Comments	Christian Information
(10 min) 8.	President's Report	Christian Information
(10 min) 9.	Director's Report for August	Adlawan Information
(35 min) 10.	New Business	
	a. Measure A/B Fund Review	Chan, Merza Information
	Facilities Overview	& Adlawan
(1 min) 11.	Adjournment	Christian Action
<u>5:30pm</u>		



Late agenda material can be inspected in Library Administration, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (Monday-Friday). Library Administration is located in Room 414 Marin County Civic Center, 3501 Civic Center Drive, San Rafael.

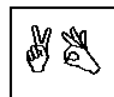
All County public meetings are conducted in accessible locations. If you require American Sign Language interpreters, assistive listening devices or other accommodations to participate in this meeting, these may be requested by calling (415) 473-3222 (Voice) or (415) 473-6172 (TTY) **at least** 72 hours in advance. Copies of documents used in this meeting are available in accessible formats upon written request.

Numbered List of attachments:

4. Minutes for August 2026
5. Library Director's Report for August 2026

Unnumbered Attachments:

Marin County Free Library
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite #414, San Rafael CA 94903
www.marinlibrary.org



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Fairfax Library

2097 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, Fairfax CA 94930

Directions: Take the Sir Francis Drake Blvd to Fairfax; continue past the town center, the Library is on left side of the road, past Azalea Street. St. Rita's church is across the road from Library. If you reach Olema Rd, you have gone too far.

--PROPOSED MINUTES--

Wednesday, August 12th, 2026

(1) **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at approximately 4:03pm by Commission Acting President Ann Kaplan. Acting President Kaplan welcomed attendees. The Commission read through Meeting Agreements.

(2) **ROLL CALL**

In Attendance

Ann Kaplan

Nick Javaras

Anya Schandler

Kathleen Cage

Maria Sandoval – Arrived Late (with notice)

Doug Sides

Claudia Wilson

Crystal Lewis

Absent with Notification

Absent Without Notification

Also Present

Lana Adlawan, Director of County Library Services

Raemona Little Taylor, Assistant Director of Public Services

Juliet Schiller, Assistant Director of Support Services

Gracie Leon, Administrative Assistant II

Lauren Snell, Fairfax Library Interim Branch Manager

Sue Ream, Member of the Public – Commissioner awaiting reappointment

Linda Ward, Member of the Public – Commissioner awaiting reappointment

- (3) **ADOPTION OF AGENDA M/S/C** – Claudia Wilson and Doug Sides approved as amended.

- (4) **ADOPTION OF June 2026 and corrected April 2026 MINUTES M/S/C** – Doug Sides and Anya Schandler approved minutes.

- (5) **OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION** – Sue Ream informed the group about a special screening of a filmed Documentary “The Mood of America” on September 17th.

- (6) **ANNOUCEMENT / BOOK RECOMMENDATION(S)** – None this month.

- (7) READING & CORRESPONDENCE FILE – Materials were sent to the Library Commission prior to meeting.
- (8) PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Acting President Kaplan declared the word of the month to be “Free” and requested persons in attendance reflect on the meaning for them.
- (9) DIRECTOR’S REPORT FOR JUNE/JULY- Director Adlawan highlighted report statistics for library visits, passing of budget, and the end of the 10-branch refresh. Director Adlawan informed the commission of a new interim commissioner process for commissioners with expired terms that are waiting for reappointment in October. Director Adlawan updated members on the progress of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program and encouraged commissioners to spread the word. Update provided by Assistant Director Schiller on library vending machine and book bikes. Director Adlawan and Assistant Director’s Little Taylor and Schiller gave clarifying information on MCFL’s Racial Equity Alliance/Strategic plan and SMARTIE Goals.
- (10) NEW BUSINESS
 - a. FY 26-28 LIBRARY WORKPLAN GOALS

Director Adlawan Introduced Board of Supervisor Priorities and how they align to Library Priorities. Assistant Director Little Taylor outlined how County priorities filter through to community outcomes and vice versa. Assistant Director Schiller detailed how the Executive Team worked with the Library Leadership Team (branch and location managers) to align Library goals with County goals. Assistant Director Little Taylor detailed the individual alignment per applicable County priority. She also detailed what a successful outcome will look like for the Library and its branches. Assistant Director Schiller presented the plan to develop a Library Performance Dashboard. She also presented measured data and how it applies to goals development. Commissioners asked clarifying questions which presenters replied to.

MCFL **FY 2026-2028** **Department Workplan**

Library Commission Presentation
August 12, 2026



Introduction to the Board of Supervisors' Priorities

Library Commission Presentation
August 12, 2026





County Priorities

Increasing Affordable
Housing and
Homelessness Response

Improving Community &
Economic Vitality

Building a Racially
Equitable Community

Investing in Marin
County's Infrastructure

Enhancing Disaster and
Emergency Preparedness

Reducing Emissions and
Building Climate Resilient
Communities

Aligning Department Workplans with Board Priorities

Library Commission Presentation
August 12, 2026



MARIN COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY

Why Are We Doing This?

We didn't really have a County Workplan

- Budget Work Plans County Workplan ≠
- Minimal connection to County Priorities
- Alignment to new organizational structure
- Board direction for clarity throughout the organization

Improve Collaboration & Comprehensive Plans

- Shared vision statements, goals and action items
- Create clear timelines & assignment of department ownership

Build Enthusiasm on Where County is Going

- More focus on *Storytelling*
- Stakeholder groups are fun
- County to ramp up reporting on progress – requiring new structure to workplans & process

9/1/2026

5

Proposed County Work Program Process

County Mission

BOS Top Priorities

- Housing & Homelessness; Disaster Prep; Comm/Econ Vitality; Sea Level Rise, Racial Equity & Infrastructure

6x Stakeholder Groups Collaborate & Propose Workplan

- Manages stakeholder groups; identification of work program items across the County; present to Board at Workshops/Hearings
- Each item has a vision statement; Goals & SMART action items; success metrics & timelines of major milestones & Board actions
- Work of each stakeholder group will feed into Departmental Budget Workplans & Bi-Annual Updates on the County Workplan

BOS Approves Workplan

9/1/2026

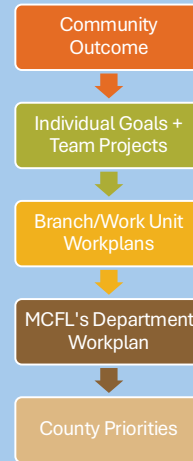
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Overview: Budget Workplan

How the Workplan flows from the County
Priorities to MCFL Work Units



How community outcomes flow from Community to
MCFL Work Units and County Priorities



Developing Goals with MCFL Teams

Library Commission Presentation
August 12, 2026



MARIN COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY



How Did We Get Here?

December 17th, 2025 the Library Leadership Team came together to reflect on the County Board Priorities and ask an important question:

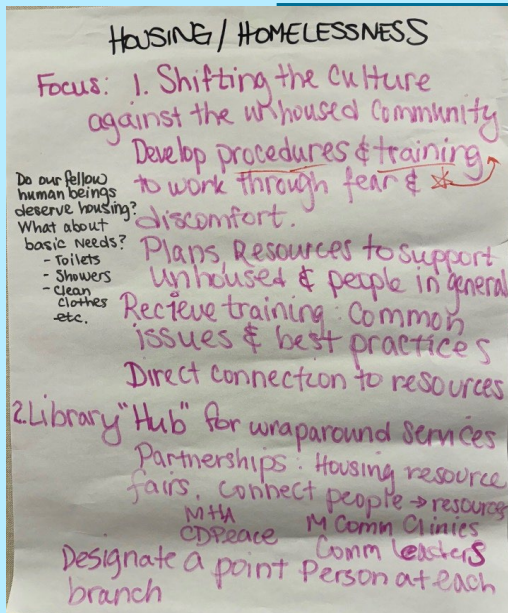
What does this work look like through the lens of a public library system?

We organized into small groups around the six County priority areas and discussed:

- community needs
- service gaps
- organizational capacity
- existing strengths
- and where libraries are uniquely positioned to lead or support.

What emerged from those conversations became the foundation for the FY26–28 Department Workplan Goals.

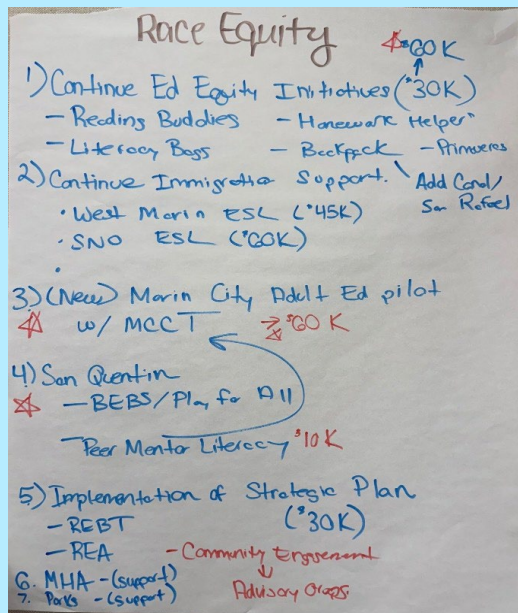
Increasing Affordable Housing and Addressing Homelessness



What we heard in December:

- Staff need more tools and confidence to support unhoused patrons
- Libraries are increasingly acting as community hubs
- There was discussion around:
 - resource navigation
 - wraparound services
 - partnerships
 - staff training
 - shifting organizational culture

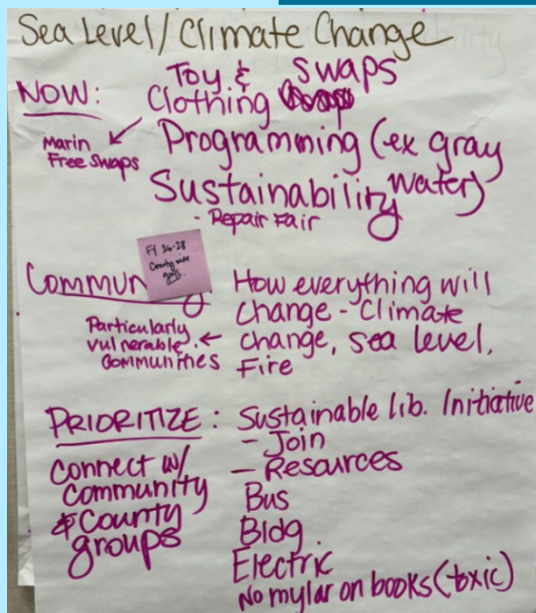
Building a Racially Equitable Community



Library Areas of Focus:

- Anti-Racism and Equity Strategic Plan
- Educational Equity
- Immigrant Support
- Literacy
- Marin City partnerships
- San Quentin partnerships
- Community storytelling
- Communications
- Marin Housing Authority

Reducing Carbon Emissions and Adapting to Climate Change



What we heard in December:

- sustainability programming
- repair fairs
- toy and clothing swaps
- sustainable operations
- climate education
- sea level rise awareness
- Joining the Sustainable Libraries Initiative

August 12, 2026



Build internal capacity for all library staff by increasing awareness of resources and services for unhoused populations in Marin and implementing a culture of response service model across the organization	Build internal capacity for all library staff to increase awareness and readiness of available resources and services available for unhoused populations in Marin. Implement a culture of response service model for all library staff. 75% of staff complete training on resources and services for unhoused populations, and that 70% demonstrate increased awareness and readiness to respond through post-training assessments or observed practice.
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Building a Racially Equitable Community



Currently Approved Workplan Initiatives

What will a successful outcome look like?

Work with local non-profits to establish Adult Education Literacy Programs in Marin City and in partnership with San Quentin Rehabilitation Center	High-quality adult literacy programs are established in 2026-27
Through the Marin County Free Library's Anti-Racism & Equity Strategic Plan, implement new community engagement and communications strategy for Marin City, Novato, and West Marin	All communities in Marin will be seen, heard and reflected in library services.
Reintroduce the library through a comprehensive and customized communications and marketing strategy which reflects the Library's Anti-Racism & Equity Strategic Plan pillars, targeting diverse audiences through community-based storytelling	Increased engagement with Library media platforms and services. Awareness and communication of Library initiatives on Countywide platforms.
Launch a "Get Out the Vote" partnership between the Marin County Free Library and the League of Women Voters for elections in November 2026.	Marin County voters will increase voter turnout for the November 2026 election.
Implement immigration support efforts, such as Citizenship and ESL classes, in Novato, San Rafael and West Marin regions to expand pathways for integration into the broader Marin County community.	At least 75% of enrolled students will graduate or complete from programs offered in three regions.
Continue and expand library resources and services with community-based organizations to improve educational equity outcomes for children, youth, and adults in West Marin, San Rafael, Marin City and Novato regions.	Through collective impact, educational outcomes for communities of color will improve for children, youths and adults in Marin County.

Building a Racially Equitable Community

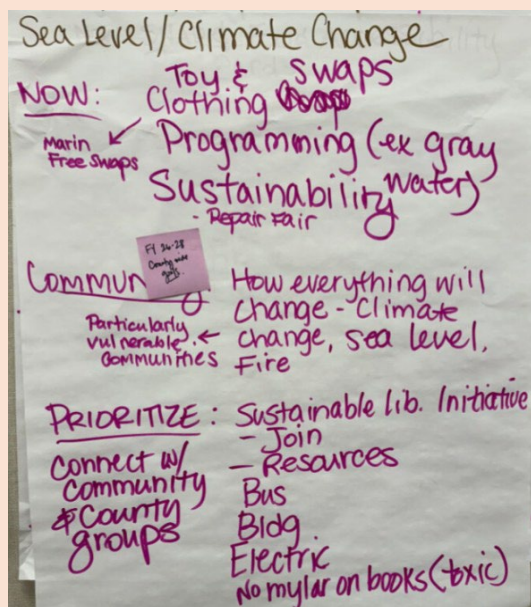


Currently Approved Workplan Initiatives

What will a successful outcome look like?

Expand equitable access and participation for underserved older adults in Marin County Health Equity Zones by intentionally engaging new and underrepresented populations—particularly diverse, low-income, and differently abled seniors.	Underserved older adults in Marin County Health Equity Zones experience increased participation in library programs and services, resulting in more equitable access and engagement across diverse communities.
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Reducing Carbon Emissions and Building Climate Resilient Communities



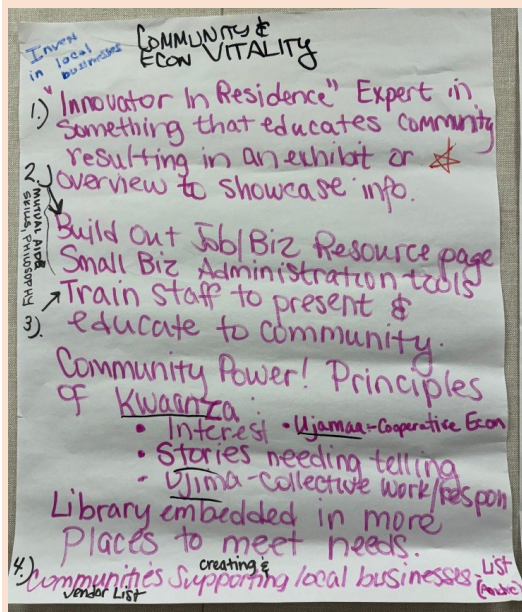
Currently Approved Workplan Initiatives

What will a successful outcome look like?

Enroll Marin County Free Library in the Sustainable Library Certification Program, which supports our organization's commitment to environmental stewardship, economic feasibility and social equity

By October 2026, enroll MCFL in the Sustainable Library Certification Program.

Improving Community and Economic Vitality



Currently Approved Workplan Initiatives

What will a successful outcome look like?

Establish a paid Marin County Free Library (MCFL) Creator in Residence Program to offer community led workshops and activities in West Marin, Novato, San Rafael or Marin City - the Residence Program is open to residents of all ages, offering economic opportunity and a venue to showcase Marin's rich cultural heritage in underrepresented communities in Marin County

The Library's Strategic Pillar of Community Power is enacted in this program which recruits and employs local residents.

Other Department Workplan Initiatives



Currently Approved Workplan Initiatives

What will a successful outcome look like?

Implement department action plans developed in response to the employee engagement survey; including executing identified strategies, tracking progress, and evaluating effectiveness in addressing key issues	TBD
Develop Library Performance Dashboard which integrates library data across systems to measure, demonstrate, and communicate the library's impact on community engagement	Dashboard developed and integrated into library operations for continual assessment.

FY 26-27 Department Workplan Milestones



1,744,787

Total Circulation of Library Materials

What is measured?

Number of physical and digital materials circulated in time period. Fiscal Year 2025.

Why it matters?

Circulation reflects continued community reliance on library materials across formats. This measure demonstrates the Library's role in providing equitable access to information, literacy resources, and digital content, supporting both individual learning and broader community information needs.

78,260

Public Attendance

What is measured?

Number of attendees to library programs, all ages. Fiscal Year 2025.

Why it matters?

Strong program attendance (78,260 participants) indicates high demand for library programming and confirms the Library's role as a trusted space for learning, connection, and engagement. This level of participation reflects successful engagement and reflection of Marin's diverse communities.

FY 26-27 Department Workplan Milestones



847

Average Minutes Read per Student in West Marin and Novato Regions*

What is measured?

Average minutes read per student in the Reading Buddies or Book Scouts programs in West Marin and Novato. Fiscal Year 2025. See program-specific outcomes in the footnote below.

Why it matters?

Average minutes read per student indicates meaningful participation in youth literacy programs and highlights the Library's essential role in supporting reading development across communities

88%

Learning Bus Satisfaction Scores***

What is measured?

% of parent/guardian respondents to Learning Bus surveys who responded affirmatively that the program is supporting my child's development and school readiness. Fiscal Year 2025.

Why it matters?

High satisfaction (88%) among Learning Bus families indicates strong alignment between program delivery and community needs, particularly in supporting early childhood development and school readiness. This feedback affirms the Library's success in reaching families who may face barriers to traditional library services and highlights the effectiveness of mobile, community-based approaches.

FY 26-27 Department Workplan Milestones



- Biannual Reporting to the Library Commission
- Regular Input / Discussion with Library Leaders on Progress and Completion Goals
- Mid-Year Progress Report to Office of County Executive and Board of Supervisors
- Needed Benefits Created For and With Community

Thank You!

QUESTIONS?



(11) ADJOURMENT – Acting President Kaplan adjourned the meeting at 05:36pm.



August 2026

Library Commission Report

Lana Adlawan,
Director of County Library Services

 MARIN COUNTY
FREE **LIBRARY**



Listening is empowering. When we listen, we aren't in control of the narrative; we align with its power to change the status quo. When we connect individually at this level, we achieve more than our own dreams — we empower the community.

August is a month of transition, and MCFL is holding its doors open for the community to reengage this season. Some doors led to refreshed spaces, others opened through relationships, outreach, and shared experiences. These are the moments that reflect a library system defined by its ability to meet people where they are with curiosity, care, and purpose.

Opening doors also means extending reach: listening before acting, working alongside partners, and creating more ways for people to find knowledge, express themselves, and shape the places they call home. This report reflects that shared work and the many ways MCFL continues to build connection, opportunity, and belonging across Marin.

TheMission

We provide welcoming, equitable, and inclusive opportunities for everyone.

TheVision

We believe in empowered and thriving communities built on diverse voices and perspectives. We believe in a just Marin that advances equity for communities of color.

PARTNERSHIPS, PROGRAMMING, AND OUTREACH

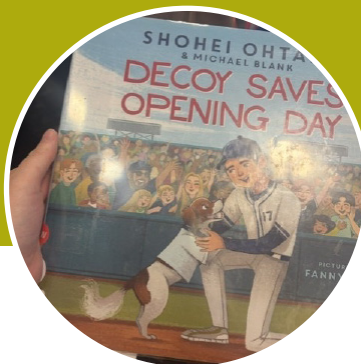
New and Sustained Partnerships

As students returned to school, branches worked with educators and youth-serving organizations to build support around shared priorities. Bolinas resumed collaboration with Bolinas-Stinson School on storytimes and after-school programming. Fairfax welcomed Ross Valley Charter School classes back for biweekly visits. Civic Center worked closely with Marin 9 to 25, a youth- and adult-driven collective dedicated to equitable outcomes for youth ages 9 to 25, coordinated with Miller Creek School District schools to set up back-to-school engagements, and worked with ESL classrooms at Parent Services Project, while also working with the Marin County Elections Department on a Your Vote Matters activity booklet for children.



Furthermore, Corte Madera established a relationship with the African American Quilters Guild of Oakland. Fairfax Library partnered with Marin Free Swaps to host a children's clothing swap, promoting sustainability and community connection. DrawBridge continues to grow stronger while the Jewish Fiction Book Club celebrated 15 years. Point Reyes began planning programs with educators from Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and Tomales Bay State Park. Marin City worked with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy on a future community trip to Alcatraz, and on an entrepreneurship series for Launch Marin City, a 12-week free entrepreneurship training and microenterprise support program running from September 1 through November 17, 2026. Marin City also worked with the League of Women Voters on a multi-part voting education campaign designed to mobilize voters for the midterm elections.

South Novato's Back-to-School event strengthened partnerships and the new Chapter of the County Friends was present to introduce themselves to the community. A representative from the Office of Equity came out to talk to people about the County's participatory budget process and how to participate.



PARTNERSHIPS, PROGRAMMING, AND OUTREACH

Listening Shapes Programming

Listening shapes how people are invited to participate, so we created programs that help residents learn through play, art, conversation, and shared experience. Fairfax featured an Insect Discovery Lab, WildCare animal ambassadors, a puppet performance, bilingual and family storytimes, a master gardener talk, meditation, henna, and a children's clothing swap. Point Reyes hosted West Marin School students for a field-trip show, "Save the Day for Snail," hosted two Spanish storytimes, and held a closing art exhibit reception. Bolinas piloted a new Monday-morning format for toddlers and families and also drew 33 people to a cello concert hosted at the library. Civic Center's Kids Club offered gaming, film, Lego building, and crafts, along with a family storytime featuring the San Rafael Fire Department.

Around the US101 bend, Marin City's summer series included Kaiju Day — complete with a smash-able cardboard city, paper-airplane exploration, masa making, special storytimes, and a teen book club with a movie. South Novato collaborated with Raising a Reader on hands-on activities that helped families build learning and play around books. Corte Madera kept its Silent Book Club, embroidery group, and puzzle swap running offsite during the Library Refresh Project. Stinson Beach displayed botanical drawings by 35 local artists, and Novato's storytime continued at Pioneer Park on Tuesdays with its usual crowds of over 100 kids and families in attendance.



PARTNERSHIPS, PROGRAMMING, AND OUTREACH

Working Outward

At the Inverness Fair, the Library combined family reading, free books, crafts, and Imagination Library registration with hotspot support that local vendors requested. Novato continued at the farmers' market during its closure. Civic Center and Learning Bus staff joined Canal Alliance's weekly food bank to distribute books and gather family input for future programming. South Novato visited dozens of classes at Novato High School to share resource information, while Fairfax resumed service to Bennett House, delivering more than 40 donated books.

Listening also helped connect education with people's larger goals for civic participation, entrepreneurship, citizenship, and multilingual learning. Marin City began planning a multi-part nonpartisan voting effort with Rize Marin, the League of Women Voters, and the County Elections Department, while preparing to host Launch Marin City's business workshops. At Point Reyes, the World Language Committee coordinated a regional Spanish storytime workshop for 20 librarians from Marin, Napa, and Sonoma counties. They developed Family Reading Bags, a bag of books curated for families, and a website with the help of Webstars.

On the road, the Bookmobile helped Laguna School families enroll in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, brought three bins of new books for the Juvenile Hall library, and seven patrons received new library cards at the Sunday Farmers Market.

At Zenni Optical's Backpack Bash, the Bookmobile joined Library Beyond Walls with multiple community partners for a children's vision and back-to-school event. Library Beyond Walls demonstrated how sustained listening becomes a pathway to access. The team expanded services across senior housing, residential recovery programs, and organizations serving adults with disabilities. Services ranged from book talks, holds, registration, and one-to-one technology help to read-alouds, book clubs, and community presentations.

Like a window, outreach can mean access both in and out. ARC Marin's Cooking Club used library cookbooks to choose recipes, build menus and shopping lists, shop for groceries, prepare a meal, and eat together. At West Marin Health and Human Services, participants collected soil samples from a nearby garden and tested soil health during their Tea and Discussion group. In both settings, staff followed participants' interests and connected library resources to practical skills, personal choice, and social connection.



THE PILLARS

Joyful Learning

Young kids became puppeteers, encountered live insects and wildlife, made art, built with Lego, launched paper airplanes, and called one another on banana phones. Families practiced reading through play with Raising a Reader, while multilingual storytimes created space for song, movement, and shared language. Adults gathered for music, embroidery, art, gardening, book discussions, technology learning, and life skills activities.

Collective Impact

In South Novato, MCFL staff and partners helped incoming multilingual students build confidence through three days of learning, including a Baylands field trip and library visit. In West Marin, the Library and school PTA invested in stronger school collections and family reading tools. Clothing swaps in Fairfax, Point Reyes, and South Novato paired library engagement with sustainability and family support. Mobile teams coordinated with housing providers, recovery programs, disability-serving organizations, and meal-delivery services to build consistent access for residents who may not be able to visit a branch.

Community Power

Stewards of the Land receptions at Point Reyes and Inverness centered Indigenous and Latinx artists, speakers, songs, dance, poetry, oral history, and personal narrative. People ranging in age from three to 87 shared knowledge and built connection around the exhibit's portraits and stories. The Library's role was not to speak for the community, but to help create the conditions in which community voices could lead.



VOICES OF THE PEOPLE



Patrons voicing their experience is the evidence that helps the Library understand its impact and its responsibility.

“Libraries take care of the community big time.” — comment overheard at Civic Center Library.

“Your storytime was the best! Thank you for making a storytime that is developmentally appropriate for my youngest and oldest. It was so much fun!” — parent attending Civic Center storytime.



At Fairfax, a patron approached the desk holding five dollars and asked where the tip jar was. Her gratitude revealed the real value of a service that might not otherwise be commented. At Inverness, two fair vendors urgently needed internet access to process sales; by listening to the immediate problem, staff issued one vendor a library card, and helped both continue their work. At Novato, patrons' showed excitement about returning to their refreshed library.



A West Marin patron working at a public computer paused to thank staff for a bilingual storytime she had overheard, describing how its songs, movement, stories, and joyful noise enriched the library for everyone nearby. Another patron contacted Stinson Beach to confirm that the Northern California tide log remained in the window so she could accurately describe it in a book set in the community. Listening to these comments helps the Library see itself through the experiences of the people it serves: as a place where daily life, creative work, and local identity meet.



SNAPSHOTS OF MCFL



Children and caregivers listen the Marin County Fire Department storytime.



Patron enjoying wall of 90 books for the Jewish Fiction Book Club.



Students grind masa to make fresh tortillas in the Library.



Bolinas patrons enjoying live cello playing.



Point Reyes staff created a Back-to-School window sign.



Staff spending time with the little ones.



Patrons enjoying the movie *Paddington in Peru*.



Kids got to be puppeteers for the interactive Snail puppet show.



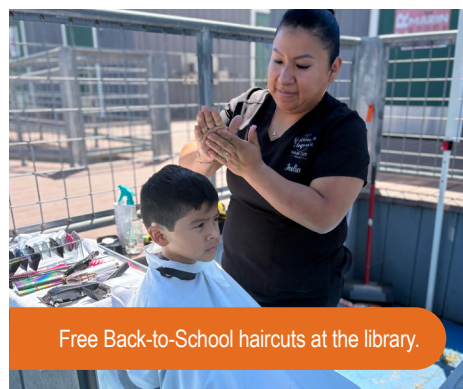
Kids crushing the cardboard city on Kaiju Day.



Kids tucked with pillows during back-to-school library chill time.



Novato High Summer Camp tours the Baylands with library staff.



Free Back-to-School haircuts at the library.

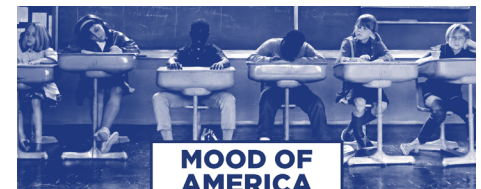
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Marketing and Communication (MarCom) listened to plans and needs of committees and groups for communicating system-wide initiatives.

MarCom continued refining the Mood of America flyer after listening to feedback for greater accessibility. The team also worked with staff to produce the visuals for the Get Out the Vote campaign and develop marketing assets to distribute to branches.

As the refresh program neared its last branch, MarCom captured photos and videos of patrons and shared a post of them returning to their beloved Novato Library. A large effort was placed into the promotion of Stewards of the Land Exhibit across the library system with graphic assets created, printed and digital assets distributed.

More fun was had with the Learning Bus as MarCom joined along to capture the moments of joy during Play 4 All. Communications were emailed to patrons about upcoming events that kept patrons up to date on what's happening at the library, including sharing with Marin the impact Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has had on the county in a social media post and newsletter.



Join us for the fifth Marin County screening of "The Mood of America," a 1968 BBC documentary that chronicles the impact of the Sausalito Marin City School District's 1965 voluntary desegregation plan on Black and White children and their families. Fifty-eight years later — how far have we come?

Join us for the following screening, stay for a moderated panel discussion with community members and an audience Q&A featuring Phillip Logan, Jasmine Jae Trammell, Kirstin E. Thomas, Lea Mixon, Royce McLemore, Tiffany McElroy, David Duncan PhD, and Marin County Superintendent of Schools, John Carroll.

Thursday, September 17, 2026 | 6PM-8PM
A reception will be held from 5 - 6 pm, followed by the screening.

Marin Center Showcase Theatre
20 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael, CA 94903

For disability accommodations please phone 415-473-3220 (Voice, CA Relay 711, or e-mail library@marincounty.org at least five business days in advance of the event. The County will do its best to fulfill requests received with less than five business days' notice. Copies of documents are available in alternative formats, upon request.

Learn more at:

marinlibrary.org/mood-of-america



TECHNICAL SERVICES

Partnership Engagement

Technical Services strengthened partnerships that help MCFL respond to the needs of patrons and staff. The Online Library launched Tutor.com and featured the new learning resource on the website, expanding access to online academic support. Weekly selector meetings, drop-in collection conversations, MARINet participation, and coordination with Lyngsoe, Ingram, and Brodart created opportunities to listen across teams and align decisions about collections, technology, and services.

Outreach / Community Support

The Online Library continued building digital pathways to timely community information. Work began on a new Get Out the Vote webpage, while development continued on the webpage for the BiblioCoaster's emerging mobile library service. Both projects extend outreach beyond physical locations by helping residents find information, understand new opportunities, and connect with services.

Collective Impact

Technical Services helped extend systemwide initiatives into accessible online experiences. The Online Library created webpages for the Mood of America film and panel discussion and for Stewards of the Land, allowing cultural stories and community conversations to reach audiences beyond the programs themselves. Staff also began addressing issues identified in the County Accessibility Audit Report to strengthen equitable access to the Library's website.

Introducing the Latest Additions to Our MCFL Team

Our department is growing! We are pleased to introduce the newest members of the Marin County Free Library. Each brings valuable experience and enthusiasm, and we look forward to the positive impact they will make.

- Thembi Gates-Williams joins the Marin City branch as our newest Community Library Specialist.
- Reina Escovedo joins the South Novato branch as our newest Library Assistant II.
- Mark Bachofer joins the Fairfax branch as our newest Library Assistant II.
- James Bomotti joins the Fairfax branch as our newest Library Assistant I.

Growing Forward: Career Opportunities Within MCFL

As we grow and adapt to meet community needs, new opportunities are emerging within our organization. These open positions will help us strengthen our teams, maintain high-quality service, and bring in fresh perspectives. We're excited to see the impact these future team members will have on our ongoing progress.

- Administrative Services Officer in Administration – The interview process has concluded, and our administrative team has finally found their candidate. We will provide more details in the next commission report.
- Community Library Specialist at Stinson Beach and Inverness Libraries – After multiple interviews, West Marin selected two wonderful candidates who will start in September. Stay tuned for more information.
- Administrative Assistant I in Administration – Recruitment closed on July 31, 2026. Our HR team held the first round of interviews on September 3, 2026.
- Library Aide at Novato and South Novato – The open recruitment officially closed on August 11, 2026. The First-round interviews were conducted on August 28, 2026. Our HR team will be preparing for second-round interviews in September.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR REPORT

The Passing of Marin County Chief of Probation, Marlon Washington

In late July, Chief Washington passed away unexpectedly. His service was held in August and was attended by hundreds, both in person and virtually. This loss of person and leader is felt locally, statewide and nationally. Chief Washington was a true partner and advocate for justice at all levels and believed in the promise of individuals, especially young people. The Library was fortunate to work with his team and with him as an individual on many programs that benefited our communities and our own internal employees. Our work with the Probation Department will continue and Chief Washington's legacy will be ever-present in our work. As a Library Department and Department Head, I take this moment to honor and cherish him as an individual. His loss was too soon, and he will never be forgotten. Rest in Power, Chief Washington: <https://www.marincounty.gov/news-releases/marin-county-mourns-loss-chief-probation-officer-marlon-washington>



The Passing of Dolly Parton

August brought forth a collective, worldwide mourning for legendary human being and country music icon, Dolly Parton, who passed away on August 25 at the young age of 80. Marin County welcomed in her Imagination Library in June 2026, becoming the 45th county to embrace this program in the United States. Within just a few short months there are already 1500 eligible children signed up for this program, with more to come. Find out more about the program and sign up at marinlibrary.org/imagination-library/ to continue Dolly's legacy of improving literacy worldwide.

Measure B at Work! 🚧

August 19 saw the reopening of our Novato Library, with close to 600 visitors on Day #1. This is branch 9 out of 10, with Corte Madera Library the very last MCFL branch to be completed in September. Visit the reopening video for Novato Library here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NNE1N2NX8CI>

LIBRARY DIRECTOR REPORT

Shortly after opening, the children's room was bustling, and staff were busy providing readers' advisory to everyone thrilled to be in the library again. Teens were exploring their new teen space, which was greatly expanded with this renovation and a place they will build upon for years to come.

Improvements made at the Novato Library included:

- New carpet throughout the branch
- Updated furniture in all areas of the library, including a larger space for teens
- New paint and fun, colorful acoustical panels throughout the library
- Reorganized and reconfigured collections
- New shelving and display walls
- A better designed adult study area. Flexible options for seating were added, with plenty of plugs to charge laptops and devices
- Improved and expanded public computer area
- Improved access to the abundant natural light in the branch, including comfortable seating around the atrium

See the improvements for all library branches here: <https://marinlibrary.org/refresh/>

Anne T. Kent California Room Team visits San Francisco Public Library (SFPL)!

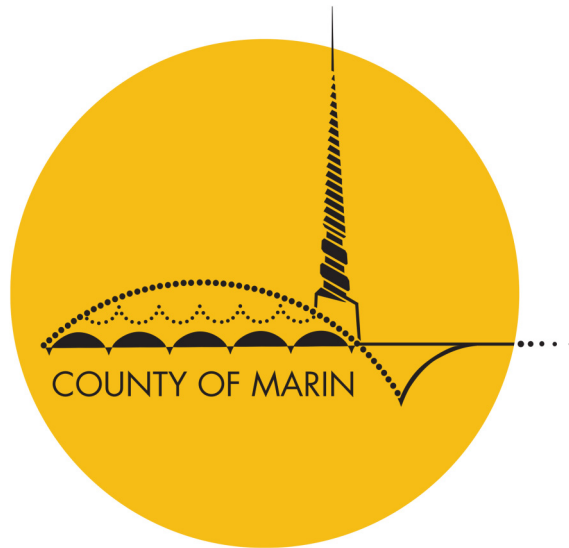
In August, the California Room team staff and managers visited the San Francisco History Center for a tour of both front-facing and behind the scenes collections: <https://sfpl.org/locations/main-library/sf-history-center/about-san-francisco-history-center>.

We are grateful to San Francisco Public Library leadership Director Michael Lambert, Chief of Public Services Dolly Goyal, and City Archivist Adrienne Storey and her team for sharing SFPL's processes with us, which mirror our own with the Anne T. Kent California Room. Both centers face similar challenges and areas to grow in the future, and we have much to learn from one another in representing collective and underrepresented histories in our communities.

As we look ahead to additional capital improvement projects and investments in the Civic Center Library, we will be closely looking at the services of the Anne T. Kent California Room to ensure we meet the needs of today and fully encapsulate the rich history present in Marin County.



Lana Adlawan,
Director of County Library Services



THANK YOU

As we reflect on another season of growth, creativity, and connection, we are grateful for the continued guidance and support of the Library Commission. Your dedication helps us expand opportunities, nurture equity, and celebrate the voices of our diverse communities. Thank you for championing the work of MCFL and for walking alongside us as we bring joy, learning, and belonging to Marin. Together, we are building a stronger, more vibrant Library for all.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
1	REVENUE SOURCES & FACILITIES EXPENDITURES: MEASURE B																	
2																		
3	FUNDING SOURCE:					Measure B Tax Revenue (3550)								3550 Measure B Totals	2480 MEASURE A EXPENDITURES TO DATE	2470 OPERATION EXPENDITURES TO DATE	TOTAL EXPENDITURES TO DATE	
4																		
5																		
6	Fiscal Year					FY 24-25	FY 25-26	FY 26-27	FY 27-28	FY 28-29	FY 29-30	FY 30-31	FY 31-32	FY 32-33	as of			
7	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS:					\$2.6M	\$2.6M	\$2.0M	\$2.0M	\$2.0M	\$2.0M	\$2.0M	\$2.0M	\$2.0M	9/9/2026			
8	CMA HVAC Project (Measure A)															\$ 900,396		\$ 900,396
9	Los Gamos Renovation (Operations)																\$ 385,177	\$ 385,177
10	Refresh Project (All Branches) Design & Consulting N&T																\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000
11	Refresh Project (All Branches) Professional and Misc Services																\$ 636,980	\$ 636,980
12	Refresh Project (All Branches) Measure B					\$ 275,912	\$ 1,340,169	\$ 66,971							\$ 1,683,052			\$ 1,683,052
13																		
14	TOTALS as of 09-09-2026					\$ 275,912	\$ 1,340,169	\$ 66,971	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,683,052	\$ 900,396	\$ 1,422,157	\$ 4,005,605

MEASURE B CAPITAL PROJECTS SUMMARY FY 26/27

Project No.	Project Title	Service	BUDGET 26/27	BUDGET 25/26	BUDGET 24/25	Total Expended
		Furniture Flooding/Carpet Painting	Measure B 2.0 ML	Measure B 2.5 ML	Measure B 2.5 ML	FY 26/27 09/09/26
	Refresh Project 10 Libraries					
54LP16RFMB	Measure B	Furniture	\$ 66,970.40	\$ 937,175.00	\$ 275,912.08	\$ 1,280,057.48
54LP16RFMB	Measure B - BOL, INV, PRE, STB, SNO, MCI, CCE, FAI, NOV & CMA	Carpet		\$ 323,639.00		\$ 323,639.00
54LP16RFMB	Measure B - BOL, INV, PRE, STB, SNO & MCI	Painting		\$ 79,355.20		\$ 79,355.20
			\$ 66,970.40	\$ 1,340,169.20	\$ 275,912.08	\$ 1,683,051.68
9/9/2026			\$ 66,970.40	\$ 1,340,169.20	\$ 275,912.08	\$ 1,683,051.68

Marin County Free Library Commission

Facilities Overview
September 9, 2026



MARIN COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY



FACILITY IMPROVEMENT GOALS

MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY WORKPLAN
FY 2026-2028

Continue to complete Measure B library parcel tax capital improvement projects for four County-owned Library branches in Novato, Civic Center, Fairfax and Corte Madera.



MEASURE B – Approved by voters at 76.59%
Funding through 2032-33

Upgrade library facilities

MARIN COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY

Library Improvement Projects Now - 2030

INTERIOR
10-BRANCH
REFRESH
PROJECT

HEALTH &
SAFETY
BUILDING
IMPROVEMENTS

COUNTY-
OWNED
BUILDING
RENOVATIONS

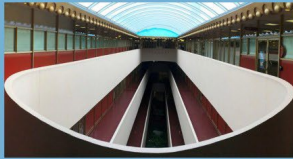
INTERIOR
10-BRANCH REFRESH
PROJECT

Noll & Tam Architects Interior Refresh Project

Communication Strategy for Library Refresh Project

marinlibrary.org/refresh

Civic Center Library



[View Civic Center Design Plan](#)

[Watch Video of Reopening](#)

Reopened: Civic Center Library closed for refresh April 20 - June 10. Reopened June 11, 2026.

[Watch video of the reopening of Civic Center Library on YouTube.](#)

Upgrades:

- **Children's Area Shelving:** New shelving and a more flexible layout to create a better space for reading, learning and play.
- **Updated Furniture:** Comfortable, modern chairs, tables, and lounge spaces to provide inviting spots for reading and relaxing.
- **Children's Area Carpet:** Vibrant, kid-friendly carpet to make the space even more inviting to families.
- **Interior Paint:** A new coat of paint in key areas to give the interior a fresh, updated look.
- **Teen Area Furniture:** Expanded teen area with new comfortable furniture to create a welcoming space for teens to gather.

Library Refresh Project Timeline



Completed Refresh Bollinas Library



M C MARIN COUNTY
F L FREE LIBRARY

Completed Refresh Civic Center Library



M C MARIN COUNTY
F L FREE LIBRARY

Completed Refresh Anne T. Kent California Room



 MARIN COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY

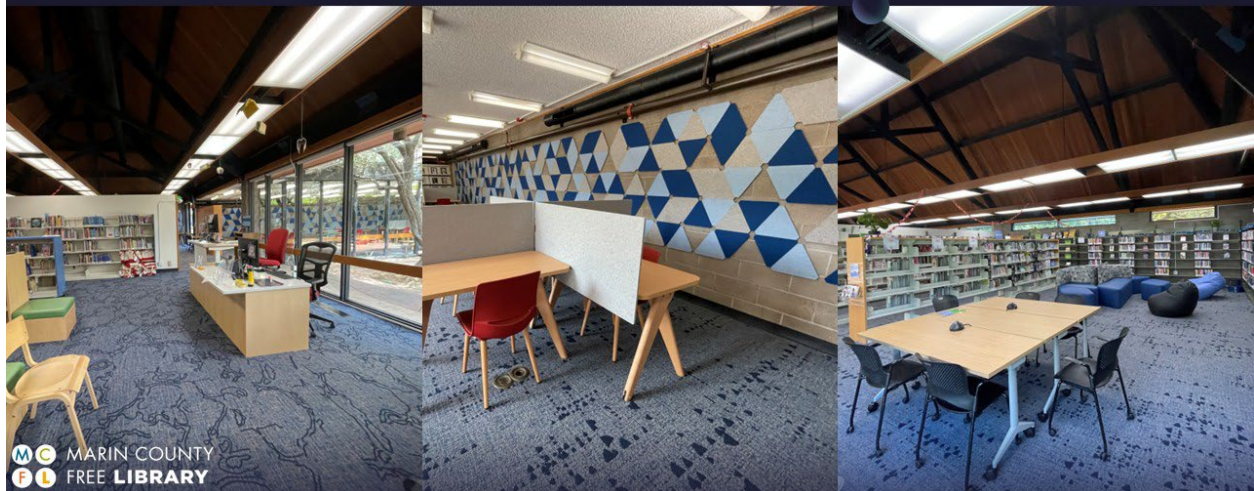
Completed Refresh Fairfax Library



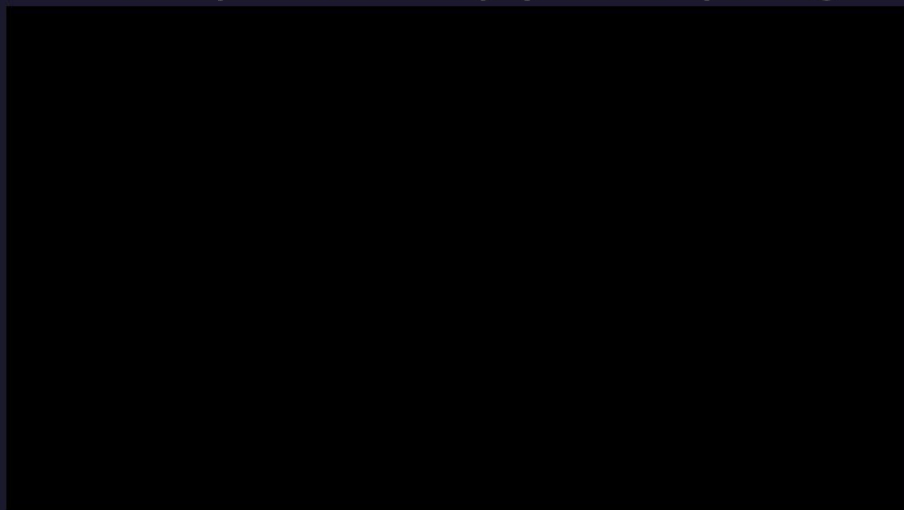
 MARIN COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY

Completed Refresh

Novato Library



A Glimpse Into the Joy of Reopening!

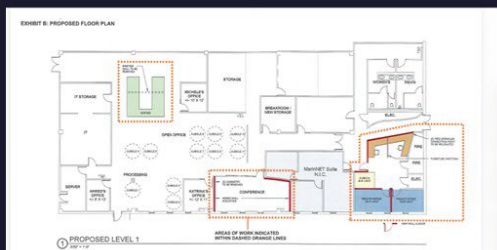


Completed Refresh Corte Madera Library



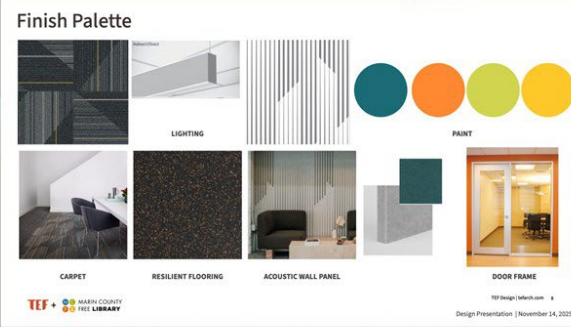
MARIN COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY

2026 Technical Services Refresh (Los Gatos)



New Automated Materials Handling (AMH) machine expected November 3rd.

We will pull permits for full renovation in January 2027.





Health & Safety



From May 2024 Multi-Year Capital Plan Review
*Construction Cost Estimate – Four County Facilities

BRANCH	ESTIMATED IMPROVEMENT COSTS
CIVIC CENTER (2026-27)	\$3,427,583.00
NOVATO (2025-27)	\$7,000,358.00
FAIRFAX (2027-29)	\$4,525,088.00
CORTE MADERA (2028-29)	\$5,619,437.00
TOTAL	\$20,572,466.00

* Additional financing and soft costs will be incurred.

Key Takeaways

- The Library Refresh Projects is complete!
- All refreshes and capital improvement projects are supported by Measure B funding
- Library Refresh Project ended in 2026, and Capital Improvement Project for Civic Center Library and Novato Library has begun
- Additional capital projects / library expansions are not currently funded



Thank You!
Any
Questions?

