



Agenda Report

TO: City Council September 21, 1999
THROUGH: Legislative Committee
FROM: City Manager
SUBJECT: Support for *California Reading and Literacy Improvement and Public Library Construction And Renovation Bond Act of 2000*

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Adopt the attached resolution supporting the *California Reading and Literacy Improvement and Public Library Construction And Renovation Bond Act of 2000*, which would be beneficial to Pasadena.
2. Authorize the Mayor to send letters to the appropriate authorities stating Pasadena's position.

BACKGROUND

Existing law established the California Library Construction And Renovation Bond Act of 1988, which authorized the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$75,000,000 pursuant to the State General Bonds Law, for the purpose of financing a special library construction and renovation program.

On December 7, 1998, Senators Rainey, Burton and Alpert introduced SB3 which would enact the California Reading and Literacy Improvement and Public Library Construction and Renovation Bond Act of 2000. The bill has been passed by both the Senate and the Assembly and is awaiting final approval by the Governor.

If adopted by the voters in the March 7, 2000 statewide primary election, it will authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$350 million for the purpose of financing a library construction and renovation program. Bond funds would be allocated on a 65% State and 35% local matching basis. The bill would specifically set aside funds for:

1. Acquisition or construction of new facilities or additions to existing public library facilities.
2. Acquisition of land necessary for the purpose of construction or additions to public libraries.

3. Remodeling or rehabilitation of existing public library facilities or other facilities for the purpose of their conversion to public library facilities.
4. Procurement or installation, or both, of furnishings and equipment required to make a facility fully operable if the procurement or installation is part of a construction or remodeling project funded pursuant to this section.
5. Payment of fees charged by architects, engineers, and other professionals, whose services are required to plan or execute a project authorized pursuant to this act.

FISCAL IMPACT

A city, county, city and county, or district may apply to the State Librarian for a grant pursuant to this act. Grants may be requested for any amount between \$100,000 and \$20,000,000. A 35% local match will be required. Grants will be awarded based on needs of urban and rural areas; population growth; age and condition of the existing library facility; the degree to which the existing library facility is inadequate in meeting the needs of the residents in the library service area; and, the degree to which the library's plan of service integrates appropriate electronic technologies into the proposed project.

The anticipated approval by the Governor and subsequent approval by the voters would provide a total of up to \$350 million for improving California's public libraries. The exact amount of funding that Pasadena could receive has not yet been determined; however, the Pasadena Public Library has identified potential projects particularly related to the remodeling or expansion of existing branch facilities.

Respectfully submitted,



CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

Prepared by:



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