

AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY



Director's Report

January 2023

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Heartwarming Customer Comment:

"Kudos & Heartfelt Thanks to the Children's Librarians/Staff at the Central Library! I am just blown away by the hard work and expertise of the librarians and staff in the Children's area of the Central Library.

As a mother of a toddler, I have a new appreciation for what the library offers families. Whoever is in charge of the Picture Book displays . . . outstanding work! More than half the time, the books I'm seeking are already on display. I get my book recommendations from various online sources, so it goes to show the expertise of the Children's librarians for having those same titles and more on display.

I am also uplifted each and every time I browse the Picture Books to see such diversity on display. As an Asian American, I feel seen. But more importantly, when walking through with my multiracial child, I realize that she gets to see herself and all her friends and family in the books displayed.

Thank you for the effort you all place into the smallest details. Thank you for the thoughtfulness in creating a welcoming space. Thank you for your dedication to readers of all ages."

HIGHLIGHTS

Warming Centers

Terrazas and Little Walnut Creek Branch Libraries served as Warming Center during the extremely cold temperatures on December 23rd and 24th. Library team members from across the department gave of their holiday time to facilitate the coverage for this period where just at Terrazas, over 100 people came into the branch to get relief from the cold.

Great Reads of 2022

Central Adult Services librarian Maddy Newquist appeared on “We Are Austin”, the local CBS morning news show, to discuss the top books of 2022. The segment also included information on upcoming cultural programming scheduled through the Austin Public Library system.

Central Adult Services Librarian II Kate Able, along with Yarborough's Program Specialist Aaron Goldman, and Library Associate Lois McConnell, presented the Great Reads of 2022 to the Westminster Senior Living Book Club in December. Rebecca Rich-Wulfmeyer commented: “I just wanted to take a quick moment to let you know how much I appreciate Kate’s support each year at Westminster. As you know, this is her third annual December visit to present on the topic of ‘Great Books of the Year.’ Her talks always draw an enthusiastic crowd who appreciate the books selected with older adults in mind.” Yarborough has provided a monthly book group at Westminster since 2018, and the Best Books talk is an annual special event.



School Partnerships and Student Library Cards

For our new School Partnerships Librarian, Jenny Stirrat, December was about fine-tuning Student Library Card partnerships and continuing to learn more about colleagues and services at APL. We distributed Student Library Cards to Austin ISD, facilitated data transfers from Manor ISD, and began the onboarding process with KIPP Charter Schools. Jenny attended Youth Librarian meetings, met with staff at the Austin History Center, and furthered learned the ins and outs of the Student Library Card process.

APL Acquisitions and Collections

In December, the AQCD team of selectors answered 882 Suggest-a-titles, and ordered a total of 29,512 units. Our materials continue to come in regularly with approximately 5,000 units per week. It seems as though supply chain issues are beginning to normalize and we anticipate minor issues will be resolved soon.

Busy Bees!

This was a pretty busy month at Central Gift Shop and Recycled Reads! We had high visitor counts, circulation, and sales:

Central Library Gift Shop--\$34,000, which was not only our highest month of the year by about \$8K, it was \$14K over last December! The care and deliberation the Gift Shop team puts into selecting, curating, and presenting merchandise really shows in this.

Recycled Reads Book Store--\$1,433 total in collectible sales in 64 items. If these had not been specially priced, our revenue from these items would have been only \$120.50. Instead, we gained \$1104.50 in revenue. Additionally, \$150.00 in collectible items were sent to the Central Gift Shop.

**AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
FY2018 BOND PROGRAM SUMMARY**

FACILITIES SERVICES

FY18 Bond Program Summary

Description

The library's 2018 Bond Program consists of fifteen active facility improvement projects. Facility Services is working with the City Architect to standardize critical building systems and extend the life cycle of branch libraries across its portfolio.

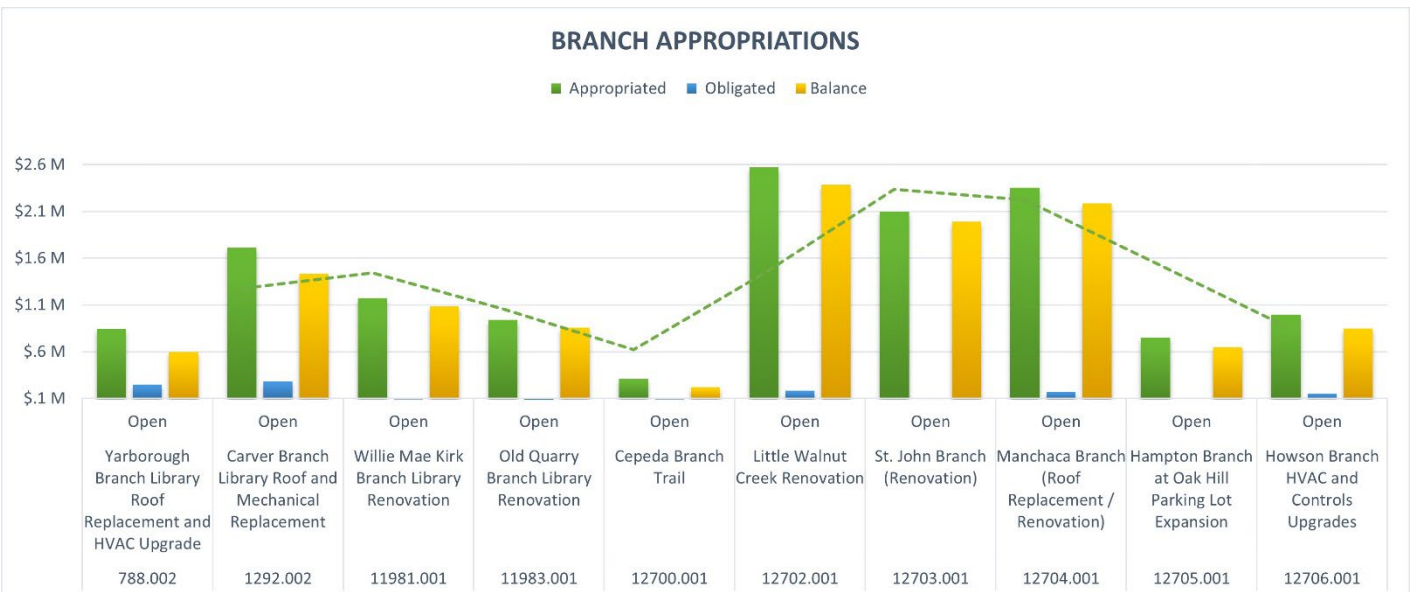
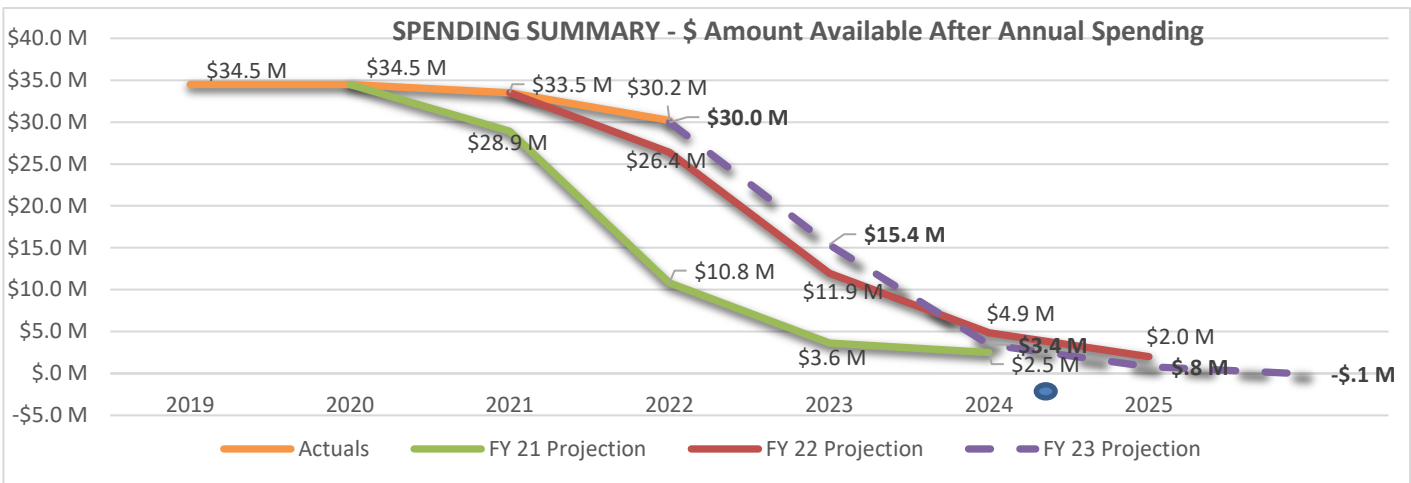
A spend-down graph and branch appropriation summary for the library's FY18 Bond Program is provided. Obligations are projected to reach 90% of available appropriations mid-2024.



2018 BOND

OUR COMMUNITY. OUR FUTURE.

2018 – PROPOSITION B – LIBRARY ALLOCATION \$34.5 Million



CLMP 180 2016 SITE / CIVIL PROJECTS

CEPEDA BRANCH TRAIL

Current Phase: Construction Documents

The work includes construction of a 10' wide concrete path under 7th Street to allow pedestrian access from Gonzales Street to the Library, and associated lighting.

Installation of infrastructure to support new electric vehicle charging stations. Engineering of a critical waterway crossing, and resolution of pathway alignment avoiding the taking of a major tree, and preparation of a Site Plan for permitting. Design contract is with CCO for review.



The project is currently in need of additional funds to cover entire scope.

- Engineer has achieved 60% design, but environmental hurdles require reconciliation.
- Estimate 6 months duration for resolution of adding scope and resolution of permitting issues.
- Upon approval of the construction document phase, the engineer will be submitting construction documents for plan review and building permit approval. Concurrently the owner will begin negotiation with the Special Projects group of PWD.

Budget

• Appropriation	\$307,000
• Obligated	\$ 88,978
• Balance	\$218,022
• Total Project Budget Estimate	\$723,671

Impacts

- PWD is estimating a **(\$416,671) funding short fall** with the Cepeda Branch Trail Project.

Schedule

- The library requested a current and updated project schedule from the PM on the Cepeda Branch Trail Project.

HAMPTON AT OAK HILL PARKING LOT EXPANSION

Current Phase: Pre-Design

The AOK parking lot expansion project is in the Barton Springs / Edwards Aquifer recharge zone. The existing stormwater control system / retention pond for the original site plan was permitted in 1997 and planned for 74 parking spaces to be constructed in 2 phases.

The permitting of the proposed 30 parking space expansion as the current and proposed 30 space parking lot expansion, the Hampton Branch Library and existing retention/irrigation system share the existing 12-acre site. Proceeding with procuring the services of an Engineering firm for the following scope.

- Additional parking spaces to serve the continued growth of library attendance needs.
- Infrastructure to support relocation of the existing electric vehicle charging systems.
- Ancillary work related to meeting current water quality needs, as the project is in a critical recharge zone, and the current treatment system requires upgrades and will be integrated into the project.

AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY FY2018 BOND PROGRAM SUMMARY

This includes detention facility modifications for quantity and quality treatment of the additional impervious area being added.

- Engineering of pond modifications and site permitting requirements.
- The project is intended to proceed with the traditional Design/Bid/Build procurement of construction phase services, pending Sponsor approval.
- The Library granted approvals to proceed with Engineering Services 14 Jan 2023

Budget

- Appropriation \$751,000
- Obligated \$104,133
- Balance \$646,867
- Total Project Budget Estimate \$2,049,385

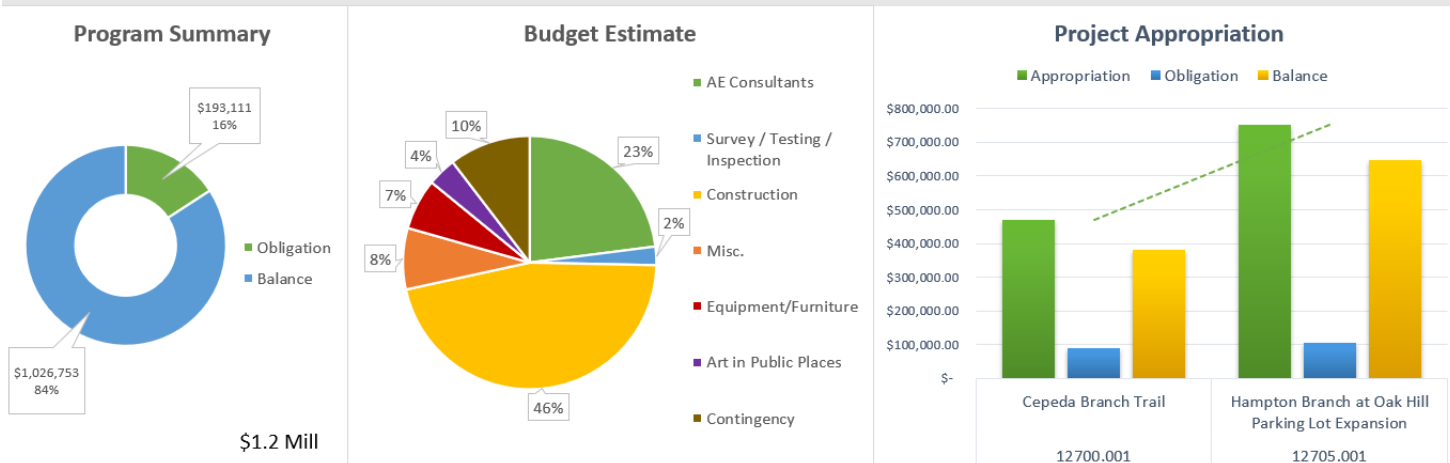
Impacts

- PWD is estimating a **(\$1,014,000 +/-) funding shortfall** with the AOK Parking Lot Expansion Project.

Schedule

- The library requested a current and updated project schedule from the PM on the Oak Hill Parking Lot Expansion Project.

CLMP180 Cepeda Trail and Hampton Parking Lot Expansion



CLMP 282 Archival Repository Expansion: Faulk Building & History Center Renovation Current Phase: 20% Construction

- **Austin History Center:** Is still open to the public. However, public closure and staff alternating rooms for interior window painting will be scheduled beginning of February. Exterior brick and structural tie upgrade work on the north and west facades are ongoing. This exterior work will be continuous for the next 8-9 months.
- **Faulk Building:** Construction scope is ongoing. Abatement and demo of the 2nd and 3rd floor is complete. Restroom demo and plumbing rough in has started. As well as electrical rough in of floors 2 & 3. Demo of the 4th floor will be starting next week.

AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY FY2018 BOND PROGRAM SUMMARY

- **RCAs:** The GC increase of authority of \$2.5 Million and \$70k for the Architect were approved on the December 8th council date. A/E has been executed to start the chiller design and permitting process. This may become a separate install from the current schedule by SpawGlass.
- **Security:** Graffiti was reported at AHC on 11 Jan 23. It appears individuals jumped the construction fence and climbed scaffolding on to the AHC roof. Without very expensive 24hr security on site we believe this will be an ongoing problem to monitor and are adding some additional fencing.

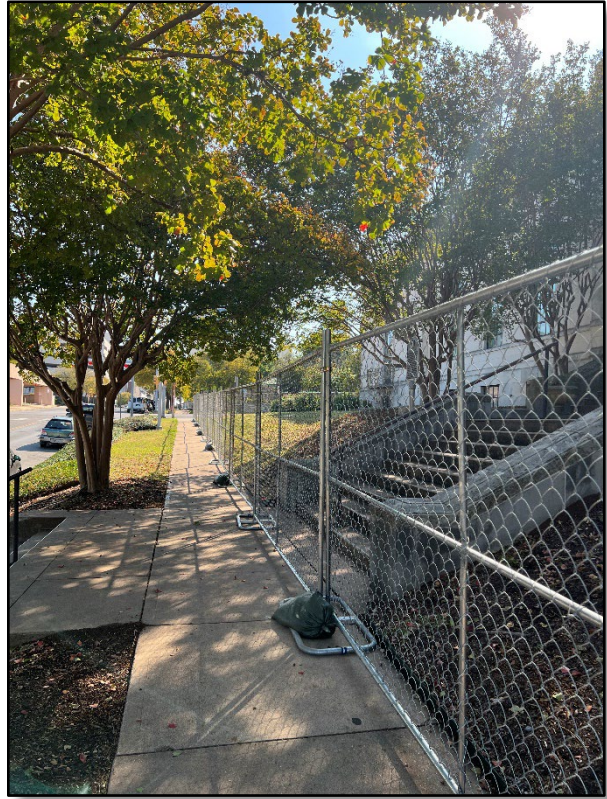
Budget

- Appropriation \$19,382,247
- Obligated \$15,218,655
- Balance \$4,226,857

Impacts

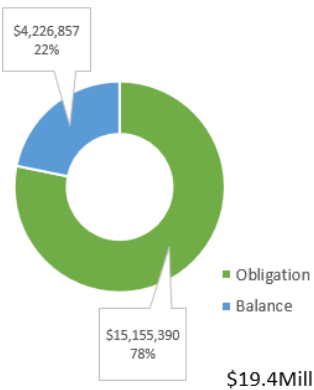
- No impacts currently. The project team continues to monitor material lead times.

The chiller replacement due to material lead times will most likely be a separate installation timeline. We will have more info once design is done and equipment is ordered.

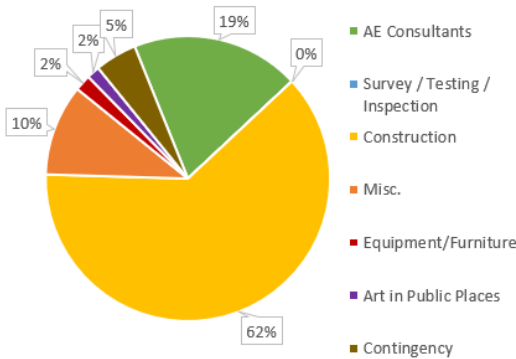


CLMP282 Faulk and History Center Archival Expansion

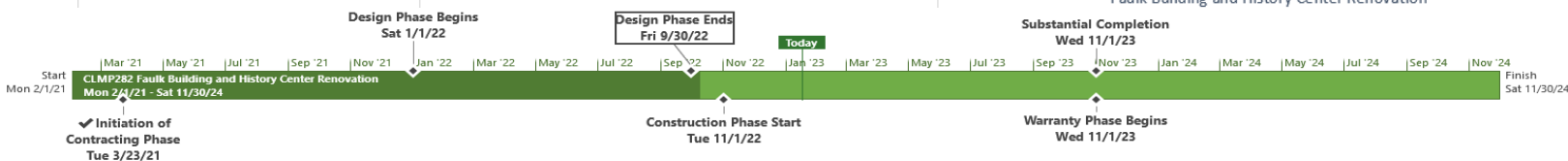
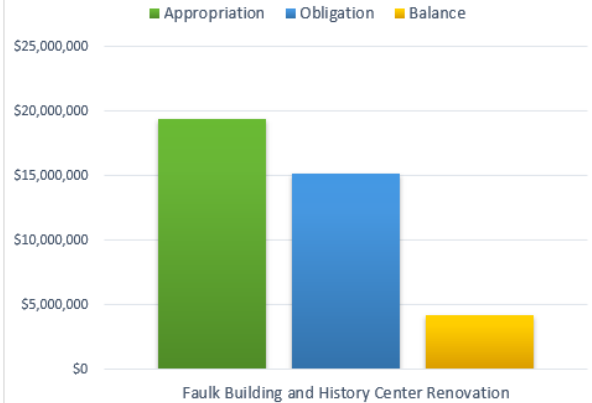
Program Summary



Budget Estimate



Project Appropriation



CLMP 286 Interior Renovations:

Old Quarry Branch; Little Walnut Creek Branch; Willie Mae Kirk Branch; Menchaca Branch
Current Phase: Schematic Design

AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY FY2018 BOND PROGRAM SUMMARY

Schematic Design (SD) 100% Complete, scope includes but is not limited to code-required compulsory items (i.e., Bathrooms and ADA). Finished furniture, lighting, painting ceiling tiles and equipment is included in the scope for each of the five branches.

The schematic design construction cost estimate prepared by the cost estimating consultant is higher than the construction budget. If total project cost exceeds the budget, the project must undergo a value engineering review at the end of design development phase.

Decisions were made by the Library concerning which scope items to include and which to exclude in order to keep the construction cost within budget.

Next steps include the PM requesting that the consultant submit for Library approval a fee proposal for design through warranty. Upon approval of the fee proposal, the design team will proceed with the design development phase.

The project design will be further refined. Plan arrangements, specific space accommodations, equipment, and furnishings, building design, materials and colors, and complete definitions of all systems serving the project will be developed.

All design decisions are completed during this phase to prepare for the next phase (construction documents). Construction document phase will begin upon approval of the design development phase and total project cost review.

Budget

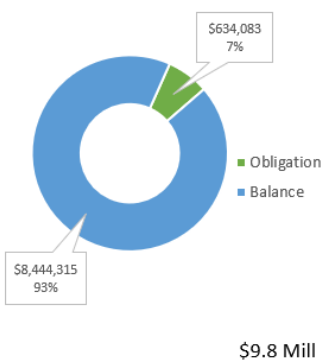
- Appropriation \$9,078,398
- Obligated \$634,084
- Balance \$8,444,314

Impacts

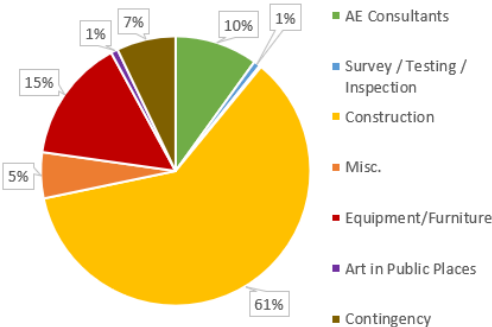
If the total project cost estimate exceeds the budget, the project must undergo a value engineering review at the end of design development phase.

CLMP286 Five Branch Interior Renovation

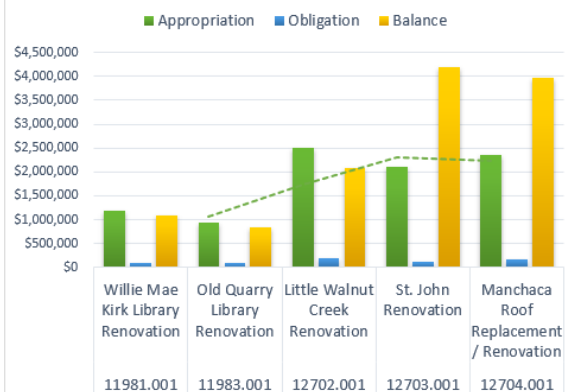
Program Summary



Budget Estimate



Project Appropriation



✓ Schematic Design Begins Mon 2/7/22

Today

✓ Design Phase Begins Mon 1/23/23

Construction Phase Begins Fri 9/27/24

Warranty Phase Begins Tue 8/12/25

Construction Phase Ends Tue 8/12/25

Finish Mon 8/17/26

✓ Initiation of Preliminary Wed 1/6/21

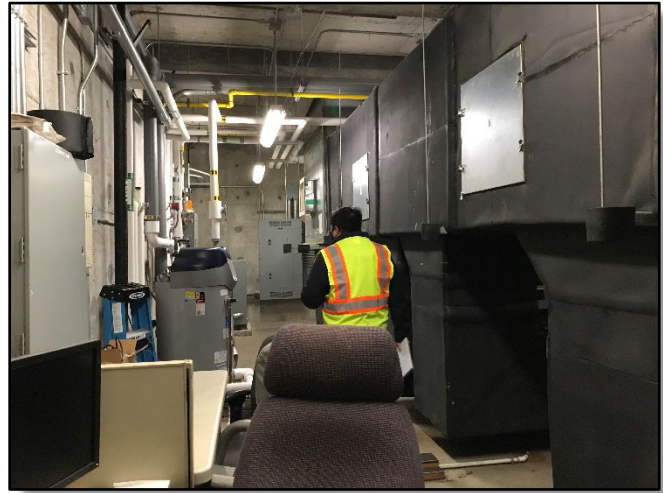


AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY FY2018 BOND PROGRAM SUMMARY

CLMP287 Roof Replacement & System Upgrades: Carver Branch; Howson Branch; Yarborough Branch

Current Phase: Construction document phase

Consultant is working on the construction documents for project solicitation. The HVAC Building Automation Systems (BAS) and Mechanical Equipment will be updated at Howson for remote access. Lead and Asbestos tests were conducted on TPO roof and mechanical room due to building relief and outside air vents replacements scoped in the CIP.



Roofing and Mechanical Replacements for Carver and Yarborough will include new roofing, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning equipment. Split AC systems will be installed in the Carver Branch Server Room for better cooling efficiency. The library is requiring the use of thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO) single ply roofing overlay to extend the life cycle of the existing roofing systems at Carver and Yarborough.

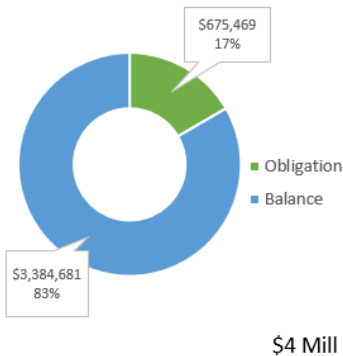
Instead of solicitation the project team has agree to explore Job Order Contract (JOC). The project team received the consultants 90% and the construction documents are under review. Consultant to continue working on construction document phase of the project. Estimate 2-3 months duration.

Upon approval of the construction document phase and completed Quality Management Division (QMD) process, the engineer will be submitting construction documents for plan review and building permit approval. The project team is discussing the pros and cons of JOC, award, and construction.

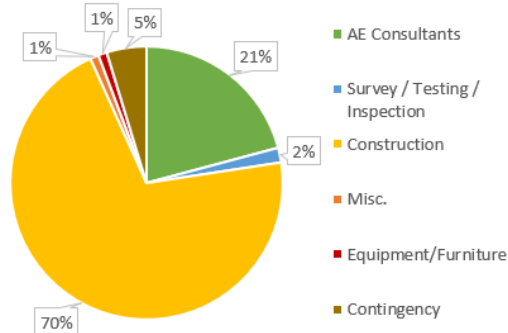
Budget

- Appropriation \$4,050,150
- Obligated \$680,025
- Balance \$3,370,12

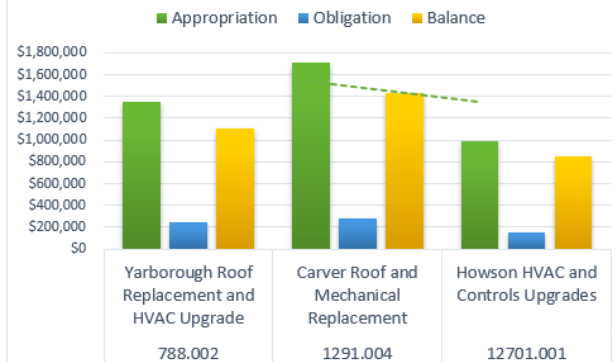
Program Summary



Budget Estimate



Project Appropriation



✓ Design Phase Begins
Tue 12/22/20

Construction Phase
Begins
Mon 7/31/23

Substantial Completion
Sat 5/4/24

Bid Phase Begins
Mon 1/23/23

Warranty Phase Begins
Sat 5/4/24

✓ Preliminary Phase End
Mon 1/13/20

LIBRARY PRIORITIES

Literacy Advancement

Cepeda's youth services department, and its youth services librarian, Patrick Owens, continues to anchor the branch's growth since reopening in August 2022. Offering storytimes throughout December, the branch saw a lot of new faces on Tuesdays and Wednesday. Patrick also hosted a Frozen movie night, offered four LEGO Labs, and continued to offer excellent passive programming, including a giant I Spy display (with a list of items for families to find) and a "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?" scavenger hunt.

Winter Cheer abounded at Howson Branch this December. Mary Beth Widhalm, Librarian II, went above and beyond by providing storytimes all throughout December, in the effort to re-establish Howson's storytime customers. Mary Beth's commitment to program attendance was re-rewarded with some of the highest attendance numbers our branch has experienced since the pandemic.

Digital Inclusion & STEM

Library Outreach Team Member, Lance Gentles joined the Windsor Park Branch staff in December to offer an afternoon of one on one computer help to patrons at the branch. Such outreach

Central Library continues innovated programming to attract teens into the library through two (2) new Teen Music Lab series: *Mentoring Artists*, is a new series with local musicians designed to help teens know where to go to take their music to the next level, and *Teens Create Digital Media* is a series designed to help teens learn how to use Garage Band, a MIDI Keyboard, a wacon tablet, and stylus and drawing software to make digital art and music.

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Melissa Wise, Librarian I, APL Children's Services, worked with Diana Muranda-Murllilo, Librarian II, APL Collections, to host a reception and storytime in the Children's Room at Central for the Ukranian community in Austin. They were celebrating the new Ukranian language children's book collection. The community organizer let us know what a large impact this has had, especially as they have recently welcomed 50 more refugee families to Austin. "You should have seen the happy faces of the kids and their mothers...their dads are still in Ukraine defending Ukraine in the Armed Forces." Kudos to Melissa and Diana!

Carolers and Santa at the Pleasant Hill Annual Holiday Celebration



Austin Symphony Orchestra at Hampton Branch at Oak Hill Winter Cheer Event



Little Walnut Creek Staff at their Winter Wonderland CandyLand Party



Wrapping and making gifts sustainably at Spicewood Springs Branch DIY Winter Cheer Event



Staff Development

American Library Association Presidential Advisory Committee Appointment – APL is honored to have one of our team members, Library Associate, Phoebe Waldron, be asked to serve on the American Library Association's (ALA) Presidential Advisory Committee. Emily Drabinski, president elect of ALA, and her team were impressed with Waldron and some work she had done for the association. Phoebe will attend the ALA LibLeanX Conference in January 2023 as part of her appointment. Director Weeks and new Community Engagement Librarian Laura Tedena will also attend ALA representing APL at the conference.

Workforce and Economic Development

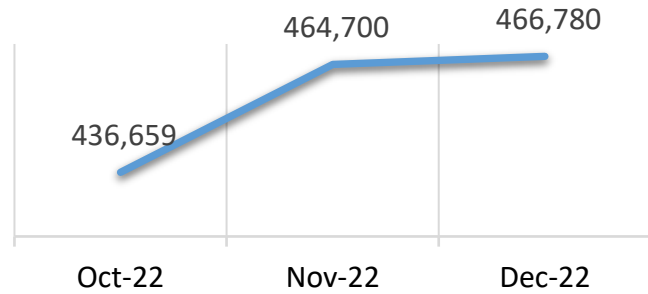
APL Branch Libraries continue to be a venue the surrounding community comes to when in need of assistance in securing employment. Staff regularly help individuals create resumes and fill out job applications. For instance, the St. John team provide patrons with extensive computer assistance in December. Staff members help customers with printing, scanning, document retrieval, job applications, and navigating government websites on a daily basis.

APL BY THE NUMBERS DECEMBER 2022

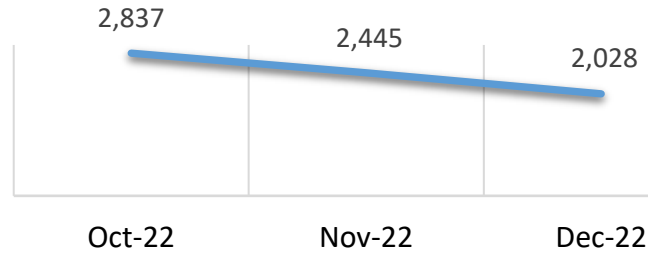


Cardholder

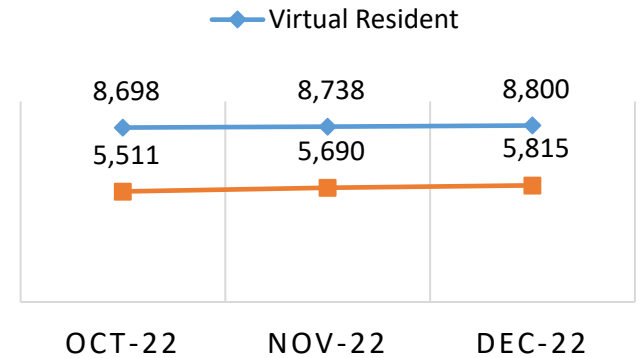
TOTAL CARDHOLDERS



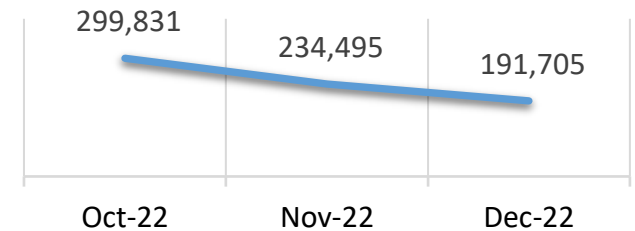
NEW CARDHOLDERS



VIRTUAL LIBRARY E-CARDS RESIDENT and NON-RESIDENT



ACTIVE CARDHOLDERS



Visitors



Austin Public Library @AustinPublicLib · Dec 21, 2022

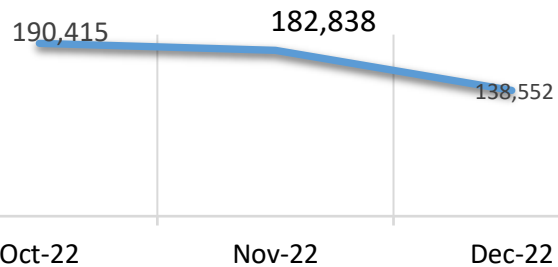
Need a heated space to wait out this weekend's freezing weather? Multiple facilities around the city will be open for warming, including our Little Walnut Creek and Terrazas Branches. Get details here: austintexas.gov/news/warming-c...



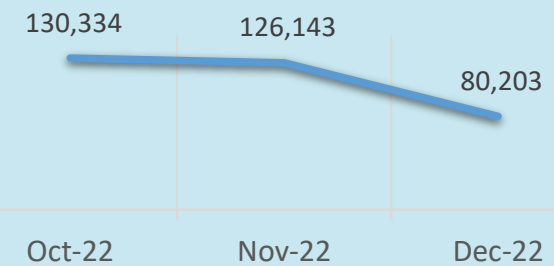
Central Visitors



VISITORS LIBRARY SYSTEM

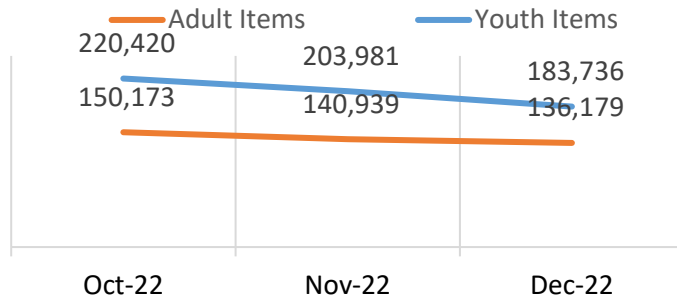


Branch Visitors

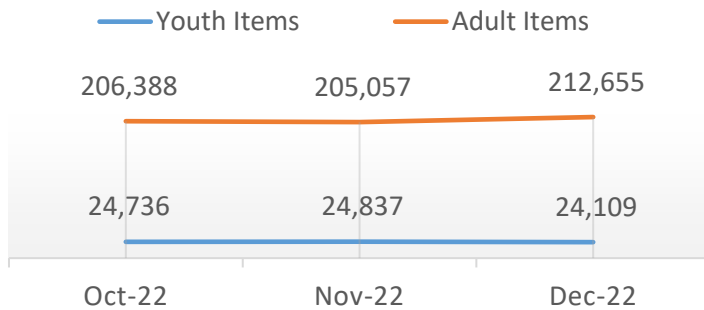


Circulation

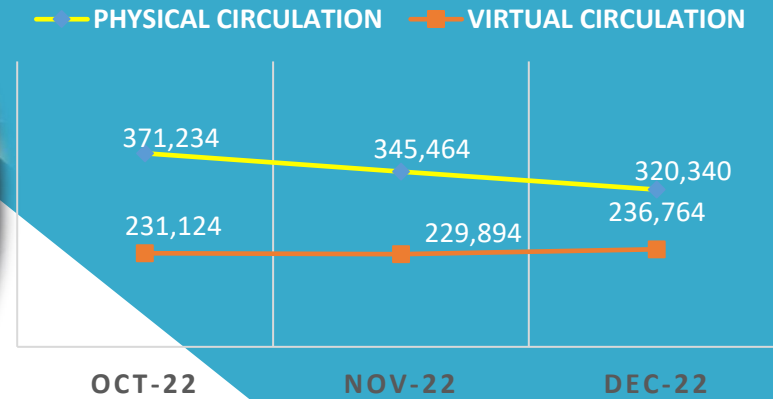
PHYSICAL ITEMS CHECK-OUTS BY AUDIENCE
Youth and Adult



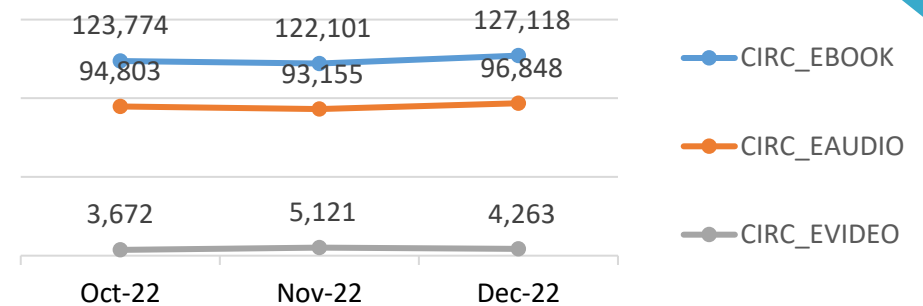
VIRTUAL ITEMS CHECK-OUTS BY AUDIENCE
Youth and Adult



TOTAL CHECK-OUTS

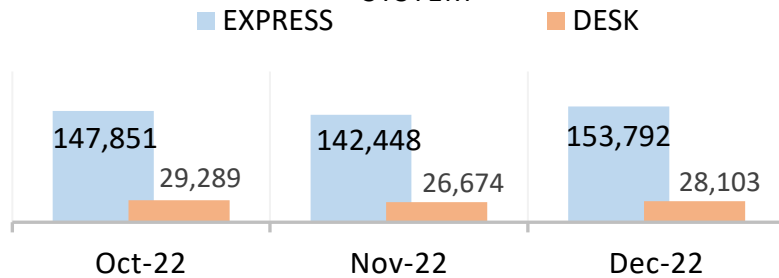


POPULAR VIRTUAL ITEMS CHECK OUTS

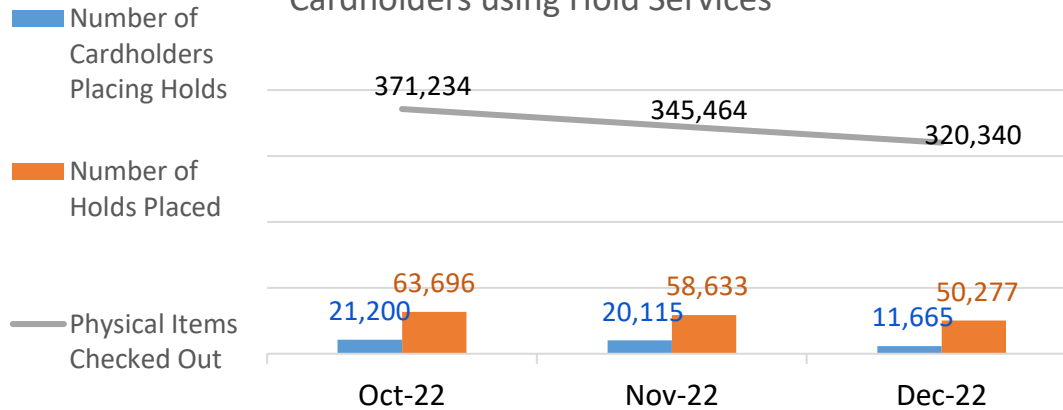


Collections

DESK and EXPRESS CHECK-OUTS
SYSTEM

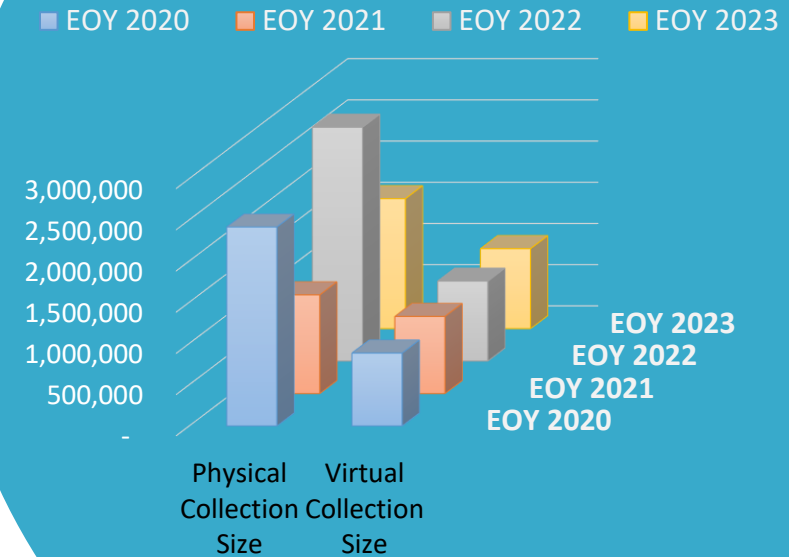


Cardholders using Hold Services



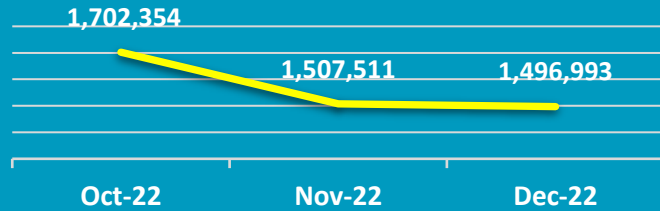
About 16% of all physical items checked-out were placed on Hold.

Collection Size

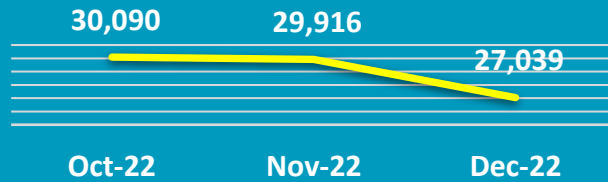


Technology

WEBSITE HITS



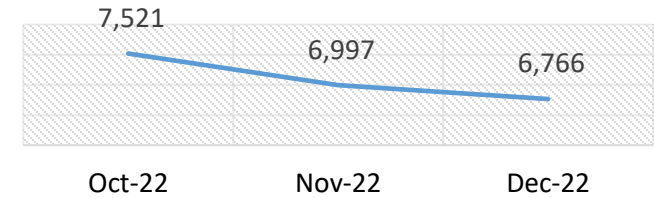
WIFI CONNECTIONS



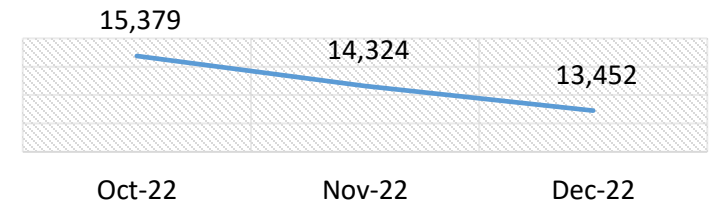
TOTAL COMPUTER SESSIONS
SYSTEM



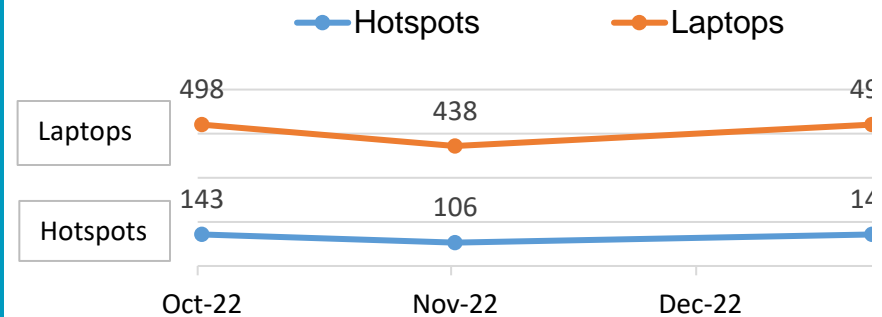
COMPUTER SESSIONS
CENTRAL LIBRARY



COMPUTER SESSIONS
BRANCH LIBRARIES

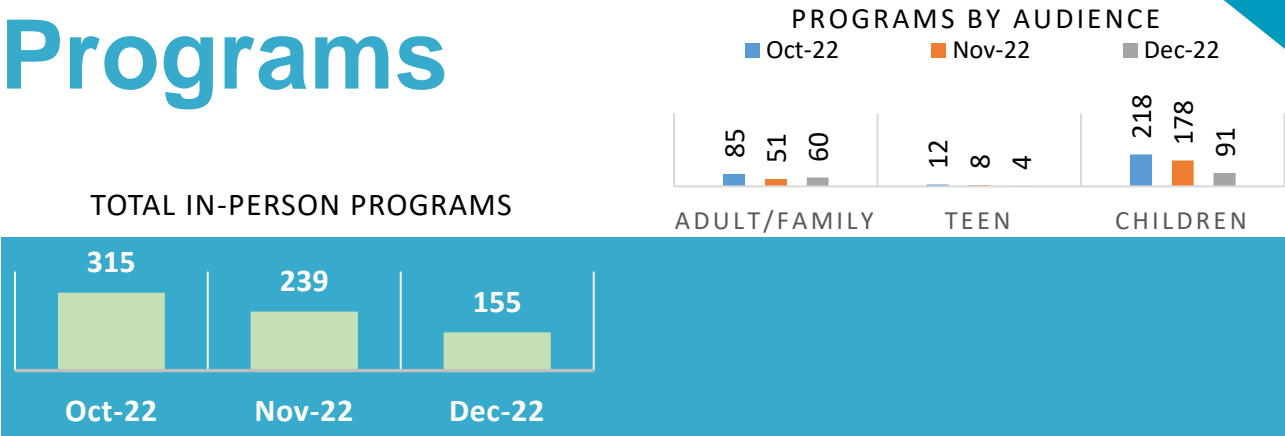


DEVICES CHECK-OUTS

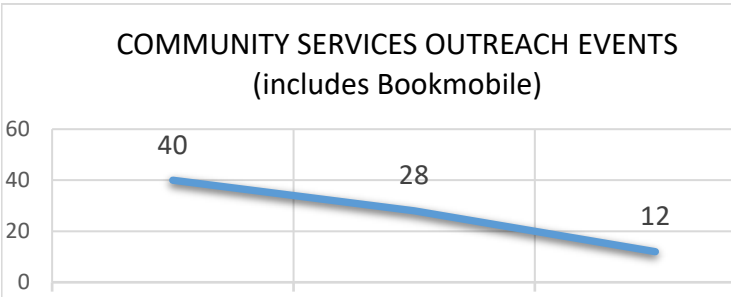
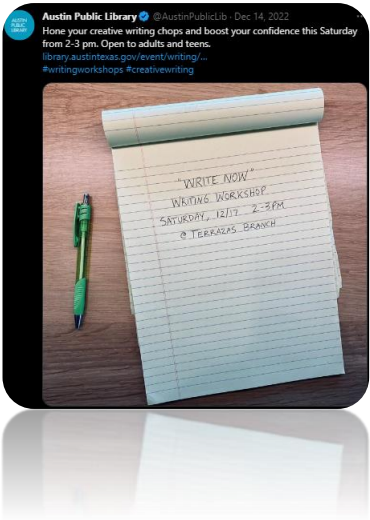


Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF)

Programs



Does not include Outreach, Unadvertised, or Self-directed.



Volunteers

Active
Volunteers
141

Hours
743



Donated
Value
\$19,637

