

AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY



Director's Report

May 2023

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APL MISSION: Inspiring all to discover, learn and create!

APL VISION: Austin Public Library: A model of equity, inclusion, access, and diversity!

HIGHLIGHTS



Summer at Austin Public Library – the APL Summer Reading Program

This summer, we encourage you to read, learn, and earn free prizes! We challenge you to read or be read to at least 20 minutes a day from June 5th - August 18th, and complete three (3) activity badges!

When you have completed 600 minutes (10 hours) of reading and three (3) activity badges, youth ages 0-17 can pick up a free book, and adults can pick up a free enamel pin at any [Austin Public Library branch!](#)

Summer at APL officially starts on June 5 but everyone can join the hundreds that have already joined the program online and created your accounts. We also have free and fun events happening all summer long! Please visit library.austintexas.gov/events for more info.

Kids Block Party a Success!

Austin Public Library's April 29, 2023, Kids Block Party was a great success, with over 1,000 people in attendance! Children and their families enjoyed a variety of activities, including musical performances, crafts, video games, poetry, and storytelling. In addition, multiple community partners participated in the event with APL, providing resources and information on local services and programs.

One of the highlights of the event was the book giveaway, which provided 300 books to children and their families. This was made possible thanks to the generous support of the Library Foundation, which provided funding for the books and event. Overall, the Kids Block Party was a fantastic event that brought together families, community partners, and the library to promote literacy and engagement among young children. We are grateful to all of the attendees, partners, and supporters who made this event a success and look forward to the event next year!

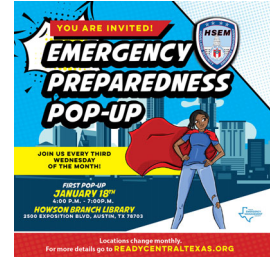


Enhanced Library Card Pilot Update

During the first two weeks of APL's Enhanced Library Card project launch at three locations, over 300 cards were issued, providing patrons with access to a range of exciting features and benefits. The Enhanced Library Card is a full-access library card for Austin residents (18 or older) that includes your library card number, photograph, address, date of birth, expiration date, and scannable barcode. The card can be used at all Austin Public Library locations, as well as online to access our eBooks and other digital resources. The new enhanced library cards are available at Walnut Creek, St. John, and Southeast Branch Libraries.

Emergency Preparedness Pop-Up at APL Branches

The City of Austin's [Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management \(HSEM\)](#) will host monthly Emergency Preparedness Pop Up events in each of Austin's City Council Districts throughout 2023. These events are designed to help equip Austinites with the information, tools and resources needed in emergency situations. Emergency Preparedness Pop Ups will take place every third Wednesday of the month at a different [Austin Public Library](#) location in each City Council District. At these events, Austinites will learn more about geographical risks in their area and how to prepare for them, and the four steps to preparedness: make a plan, build a kit, know your neighbors, and stay informed.



Staff Development Day, May 12, 2023

Austin Public Library team members participated in a Staff Development Day on Friday May 12, 2023. With a focus on Outreach and Engagement, the day offers sessions and learning opportunities that will focus on how we can reach out to and engage with the communities we serve, in support of our new mission: Inspiring all to discover, learn, and create. 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:

February 10, 2023 – Literacy

August 11, 2023 – Technology & Innovation

May 12, 2023 – Outreach & Engagement

October 20, 2023 – Staff Development & Appreciation

Texas Library Association (TLA) Annual Conference



APL was ecstatic that Austin was home to the 2023 TLA Conference and we represented Austin and APL big this year! Over fifty APL team members attended the conference from April 19 - 22 at the Austin Convention Center, which featured memorable author events, many opportunities to network with peers and experts, educational programming, a vibrant exhibit hall, and best of all, time to spend in person with library professionals from across the state. Many APL team members also led sessions and participates in committees while at the conference. After each professional development conference, team members are asked to reflect on their experience and what they are bringing back to APL and below are just a few of our teams experiences in their own words.

"This was the first year that I was able to attend TLA as a staff member of APL... I came away from the experience with a new vigor for programming and how to best support my staff with their programming ideas."



"I very much appreciate the opportunity to attend TLA, 2023. I thank the Administration for investing in APL staff in this important training and networking experience."

"There was the sense that libraries are under attack, that book banning has placed our profession and organizations on high alert. Still, I learned that libraries have tremendous support from many in our respective communities, both private and non-profit. And that an attack on one library type, whether school, academic, public, special, is an attack on us all. To that end I walked away with a strong sense of unity and solidarity with our cousins in other kinds of libraries."

"Our session was fantastic!"

"I had a fantastic time networking with the APL community that I have not previously met."

"...the sessions provided a wide array of ideas and approaches to librarianship and outreach. It also presented challenging ideas around concepts such as artificial intelligence and programming with a limited budget."

"...and best of all, the librarian of the year award."

"Meeting other members of the APL team really helped to put faces to names and increase my confidence in reaching out for collaboration in the future."



"We're very proud of the work we've done on behalf of APL to bring these artists into these classrooms and libraries so they can share their stories with the kids and teens."



"This is the 8th year The Van Show has been a sponsored guest of the TLA conference. They provided us with a large booth for us to set up in and conduct 24 interviews over the 2 and a half days. We recorded interviews with authors, poets, illustrators, and a standup comedian during our time there."

"Also, it should be noted that I got to meet Ryan Dowd and attend his homeless training class in person, and it was just the coolest in the nerdiest way."

"As a current student in the UNT MLS program the relevant experience TLA provided was invaluable. I was able to see in action several topics that I have studied in my courses which has helped me to better comprehend the librarianship profession as a whole."

"As always it was great to run into and reconnect with librarians from across the state and check in with how things are going at their libraries and I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to go again."

"I look forward to sharing the knowledge I have learned with other members of my branch as well as pitching some very exciting programs for the future."

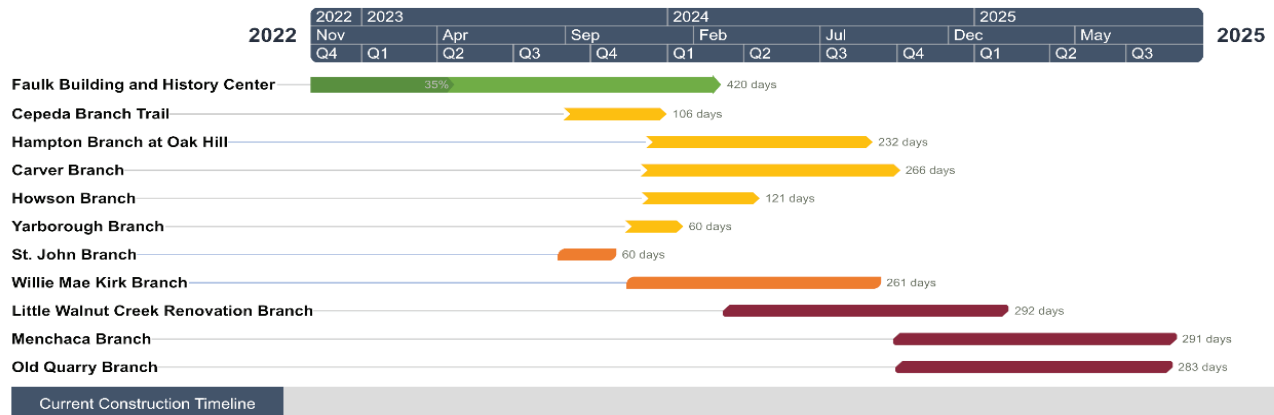
"Community, customer service, EDI, responsibility of public librarianship, leadership, accountability, engagement, and continuous professional development were all themes touched on in various sessions I attended."



2018 – PROPOSITION B – LIBRARY ALLOCATION \$34.5 Million

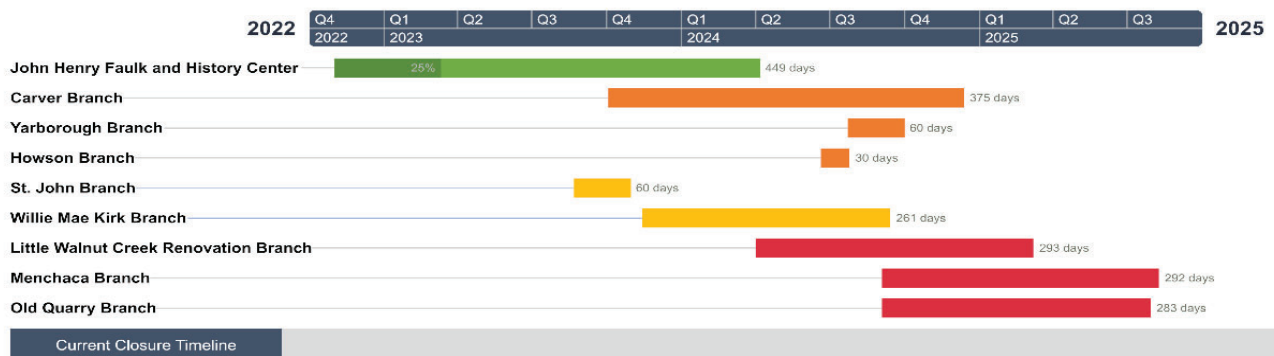
The Austin Public Library's 2018 Bond Program consists of fifteen improvement and renovation projects within the department's facilities portfolio. The program focus is to oversee the Capital Improvement and Program (CIP) management for the library. The Library's FY18 CIP Bond Program Summaries are as follows. Detailed Summary of each project can be found on the [APL Facilities SharePoint](#) page.

Library 2018 Bond Project Estimated Timeline



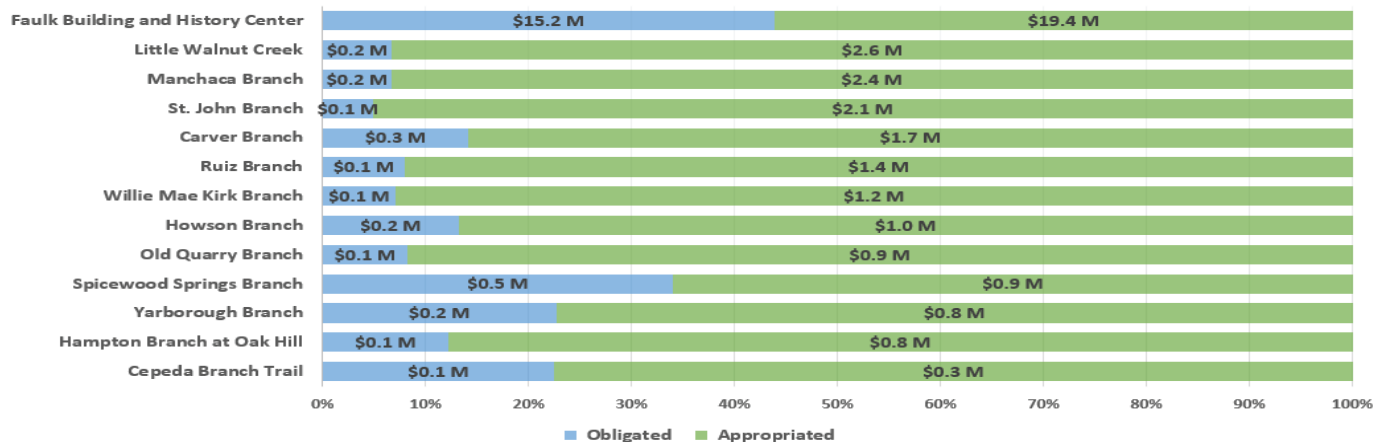
Estimate project timelines may vary from 3-6 months until construction documentation is completed.

CURRENT - Library Project Expected Closures

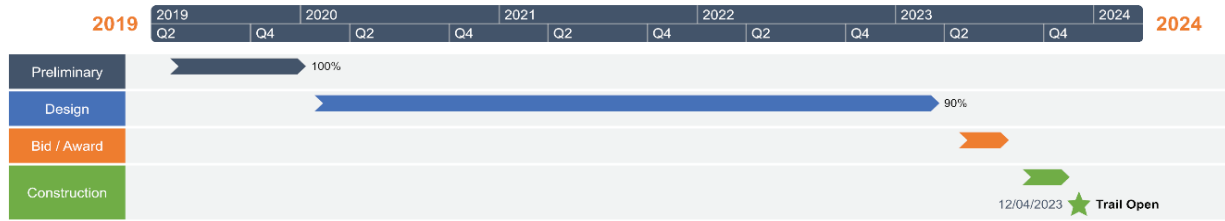


Expected closure times may vary and will be clarified as the lead times are established

2018 BOND PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS



CIP 12700.001 - Cepeda Trail Project



Update: Project will require additional funding. Needs Assessment indicates an additional \$200,000

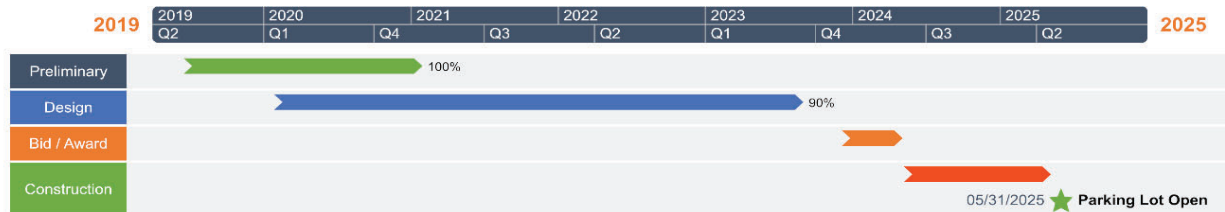
Current Phase: Construction Documentation 100%

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

Impacts

- Public Works has revised the budget estimate to \$568,000
- APL is reviewing funding from the 2018 Bond to address the \$200,000 shortfall
- Discussions about project collaboration with Urban Trails to link Cepeda Branch to the USP Mokan trail project - [Here's the press release](#)

12705.001 Hampton Parking Lot Expansion Project



Update: Project will require additional funding equaling \$400,000 to complete construction.

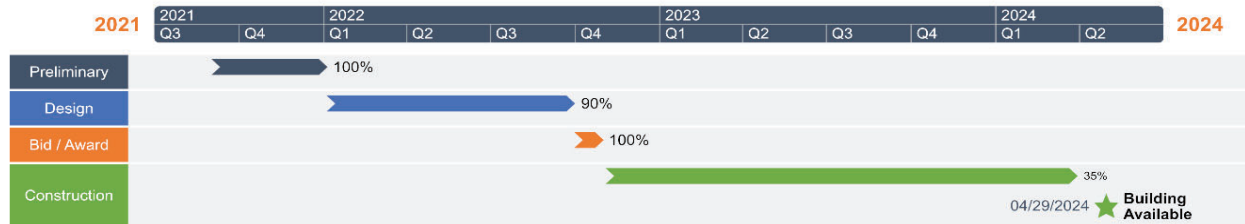
Current Phase: Construction Documentation

The AOK parking lot expansion project is the phase 2 part of the original site plan from 1997. The construction consists of improving the existing stormwater control system / retention pond and adding 74 parking spaces.

Impacts

- Public Works has revised the budget estimate to 1.1 million on a class 3 Cost Estimate (-15% to 20%)
- APL is reviewing funding from the 2018 Bond to address the \$400,000 shortfall
- The Development Services Department determined that a Consolidated Site Plan will be required for the parking lot expansion. The revised plan only requires that eight of the twelve-acre site be surveyed. The sensitive environmental nature of this location warrants services of a geologist as part of the consultant work.

5888.005 Faulk Building and History Center Archival Repository



Current Phase: 35% Construction

Progress at Austin History Center:

- Exterior work is in progress including stone removal, stone waterproofing, and handrail restoration. Interior window abatement and painting work is nearing completion. Ongoing work includes exterior window painting and door restoration.

Progress at John Henry Faulk:

- Interior work is in progress including installation of MEP systems. Upcoming work includes exterior cleaning and rough openings for new point of entry to elevator.

Impact:

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



CLMP286 Five Branch Renovations

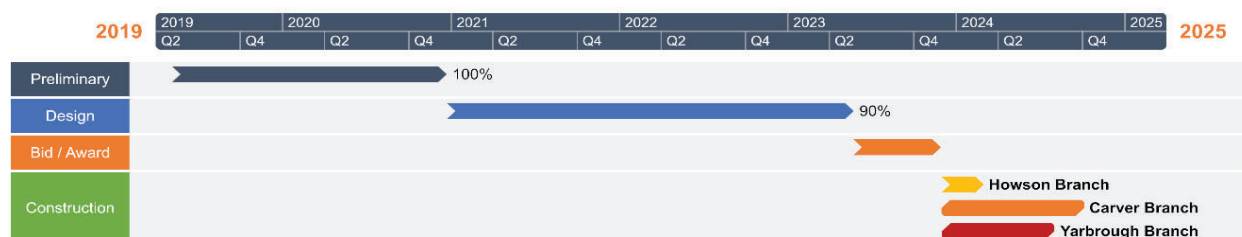


Current Phase: Design Development

Impacts:

- Consulting proposals for design and Construction agreements expected 4/28/23 for COA review
- Teams will begin design development based on the schematical design in May 2023
- Expecting 30% documents in July for review

CLMP287 Roof and Mechanical



Update: Yarbrough expected closures are looking to be minimal, but this will be determined soon.

Current Phase: Construction document phase

Progress:

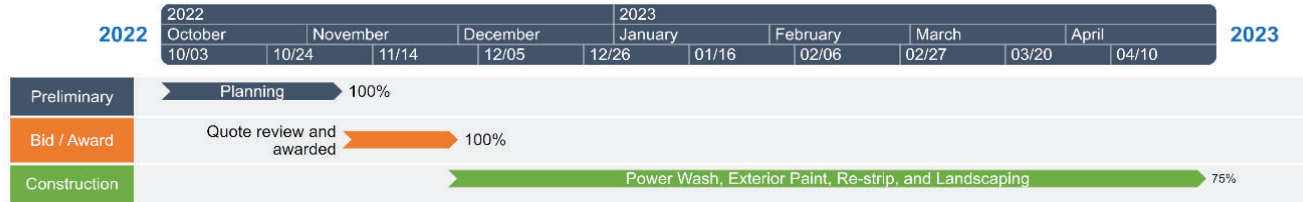
- Instead of solicitation the project team has agreed to explore Job Order Contract (JOC). The project team received the consultants 90% and the construction documents are under review. Consultant to continue working on construction document phase of the project. Estimate 2-3 months duration.

Impacts:

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

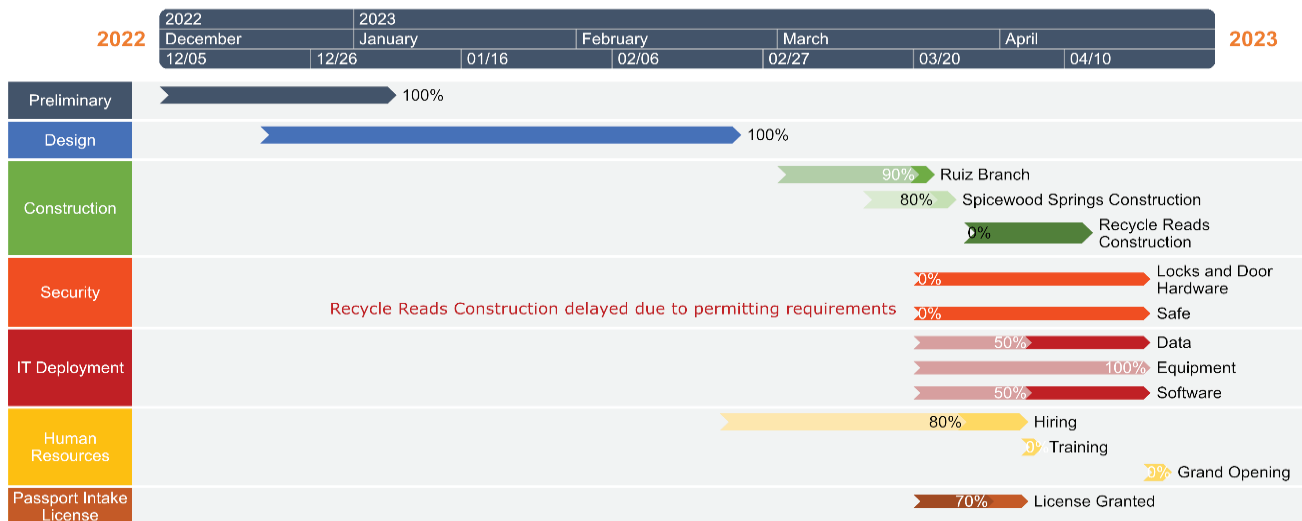
APL SMALL PROJECTS

Carver Branch Beautification Project

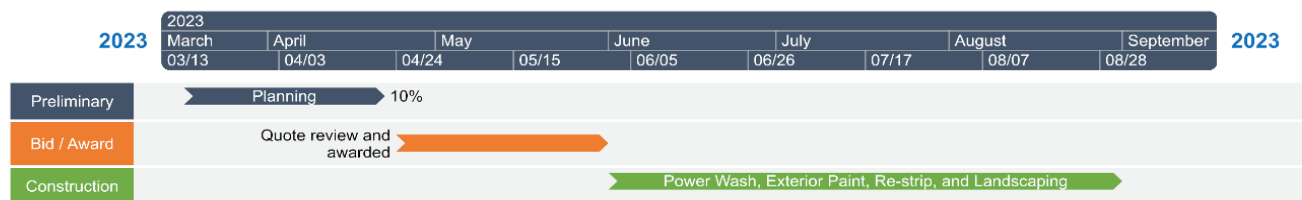


This is an exterior project that will run before the CIP project.

Branch Passport Office Project

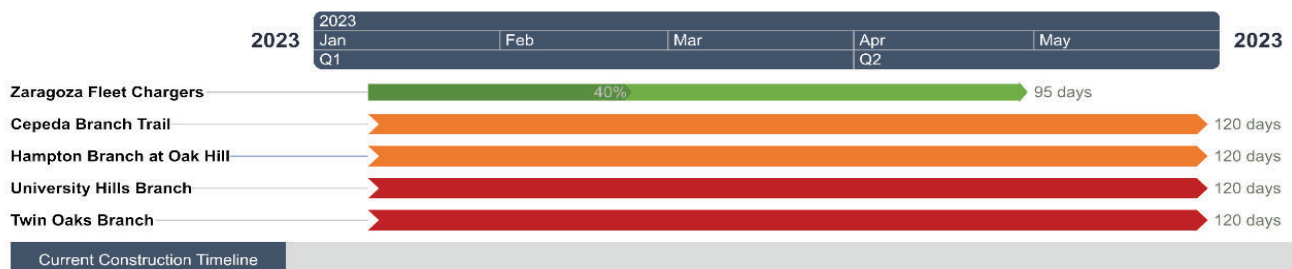


Willie Mae Kirk Beautification Project



This is an exterior project that will run before and parallels to the CIP project.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations



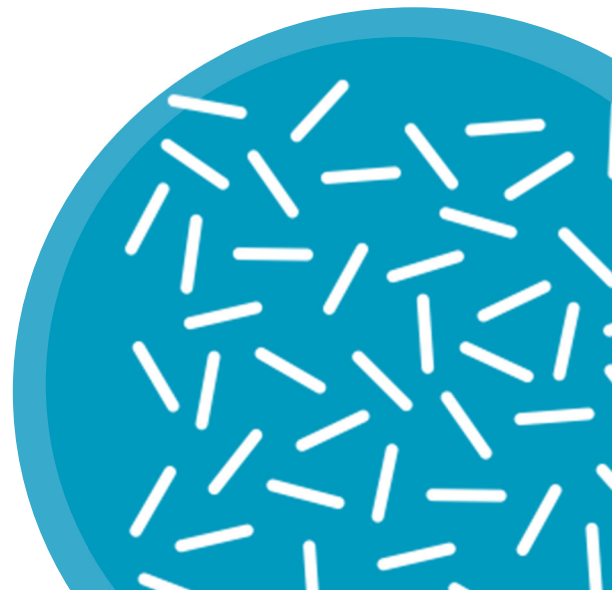
Estimate project timelines may vary from 3 months until construction documentation is completed.



APL BY THE NUMBERS

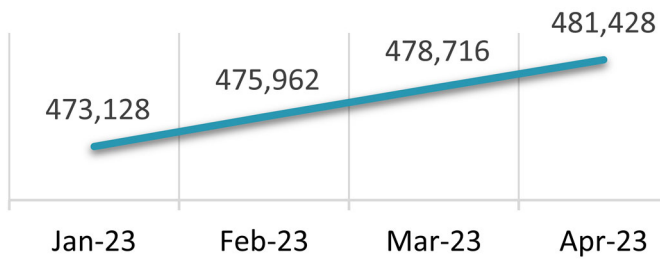
May 2023

AUSTIN
PUBLIC
LIBRARY



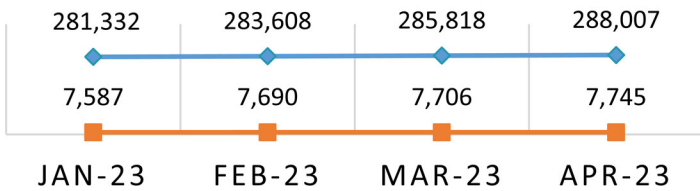
Cardholders

TOTAL CARDHOLDERS

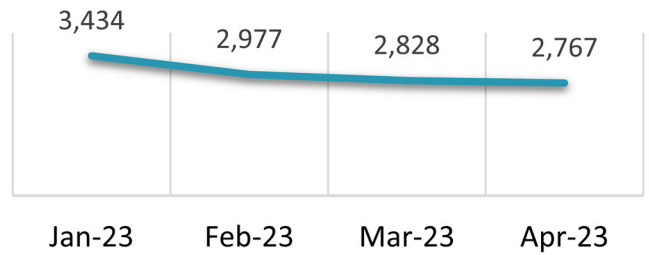


**LIBRARY E-CARDS
RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT**

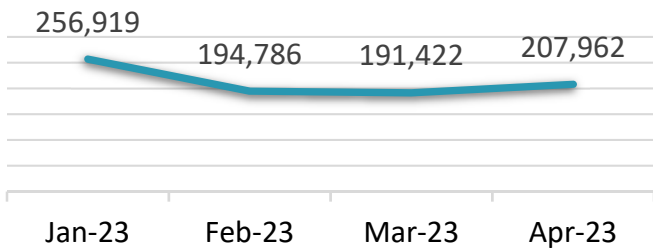
◆ Resident Adult ■ NonResident Adult



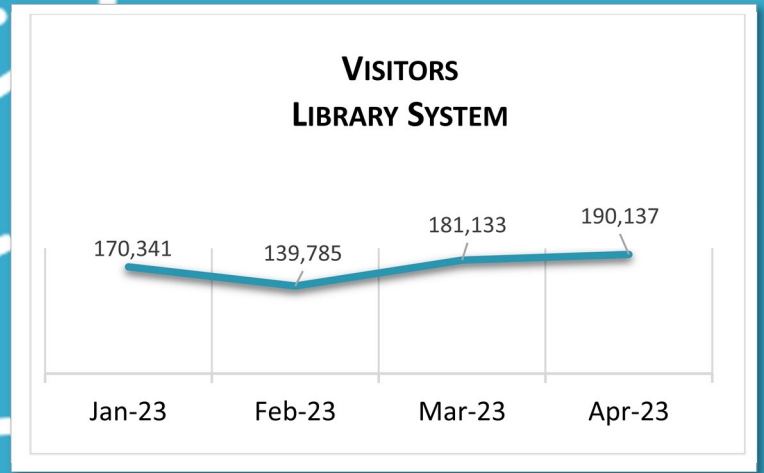
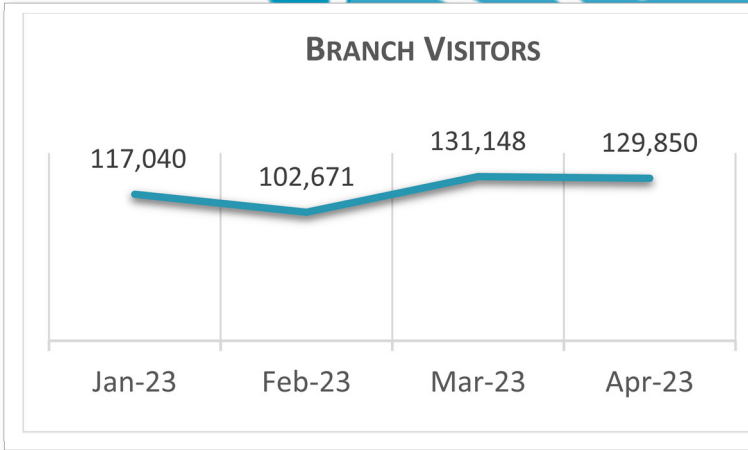
NEW CARDHOLDERS



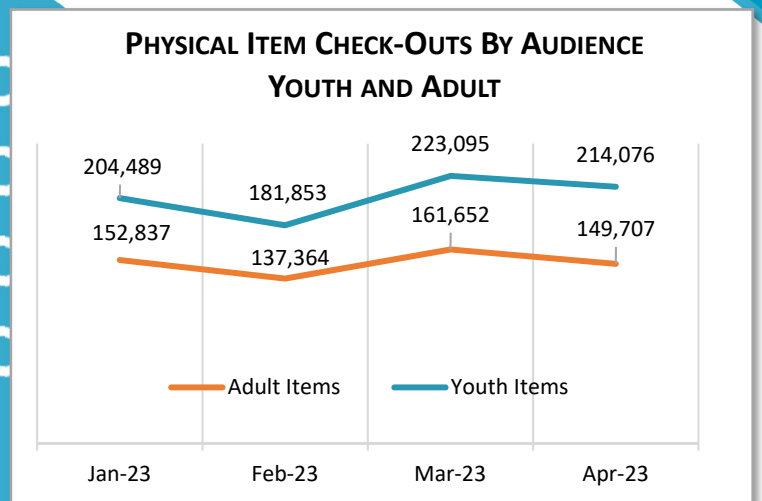
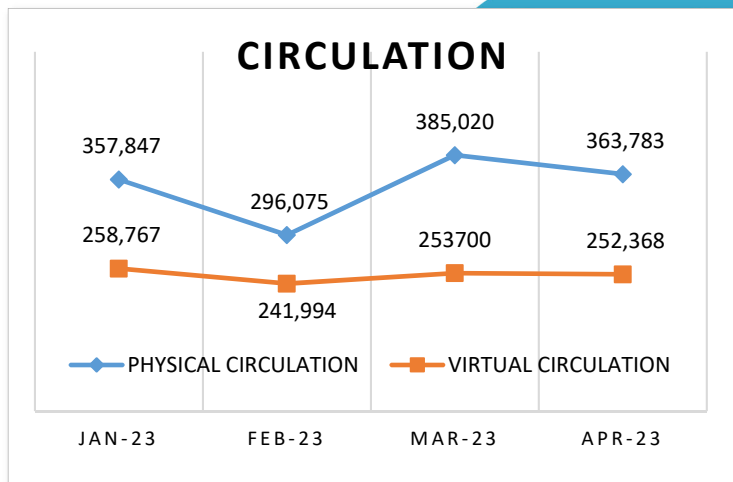
ACTIVE CARDHOLDERS



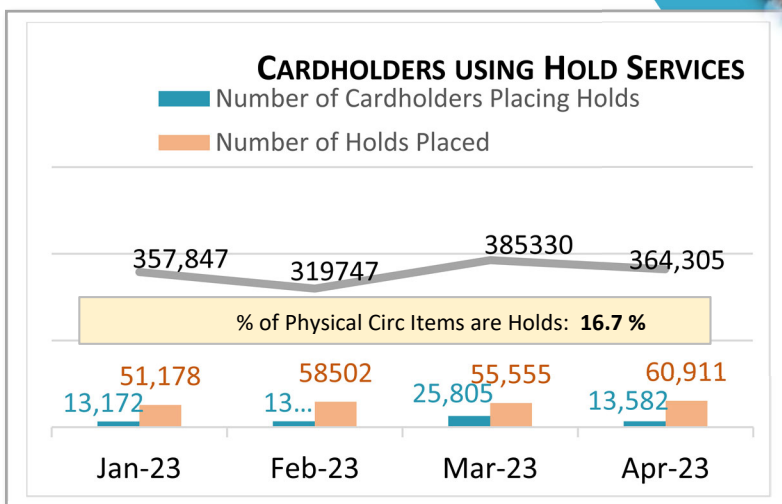
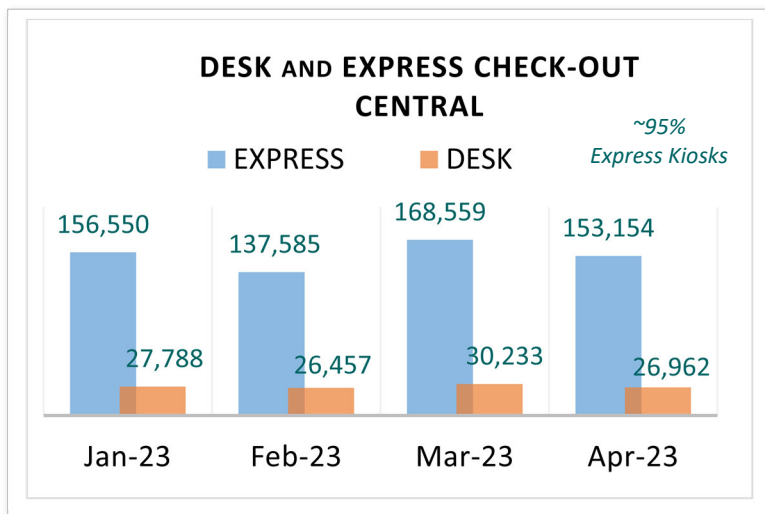
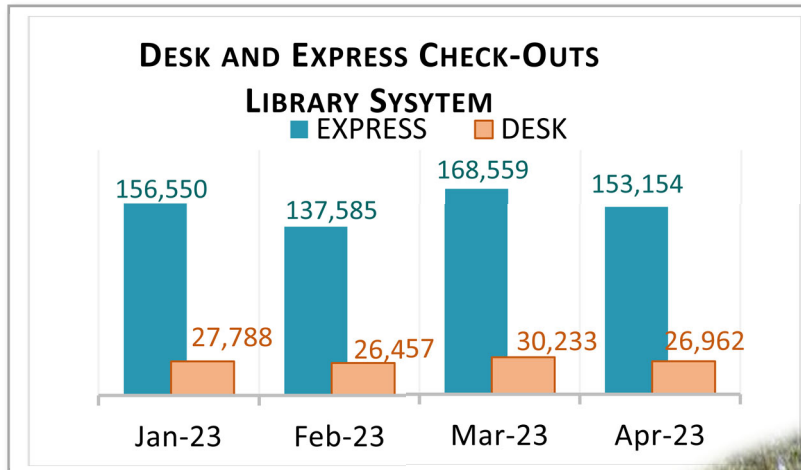
Visitors



Circulation

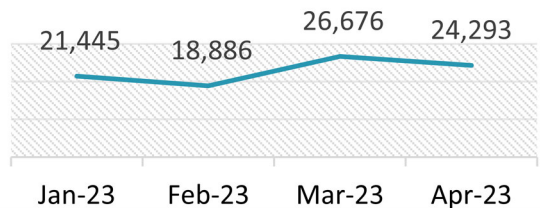


Express & Holds

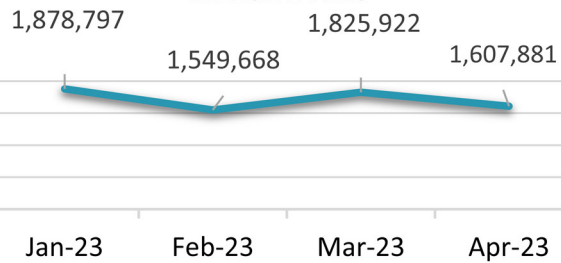


Technology

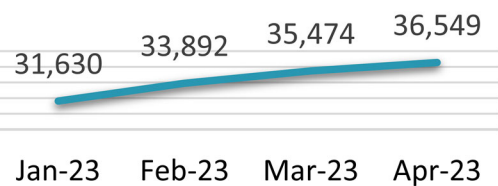
**TOTAL COMPUTER SESSIONS
SYSTEM**



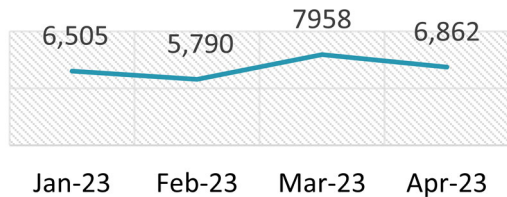
WEBSITE HITS



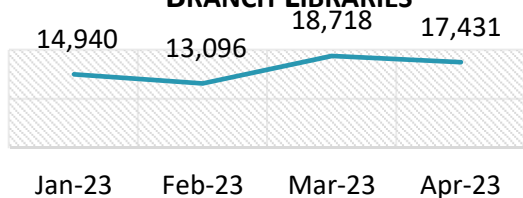
WIFI CONNECTIONS



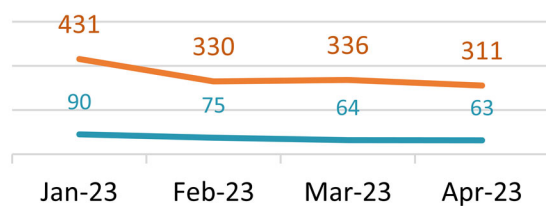
**COMPUTER SESSIONS
CENTRAL LIBRARY**



**COMPUTER SESSIONS
BRANCH LIBRARIES**



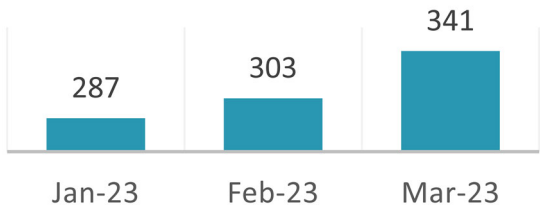
HOTSTOPS & LAPTOP CHECK-OUTS



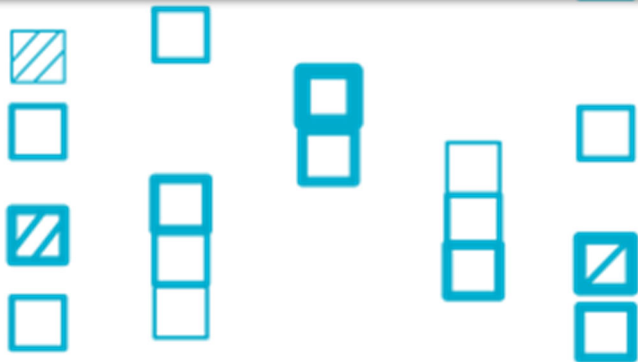
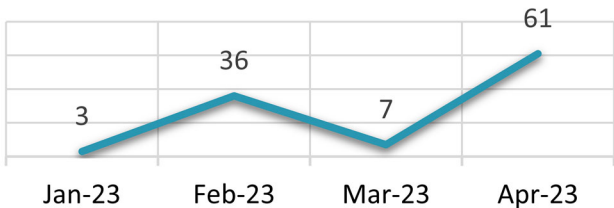
Programs



TOTAL IN-PERSON PROGRAMS



COMMUNITY SERVICES OUTREACH EVENTS
(includes Bookmobile)



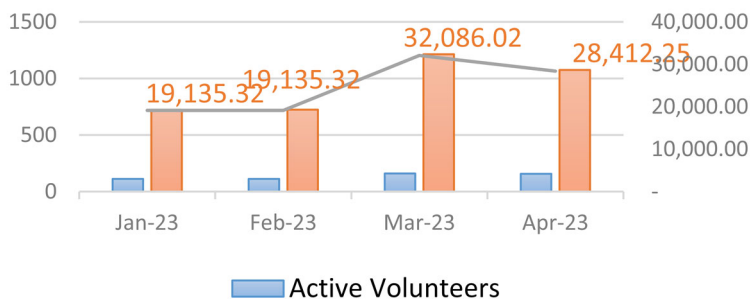
IN-PERSON PROGRAMS BY AUDIENCE

Jan-23 Feb-23 Mar-23



Volunteers

APL VOLUNTEERS



Hours

760

Active
Volunteers

96

Donated
Value

\$20,087