



City of Arts & Innovation

Board of Library Trustees

TO: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

DATE: AUGUST 28, 2017

FROM: RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY

SUBJECT: SPACE SCIENCE INSTITUTE ECLIPSE PROJECT FOR SAFE AND EDUCATIONAL ECLIPSE VIEWING ON AUGUST 21, 2017

ISSUE:

The issue for the Board of Library Trustees consideration is to receive a report on participation in the Space Science Institute's safe and educational eclipse viewing project.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board of Library Trustees receive a report on the Space Science Institute's safe and educational eclipse viewing project.

BACKGROUND:

In preparation for the eclipse of the sun on August 21, 2017, the Space Science Institute, with support from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Google, National Science Foundation, and NASA, distributed over two million pairs of eclipse glasses through about 4,800 organizations, including public libraries. In addition to the eclipse viewing glasses, select organizations received an informational booklet about the solar eclipse that includes times and locations for viewing events, safe viewing techniques, and suggestions for public outreach programs.

DISCUSSION:

Riverside Public Library was selected to participate in the Space Science Institute's eclipse project for safe and educational viewing of the eclipse of the sun on August 21, 2017. In addition to receiving 1,000 pairs of safe viewing glasses to distribute free to the community, the Library received access to educational and community programming materials.

During the months of July and August 2017, the Library offered educational programming (Attachment 2) at five of its eight locations, including presentations by NASA Solar System Ambassador Tom Munnecke on the eclipse and safe viewing, and hands-on craft programs for youth with instruction on how to make eclipse viewers with shoeboxes.

Program participants received a free pair of eclipse viewing glasses. Remaining glasses were

distributed at all Riverside Public Library locations on Saturday August 19, 2017.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no general fund impact.

Prepared by: Tonya Kennon, Library Director

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Attachments:

1. Press Release
2. Eclipse Programming Flyer