



City of Arts & Innovation

# Board of Library Trustees

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**TO: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES** **DATE: SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**  
**FROM: RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY** **WARDS: ALL**  
**SUBJECT: INFORMATIONAL REPORT ON THE CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

## **ISSUE:**

Receive an informational report on the California Library Association's 2024 conference.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the Board of Library Trustees receive an informational on California Library Association's 2024 conference.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The California Library Association (CLA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, established in 1895. Currently, CLA has over 1,600 Individual, Business, and Institutional members. Individual members include librarians, library employees, library students, friends group members, trustees, retirees as well as members of the public who wish to support California libraries. Annually, CLA provides professional development and advocacy support for its members and the California library community at large. The California Library Association is committed to helping library staff develop the knowledge and skills needed to work for 21st Century libraries, and to advance in the library field.

The Riverside Public Library is currently an institutional member of the California Library Association. In addition to participating in training opportunities throughout the year, the Library also sends a select number of staff each year to the annual CLA conference. Staff attend panel discussions on current library trends, learn about new products and services in the exhibit hall, and network with a diverse group of library staff and advocates from libraries all over California. In addition to individual professional development, staff also bring back ideas to share with staff and implement at the Library.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The California Library Association annual conference this year will be at the Pasadena Convention Center from October 17 to October 19. The theme is Balancing Act: Self Care and Shelf Care, with a focus on navigating the responsibilities of our work (shelf care) while prioritizing our

personal well-being (self-care). Riverside Public Library staff were invited to attend and ten staff were selected. Some of the sessions staff will be attending are shared below.

*Day 1 Activities:*

The first day of the conference is composed of three-hour super sessions, allowing for longer presentations and more in-depth discussions about important topics currently impacting libraries. A few that staff will attend are Meeting Mental Health Needs of Your Community Through Culturally Inclusive Community Engagement, Supporting Adult English Language Learners, and Effective Library Leadership Strategies for Reducing Staff Stress and Trauma.

*Day 2 and 3 Activities:*

The other two days of the conference provide opportunities to network, attend 45-minute panel discussions, meet with vendors in the exhibit hall, and view poster sessions. Staff will attend a variety of panels, including Partners for Student Success: School and Public Library Staff Talk Student Success Cards, Off the Shelf and on the Web: Sharing Local History and Special Collections, Dive into Learning: Community Building for Early Learning, and Thinking Outside the Box: Leveraging Non-Library Professional Development Opportunities to Improve Self-Care.

The costs for staff to attend is approximately \$7,732 which covers registration fees and travel and \$6,902 was paid from the Library's operating budget and \$830 from the California Library Literacy Services grant.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

This item contributes to **Strategic Priority No. 1 Arts, Culture & Recreation** and **Goal No. 1.1 - Strengthen Riverside's portfolio of arts, culture, recreation, senior and lifelong learning programs and amenities through expanded community partnerships, shared use opportunities and fund development.**

This item aligns with each of the five Cross-Cutting Threads as follows:

1. **Community Trust** – This informational report for staff focuses on literacy resources and services for inclusive community engagement.
2. **Equity** – This informational report provides staff the opportunity to participate in a variety of panels and network with peers and to be able develop the knowledge and skills needed to work for 21st Century libraries and practice what was learned to members of the community for equal access to share the benefits of community progress.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – There were no fiscal impacts to the General Fund with this information report. The Riverside Public Library is a prudent steward of public funds and ensures responsible management of the City's financial resources while providing quality public services to all.
4. **Innovation** – This information report on Riverside Public Library staff attending the California Library Association's annual conference report is timely in meeting the community's changing needs and prepares for the future through collaborative partnerships and adaptive processes.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – This informational report on Riverside Public Library staff attending the California Library Association's conference relates to meeting the needs of

the present without compromising the needs of the future and ensuring the City's capacity to persevere, adapt and grow during good and difficult times alike.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

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