



CITY of CALABASAS

LIBRARY COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

DATE: JULY 6, 2021

TO: MEMBERS OF THE LIBRARY COMMISSION

FROM: BARBARA LOCKWOOD, CITY LIBRARIAN

SUBJECT: LIBRARY REOPENING UPDATE

MEETING

DATE: JULY 12, 2021

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:

This report is informational only. No action is required.

BACKGROUND:

After being closed for more than a year due to the COVID pandemic, the Calabasas Library building was reopened to the public April 13, 2021 on a limited basis. We initially opened our doors on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday from 1 pm to 5 pm and kept appointment checkouts for Friday and Saturday. For the statewide opening on June 15 per the Governor's Executive Order, the Library opened every day, except Monday, from 1pm to 5pm. On July 6, we further expanded to the current hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11 am to 6 pm, Friday and Saturday from 11 am to 5pm and Sunday from noon to 5 pm.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The weekend times are back to the pre-pandemic hours but we are still closed on weekday evenings. During the pandemic three clerks and one hourly librarian

resigned. We filled two clerk positions recently and they are being trained. Two of our other part-time librarians have childcare issues and can only work limited hours. We plan to hire more staff and then will reopen in the evenings.

People have been expressing gratitude that we are open. More patrons have been returning but the Library has not been overly crowded. Our circulation of physical materials is increasing although people continue to check out digital materials.

We have reduced the number of chairs and the study rooms are still closed. Internet computers are spaced to every other one. Most of the programs will stay online. However, we did have an outdoor children's craft event on June 30. We will have a Grab and Go craft event on July 17th and will probably offer another live program sometime in the summer. We also have a hybrid book club once a month. Some people are in the library and others on Zoom.

We still require masks and social distancing. The mask mandate is a City Hall policy. We have received some push back from people not wanting to wear masks but not to the point where it is a problem. We remind people that we are considered an educational facility and serve children who cannot yet get vaccinated.

REQUESTED ACTION:

None. This report is for discussion only.