



City of Arts & Innovation

Board of Library Trustees

TO: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES **DATE: JANUARY 22, 2017**

FROM: RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY

SUBJECT: CENIC HIGH SPEED BROADBAND IN CALIFORNIA LIBRARIES PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

ISSUE:

Receive an update on implementation of the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California's high speed broadband project.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board of Library Trustees receive an update on the implementation of the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California's high speed broadband project.

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. 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.

On August 24, 2015, the Board of Library Trustees was updated on the intent of the Library to pursue CENIC funding.

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.

On January 23, 2017 the Board of Library Trustees was informed of the CENIC project grant in the amount of \$90,000 received from the State Library.

DISCUSSION:

The Riverside Public Library has been working closely with project partners to purchase all necessary equipment to connect to CalREN using \$90,000 from the grant and Library funds in the amount of \$23,090 in FY2017 and \$24,224 in FY2018. Currently, work is being completed to extend network cables to the Main, Spc. Jesus S. Duran Eastside, and La Sierra Library locations. Following installation of these cables, the Library and City of Riverside Innovation and Technology Department will work together to begin network component installation at each Library location. June 2018 is the anticipated completion date to have the Riverside Public Library public computers connected to CalREN.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact for the receipt of this update.

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