

FY 2026-2027 BUDGET QUESTION
Response to Request for Information

DEPARTMENT(S): Austin Public Library;

CBQ NO.: 62

REQUESTED BY: (District 3) José Velásquez

DATE REQUESTED: Monday, July 27, 2026 11:35 AM

DATE POSTED:

REQUEST:

Could you please detail the amount and source of funding available in the FY26-27 budget for security officers at Austin Public Library (APL) locations, including the number of officers available, what branches they are located, the cost of the service of these security officers, and how their schedules are determined?

RESPONSE:

The FY 2026–27 Proposed Budget allocates \$3,586,325 from the General Fund to Austin Public Library’s Security Services Unit. This funding supports personnel costs for 38 full-time-equivalent security positions, contractual security services, and supplemental security coverage provided by approximately 12 Travis County Sheriff’s Office (TCSO) peace officers employed by APL on a part-time basis. The TCSO officers support priority library locations through four-hour shifts, with schedules published approximately three months in advance.

APL security personnel support operations across 24 facilities, seven days a week. The 38 budgeted security FTEs are assigned by geographic sector and rotate among facilities rather than being permanently assigned to individual locations. Supplemental TCSO officers are deployed at priority locations, including Central Library, Ruiz Branch Library, Pleasant Hill Branch Library, Menchaca Branch Library, and Terrazas Branch Library. Specific assignments may change based on operational needs.

Officer schedules and facility coverage are determined based on hours of operation, incident volume, public programming, voting activities, and special-event room rentals. This deployment model allows APL to direct security resources to the locations and times of greatest need.