



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# Board of Library Trustees

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**TO: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

**DATE: JANUARY 23, 2017**

**FROM: RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY BROADBAND PROJECT GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$90,000 - SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION**

**ISSUE:**

Receive an update on the California State Library Broadband grant receipt in the amount of \$90,000.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board of Library Trustees receive and file this report.

**BACKGROUND:**

Public libraries across the state of California are being connected to the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California's (CENIC) California Research and Education Network (CalREN), a high-capacity 3,800-mile fiber optic network as part of the High-Speed Broadband in California Libraries Project. The 2015/2016 State Budget includes \$6,475,000 for the project which is now in its second year. The Califa Group (Califa), a non-profit library consortium, has been appointed by the California State Library to manage the roll-out process with CENIC in the attached project schedule (Attachment 1). Created by the University of California, CENIC's other members include the state university system, California's community colleges and public schools.

A 2014 State Library needs assessment on high-speed broadband found that 70 percent of California's public libraries have connectivity that is more limited than the typical American home, with speeds of "slow" or "very slow." The City of Riverside has a 1 Gigabit shared internet pipe city wide, averaging 250 Megabits. Most library jurisdictions connecting to CalREN will be connected at 1000 Mbps or 1 Gigabit. Libraries may choose a 10 Gigabit connection. Riverside Public Library will have a 10 Gigabit connection at Main Library and 1 Gigabit at branch libraries.

Increased bandwidth will allow the Library to connect over 262,000 library card holders to CalREN and provide Riverside residents with reliable, high-performance access to the ever-increasing number of information resources that constitute 21st Century digital citizenship. CalREN connection positions community members to move from being consumers of information to being innovators and creators of content as well. Participation in this project will mean library customers can enjoy faster, more productive Internet sessions – potentially shortening existing wait times to access public computers. The project will boost wireless access and allow video-conferencing and streaming media for library users. Connection to CalREN

transforms existing library services and provides a pathway to providing services inhibited by the Library's current broadband speed.

The Riverside Public Library submitted a grant application for the California Public Library broadband project in the amount of \$30,000 and \$60,000 for Fiscal Year 2016/17. On February 22, 2016 and September 23, 2016, the California State Library approved the grant application for the total amount of \$90,000 (attachments 2 and 3). The grant is effective immediately through June 30, 2017.

On December 6, 2016, the City Council accepted the grant funding assistance in the amount of \$90,000, and authorized an increase in revenue in the amount of \$90,000 and appropriated expenditures in the same amount for the broadband project.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The Riverside Public Library will work closely with Southern California Library Cooperative who is the administrative and fiscal agent for this project. Additionally, periodic narrative and fiscal reports will be required. The reports will include how funds were expended and a summary of the progress made in fulfilling grant requirements. The project partners and roles are listed below.

#### *Project Partners:*

CENIC	Provides network designs, procures circuits, arranges for state and federal discounts, purchases and installs hardware, and maintains and monitors network connectivity to CalREN, the high-capacity network they operate.
California State Library	Sets direction for the project and provides oversight.
Califa	Acts as the administrative arm of the California State Library, Califa develops contracts with participating libraries for circuits and use of the CalREN network and coordinates the consolidated hardware purchase to take advantage of consortium pricing for network equipment.
Southern California Library Cooperative	Manages the technology improvement grant program on behalf of the California State Library.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no general fund impact. The total grant award of \$90,000 will cover the Library's portion of total project costs for the California State Library Broadband Project. Further, there is no grant match required and all ongoing costs will be covered by the Library Department's existing budget.

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Attachment:

1. Project Schedule
2. Award Letter for \$30,000
3. Award Letter for \$60,000