

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: May 23, 2024

PREPARED BY: Gary Shaffer, Director of Library Services

REQUEST: STUDY SESSION: INFORMATIONAL UPDATE ON LIBRARY PROGRAMS
AND PARTNERSHIPS

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file an informational update on library program and partnerships.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

In June 2023, the City Council directed staff to proceed with withdrawing from the Riverside County Library System and establish its own municipal library services. The following steps have been taken since then to facilitate this effort:

- October 12, 2023: City Council adopted the Resolution. No. 2023-047 withdrawing from the Riverside County Library System (RCLS) and indicating its intent to establish an independent municipal library;
- November 7, 2023: Riverside County Board of Supervisors received and filed Resolution No. 2023-047;
- March 12, 2024: Riverside County Board of Supervisors ratified and agreed to the terms of the agreement to withdraw from the RCLS;
- January 25, 2024: City Council established, via ordinance NO. 1408, the library; and on
- April 25, 2024: City Council established, via ordinance No. 1413, the library's governing board.

Library staff have identified mission, vision, and values for the library. Programs and partnerships will be aligned with these. Staff are working on identifying program plans during the library closure and in the first quarter after opening. These programs include, among others, Summer Reading, One Book-One Palm Desert Community Reading initiative, weekly storytime programs, and back-to-school events. Staff are also currently working to establish partnerships across the City and wish to share with the City Council some of the partnership opportunities staff are pursuing.

Legal Review:

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney's office.

Appointed Body Recommendation:

These plans have been shared with the Library Task Force.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Presentation