



City of Arts & Innovation

Board of Library Trustees

TO: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES **DATE: AUGUST 10, 2026**

FROM: RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY **WARDS: ALL**

SUBJECT: RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE RECEIPT OF THE EMPOWERING ACCESS GRANT EQUIPMENT AWARD FROM THE CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY

ISSUES:

Receive an update on the receipt of equipment awarded to the Riverside Public Library through the EmPOWERing Access Grant Program.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board of Library Trustees receive an update on the receipt of equipment awarded to the Riverside Public Library through the EmPOWERing Access Grant Program.

BACKGROUND:

The Riverside Public Library actively pursues grant funding as an alternative funding source and/or to supplement City funds to enable unique program opportunities for the community. Grants offer valuable, unique opportunities for local jurisdictions to compete for funding sources available through State, Federal, or other agencies to assist in covering the costs of selected projects.

The EmPOWERing Access initiative is a grant funding program from the California State Library designed to support California public libraries. The intent of this initiative is to expand equitable access to technology, learning opportunities, and community centered services.

DISCUSSION:

The Southern California Library Cooperative (SCLC), acting on behalf of the California State Library, has officially selected the Riverside Public Library to receive specialized resources through the EmPOWERing Access Grant Program.

Through this grant funding, the library will be provided with the following equipment:

- One (1) Accessible Privacy Booth
- Three (3) Family Workstations
- Two (2) Light Tables
- Four (4) Sewing Machines

These resources will be deployed to support the grant's mission of positively impacting our patrons by providing enhanced learning opportunities and expanded access to technology. Additionally, this item will be presented to the City Council on August 25, 2026, to formally accept the equipment donation.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is not fiscal impact associated with this update.

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Attachments:

1. Award Notice