

Library, Arts and Culture Department FY 27 Proposed Budget Overview

Budget Hearing
August 25, 2026

CITY OF
LONG BEACH



Key Services

LITERACY, CULTURAL EMPOWERMENT, AND KNOWLEDGE

- We provide a safe, welcoming place to spark curiosity and nurture personal growth
- We deliver accessible educational programs, especially in multilingual and technology spaces
- We support the exploration of learning and literacy at any age
- We champion the arts and create shared experiences that inspire our diverse community



Accomplishments

EDUCATING COMMUNITY OF ALL AGES

- Welcomed 1,653 participants at 73 *Vida Latina* programs in September-October 2025
- Launched “Books Unbanned” highlighting the importance of the freedom to read
- Celebrated preschoolers who read “1,000 Books Before Kindergarten”



- Expanded adult programming by 50% since FY25
- Opened enhanced patio at Harte, improved courtyard at Obama, and new BJK Main terrace programming space

Accomplishments

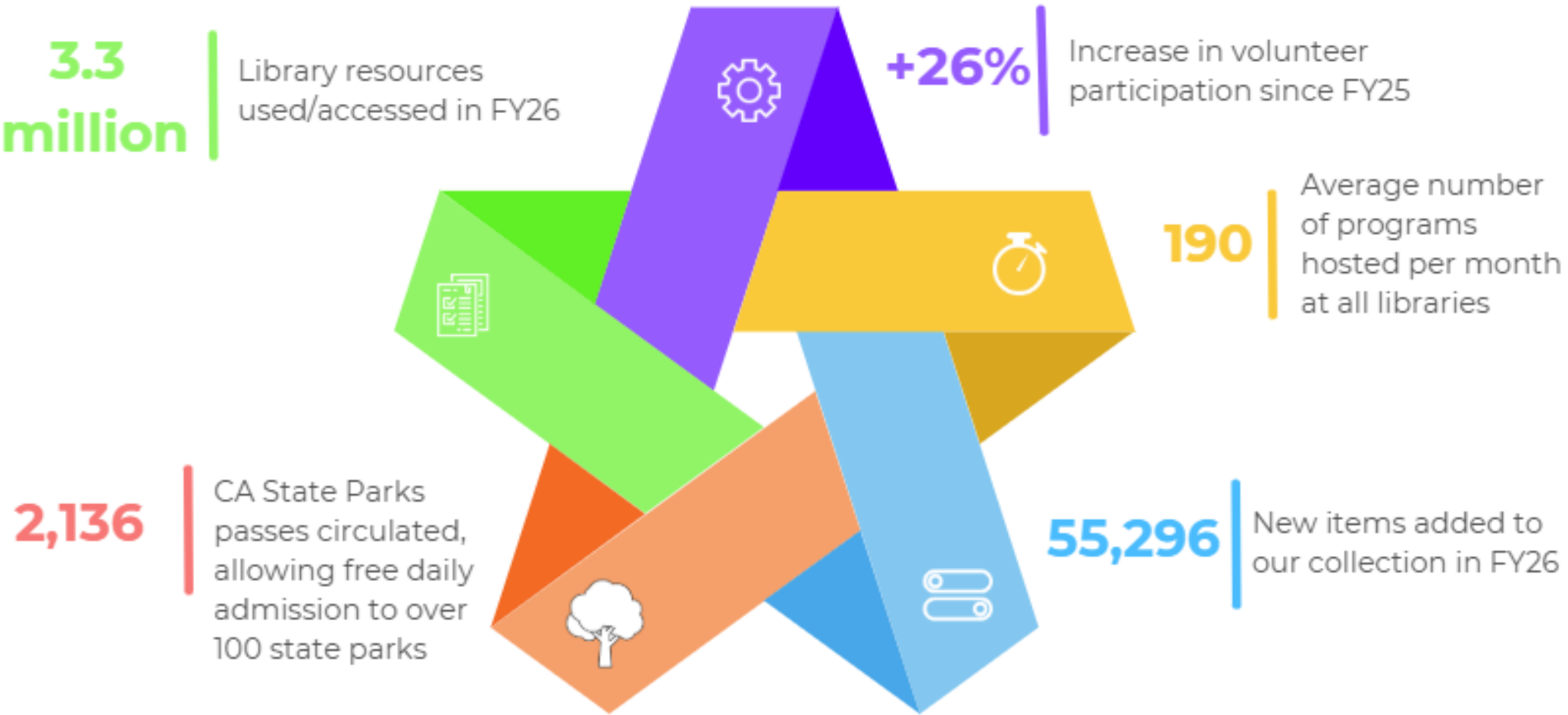
CENTRALIZING THE CITY'S CULTURAL AFFAIRS

- Identified consultant through RFP process to conduct Feasibility Study for the Historically Black Cultural District
- Completed scopes of work for 2027 Hip-Hop Exhibition
- Collaborating with Public Works on LGBTQIA+ Cultural District
- Spearheaded Long Beach Bicentennial time capsule event



Accomplishments

LBPL BY THE NUMBERS: FY25 TO FY26

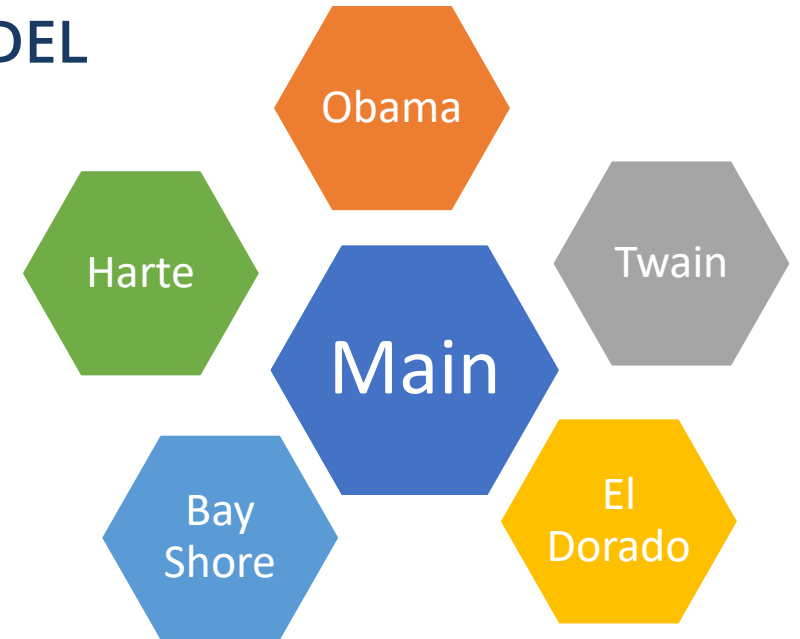
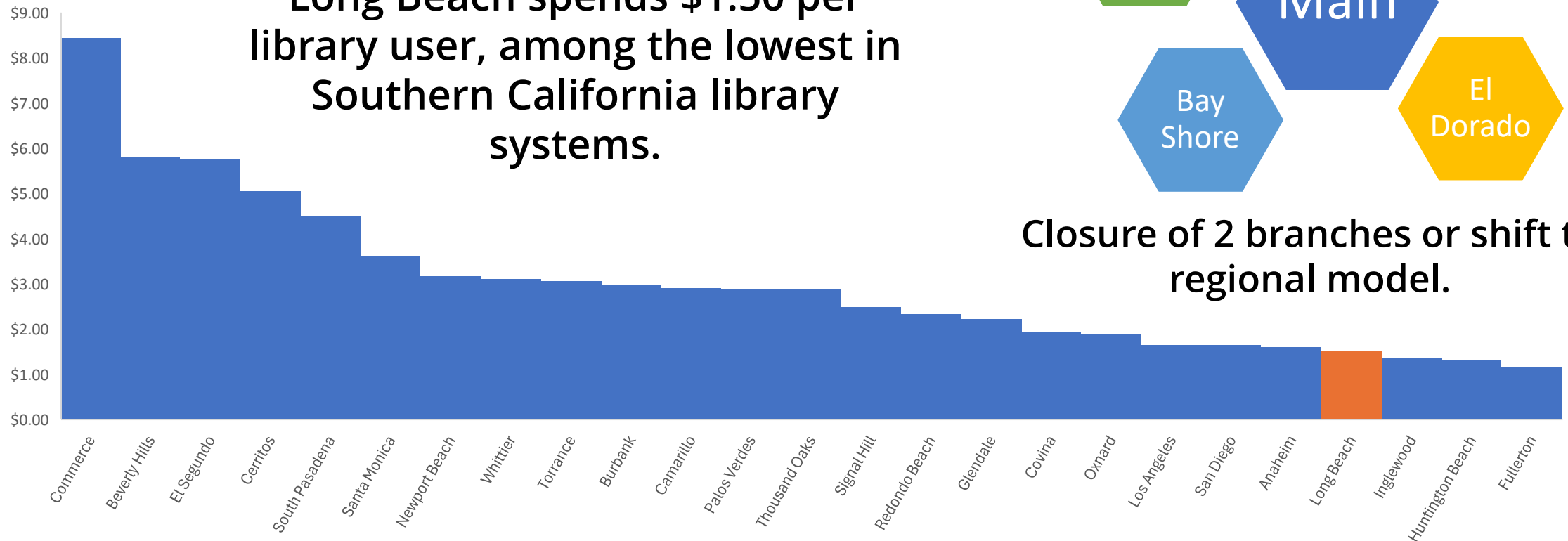


FY 27 Focus and Proposed Reductions

ORIGINAL IDEAS: CUTTING BOOKS & REGIONAL MODEL

**Our core service is BOOKS and literacy.
We cannot structurally cut our core service.**

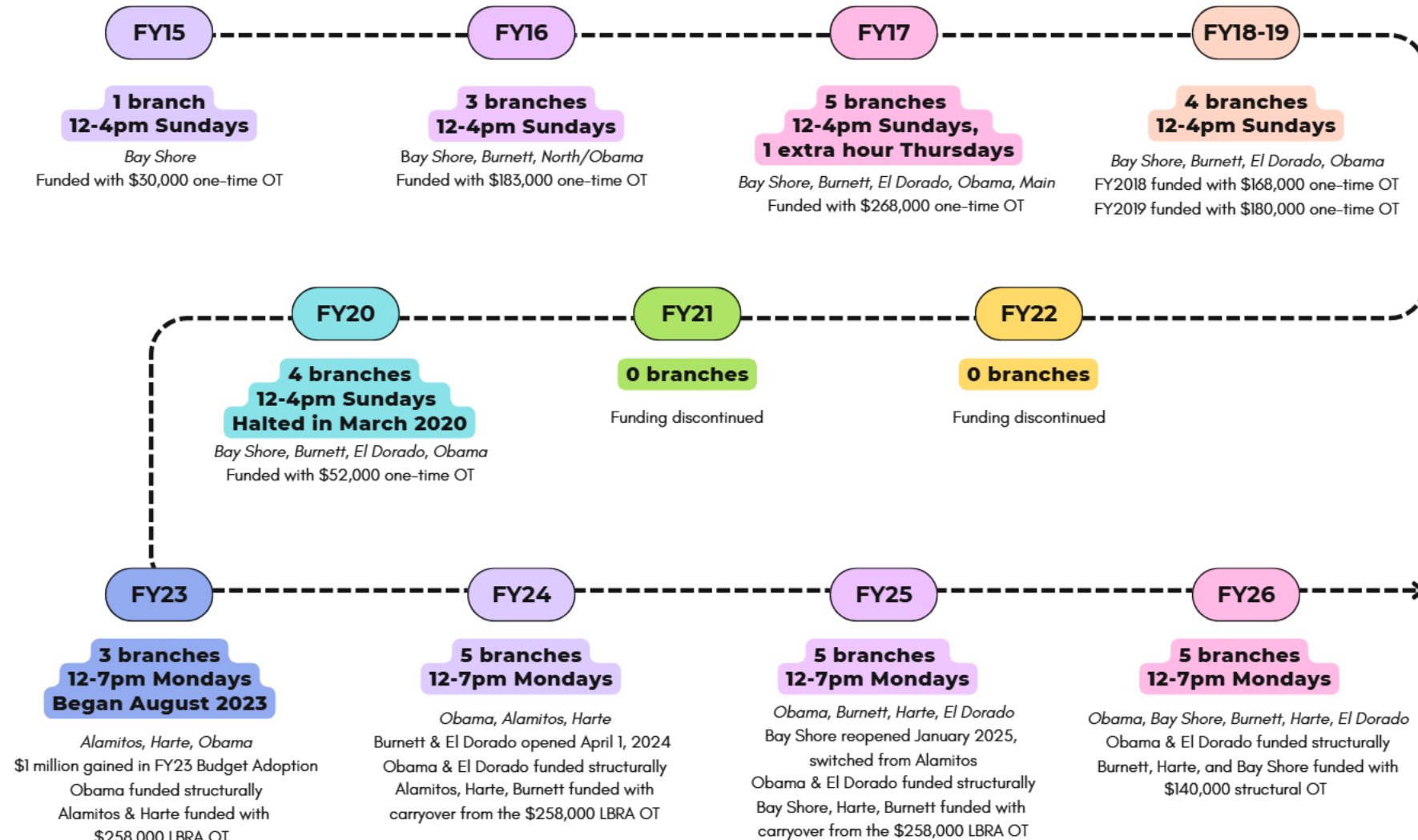
**Long Beach spends \$1.50 per
library user, among the lowest in
Southern California library
systems.**



**Closure of 2 branches or shift to
regional model.**

FY 27 Focus and Proposed Reductions

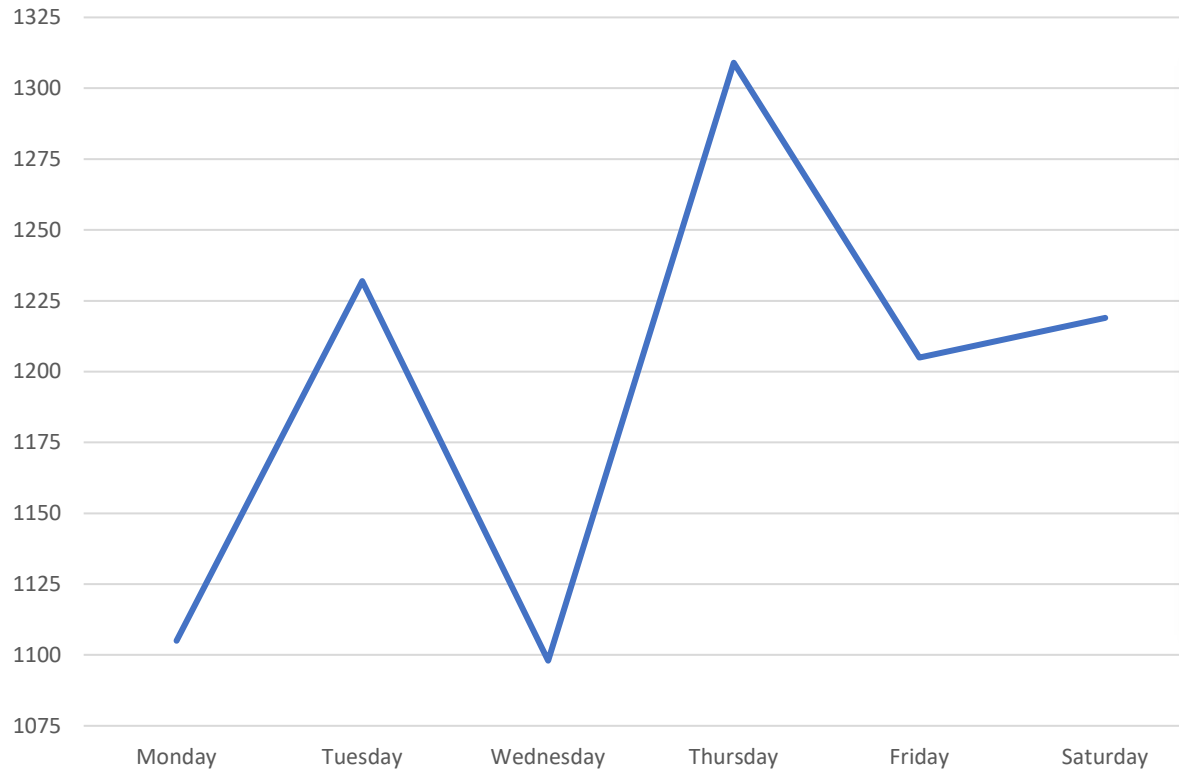
HISTORY OF 6-DAY SERVICE



FY 27 Focus and Proposed Reductions

REVERTING TO 5-DAY SERVICE

Average Visits by Day of the Week



FY 27 Focus and Proposed Reductions

STAFF AND MATERIAL REDUCTIONS

- 4 vacant positions eliminated
- 10 staff members subject to order of layoff
- Structural overtime eliminated
- Maintenance reductions through elimination of the GMA truck, reduced power washing at BJK Main, reduced landscaping at Obama and other locations, reduced security at 6th day locations, and library materials

1 PAGE (2 vacant positions)	\$40,996
1 GENERAL LIBRARIAN (vacant)	\$155,313
4 LIBRARY ASSISTANTS (1 vacant)	\$447,422
5 LIBRARY CLERK I	\$478,331
1 PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATE	Measure US
STRUCTURAL OVERTIME	\$140,000
1 GENERAL MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT	\$106,583
ANNUAL FEES ON GMA TRUCK	\$22,833
BJK MAIN POWER WASHING	\$38,000
OBAMA & OTHER LANDSCAPING	\$17,000
SECURITY	\$13,500
LIBRARY MATERIALS*	\$5,875

*This item has since
changed per the Mayor's
Recommendations

\$1,465,854

FY 27 Focus and Proposed Reductions

PLANNED CIP PROJECTS AND SYSTEM-WIDE MULTILINGUAL SIGNAGE

- *AB '32 Energy Efficiency Funds:*
 - \$2,200,000 for El Dorado roof replacement, energy efficiency and ADA exterior improvements
 - \$200,000 for Burnett energy-efficient window glass panes
- *Elevate '28 Measure A Funds:*
 - \$700,000 for Brewitt roof replacement and ancillary repairs
 - \$500,000 for Mark Twain fire alarm replacement and other components as informed by an upcoming Facilities Condition assessment
- *SAP Funds:* \$100,000 to create multilingual signage at all 12 Library locations



Challenges and Service Impacts

RETURNING TO 34 HOURS AT MOST LOCATIONS

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Current hours open	NEW hours open
BJK Main	CLOSED	CLOSED	10-7	12-6	10-7	10-5	10-5	38	38
Alamitos	CLOSED	CLOSED	12-7	12-6	12-7	10-5	10-5	34	34
Bach	CLOSED	CLOSED	10-5	12-6	10-5	10-5	10-5	34	34
Bay Shore	CLOSED	~~12-7~~	10-5	12-6	10-5	10-5	10-5	41	34
Brewitt	CLOSED	CLOSED	12-7	12-6	12-7	10-5	10-5	34	34
Burnett	CLOSED	~~12-7~~	12-7	12-6	12-7	10-5	10-5	41	34
Dana	CLOSED	CLOSED	12-7	12-6	12-7	10-5	10-5	34	34
El Dorado	CLOSED	~~12-7~~	12-7	12-6	12-7	10-5	10-5	41	34
Harte	CLOSED	~~12-7~~	12-7	12-6	12-7	10-5	10-5	41	34
Los Altos	CLOSED	CLOSED	12-7	12-6	12-7	10-5	10-5	34	34
Twain	CLOSED	CLOSED	12-7	12-6	12-7	10-5	10-5	34	34
Obama	CLOSED	~~12-7~~	12-7	12-6	12-7	10-5	10-5	41	34

Challenges and Service Impacts

REDUCED FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDING

- SEED STEAM summer camp programming lost from Department of Education
- English as a Second Language (ESL) programming lost from CA State Library
- Zip Books program lost from CA State Library



Opportunities

- Refocusing on our core mission and honing current programs to meet community needs
- Strategically utilizing Measure US funding to enhance lives of Long Beach youth
- Partnering with community organizations to enhance arts and culture programs before LA28
- Expanding BJK Main programming in new usable terrace space



Q&A

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