

Board of Library Trustees

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES DATE: AUGUST 11, 2025

FROM: LIBRARY DEPARTMENT WARDS: ALL

SUBJECT: SPC JESUS S. DURAN EASTSIDE LIBRARY SERVICES AT LINCOLN PARK

COMMUNITY CENTER AND MOBILE LIBRARY PARK VISITS

ISSUE:

Receive an informational report on the first two months of SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside Library services at the Lincoln Park Community Center and Mobile Library park visits in the Eastside Neighborhood and Ward 2.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board of Library Trustees receive an informational update on the first two months of SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside Library services at the Lincoln Park Community Center and Mobile Library park visits in the Eastside Neighborhood and Ward 2.

BACKGROUND:

On April 11, 2025, the SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside Library concluded its operations at the leased facility located at 4033-C Chicago Avenue. Subsequently, on May 4, 2025, the City of Riverside officially ended its lease agreement with Sugarbush Properties LLC in anticipation of relocating to a temporary site during the construction of the new library.

On May 6, 2025, the Library re-opened at the Lincoln Park Community Center, 4261 Park Avenue, to provide basic services, including new book checkouts, holds pickup, Wi-Fi and laptop access, storytimes, and tech help. The Library also began providing outreach services in the Mobile Library van to parks in the Eastside Neighborhood and Ward 2.

DISCUSSION:

The temporary relocation of the SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside Library to Lincoln Park has proven to be a successful interim solution in anticipation of the new library being built. The library currently provides basic services at the Lincoln Park Community Center Tuesday-Friday and Sunday from 9:30am-1:00pm. Staff provide weekly storytimes on Wednesday and Thursday at 11am and Senior Tech Help on Friday at 10am. Many of the families that regularly attended storytime at the previous location have continued to participate in storytime at Lincoln Park, commenting on how fun and enjoyable the storytimes have been and how amazing the storytellers are.

In partnership with Riverside Unified School District and the California State Library, the library has continued to participate in the Lunch at the Library program this summer by providing free lunches to anyone 18 and under Tuesday-Friday, 11am-12:30pm during June and July.

The Mobile Library has also become an essential component of bringing books and library services to the community parks. The van visits parks in the Eastside Neighborhood and Ward 2 six days a week, with Bordwell, Patterson, and Hunter Hobby Park seeing the highest levels of activity so far. Originally, the van stopped at Taft Park on Friday afternoons; however, due to low participation, the schedule was adjusted to serve Patterson Park on Fridays where community demand has been greater. During the hotter summer months, the library has also had to cancel afternoon park services during high heat days, so overall park attendance in June decreased from May.

Many older adults have shared with staff that their first library experiences were with a bookmobile and they've enjoyed getting a chance to climb aboard and browse the books. Recently, a customer came to the Ameal Moore Nature Center and shared that before her neighborhood library was built, they had a big trailer with books that was used as the library. She loved seeing that there was still a mobile library that offered resources to the community.

Mobile Library Schedule

Tuesdays: Bordwell Park, 2:30-5:30pm Wednesdays: Patterson Park, 2:30-5:30pm Thursdays: Bobby Bonds Park, 2:30-5:30pm

Fridays: Ameal Moore Nature Center and Storytime, 9:30am-1:00pm

Patterson Park, 2:30-5:30pm Saturdays: Lincoln Park, 10:00am-5:00pm Sundays: Hunter Hobby Park, 2:30-5:30pm

May and June Statistics

May & June 2025	Service Hours	Visitors	Library Cards Issued	Books Checked-Out	Storytime Participants	Lunches Served
Lincoln Park Community Center	344	534	35	489	173	901 (June)
Mobile Library	304	367	48	234	86	N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this informational report.

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