

AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY



Director's Report
October 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Highlights	3
Capital and Facilities Projects	6
Gallery	7
Timelines	8
APL by the Numbers	10
Cardholder	11
Visitors	12
Circulation and Collections	13
Express & Holds	14
Technology	15
Programs and Outreach	16
Volunteers and Meeting Rooms	17

HIGHLIGHTS

Austin History Center on National Register

APL proudly announces the approval of the John Henry Faulk Building's official listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The inclusion of this building is a testament to its significant historical value and cultural importance.

Texas Library System Accreditation

APL is proud to again gain Library System Accreditation through the Texas State Library and Archives Commission for State Fiscal Year 2024: September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024. APL has been awarded accreditation for over 33 years and as a system member, the benefits of accreditation include access to statewide interlibrary loan (ILL), E-rate, grant and other funding opportunities, and TexShare card and database programs.

Hispanic Latino Heritage Month

Throughout the APL system, a range of engaging and culturally rich activities marked the celebration of Hispanic Latino Heritage Month from September through early October. To highlight just a few of the multiple events, Windsor Park featured weekend adult craft and dance programs, along with entertaining after-school activities for children. Team members visiting from Old Quarry, (AOQ), facilitated creative sessions where adults indulged in the art of Talavera Pottery, Guatemalan Kites, and a dynamic Bachata Dance Lesson led by Corazon Latino. At Yarborough, customers delighted in participating in a popular Guatemalan Weaving program, while and interactive "Encanto" singalong and preschool Musica y Movimiento program were also warmly received.



Over at Ruiz (ARZ), participants immersed themselves in the intricate patterns and techniques of indigenous Guatemalan weavers during an engaging Guatemalan Weaving program. Attendees at the ARZ Board with Books program enjoyed playing culturally immersive games in Spanish and themed around Latino cultures. One of the regular ARZ families expressed their profound appreciation for the library's diverse and enriching programs.

Recycled Reads (ARR) hosted an insightful Talavera Pottery session, where twenty eager learners were introduced to the esteemed Mexican and Spanish pottery tradition. Guided by this art form, they embellished pottery drinking cups, or cantaritos de barro mexicanos. A special highlight of the event was the presence of Josefina Rodriguez Gibbs, a former APL librarian, who added a touch of nostalgia to the gathering, further fostering a sense of community among the diverse Spanish-speaking customers in attendance.

Furthermore, Little Walnut Creek amplified community engagement on October 14 by hosting a vibrant event featuring live music from DJ Kick-It indoors, coupled with captivating outdoor performances by several local artists.

Austin History Center

AHC will be temporarily closed through October 30, 2023, due to construction work as part of the current CIP project scope for the Austin History Center building campus. Current work will include interior storm window installation, basement lift replacement, metal door painting, and door restoration.

Spicewood Springs Branch Harvest Moon Festival

Over 300 people attended our first annual Harvest Moon Festival and explored traditional fall celebrations from China, Korea, Japan, and Vietnam. Programming and Outreach Librarian Jane Pan has organized very successful Lunar New Year events in the past, but she realized that many local organizations host Lunar New Year celebrations and that time of year could be very saturated. She had the idea to create a signature fall festival to celebrate East Asian traditions. The event featured traditional Korean dance, a Japanese tea ceremony, a talk with the curators of the Seeking Community exhibit from AHC, and tables from City of Austin departments and local community groups. Families enjoyed crafts and moon cakes and learned about fall celebrations. The event took place throughout the entire library and ran very smoothly. We look forward to hosting it again next year!

Remembering Montopolis

The Ruiz branch hosted a Remembering Montopolis event in September in partnership with the community non-profit Mi/My Montopolis to encourage community members to come and share stories and memorabilia of their time growing up in the Montopolis Neighborhood. Some longtime residents were recorded as part of an oral history component that was also part of the event. It was wonderful to meet and speak with several residents whose families have lived in Montopolis for generations. It was especially wonderful to meet and speak with Clifton Griffith who began working as a Library Assistant at the Montopolis Branch shortly after it opened in November 1968.



Southeast Branch Outreach Partnerships Grow

The APL team at the Southeast Branch (ASE) continues its dedication to promoting library services within the community through collaborative partnerships and outreach efforts. In September, ASE maintained its presence at the Mexican consulate, offering informative sessions to visitors. Additionally, during their visit, they were featured on the radio program, Conejo y Chilanga, on la Raza 95.1, producing a brief video to showcase the Baila! Programs available at ASE and other APL locations. Moreover, ASE is fostering a partnership with the Austin Police Academy. Branch Manager

Irene Magana-Noverola, presented to cadets and training officers at the 151 APD Cadet Academy, where new library cards were distributed to the participants. ASE was also actively involved in various community events such as the Dove Springs School Bash, the Lead with Love community meeting at Langford Elementary, and a wellness fair at Travis High School. These events served as platforms to promote the accessibility of library resources within the community, including the APL Enhanced Library Card Program.

Coding Classes at Milwood again!

Milwood is excited to resume our partnership with Coderdojo Austin this September. Years ago, before the pandemic, Coderdojo partnered with Milwood to offer free coding classes to children ages 7-17 with their parents in the room of course! Children learn Scratch coding and teens learn introduction Python and other skills for free. Coderdojo is made up of volunteers and they all became volunteers with APL. The program will be held twice a month on Friday afternoons in the meeting room at Milwood.

Hank Willis Thomas Artist's Talk and Sculpture Unveiling

In partnership with the Library Foundation, Central Library will host the Hank Willis Thomas Artist's talk and sculpture unveiling on 11/15/2023, which celebrates the unveiling of "The Truth is I Love You," a sculpture by celebrated artist Hank Willis Thomas that will be on permanent display outside the Central Library. After the unveiling, Thomas will be joined in conversation with art historian Cherise Smith, Executive Director of the Art Galleries at Black Studies and Chair of the UT African and African Diaspora Studies Department.

Library Foundation Pulitzer on the Road

In collaboration with the Library Foundation, and PEN Across America, the Central Library will host Pulitzer on the Road: American Stories Then & Now, Hernan Diaz & Eli Saslow, on 11/16/2023. The conversation will be moderated by Marjorie Miller, administrator of the Pulitzer Prizes.

AYB Tall Like a Pirate

Remember, to err is human;
to arr is pirate.

September 19 is International Talk Like a Pirate Day. At Yaarrrborough, however, we celebrate the Golden Age of Piracy all month long with activities, programs, and booty related to pirates, mermaids, and the briny deep. Passive programs aligned with the theme included finding Sock Monkey, coloring pages, a scavenger hunt, and a community build of Lego pirate ship. Finding Sock Monkey earned the prize of a themed sticker. Completing the scavenger hunt resulted in a trip to our wooden treasure chest filled with special booty. Children's faces light up when they see the treasure chest being brought to them to open. The activity for Kids Create was making a mermaid tail or spyglass. Staff also learned about Mango Languages by taking the Pirate Talk modules. This annual celebration is a lighthearted way for the staff to connect with customers at the beginning of a school year.

5 BRANCHES RENOVATIONS

Design Development Phase

Last Month: It was determined it would be more expeditious in purchasing to combine the design all of the branches into one amendment. PW has the RCA on the Council's agenda for approval of the amendment for design fees.

Next Month: PW has the RCA on the Council's agenda on 11/30 for approval of the amendment for design fees.

Next Milestone: RCA to Council to approve additional funding for design and work to commence.

Expected Start/End: Jan. 2024 – Spring/May 2025

Actual Start: TBD; consultant's schedule to follow

ROOF AND MECHANICAL REPLACEMENT

Permitting Phase:

Howson, Carver, and Yarborough

Last Month: JOC Contractors quotes have come back higher than PWD expected. All projects are in the permitting phase.

Next Month: Value engineering suggestions from contractors and APL have been identified; feasibility of value engineering will be determined.

Next Milestone: Permit Approval and Notice to Proceed are the next milestones. APL will have to determine if additional funding is needed after the value engineering suggestions are approved and new cost estimates are submitted by contractors. Depending on funding and cost, one of the branches may be removed from JOC and go through the IFB process for Solicitation.

Expected Start/End: January 2024-Sept 2024

Actual Start: November 2024

FAULK AND HISTORY CENTER

60 % Construction Phase

Last Month: Faulk's progress includes final finishes, high density shelving installation, and asphalt repaving. Progress at the History Center exterior includes stonework on the North, East, and South elevations. History Center Interior storm window installations, lift replacement, and door restoration is completed while the building is closed to the public.

Next Month: Continue progress in the Faulk building on final finishes and begin Phase 1B work. Stonework on the North, East, and South elevations of the History Center will continue.

Next Milestone: Phase 1B work anticipated to start in November 2023

Expected Start/End: Nov 2022- Spring 2024

Actual Start: Nov. 4, 2022

CEPEDA TRAIL

Construction Phase:

Last Month: PWD was notified of safety issues onsite, APL will remove fencing once safety concerns have been addressed.

Next Month: Construction start for Tillery to Gonzalez, PWD to determine if additional permitting will be needed for the Cepeda portion of alignment.

Next Milestone: Groundbreaking for Trail Alignment 1A (Tillery – Gonzalez- Cepeda Branch) is set for 10/30 @ 10 am

Expected Start/End: Nov. 2023 – Feb. 2024

Actual Start: 10/30/2023.

FACILITIES PROJECTS

Last month: EV stations for University Hills to begin in coming months. Finished up under bridge lighting repairs at New Central.

Next Month:

Continue to upgrade drinking fountains at branches.

HAMPTON PARKING LOT EXPANSION

Design Phase:

Last Month: Reorganized Project Team in PWD. Environmental and Survey team were on site at Hampton.

Next Month: PWD has submitted for Site Plan review with CCO, the clay liner in the pond is not up to current code requirements, CCO will determine if the clay liner is approved to be "grandfathered"

Next Milestone: Construction Start TBD

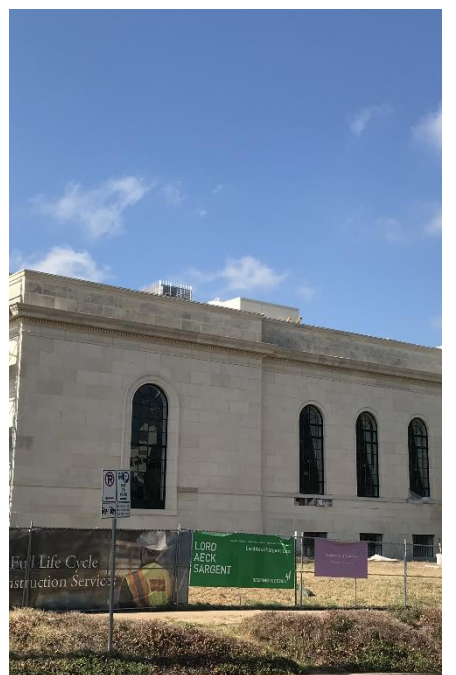
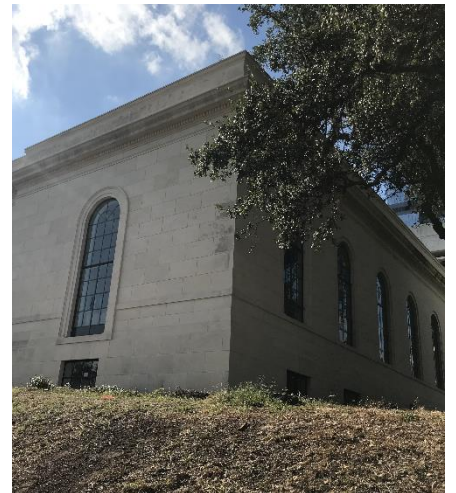
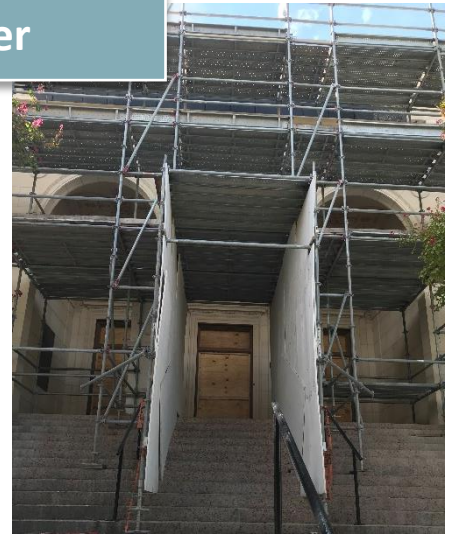
Expected Start/End: Summer 2024 – Spring 2025

Actual Start: NTP TBD

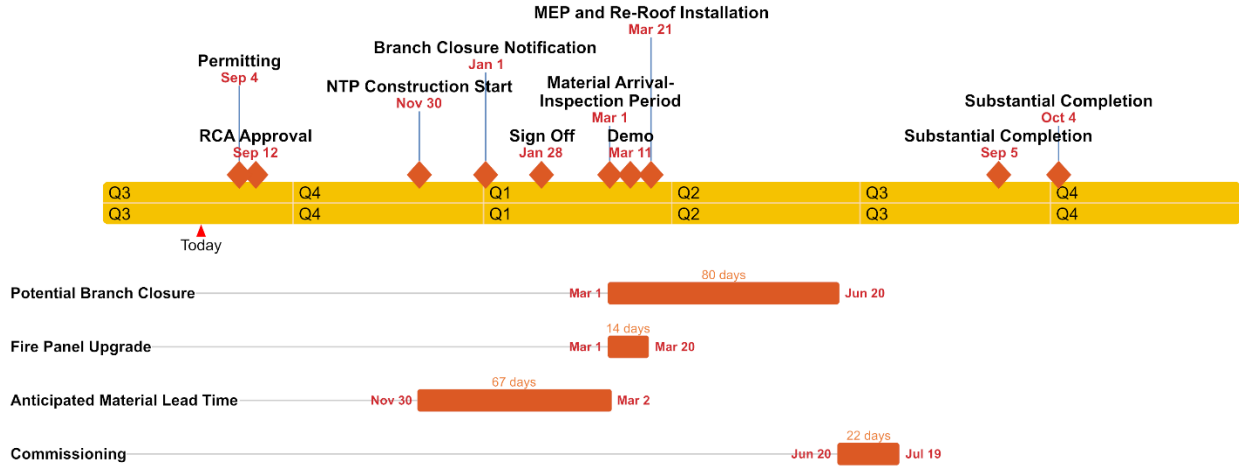
APPROPRIATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS

	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

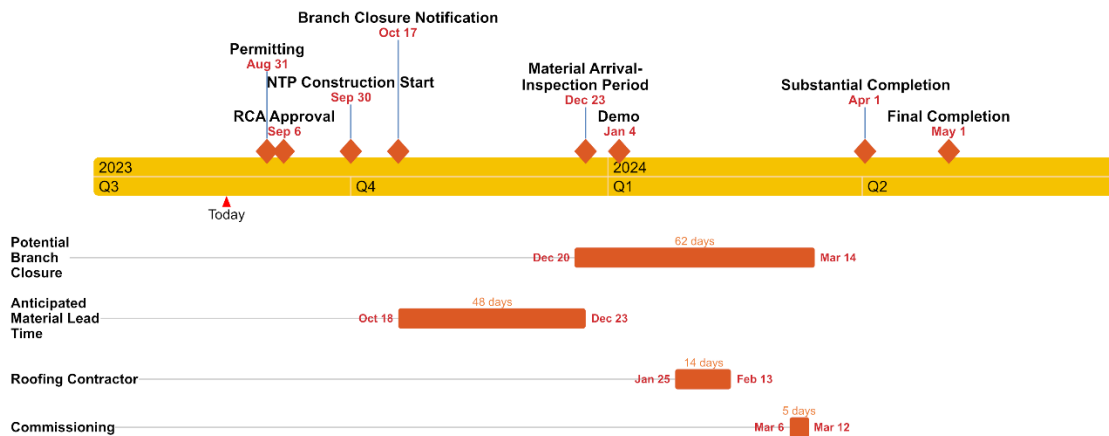
Faulk Building and History Center



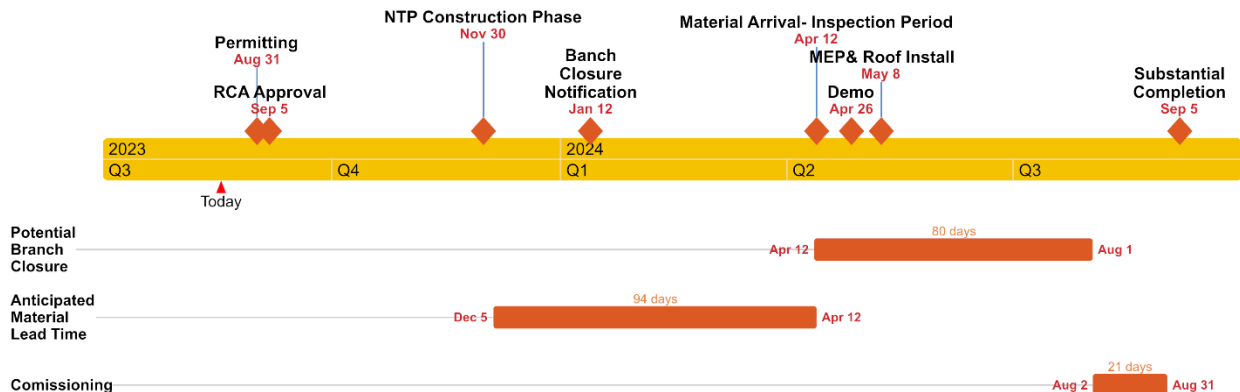
Carver MEP and Re-Roof



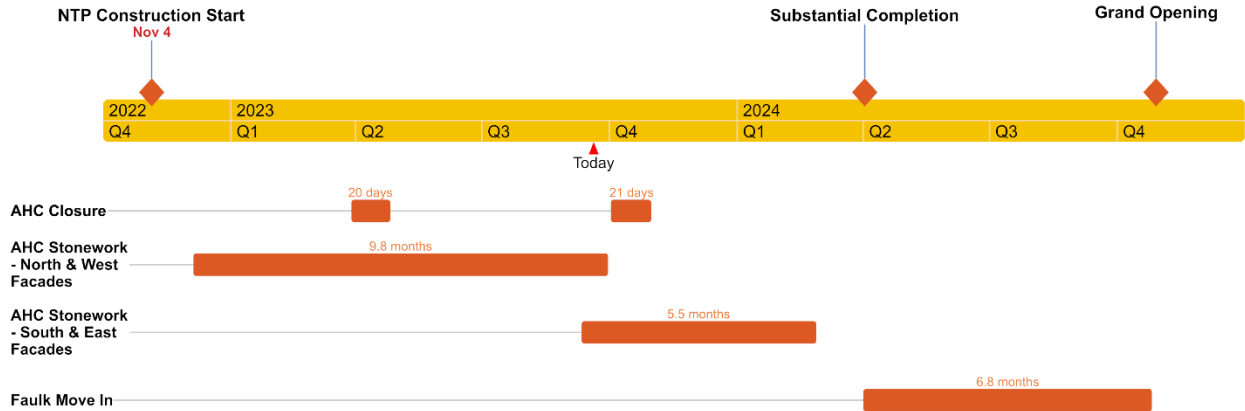
Howson HVAC Upgrades



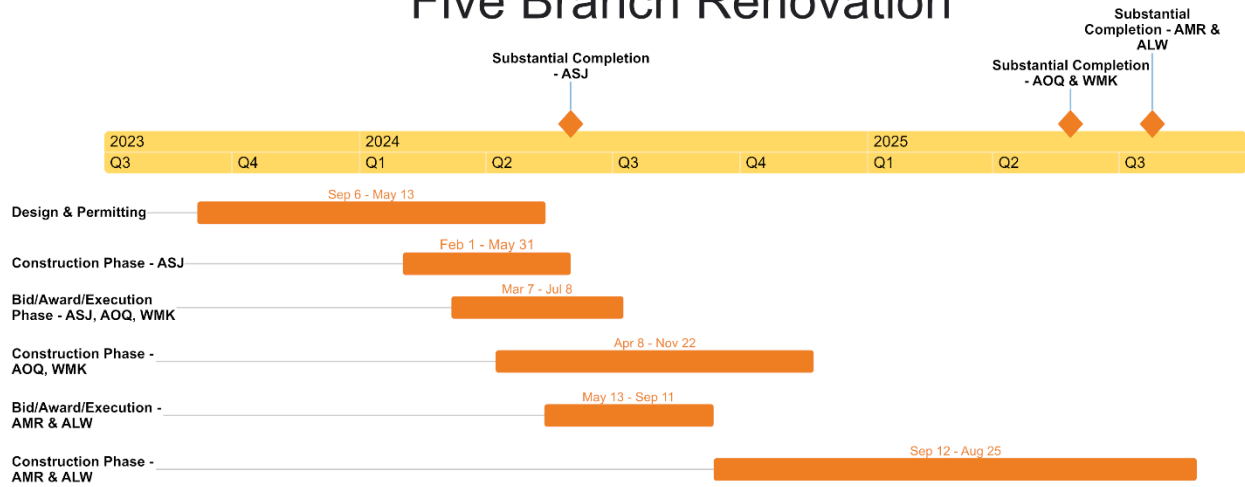
Yarborough Roof Replacement & HVAC Upgrade



Faulk Building & History Center Construction



Five Branch Renovation

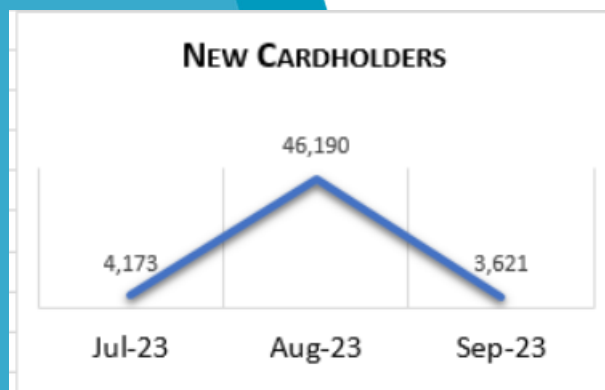
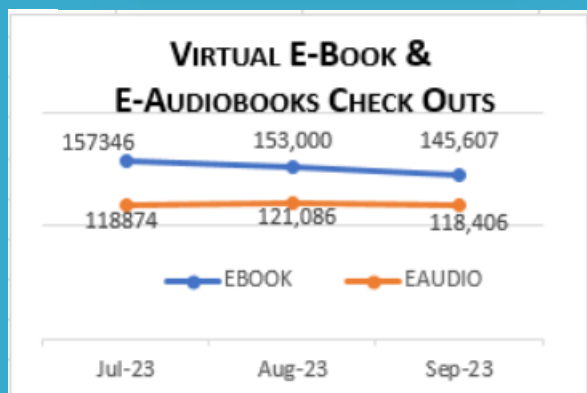
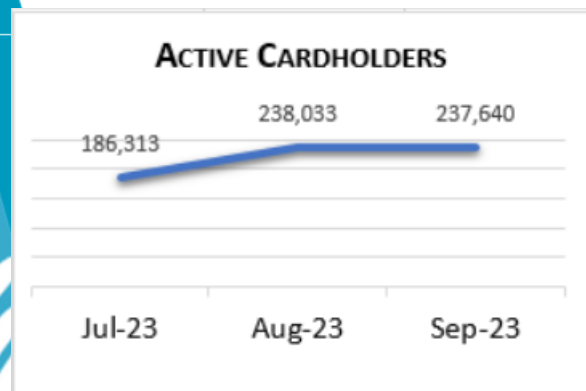
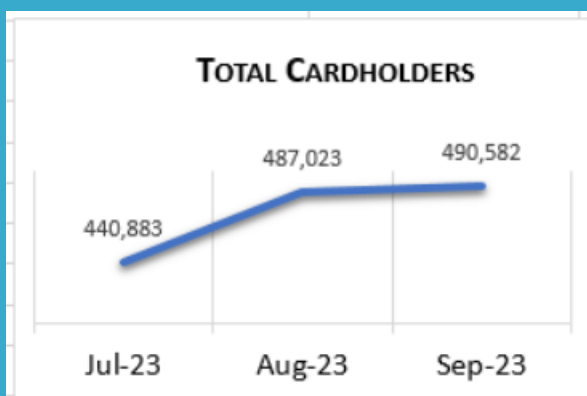




BY THE NUMBERS

October 2023

Cardholders



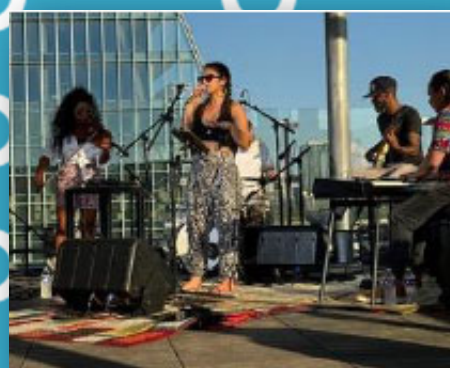
AUSTIN
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Visitors




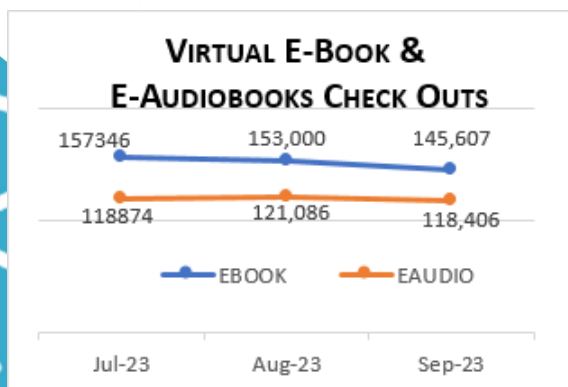
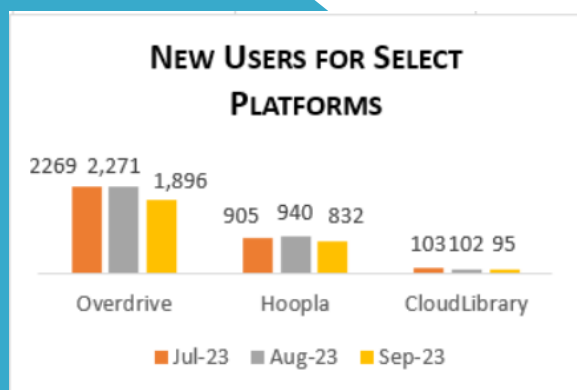
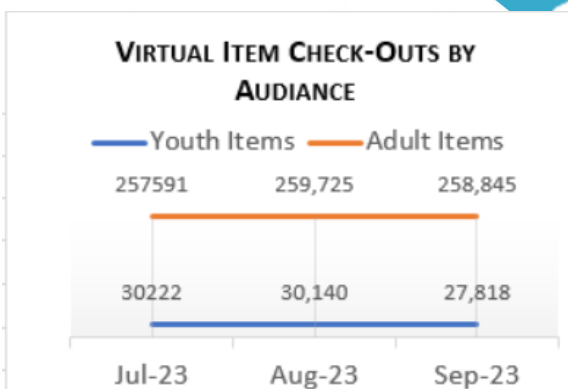
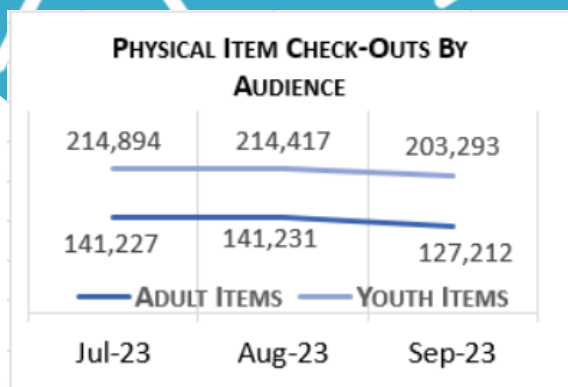
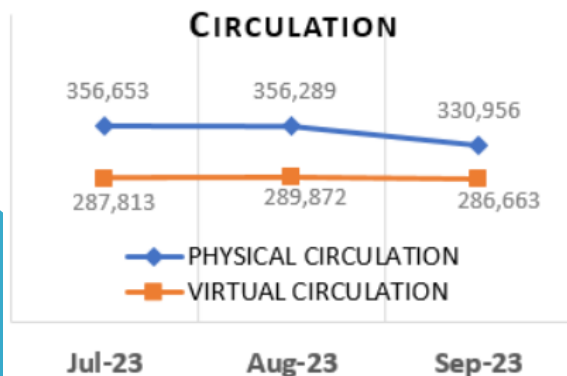
Spicewood Snapshot

15,722 visitors
26,508 items checked out
1,074 computer sessions
197 new cards created



AUSTIN
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Circulation & Collections

Austin Recycled Reads MEASUREMENTS

VISITORS: 4,111

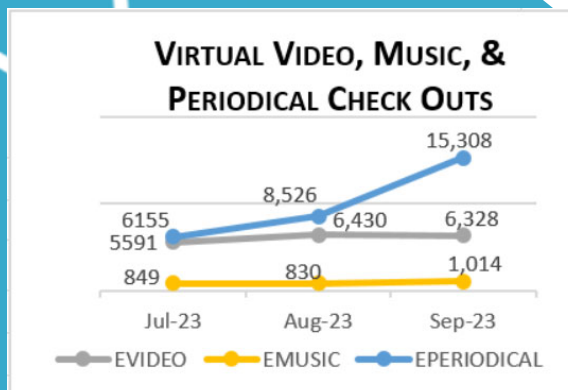
CUSTOMER DONATIONS: 728 boxes

STAFF received & sorted 574 bins of APL materials.

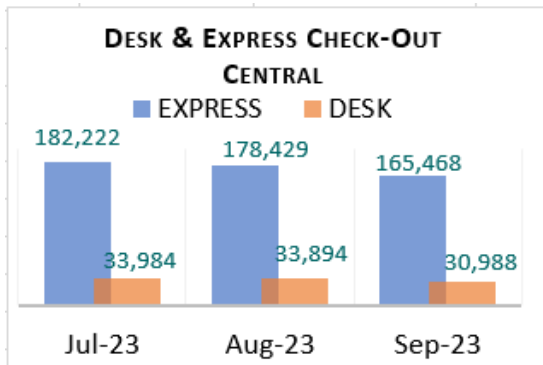
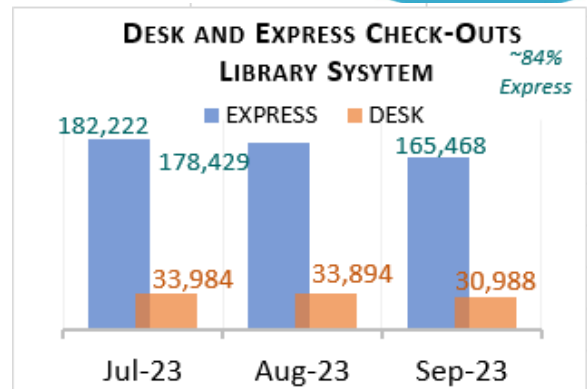
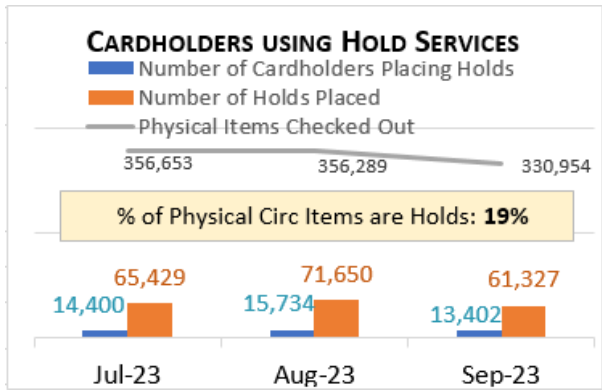
RECYCLING PARTNERSHIP: we sent 32 Gaylords weighing a total of 26,277 lbs. of materials to our recycling partner (=13.14 tons).

MATERIALS SENT TO APL branches book sales, and Central Gift Shop:

During the month of September, Recycled Reads sent 42 bins with a total of 1,595 items to the APL Book Shop and 4 branches for their book sales. The maximum sales value of these items is \$1,313.75.

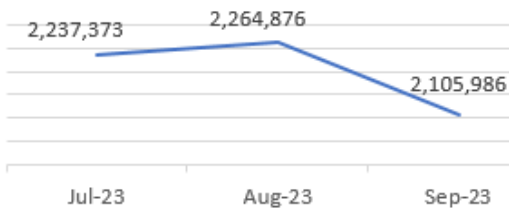


Express & Holds

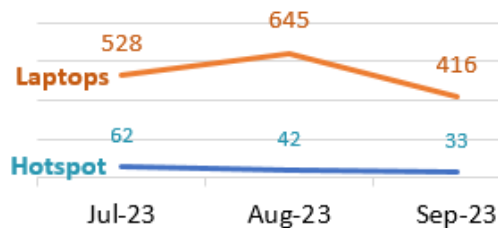


Technology

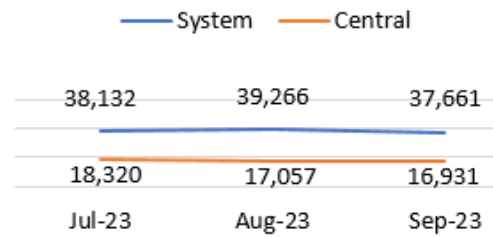
WEBSITE HITS



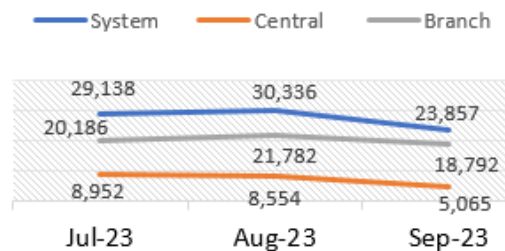
HOTSPOTS & LAPTOP CHECK-OUTS



WIFI CONNECTIONS



COMPUTER SESSIONS



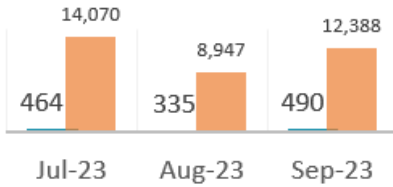
AUSTIN
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Programs and Outreach



AUSTIN
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

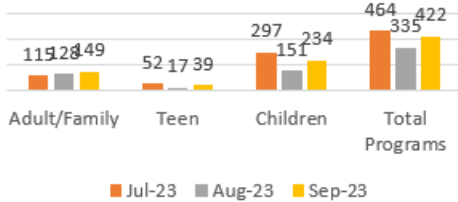
TOTAL IN-PERSON PROGRAMS



Does not include Outreach, or Self-directed.

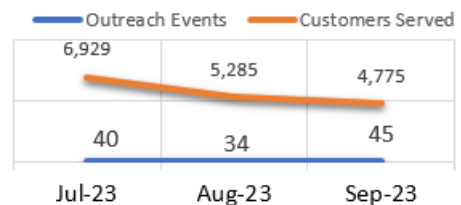


IN-PERSON PROGRAMS BY AUDIENCE



COMMUNITY SERIES OUTREACH EVENTS

(includes Bookmobile)

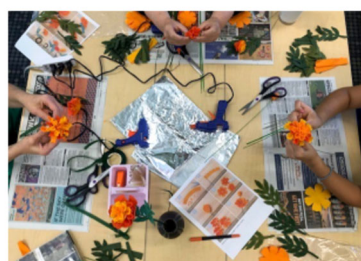


Volunteers and Meeting Rooms



Active
Volunteers
131

Donated
Value
\$21,144



Hours
800



AUSTIN
PUBLIC
LIBRARY



CONFERENCE ROOMS USE

Central SLRs Branch Rooms

Month	Central SLRs	Branch Rooms
JUL-23	1153	719
AUG-23	1185	692
SEP-23	1141	815

JUL-23 AUG-23 SEP-23