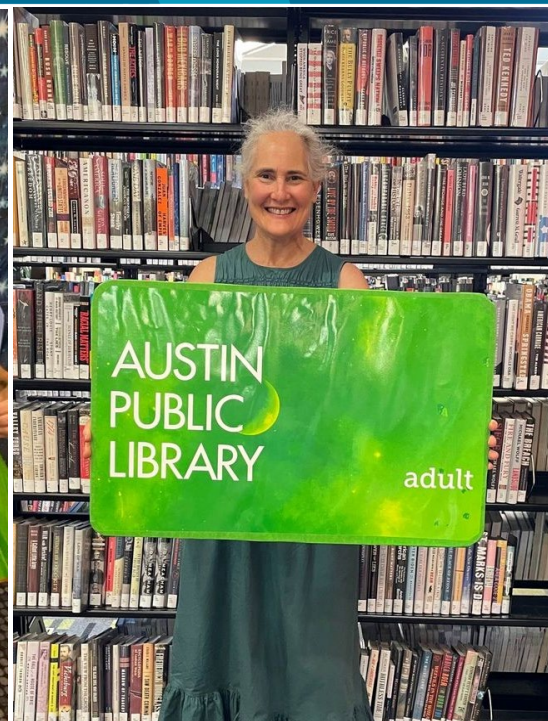


# AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY



**Director's Report**  
September 2023

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# HIGHLIGHTS

## Keep Austin Reading 2023 Challenge



Now that the Summer Learning program has wrapped successfully, APL reminds the community to join our ongoing ‘[Keep Austin Reading](#)’ challenge and get rewarded for reading a different themed book each month. Monthly themes include Women’s History, Banned Books, Graphic Novels, and more. Participants who complete ten out of twelve challenges in 2023 will receive a prize at year’s end.

## ICMA Conference Events at Central

The City of Austin is the host to the 2023 Annual Conference of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), the world’s leading association of professional city and county managers and other employees who serve local governments, on September 30 – October 4, 2023. The Central Library will be home to the ICMA’s opening reception on Saturday, September 30, and will be closed to the public for the entire day. Conference attendees will also have the opportunity to tour the Central Library as well as the surrounding Seaholm District on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> as part of an ICMA mobile workshop.

## People’s Gallery at Austin City Hall

Administration of the People’s Gallery, housed at Austin City Hall was transferred from the City of Austin’s Economic Development Department to Austin Public Library at the July, 2023 City Council meeting. The APL team, led by Exhibits Coordinator Nicole Parker and including members of the Programs and Partnerships team, Financial Services Division, and Marketing Division, is meeting regularly to plan out a new timeline, identify key deliverables, and develop a scope of project for the Gallery in 2024.

## Banned Camp Week

In honor of Banned Camp Week, APL will host programming across the library system in October. For more information on over the 30+ [Banned Books events](#), visit our [APL Events](#) page on our website.



## Austin History Center

The Austin History Center will be temporarily closed for the month of October due to some of the structural work that is a part of the current CIP project scope for the Austin History Center building campus. Staff will be deployed to assist in branches or central during this time. Also, the Austin History Center has an adjustment in their hours to the public due to current and pending construction,

repairs, and relocation efforts. They are now closed to the public on Mondays and Tuesdays and open Wednesday-Sunday.

## Old Quarry Closure

Old Quarry branch, (AOQ) is temporarily closed due to emergency HVAC issues. Replacement of the AC system will start in late September with the goal of reopening the branch in early October. Julie Brown, Branch Manager, and her team are being deployed to other branch locations during this time. Neighboring library branches could see an uptick in attendance and activity.

## Hispanic Latino Heritage Month Celebrations

Austin Public Library celebrates this Heritage Month with rich cultural experiences that enlighten and empower our community. Running September 15 - October 15<sup>th</sup>, a wide range of programs are underway including Guatemalan crafts, a DJing workshop, concerts at the Central branch, dance classes, an oral history workshop, Mola folk art crafts, and more. To kick the celebrations off, a collaborative "Hispanic Latino Heritage Month Celebration" was held at the Central Library on September 16, 2023, which included:



- Pan dulce from Comadre Panderia
- Performance by Latin Dukes
- DJ Kick It workshop in the Innovation Lounge and set in teen lounge
- Artist workshop with 6<sup>th</sup> floor exhibitor Julio Moreno
- Talk by author, UT professor and local expert on Latinx representation in the media, Dr Aldama with some of his books available for participants.

## Digital Inclusion Week

In addition to the many computer and technology programs held across the APL system throughout the year, APL branches and central teams have worked with their staff and community partners to bring Tech Times and other additional learning opportunities to patrons during Digital Inclusion week, October 2 – 7, 2023. Programs will focus on helping the public use both APL and their own devices to their fullest as we support digital equity. Below are a few of the special events APL's programming teams, along with our new Innovation Team, will host in-house as well as in the community.

- Central Library will host a *Revolutionize Your Productivity with AI Tools – a SCORE workshop* on October 3rd, including a visit from our Innovate lab team to discuss resources.
- Central's *Talk Time*, will bring together technology and language on October 5<sup>th</sup> with a visit to the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Innovation Lounge to use equipment to create something digital and then talk about it.
- Our APL Bookmobile and the Innovation lab team will attend Austin Free Net's Tech for All Fest on October 7<sup>th</sup> to promote library services and digital resources available to the public.



## Carver Branch 90th Anniversary

The Carver Branch hosted a celebration of its 90th anniversary on Saturday, September 16, 2023. Attendees enjoyed face painting, snacks, Italian ice by Make My Day Ice, and a performance by jazz singer Kenny Williams. All had a great time celebrating this milestone with our Carver community!



## Central Library Parking Garage Upgrades

Upgrades are coming to the Central Library's parking garage to make navigation easier! The City of Austin Economic Development Department has reached out to APL to discuss a \$1 million Arts/Homelessness Initiative to work with a local non-profit organization to paint murals and provide new wayfinding information on the walls inside the parking garage. This will likely mean temporary disruptions for customers and staff who park at the Central Library while the murals are being painted, but will ultimately benefit everyone trying to access the facility. More information and dates will be shared as soon as they are finalized.

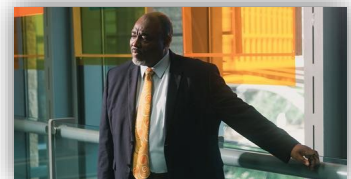
## APL After Dark

On Friday, October the 13<sup>th</sup>, APL in partnership with the Library Foundation, will host our second *APL After Dark* at the Central Library since its return. The theme for this highly attended, adults-only event is "Creature Feature" and will include exciting and creative activities from our Innovation team, plus community partners and presenters related to creatures and monster-based movies. The circulation desk will be open for new and renewing of cards, plus the APL shop will be open and host an activity. We highly recommend all attend this fun event!



## In the News

Check out the recent news articles and interviews by APL staff, including Director Weeks' candid article in Austin Monthly which prompted a visit from KVUE for an interview on book censorship that will air on TV in the near future.



- ["Austin's Head Librarian Gets Real About Censorship and Community Building"](#) – Austin Monthly
- ["The Impact of Access: Libraries, Bookstores, Literacy Programs Continue to Provide Banned Titles to Teens"](#) – School Library Journal
- ["Learn about all the resources available at Austin Public Library as we transition back to school"](#) – CBS Austin
- ["Inside Austin Public Library's vinyl record collection and the event series showcasing it"](#) – KXAN
- ["Austin Public Library expanding passport services to 3 new locations"](#) – KXAN
- ["The War on the Walls in Yuliya Lanina's Mother / Land"](#) – Austin Chronicle (also featured on [the cover!](#))

## 5 BRANCHES RENOVATIONS

### Design Development Phase

**Last Month:** PW worked with consultant to split proposal into two phases so that work can continue to progress while the RCA approval is ongoing.

**Next Month:** Amendment to initial design contract to be awarded for Old Quarry, Willie Mae Kirk and St. John's. Start Design Development Phase.

**Next Milestone:** RCA to Council to approve additional funding for design for Menchaca and Little Walnut branches.

**Expected Start/End:** Fall 2023 – Spring/May 2025

**Actual Start:** TBD; consultant's schedule to follow after award is made.

## ROOF AND MECHANICAL REPLACEMENT

### Construction Documentation Phase:

**100% MEP for Howson; Carver and Yarborough**

**Last Month:** Refining bids from Subcontractors, cost analysis have come back higher than Public Works Dept. expected.

**Next Month:** Contractors will revise cost analysis based on Engineering Consultants comments to reduce estimated cost

**Next Milestone:** Communication of material lead times and branch closure; followed by NTP

**Expected Start/End:** January 2024

**Actual Start:** October 2024

## CEPEDA TRAIL

### Construction Documentation: 100%

**Last Month:** The Trail alignment will start construction next month for the Tillery to Gonzalez section. Gonzalez to Cepeda alignment is projected to start December/ January. Alignment section 2a is on hold, possible obtaining property through eminent domain to continue the Urban Trail agenda.

**Next Month:** Construction start for Tillery to Gonzalez,

**Next Milestone:** Construction Start, removing parameter fencing to make property accessible for construction.

**Expected Start/End:** Late 2023 - Early 2024

**Actual Start:** 8/18/2023

## FAULK AND HISTORY CENTER

### 60 % Construction Phase

**Last Month:** Faulk's progress includes mechanical installations, elevator refurbishing, finish work, and asphalt repaving. Progress at the History Center includes stone replacement on the North elevation and scaffolding installation and mortar removal on the East and South elevations.

**Next Month:** Continue progress in the Faulk building on final finishes and shelving system installation. Stonework on the North, East, and South elevations of the History Center will continue. Interior storm window installations, lift replacement, and door restoration will be completed while the building is closed to the public.

**Next Milestone:** Austin History Center closure to the public in October 2023

**Expected Start/End:** Nov 2022- Spring 2024

**Actual Start:** Nov. 4, 2022

## SMALL PROJECTS

**Last month:** Electric Vehicle Station installations completed at Zaragoza Warehouse.

Finished up under bridge lighting repairs at New Central.

**Next Month:**

Continue to upgrade drinking fountains at branches.

## HAMPTON PARKING LOT EXPANSION

### Construction Documentation Phase: 100CD %

Consultant is revising water retention drainage on schematics.

**Last Month:** APL requested an updated cost analysis to better plan for shortfall in funding.

**Next Month:** Public Works Dept. has assigned a new Project Manager for Hampton Parking Expansion.

**Next Milestone:** Construction Start TBD

**Expected Start/End:** Summer 2024 – Spring 2025

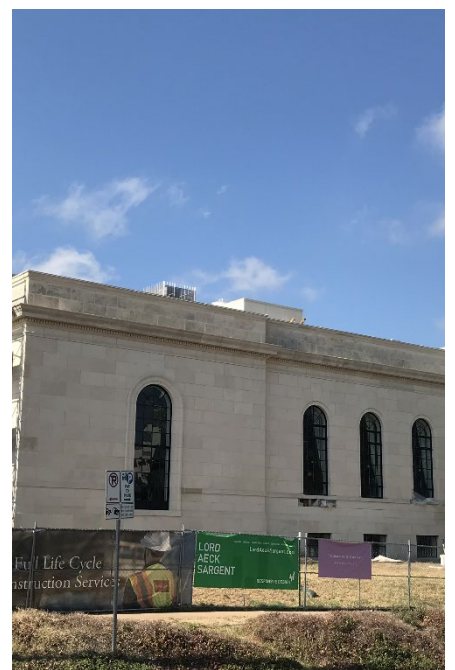
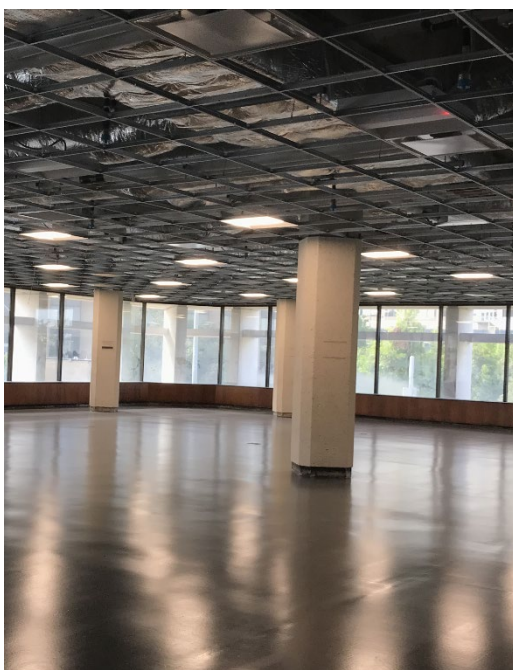
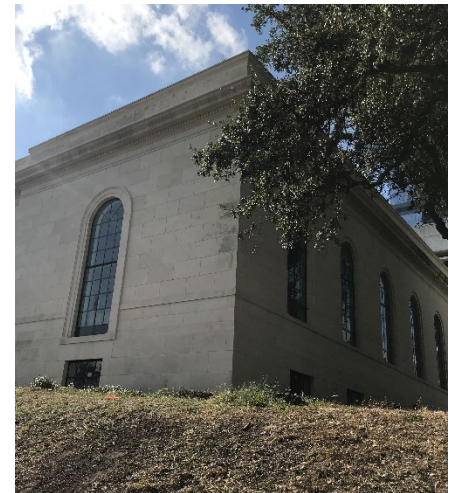
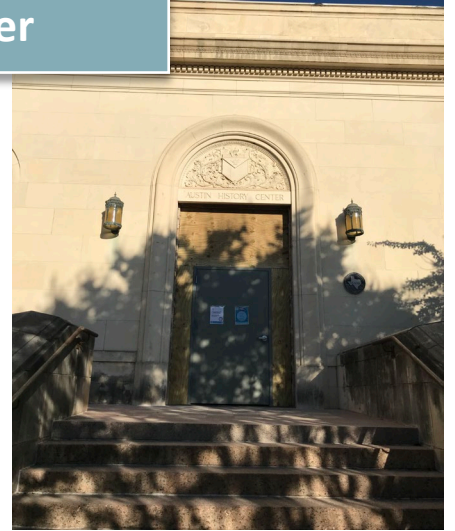
**Actual Start:** NTP 9/15

## APPROPRIATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS

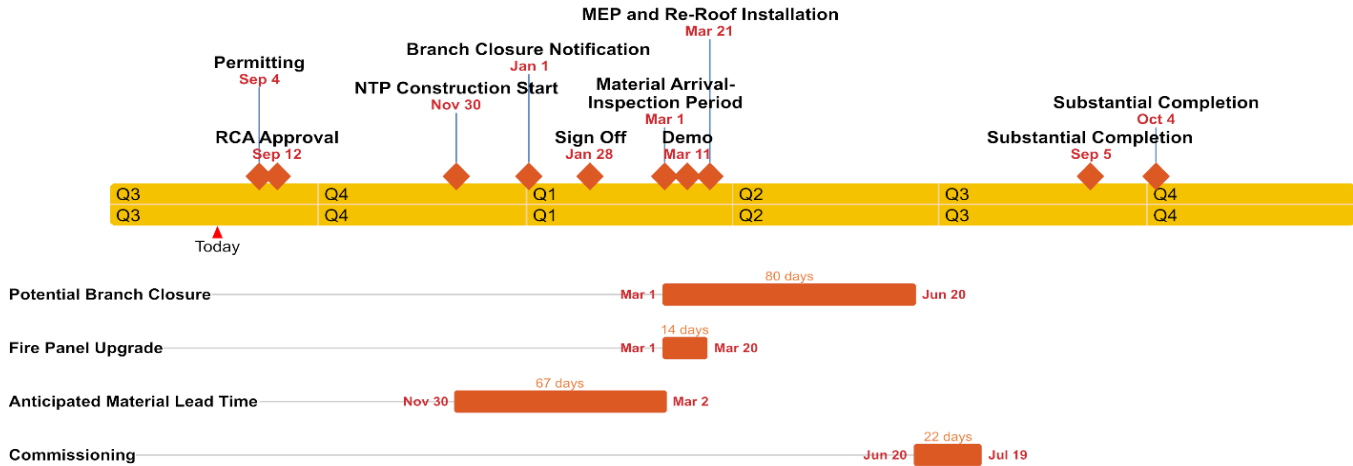
	Appropriated	Obligated
HAMPTON PARKING LOT	\$751,000	\$286,192
CEPEDA TRAIL	\$307,000	\$187,363
ROOF AND MECHANICAL	\$4,082,651	\$674,320
FAULK AND HISTORY CENTER	\$19,382,250	\$17,188,407
5 BRANCHES RENOVATIONS	\$9,138,398	\$721,528



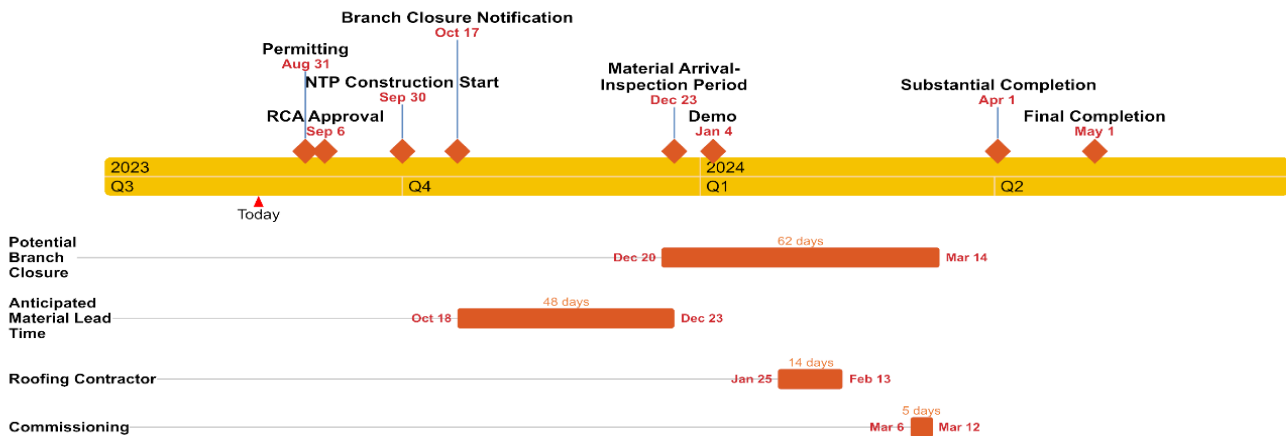
## Faulk Building and History Center



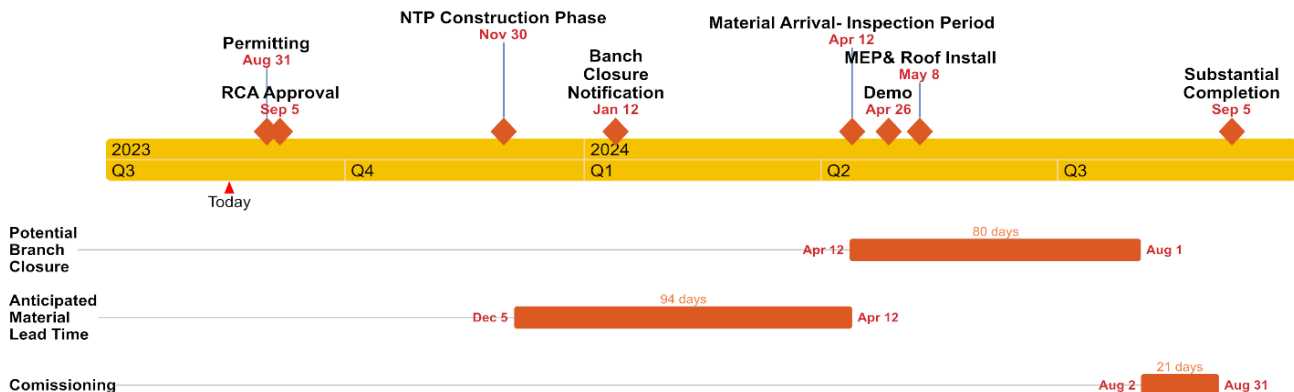
## Carver MEP and Re-Roof



## Howson HVAC Upgrades

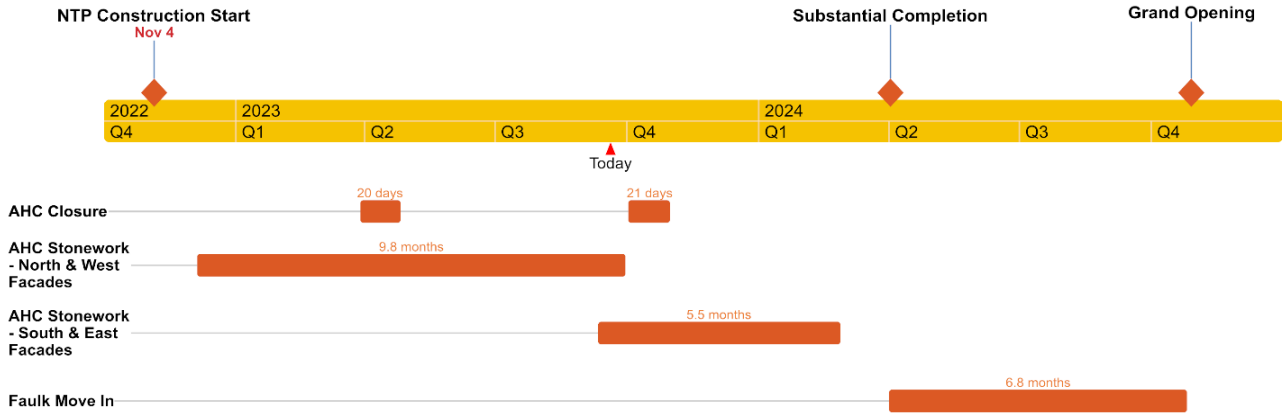


## Yarborough Roof Replacement & HVAC Upgrade

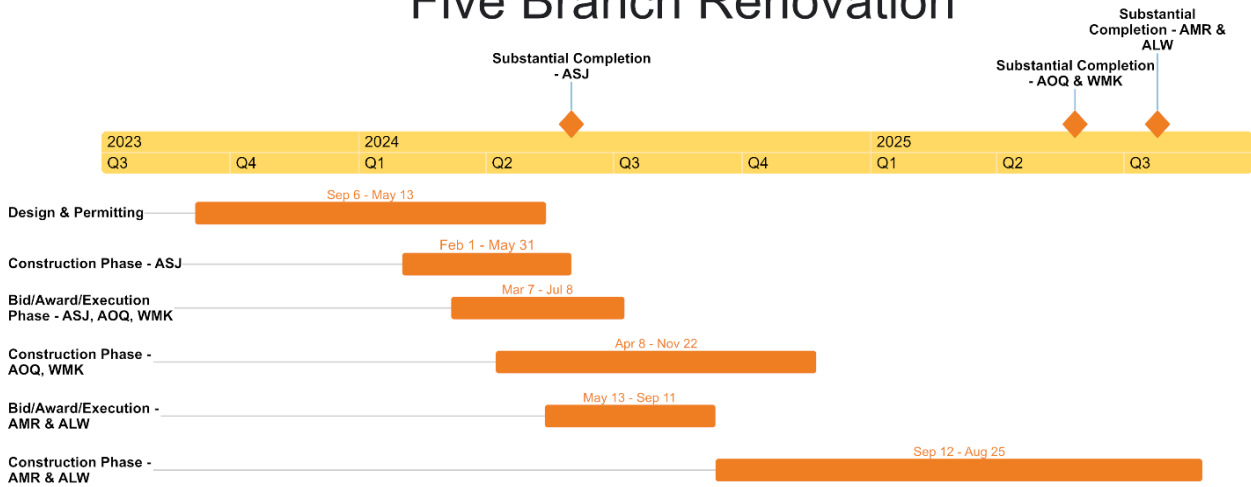




# Faulk Building & History Center Construction



# Five Branch Renovation





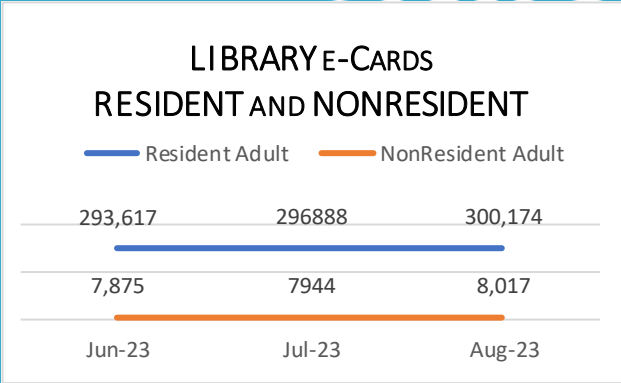
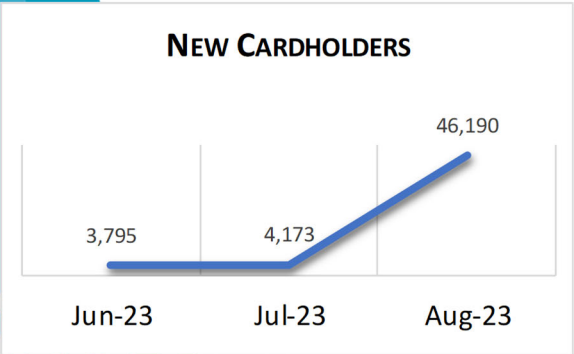
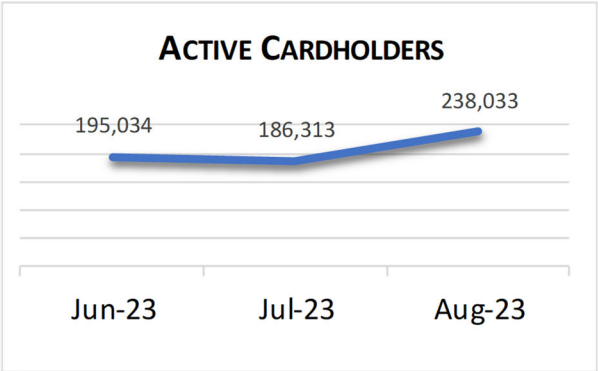
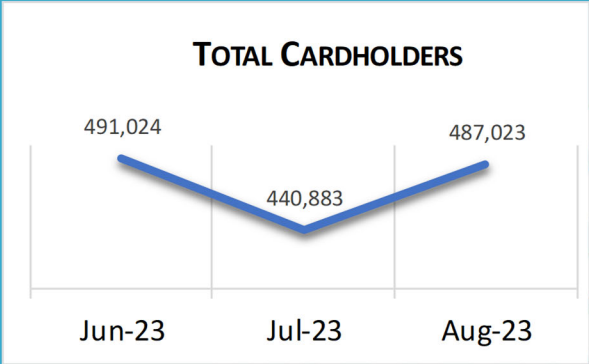
# APL BY THE NUMBERS

## September 2023

AUSTIN  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY



# Cardholders



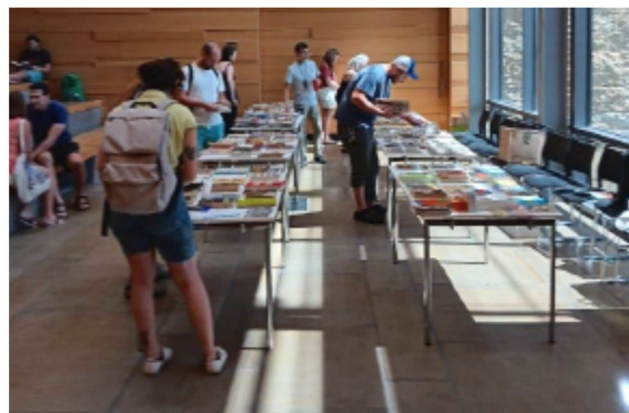
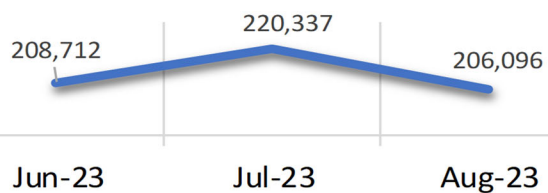
AUSTIN  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY



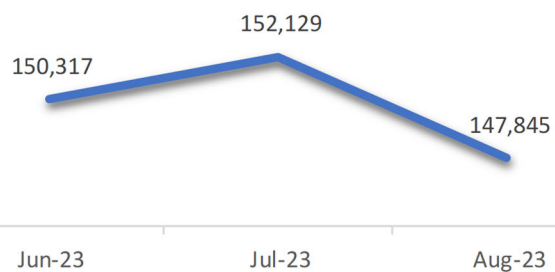
# Visitors



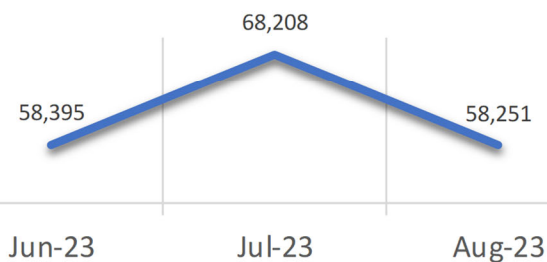
**VISITORS  
LIBRARY SYSTEM**



**BRANCH VISITORS**

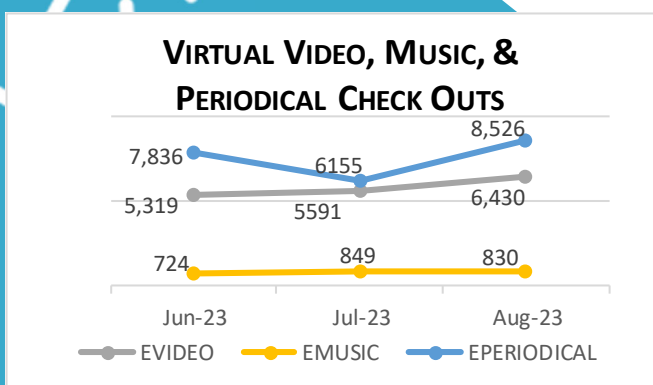
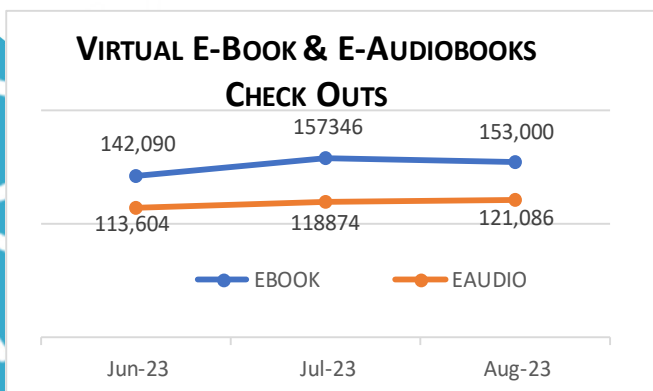
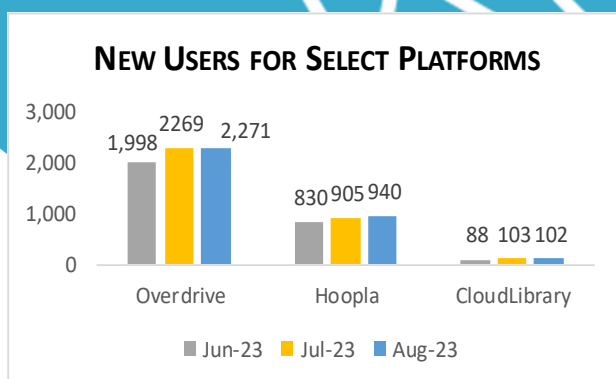
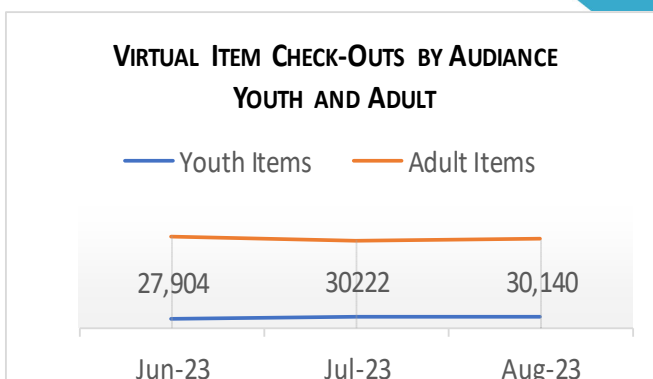
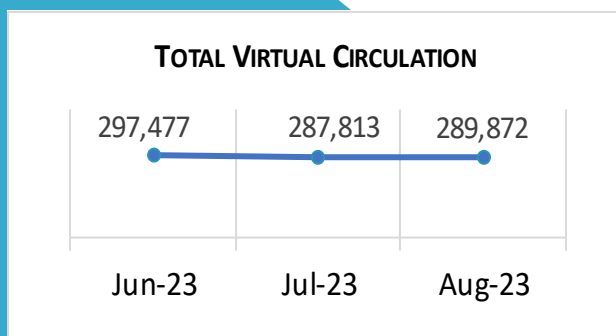
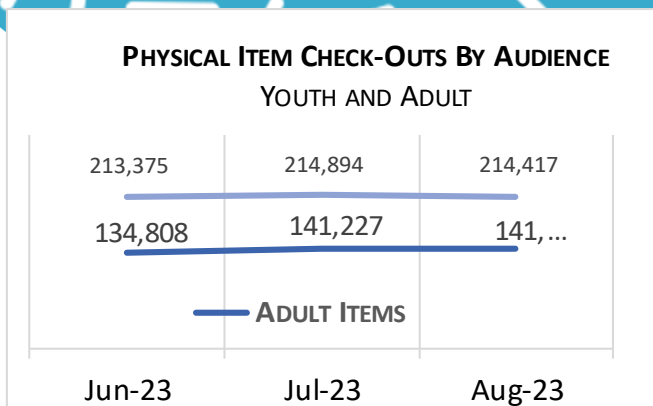
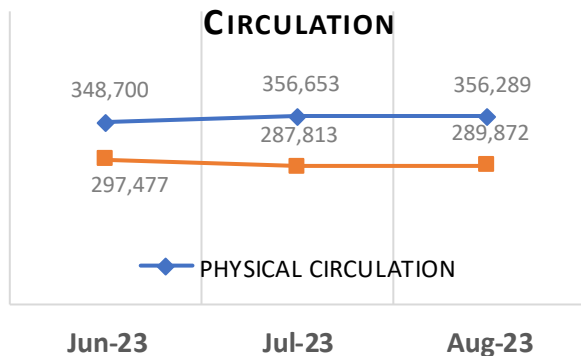


**CENTRAL VISITORS**

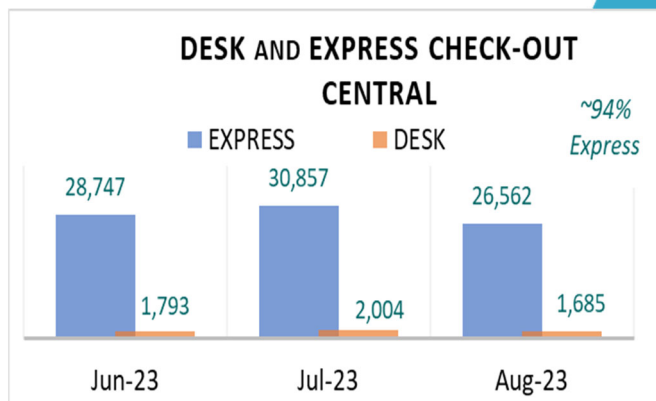
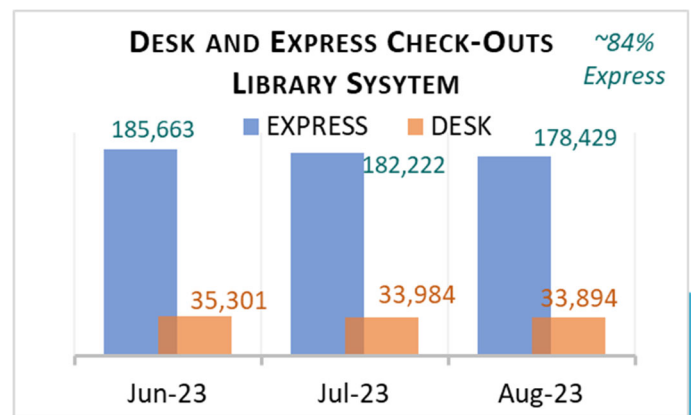
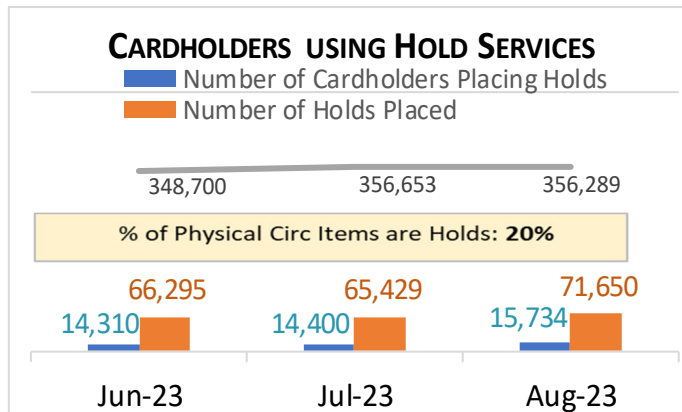


**AUSTIN  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY**

# Circulation & Collections



# Express & Holds

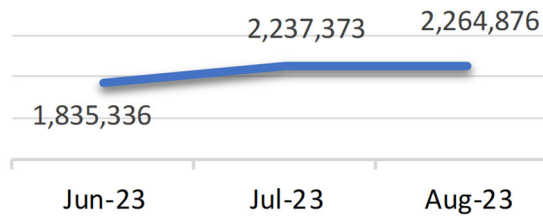


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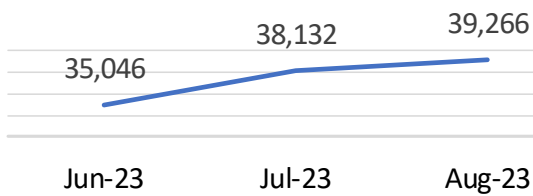


# Technology

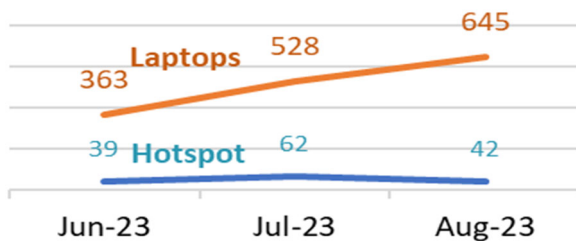
## WEBSITE HITS



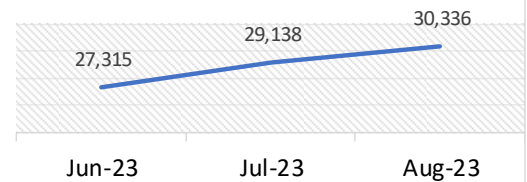
## WIFI CONNECTIONS



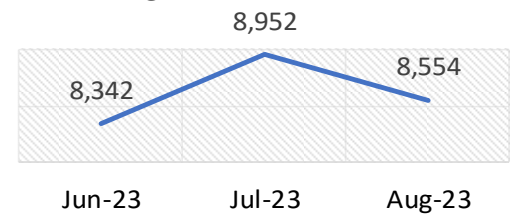
## HOTSTOPS & LAPTOP CHECK-OUTS



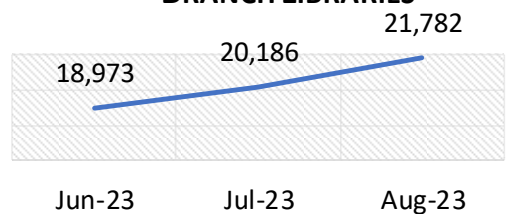
## TOTAL COMPUTER SESSIONS SYSTEM



## COMPUTER SESSIONS CENTRAL LIBRARY



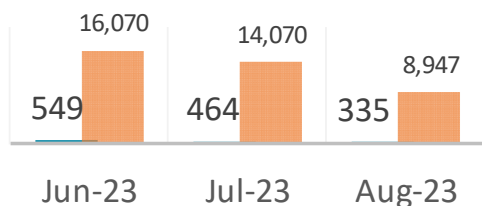
## COMPUTER SESSIONS BRANCH LIBRARIES



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LIBRARY

# Programs and Outreach

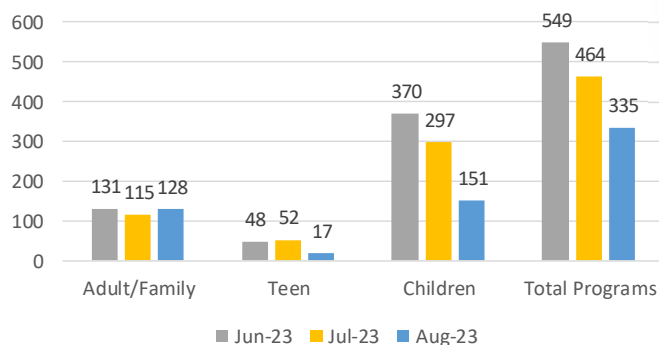
## TOTAL IN-PERSON PROGRAMS



*Does not include Outreach, Unadvertised, or*



## IN-PERSON PROGRAMS BY AUDIENCE

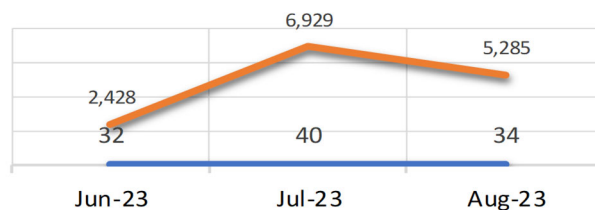


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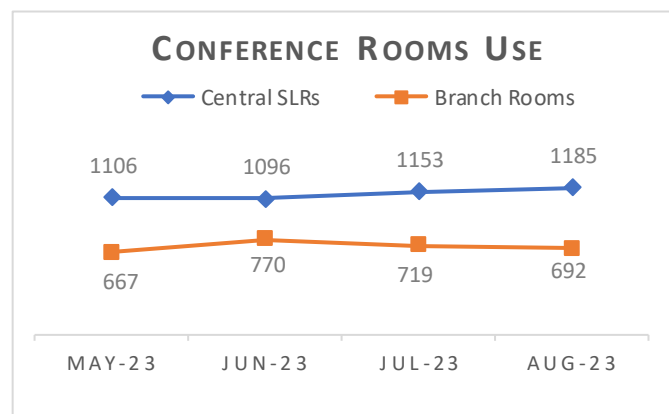
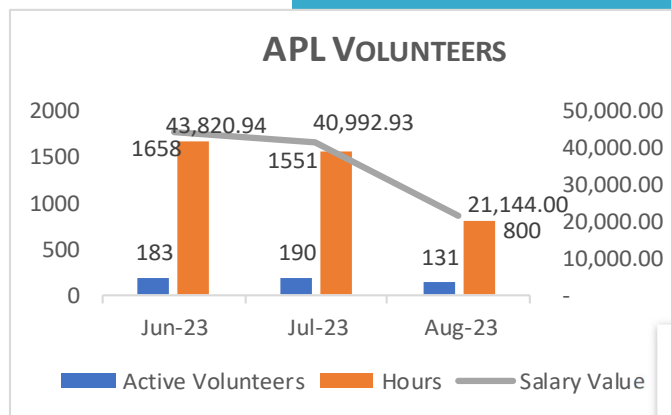
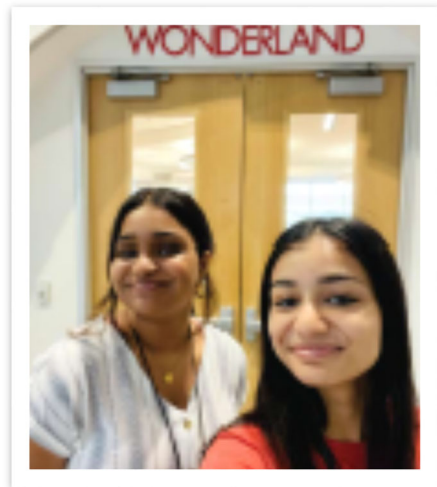


## COMMUNITY SERVICES OUTREACH EVENTS (includes Bookmobile)

— Outreach Events — Customers Served



# Volunteers and Meeting Rooms



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LIBRARY

