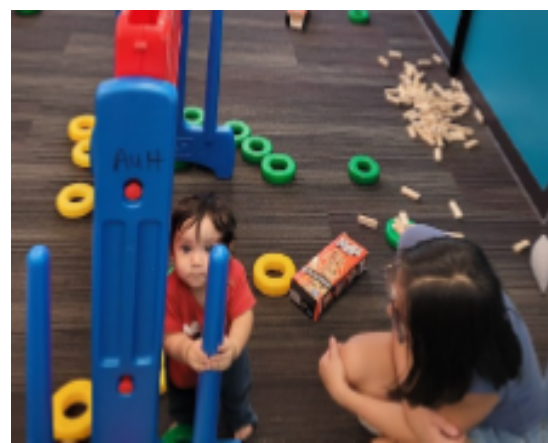


AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY



Director's Report
February 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Highlights | 3 |
| Facilities Services | 4 |
| FY2018 Bond Program Summary | 4 |
| Library Priorities | 9 |
| Literacy Advancement | 9 |
| Equity, Diversity & Inclusion | 9 |
| Civic and Community Engagement | 9 |
| Staff Development | 10 |
| Workforce and Economic Development | 10 |
| APL By the Numbers | 11 |
| Cardholder | 12 |
| Visitors | 13 |
| Circulation and Collections | 14 |
| Express Holds | 15 |
| Technology | 16 |
| Programs | 17 |
| Volunteers | 18 |



HIGHLIGHTS

Carver Branch Mural Highlighted in the New York Times

The mural at Carver Branch along with other innovative elements in libraries found across the US are shining reminders that Libraries are no longer known as places for just books and silence. In the new York Times piece, *Libraries are Meeting the Needs of Their Communities with More than Books, aka A Love Letter to Libraries, Long Overdue*, photographers were sent to cities, suburbs and rural areas in seven states to document how different libraries respond to the needs of their communities, and the many ways in which patrons find a haven in each one.



Betty Baker and Steve Sadowsky Reading Room at the Austin History Center

The AHC Reading Room Re-naming Celebration took place on January 29th. The reading room was renamed to the Betty Baker and Steve Sadowsky Reading room with a turnout of 88 attendees.

Austin History Center Construction

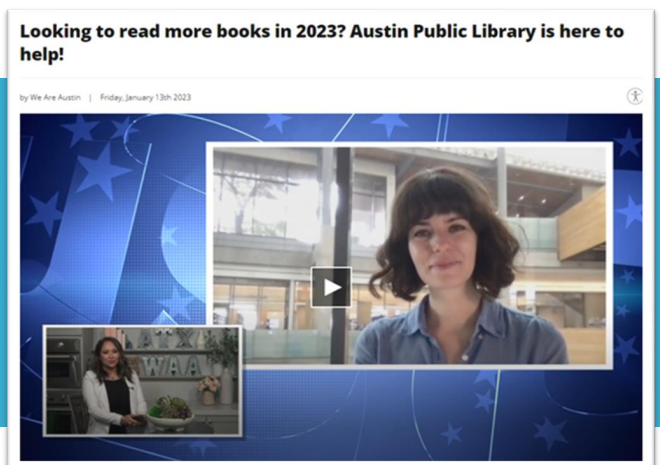
There is scheduled Capital Improvement Project work currently underway at the Austin History Center and will result in some extended closures over the next few months. The websites for the Austin History Center and general Austin Public Library will be updated to reflect the exact dates. Online services for customers will continue throughout these times. AHC Staff will be working remotely and available for any assistance needed.

APL Innovation Lab

The APL Innovate Digital Makerspace is a new tech lab and program space at Central that will be available to both staff and public in the coming months. Access state-of-the-art computer hardware and software to create digital content such as podcasts, videos, 3D renderings, music and more. Based in the Central Library's 5th floor Innovation Lab & Lounge, the makerspace includes mobile components that can extend APL Innovate to the branches.

Librarian Maddy Newquist presented book recommendations on CBS' We Are Austin. A Facebook commenter posted:

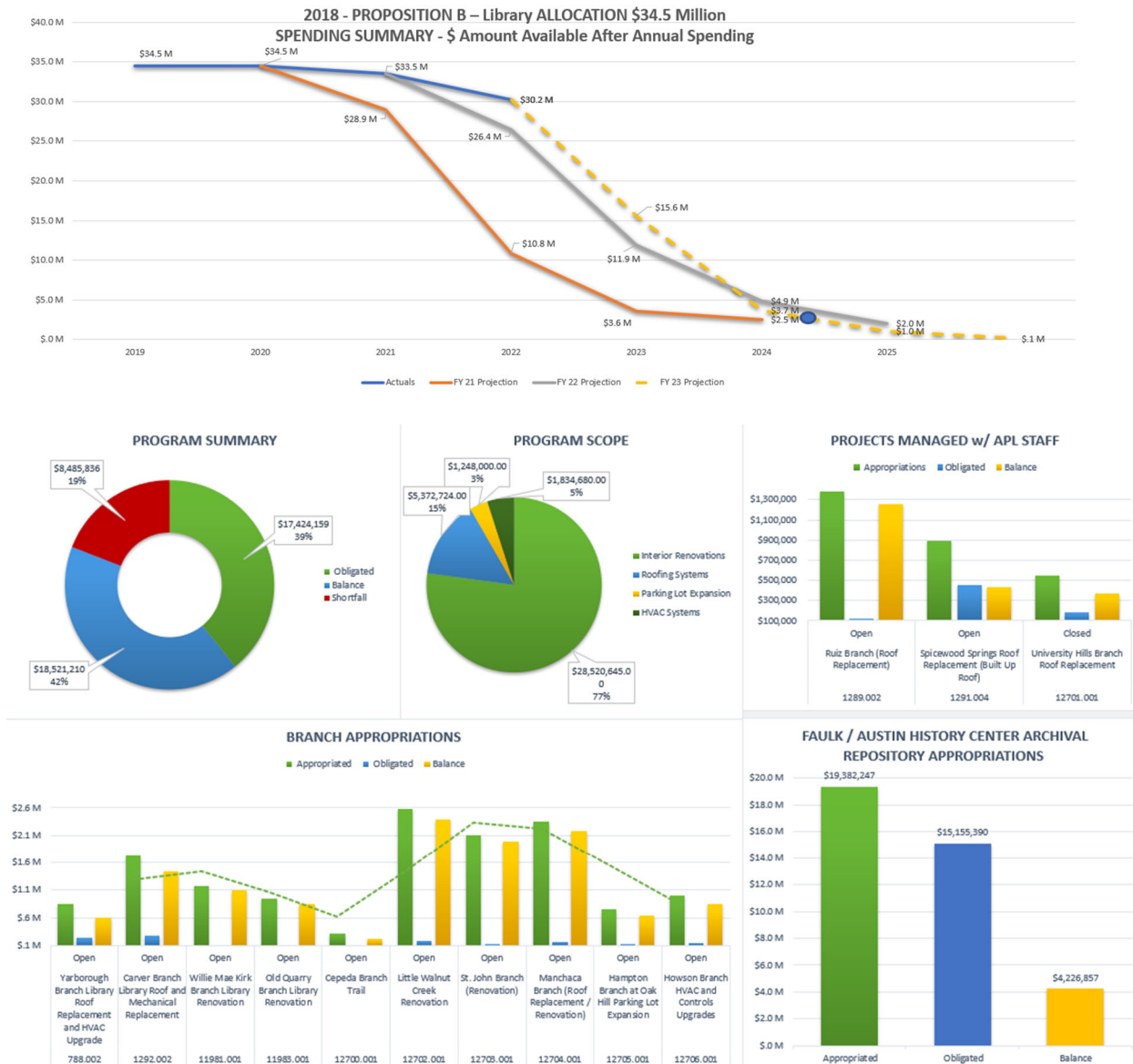
"Extraordinary spokesperson for the Austin Public Library. I only saw a portion of the segment but Maddy made me aware that the APL is the place to be. I now know all about all the resources it makes available to the good folks of ATX."



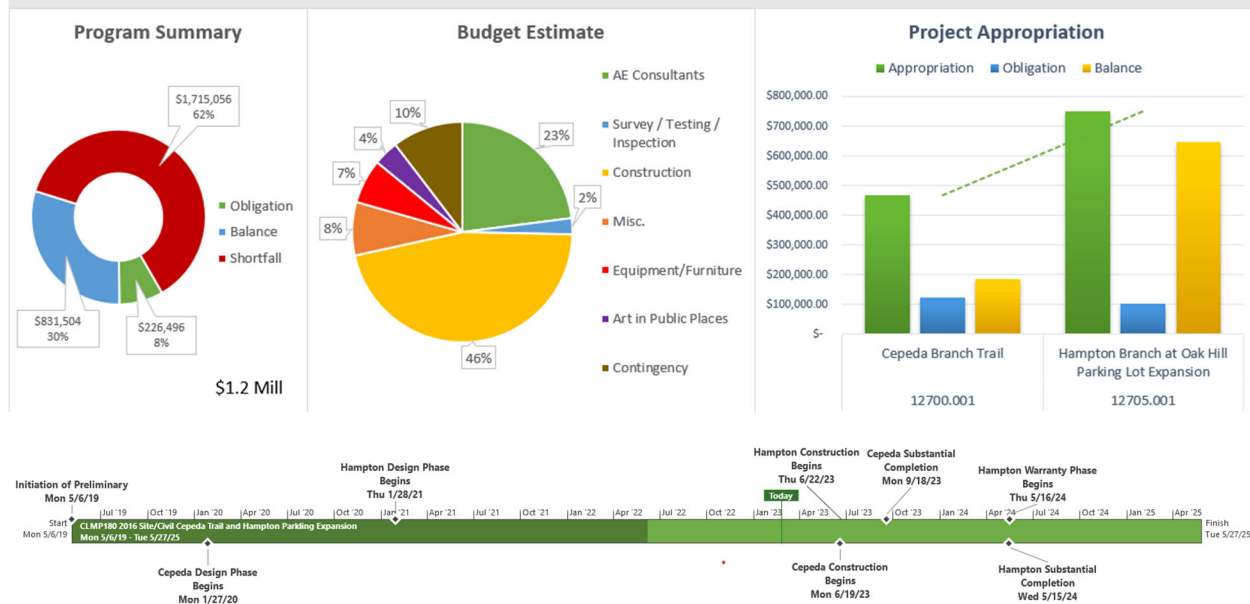
2018 – PROPOSITION B – LIBRARY ALLOCATION \$34.5 Million

The Austin Public Library's 2018 Bond Program consists of fifteen improvement and renovation projects within the department's facilities portfolio. The program focus is to oversee the Capital Improvement and Program (CIP) management for the library. The Library's FY18 CIP Bond Program Summaries are as follows.

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.



CLMP180 Cepeda Trail and Hampton Parking Lot Expansion



CEPEDA BRANCH TRAIL

Current Phase: Construction Documentation

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.

Impacts

- NTP for engineering amendment was issued on 2/15. Work has started towards 90% Design.
- PW engineer will complete the last 10% work of hydrology work.
- Revised Baseline schedule do last week of February 2023 to reflect delays.
 - Projected Construction Start now at June 2023
- APL and Public Works discussing funding needs.

HAMPTON AT OAK HILL PARKING LOT EXPANSION

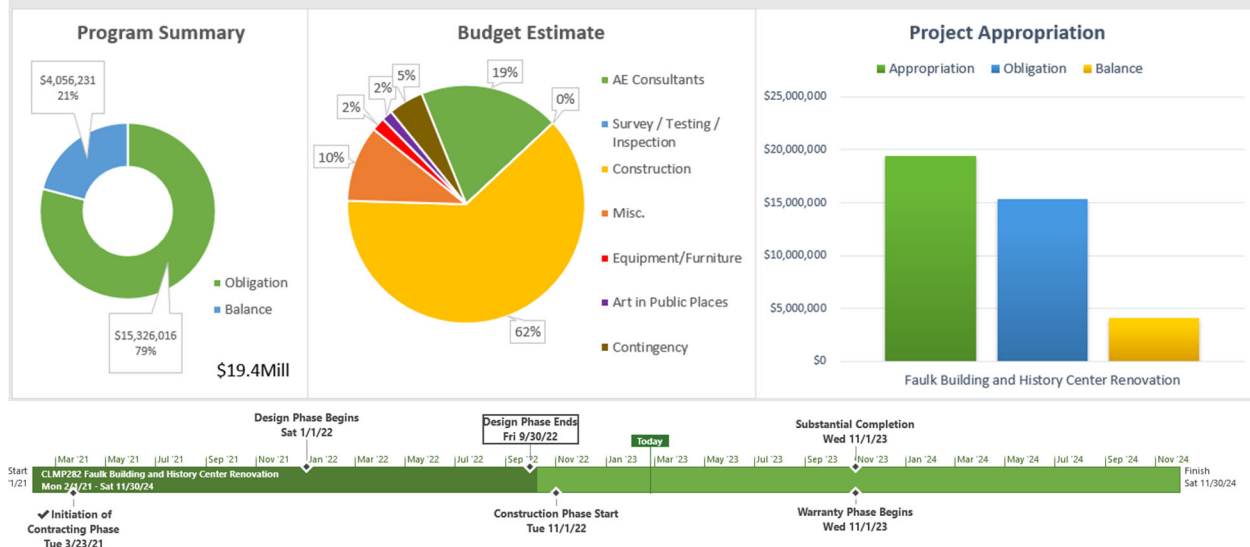
Current Phase: Construction Documentation

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.

Impacts

- Existing funding is insufficient for current scope. Available funding reviews for appropriated will need to be determined for A/E professional services fees.
- APL and Public Works discussing funding needs.

CLMP282 Faulk and History Center Archival Expansion



Current Phase: 20% Construction

Progress at Austin History Center:

- Stonework including stone removal, window treatment, and mortar samples are in progress. Interior work such as window film removal has been completed, and window abatement and painting scope is scheduled for spring 2023. A closure of AHC to the public is expected for an approximate 3-week period during the painting phase.

Progress at John Henry Faulk:

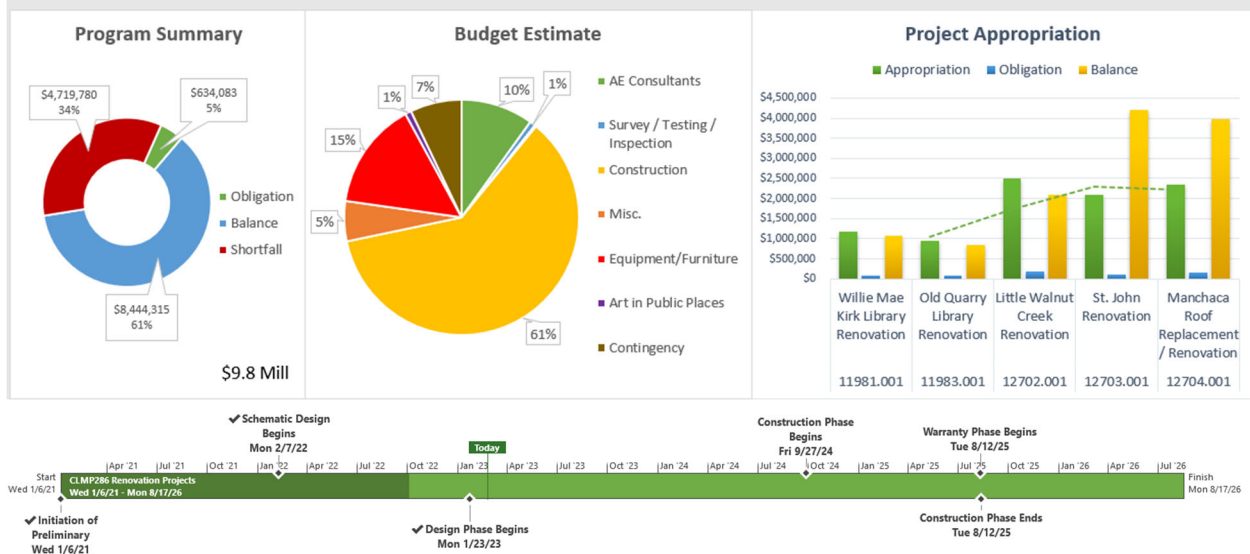
- Hazardous material abatement and interior demolition scope has been completed in the Faulk building. Exterior bird screen and window planter soil has been removed. MEP installation has begun.

Impact:

- Potential schedule impacts to overall timeline may occur due to industry wide long lead times and stonework scope.



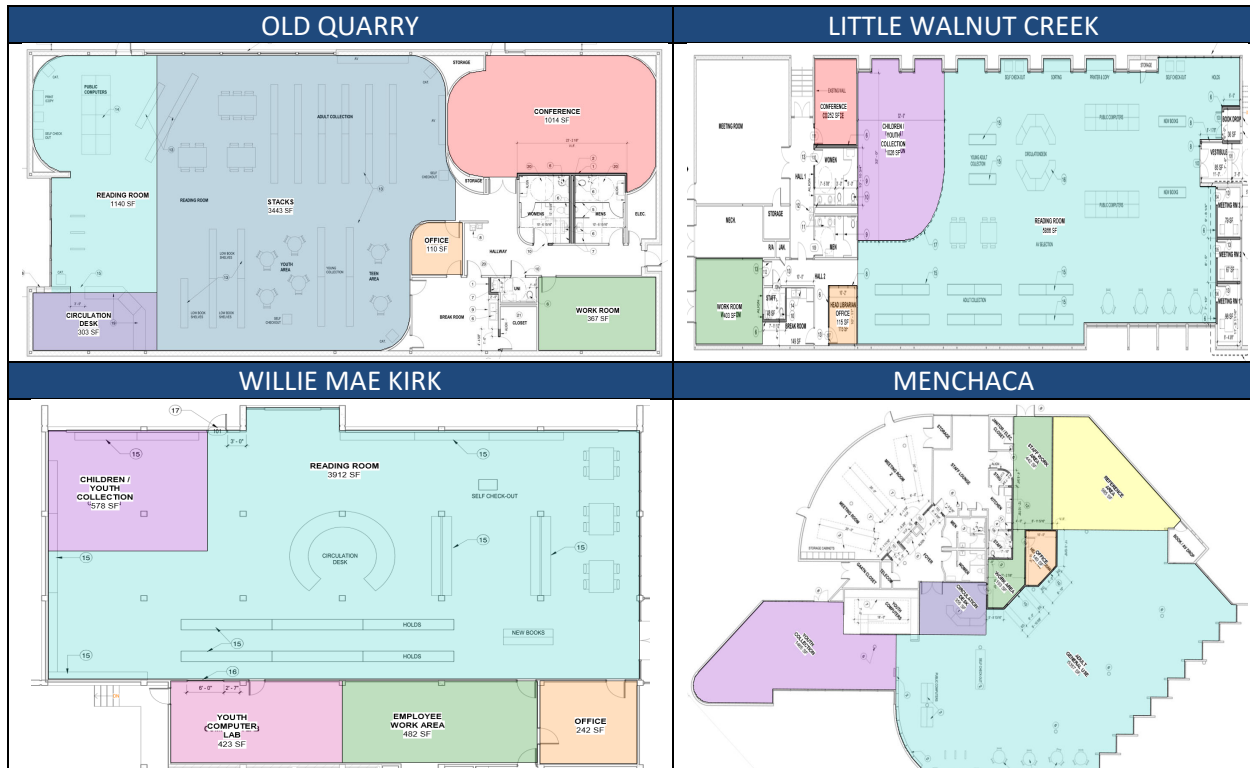
CLMP286 Five Branch Interior Renovations



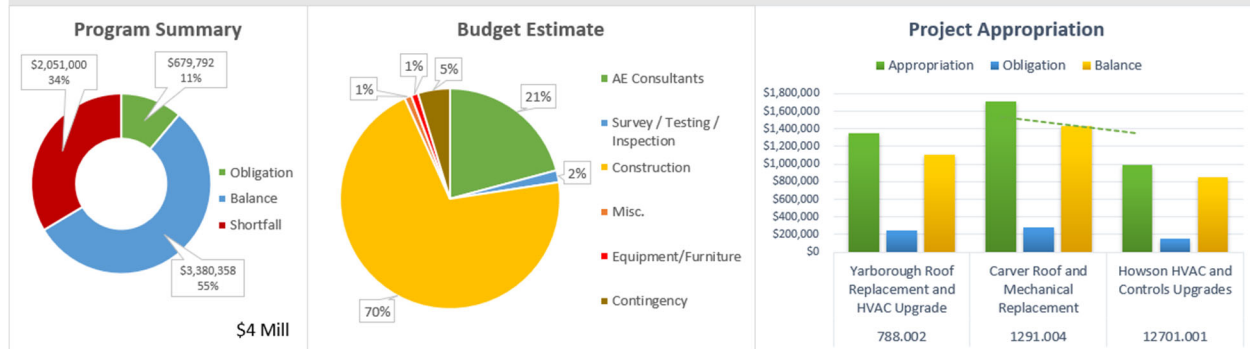
Current Phase: Post Schematic Design

Impacts:

- APL CIP team is currently working to determine scope that will fit within the budget to move forward with Design Development. Fund reallocation under review to conform to bond language related to lighting, roofing, and MEP deficiency.
- APL and Public Works discussing funding needs.



CLMP287 Roof and HVAC Upgrade



Current Phase: Construction document phase

Progress:

- 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.

Impacts:

- APL CIP team has requested that our consultants quantify the duration of potential branch closures while Re-Roof and Mechanical installation are in underway.
- APL and Public Works discussing funding needs.

Literacy Advancement

LIBRARY PRIORITIES

Manchaca's Book Club with Solstice Senior Living Center is a shining example of providing access to literacy advancement and community engagement. Monthly, Manchaca, Library Assistant, Jane Sievert, coordinates Solstice's book club using the Older Adult Book Club Kit with Solstice Senior Living Center. Ms. Sievert acquires the Older Adult Book Club Kit (housed at the Yarborough Branch) of the book club participant's choice, attends the book club meetings, and facilitates lively and thought-provoking discussions. Then she swaps out the kits, collecting the one with the books from the previous month and giving them the kit for the next month's book club. Solstice Senior Living at Austin is in the Manchaca Road Branch's community (78745) and we have partnered with them since early pandemic times, around mid-2020.

Digital Inclusion & STEM

International LEGO Day! was held at the Central Library on Saturday, January 28th. Led by Central Youth Service staff Michael Harle and Katelyn Patterson, and Adult Reference staff Maddy Newquist, the event's 4th iteration expanded to adult services for the first time with advanced building workshops hosted by TexLUG. Longtime partner, Play-Well TEKologies, returned with thousands of LEGO bricks for families. All activities featured STEAM- based elements. Advanced LEGO sets for adults and teens were available for community building, and special LEGO displays built by TexLUG members and a local architecture display curated by AHC were out on the floor for patrons to view.



Cepeda continued its youth services' growth and forward movement, with the understanding that forward movement sometimes does not always follow a straight upward trajectory. January youth programming amply demonstrated this. Cepeda hosted the first of three Latinitas programs this month, thanks to work of youth services librarian Patrick Owens and library assistant Philip Yates. This month the focus was on Dash the robot—well, mul-tiple Dashes—and was a success, with all 25 slots filled up by a range of young people who had a great time with this engaging STEM program!

Equity Diversity and Inclusion

APL kicked off our Black History Month Signature Series Programming at branch locations and at Central with amazing musical performances, film screening, panels and community conversation circles, as well as the opening of the new Exhibit All Kinds of Black in Tech Park Two, over the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday weekend. Our teams offered 30+ exciting events as part of the series throughout our system in January and February, culminating with a Community Black History Cookout on Sunday, February 26th at Carver Branch with live music, free food, friendly competitive games, carats and entertainment.

Smokey the Bear Presides over Howson's Disaster Preparedness Event



Special Rabbit Creations at Ruiz's Sew Much Fun Program to Celebrate the Lunar New Year



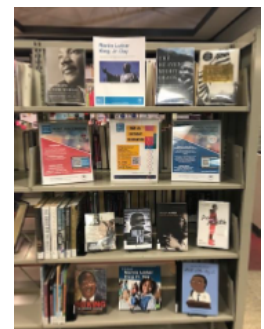
Customers enjoy working on jigsaw puzzles in the public area



Students in grades 3-6 cast their votes for the 2022-2023 Texas Bluebonnet Award winners in January.



Book Displays such as this one at Manchaca were at APL locations to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

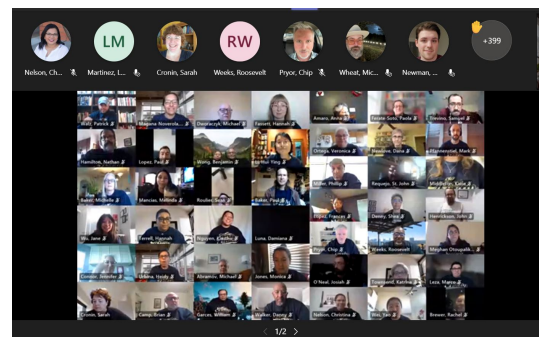


The Thinkery Family Pass program, which gives free museum passes to customers has expanded to include APH and ASE. APL and Thinkery piloted this free pass program to underserved communities at two North library branches, Willie Mae Kirk and Windor Park last year and starting January 7, 2023 added the two south locations to the program. Every Saturday new passes are distributed, and we have already had customers coming in at opening in order to check them out.

Staff Development

APL held its first Staff Development Day of 2023 on February 10, 2023. To promote additional learning opportunities, learn new skills, recognize and appreciate our fellow team members, and connect with our colleagues from across the system, APL will have a total of 4 Staff development Days for 2023, each with a theme that ties to our departmental goals:

- o February 10, 2023 – Literacy
- o May 12, 2023 – Outreach & Engagement
- o August 11, 2023 –Technology & Innovation
- o October 20, 2023 –Staff Development & Appreciation Day



The February 10th Staff Day, which received overwhelmingly positive feedback from our staff, was held virtually on Teams to allow all of our team members to telework while participating in the day. It was a great learning experience for all! Staff were able to fully engage in the day and gain more experience using new technologies.

This month Pleasant Hill Branch welcomed two new volunteers looking for hands-on work experience in public libraries. Information Studies student Alex Dugger will be working at APH as part of her practicum for the University of North Texas. Alex will be working on collection development projects with Jeff Melkerson, assist with circulation/page duties, and help out at APL programs for APH and ATO. Adult volunteer Orlando Kassing is also considering pursuing an MLS, and will be helping us as a Library Page and Tech Helper for public computer users.

Workforce and Economic Development

Jose Ruiz-Valdez, Administrative Senior at Hampton Branch at Oak Hill, shared a description of his most recent session as a Job Coach on January 11: “It was great, we went from nothing to applying for a handful of jobs in one go (sat with him for maybe an hour and twenty and then he stayed in the branch working on it and I would round back to check in on him periodically). He came back and dropped off a [work of] thank you art with a nice note written on the back (it’s pinned to the volunteer board) because he found a job based on the work we did together.”



The Ruiz branch continues 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. Library Manager, Carlos Pin recently helped to register three Spanish-speaking individuals for the Texas Food Handlers online certificate course. Mr. Pin sat in the computer lab with them to ensure there were no snags in using a desktop computer, which has proven to be a hurdle in the past. All three individuals passed the course and Mr. Pin made certain that they all received their printed certificate of completion so they could begin working in local restaurants.

AUSTIN
PUBLIC
LIBRARY



Chart made by ThuAnh Nguyen, Library Retail Manager, demonstrating Gift Shop Sales over the last few years.

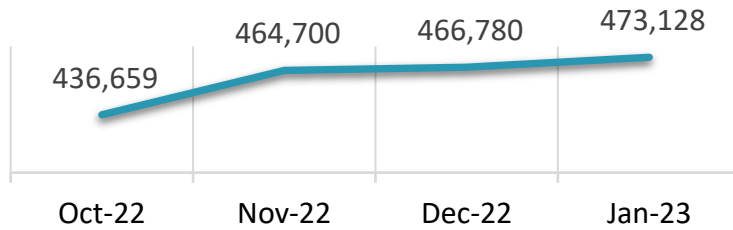


APL BY THE NUMBERS

JANUARY 2023

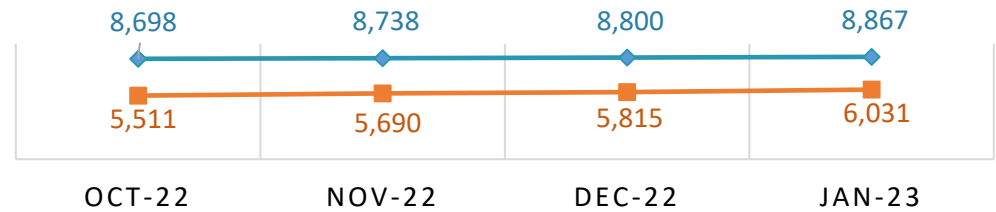
Cardholder

Total Cardholders

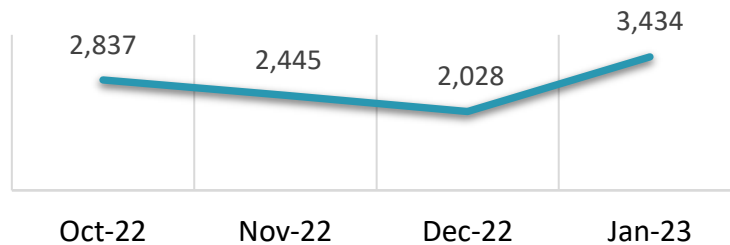


VIRTUAL LIBRARY E-CARDS
RESIDENT and NON-RESIDENT

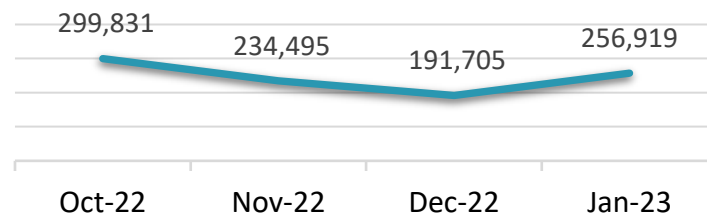
Virtual Resident Virtual NonResident



NEW CARDHOLDERS



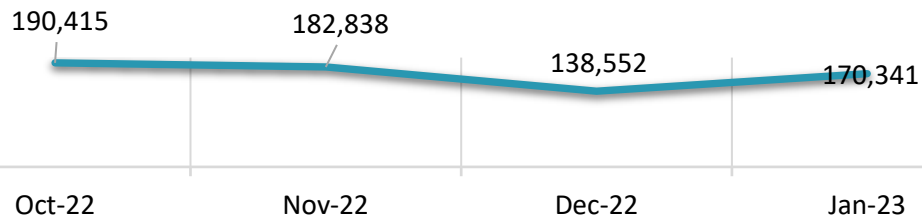
Active Cardholders



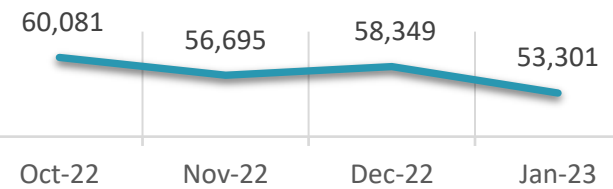
**Join our "Keep Austin Reading"
2023 Challenge**

Visitors

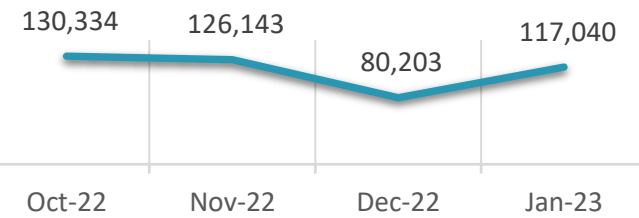
VISITORS
LIBRARY SYSTEM



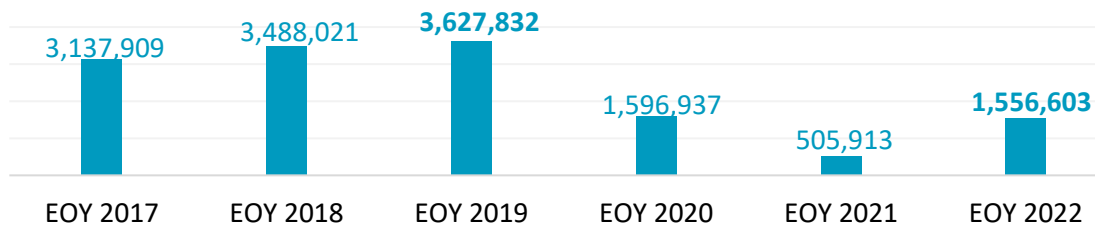
Central Visitors



Branch Visitors



VISITOR TRENDS

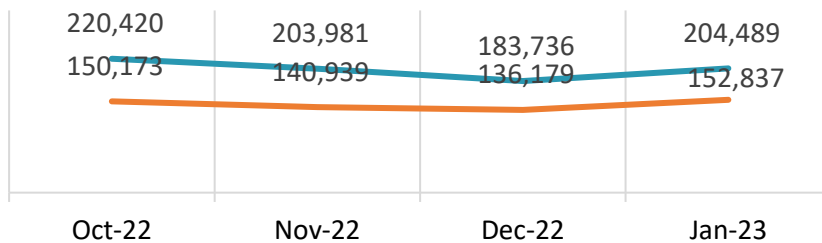


Circulation & Collections

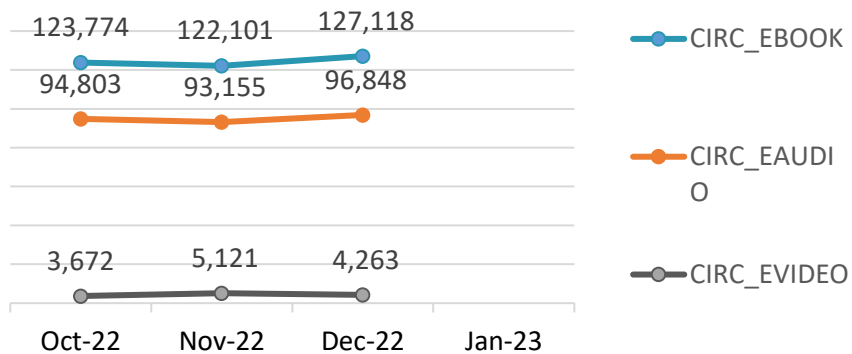
PHYSICAL ITEMS CHECK-OUTS BY AUDIENCE

Youth and Adult

— Adult Items — Youth Items

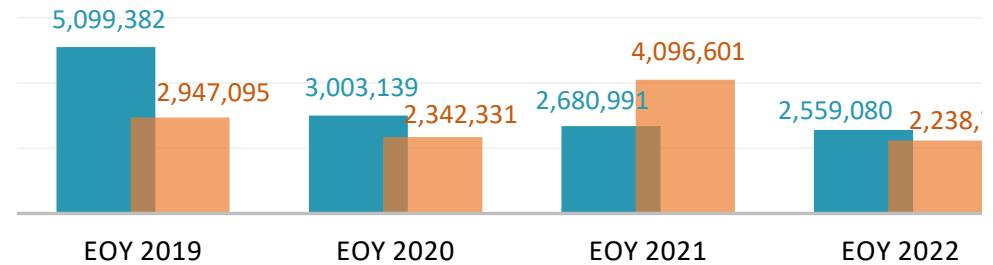


POPULAR VIRTUAL ITEMS CHECK OUTS



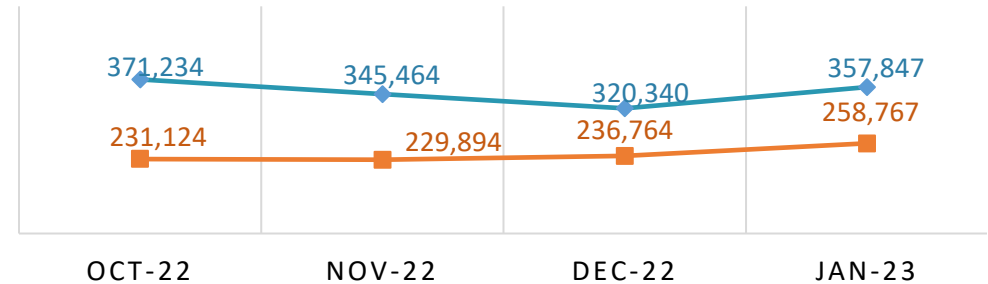
Circulation
Annual Trends

■ Physical ■ Virtual



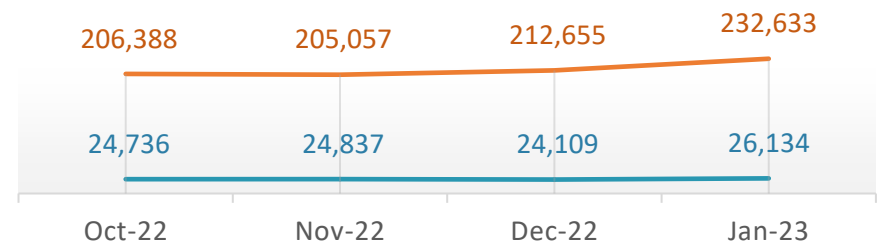
TOTAL CHECK-OUTS

◆ PHYSICAL CIRCULATION ■ VIRTUAL CIRCULATION

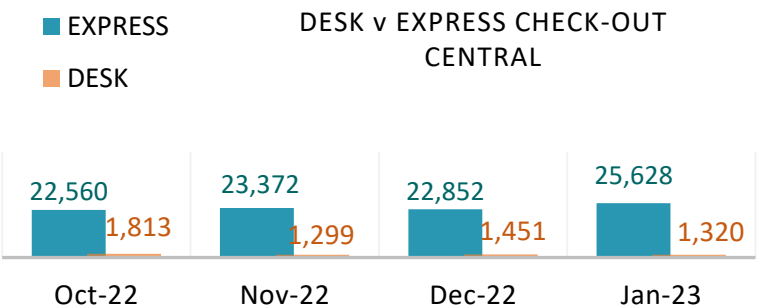
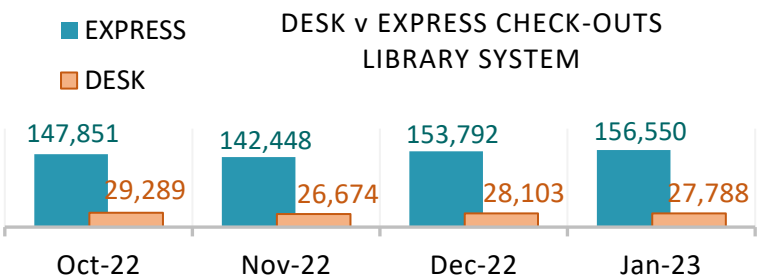


VIRTUAL ITEM CHECK-OUTS BY AUDIENCE

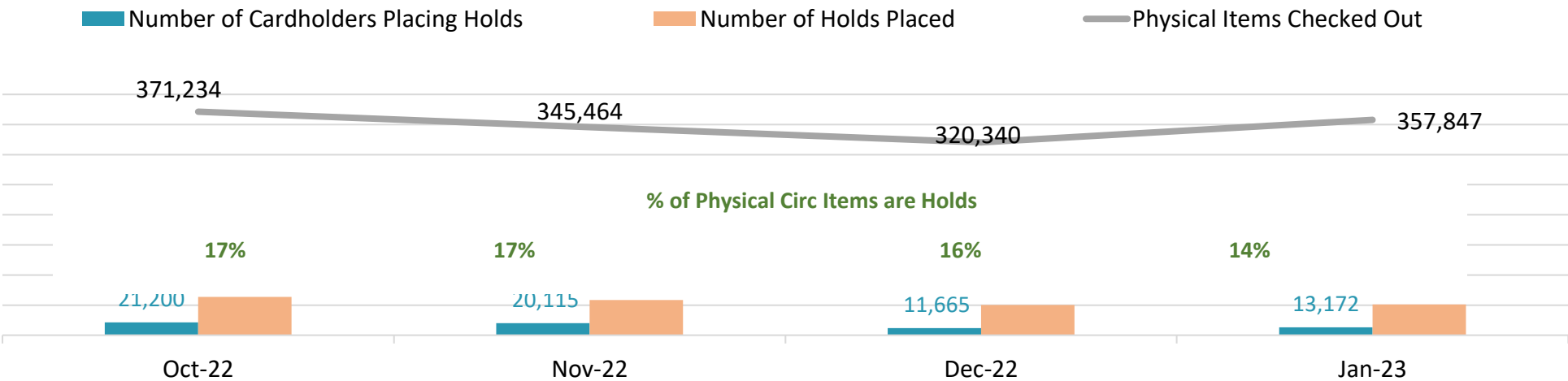
— Youth Items — Adult Items



Express & Holds



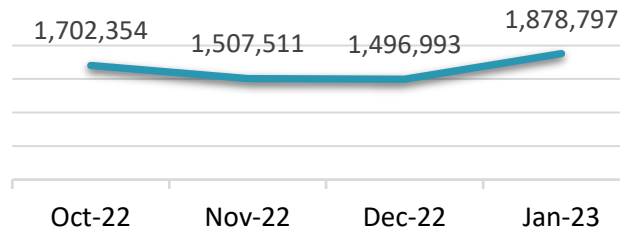
CARDHOLDERS USING HOLD SERVICES



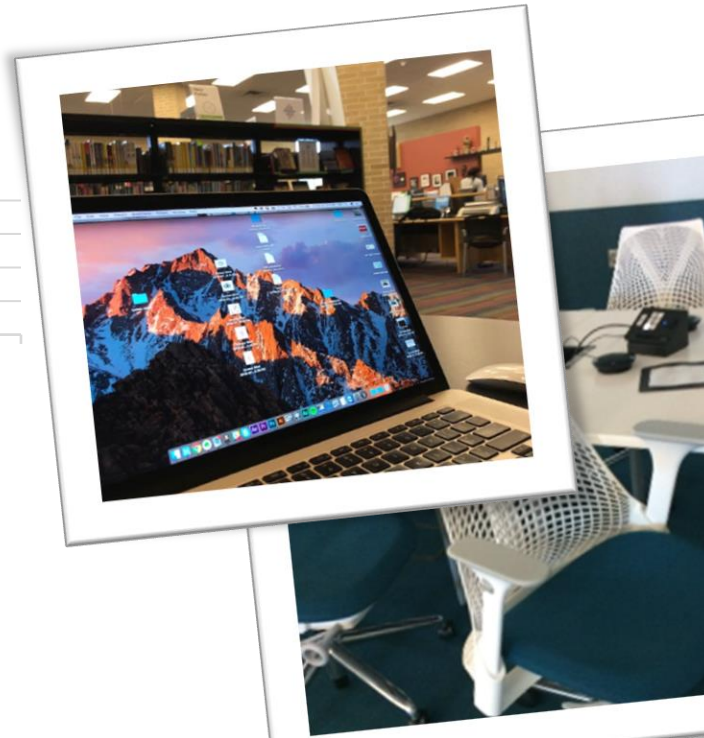
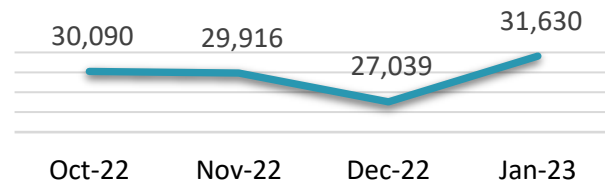
Technology

| END OF YEAR TOTALS | EOY 2019 | EOY 2020 | EOY 2021 | EOY 2022 |
|--------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| WIFI CONNECTIONS | 525,394 | 287,620 | 177,602 | 304,234 |
| WEBSITE HITS | 25,572,315 | 20,772,737 | 18,531,294 | 21,191,323 |
| COMPUTER SESSIONS | 539,287 | 214,229 | 58,725 | 193,783 |

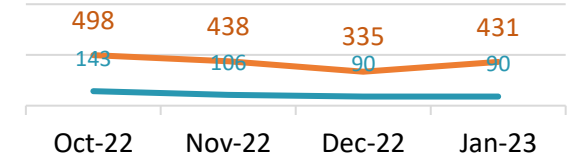
WEBSITE HITS



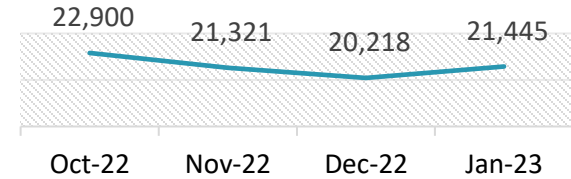
WIFI CONNECTIONS



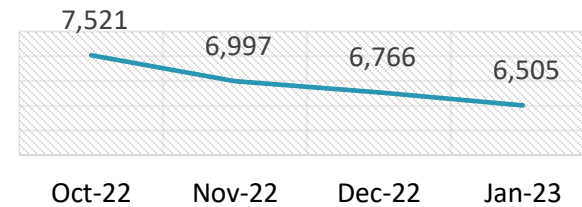
Hotspots & Laptop Check-outs



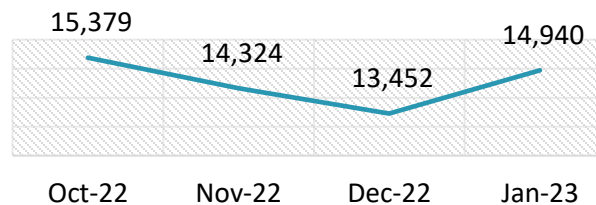
TOTAL COMPUTER SESSIONS SYSTEM



COMPUTER SESSIONS CENTRAL LIBRARY



COMPUTER SESSIONS BRANCH LIBRARIES



Programs



Join us in celebration of Black History Month with Elizabeth Kahura, Kenyan born storyteller, drummer, dancer, and teacher of a diverse range of African traditions at our Pleasant Hill Branch (211 E. William Cannon Dr) this Saturday at 11 AM: bit.ly/KahuraStorytime



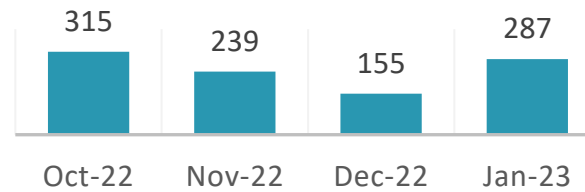
World
NOW PLAYING



Austin Public Library rings in the Lunar New Year

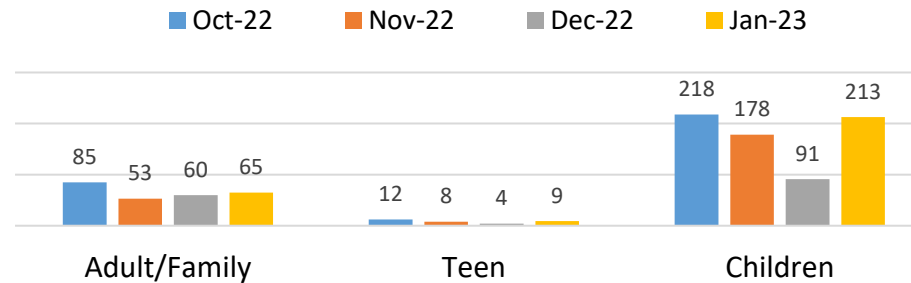


TOTAL IN-PERSON PROGRAMS

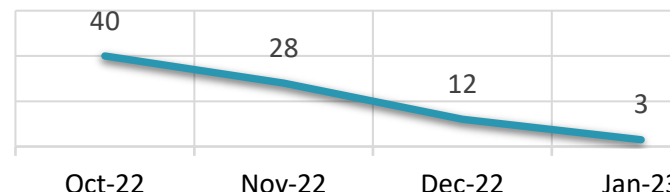


Does not include Outreach, Unadvertised, or Self-directed.

Programs by Audience



COMMUNITY SERVICES OUTREACH EVENTS (includes Bookmobile)



After 3 years, we're proud to partner with @
first in-person "BizAid Business Orientation" and
Property Requirement" classes. Take advantage
#smallbusiness classes!

Learn more: bit.ly/3KK6wFi

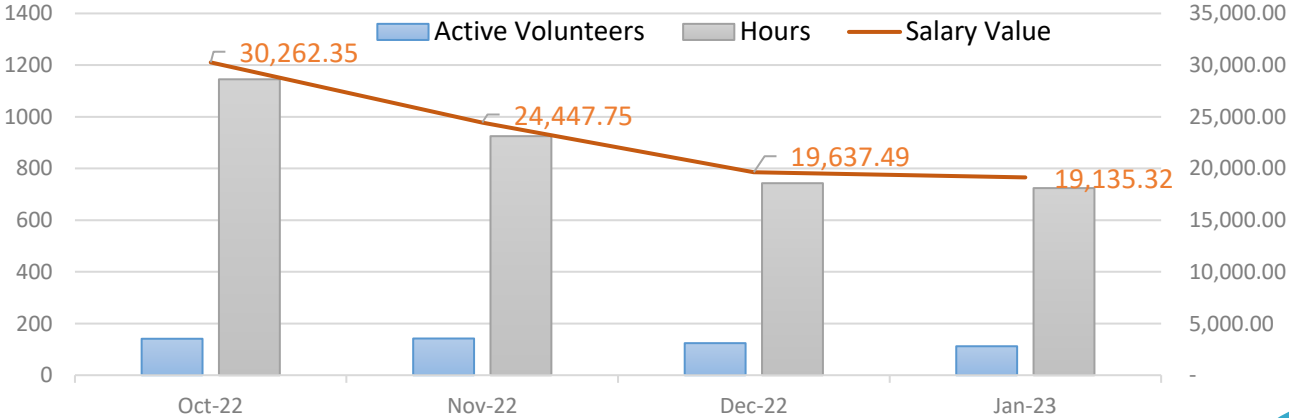


Volunteers

Active
Volunteers
112

Hours
724

APL Volunteers



[Independent Sector \\$26.43 Texas Rate](#)

Donated
Value
\$19,135