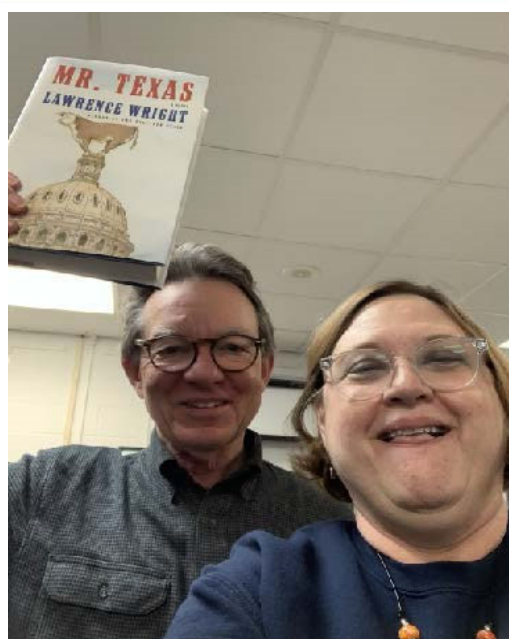


# AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY



**Director's Report**  
February 2024

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# HIGHLIGHTS

## APL Non-Resident Fees on February 29, 2024 City Council Agenda

The Austin Public Library, (APL) eagerly awaits the Austin City Council meeting on February 29, 2024, where City Council is set to consider the final resolution that will lead to waiving the non-resident fees for APL Library Cards for all individuals who reside in Austin's limited purpose jurisdictions (LTD) and extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ). APL is excited to provide free library access to a wider area of the community.

## Terrazas Branch Library Refresh

Terrazas branch library is getting a refresh in preparation for our summer programming and services. The capital improvement project (CIP) work, funded in the FY 2024 budget for APL's deferred maintenance projects will facilitate upgrades to the facility, potentially encompassing interior & exterior painting, carpet replacement, security and fire panel upgrades, and HVAC improvements. The branch will be closed from early March to early May during the refresh.

## Howson CIP Work Underway

Capital improvement project (CIP) work commenced on February 12, 2024, at the Howson branch library. The project, executed in three phases, started with the installation of new HVAC systems, which is expected to be completed in two to three weeks. There will be no need for closure during this phase, as units will be replaced one at a time to maintain a comfortable temperature inside Howson. The second phase involves re-roofing the library and is scheduled to begin approximately six weeks later, with a projected duration of two to three weeks and no anticipated closure. The third phase, involving interior renovations, including the circulation desk, meeting room, and reading room, is still in the design phase with lead times for materials being finalized.



**In January, Recycled Reads welcomed 5,664 customers, marking a 22% increase to December's visitor count. This upswing continues a trend of escalating foot traffic and we are thrilled to witness more individuals discovering and frequenting Recycled Reads!**

## Black Girls Don't Wear Red Lipstick

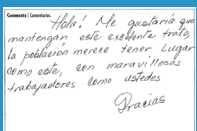
Step into a world of audacious beauty and empowerment with the photo exhibition, *Black Girls Don't Wear Red Lipstick*, in the Gallery at the Central Library through April 21, 2024. Featuring the work of Austin photographer Leta Harrison, the exhibit opened on February 15, 2024, with an inspiring reception that featured the artist and curators, a spoken word performance by Christa Brown, and music by DJ Lauren Light. The show is curated by Keyheira Keys and Whitney Hamilton of \_OFCOLOR ATX, an Austin arts alliance that has partnered with the Austin Public Library and The Library Foundation to present the exhibition and its programs. In Harrison's joyous, bold photographic prints, Black women embrace vibrant colors and confidently wear shades of red lipstick. Harrison showcases women using beauty as a form of activism to reclaim their power, challenge oppressive beauty standards, and stifle stereotypes.

## APL's Enhanced Library Card Expansions

The Austin Public Library is expanding the number of library branches that can issue an Enhanced Library Card (ELC)! The ELC pilot began in May of 2023 in three branch locations and has been well received by the community. Beginning March 4, 2024, ELCs will be available at six more branches, for a total of nine locations across the city: Little Walnut, St. John, Southeast, Central, Cepeda, Menchaca, Millwood, Ruiz, and Terrazas. APL is excited to be able to offer more opportunities for the community to sign-up for an Enhanced Library Card.

## APL in the News

- ❖ [KVUE – PSA celebrating Black History Month](#)
- ❖ [KXAN – Austin Public Library sculpture graffitied, man now facing charges](#)



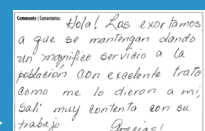
### From Southeast Branch Comment Cards:

(Translation of Card on Left)

*"Hi! I would like you to keep the excellent customer service you are providing. Community members deserve to have access to a public place like this, with wonderful staff members. Thank you."*

(Translation of Card on Right)

*"Hi! We encourage you to keep providing magnificent customer service, like the one I received. I am very happy with the work you do. Thanks!"*



## Faulk Building and History Center

### 95% Construction Phase

**Updates:** Faulk building progress includes final finishes, high density shelving installation, asphalt repaving, and landscaping. Demolition and hazardous materials abatement for Phase 1B is in progress. Stonework on the West and South facades at the History Center will continue.

**Next Milestone:** Temporary Certificate of Occupancy for partial building anticipated in March 2024

**Expected End:** 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2024

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

## Carver and Yarborough

### Permitting Phase

**Updates:** Carver: will be going through solicitation to obtain new bids for the Re-Roof, Heating, air conditioning, and decking replacement; Controls for Carver will also be updated.

Yarborough: Project Manager from Capital Delivery Office has received the final quote to proceed with the scope of work for Yarborough's Re-Roof, heating, air conditioning, and controls upgrade.

**Next Milestone:** Carver solicitation for new bids

Yarborough: permit approval, of current plan set with Council approval in April.

**Expected Start:** 3-6 months

**Actual Start:** TBD

## Hampton Parking Lot Extension

### 30% Design Phase

**Updates:** Project Team met with Regional Storm Water Protection to determine if a detention pond is necessary to complete the parking expansion. Hampton is in a critical recharge Zone of the Edwards Aquifer. A request for public information has been submitted to find the reason why water detention was not included in the original site plan, based on the past permit requirements.

**Next Milestone:** determine if a detention pond will be required and included in the scope for Hampton.

**Expected Start/End:** TBD

**Actual Start:** TBD

## Cepeda Trail

### Construction Phase

**Updates:** The Cepeda Trail Project will be substantially complete at the end of March.

**Next Milestone:** Groundbreaking near the trail alignment from Gonzalez to Cepeda, survey crew has already marked the area. Once completed a ribbon cutting will be scheduled in late March or Early April.

**Expected End:** March 2024

**Actual Start:** November 2023

## Old Quarry, Willie Mae Kirk, & St. John

### Design Phase

**Updates:** APL is now managing these projects. Determine scope line-item trades. Roof bidding underway and layouts under review.

**Next Milestone:** Break out urgent work, including climate control and roofing. Complete scope for contracting award to Architect for accessibility and egress plans. Finalize finish selections

**Expected Start:** March 2, 2024

**Actual Start:** TBD

## Howson

### Construction Phase

**Updates:** Air conditioning upgrades 95% complete, and re-roof is expected to begin in March or April. Circulation desk and meeting room upgrade in final design phase

**Next Milestone:** Re-Roof and Interior

**Expected Start/End:** June

**Actual Start:** 01/10/2024

## Little Walnut and Menchaca

### Design Proposal Phase

**Updates:** Consultant is revising their scope and fees to reflect work on these two sites only. These branches will be designed, bid, and constructed simultaneously.

**Next Milestone:** Scope and fees approved; documents submitted to Finance for approval of amendment.

**Expected Start:** 02/01/2025

**Actual Start:** TBD



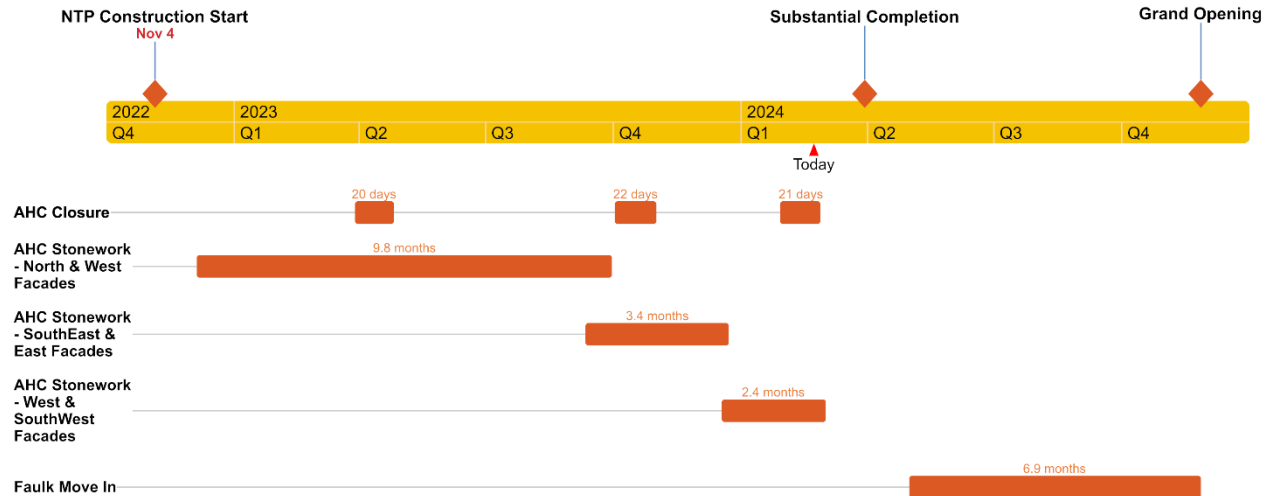
## Faulk Building and History Center



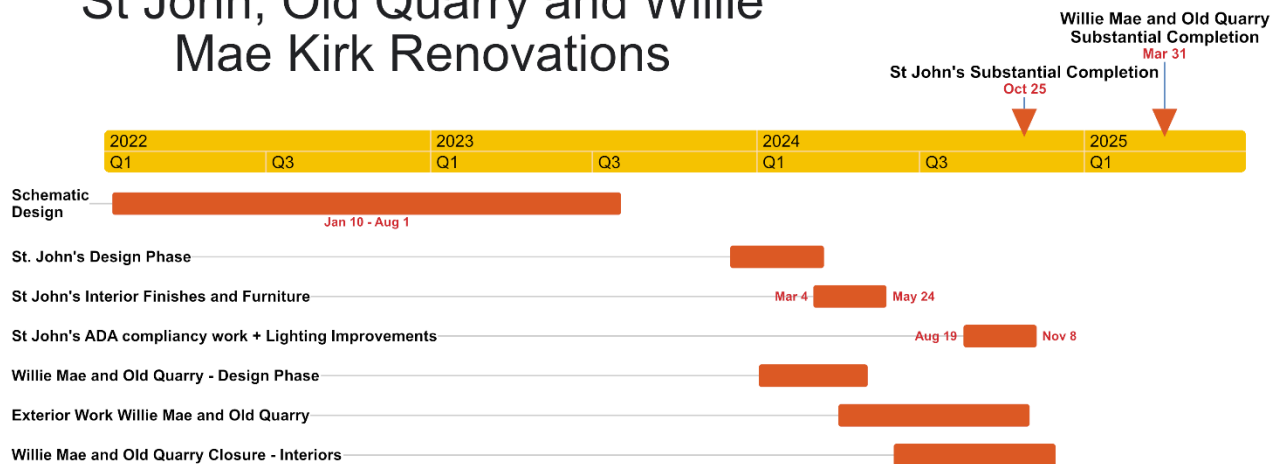
## Ceperda Trail



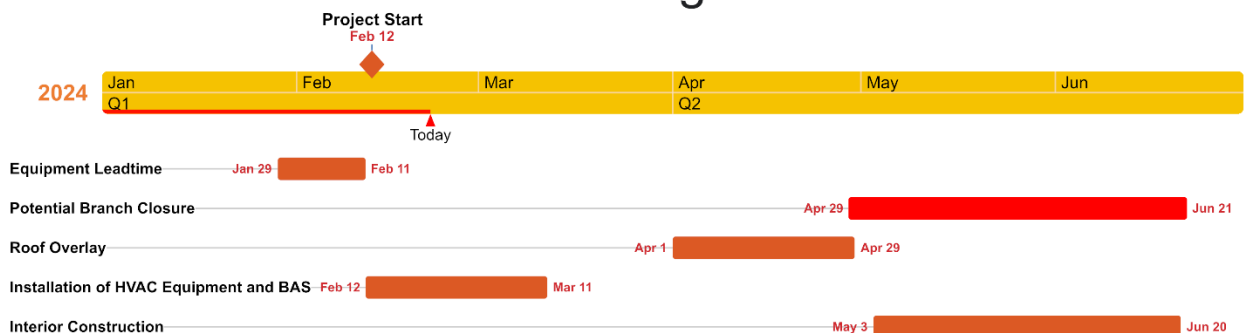
## Faulk Building & History Center Construction



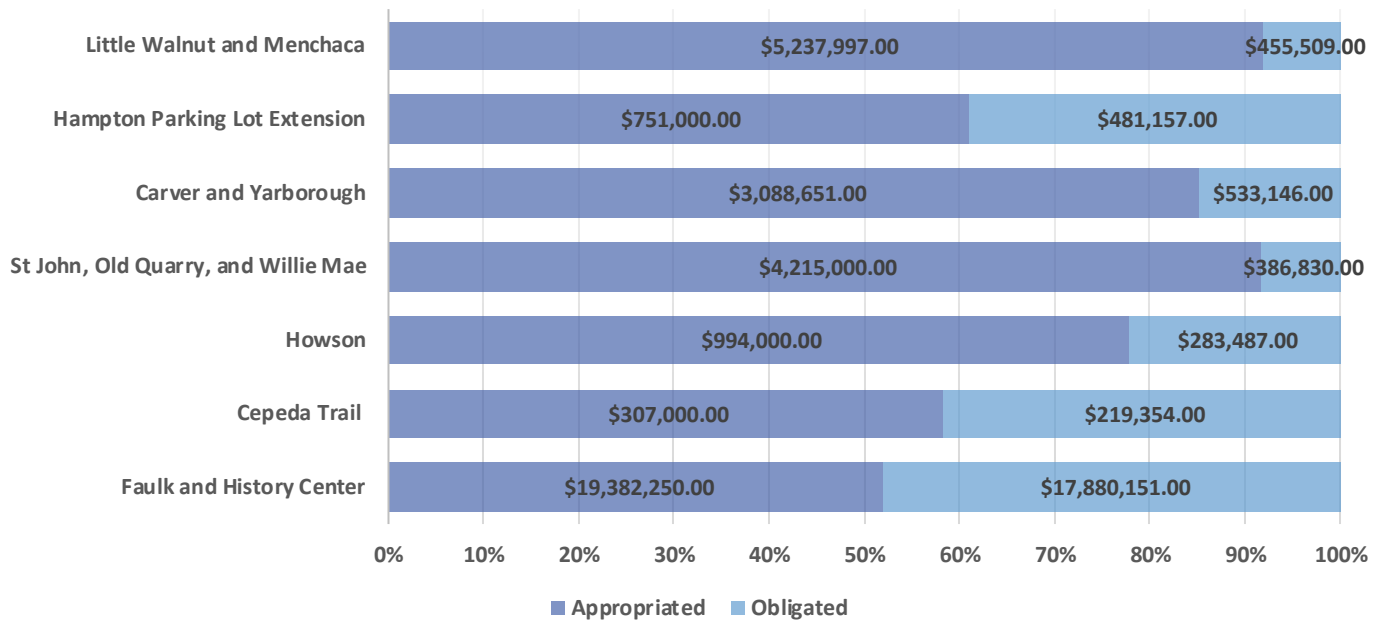
## St John, Old Quarry and Willie Mae Kirk Renovations



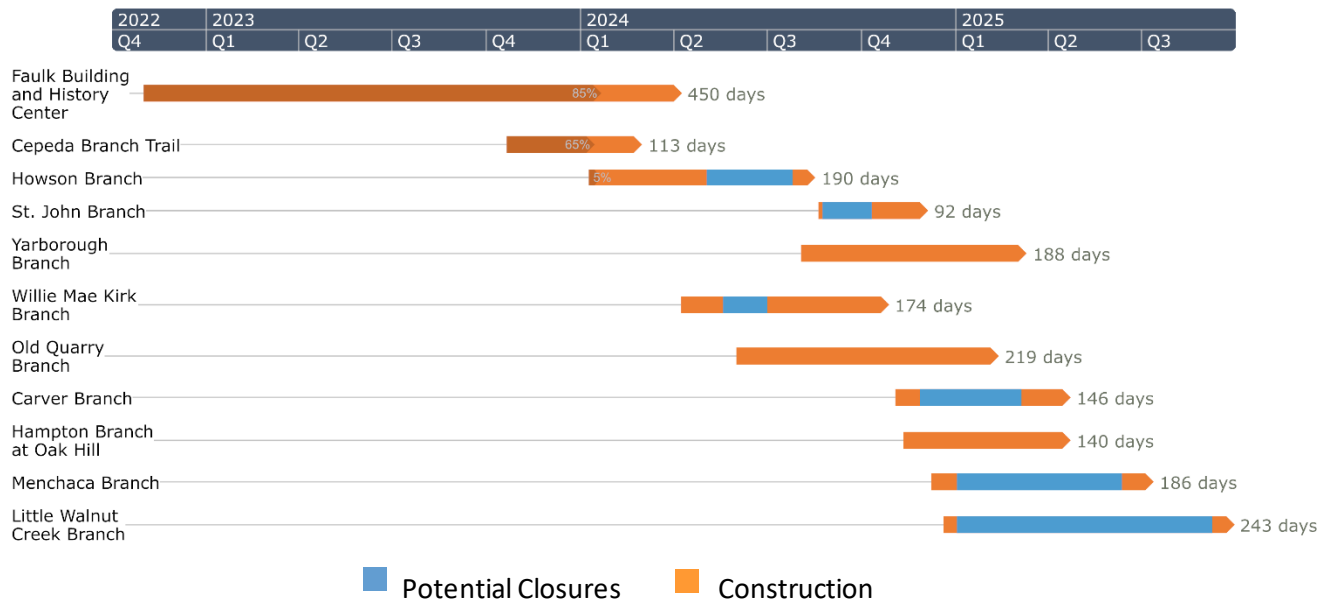
## Howson HVAC Upgrade and Roofing



## APPROPRIATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS



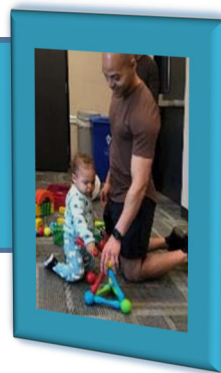
## Library 2018 Bond Project Timeline



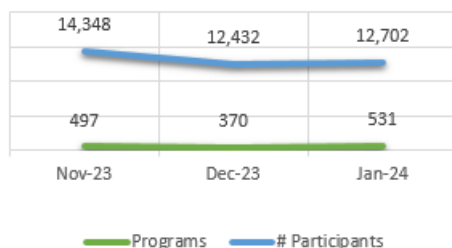


# February 2024

## Programs & Outreach



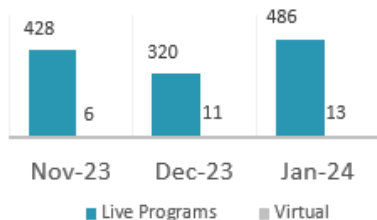
### TOTAL PROGRAM AND OUTREACH EVENTS



*Baby Sensory Play Day at Spicewood and Howson Branch.*

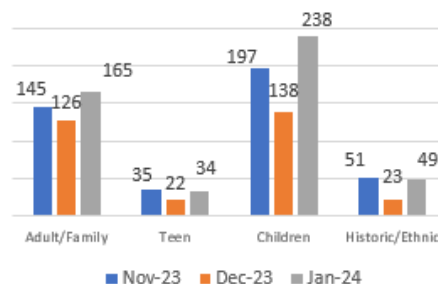


### TOTAL LIVE IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

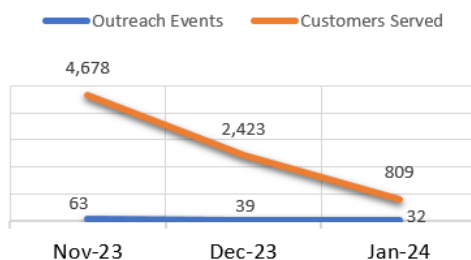


*Does not include Outreach or Self-directed.*

### IN-PERSON PROGRAMS BY AUDIENCE



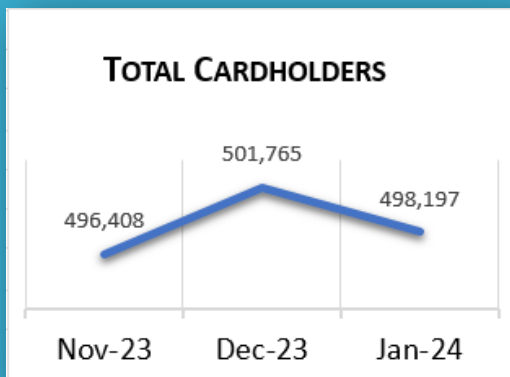
### COMMUNITY SERVICES OUTREACH EVENTS (includes Bookmobile)



*Baby Sensory Play Day at Southeast Branch.*



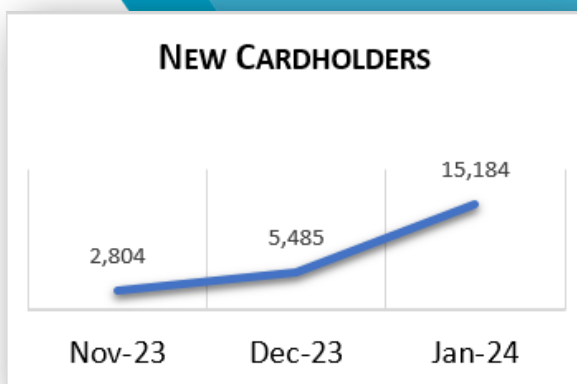
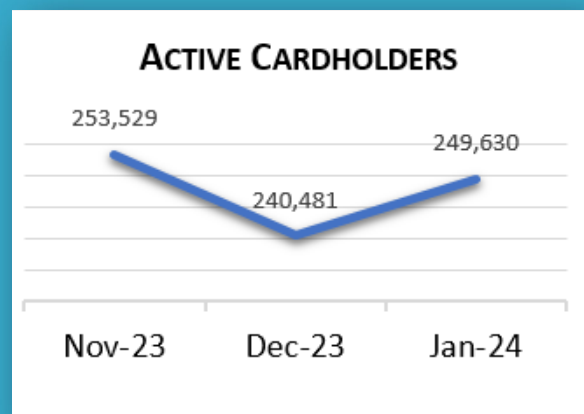
# Cardholders



*Imagination Station Program at Yarborough Branch.*



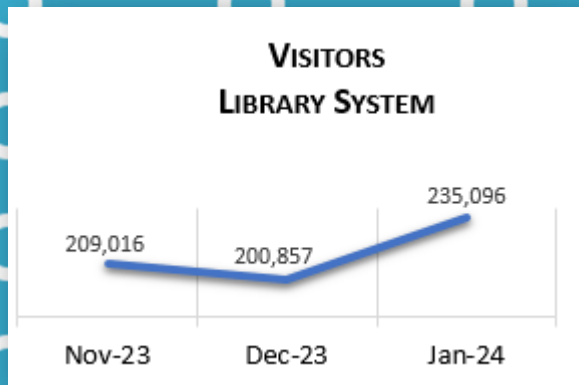
*Imagination Station Program at Southeast Branch.*



*Tiny Mighty Quilts Program at Howson.*



# Visitors



*Austin Zine Friends Program  
at Recycled Reads.*

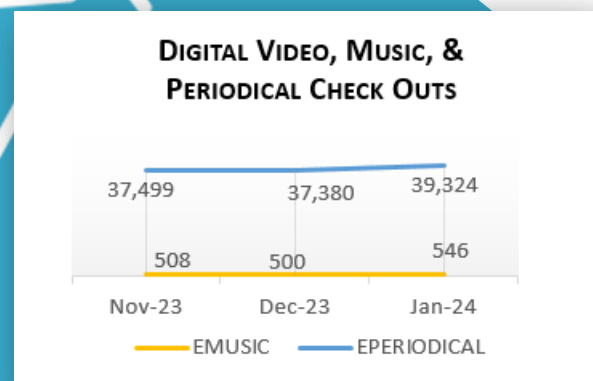
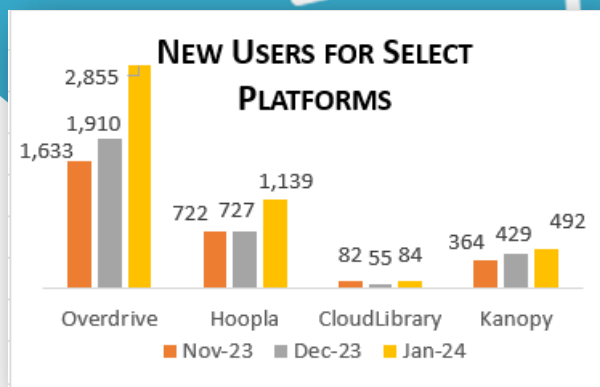
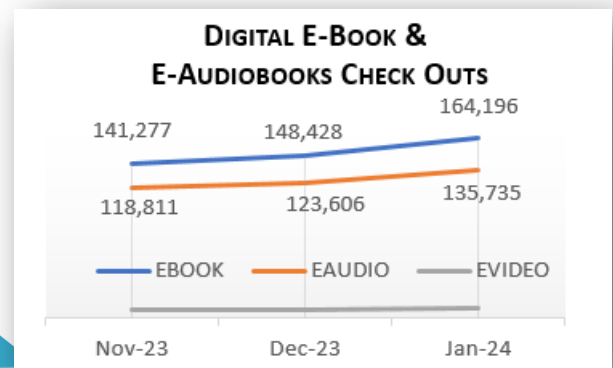
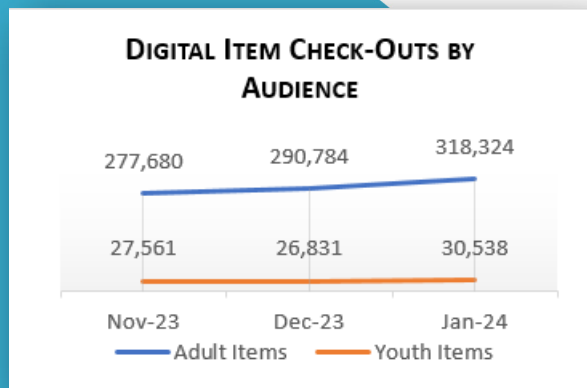
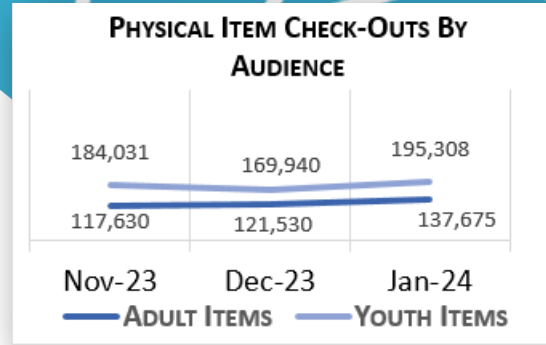
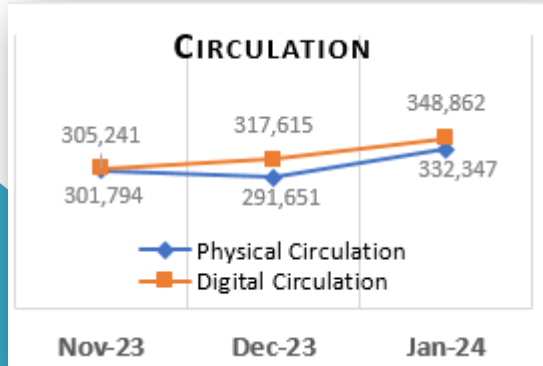


*ATX KDC K-Pop Program  
at Willie Mae Kirk Branch.*



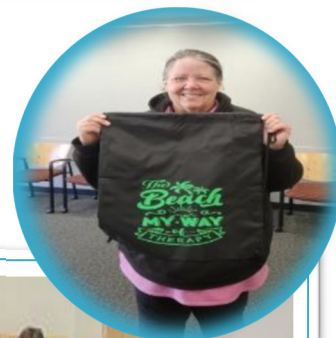
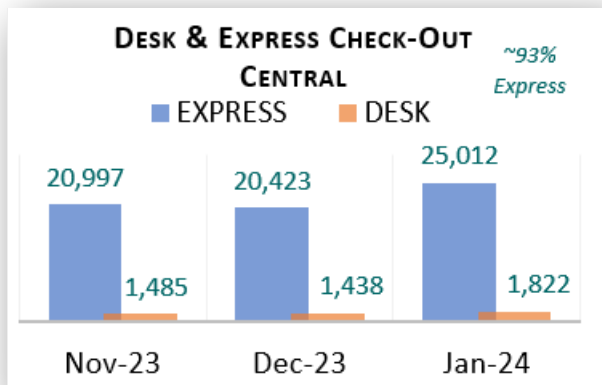
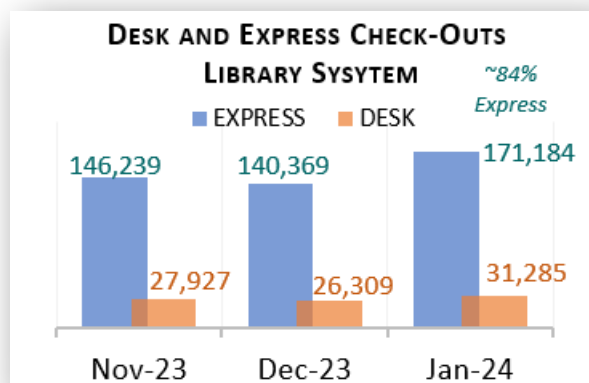
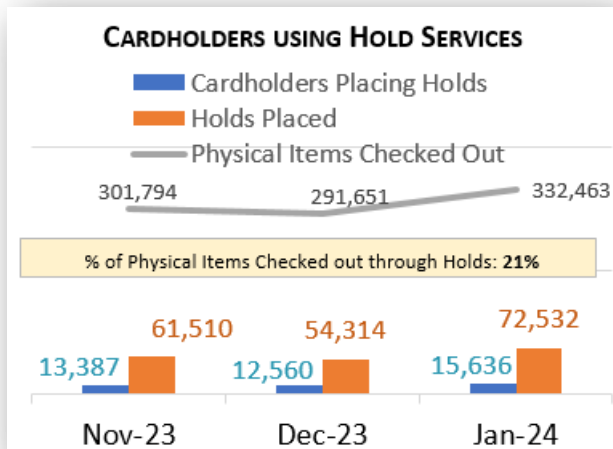
*Cooking Club Making  
Dumplings at Central*

# Circulation & Collections





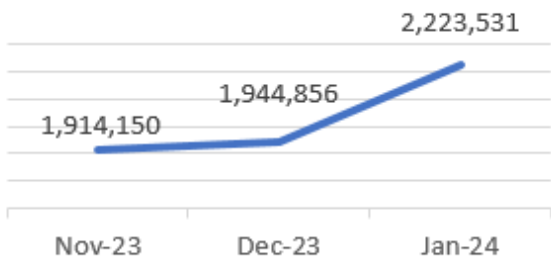
# Express & Holds



# Technology

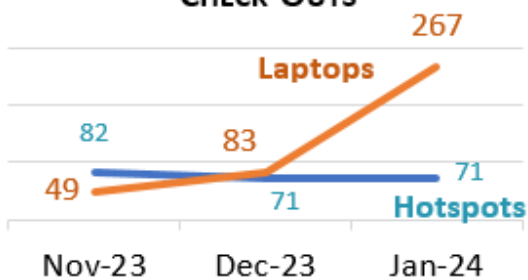


## WEBSITE HITS

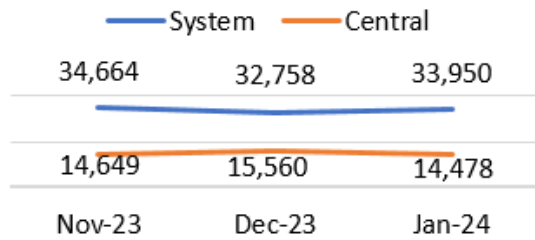


*Creations from Ruiz Branch Youth Computer Lab with Minecraft Club and after-school Perlors.*

## HOTSTOPS & LAPTOP CHECK-OUTS



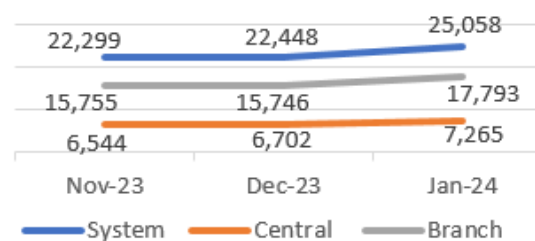
## WIFI CONNECTIONS



*Innovate Digital Makerspace Programs at Central: Games Ya'll (above) and Makertalk (below)*



## COMPUTER SESSIONS





# Budget, Volunteers and Meeting Rooms



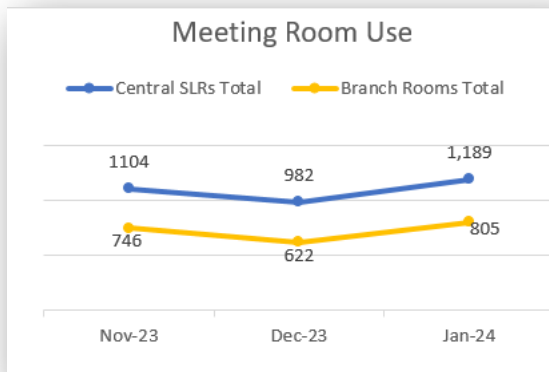
APL Budget By the Numbers		Fiscal Year 2024 (10/1/23 - 09/30/24)
Total Budget	\$	70,355,654
Materials Budget	\$	6,620,458
FTEs		462.55
Year to Date Revenues, as of 01/31/24:		
Non-Resident Library Card Fee	\$	52,171
Passport Services	\$	82,552
Parking	\$	87,890
Gift Shop	\$	131,129
Facility Rentals	\$	222,963
Donations, including Recycled Reads	\$	19,778



2023  
Volunteers  
Hours  
13,305

2023  
Active  
Volunteers  
1,829

2023  
Volunteers  
Donated  
Value  
\$351,651



AUSTIN  
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*Photos: Barking Buddies (top) & Books and Babies (right) Programs at Old Quarry Branch Library.*