

### **Highlights**

- City of Austin Budget Public Hearing/Tax Rate Public Hearing/Utility Rate Hearings August 30; September 10-12- Council adopts Budget & Tax Rate.
- The new catalog will officially launch on August 27, 2012.
- There are currently no upcoming City Council agenda items for APL scheduled for September.

### **Facilities Services**

**New Central Library Project:** August of 2012 has proven to be a fast paced month for Austin's New Central Library Project. On August 1st, the New Central Library Project's core team toured the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center at the University of Texas at Austin in order to study the architectural and engineering details of that recent work by Lake/Flato Architects. The following day, the New Central Library design team met with the Planning Development Review Department to go over the progress being made on items needed for a Site Plan completeness application, including revisions to the plaza on the south side of the building, clarification of the storm water retention strategy, impact of the reduced sidewalk width along West Avenue on tree locations and species, and bicycle storage requirements. On August 7th, the project's core team met with Channel 6 and Communication Technology Management personnel to discuss fiber optic connectivity for Channel 6 to the New Central Library site. The New Central Library executive team, chaired by Assistant City Manager Bert Lumberras, reviewed the draft New Central Library/Seaholm District presentation on August 14th and the City Manager's Office reviewed the presentation on August 15th. The presentation – a virtual tour of the Seaholm District public spaces in conjunction with the New Central Library Design Development plans and renderings – met with favorable responses from both groups. Also on August 15th, the Design Phase Kick-off Meeting for the Seaholm District/2nd Street, Bridge, Trails and Parks Improvements was held all day in the Twin Oaks Branch Library meeting room, covering such topics as the bridge design, bridge and pedestrian lighting and landscaping design. On August 17th, the Seaholm District Maintenance Kickoff Meeting was conducted with various City departments to discuss operations and maintenance of planned public infrastructure in the Seaholm Development District. The New Central Library/Seaholm District Presentation will be provided to a joint meeting of the Design and Downtown commissions at 6:00 PM on August 27th and to the Parks Board on the following night. The project schedule for the New Central Library is as follows:

September 27 2012 ~ Design Development Completed (60% Complete Design Package Delivered) presented to Council

- Library Commissions briefed on October 1, 2012

February 2013 ~ Construction Cost Limitation approved by Council

June 2013 ~ Construction Document Phase completed (100% Complete Design Package Delivered)

August 2013 ~ Permits received

November 2013 ~ Groundbreaking Ceremony conducted

December 2013 ~ Construction begins

December 2015 ~ Construction completed

Spring 2016 ~ Grand Opening Ceremony celebrated.

### **2012 Bond Development Process:**

In a Special Called Meeting on August 17th, the City Council approved on the third and final reading of a \$385 million bond package for the November 6, 2012 G.O. Bond Election ballot. Among other Council-approved 2012 bond propositions to provide voter-approved funding for Transportation, Open Space and Watershed Protection, Parks and Recreation, Housing, Public Safety, and Health and Human Services improvements is Proposition 18: Library, Museum and Cultural Arts Facilities (\$13,442,000). In addition to a \$5,400,000 planned expansion of the Austin Film Studio facility, Proposition 18 includes funding for the following proposed Library Department projects:

1. Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement & HVAC Upgrade (\$1,234,000)
2. Renovation of the Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill (\$1,340,000)
3. University Hills Branch Library Parking Lot Expansion (\$1,022,000)
4. Milwood Branch Library Renovation (\$1,066,000)
5. Austin History Center Interior & Exterior Improvements (\$1,168,000)
6. Zaragoza Warehouse Fire Sprinkler Upgrade (\$497,000)
7. Cepeda Branch Library Renovation (\$684,000)
8. Yarborough Branch Library Renovation (\$592,000)
9. Windsor Park Branch Library Renovation (\$439,000)

### **Austin History Center Wastewater Line Retrofit Project:**

Library Facilities Services has determined that it is of insufficient advantage for the department to engage the services of yet another engineering firm for this project. Instead, the existing pipeline will be replaced as it is now run and rebuilt strongly enough to allow it to function well perpetually. With the design work already in hand from the previous engineering consultant firm, the Library Facilities Services Division is confident that the partially collapsed wastewater line can be successfully retrofitted using the services of a master plumbing firm under contract to the City of Austin. The master plumber's proposal for the work entailed is considered 90% complete at this time, and the Library's project coordinator believes that after a few necessary revisions are made, the contract will be ready to execute by the end of the month.

**Faulk Central Library/Austin History Center Chiller and Cooling Tower Retrofit:** The Austin Public Library and its project partner, Austin Energy, have received the contractor's revised change order proposal for exhaust system modifications needed to bring the Faulk Central Library basement chiller room within compliance to new mechanical codes. The building permit for these modifications has been extended by the City of Austin with several stipulations adding costs to the original estimate. However, the new change order proposal will allow the Faulk Central Library mechanical room and equipment to be brought into full compliance with the requirements of the new building code. Following coordination efforts between the contractor and the Purchasing Department, the revised contract's terms and conditions have been finalized. Council's approval is now needed to execute the new change order amount. Austin Energy and the Library Department are working together diligently to place this item on a Council agenda during October of 2012 in order to meet the grant deadline, as the funding for this change order proposal is provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The power distribution portion of the work will be performed by the Library Department's own electrical technicians so that the work schedule may be accelerated. The construction activities required to achieve the building engineering modifications desired are not expected to exceed six weeks in length, nor is the work expected to cause any interruption of normal business at the Faulk Central Library and Austin History Center complex.

**Exterior Security Cameras Installation Project:** Security cameras and lightning protection grounding for those devices have been installed at critical Library sites. The cameras and associated software have been successfully tested and programmed as well. These critical Library sites where complete security camera installations have been brought on-line are: Ruiz, Carver, University Hills, Southeast Austin Community, Little Walnut Creek, Terrazas, St. John's and the Willie Mae Kirk branch libraries. Final site visits with the Communication Technology Management Department (CTM) to ensure quality control are being conducted before the next phase of the project can commence. At this time, the scope of work is being developed for the installation of exterior security cameras at the remaining twelve branch library locations, as much of the equipment originally specified is out of manufacture or has been otherwise discontinued. A final, detailed inventory of needed cameras and accessories will be generated for CTM's review and approval within the next thirty (30) days.

**Faulk Central Library Boilers and Flue Retrofit Project:** The Commissioning Agent selected for this project is now under contract, while the project's consultant engineers transmitted their Schematic Design Submittal to the Library Department on August 17th. A Design Phase Kickoff meeting for the project has subsequently been scheduled for the morning of August 21st at the site with the consultant engineers, Commissioning Agent and Library Facilities Services staff in attendance to review the Schematic Design Submittal and generate a revised project schedule.

**Branch Libraries Photovoltaic System Installation Project:** This joint project with Austin Energy, utilizing a State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) grant, calls for the installation of solar panels on the roofs of the Carver, Spicewood Springs, Cepeda and Ruiz branch libraries. The solar panel array at the Carver Branch Library is substantially complete with the exception of some minor programming issues. It is the largest such installation found in the Library's inventory of properties and one of the largest planned to date for any City of Austin facility. The three roof levels of the Carver Branch Library are now covered by 276 modules (solar panels) set at a 5 degree angle. This roof mounted photovoltaic system will provide 65 KW for the Carver Branch Library and whatever electricity is not used by the library will be absorbed by the City grid for distribution elsewhere. Media coverage of the successful installation of the photovoltaic array installation at the Carver Branch Library and the Carver Museum was provided on June 20th, in synchronization with the Summer Solstice, the first day of summer. The work to install photovoltaic panels at the Ruiz Branch Library has been now been completed as well, as has the installation of photovoltaic panels at the Spicewood Springs Branch Library. The only project items remaining to be addressed at the Ruiz and the Spicewood Springs branches are dash board screen installations within the libraries to display the energy production of the photovoltaic systems. Special solar panel mounting racks required for the Cepeda Branch Library are on backorder from the manufacturer at this time, and work at the site will be initiated as soon as those racks are delivered. The photovoltaic systems at the Ruiz, Spicewood Springs and Cepeda branches are each expected to produce 4kw of electrical energy. The Library Department anticipates that all work on this solar energy project will be completed within forty-five (45) days and will necessitate no interruption of library services.

**Willie Mae Kirk Branch Library Naming Ceremony:** During the second week of August, the contracted vendor completed fabrication of the new signage for the former Oak Springs Branch Library and initiated demolition of the old signage at the site. The vendor removed the existing monument sign, poured a new foundation, and installed the new monument sign while replacing the old building letters. The new signage appears to be a appropriate match for this branch facility, and the response from the community has been overwhelmingly positive. The Library Department is in close liaison with the Kirk family regarding the library renaming ceremony, and the general consensus is that it would be best to schedule the event in the Fall when temperatures will be more conducive for staging an outdoor celebration. Due to the large turnout of friends and admirers anticipated, conducting the ceremony indoors at the branch library will not prove feasible.

**Recycled Reads Bookstore:** On August 16th, Council authorized the negotiation and execution of a 24-month lease renewal for 7,675 square feet of retail, office and storage space for the book sale program of the Austin Public Library Department, located at 5335 Burnet Road, from PAJO PROPERTIES, Ltd., Georgetown, Texas, in an amount not to exceed \$276,607. The Austin Public Library has leased this space to house the Recycled Reads

Bookstore since March, 2008, stocking it with books and other materials withdrawn from the Library's collection and community donations. Through selling these books and materials, Recycled Reads is an important participant in the City's Zero Waste Plan, ensuring that these items are kept out of landfills. To better advertise the presence of the Recycled Reads and increase sales, the Library Department is currently exploring adding improved street signage for the facility.

#### **Manchaca Road Branch Library ADA Improvements:**

In partnership with the Street and Bridge Division of the Public Works Department, Library Facilities Services has enacted accessibility modifications to the sidewalk running from the main entrance/exit of the Manchaca Road Branch Library to the nearest Capital Metro bus stop. The work was substantially completed on August 10th, leaving some minor safety striping to be painted at the site's driveway, but this important path of entry and egress has now been reconstructed well within Americans with Disabilities (ADA) standards, thanks to the efforts of our friends at the Public Works Department.

### Austin History Center

#### **Programming & Outreach**

- On July 17, the AHC hosted the final event for the Movie Houses exhibit. "The First Picture Shows" was a discussion and film event as part of the Paramount Summer Film Series. The event was held at the historic State Theater, now called Stateside at the Paramount. It included an introductory silent film highlighting the exhibit at the AHC, a panel discussion moderated by the Center's Curator of Archives Susan Rittereiser, and a showing of the 1943 film, Austin: The Friendly City. Over 150 people attended the event, and the AHC received numerous compliments about the program.

#### **Collections**

- Staff finished processing 7 collections and placed EAD encoded finding aids for these collections on the Internet at the TARO website. These collections include the FronteraFest Records, Fiesta del Grito de Independencia Committee Records, Media Communications Association-International, Austin Chapter Records, Desk and Derrick Club Scrapbooks, New Texas Festival Records, Texas Cable Network Video Collection, Burmese and Karen Communities Collection, and the Paramount Theater Records. Molly also added items or updated finding aids to 6 additional collections, adding 14 new collection inventories online for researchers to discover. The finding aids are available online at: [http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse\\_ahc1.html](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse_ahc1.html).
- One of the interesting acquisitions the last month was the papers of local author and playwright Belinda Acosta. The collection consists of clippings of articles that she wrote for the Austin American Statesman and the Austin Chronicle. She also donated a number of interviews that she conducted during her 25 years here in Austin. Her papers include some of her plays in particular a play that she wrote as part of her thesis at UT.

#### **Publications**

- Photos from the AHC were purchased for use in upcoming books *Envisioning Emancipation: Black*

*Americans and the end of Slavery, The Whitney Navy revolver, Texas Dames, Sassy and Savey*, for an upcoming issue of *Texas Observer*, and for a KLRU documentary on *Deep Eddy*.

- The AHC's collections were heavily used in two new publications. Sharon Hovinga's *Texas School for the Deaf Sesquicentennial* acknowledges the AHC extensively, as does Jason McDonald's *Racial Dynamics in Early Twentieth Century Austin*, published by Lexington Books

#### **Reference**

- Among the more than 1000 researchers to use the AHC in July, we hosted a professor from Riverside City College, California. The professor is working on a book about the psychology and sociology around mass shootings and spent over a week here researching the Charles Whitman collection.

#### **Exhibits**

- The AHC's highly successful "Deco and Moderne" exhibit has taken on new life at the offices of the Austin chapter of the American Institute of Architects. This exhibit will be on display in their public gallery and offices for a few months.

### Youth Services

The Youth Summer Reading Program is fast coming to an end, another great summer of reading, programming and fun! The last day to turn in a summer reading log is August 26, 2012. ACYS has signed up close to 10,000 kids for the summer reading and should go over that number by the end of the program.

Stephanie Shipman and Suzan Nyfeler, Youth Services librarians, tabled at AISD's Back to School Bash on Saturday, August 18. The event was a great success as over a thousand youth passed by the table to gather information about the Library and its services.

### Central Library Services

#### **Programming & Outreach**

Staff will soon be able to refer customers to OverDrive for technical support and troubleshooting assistance. The goal is to reduce the demand on Library resources with regard to downloadables by shifting customer support questions from staff to OverDrive. Starting September 1, 2012 Inter Library Loan (ILL) will be limited from 5 to 1 request per patron. This change is necessary in order to manage the workload. Ask a Librarian now offers chat again. Staff or customers can click chat to get quick answers when Central is open

#### **Reference & Reference**

The [Education & Training Information Guide](#) has a list of local computer classes. The same list can also be found on the [Local Organizations and Referral Information Guide](#). The best way to find computer classes at APL is to use the calendar and filter by selecting computer classes. The filtered list is available on this guide. The Computer Training guide also has a list of online training. New to APL – [FINTEL Industry Metrics](#) provides specific financial data for over 2,500 industries with data gathered from over one million companies! Search by keyword, NAICS, or SIC code.

Austin Public Library now offers online access to **Value Line Investment Survey Plus Edition**. This includes the Value Line Investment Survey and the Small and Mid0Cap edition (formerly known as the Expanded Edition). There is a link to Value Line on the Database home page, the A-Z list, and on the Business & Investment page. Anyone with a library card can access Value Line from home.

## **Branch Services**

The 20 branches of the APL circulated over 380,000 items in the month of July!

The Carver branch received a donation of books and baseball memorabilia from Don Baylor, Jr. His father, Don Baylor, was a former Major League baseball star who grew up around the Carver neighborhood.

The Terrazas branch received the prestigious America's Music Grant from the American Library Association. Branch Manager Eric Travis will be collaborating with UT music scholar Caroline Polk O'Meara to present a series of documentary film screenings and scholar-led discussions of 20th century American popular music that focus on uniquely American musical genres: blues and gospel, Broadway, jazz, bluegrass and country, rock 'n' roll, and mambo and hip hop.

Ruiz continues its popular Adult Craft night program. Old Quarry is experimenting with a new holds procedure that increases patron privacy by including only the first several letters of a customer's last name and the last few digits of their library card on the hold slip. If successful, staff may consider adopting this procedure at more branches.

## **Recycled Reads**

July revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$14,800 (12,560 items) and over 3,850 people visited the store. Donations were received from approximately 220 people (approx. 37,000 items).

More than twenty volunteers on average donate over 200 hours of their time to the bookstore. Goodwill Industries picked up 20 pallets of discarded materials and Image Microsystems picked-up to 2 pallets of media. 14 pallets of materials from the warehouse and branches were received along with 14 pallets of donations. Approximately 20 pallets of materials representing over 37,500 items were sorted and over 10 tons of materials were kept out of the landfill.

Recycled Reads has determined that partnering with organizations is a great way to host programs, utilize the bookstore as a true maker space, and get attention and interest in the bookstore. This has been proved this month with Lifetime Learning's Short Story discussion group and Austin Dog Alliance Bow Wow reading program. On July 19, YNN featured Recycled Reads and Bow Wow reading on their morning broadcast at the bookstore.

## **Grants**

**Dell Powering the Possible Youth Learning Grant**

### Continues:

Dell Powering the Possible Youth Learning has funded the Austin Public Library Friends Foundation for a second year of Discovery Lab operation. The Discovery Lab, located at the Willie Mae Kirk Branch Library, attracts underserved youth to the Library to explore science and technology. Over the summer months, youth have attended Science Fridays watching science related programs and followed by activities to expand and reinforce the learning. Seven Dell employee volunteers became presenters at the Science Rocks program hosted in June. The Discovery Lab emphasizes communication and collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving, innovation and creativity, and technological literacy in the underserved community. The goal of the work is to help youth succeed in school, work and life by mastering skills and content required for success in a highly globalized, technological economy.

### National Endowment for the Humanities Grant Received:

Eric Travis received notification that the National Endowment of the Humanities has funded the Terrazas Branch with the "America's Music: A Film History of Our Popular Music from Blues to Bluegrass to Broadway." This grant will promote community dialogue and engagement through a series of film screenings and supplemental programs to be offered in 2013. The Austin Public Library is one of fifty across the country selected to present these film screenings featuring America's Popular Music. University of Texas scholar from the Sarah and Earnest Butler School of Music, Carolyn Polk O'Meara, will be facilitating discussions and Coordinator for the Sound archives of the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, John Wheat, will contribute to the promotion of the series. Supplemental programming is being planned with potential to include the Victory Grill, Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church, an exhibit at Terrazas Branch prepared by the Austin History Center staff, and a visit with Video Archivist, Tim Hamblin at the Austin History Center Video Archives

## **Information Systems**

The Austin Public Library (APL) launches a new catalog to make finding Library materials easier, faster, more intuitive and a lot more fun. Leveraging social networking principles, APL's new catalog gives customers improved functionality in a more user-friendly environment that is designed to help connect people with common interests. Staff is collaborating with Bibliocommons to provide the new online catalog. APL is on target to go live with the new catalog on August 27, 2012. The new catalog may be accessed at this link: [www.library.austintexas.gov/newcatalog](http://www.library.austintexas.gov/newcatalog). ALIS has been busy reviewing suggestions from staff and pouring over how the new catalog displays records. On August 10th staff introduced a new production release that added functionality and improved searching.

Customers can now save a search by clicking the "Save Search" link on the search results page. The search can be given a name to help identify it later. Other improvements were made in the handling of numeric search terms. A title that has a number in it can either be searched by use the word spelled out or the number. For instance, "20 Years Younger" and "Twenty Years

Younger” would both work.

A link to the new catalog was added on “FindIt” to facilitate customers learning about the new catalog before the August 27 Go Live date. We also added a link to our “Classic Catalog”, in the footer of the new catalog; this will allow customers to continue to search via FindIt.

## Volunteer Services

### JULY 2012 - STATISTICS

Number of Volunteers	157
JULY - Volunteer hours	1,607
Volunteer Value*	\$ 21.36
	<b>\$35,025</b>

## July Incidents

36	Disturbing others using the Library
23	Harassment of Library staff or customers (Not Sexual)
19	Mistreatment or vandalism of Library facilities, materials, or equipment
17	Sleeping in the Library
17	Disorderly conduct
13	Violating Internet Policy
11	Using obscene language
10	Leaving personal belongings unattended
9	No outside food or beverages allowed in the Library
8	Appropriate clothing is required
7	Intoxication resulting from alcohol or drugs
6	Theft of Library, staff, or customer property
5	Physically attack or threaten to attack another person
4	Abandoning children or failing to supervise children at the Library
3	Fighting
3	Entering unauthorized areas
3	No hat policy
2	Indecent exposure
2	Soliciting and panhandling
2	Blocking access to Library entrances, passageways or resources
2	Strong Odor
2	Unintended use of restrooms
2	Destruction of Library property
2	Sexual harassment of Library staff or customers
1	Bringing animals into the Library
1	Smoking in the Library
1	Public Lewdness

**211 Total**

### **Locations # of Incidents**

ACE	45
ARZ	24
ATB	17
ALW	12
AUH	12
ASE	10
APH	9
ACB	8
ACP	8
AMR	6
AYB	6

AWK	5
ASJ	4
ATO	4
AWP	4
AHC	3
AOK	3
ASR	3
AMI	2
ANV	2
AHO	1
AOQ	1

To see the complete up to date listing of events visit

<http://library.austintexas.gov/events>

Brenda Branch, Director of Libraries

