

Highlights

- City of Austin Budget Timeline and next steps: **July 27-** Proposed Budget presented to City Council; **August 17 & 24-** Budget work sessions; **September 12-14-** Council adopts Budget & Tax Rate
- The Southeast Austin Community Branch Library is scheduled to reopen in August.

Facilities Services

New Central Library Project: The architectural/engineering consultants for the New Central Library continued to develop Schematic Design ideas this month and presented them to the New Central Library Technical Team on May 5th and to the New Central Library Executive Team on May 10th for comments. On May 11th, a coordination meeting was held with representatives from all the City departments working towards a design solution for the 2nd Street extension from Shoal Creek to West Avenue and the intersection of 2nd street with West Avenue. Without resolution of these street and intersection issues, the architects' design for the New Central Library cannot continue to move forward as directed by the City Manager. As the need for a Seaholm District Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) has become apparent, key personnel from the Library, Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services, Transportation, and Planning and Development departments met on May 16th with representatives of Seaholm Power LLC and Austin Energy's engineering consultants to define the scope of a Seaholm District Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA). A Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) facilitates public/private partnerships to coordinate land use and transportation facility development. Both the City of Austin and the involved land use developers share in the responsibility to consider all reasonable solutions to identified transportation problems in the Seaholm District. The TIA will look at development size and use and determine the effect of that use on the existing and planned roadway system. This process will foster the creation of a roadway system to accommodate the proposed land use and may recommend mitigation measures to foster efficient traffic flow around the sites under discussion. TIA's are required whenever the additional site-generated Average Daily Traffic (ADT) is more or equal to 5,000, and TIAs must be performed by Transportation Engineering consultants. At the request of the City's Sustainability Office, the Library and Public Works staff members overseeing the New Central Library Project will attend a May 17th presentation on the latest in Sewer Waste Heat Recovery Technology. On May 26th, the same Public Works and Library staff members will meet with representatives from other City departments to review the impact of Austin's Great Streets, Subchapter E, and Urban Design Guidelines on the New Central Library Project.

August 26, 2011 ~ Council approval of a Professional Services Amendment with the design team
Fall 2011 ~ Schematic Design Completed (30% Complete

Design Package Delivered)

- September 22, 2011 ~ Council briefed
- September 26, 2011 ~ Library Commission + Design Commission briefed
- October 20, 2011~ Council Approval of Schematic Design

Summer 2012 ~ Design Development Completed (60% Complete Design Package Delivered)

- Council briefed
- Library Commission briefed
- Council Approval Summer 2012 ~ Design Phase completed

Spring 2013 ~ Construction Document Phase completed

Summer 2013 ~ Guaranteed Maximum Price Determined and Approved by Council

Summer 2013 ~ Permits received

Summer 2013 ~ Groundbreaking Ceremony conducted

Summer 2013 ~ Construction begins

Fall 2015 ~ Construction completed

Winter 2015 ~ Grand Opening Ceremony celebrated.

Financial Year 2011-2012 Five Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Plan:

As per direction from the City Manager regarding the Financial Year 2012 budget process, departments are expected to review their Financial Year 2012 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) with their respective boards and commissions. Those boards and commissions are, in turn, expected to provide feedback on the proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to the City of Austin. To facilitate that process, the Library Department has previously presented to the Library Commission:

- A brief overview of the key issues and priorities that are drivers for departmental capital needs
- An overview of the Financial Year 2012 CIP Spending Plan for existing/funded projects to be included in the Financial Year 2012 CIP Plan
- A brief summary of unfunded/new requests for Financial Year 2012

The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Financial Year 2012 Approval Schedule is as follows:

- May/June, 2011 ~ Presentations to Planning Commission's CIP sub-Committee & Bond Oversight

Committee

- June 7, 2011 ~ Planning Commission CIP Sub-Committee Meeting
- June 28, 2011 ~ Planning Commission recommends FY2011-12 CIP Plan
- July 27, 2011 ~ Proposed Capital Budget Presented to Council
- August 25, 2011 ~ 2011 Bond Sale
- September 12 – 14, 2011 ~ Capital Budget Approved by Council

Capital Project Needs Assessment: In order to enhance its long-range capital planning efforts, the City of Austin deems it essential at this time to complete a comprehensive assessment of its capital project needs. This assessment will be a key component in planning for future bond program proposals and supports the City of Austin's commitment to be the best managed city in the country. The scope of the 2011 Capital Project Needs Assessment includes:

- Drainage infrastructure projects
- Transportation projects (new capacity, system expansions, preservation of the existing system)
- City facilities (new facilities, expansions, major renovations)
- Other City support functions (such as fleet services)

Projects to be submitted as part of the assessment may have been included in the FY 2012 CIP Plan submittals of the various departments. Other projects that qualify for the Capital Needs Assessment but were not included in the Financial Year 2012 CIP Plan submittal as an unfunded request will be submitted to the Capital Needs Assessment so that the City of Austin is afforded a clear picture of its capital needs at this point in time. The schedule for the Capital Projects Needs Assessment process is as follows:

June 3, 2011 ~ Project submittals due to Capital Planning Office (CPO)

June 6 – 23, 2011 ~ CPO review and assembly of proposed needs assessment; meetings with departments/ACMs

June 24, 2011~ Presentation of Proposed Needs Assessment to City Manager

The Capital Planning Office recognizes that the City of Austin is currently developing a Facilities Master Plan that will provide a roadmap for addressing a number of the capital projects that may be identified in Capital Needs Assessment. This facilities master planning process will continue to move forward concurrently under the guidance of the Building Services Office. The City team that is leading the facilities master planning process will participate in the needs assessment review to ensure coordination with this initiative.

Security Camera Installation Project: Installation of interior security cameras at the nine critical locations identified in Phase I of the project will be completed by the end of this month. Now that the training manual for the security camera surveillance system has been reviewed, revised and approved by the Library Department, training will commence immediately for Library Security and Library

Facilities Services personnel. A change request to add security cameras at the Windsor Park Branch, the Library's most high-risk site, will be approved after the contractor better defines his approach to making and sealing wall penetrations. In order to expedite the remainder of the work required, the Library Department has determined that its personnel will self-manage the installation of cameras and associated equipment at the eleven Library locations targeted in Phase II of the project. The Library locations included in each project phase are as follow:

Phase I: Windsor Park, Southeast Austin Community, Oak Springs, Little Walnut Creek, St. John's, Terrazas, University Hills, Ruiz, and Carver branches

Phase II: Faulk Central Library, Austin History Center, Howson Branch, Pleasant Hill Branch, Old Quarry Branch, Hampton Branch at Oak Hill, Spicewood Springs Branch, Manchaca Road Branch, Milwood Branch, Yarborough Branch, Cepeda Branch and Recycled Reads Bookstore

Austin History Center ADA Compliant Ramp Installation

Project: Great care has been taken to insure that this project's new stone blocks, now being processed by cutting, shaping and sizing, will match the appearance of the building's existing stonework. To that end, it was decided to deliberately mar, or distress, the face of the new stone by means of wire-brushing in order to give an effect of age. The delivery of new stone is anticipated to be received on site by May 20th, and as soon as the mason has set a sufficient amount of stone, a mock-up for the wrought iron railing will be created for the project manager's review and approval. A mock-up is a model, either full size or to scale, of a construction system or assembly used to analyze construction details, strength and appearance. Mock-ups are commonly used for masonry and exposed concrete construction projects.

Austin History Center Sewer Retrofit: The branch sewer line servicing the Austin History Center has now almost completely collapsed beneath the weight of the parking lot that the Austin History Center shares with the Faulk Central Library. The Library Department is working diligently with its consulting engineering firm to design a comprehensive retrofit for this failed underground utility pipeline. A Final Engineering Report has been completed, reviewed and after revisions, approved by the project manager. The project manager estimates that the construction documents needed for the Quality Assurance/Quality Control Review are now 85% complete. As soon as the QA/QC Review process has been successfully carried out, the project will be advertised for bids by interested and qualified contractors.

Southeast Austin Community Branch Library Renovation:

The Southeast Austin Community Branch Library is undergoing a renovation promised to the surrounding neighborhoods by the City Manager during meetings with the community in August of 2009 and September of 2010. This project has been funded by means of the Library Department's operating budget resources and further made possible largely through the efforts of "in-house" crews from the Library Facilities Services and Library

Information Systems divisions. Painting of the interior walls, voice and data upgrades, exterior lighting enhancements, and re-leveling of the site's sidewalks have been successfully completed. The original Congress Avenue brick pavers at the site were successfully salvaged and reinstalled, and an exterior security camera now watches over the South entrance to the facility. Re-carpeting throughout the building has been delayed until July due to a pending back order of the requisite carpet tiles. The facility's wooden reading chairs have been refurbished by Library Maintenance to look new again. Countertops, composed of sustainable materials, will be installed this month to create an area for laptop users to access electrical outlets for their devices. The re-opening of the Southeast Austin Community Branch Library is still anticipated to take place late this summer, and we believe the makeover of the facility will be well worth the wait.

Faulk Central Library Chiller and Cooling Tower Retrofit:

On Thursday, March 3, 2011, the Austin City Council authorized award and execution of contracts through the Texas Multiple Award Schedule (TXMAS) with Trane U.S., Inc. of La Crosse, Wisconsin to purchase and install a centrifugal chiller and cooling towers at the Faulk Central Library. A lag in the vendor's signing of their contract has caused a four week delay in the project schedule. Both the chiller and the dual cooling towers are now on order with their respective manufacturers, and the equipment is expected to be delivered to the Library Department in July following the thirteen weeks required for fabrication. The bulk of the heavy equipment installation process and associated crane work is anticipated to be carried out during July, with final completion to be achieved in August, 2011. The sequencing of deconstruction and new equipment installation will require close coordination on this busy downtown district site. However, it remains the intention of the project team not to affect the normal business of the Faulk Central Library and the Austin History Center, except during a few days of partial parking lot closures necessitated by crane operations. Those days that the crane will be on site will be publicized widely prior to the event.

Austin History Center

Programming & Outreach

- Asian American Neighborhood Liaison Esther Chung conducted a workshop at the Texas Historical Commission annual conference on April 1. 120 people attended the session which discussed ways to better document diverse populations.
- On April 6, Mexican American Neighborhood Liaison Gloria Espitia gave a presentation to Dr. Emilio Zamora's UT class.
- Video Archivist Tim Hamblin gave a guided tour of the 5X5Y exhibit to a group of Allied Mills representatives from all over the country. The tour was arranged by the Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau.
- On April 19, African American Neighborhood Liaison Cynthia Evans and Asian American Neighborhood Liaison Esther Chung gave a presentation to the Culturally Alert Counseling class at the University of Texas.
- The Austin History Center and the Texas Historical Commission (THC) co-hosted a Texas Sesquicentennial of

the American Civil War Initiative program on Wednesday, April 27 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Austin History Center. Over fifty people heard presentations about the THC's efforts to commemorate the sesquicentennial, the role of the Buffalo Soldiers in Texas, and what life was like in Austin during the war. Manager Mike Miller was among the presenters.

Collections

- Archives staff finished processing 3 collections and placed EAD encoded finding aids for these collections on the Internet at the TARO (Texas Archival Resources Online) website. These collections include the Collins Family Papers, the Ro-Anns Records, and the Mutual Savings Institution Records. Staff also added to the Eloise Roach Papers and updated the finding aid The finding aids are available online at: http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse_ahc1.html

Publications

- Photos from the AHC were purchased for use in an upcoming book on Texas Furniture (UT Press), the COA Public Works newsletter, and the Waller Creek Conservancy website.

Exhibits

- The AHC will have a small photo exhibit on the Emancipation Day Celebrations for Juneteenth. The exhibit will be in display at the Carver Branch Library June 1-20, 2011.

Reference

- The Reading Room staff saw a 25% increase in questions from last month. Country and Western singer Jerry Green serenaded staff in the microfilm room, singing his new song "Wherever in Texas." He was traveling through Texas shooting a video for this song when he stopped in to do some research at the AHC. Mr. Green is a former DJ from KVET and sang with the Jimmy Reeves band, among others.

Staff News

- Reference Archivist Katie Causier Howell relocated with her family to North Carolina after over two years of service at AHC. The position will be filled by Ashley Adair, a recent iSchool graduate from UT who has volunteered at the AHC for the last year.

Youth Services

Teen Services

Teen Services selected the candidate for new Teen Services Librarian, Kristi Melvin. Preparations continued for YomiCon 2011, performing site walkthroughs at the Ruiz Branch Library with the Fire Department and core APL staff. The new Interns for the Connected Youth program gained proficiency and began to offer activities at the Teen Centers around Austin. Staff is also preparing for the Summer Reading Program!

Program Services

Work continued with the Second Chance Books Program at the Gardner Betts Juvenile Justice Center. In 2010 the

team launched the Unit Librarian plan that matched team members with one or two of the 10 units at the Leadership Academy, the long-term facility for incarcerated teens. A team member would serve the unit with a monthly one-hour visit where they provided reader's advisory, book clubs, or a read-aloud to the members of the unit. This enabled them to dramatically improve the effectiveness of their services.

This model has increased numbers of teens served by library programs; increased resident reading ability; increased requests for new materials; increased trust demonstrated between residents, staff, and librarians; increased resident engagement and satisfaction with Unit Librarians; and increased program satisfaction by the partner agency administrators.

The team, also, began providing more reader's advisory assistance; completed a massive weeding project; and spent several months revamping the nonfiction collection at the facility to make it more user-friendly. They, also, created a designation for GLBTQ literature which enabled teens to discretely find GLBTQ related materials. As soon as it was started, the number of requests increased significantly with several requesting it from the librarians regularly. This was an important customer service milestone because it demonstrated a trust in the Librarians to keep their information private when they were not yet ready to "come out".

This entire team has contributed to the enrichment of incarcerated teens, and the end result benefits our community. The wonderful change in these juveniles is, also, evident when they come to APL and request their own library card. They are making a difference as a team.

Children's Services

In April, Children's Services Librarians continued summer preparations while hosting library tours, presenting programs, and participating in the Texas Library Association Conference in Austin.

Ann Minner, (Howson and Oak Hill) performed in the Book Cart Drill Team competition at TLA. She commented, "the Bibliofile performance at TLA was great fun and really fostered a sense of teamwork as well as friendship." Celia Holm (Little Walnut Creek) has been working with online customers with reader's advisory and personal. A particular challenge was to find a work of fiction that heavily involves techno music and culture, set in Germany and was suitable for someone in their teens. She came up with *The Answer is Always Yes* by Monica Ferrell. It's adult but has a teen protagonist.

Grants

The Southeast Austin Community Branch Library received one of the fourteen Book Festival Grants presented at this year's Texas Library Association meeting. The proposed use of the \$2497 funding is for the purchase of bilingual materials for the Youth Nonfiction collection and the Youth Fiction Collection as well as Board Books for children less than 5 years old. Paola Ferate-Soto, Southeast Austin Community Branch Manager, carefully examined the collection at the branch and found the largest gap to be

in the Spanish language collection for youth. The 78744 zip code (the zip code which encompasses this area) has more total Latinos and the second highest concentration of Latinos by comparison with any other Travis County zip code. This region, referred to as Dove Springs, is also documented by the City of Austin as one of the three fastest growing Hispanic population centers in Austin. While this community is vibrant and diverse with a variety of assets, it also faces daunting challenges, including lower than average income and educational levels, larger household sizes which stretch limited income levels even further, and high percentages of first generation and non-English speaking populations. This grant will help Southeast Austin Community Branch refresh and grow these very well used collections of library materials for Spanish speaking children and their families.

Recycled Reads

April revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$12,416 and over 4,400 people visited the store

More than thirty five volunteers on average donate over 320 hours of their time to the bookstore. More than 11 pallets of materials from the warehouse were processed and over 160 individual donations from the public were received.

Staff met with Jeff Kendall of Goodwill Industries to discuss book recycling options with their local organization, while continuing to work with Materials Management and Solid Waste to initiate a recycling program for unsellable media.

Volunteer Services

APRIL 2011 - STATISTICS

Number of Volunteers	159
APRIL - Volunteer hours	1638.62
Volunteer Value*	\$20.85
	\$35,000.92

April Incidents

- 3 Abandoning children or failing to supervise children at the Library
- 1 Bringing animals into the Library
- 2 Bringing in bedrolls, blankets or sleeping bags.
- 31 Disturbing others using the Library
- 6 Fighting
- 28 Harassment/Sexual harassment of Library staff or customers
- 10 Violating Internet Policy
- 2 Intoxication resulting from alcohol or drugs
- 9 Mistreatment or vandalism of Library facilities, materials, or equipment
- 8 Sleeping in the Library
- 2 Soliciting and panhandling
- 1 Voyeurism and peeping
- 6 Appropriate clothing is required
- 3 Blocking access to Library entrances, passageways or resources
- 21 Disorderly conduct
- 4 Strong Odor
- 2 Unintended use of restrooms
- 5 Using obscene language

- 13 Leaving personal belongings unattended
- 3 Physically attack or threaten to attack another person
- 1 Unlawfully carrying or displaying weapons
- 2 Public Lewdness
- 10 Theft of Library, staff, or customer property
- 6 Destruction of Library property
- 5 Bringing food or drink into the Library
- 184 Total**

To see the complete up to date listing of events visit

<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library/calendar.htm>

Brenda Branch, Director of Libraries

