

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: JULY 20, 2009

FROM: CITY MANAGER

RE: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO THE CALIFORNIA LIBRARY COOPERATIVE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the City's membership in the Southern California Library Cooperative JPA.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, in our area, there are three Joint Power Agencies representing 46 library jurisdictions operating under the state library system. These Joint Power Agencies include: the Metropolitan Cooperative Library Systems (MCLS) with 31 jurisdictions located throughout LA County and two jurisdictions in Ventura County; the Santiago Library System (SLS) with nine jurisdictions located in Orange County and the South State Library System (SSLS) which serves four jurisdictions in the greater Los Angeles area including Pasadena.

Within each JPA the member agencies cooperate and provide reciprocal benefits for staff and patrons. For example, all cooperative systems provide numerous benefits to residents and libraries by expanding information resources beyond the local library providing the ability to request that a reference question be sent on to a higher resource level. Also, for member libraries, the cooperative facilitates reimbursement for nonresident lending, offers communication and delivery services among the libraries and provides staff training through workshops or one-on-one at the library.

In an effort to achieve greater economy and improve overall service to the community, members of the three JPAs desire to create a single entity. Such consolidation would be beneficial to member agencies in the following ways:

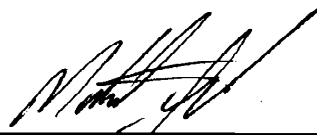
- Achieve economies of scale by investing in a set of shared resources in programs and services that would benefit people served by the communities in these systems.
- Reduce duplication of effort and investment of resources.
- Provide a stronger collective voice to advocate for libraries at various levels.
- Increase networking opportunities for library staff.

- A single system representing 46 library jurisdictions will be able to pilot and develop new services for its members.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The recommended action will result in the City terminating its membership in the South State Library System and joining the Southern California Library Cooperative. As a result, the cost for the current fiscal year will increase from \$2,735 to \$5,182. Sufficient funds to cover this increase are included in the fiscal year 2010 Library and Information Services Department operating budget.

Respectfully submitted,



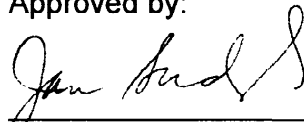
Michael J. Beck
City Manager

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