

MARIN COUNTY FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION



Lana Adlawan
Director of County Library Services

Library Administration
3051 Civic Center Drive
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San Rafael, CA 94903
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CRS 711

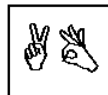
MARIN COUNTY FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION
Proposed Agenda
Wednesday, October 14, 2026
2:00 p.m.

Point Reyes Station Library
11431 State Route 1, Point Reyes, CA 94956

Directions: Highway 101 to Lucas Valley Road, continue to follow until you reach 1) Nicasio Valley Road, turn right and continue until you intersect with Petaluma/Point Reyes Road, then turn left. Follow this road into Point Reyes Station. Turn right on Mesa Road, take a right into the first driveway on the right and drive uphill into the parking lot. The library is in the building below you; or, 2) turn left on Nicasio Valley Road, continue until you reach Sir Francis Drake Blvd., turn right and continue until you reach Olema. Turn right and continue on Highway 1 into Point Reyes Station. Turn left on Mesa Road, take a right into the first driveway on the right and drive uphill into the parking lot. The library is in the building below you

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>2:00pm</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 September 9, 2026, meeting minutes	Christian	Action
(15 min) 5.	Open Time for Public Expression	Christian	Information
(5 min) 6.	Announcements/Book Recommendation(s)	Christian	Information
(5 min) 7.	Reading & Correspondence File Comments	Christian	Information
(10 min) 8.	President's Report	Christian	Information



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.

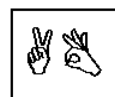
(10 min)	9. Director's Report for September	Little Taylor	Information
(35 min)	10. New Business		
	a. New West Marin Vehicle Overview	Little Taylor	Information
(1 min)	11. Adjournment	Christian	Action
<u>3:30pm</u>			

Numbered List of attachments:

- 4. Minutes for September 2026
- 9. Library Director's Report for September 2026

Unnumbered Attachments:

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



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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.

--PROPOSED MINUTES--

Wednesday, September 9th, 2026

(1) CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at approximately 4:02pm by Commission President Glynda Christian. President Christian welcomed attendees and invited introductions for new Commissioner Doug Murray. The Commission read through Meeting Agreements.

(2) ROLL CALL

In Attendance

Glynda Christian
Ted Ridgeway
Sue Ream
Linda Ward
Ann Kaplan
Anya Schandler
Doug Sides
Claudia Wilson

Absent with Notification

Nick Javaras
Kathleen Cage
Crystal Lewis
Maria Sandoval

Absent Without Notification

Also Present

Lana Adlawan, Director of County Library Services
Raemona Little Taylor, Assistant Director of Public Services
Ahmad Merza, Library Services Manager – Public Services
Leching Chan, Administrative Services Associate
Gracie Leon, Administrative Assistant II
Doug Murray, Member of the Public – Commissioner awaiting appointment

(3) ADOPTION OF AGENDA M/S/C – Doug Sides and Anya Schandler approved as submitted.

(4) ADOPTION OF August 2026 MINUTES M/S/C – Doug Sides and Anya Schandler approved minutes.

(5) OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION – No members of the public requested to speak.

- (6) **ANNOUCEMENT / BOOK RECOMMENDATION(S)** – Commissioner Wilson Shared recommendations by Gloria Steinem - *My Life on the Road*, Dolly Parton - *My Life in Lyrics*, due to their recent passings, as well as *She Come By It Natural* by Sarah Smarsh, and *The Book of Gutsy Women* by Hillary and Chelsea Clinton. She discussed how *My Life on the Road*'s discussion of travels and talking to people affected how she lived her life and influenced her work. She highlighted how Steinem placed importance on not making assumptions.
- (7) **READING & CORRESPONDENCE FILE** – Materials were sent to the Library Commission prior to meeting.
- (8) **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – President Christian shared information about an article regarding the making of "DECLARE: A civic Gospel and asked members to reflect on the belief that "Democracy is the work of many hands". She also requested the commission let her know about their interest in reviewing our commission bylaws, to be agendized for a future meeting. President Christian reminded the committee that next month's meeting is at Point Reyes.
- (9) **DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR AUGUST**- Director Adlawan spoke on the boost in registration for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, as well as donations to the program. She also mentioned the recording of the Brown Act training which is now available for all commission members to refresh their knowledge. Director Adlawan also highlighted the addition of the ASO fulfillment and the ongoing "Stewards of the Land" Exhibit and "The Mood of America" screening.
- (10) **NEW BUSINESS**
a. **MEASURE A/B FUND REVIEW**
Leching and Director Adlawan Presented on Measure B funds used for refresh projects as well as funds projected for future capital improvement projects. Commissioners asked clarifying questions throughout.

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

	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 Gatos 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

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1											
2	MARIN COUNTY FREE LIBRARY										
3	2470 & 3550										
4	5 Year Projection	Actuals FY 2024-25	Actuals FY 2025-26	Adopted Budget FY 2026-27	Projected FY 2026-27	Projected FY 2027-28	Projected FY 2028-29	Projected FY 2029-30	Projected FY 2030-31	Projected FY 2031-32	
5											
6											
7	Property Taxes	\$ (17,865,972)	\$ (18,477,764)	\$ (18,255,135)	\$ (18,985,340)	\$ (19,744,754)	\$ (20,534,544)	\$ (21,355,926)	\$ (22,210,163)	\$ (23,098,570)	
8	Measure A										
9	Measure B	\$ (4,564,804)	\$ (4,764,924)	\$ (4,845,338)	\$ (4,990,698)	\$ (5,140,419)	\$ (5,268,930)	\$ (5,400,653)	\$ (5,535,669)	\$ (5,674,061)	
10	Other Revenue	\$ (2,262,753)	\$ (3,543,891)	\$ (563,490)	\$ (540,950)	\$ (562,588)	\$ (585,092)	\$ (608,496)	\$ (632,835)	\$ (658,149)	
11	Total Revenue	\$ (24,693,529)	\$ (26,786,579)	\$ (23,663,963)	\$ (24,516,989)	\$ (25,447,762)	\$ (26,388,566)	\$ (27,365,074)	\$ (28,378,668)	\$ (29,430,779)	
12											
13	Salaries and Benefits	\$ 14,298,571	\$ 15,268,499	\$ 16,834,984	\$ 17,340,034	\$ 17,860,235	\$ 18,396,042	\$ 18,947,923	\$ 19,516,360	\$ 20,101,851	
14	Services and Supplies	\$ 5,539,346	\$ 6,297,892	\$ 5,333,036	\$ 5,434,364	\$ 5,537,617	\$ 5,642,831	\$ 5,750,045	\$ 5,859,296	\$ 5,970,623	
15	Capital Assets	\$ 1,070,646	\$ 1,660,438	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	
16	Other Expenses	\$ 3,425,097	\$ 3,030,493	\$ 3,135,274	\$ 3,759,194	\$ 4,507,273	\$ 5,404,220	\$ 6,479,660	\$ 7,769,113	\$ 9,315,166	
17	Total Expenses	\$ 24,333,660	\$ 26,257,322	\$ 27,303,294	\$ 28,533,591	\$ 29,905,124	\$ 31,443,093	\$ 33,177,628	\$ 35,144,769	\$ 37,387,640	
18											
19	Net Library Costs	\$ (359,869)	\$ (529,257)	\$ 3,639,331	\$ 4,016,602	\$ 4,457,363	\$ 5,054,528	\$ 5,812,554	\$ 6,766,102	\$ 7,956,861	
20											
21	as of 09.09.26										
22											
23					5 YR Growth Rate	9/09/26 updates					
24				Property Taxes	4.5%	4.0%					
25				Measure B	3.0%	2.5%					
26				Other Revenue	4.0%						
27				Total Revenue	4.0%						
28											
29				Salaries & Benefits	4.6%	3.0%					
30				Services & Supplies	2.1%	1.9%					
31				Capital Assets	141.3%						
32				Other Expenses	19.9%						
33				Total Expenses	4.5%						

b. FACILITIES OVERVIEW

Director Adlawan and Ahmad Merza presented the final overview of the 10-branch refresh. They showed updates done to each branch including health and safety upgrades.

Marin County Free Library Commission

Facilities Overview
September 9, 2026



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



Library Improvement Projects Now - 2030



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 Bolinas 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

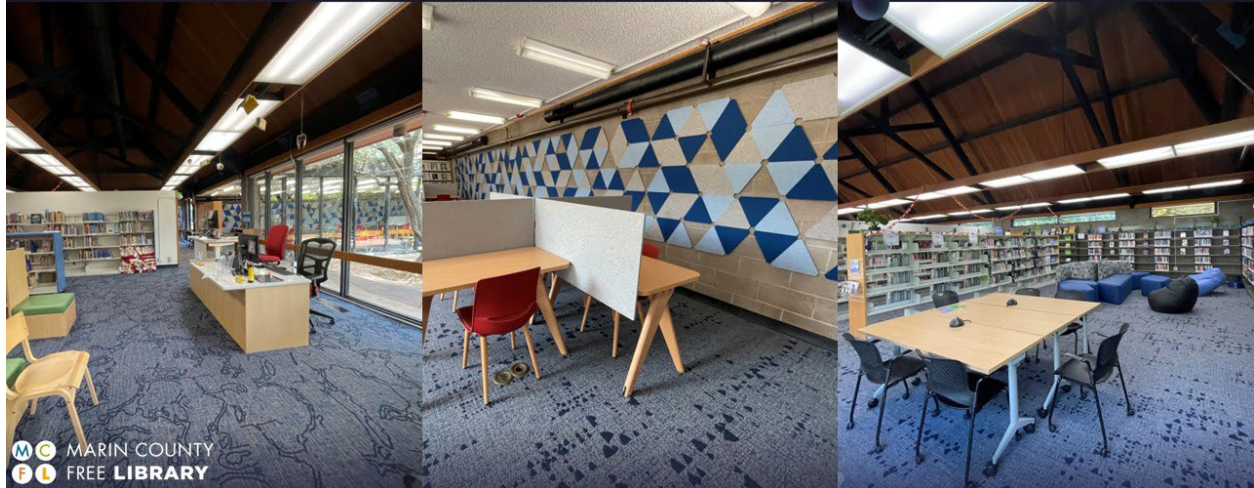
Completed Refresh Fairfax Library



 MARIN COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY

Completed Refresh

Novato Library



A Glimpse Into the Joy of Reopening!



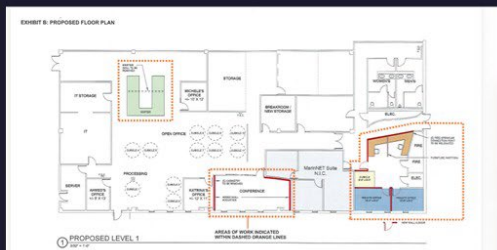
Completed Refresh Corte Madera Library



M C MARIN COUNTY
F L FREE LIBRARY



2026 Technical Services Refresh (Los Gatos)

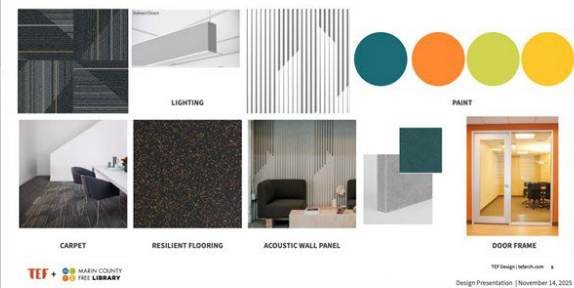


New Automated Materials Handling (AMH) machine expected November 3rd.

We will pull permits for full renovation in January 2027.

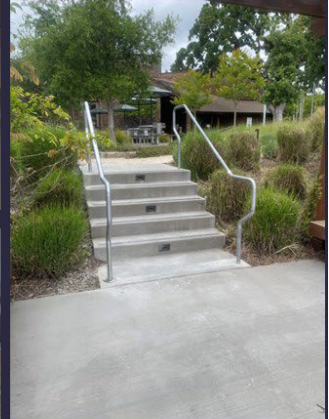


Finish Palette



HEALTH & SAFETY BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

Health & Safety



COUNTY- OWNED BUILDING RENOVATIONS

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 Project 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?



(11) ADJOURNMENT – Glynda adjourned the meeting at 5:38pm



September 2026

Library Commission Report

Lana Adlawan,
Director of County Library Services



Mood of America panel answering questions from the moderator and audience after screening of documentary.

This September, library spaces shifted into the new fall cadence, with community activities, indigenous storytelling, and enlightening conversations. At MCFL, we love the beginning of the school year because we know any new beginning needs support. From graduates heading to college to preschoolers starting kindergarten, MCFL is here to foster joy through these key changes. Parents, students, and caregivers are finding their routine, using the spaces, programs, and resources—ready at each branch. Guided by the values of our Strategic Plan, staff diligently show up for others so that their stories are heard. Here is what September looked, felt, and sounded like across Marin County.

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

Partnerships

In West Marin, Bolinas continued its nearly decade-long storytime partnership with the Bolinas-Stinson schools and welcomed students from their after-school programs to the Book Scouts program. Point Reyes hosted the Early Learning Collaborative Action Network, an equitable support system designed to reduce barriers to learning. Staff participated in Mesa Comunitaria with West Marin Community Services, a program that engages Latinx communities in dialogue about local issues.



School partnerships also expanded in Central and North Marin. Civic Center connected Dominican University students with Homework Help at Venetia Valley and met with local middle-school librarians to discuss priorities, collection development, and possible on-site programming. Staff hand-delivered 175 youth-services newsletters to five area schools. Civic Center strengthened regional history partnerships through the Marin Archives Collective and hosted the first in-person meeting of the County's Youth Advocacy Board. Fairfax continued its partnership with DrawBridge, supported a New Parent Support Group during the renovation of its regular meeting space, and worked with the Reuse Alliance to host a Repair Fair attended by more than 100 people.



Novato collaborated with UC Marin Master Gardeners on a Seed and Plant Swap drew a large crowd. They also partnered with Veteran's Community Connection, a program provided by the Marin County Veterans Service Office under Marin Health and Human Services to deliver outreach and supportive services designed to stabilize mental health for veterans. Additionally, partnership with the Marin Humane Society brought therapy dogs to the Teen Sensory Study Hall. Technical Services co-led the first installment of Novato's Teen AI Literacy series, while BluePath Health began exploring collaborations involving teen hygiene kits and the County's collaborative budgeting process. Novato, South Novato, and Marin City also worked together on a teen letter-writing exchange with a library in Canada. Corte Madera cooked up a perfect collaboration with Civic Center staff to introduce an Ecuadorian cooking program.



Marin City Library staff met with the principal of Bayside MLK Academy to coordinate school library services, while a Dominican University service-learning student began assisting in the school library. The Library also participated in an Early Learning Community meeting and resumed its weekly Developmental Playgroup for children ages 0 to 5, led by the branch's new Community Library Specialist. To support civic engagement, staff met with Rize Marin, a Marin City-born alliance and partner, and county departments at the Marin City Senior Center to plan voting activities and strengthen connections with older adults.

Library Beyond Walls coordinated new and continuing services with Marin Housing Authority communities and other residential and community-service partners. The Bookmobile also began coordinating with Lagunitas School to help supplement its library collection, and with the San Geronimo Valley Community Center staff helped identify a schedule that could overlap with the community center's food pantry and senior lunch. Community members expressed excitement about the Bookmobile returning to the San Geronimo Valley.

PARTNERSHIPS, PROGRAMMING, AND OUTREACH

Programming

Bolinas piloted a flexible Monday morning Toddler Time for children from birth through age five. The two-hour program paired play-based activities with related books and allowed families to participate at their own pace. They also hosted a Halloween costume and clothing swap and Stinson Beach held a clothing exchange for residents and beach visitors.

Civic Center programming included Homework Help at Venetia Valley, the Cantos y Cuentos Spanish-language storytime captivated its young audience, and Wednesday Kids Club hosted Nintendo Switch gaming, Lego Club, a film screening, and tissue-paper flower-making. The Marin Master Gardener arrived with helpful news about native gardening; letterpress postcards were created at the library, and the Spice of the Month featured turmeric. Inverness began a new year of storytimes for transitional kindergarten through first grade in collaboration with Inverness School teachers.

Fairfax programming included meditation, family and bilingual storytimes, Wednesday Kids' Club, a Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club, an inaugural Dungeons and Dragons game, an Ecuadorian cooking class, the Repair Fair, and a Native Raptors presentation. Point Reyes offered gardening, knitting, book discussions, art exhibitions, Reading Buddies, Book Scouts, school storytimes, and library visits. DrawBridge helped launch the fall Reading Buddies session with an altered-books activity.

Libraries got cookin'! South Novato, Corte Madera, Fairfax, and Novato offered Ecuadorian cooking master classes, with sixteen participants attending Novato's class. Corte Madera also offered meditation, embroidery, a puzzle swap, an art talk on the treasures of the pharaohs, paint-by-number crafts, storytime, DrawBridge, and Homework Helpers.

Marin City Library hosted a successful Stewards of the Land exhibit and community circle reception with local Indigenous community members, creating space for cultural knowledge and community connection. The Library introduced a children's chess club led by a local chess enthusiast eager to share their passion with young learners, and hosted a well-attended movie night screening of Michael.

Library Beyond Walls delivered programs directly to senior housing, organizations serving adults with disabilities, and community resource centers. Activities included browsing-library visits, read-alouds, book clubs, movie nights, library-card registration, technology assistance, multilingual materials, and personalized holds.

In partnership with Rize Marin and the League of Women Voters, the Library drew a full house at the Marin Showcase Theater for the fifth screening of the BBC's 1968 documentary *The Mood of America*, which captured residents' experiences during the desegregation of the Sausalito–Marin City School District. Following the screening, a panel of longtime residents, current educators, principals, and superintendents reflected on the history and present-day realities of racism in Marin County schools. Although production of the documentary was abruptly halted, the discussion underscored that its story remains unfinished, as community members continue to experience many of the same inequities nearly six decades later.



PARTNERSHIPS, PROGRAMMING, AND OUTREACH

Working Outward

West Marin outreach combined literacy support with a visible presence at schools and community events. Point Reyes introduced its Family Reading Bags website at back-to-school nights in Inverness and Tomales. West Marin School seventh- and eighth-grade students began monthly library visits focused on research and library skills, and staff visited a Tomales Elementary kindergarten and first-grade classroom for a community-helper unit. At the Tomales Festival, more than 300 people visited the Library's booth and received 119 free books.

Civic Center staff reached 1,505 children and family members through back-to-school nights and school ice-cream socials. The branch also participated in the Marin County Senior Fair and brought an introduction-to-DJing program to Terra Linda High School. Fairfax continued receiving classes from the neighboring charter school, restocked community free libraries, and represented MCFL at the Senior Fair.

South Novato welcomed students and teachers from Novato Unified School District's Early Intervention Center for storytime and exploration of the branch's space and collection. Novato extended outreach through the Learning Bus, where families attended a performance by Paraguayan teen musicians and children received free books. Staff also resumed newsletters for secondary educators, teens, and parents and caregivers, including a new Teen Book and Cinema Club newsletter.

Library Beyond Walls provided outreach at senior housing communities, residential recovery programs, the Enterprise Resource Center, the Center for Domestic Peace, and organizations serving adults with disabilities. Services included library cards, holds, requested titles, multilingual materials, book discussions, technology assistance, and delivery enrollment. At the Aldersley Senior Resource Fair, staff spoke with approximately 50 people, issued a library card, and accepted a new Library Beyond Walls delivery application.

The Bookmobile continued working with Coleman Elementary to determine how MCFL can support students while the school library remains closed. Options under discussion included monthly Bookmobile visits and rotating bins of books for students to browse.



THE PILLARS

Joyful Learning

Students explored math and social-emotional learning through a bilingual Bookmobile storytime, while Homework Help, Reading Buddies, Book Scouts, adult English classes, and school-based activities supported learning across the system. Patrons created altered books, attended Crafternoons, explored sewing, participated in book discussions, and prepared Ecuadorian quimbolitos using Novato's new Charlie Cart. Teens strengthened their media-literacy skills through an AI Literacy Escape Room, and West Marin staff connected with authors, illustrators, publishers, educators, and librarians at the Children's Book Festival in Oakland. Marin City resumed its weekly storytime with Horizon Community.

Collective Impact

The Bookmobile partnered with Star Academy teachers to help students with complex learning differences find appropriate materials. Civic Center hosted the County's Youth Advocacy Board as young people helped inform funding for youth homelessness services. South Novato staff, as members of COMAEA and the DREAM Collaborative, County of Marin affinity groups, participated in countywide efforts to respond to racism and push for greater accountability and systems change. Additional collaborations extended programs online, supported Oak Hill School interns, connected residents with veterans' benefits, brought Library Beyond Walls services to housing and recovery communities, and created an international letter-writing exchange among teens in Marin and London, Ontario.

Community Power

Families shared input that will guide Civic Center's Youth Services programming, while Novato teens contributed ideas to the County's collaborative budgeting process and helped personalize their Teen Corner. The Bookmobile prepared to redirect service toward preschool children facing greater barriers to library access. Cultural exhibits and local collections at Bolinas, Corte Madera, and Novato highlighted community history and Indigenous perspectives. Repair Fair participants kept reusable items out of the landfill, and intergenerational volunteers strengthened Book Scouts and Library Buddies. Across senior housing, recovery residences, schools, and community organizations, library access grew through relationships that positioned residents as active participants in learning and community life.



VOICES OF THE PEOPLE



A Library Beyond Walls patron celebrated having easy access to books again, saying, “The library is literally fulfilling my needs.” When a longtime Tam Valley Bookmobile patron learned that the stop would transition to serve a local preschool, she supported the change and committed to visiting another stop. In Novato, a patron who once studied at Marin City reconnected with a familiar staff member.



Families celebrated the reopening of Corte Madera and the return of its warm, sunlit children’s room. Novato’s new Teen Corner is helping more young people feel welcome and seen, and familiar patrons are reconnecting as they return to shared spaces. In Fairfax, a visitor praised the staff and described Repair Day as “a beautiful community event.” At Point Reyes, patrons continued to share their care for a recovering staff member and celebrated a longtime Reading Buddies volunteer. Stinson Beach honored a patron’s creative life through a retrospective spanning four decades.



At Civic Center, a toddler asked for a book the caregiver did not know, yet staff found exactly the book they were looking for. A Dominican University student preparing to become a Reading Buddies tutor reflected that serving a child also means learning from them, listening to their individual experiences, and adapting to their needs.



SNAPSHOTS OF MCFL



Making tissue paper flowers at Civic Center Library



Sewing volunteers hem and repair items at the Fairfax Library Repair Fair



Sisters show off their finished potholders at the Tomales Festival library booth



Stewards of the Land Reception at Marin City Library



West Marin School 7th graders on the first of monthly visits to the Point Reyes Library



South Novato Library specialist practices Tai Chi at the Marin County Senior Fair



Artist Serena Czarnecki and partner at Stinson Beach Library



Bollinas poets book display featuring books by local authors



September Crafternoon Creations at Corte Madera Library



Ecuadorian Master Class



Reuse Alliance sets out Halloween costumes for a costume swap!



Marin City's New Record Lending and Listening Corner

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS (MARCOM)

Marketing and Communications promoted systemwide storytelling and public engagement by connecting patrons to local history, civic participation, and the Library's evolving role. The team created promotional materials for Mood of America, launched Library Card Sign-Up Month with a reorder of community-designed library cards, and developed digital assets for Latinx Heritage Month. MarCom also coordinated planning for the Get Out the Vote "Why Do I Vote?" community engagement campaign, creating opportunities to listen to and amplify community voices.

The team celebrated the arrival of the BiblioCoaster and took a closer look at the finished vehicle wrap and the fantastic artwork representing West Marin. MarCom also produced a social media video about the Corte Madera Refresh, marking the completion of the Measure B-funded Library Refresh program across all 10 branches.



TECHNICAL SERVICES

Technical Services launched its partnership with Tutor.com and introduced the new resource through the library website. Technical Services also strengthened community connections by creating webpages for the Shoutbomb text-alert service and fall programs and events. The team supported community voice and participation by launching webpages for the Get Out the Vote campaign and the BiblioCoaster service, while featuring Latinx Heritage Celebration events, staff reading lists, and online resources on the library homepage. These efforts made important services and opportunities easier for patrons to discover and use.

Browse the Library - Online Library - Events - **Services** - About - Spanish

GET TEXT ALERTS

Shoutbomb is a software service that allows libraries to send SMS messages to all text message enabled phones. You can reply, using pre-selected keywords, to request additional information or carry out tasks such as renewing items.

Please note that this service is only applicable to physical library materials (does not work for digital titles).

- + What is the ShoutBomb service?
- + What materials are included in text message notices?
- + What do I need to use the service?
- + How do I sign up for text messages from the library?
- + How do I use text commands with the Shoutbomb service?
- + What if I do not get a reply or receive an error message?
- + Can I choose which of the available notices are delivered by the Shoutbomb service?
- + How do I manage the items I have on hold?
- + What languages are supported?
- + How do I report an issue?
- + How do I quit the Shoutbomb service?



Browse the Library - Online Library - Events - **Services** - About - Spanish

GET OUT THE VOTE

OUR VOICES SHAPE OUR COMMUNITY

Our different cultures, languages, experiences, and perspectives make our community stronger. When we participate, we help shape a future that reflects all of us.

Marin County Free Library is partnering with the League of Women Voters, Marin County Registrar of Voters, and the Marin County Office of Education to help our community prepare for the upcoming election.

Visit your library to find trusted, nonpartisan information, learn about the voting process, understand what is on the ballot, and make a plan to vote.

Pick up a Kids' Voting Activity Book at a nearby branch to explore voting basics through puzzles, word games, and a family voting challenge

SPONSORS



RESOURCES

GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

- Marin County Elections Department
- California Secretary of State Elections and Voter Registration
- California Secretary of State Voter Bill of Rights
- California Secretary of State Restoration of Voting Rights



Browse the Library - Online Library - Events - **Services** - About - Spanish

BIBLIOCOASTER

Library Services on the Move!

The BiblioCoaster brings access and connectivity to residents of rural West Marin. Designed specifically for rural travel, this smaller, more flexible vehicle can navigate the narrow roads and rugged terrain of West Marin, reaching communities where distance and geography can make visiting a library difficult.

The BiblioCoaster responds to community needs as they develop. Residents and community partners will help shape where it goes, how often it visits, and which services it provides.

The BiblioCoaster is Packed with Services that Include:

- Library card registration and account assistance
- Laptops and computers
- Wi-Fi hotspots
- Printing services
- Help using digital library resources
- Educational activities and family programs
- Connections to library and community resources
- Support for senior fairs, health fairs, job fairs, and community events

Services will continue to grow as we listen to and learn from community feedback.

Our Strategic Plan in Action

The BiblioCoaster brings **MCL's Strategic Plan** to life through Community Power, Collective Impact, and Joyful Learning. Community members will help shape where the BiblioCoaster goes and what it offers.

By listening to local priorities and working alongside schools, community organizations, service providers, and public agencies, MCL can connect residents with information, technology, learning opportunities, and essential resources through programs.

The BiblioCoaster will also create welcoming opportunities for children, families, older adults, and people of all ages to read, explore, create, and discover something new.



Frequently Asked Questions

- + What is the BiblioCoaster?
- + What services will initially be available?
- + Are holds available on BiblioCoaster?
- + Where and when will the BiblioCoaster operate?
- + Are laptops and hotspots available?
- + Who can use the service?
- + Is a library card required?
- + When will additional services or locations be added?

Welcoming Our New MCFL Team Members

We're excited to share that our department continues to grow and thrive! Today, we're delighted to introduce the newest additions to the Marin County Free Library. Each new employee brings unique strengths, professional expertise, and a genuine passion for serving our community. We can't wait to see the meaningful contributions they'll make as they join us in our mission.

- Shree Ram joins the Stinson Beach branch as our newest Community Library Specialist.
- Maja Loncar joins the Administration office as our newest Administrative Services Officer.
- Ashley Collingwood joins the Inverness branch as our newest Community Library Specialist.

Honoring a Milestone Moment

This month, we recognize and celebrate the retirement of Fredrick Peng, Library Aide at Technical Services, whose dedication and service have been deeply valued within the Marin County Free Library. As Fredrick embarks on this next chapter, we extend our appreciation for his years of commitment and the lasting contributions he has made to our community. We wish him all the best in a well earned and fulfilling retirement.

On the Horizon: Upcoming MCFL Positions

In the coming weeks, several new roles will be opening across the Marin County Free Library as we continue shaping a stronger, more responsive organization. These upcoming positions reflect our commitment to expanding services, enhancing operational support, and welcoming fresh talent into our teams. We're eager to share these opportunities with you and appreciate your partnership as we move into this next phase of growth.

- **Administrative Assistant I (Administration)** – Final interviews were completed on September 24, 2026, and a candidate has been selected. Their start date is October 12, with a formal introduction planned for the November commission meeting.
- **Library Aides (Civic Center)** – Two positions were filled following final interviews on September 11, 2026. Both new team members are expected to start in October.
- **Library Aides (Novato & South Novato)** – Additional interviews are scheduled for October 6, 2026, with the potential to welcome two new hires in November.
- **Library Assistant II (Civic Center & Corte Madera)** – Final interviews for two candidates are set for October 6, 2026, with anticipated November start dates.

Year to Date Recruitment Overview

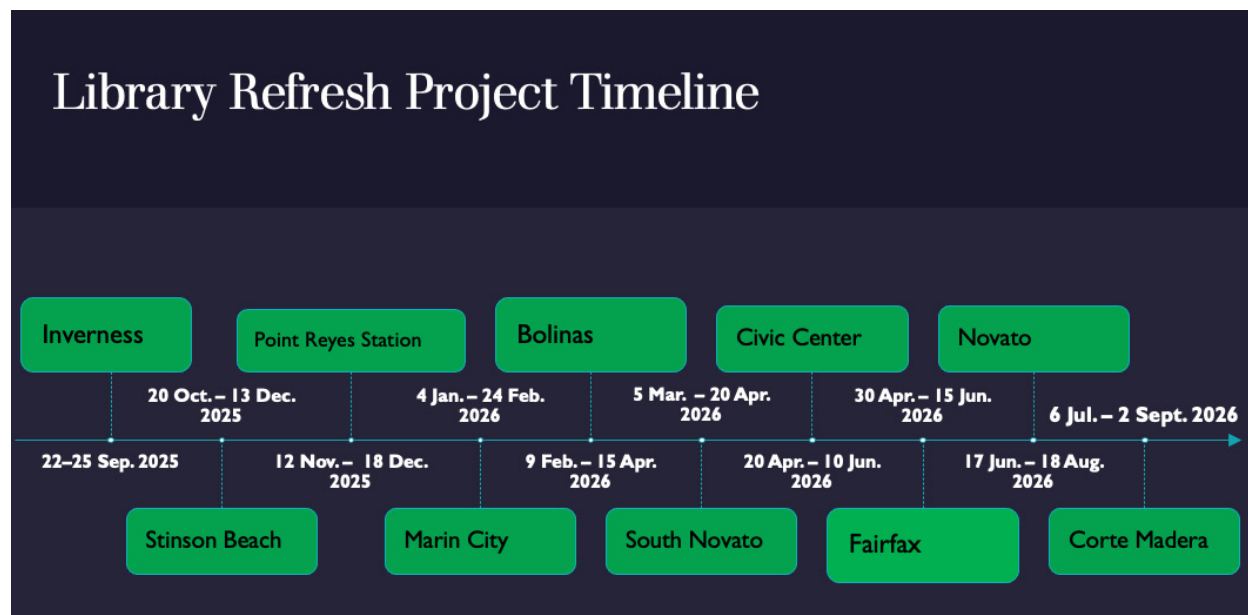
Since the beginning of the year, our hiring efforts have been both active and productive. A total of 18 recruitments have been launched across the Marin County Free Library, reflecting continued growth and evolving service needs. Throughout these processes, 202 applicants have advanced through screening, been identified as highly qualified, and received invitations to participate in interviews. This momentum highlights the strong interest in joining our organization and our commitment to selecting candidates who will strengthen and support our teams.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR REPORT

LIBRARY REFRESH PROJECT IS COMPLETE!

After one year of continued reporting on branch closures and opening celebrations, we are very proud to report that the Library Refresh Project is complete! The Corte Madera Library was our last scheduled closure, and we reopened to the public on September 2. See their joyful opening video here (found on MCFL's YouTube Channel): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGut9L8jAIA>

10 Branches, One Year, and an Investment in Our Future



MCFL made a significant investment in all our facilities with this project, and this investment would not have been possible without community support for the Library's parcel tax, Measure B. With this support, we are able to provide each visitor to the library a welcoming, modern space that is reflective of their local community. We expanded and upgraded children's areas for communities with an abundance of families with young children; we created and upgraded existing teen spaces for teens in our communities to feel that they had a place in our library system to call their own; we created comfortable spaces for our elders in our communities to connect with friends or just sit to read the day's local news; we upgraded technology supports and technology so that our environments can support working remotely, charging devices, and continued free and open access to the Internet and information. We set a better stage at all our branches to reflect our excellent service and programming, for many years to come. Thank you for your patience as we completed this project over the last year and thank you for your continued support! See the improvements made at every library branch here: <https://marinlibrary.org/refresh/>

LIBRARY DIRECTOR REPORT



Refreshed children's space at the Civic Center Library



A picture of the refreshed Anne T. Kent California Room



New ergonomic service desk at the Fairfax Library

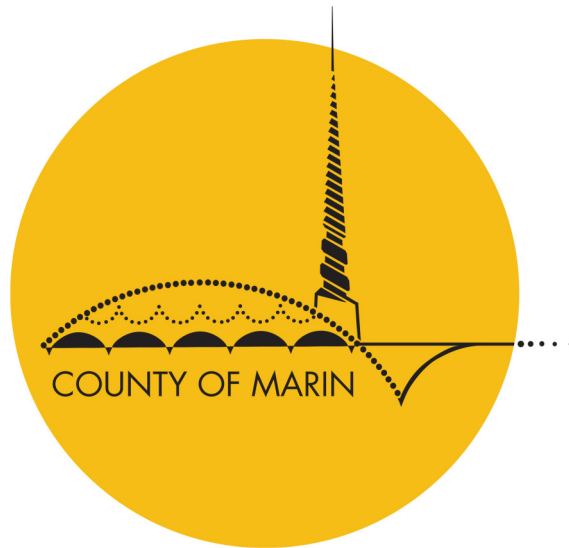
In addition to the refresh of our 10 spaces, we had some additional projects during this last year. We addressed several health and safety facility issues at multiple branches that were noted in a 2024 Facilities Assessment for MCFL. I am happy to report that all those building needs have been completed, for the betterment of our staff and community members. In each of our refreshes, we also prioritized adjustable service desks when possible, to reflect the needs of many of our staff members in their daily work. The Anne T. Kent California Room in the Civic Center Library also received a refresh – adding additional space to encourage browsing in the stacks and a distinct patron workspace from which to do research from, along with ergonomic improvements for our archives staff. For the Marin City Library, we also refreshed their interior staff space to accompany their branch refresh.

Every Marin County Free Library staff member participated in the Library Refresh Project, and I thank each and every one of them. From those coordinating the project with our Department of Public Works partners, contractors and vendors, to those tailoring the project on the local level to best meet community need. To those communicating about these changes and processing the many, many invoices and contracts to support this work, to those moving computers and copiers / printers, and to every staff who had to re-organize their branch and work area before AND after the project. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your efforts and time to make this dream possible for our communities and for MCFL.

It's a wrap, everyone, and a well done one at that!



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.

Welcome/Bienvenido BiblioCoaster

MARIN COUNTY FREE LIBRARY



October 14, 2026
Library Commission Presentation

Our Commitment to Anti-Racism & Equity

Community Power

We prioritize the voices of Marin's diverse communities to guide civic engagement.

Joyful Learning

We provide joyful and inclusive learning experiences for everyone.

Collective Impact

We cultivate trust and center relationship building with partners to create positive change in our communities.

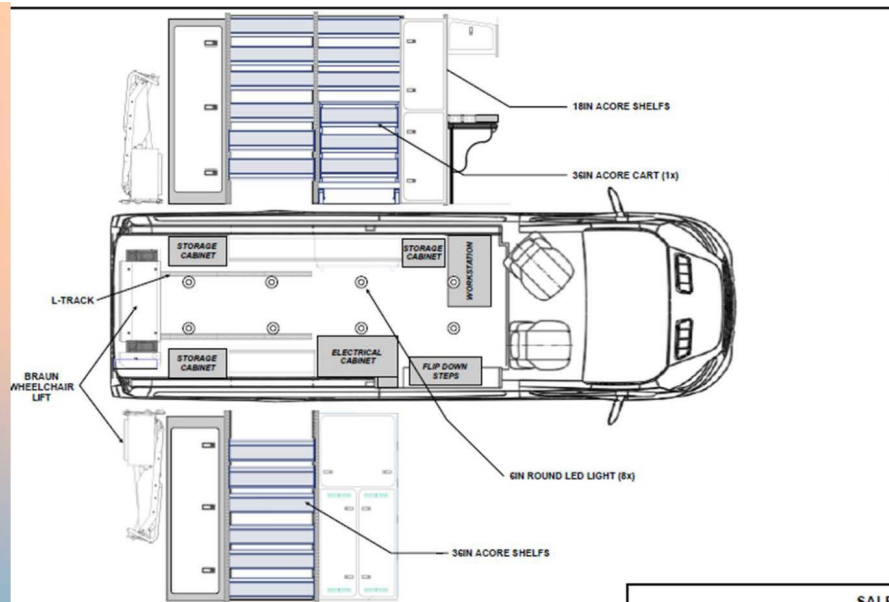
 FROM WHO WE ARE
TO HOW WE LEAD



Interior Features

- ADA wheelchair lift (800 lb capacity)
- Swivel front seats and workstation
- Full insulation + rooftop A/C, fan, heater
- Custom cabinetry and shelving for books and tech

MCFL FROM WHO WE ARE
TO HOW WE LEAD



SALES FROM WHO WE ARE
TO HOW WE LEAD

Technology & Power



- 3000W inverter + 920Ah lithium batteries



- 175W solar panel + shore power plug-in



- USB + AC outlets, HDMI ports



- Wi-Fi router and SIM-enabled cellular antenna



FROM WHO WE ARE
TO HOW WE LEAD

Vehicle Programming Capabilities



- 24" SWIVEL WORKSTATION



- BUILT-IN PA SYSTEM + WIRELESS MIC



- SECURE TECH CART WITH 12-DEVICE CHARGING



- ELECTRIC AWNING + LED EXTERIOR LIGHTS



FROM WHO WE ARE
TO HOW WE LEAD

Accessibility & Safety

- ADA lift, flip-down step
- Grab handles + anti-slip flooring
- Fire extinguisher, first aid kit, CO/smoke detector
- Safety triangle kit



FROM WHO WE ARE
TO HOW WE LEAD

Coming Soon: BiblioCoaster Roadshow

Save the Date: BiblioCoaster Ribbon Cutting

Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Time: 4-6pm

Location: Dance Palace (503 B Street, Point Reyes Station)

 FROM WHO WE ARE
TO HOW WE LEAD

Q&A

THANK YOU!

 FROM WHO WE ARE
TO HOW WE LEAD