



Memorandum

TO: MAYOR MAHAN

FROM: Councilmember Pam Foley

SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT

DATE: May 25, 2023

Approved

Date May 25, 2023

RECOMMENDATION

Modify the City Manager's 2023-2024 Proposed Budget to incorporate the following budget proposal, including any required funding allocation adjustments.

Proposal

Program/Project Title: Grant for San José Public Library Late Fee Waivers for Seniors

Amount of City Funding Required: \$5,000

This change is:

One-time Ongoing

Cost Estimate Number (if applicable):

Proposal Description, including the reason for the need and anticipated outcomes (Please describe how the proposal will affect services for San José residents, community groups, businesses, etc.):

Our public libraries play an important role in providing resources, access to information, and educational opportunities to people of all ages. They can also serve as a social hub, where community events occur. However, late fees for overdue materials are a major barrier to library use, especially for our senior community.

While the emergency declaration has ended, COVID-19 continues to be a risk for seniors, who also may suffer from mobility issues and other health conditions which could impact their ability to return library materials on time.

There are financial considerations as well that make this a worthwhile investment. Seniors are often on fixed incomes and could be struggling to make ends meet in our increasingly unaffordable region. By

waiving these fees, seniors can take advantage of all that our libraries have to offer without having to fear the repercussions that accompany late fees.

In the digital age, seniors also may need additional support and guidance in using online resources and devices. By waiving late fees, libraries can provide more time and assistance to seniors who may need extra support in utilizing the library's digital resources and platforms.

This grant will be a valuable investment for our seniors, giving them the support they need to maintain good emotional and cognitive health, connect with their fellow community members, and continue to live with dignity.

Funding Source

Essential Services Reserve: \$5000

Other (Please specify program/project/fund):

Department or Organization Contact

Please list the contact information for the individual that certified cost estimates contained within your recommendation:

Name and Title: Jill Bourne / City Librarian

Department or Organization: San José Public Library

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