

2022-2023 Fresno County Civil Grand Jury Report No. 2

Has Measure B Benefitted the Fresno County Free Library? Measuring Performance

SUMMARY

The Fresno County Board of Supervisors (BOS) and the citizens of Fresno County decided years ago that the County's public library system was an asset and an investment worth maintaining. Community advocates for the library agreed that supplementing the County's General Fund contribution to the library fund was paramount to protecting the library's 35 branch system from state budget cuts, preventing library closures or excessively reducing library service hours to the public. Strategic planning was set in motion for keeping qualified librarians, improving reading and literacy, providing job search programs utilizing computer technology, providing neighborhood school-library joint programs, and maintaining services for children, seniors, and the blind. A sales tax measure was drafted to augment library funding and act as a buffer against the cyclical ups and downs of the economy.

In 1998, 2006 and 2012 the Board of Supervisors proposed, and the citizens approved and passed the sales tax proposal known as Measure B to supplement funding for the two Fresno County Public Library entities: the Fresno County Free Library (FCFL) and the Coalinga-Huron Library District (CHLD). The 2022-23 Fresno County Civil Grand Jury focused only on the FCFL and did not investigate the CHLD. The Grand Jury, recognizing the long-standing support for Measure B, sought to determine how the stewardship provided by the FCFL for Measure B has been substantiated over the

duration of the funding.

The Grand Jury focused its investigative inquiry of the FCFL on the following topics of interest:

- Current Library Programs and Community Services
- Measure B Funding and Ordinance Compliance
- Citizens Review Panel (CRP) and Friends of the Library (FOL)
- Library Maintenance and Capital Projects.

The Grand Jury addressed questions and answers to issues such as: How much money has Measure B raised over the years? Who decides how the funds are spent? What has been the role of the Citizens Review Panel? How is Measure B's mandate to "supplement not supplant funding" from the County's General Fund contribution being managed? How does the Fresno County Free Library measure up to similar sized and similarly funded library entities throughout the state? Why has the construction of the new Clovis Library been delayed for so long? It was scheduled to be done by now.

BACKGROUND

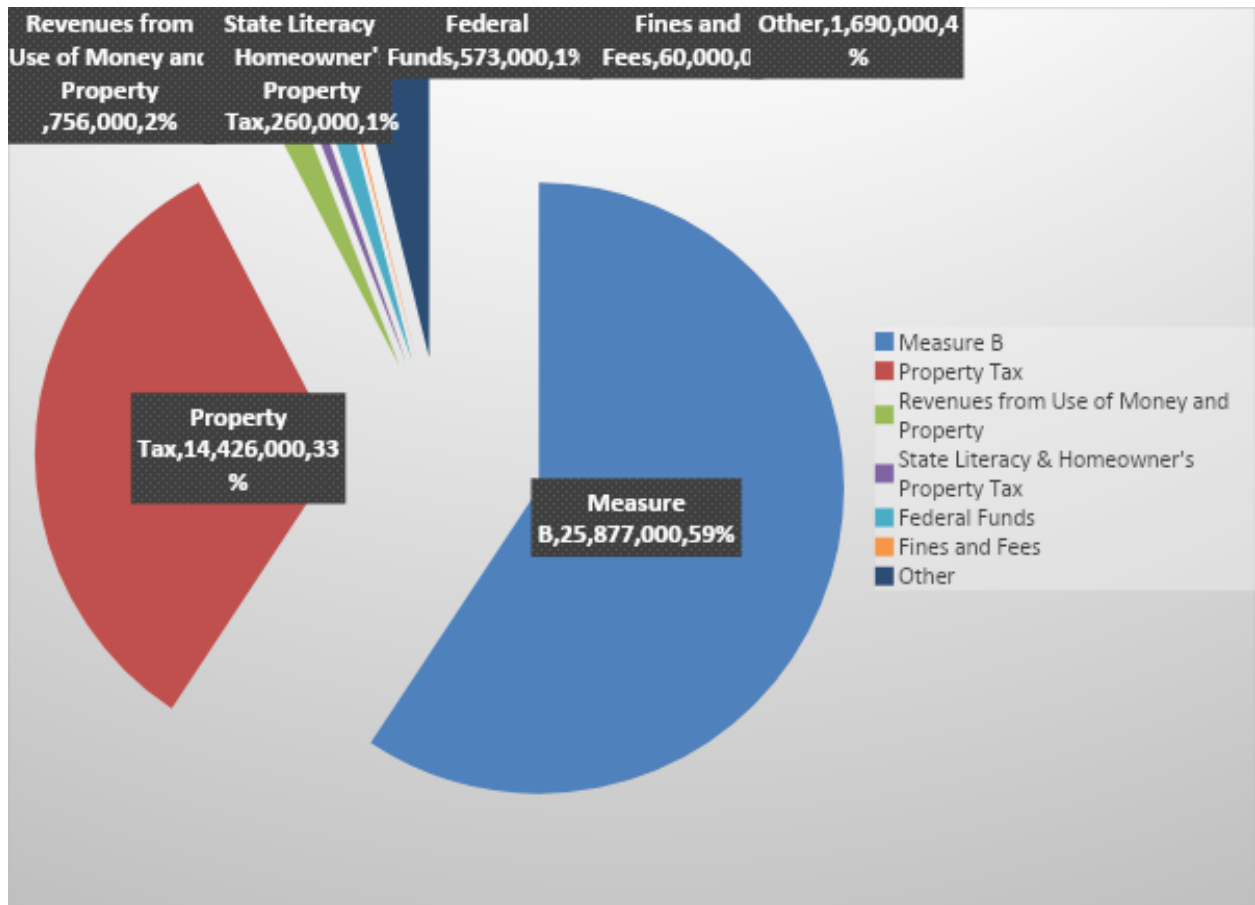
The Fresno County Public Library system is made up of two entities: the Fresno County Free Library and the Coalinga-Huron Library District. The FCFL is a dependent district organized under Education Code section 19100 et seq. and the CHLD is an independent special district organized under Education Code section 18300 et seq. This distinction is important because the Fresno County Free Library is subject to the authority of the

Board of Supervisors, while the Coalinga-Huron Library District is subject to the authority of the Board of Directors for the Coalinga-Huron Unified School District. The Measure B sales tax funding is shared between the two entities on an approximate 97% to 3% split, respectively, based on the current populations of each district at the time.

In 1998 the Fresno County Board of Supervisors proposed, and the voters approved a special library sales tax of 0.125 percent (1/8 of one percent) for 7 years. The measure was passed by 70.3% of the voters, well in excess of the two-thirds supermajority required. This tax became operative on April 1, 1999 and expired on March 31, 2006.

In 2004, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors proposed, and the voters approved a successor tax with the same terms as the existing ordinance, 0.125 percent for 7 years. This time the measure was passed by an even higher approval of over 71% of the voters. The renewal became operative on April 1, 2006 and expired on March 31, 2013.

In 2012 the Board of Supervisors proposed, and the voters approved a successor tax with the same terms as the existing ordinance, but this time it was approved for 16 years (Attachment 1). This measure was passed by an even higher rate of approval of over 73% of the vote. This renewal became operative on April 1, 2013 and is scheduled to expire on March 31, 2029. April 1, 2023 begins the 24th year of this special library sales tax commonly known as Measure B. The 2021-22 Measure B sales tax receipts for the FCFL of approximately \$26 million represented approximately 60% of the annual library budget. Since its inception, Measure B has provided an average 58.9% of the library's annual budget. Since 1998 the revenue for Measure B totals over \$353 million.



2021-2022 Revenue Graphic provided by FCFL

The initiation of Measure B funding as outlined in the ordinance is that the State Board of Equalization (SBOE) will collect sales tax revenue in the County to provide funding to the Fresno County Free Library and the Coalinga-Huron Library District. The sales tax funds are then sent to the County less any SBOE administrative costs. These Measure B funds are strictly mandated to supplement the existing library funding provided by the County General Fund and shall not be used to supplant such funding.

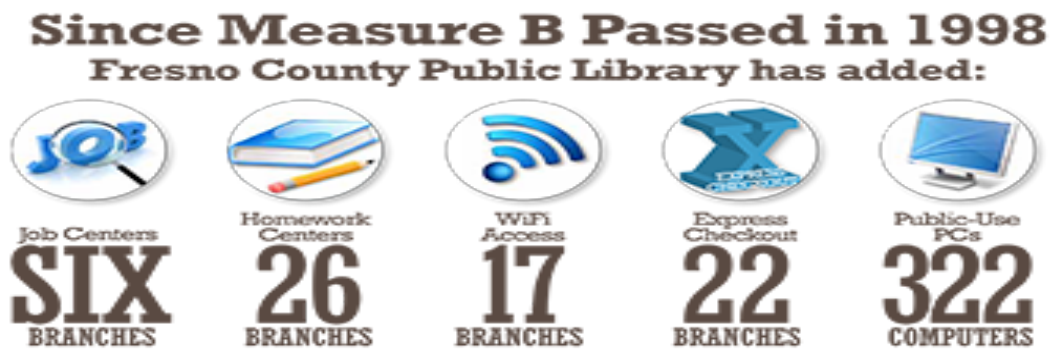
Section 4.20.010(E) of the 2012 Measure B Ordinance (MBO) defines the term “existing funding” as the “...contribution made from the County General Fund during the

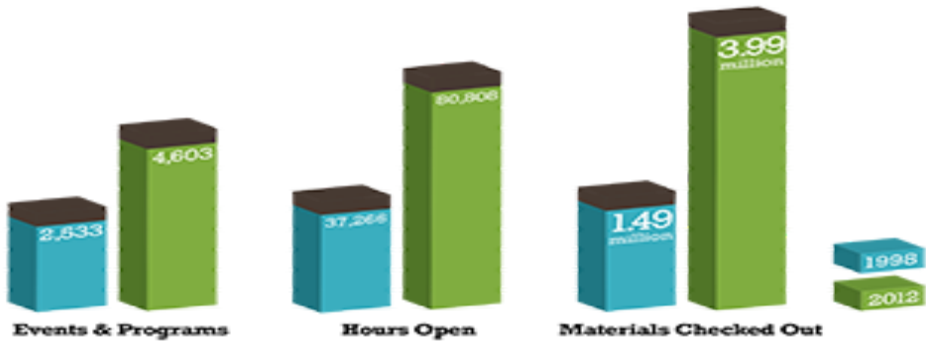
1998-1999 fiscal year, adjusted annually based on the annual increase of the Consumer Price Index-Urban, beginning April 1 of 2013 and services provided to the Fresno County Free Library, at no cost, by other County departments as of April 1, 1999.”

Current Library Programs and Community Services

The Fresno County Free Library (FCFL) of today is unlike the library of the past. Measure B has enabled the evolution of the library from the traditional book lending depository to a state-of-the-art community services center. The FCFL provides books, e-books, music, movies, magazines, newspapers, reference assistance, and wireless Internet access as well as a variety of specialty services throughout the 35 branch locations.

As of June, 2020 the library collection included: 672,000 total printed materials, 261,000 children’s books, 57,000 young adult books, 60,000 e-books, 99,000 physical videos, 700 downloadable videos, 77,000 physical audio materials, and 25,000 downloadable audio materials.





(Information from FCFL material, but has not been updated since 2012)

The library offers a variety of Library Programs including opportunities for children, teens, adults, the disabled and the disadvantaged. Introduction and advanced adult literacy programs are available to all. Basic and advanced online tutorials for commonly used applications are available and the list of services to all members of our community is extensive.

Measure B Funding and Ordinance Compliance

The Measure B Ordinance for each of the three tax measures for 1998, 2006, and 2012 are nearly identical in scope. The Voter Information Guide materials for 2012 including the Measure B Ordinance has been included herein as Attachment 1 for reference. Attachment 1 includes the ballot question, the Full Text of the Measure, the Operational Service Delivery Plan 2013-2029, the County Counsel's Impartial Analysis, the Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector's Fiscal Impact Statement, and the arguments for/against and in rebuttal. All of these materials appeared in the 2012 Voter Information Guide, which must be mailed to each voter in the County in advance of each election.

The 2012 Measure B ballot question assures the voter that the expenditures of Measure B funds will be audited. Although the Full Text of the 2012 Measure B Ordinance does not address how Measure B funds are to be audited, all County entities, including all County sales tax measures are audited by an outside agency on an annual basis prior to the County's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR).

The 2012 Measure B Expenditure Plan, found in Section 4 of the Full Text of the Measure B Ordinance, identifies 10 areas for which Measure B funds must be used exclusively:

1. Preserving existing libraries
2. Keeping qualified librarians
3. Strengthening education at local schools
4. Replacing worn and out-of-date books and materials
5. Expanding programs for children, teens and adults
6. Continuing locally funded literacy services
7. Improving technologies
8. Maintaining local public libraries
9. Constructing new libraries or remodeling and expanding existing libraries
10. Paying for the State Board of Equalization (SBOE) expenses and the County's election expenses for future tax measures.

Citizens Review Panel and Friends of the Library

Responsibility for managing, measuring, and reporting the success for each of the

above-listed expenditure items has been delegated to the FCFL Administrative Staff. Responsibility for oversight of the Measure B expenditures has been delegated to the Citizens Review Panel. The FCFL Administrative Staff reports to the Citizens Review Panel (CRP) quarterly. The CRP is made up of two representatives for each of the Board of Supervisors districts and one member-at-large for a total of 11 committee members. The report from the FCFL Administrative Staff generally includes current financials, which is primary to their oversight function.

The Friends of the Library (FOL) is made up of volunteers from each of the branch library locations. It is at its heart an advocacy group for public awareness and fundraising. There is an overall umbrella FOL Board of Directors made up of five officers and 14 directors with one paid executive assistant. Each of the FOL local volunteer groups takes an active role in book donations and book sales as well as organizing public events throughout the year.

Library Maintenance and Capital Projects

Maintaining and modernizing existing library facilities and constructing new libraries is an authorized use of Measure B funds listed on the 2012 Measure B Expenditure Plan. The FCFL has hired a dedicated project manager to oversee Library Maintenance and Capital Projects. A needs assessment for each FCFL facility in the County was performed in July of 2019 by an independent consultant. The recommendations from this assessment have been included in the FCFL's current 10 year proposed budget and expenditure spreadsheet. This spreadsheet is a rough estimate of the anticipated

maintenance expenditures for 11 categories: roof, siding, fire alarm, camera, HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning), parking lot, safety, interior lighting, exterior lighting, doors and windows, and flooring. The spreadsheet includes line items for the new construction of the branch library capital improvement projects but does not include budgets or anticipated timelines for these expenditures. The FCFL currently has three new library buildings in the Design-Build process: Reedley, Clovis, and Highway City. The modernization of the Fig Garden Library has been completed and was officially reopened April 18, 2023. The Clovis Library project has been delayed for some time due to an ongoing soils contamination investigation on the adjacent Landmark Square projects. At this time the project appears to be starting up again. Please see also the Clovis Library Delay in the Discussion section of this report.

METHODOLOGY

The 2022-2023 Fresno County Civil Grand Jury:

- Requested and received copies of the 1998 and 2012 sample ballot, which included the Measure B ballot question, and the official Measure B Voter Information Guide materials from the office of the Fresno County Clerk/Registrar of Voters.
- Reviewed meeting minutes and recordings of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors' Meetings regarding FCFL agenda items.
- Interviewed FCFL management staff, Board of Supervisors, Public Works

Department staff, County Auditor's staff, and City of Clovis officials.

- Interviewed volunteers from the Friends of the Library and County-appointed Citizens Review Panel members.
- Reviewed Data from the California Department of the State Library System.
- Reviewed information regarding the San Joaquin Valley Library System (SJVLS).

DISCUSSION

Citizens Review Panel

The County Board of Supervisors (BOS) established the Citizens Review Panel (CRP) by Resolution 98-438 adopted on July 28, 1998 and Resolution 99-061 adopted on February 2, 1999 to be the advisory body to the BOS. Each of the County's five members of the Board of Supervisors selects two representatives to serve on the CRP and one representative is selected at large for a total of 11 members. As of this writing there are currently four vacancies on the CRP. The members of the CRP appear to be actively engaged in their responsibilities on behalf of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors as a whole and are not acting as a special interest for a particular Supervisor or district.

The 2012 Measure B ballot question refers to the listed expenditures as being subject to citizens' oversight. The FCCGJ understands this to mean that a citizens' oversight panel should evaluate proposed expenditures by the library before they are executed; however, the CRP has historically reviewed such expenditures subsequent to the library's financial report. The Resolutions 98-438 and 99-061 do not give directions as to when expenditures are to be reviewed. There have been very few instances when the CRP has questioned expenditures after review. The CRP is responsible for submitting an annual report to the BOS.

Operational Service Delivery Plan

The expectations for the additional supplemental funding are briefly outlined in the Operational Service Delivery Plan (OSDP) section of the 2012 Measure B Ordinance.

The OSDP outline includes the following eight topics:

1-Branch Hours of Service

2-Service to Children, Teens, and Seniors

3-Literacy Services

4-Library Book and Materials Collections

5-Library Facilities Maintenance and Operations

6-New and Remodeled Libraries

7- New and Replacement Equipment

8-Technology.

The Grand Jury recommends that the OSDP should be used as an outline for the development of a more comprehensive, detailed Master Plan Program to accurately measure ongoing goals, actions and outcomes. Each branch library entity should be included in the development of this Master Plan Program and be responsible for meeting and reporting such data to be reflected ultimately at the California State Library's Public Libraries Statistics database level. (Please see "State Statistics as a Benchmark Comparison" below).

Long Term Facilities Plan (LTFFP)

The 2012 Measure B Ordinance (MBO) specifically refers to a LTFFP adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2003. The LTFFP (referred to in items 5 and 6, above, of the OSDP) is a subcomponent of the overall Operational Service Delivery Plan. The current 10 Year Maintenance Spreadsheet provided by the library is a roughly estimated Deferred Maintenance Plan. A professional "needs assessment" and plan was developed prior to 2019 but has not been updated. A detailed LTFFP should be developed and maintained annually. A Long-Term Facilities Plan will include an updated "needs assessment" for each of the branches as well as a detailed cost budget analysis for new library facilities.

State Statistics as a Benchmark Comparison

The Fresno County Civil Grand Jury has briefly reviewed the California Department of the State Library System Statistics database, which can be found at

www.library.ca.gov/stats/. These annual spreadsheets include line-item data collection for each of the 185 library entities in California. The data is spread out over 135 columns of information. The Grand Jury produced a snapshot-look (Attachment 2) at the spreadsheet for fiscal year 2020-21 for the seven library entities that make up our San Joaquin Valley Library System and seven libraries of similar size and funding as the FCFL. The Data for each similar library entity was copied entirely from the State Library Statistics database, then included only selected columns of interest. The seven library entities reviewed were for: Contra Costa County, Orange County, Riverside County, the City of Sacramento, San Bernardino County, San Diego County and the City of San Jose. The average population served for these libraries is 1.1 million. The FCFL serves a population of 1,002,529 and has a “total operating income” of \$39 million. Contra Costa County Library serves a population of 1,043,724 with a “total operating income” of \$39 million. The main columns of interest for comparison are: Service Area Population, Registered Users, Number of Branches, Total Square Feet, Operating Income, Full Time Staff (Full Time Equivalent), Hours Open, Library Visits, Number of Programs, Program Attendance, and Website Visits. The Grand Jury found that the FCFL ranked significantly below similar library entities in the majority of these categories.

One explanation the Grand Jury considered is that the FCFL is not getting the word out to the public sufficiently to maximize the number of registered users. When FCFL is compared with the most similar library system, the Contra Costa County library, the column with the most glaring disparity was in registered users, thus supporting our recommendation (see Public Awareness, below) to solicit assistance from professional media services.

Some of the most important categories to the Grand Jury in the California Public Library's Statistics database spreadsheet are related to programs for children, young adults and seniors, and materials. These categories appear at the tail end of the 2020-21 spreadsheet and seem to be a struggle for most library systems to provide accurate statistical information for comparison. These categories need to be addressed in a detailed Operational Service Delivery Plan mentioned above. The FCFL should develop an ongoing metric for monitoring and enhancing the numbers for each deficient category and the Board of Supervisors should charge the Citizens Review Panel with monitoring and reporting the progress to the Board of Supervisors.

Public Awareness Planning

One of the challenges for the FCFL is getting the word out to the public of all the wonderful services and programs that are available through the library. The California Public Libraries Statistics database spreadsheet for fiscal year 2020-21 indicates that the FCFL offers 880 programs to the public annually. The current methods of disseminating public information regarding FCFL services by flyers, library displays, social media posts, newspapers, radio and television public service announcements, and information booths at public events appears to be falling short of the statistical average for similar library entities (Attachment 2). Despite the use of very talented graphic artists and enthusiastic promotion within the FCFL Community Engagement Department, public awareness of the vast array of services provided by the FCFL is limited and generally the public is only aware of the library as a place to check out books and a resource for magazines and newsprint, and maybe a place to access a computer

for public use. The Grand Jury finds that some information and graphics about what Measure B has added to the FCFL has not been updated for several years. The FCFL should budget funds for and engage the services of professional public relations and media consultants.

To Supplement Not Supplant Funds: Maintenance of Effort (MOE)

The 2012 Measure B Ordinance (MBO) expresses the importance of maintaining the other existing sources of funding besides the Measure B funding. The MBO makes specific reference that the Measure B funding is to supplement library funding and should not supplant existing funding. As mentioned earlier in this report the 2021-2022 sales tax contribution to the library funding represents about 60% of the overall budget for the FCFL. The next largest contribution is from property taxes which represents about 35% of the budget. Other sources making up about 6% of the balance remaining include:

- Maintenance of Effort (MOE) General Fund Match
- Historic Landmark Reimbursements
- San Joaquin Valley Library System (SJVLS) library cooperative reimbursements
- Friends of the Library specific donations for programs
- Grants and Other Miscellaneous funding.

The MBO states the existing funding from the County of Fresno shall be defined as the contributions made from the County General Fund during the 1998-1999 fiscal year,

adjusted annually based on the annual increase of the Consumer Price Index.

The Grand Jury sought to find reporting data substantiating the County General Fund required minimum contribution. The metric for managing this contribution was provided and defined as a "Maintenance of Effort" (MOE) calculation. The FCFL administration maintains a MOE worksheet updated annually beginning with the 1998-99 General Fund contribution given as \$101,560 and increased annually by the appropriate CPI index increase. The Grand Jury found the initial amount to be insufficient as a benchmark for the calculation and sought verification that sufficient funding was being committed by the County to meet the intent of the MBO to "supplement not supplant" existing funding sources. We were provided with a report by the Auditor-Controller/Tax Collector's Office that identifies the library portion of the property tax revenues with a secured "distribution factor" that has been calculated over the Measure B history to be more than the Measure B Ordinance mandated expectations. The Grand Jury finds that the intent to "supplement not supplant" the General Fund contribution has been met. The matched funding by the County, including the property tax funding, has exceeded the MBO "supplementing not supplanting" expectations each and every year since its 1998 inception.

New Clovis Library Delay

The Clovis Branch of the Fresno County Free Library system is the most utilized library facility in Central California. The library outgrew its 8,600 square-footprint years ago. The City of Clovis, in 2015, purchased a 5.6-acre parcel near downtown Clovis for the designated purpose of relocating the library, building a new Senior Center and a new Transit Center. The project is known as Landmark Square.

The City of Clovis and the County of Fresno then began negotiations for swapping the current existing library property for the new proposed site at Landmark Square. The current library is just across the street from Clark Intermediate School on 5th Street and the new library parcel at Landmark Square is only about a quarter mile away as the crow flies on 3rd Street.

Fresno County's Design Development schedule, dated January 7, 2020, outlined a 23-month design and construction timeline estimated to be completed by June of 2022. The new library project came to a halt in March of 2021 due the discovery of substantial soil contamination on the parcel of the new proposed Senior Center building. The long awaited "no further action" report from the Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) regarding the new library parcel was finally received some 22 months later on January 16, 2023, thus clearing the way to restart the Design Development and Construction process for the new Clovis library.

The Board of Supervisors (BOS), the City of Clovis, and the FCFL administration has remained steadfast to their commitment for the public safety assurances necessary to proceed. Several alternate sites were considered but the Landmark Square location will most certainly be the library site worth waiting for.

CONCLUSION

The Fresno County Civil Grand Jury would like to acknowledge our appreciation for the efforts and candid responses we received from the various County, city, and department administrative personnel as well as all those various organizational volunteers. The FCFL is a well-staffed and dedicated organization. Our random, unannounced visits to

the many branches in the County demonstrated a high degree of professional pride. Each of the branches were exceptionally clean, well organized and welcoming to the public.

Our Findings and Recommendations primarily fall into five suggested areas:

- Citizens Review Panel oversight responsibilities to the Board of Supervisors
- Updating and expanding the Operational Service Delivery Plan
- Library Long Term Facilities Planning
- Community Engagement and Public Awareness campaign
- Measure B Funding Compliance.

Each of these suggested areas for consideration should be included in an all inclusive Master Plan Program similar to a public school district's facilities long term program. Such programs are often facilitated by professional Program Management firms experienced in bringing together all stakeholders responsible for maximizing their collective stewardship of public funds. The Grand Jury suggests that similar program services be considered.

FINDINGS

F1 The Board of Supervisors has not sufficiently outlined its expectations of the Citizens Review Panel by providing them with a detailed outline of their oversight responsibilities.

F2 There are four vacancies on the CRP, which creates difficulty in achieving a quorum at the CRP meetings.

F3 The Fresno County Free Library (FCFL) does not have a current, detailed Operational Service Delivery Plan (OSDP) document that expands the OSDP outlined in the 2012 Measure B Ordinance (MBO).

F4 The FCFL does not have a current, detailed and prioritized Long Term Facilities Plan referenced in the 2012 Measure B Ordinance (MBO).

F5 The FCFL number of registered users falls short of the average for comparably sized and budgeted library systems in the state as reported on the fiscal year 2020-2021 spreadsheet located on the State Library's California Public Libraries Statistics database website.

F6 The 2012 Measure B Ordinance funding mandate to "supplement and not supplant" the existing funds received from the County exceeds the mandated minimum of the 2012 MBO.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. The Board of Supervisors should develop a list of expectations for the Citizens Review Panel of the metrics to be used in evaluating Measure B expenditures. Implementation by December 31, 2023. (F1)

R2 The Board of Supervisors should select and maintain a full complement of representatives to the Citizens Review Panel for their districts to ensure proper oversight of Measure B utilization. Completed by September 30, 2023.(F2)

R3 The FCFL Librarian in conjunction with associated stakeholders should schedule planning sessions and develop an Operational Service Delivery Plan implementing ongoing measurable metrics for each of the listed expenditures and OSDP items as outlined in the Measure B Ordinance. Commencing not later than December 31, 2023. (F3)

R4 The FCFL Librarian should develop a current detailed and prioritized Long Term Facilities Plan. Commencing not later than December 31, 2023. (F4)

R5 The FCFL Librarian should budget for an outside professional media/advertising consultant to aid in the development of a comprehensive advertising and awareness campaign to inform the citizens of Fresno County of the vast array of services available at the FCFL. Completion by September 30, 2023. (F5)

R6 The FCFL Librarian should require that each library branch entity regularly submit accurate data to be submitted to the State Library's California Public Libraries Statistics database in order to develop an accurate measurable baseline against similarly sized and funded library systems. Implementation by December 31, 2023. (F5)

R7 The Board of Supervisors and the FCFL Librarian should consider hiring a professional Program Management firm to assist in developing a comprehensive long term plan for maximizing the stewardship of public funds more in line with similar sized and similarly funded libraries. Implementation by December 31, 2023. (F1-F6)

REQUIRED RESPONSES:

Fresno County Board of Supervisors (F1-F6; R1, R2, R7)

INVITED RESPONSES:

Citizen Review Panel (F1-F2; R1-R2)

FCFL Librarian (F3-F6; R3-R7)

DISCLAIMER

Reports issued by the Grand Jury do not identify individuals interviewed. Penal Code Section 929 requires that reports of the Grand Jury not contain the name of any person or facts leading to the identity of any person who provides information to the Grand Jury.

APPENDIX

Attachment 1 2012 Consolidated Presidential General Election sample ballot and 2012 Measure B Ordinance Voter Information Guide materials

Attachment 2 State Library's California Public Libraries Statistic Database "Snapshot" Spreadsheet for Similar Libraries in Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Attachment 1 2012 Consolidated Presidential General Election sample ballot and 2012 Measure B Ordinance Voter Information Guide materials

OFFICIAL BALLOT CONSOLIDATED PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 6, 2012, FRESNO COUNTY		
<p>INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:</p> <p>1. To vote you must completely darken the oval <input type="radio"/> next to your choice.</p> <p>2. If you make a mistake or prefer a Spanish ballot, contact the Elections Office at (559) 600-8683 or ask the precinct officer at your polling location.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">VOTE LIKE THIS: <input type="radio"/> VOTE BOTH SIDES <input type="radio"/></p>		
<p>Party-Nominated Offices The party label accompanying the name of a candidate for party-nominated office on the general election ballot means that the candidate is the official nominee of the party shown.</p>	<p>MEMBER OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY 23rd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT Vote for One</p> <p><input type="radio"/> BOB WHALEN Party Preference: REP <i>Prosecutor/Councilmember</i></p> <p><input type="radio"/> JIM PATTERSON Party Preference: REP <i>Businessman/Broadcast Executive</i></p>	<p>31. STATE BUDGET, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE. Establishes two-year state budget. Sets rules for offsetting new expenditures, and Governor budget cuts in fiscal emergencies. Local governments can alter application of laws governing state-funded programs. Fiscal Impact: Decreased state sales tax revenues of \$200 million annually, with corresponding increases of funding to local governments. Other, potentially more significant changes in state and local budgets, depending on future decisions by public officials.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>
FEDERAL	NONPARTISAN	SCHOOL
<p>PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT Vote for One Party</p> <p><input type="radio"/> GARY JOHNSON (President) LIB JAMES P. GRAY (Vice President)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> ROSEANNE BARR (President) PF CINDY SHEEHAN (Vice President)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> BARACK OBAMA (President) DEM JOSEPH BIDEN (Vice President)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> JILL STEIN (President) GRN CHERI HONKALA (Vice President)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> THOMAS HOEFLING (President) AI ROBERT ORNELAS (Vice President)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> MITT ROMNEY (President) REP PAUL RYAN (Vice President)</p> <p>Write-in</p>	<p>STATE CENTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER TRUSTEE AREA NO. 2 Vote for One</p> <p><input type="radio"/> PAULINA MIRANDA <i>Businesswoman</i></p> <p><input type="radio"/> PHIL MAHER <i>Retired Appraiser/Notary</i></p> <p><input type="radio"/> BRIAN MURIELLO <i>Case Manager</i></p> <p><input type="radio"/> ERIC PAYNE <i>Educator/Nonprofit Administrator</i></p> <p>Write-in</p>	<p>32. POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY PAYROLL DEDUCTION, CONTRIBUTIONS TO CANDIDATES, INITIATIVE STATUTE. Prohibits unions from using payroll-deducted funds for political purposes. Applies same use prohibition to payroll deductions, if any, by corporations or government contractors. Prohibits union and corporate contributions to candidates and their committees. Prohibits government contractor contributions to elected officers or their committees. Fiscal Impact: Increased costs to state and local government, potentially exceeding \$1 million annually, to implement and enforce the measure's requirements.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>
<p>Voter-Nominated and Nonpartisan Offices All voters, regardless of the party preference they disclosed upon registration, or refusal to disclose a party preference, may vote for any candidate for a voter-nominated or nonpartisan office. The party preference, if any, designated by a candidate for a voter-nominated office is selected by the candidate and is shown for the information of the voters only. It does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party or that the party approves of the candidate. The party preference, if any, of a candidate for a nonpartisan office does not appear on the ballot.</p>	<p>DISTRICT FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS DIVISION NO. 5 Vote for One</p> <p><input type="radio"/> MIKE KILJIAN <i>Business Owner</i></p> <p><input type="radio"/> JERALD REBENSORF <i>Appointed Incumbent</i></p> <p><input type="radio"/> GREGORY H. BEBERIAN <i>Organic Farmer/Businessman</i></p> <p>Write-in</p>	<p>33. AUTO INSURANCE COMPANIES, PRICES BASED ON DRIVER'S HISTORY OF INSURANCE COVERAGE, INITIATIVE STATUTE. Changes current law to allow insurance companies to set prices based on whether the driver previously carried auto insurance with any insurance company. Allows proportional discount for drivers with some prior coverage. Allows increased cost for drivers without history of continuous coverage. Fiscal Impact: Probably no significant fiscal effect on state insurance premium tax revenues.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>
FEDERAL	MEASURES SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS	STATE
<p>UNITED STATES SENATOR Vote for One</p> <p><input type="radio"/> DIANNE FEINSTEIN Party Preference: DEM <i>United States Senator</i></p> <p><input type="radio"/> ELIZABETH EMKEN Party Preference: REP <i>Businesswoman/Nonprofit Executive</i></p>	<p>30. TEMPORARY TAXES TO FUND EDUCATION, GUARANTEED LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY FUNDING, INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Increases taxes on earnings over \$250,000 for seven years and sales taxes by 1/4 cent for four years, to fund schools. Guarantees public safety realignment funding. Fiscal Impact: Increased state tax revenues through 2018-19, averaging about \$6 billion annually over the next few years. Revenues available for funding state budget in 2012-13, planned spending reductions, primarily to education programs, would not occur.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>	<p>34. DEATH PENALTY, INITIATIVE STATUTE. Repeals death penalty and replaces it with life imprisonment without possibility of parole. Applies retroactively to existing death sentences. Directs \$100 million to law enforcement agencies for investigations of homicide and rape cases. Fiscal Impact: Ongoing state and county criminal justice savings of about \$130 million annually within a few years, which could vary by tens of millions of dollars. One-time state costs of \$100 million for local law enforcement grants.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>
FEDERAL	UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE	UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
<p>16th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Vote for One</p> <p><input type="radio"/> JIM COSTA Party Preference: DEM <i>Farmer/Representative</i></p> <p><input type="radio"/> BRIAN DANIEL WHELAN Party Preference: REP <i>Businessman/Agricultural Attorney</i></p>	<p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>
VOTE BOTH SIDES		

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FR 138-004

<p>35. HUMAN TRAFFICKING. PENALTIES. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Increases prison sentences and fines for human trafficking convictions. Requires convicted human traffickers to register as sex offenders. Requires registered sex offenders to disclose internet activities and identities. Fiscal Impact: Costs of a few million dollars annually to state and local governments for addressing human trafficking offenses. Potential increased annual fine revenue of a similar amount, dedicated primarily for human trafficking victims.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>	<p>40. REDISTRICTING. STATE SENATE DISTRICTS. REFERENDUM. A "Yes" vote approves, and a "No" vote rejects, new State Senate districts drawn by the Citizens Redistricting Commission. If rejected, districts will be adjusted by officials supervised by the California Supreme Court. Fiscal Impact: Approving the referendum would have no fiscal impact on the state and local governments. Rejecting the referendum would result in a one-time cost of about \$1 million to the state and counties.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>
<p>36. THREE STRIKES LAW. REPEAT FELONY OFFENDERS. PENALTIES. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Revises law to impose life sentence only when new felony conviction is serious or violent. May authorize re-sentencing if third strike conviction was not serious or violent. Fiscal Impact: Ongoing state correctional savings of around \$70 million annually, with even greater savings (up to \$90 million) over the next couple of decades. These savings could vary significantly depending on future state actions.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>	<p>B. FRESNO COUNTY LIBRARY TAX MEASURE B Fresno County Libraries Protection Measure: To protect libraries from state budget cuts by preventing library closures and reduced library hours; keeping qualified librarians; improving reading/literacy, job search programs/computer technology; providing neighborhood school-library joint programs, and maintaining services for children, seniors and the blind, shall Fresno County voters continue the voter-approved 1/8-cent sales tax for neighborhood libraries for sixteen years, with audits, citizens' oversight, all funds staying in Fresno County and no tax rate increase?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>
<p>37. GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FOODS. LABELING. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Requires labeling of food sold to consumers made from plants or animals with genetic material changed in specified ways. Prohibits marketing such food, or other processed food, as "natural." Provides exemptions. Fiscal Impact: Increased annual state costs from a few hundred thousand dollars to over \$1 million to regulate the labeling of genetically engineered foods. Additional, but likely not significant, governmental costs to address violations under the measure.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>	<p>O. FRESNO COUNTY MEASURE O Shall Fresno County Charter, Section 13, be amended to allow the County to employ independent contractors for services performed by County employees by majority vote of the Board of Supervisors and to read: SECTION 13: Notwithstanding Section 44 of this Charter or other provisions of law, the County may employ independent contractors to perform any County service, including service then being performed by County employees, with three affirmative votes of the Board of Supervisors?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>
<p>38. TAX TO FUND EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Increases taxes on earnings using sliding scale, for twelve years. Revenues go to K-12 schools and early childhood programs, and for four years to repaying state debt. Fiscal Impact: Increased state tax revenues for 12 years roughly \$10 billion annually in initial years, tending to grow over time. Funds used for schools, child care, and preschool, as well as providing savings on state debt payments.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>	
<p>39. TAX TREATMENT FOR MULTISTATE BUSINESSES. CLEAN ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY FUNDING. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Requires multistate businesses to pay income taxes based on percentage of their sales in California. Dedicates revenues for five years to clean/efficient energy projects. Fiscal Impact: Increased state revenues of \$1 billion annually, with half of the revenues over the next five years spent on energy efficiency projects. Of the remaining revenues, a significant portion likely would be spent on schools.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO</p>	

VOTE BOTH SIDES

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FR 138-005

**COUNTY OF FRESNO
FRESNO COUNTY LIBRARIES PROTECTION MEASURE
MEASURE B**

Fresno County Libraries Protection Measure B: To protect libraries from state budget cuts by preventing library closures and reduced library hours; keeping qualified librarians; improving reading/literacy, job search programs/computer technology; providing neighborhood school-library joint programs, and maintaining services for children, seniors and the blind, shall Fresno County voters continue the voter-approved 1/8-cent sales tax for neighborhood libraries for sixteen years, with audits, citizens' oversight, all funds staying in Fresno County and no tax rate increase?"

YES OR NO

FULL TEXT OF MEASURE

Section 1. Title and Summary

This Ordinance shall be known as the "Fresno County Public Library Transactions and Use Tax Ordinance." If approved by the voters, this Ordinance will impose a successor transactions and use tax, which will be the same as the current tax (which expires Mar. 31, 2013), to be applicable in the incorporated and unincorporated territory of the County, the proceeds of which are to be used exclusively for public library operations, programs, acquisitions and library construction within the County. Such revenues shall be used only to supplement existing funding for public libraries and shall not be used to supplant existing funding for the support of public libraries.

Section 2. Submission to the Voters; Voter Approval; Operative Date.

This Ordinance is an ordinance calling for or otherwise relating to an election, and shall therefore take effect immediately upon adoption by this Board. The provisions of this Ordinance are to be submitted to the voters of the County for approval in order that the successor transactions and use tax can become operative, as provided by Revenue and Taxation Code section 7286.59. The tax submitted to the voters by this Ordinance will therefore take effect only if at least two-thirds of the electors voting on the measure at the November 6, 2012 election vote in favor of the measure. If approved by the voters, the provisions of this Ordinance authorizing the levy of the one-eighth of one percent (0.125%) transactions and use tax will become operative on the later of April 1, 2013 or the first day of the first calendar quarter following the execution of the State Board of Equalization contract in accordance with Section 5 of this Ordinance.

Section 3. Provisions of Fresno County Ordinance Code Regarding Public Library Transactions and Use Tax.

Effective on the date the successor tax becomes operative under Section 2 of this Ordinance, Sections 4.20.010 and 4.20.110 of Chapter 4.20 of Title 4 of the Fresno County Ordinance Code are amended to read as follows:

Section 4.20.010. Purpose.

This chapter is adopted to achieve the following, among other, purposes and directs that its provisions are interpreted to accomplish those purposes:

A. To impose a one-eighth of 1 percent (0.125%) retail transactions and use tax according to the provisions of Part 1.6 (commencing with section 7251) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as specifically authorized by section 7286.59 of Chapter 2.98 of Part 1.7 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code;

EA 138-014

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B. To adopt a retail transactions and use tax ordinance which incorporates provisions identical to those of the Sales and Use Tax Law of the State of California insofar as those provisions are consistent with the requirements and limitations contained in Part 1.6 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code;

C. To adopt a retail transactions and use tax ordinance which imposes a tax and provides a measure for it that the State Board of Equalization can administer and collect in a manner that adapts itself as fully as practicable to, and requires the least possible deviation from, the existing statutory and administrative procedures followed by the State Board of Equalization in administering and collecting the California Sales and Use Taxes;

D. To adopt a retail transactions and use tax ordinance which can be administered in a manner which, to the greatest degree possible, will be consistent with the provisions of Part 1.6 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, will reduce the cost of collecting the transactions and use taxes and simultaneously will reduce the burden of record keeping upon persons subject to taxation under the provisions of this chapter.

E. To adopt a retail transactions and use tax ordinance that provides funding for public library operations, programs, acquisitions and library construction within the County of Fresno. Such revenues shall be used only to supplement existing expenditures for public libraries and shall not be used to supplant existing funding for the support of public libraries. For the purposes of this chapter, "existing funding" from the County of Fresno for the support of the Fresno County Free Library shall be defined as the contribution made from the County General Fund during the 1998-1999 fiscal year, adjusted annually based on the annual increase of the Consumer Price Index - Urban, beginning April 1 of 2013 and services provided to the Fresno County Free Library, at no cost, by other County departments as of April 1, 1999.

Section 4.20.110. Use of the Taxes.

A. The proceeds of any and all transactions and use taxes collected under this chapter shall be used exclusively for public library operations, programs, construction, and acquisition, within the County of Fresno. Such revenues shall be used only to supplement existing expenditures for public libraries and shall not be used to supplant existing funding for the support of public libraries.

B. There are two public library entities within this County: the Fresno County Free Library, a dependent special district of the County, organized pursuant to Education Code section 19100 et seq., and the Coalinga-Huron Library District, an independent special district, organized pursuant to Education Code section 18300 et seq. (hereinafter collectively "the Libraries"). The Libraries shall share the total transactions and use tax revenues collected Countywide. Their respective shares shall be determined by their proportions of the total population of the County, as certified on or before June 1, 2012, June 1, 2016, June 1, 2020, and June 1, 2024 by the State Librarian, pursuant to Education Code section 18021.

C. The proportions as of the June 1, 2012 certification shall be used from the operative date of the ordinance codified in this chapter through June 30, 2016. The proportions as of the June 1, 2016 certification shall be used from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2020. The proportions as of the June 1, 2020 certification shall be used from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024. The proportions as of the June 1, 2024 certification shall be used through the end of the tax.

If Education Code section 18021 is repealed or amended so as to delete the State Librarian's responsibility to certify population, the Libraries shall agree on an alternate source for the 2016, 2020 and 2024 determinations of their respective shares of Countywide population.

D. If Education Code section 18021 is repealed or amended so as to delete the State Librarian's responsibility to certify population, the Libraries shall agree on an alternate source for the 2016, 2020 and 2024 determinations of their respective shares of County-wide population.

Section 4. Expenditure Plan.

After the reimbursement of the County for the cost of the election pursuant to Section 6 of this Ordinance and for any fee charged by the State Board of Equalization for preparing to administer the tax pursuant to Section 5 of this Ordinance, the specific projects for which the revenues from the transactions and use tax will be expended as follows:

1. Preserving existing libraries, and continuing the current open hours, and increasing open hours further where possible at branches operated by the Fresno County Free Library and the Coalinga-Huron Library District;
2. Keeping qualified librarians; maintaining services for children, seniors and the blind; continuing reading clubs for children and teens to encourage reading and improve literacy programs;
3. Strengthening education at our local schools and offering young people after-school and weekend programs, providing them with a safe alternative to joining gangs;
4. Continuing to replace worn and out-of-date books and materials, and continuing to add new books and other materials as needed by the Fresno County Free Library and the Coalinga-Huron Library District to serve their residents;
5. Continuing the current programs and services, and expanding programs and services further, for children, teens and adults at the Fresno County Free Library and the Coalinga-Huron Library District;
6. Continuing the locally funded literacy services at the Fresno County Free Library;
7. Continuing to implement or improve technologies to deliver efficient programs and services that are of benefit to the residents of the County;
8. Maintaining local public libraries throughout the County;
9. Constructing new libraries or remodeling and expanding existing libraries throughout the County;
10. Paying ongoing administrative expenses of the State Board of Equalization and the County's election expenses for another successor tax, if one is placed on the ballot.

Section 5. Contract with State.

Before April 1, 2013, the County will contract with the State Board of Equalization to perform all functions incident to the administration and operation of this transactions and use tax Ordinance; provided, that if the County has not contracted with the State Board of Equalization before April 1, 2013, it will nevertheless reach such an agreement, with the operative date of the contract being the first day of the first calendar quarter following the execution of the contract. The Libraries will reimburse the County from the revenues of the tax for any separate fee charged by the State Board of Equalization for preparing to administer the tax, according to their initial proportions of total Countywide population as set forth in Section 3 above.

The County Librarian is hereby authorized and directed, without further action by the Board of Supervisors, to execute any and all contracts and other documents which may be required by the State Board of Equalization in regard to the administration of the tax by the State Board of Equalization, which authority and direction shall continue as long as the State Board of Equalization has any duties in regard to the tax.

ED 199.012

PR-9050-2

Section 6. Election Costs.

Payment for the costs of the election shall be the responsibility of the County. If the election is successful, the Libraries will reimburse the County for these costs from the revenues of the tax, according to their initial proportions of total Countywide population as set forth in Section 3 above.

Section 7. Implementing Policies and Regulations.

Upon approval of this Ordinance by two-thirds of the voters voting on the measure, the Libraries may adopt policies and regulations and take such other action consistent with this Ordinance as may be necessary for the implementation of the one-eighth of one percent (0.125%) transactions and use tax authorized by this Ordinance.

Section 8. Termination Date.

This Ordinance will terminate on the later of March 31, 2029, or 16 years after the first day of the first calendar quarter following the execution of the State Board of Equalization contract in accordance with Section 5 of this Ordinance.

Section 9. Severability.

If any provision of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

**Operational Service Delivery Plan
2013-2029**

1. Branch Hours of Service.

Continue to more than double the hours of service from 1996-97, offering over 70,000 hours per year. The hours at each location would continue, as in the past, to be based on population, use, and number of community-based activities. At this level of access, library service would continue to accommodate multiple types of programs for children; convenient open hours of access for all customers; literacy activities; programs for teens, adults, and seniors; bookmobile hours to visit senior centers in the county; and activities in support of independent learning particularly in support of job training. Computers with high-speed access to the Internet, the Library's catalog and research tools, plus desktop productivity software will be available in all locations.

At each location the specific hours open each day would be determined in consultation with community library staff and schedules will be flexible to meet community needs as they change

2. Service to Children, Teens and Seniors.

Specific services in this area will continue to include in-library story hours for preschoolers and toddlers; school age programs; visits to classrooms, particularly annual visits to kindergarten classes; group visits from schools; coordination with teachers at all locations; Family Place sites; coordination of technology to improve service to children and teens; bookmobile service to senior centers; homework help; in-library reading activities for teens and teen outreach activities promoting reading to community centers; and enhanced library material collections for children, teens and seniors.

3. Literacy Services.

Literacy services in Fresno County will continue with local funding from this tax measure. Until fiscal year 2010-11, Library-based literacy services in Fresno County were partially funded under the California Library Literacy Services program. Through the literacy programs, such as English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL),

adult literacy, and family literacy, the Library will continue to add more books to collections, recruit and train volunteer tutors, provide one-to-one tutoring for adults in reading, writing, spelling and basic math, and help parents with low levels of literacy to nurture a love of reading and learning in their children.

4. Library Book and Materials Collections.

The service plan will acquire books and other materials at a level eight times that of 1996-97 local funding. These new books and materials will replace current items that are old, worn or out-of-date. Sufficient quantities of materials will be added to keep pace with the growing population and to particularly focus on children, teens and seniors in our service area. The Library will continue to offer innovative programs and services that capitalize on the latest trends and technologies in libraries including bestseller collections, e-books, online downloadables, music, movies, etc. Materials will support self-directed learning, provide curriculum support that aligns with local public schools thereby helping to strengthen education, and will reflect the popular interests of the Fresno County communities.

5. Library Facilities Maintenance and Operations.

To operate and maintain the current 34 library buildings and two bookmobiles at the doubled hours of operation, appropriations for services, the increase in supplies and maintenance staff will continue. The Library owns 22 buildings; while critical deferred maintenance issues were addressed in the first years of Measure B, other projects loom including regular re-carpeting and painting and ADA accommodations and earthquake safety modifications. For the leased facilities (12), rental rates have generally been so low that owners cannot make needed improvements and still receive a positive return.

6. New and Remodeled Libraries.

Over the last several years the Library has become the defacto community center in many areas in Fresno County. It is considered a safe place for children and families and is seen as providing an alternative to joining gangs for our young people. Remodeling and new facility projects will be conducted with the goal of achieving a welcoming atmosphere for all ages, with comfortable seating, infrastructure for current and emerging technologies, meeting rooms and quiet rooms, areas specifically designed for teens and children, and programming spaces. Staff workspaces will be designed to maximize efficiencies.

Sales tax funding will help to begin meeting the needs identified in the Long Term Facilities Plan adopted by your Board in February 2003. Matching local funds will ensure that sufficient funds are available for a maximum number of projects and to capture any state or federal funding which may become available.

7. New and Replacement Equipment.

New and replacement equipment will be purchased to house, preserve and secure collections. Special emphasis will be placed on equipment which improves the productivity of staff.

8. Technology.

Access to technology continues to be an important issue for the customers of Fresno County. Funding will allow staff to research and learn new technologies and translate that knowledge into staff efficiencies and improved or new services and programs for the public, including group and one-on-one workshops, online tutorials and high-speed access to the Internet.

The Library will continue to invest in workforce and computer literacy initiatives that utilize technology so county residents are competitive in the job market, can engage and interact through social media, and can seek current information on any topic of interest or need.

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY COUNTY COUNSEL

State law authorizes a county board of supervisors to propose a special countywide sales tax ("transactions and use tax") for public library construction, acquisition, programs and operations within the county. The tax proposal may be at the rate of either 0.125 or 0.25 percent for up to 16 years. The board of supervisors may propose a tax in any succeeding period, at either rate, for up to 16 years.

In 1998, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors proposed, and the voters approved, a special library sales tax at the rate of 0.125 percent for 7 years. The tax became operative April 1, 1999 and was to expire March 31, 2006.

In 2004, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors proposed, and the voters approved, a successor special library sales tax at the rate of 0.125 percent for 7 years. This tax became operative April 1, 2006 and will expire on March 31, 2013.

The Fresno County Board of Supervisors recently adopted Ordinance No. 12-011, which would impose a successor tax on the same terms as the existing ordinance, 0.125 percent for 16 years, if two-thirds of the voters voting on the measure approve. With voter approval, the successor tax would become operative April 1, 2013 and expire March 31, 2029. Because the tax would succeed an expiring tax at the same rate, the sales tax rate in Fresno County would not change if the voters approved this tax.

The tax revenues would be shared by the two public library entities in Fresno County according to their proportions of County population. About 97 percent would go to the Fresno County Free Library, and about 3 percent to the Coalinga-Huron Library District. The ordinance provides that adjustments for any change in population proportions would occur periodically, in 2016, 2020, and 2024.

The proceeds from this tax could only be used for public library purposes, and could only be used to supplement, not supplant, existing funding or services for the support of public libraries. The specific expenditure plan in the ordinance calls for the following activities:

1. Continuing current open hours; increasing open hours where possible.
2. Continuing current programs and services and expanding them; maintaining services for children, seniors and the blind, reading clubs and after-school and weekend programs for children and teens; continuing literacy services at the County library;
3. Continuing replacing worn or out-of-date books and materials, adding new books, materials; implementing or improving technologies for delivering efficient programs and services;
4. Maintaining, remodeling and expanding existing libraries; constructing new libraries.

The tax revenues would reimburse the County's election costs and pay fees charged by the state to administer the tax.

The Board of Supervisors and the governing board of the Coalinga-Huron Library District would be responsible for specific expenditures of their respective shares of the tax revenues, under general laws governing each entity. The Citizens Review Panel already established by the Board of Supervisors to monitor County Library expenditures would continue to do so for the continuing tax.

s/ Kevin B. Briggs
County Counsel

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

This ballot measure is to extend the current Retail Transaction and Use Tax in the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Fresno County at the rate of one-eighth of one percent (0.125%), which expires on March 31, 2013. The State Board of Equalization will continue to administer this sales tax if approved by at least two-thirds of the electors voting on the measure.

This ordinance will generate approximately thirteen million five hundred thousand (\$13,500,000) annually with the growth of this revenue generally following the economic trends within the local community.

The revenue from the Public Library Transactions and Use Tax will be used exclusively for Public Library Services within the County of Fresno. This tax will terminate on March 31, 2029 or sixteen (16) years after the first day of the first calendar quarter following the execution of the State Board of Equalization contract in accordance with the provisions of the Transaction and Use Tax Ordinance.

s/ Vicki Crow, Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Since 1998, Fresno libraries have been funded by the voter approved Measure B. Measure B makes up 54% of Fresno County library funding and protects the libraries against the volatility of the State and County budgets. Measure B protects Fresno County's urban and rural libraries by keeping the money local and out of the hands of Sacramento politicians.

Measure B allows our local libraries to continue playing a vital role in educating our children, and offering after school and weekend programs that provide a safe alternative to gangs. Reading clubs, computer access and tutoring programs are just a few of the benefits that Fresno County libraries offer to our families and our children. In addition to fostering education, Measure B also allows libraries to continue services to our seniors and the blind in Fresno County and helps maintain qualified librarians to administer these programs.

Without Measure B, libraries will experience shortened hours and library closures. State slashed education funding every year makes Measure B even more vital to the education of our children.

Measure B is a voter approved Measure that needs to be continued. Fresno County citizens have an opportunity to protect the services provided by libraries and keep these funds local by voting YES on Measure B.

Public libraries are one of the few important community centers left that benefit children, families and seniors. This Measure will help make sure that we will continue to have access to this valuable resource.

s/ Sheriff Margaret Mims

s/ Sally M. Caglia, Business Woman

s/ Jose Flores, Mayor, City of Clovis

s/ Larry Powell, Superintendent of Schools
Fresno County Office of Education

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT FOR

Unemployment and foreclosures are especially high in our area. Higher Sale Taxes hurt the poor and middle class more so than the wealthy.

Along with the \$9.2 Billion State Tax increases, rising State Sales Tax, the expensive High Speed Rail and Water Projects, we cannot afford a local Library Sales Tax for another 16 years, which duplicates the function of our schools.

When supporters first pitched the present Library Sale Tax in 1998, they said they needed more taxes to allow libraries to remain open for more hours, but soon after being approved they added another paid holiday. And last year when County workers went on strike, library employees joined them.

Mismanagement during the last few years have some libraries opening less than before, and their Administration wasted \$15,000 to create a Mascot they soon scrapped because it frightened children. If County Libraries had to manage on the over \$26.5 million from the County Budget, in addition to hundreds of thousands in Grants and donations, they would manage their money more wisely.

This new tax calls for more classes in English as a Second Language, yet they don't have an American Flag for the Pledge of Allegiance in their downtown classroom.

There are no studies or evidence, but only wishful thinking that this library tax will prevent gangs. Strong parenting is the solution.

Help get America back on track and vote "NO" because there are more important ways to spend our tax dollars.

s/ Chloe E. Foster, Housewife

ARGUMENT AGAINST

The County estimates this library sales tax extension will cost the public \$13.5 million each year for the next 16 years. Our libraries receive about \$40 million yearly when you their Grants and Donations are included. Spending millions on an Institution that is rapidly going the way of the typewriter, newspaper and VHS is wasteful. Fewer and fewer people use the library for researching information or checking out books. To justify more funding, libraries offer many free and non-essential social service programs such as folk dancing, music, entertainment, chess, beading and numerous other activities, which should be paid for by the user and not by the taxpayer. In this highly technical society, libraries for the most part, are becoming obsolete. When was the last time you used the library for it's intended purpose?

There are many ways to better spend \$13.5 Million in taxes. At the top of the list is opening our beautiful new Veterans Home in Fresno to provide much needed care and jobs for our deserving citizens, or opening another wing of the county jail to prevent the early release of criminals back into our neighborhoods. As a comparison, the City of Fresno recently spent \$11 million for 70 new Fresno apartments for the homeless.

Many cannot afford all the planned State tax increases coming soon and struggle to pay their bills, put food on the table and gas in their cars. Taxpayers shouldn't have to pay between \$120,000 and \$160,000 to put this measure back on the ballot again. This money could be used more wisely maintaining parks and keeping our community swimming pools open for our youth.

Please vote "NO" against this unnecessary tax.

s/ Chloe E. Foster, Housewife

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**Attachment 2 State Library's California Public Libraries Statistics Database
"Snapshot" Spreadsheet for Similar Libraries in Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

2020-2021 State Library Statistics www.library.ca.gov/stats/	2.1 Population of The Legal Service Area	2.2 Registered Users as of June 30	2.5 # of Branch Libraries	2.9 Total Square Footage	3.5 Total Operating Income	4.3 Total Staff Expenditures	5.5 Staff FTE	7.1 Hours Open, All Outlets	7.2 Library Visits	Total # of Programs	Total Program Attendance	7.41 Website visits
San Joaquin Valley Library System												
	% of pop				\$/reg user	\$/reg user						
FRESNO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	1,002,529	174,132 17.4%	36	285,371	\$39,762,314 \$228	\$20,481,380 \$118	270.35	17,710	-1	880	22,667	1,302,124
KERN COUNTY LIBRARY	914,193	85,472 9.3%	22	283,828	\$6,115,869 \$72	\$4,082,557 \$48	68.8	9,328	45,996	2,610	36,264	1,320,063
KINGS COUNTY LIBRARY	152,543	19,566 12.8%	6	55,400	\$2,332,441 \$119	\$1,389,729 \$71	17.51	3,886	3,513	118	3,593	50,761
MARIPOSA COUNTY LIBRARY	18,037	4,835 26.8%	4	13,774	\$329,010 \$68	\$341,825 \$71	3.5	2,832	-1	0	0	-1
MERCED COUNTY LIBRARY	284,836	30,086 10.6%	11	73,551	\$3,449,058 \$115	\$2,514,405 \$84	24	2,557	-1	430	40,855	123,482
TULARE COUNTY FREE LIBRARY	352,916	40,155 11.4%	16	89,375	\$5,875,476 \$146	\$2,726,459 \$68	47	4,252	14,215	315	5,533	520,669
TULARE PUBLIC LIBRARY	69,246	13,980 20.2%	0	31,408	\$1,601,720 \$115	\$736,242 \$53	10.75	1,386	15,929	28	282	34,853
Similarly Budgeted Libraries: California												
	% of pop				\$/reg user	\$/reg user						
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY	1,043,724	351,658 33.7%	26	372,309	\$39,458,910 \$112	\$22,599,614 \$64	194	7,896	2,405,208	879	38,099	4,846,970
ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES	1,614,627	393,820 24.4%	32	393,569	\$65,624,008 \$167	\$29,285,055 \$74	378	47,384	1,057,318	1,760	71,966	3,013,844
RIVERSIDE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM	1,367,182	328,621 24.0%	35	383,168	\$31,304,288 \$95	\$397,973 \$1	227.81	44,042	343,307	1,711	35,335	819,989
SACRAMENTO PUBLIC LIBRARY	1,478,711	692,074 46.8%	27	458,399	\$52,112,658 \$75	\$26,303,287 \$38	274.5	33,716	369,551	1,283	26,636	3,700,140
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY LIBRARY	1,271,448	608,509 47.9%	32	373,524	\$24,808,120 \$41	\$8,470,070 \$14	103	49,626	619,402	4,214	193,304	607,881
SAN DIEGO COUNTY LIBRARY	1,100,872	418,108 38.0%	33	373,064	\$51,383,041 \$123	\$26,465,538 \$63	250	18,612	520,000	43	1,164	2,130,000
SAN JOSE PUBLIC LIBRARY	1,029,782	689,379 66.9%	24	912,086	\$46,265,991 \$67	\$36,820,548 \$53	372.47	6,808	497,794	6,188	124,165	1,996,468
Average per 7 total	8,906,346	3,481,971 39.1% average			\$310,967,629 \$89	\$150,342,350 \$43	average	29,726	830,369	2,297	70,096	2,445,045