

Austin Public Library Director's Report November 2013

More Than Books

Highlights

- Author Julian Read, the former press secretary to Governor John Connally, will visit the Austin History Center, December 4 at 6:30 pm to discuss his book JFK's Final Hours In Texas: An Eyewitness Remembers the Tragedy and Its Aftermath.
- On December 7, the AHC will have the last in its series of food programs: "Eat, Drink, Read – Austin" at 1:00 at the AHC. This program will be a series of short presentations from the authors and contributors to 5 recently published books about Austin food – from beer to breakfast tacos

Facilities Services

New Central Library Project: Good progress continued to be made on the New Central Library Project during November of 2013. On November 1st, a coordination meeting was held with representatives from a number of City departments to hammer out future maintenance responsibilities for the Second Street Extension from Shoal Creek to West Avenue, Shoal Creek between Cesar Chavez Street and Third Street, and the landscaping adjacent to the Seaholm Substation Wall. Those departments include: the Austin Public Library, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Austin Energy, Watershed Protection, and Austin Water Utility. On November 7th, the Austin City Council authorized the negotiation and execution of an amendment to the professional services agreement with the Joint Venture of Lake Flato Architects, Inc. / Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott, Inc., for architectural services for the New Central Library in the amount of \$2,302,700, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$10,802,700. This amendment allows the next phase of the project to progress, including Phase C services to provide construction administration: reviewing contractor's submittals, providing necessary clarification and interpretation of contract documents, assisting in evaluating issues that arise during the course of construction, facilitating progress meetings, and providing a record set of drawings which depict changes accrued during construction. Additionally, this amendment includes Phase D services to provide post construction warranty phase services. Current and upcoming construction activities at the site include open excavations, demolition of existing utilities, drilling for deep well dewatering of the site and installation of the soil retention system. At this time, City staff and project consultants are reviewing and commenting on the Guaranteed Maximum Price Proposal 2 for the New Central Library and Related improvements, submitted by the Construction Manager at Risk, Hensel Phelps Construction Company. The New Central Library Café Request for Proposals has been scheduled to be first advertised on November 24th, with submittals from interested restaurateurs due to the City of Austin by January 31st. The project schedule for the New Central Library remains as follows:

- ~ November 2013 ~ Building permits received
- ~ December 2013 ~ Building Construction begins
- ~ Spring 2016 ~ Building Construction completed
- ~ Summer 2016 ~ Grand Opening Ceremony **<u>Life-Cycle Costs Process</u>**: The City Manager has recognized the need to identify all of the true costs of operating and maintaining infrastructure once it is put in place so that city management and policy makers can realistically plan for those costs over the life of the asset, and use the information in long-range planning and budgeting. For example, the City of Austin is currently building a state-of-the-art New Central Library for the Twenty-first Century and desires to ensure that the facility lasts as long as possible and can continue to provide central library services to the community for years to come. The Life-Cycle Working Group of key staff members was formed in June of 2013 to provide the City Manager, policymakers and the public with appropriate information on the costs not only of building or purchasing infrastructure but also operational and maintenance costs so that upper management can make fully informed decisions in the Capital Improvement Plan and operational budgeting processes. The Working Group had determined that a common organizational framework is needed to compile the various types of life-cycle cost data used by departments so that a consistent, comprehensive analysis can be created for decision-making. The Life-Cycle Working Group will develop a standardized framework for calculating and using life-cycle costs information related to all infrastructure owned and managed by the City of Austin, with the full understanding that each department's approach to life-cycle costing may vary somewhat based on the department's mission and operations.

Capital Improvements Visualization, Information and Communication System: Public Works (PWD), Financial Services (FSD), Communications and Technology Management (CTM) and the Capital Planning office (CPO) have been working collaboratively to develop an online website and mapping tool in response to Council Resolution No. 20120927-085. The resolution directs staff to provide information to the public about how GO bonds and other CIP funds are spent on infrastructure. CIVIC (Capital Improvements Visualization, Information and Communications system) will be a website on AustinTexas. gov dedicated to providing the public with reliable and accurate CIP information and appropriate context for viewing the City's infrastructure improvements. CIVIC will include maps of projects, information on 2010 and 2012 GO bond-funded programs and projects, project detail pages (giving project description, status, funding sources, project manager, etc.), CIP reports detailing program funding and spending, and informative content regarding the CIP, frequently asked questions, and further contact information.

Exterior Security Cameras Installation Project:

The Library Department's Exterior Security Camera Project is being carried out as part of the Communications Technology Management Department's larger ESAS Project. The ESAS Project is currently providing an integrated enterprise level security solution towards installing new services and replacing end of life and/ or updating access control, video surveillance and alarm systems throughout the City of Austin. The Communications Technology Management Department (CTM) has advised the Austin Public Library (APL) that sufficient enough spending authority has been released to their vendor, Schneider Electric, to perform the work required on the remaining nine (9) Library sites to receive exterior security cameras. Those nine (9) Library locations are the Spicewood Springs, Cepeda, Manchaca Road, Pleasant Hill, Howson, Milwood, Old Quarry, Yarborough, and Oak Hill branch libraries. Although our two newest branches, North Village and Twin Oaks, opened with security camera surveillance systems in place, APL will be replacing their digital video recorders (DVRs) with newer network video recorders (NVRs) in order to make their monitoring more compatible with the rest of the department's protective services operations. APL has previously received conditional approval from the Public Works Department (PWD) for the asbestos and lead-in-paint remediation work necessary prior to the installation of any equipment. However, APL and PWD has commissioned a testing lab and consultant to collect samples in order that a more definitive survey report might be generated regarding asbestos and/or lead containing materials found in the path of the Library Exterior Security Cameras Installation Project. Material samples were successfully taken between August 12th and August 16th at each of the nine branch library work sites. It was determined that four of the nine branch library sites will require hazardous materials remediation before the work of installing the security camera system can proceed. Careful coordination of work efforts between the Austin Public Library, Communication Technology Management, Public Works and Schneider Electric will be required to implement this project at these four sites: Spicewood Springs, Old Quarry, Howson and Manchaca Road branch libraries Due to a revised master agreement between the City of Austin and Titus, that firm is now revising their cabling proposals for the project to reflect the new negotiated costs. The Austin Public Library is also waiting for the approved proposals from Schneider Electric for the purchase of security camera equipment to be issued by the Communication Technology Management Department, following a delay caused by the close-out of Fiscal Year 2012-2013 documents for the City of Austin.

Faulk Central Library Boilers and Flue Retrofit Project: This challenging mechanical retrofit of an occupied building

is going very well, and is now actually ahead of schedule, a development almost unknown with this sort of project. At this time, the completed work includes but is not limited to:

- asbestos abatement conducted as necessary and associated air testing approved
- defunct boilers and the entire vertical length of existing flue deconstructed and removed from the building
- construction staging air fenced and appropriate signage installed

- new boilers and piping located to basement
- previous and now undersized equipment pad demolished and debris removed from basement
- dust containment area installed on Fourth Floor

Work to come includes but is not limited to:

- flue and curb demolition on the roof and new roof curb installation
- removal of ceiling system, flue demolition, and flue inspection on Fourth Floor
- installation of new flue in chase
- selective fire sprinkler demolition in basement and recommissioning of sprinkler system
- coordination of electrical/controls and fire alarm reinstalls throughout building

It would not be possible to carry out this critical project with the alacrity now being experienced were it not for the combined good efforts of the contractors and the Library divisions fully engaged in the work, principally Library Building Services (Security and Custodial), Library Information Services and Library Maintenance. The project would likewise not be going nearly so well were it not for the patience and good humor in the face of inconvenience exhibited universally by Library staff housed in the Faulk Central Library and finding themselves in the path of construction activities.

The University Hills Branch Library Parking Lot **Expansion Project:** An offer to purchase the undeveloped property adjacent to the University Hills Branch Library, and needed for this parking lot expansion project, has been sent by the City of Austin to the owners. The project's land acquisition schedule calls for a final offer to be sent by December 24, 2013 with the owner's sign-off to be provided by January 8, 2014.

Milwood Branch Library Renovation Project: The project's Design Phase requires that the Library Facilities Services Division obtains the services of an architectural firm for the City of Austin's pre-approved rotation list of architectural consultants. The Library's request for an architect from this rotation list was granted by the Contract Management Department and the architectural firm of Stanley Salaiz Joint Venture met with the project manager and are now developing a detailed scope of work for the project. Library Facilities Services' project manager, working in conjunction with the City's Interdepartmental Sustainability Working Group (ISWG) has determined that the Milwood Renovation Project does not meet the baseline criteria for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification as it consists primarily of an interior remodel. As the project is not a LEED candidate per Municipal Building LEED Resolution 20071129-045. it will follow the LEED Commercial Interiors scorecard as baseline template for the work involved.

Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement and **HVAC Upgrade Project:** The Library Facilities Services Division originally planned to contract a mechanical engineering consultant to lead the design team for this project, as the largest portion of the renovation work needed is the upgrade of the heating, ventilation and airconditioning system at this twenty-seven years old branch library. However, the Contract Management Department

has recently informed the Library Department that the City's existing Mechanical/Electrical/Plumbing (M.E.P.) Engineering Rotation List is very low on spending authority and could not support our request. As a new M.E.P. Rotation List will not be available until next calendar vear, Library Facilities Services will turn to the General Architectural Services Rotation List to select a consulting architect to head up the project. This is a time-honored approach in construction, as architects are typically called upon to coordinate the efforts of sub-consultants such as mechanical engineers, structural engineers and roofing consultants, all of which are disciplines necessary for the planned renovation of the Pleasant Hill Branch Library to be successful. It also should be noted the project will involve a considerable amount of architectural modifications in order to revamp the facility according to our Bookstore Model Program for branch libraries.

RFID Installation for Branch Libraries Project: The equipment needed to convert the Milwood Branch Library, the Spicewood Springs Branch Library and the Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill from an electromagnetic-based collection security and management system to the new Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology has been successfully purchased and delivered to the Library's Zaragoza Warehouse for temporary safekeeping. Branch staff continue to add RFID tags to all materials placed on hold and en route to the Twin Oaks Branch Library, North Village Branch Library or the Multimedia Center of the Faulk Central Library, as these locations have already been outfitted with RFID collection security/management systems. Moreover, all new collection items acquired by the Austin Public Library are now being RFID tagged.

Austin History Center Programming and Outreach

- Mexican American Community Archivist Gloria Espitia organized a very successful series of programs related to the Activist and the Brown Berets project during the month of October.
- October 1, 2013 Photo Exhibit Reception @ Terrazas Branch Library. There were 35 people in attendance.
- October 11, 2013 Liberacion de las mujers y los Brown Berets 38 individuals were present. On the panel were Susana Almanza, Adela Mancias and Elisa Rendon Montoya. This program was co-sponsored by Resistancia Bookstore and the Austin History Center. This was a very intimate and heartwarming program as the panelists not only talked about their participation in the Brown Berets but also about Angie Mendez (Angelina "Angie) Torres Parades who had been a very active member of the Brown Berets and who unexpectedly passed away on October 9th.
- October 16, 2013 Documenting activism through the lens of a camera. 52 people were in attendance.
- October 19, 2013 Activism and the Brown Berets of Austin, Texas. This was a program in cooperation with the Austin and the Austin Community College @ Riverside. Approximately 42 people were in attendance. The keynote speaker was Dr. David Montejano and panelists were Sabino "Pio" Renteria, Susana Almanza and Gilbert Rivera.

- October 27, 2013 A journalistic view of grassroots activism: 1970s 1980s. Originally this was to consist of a panel discussion between Mr. Tommy Wyatt, publisher of the Villager and Mr. Marcelo Tafoya, publisher and editor of the Echo and Musica newspapers. Due to circumstances beyond his control, Mr. Wyatt was not able to attend. 20 individuals attended.
- On October 2, Video Archivist Tim Hamblin gave a presentation to a music history class at the University of Texas. He gave an overview of the different types of the holdings at the AHC, then focused more on the music and video areas of the AHC collections culminating in showing a 15 minute video sampler of the AHC's music holdings. There were approximately 25 students in attendance.
- On October 9, African American Community Archivist Cynthia Evans gave a presentation on African American history to the Villager Youth Brigade. She spoke to about 15 children and parents about the importance of preserving history.
- On October 12, Curator of Archives & Manuscripts Susan Rittereiser presented "What is Past is Prologue" for American Association of University Women's 90th anniversary brunch at the Wyndham Hotel, 38 people attended the program and it was very well received.
- On October 14, Manager Mike Miller gave a lecture, "Strife in the City: Austin During the Civil War and Reconstruction," as part of an Austin History lecture series for the UT-SAGE continuing education program. Approximately 85 people were in attendance.
- On October 22, the AHC held its 3rd program in the food history series, "Southern Food Matters: Race, Class and Gender in Tomatoes, Biscuits and Greens." Dr. Elizabeth Engelhardt, the chair of the American Studies Program at the University of Texas, gave a talk about the role of food in southern culture. 50 people were in attendance.
- On October 25, the AHC participated in the annual Travis County History Day, sponsored by the Travis County Archives. This was the 2nd year the AHC served as a cosponsor for the event.

Collections

- AHC staff finished processing 1 collection, though it
 was a very large collection (over 14 linear feet) the Travis
 County Schools Superintendent Records, and placed EAD
 encoded finding aids for the collections on the Internet at
 the TARO website. The finding aids are available online at:
 http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse_ahc1.html.
- One interesting collection that was donated recently was the records of the Balcones Canyonlands Preservation Plan executive committee. This collection consists of all the notes, meeting minutes, and other records of the group responsible for creating the Preservation Plan that is still in use today.

Publications

 Research was conducted at the AHC and photos from the AHC were purchased for use in an upcoming Pearson/ Canada textbook "Natural Hazards," a new short exhibit film at the Capitol Visitors Center, and the social justice website "Austin Beloved Community."

Upcoming Events

 On December 4, the AHC and AHCA will host a program with Julian Read, the former press secretary to Governor John Connally. Read recently wrote a book about the JFK assassination and will speak about his experiences with the Connally's, especially on that fateful day in November 1963. The program will be at the AHC at 6:30 pm; light refreshments will be served and a book signing will follow the presentation.

• On December 7, the AHC will have the last in its series of food programs: "Eat, Drink, Read – Austin" at 1:00 at the AHC. This program will be a series of short presentations from the authors and contributors to 5 recently published books about Austin food – from beer to breakfast tacos – followed by a Q&A session. A reception will follow the presentations, and attendees can buy books from the authors, enjoy the "How to Prepare a Possum" exhibit, and buy remaindered photos from the AHC and Waterloo Press items in the O. Henry Room.

Branch Services

Branches are focusing on ensuring that their collection is in good condition. Worn-out, damaged, or outdated materials are weeded and sent to Recycled Reads. The plan is to begin "floating" media items in early 2014 and to ready the collection at Spicewood Springs, Oak Hill, and Milwood for conversion to RFID.

Cepeda had two successful programs this month: A Winter In The Blood book discussion led by UT professor Jim Cox, as well as a successful Dia De Los Muertos Celebration with over 50 people attending

The Windsor Park Book Club had 5 readers at the meeting on the 10th discussing Manuscript of Ashes by Antonio Munoz Molina. Community Cinema resumed on the 1st with a screening of "The Graduates/Los Graduados" for 18 viewers.

Willie Mae Kirk staff has focused on cleaning up and streamlining the decorations and furniture layout. Branch Manager Frank Giammarino stated he "...moved our colorful bench from the atrium to the children's section... to the bright window in the corner near the board books. Now kids and their parents have been using the bench."

Recycled Reads

October revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$16,400 (51,400 items) and over 4,450 people visited the store. Donations were received from over 165 people, approximately 22,000 items.

More than twenty volunteers on average donate over 180 hours of their time to the bookstore. Goodwill Industries picked up 31 gaylords of discarded materials and Image Microsystems picked up 6 gaylords from the store. Staff received 20 pallets of materials from the warehouse, branches and donations and sorted approximately 25 pallets of materials representing almost 62,000 items at the bookstore. Over 11 tons of materials out of the landfill were kept out of the landfill.

ARR received almost 70 boxes of donations from the Westbank Public Library. They are one of the libraries staff hope to collaborate with on implementing the training modules developed from the IMLS Sparks Ignition Grant.

Staff began a pilot program at Willie Mae Kirk to streamline the sorting process. An ARR staff person is on site at the branch during a major weeding process to box the books based on keeping for resell or sending directly to Goodwill. The goal is to provide this service to all APL branches and limit the number of times books are handled. ACCS is now sending weeding reports. This will enable the sorters to have a heads up of what is coming and to train volunteers in advance on what can be recycled immediately. Image Microsystems continues to directly pickup DVD cases from the branches.

Youth Services

Through its Storytime Connection program, Youth Services began offering early literacy trainings to teachers and parents this fall. The response has been great. Staff will be offering monthly trainings for childcare providers through Workforce Solutions in the spring. For those who unable make it to a Workforce training, staff will do on-site training for childcare centers during a scheduled training day for their staff.

Grant Services

The Michael and Susan Dell Foundation has funded the Austin Public Library Friends Foundation with grants to support nine Connected Youth Centers in Austin's libraries since 2009 beginning with what was once called the Wired for Youth Program. The latest grant award made by the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation was \$187,000 over a period of 2 years, funding the services of Youth Interns who work directly with youth in the Center. The Austin Public Library Friends Foundation continues to seek opportunities to help the library refresh computer equipment and software used in the Connected Youth Teen Centers to keep them stocked with state-of-art technology and exciting events that draw teens into the Library.

Nichole Aston, Program Officer from the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation, visited the APL Connected Youth Center at the Southeast Community Branch Library on October 23rd to see the program in action. James Loomis, Teen Services Librarian, organized an event attended by youth ages 10 to 18 eager to demonstrate their skills with Mine Craft and participate in other Teen Center activities.

Library Information Systems

Library Information Systems coordinated the Austin Public Library's participation in the Library Edge Initiative Pilot program. Edge is a new management and leadership tool designed to help libraries and local governments work together to achieve community goals. A Library-wide Task Force reviewed Library Edge recommendations and prepared a strategic planning report based on the recommendations. The Library Edge Initiative will be available nationwide in January of 2014. To find out more about Library Edge, visit http://libraryedge.org. An online survey was also created and was accessible from the Library websites and public computers for two weeks. The survey received over 1,500 responses and the results were tabulated in a report to be used during strategic planning.

The programming team implemented an improved method for managing and scheduling meeting rooms via the Austin Public Library website. All public meeting space reservations are accessible from the Library website, where individuals, groups, and Library staff can see the dates, times, and meetings that are being held in meeting rooms across all Library locations. The system automatically detects scheduling conflicts and provides multi-faceted filtering to help Library staff document and manage meeting room reservations.

The E-SAS (COA Enterprise Security Access System) project is well into another phase of rolling out security cameras to branch library locations. Security cameras have been installed in Oak Hill, Yarborough, Spicewood Springs, Old Quarry, and Milwood Branch Libraries. The North Village and Twin Oaks Libraries camera systems were enhanced with the addition of new DVR recorders that are integrated with the overall Library E-SAS system. The Library is planning to capture the build of the New Central Library facility and has completed the install of a high quality camera installed at the 360 building overlooking the Library site. This install and capture of pictures and video will allow the Library to provide visual progress on the building of the New Central Library. The Library Information Systems Division has completed the work with Google to provide a digital map of the interior of the John Henry Faulk Central Library. The map is being used in a project that Google is implementing called "Google Indoor Maps". Today, you can zoom in on the 800 Guadalupe address with your mobile Google Maps Application on your smartphone to view the John Henry Faulk Library indoor map.

The Technical Support area of Library Information Systems has replaced Laser printers at the circulation desks of the branch libraries. The new printers are part of the preparations that are being done to improve printing and the "Holds/Holds Delivery" services across the system. Phase III of the project to replace all analog phones with Voice over IP technology was completed. The Austin History Center and the John Henry Faulk Central Library were the final Library facilities to be cutover to VOIP systems.

Volunteer Services

October 2013 - STATISTICS

Number of Volunteers 307

October - Volunteer hours 1544.42

Volunteer Value* \$22.14

\$33,193.46

October Policy Violations

- 31 Disturbing others using the Library
- 22 Harassment of Library staff or customers (Not Sexual)
- 18 Disorderly conduct
- 18 Using obscene language
- 17 Sleeping in the Library
- 12 Theft of Library, staff, or customer property
- 8 Violating Internet Policy
- 8 Blocking access to Library entrances, passageways or resources
- 7 Mistreatment or vandalism of Library facilities, materials, or equipment
- 7 No outside food or beverages allowed in the

- Library
- 6 Unintended use of restrooms
- 6 Physically attack or threaten to attack another person
- 5 Bringing animals into the Library
- 4 Abandoning children or failing to supervise children at the Library
- 4 Entering unauthorized area
- 4 Intoxication resulting from alcohol or drugs
- 4 Leaving personal belongings unattended
- 3 Bringing in bedrolls, blankets or sleeping bags.
- 3 Appropriate clothing is required
- 3 Fighting
- 2 Smoking in the Library
- 2 Soliciting and panhandling
- 2 Strong Ödor
- 2 Destruction of Library property
- 1 Child abuse
- 1 Voyeurism and peeping
- Making bomb threats against Library property, or from Library property

201 Total

Locations # of Incidents

ACE ATB 21 ARZ 17 ALW 14 ACB AWK 7 7 **AWP** 5 ASJ ACP 4 4 AMR 4 AMI APH 4 ASE 4 AUH 4 AYB 4 3 ANV 3 AOQ 3 ASR 2 AHC 2 AHO 2 ATO AOK 1 AOS 1

ARR

To see the complete up to date listing of events visit http://library.austintexas.gov/events

> Brenda Branch, Director of Libraries



