



Butte County Library

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Melanie Lightbody, County Librarian

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buttecounty.net/bclibrary

Library Branches

Biggs | Chico | Durham | Gridley | Oroville | Paradise

MEMORANDUM

Date	June 6, 2018
To	Board of Supervisors
From	Mel Lightbody, County Librarian
RE:	Proposed Library Operation Hours for FY 2018-19 Recommended Budget

During the development of the fiscal year 2018-19 Recommended Budget, the County Library and County Administration staff worked closely to preserve library services with the particular focus on maintaining operational hours and avoiding staff layoffs. Through considerable effort, staff was able to reconfigure schedules and operations in various branch libraries with only a small loss in operating hours. Moreover, the Library was able to avoid layoffs of regular staff.

The Recommended Budget does, however, include the reduction of extra help hours, impacting operational hours in four out of five branch libraries as shown on the proposed operating hours table on page two. Fortunately, the Library will be able maintain story times and other popular programs despite the loss of some hours.

The downside of focusing on operational hours and avoiding staff layoffs was the reductions in services and supplies accounts as well as extra help hours. For example, the Literacy Services Division will be reducing its early literacy programming provided by the Literacy Coach (36ft bus) to Butte County families with limited resources by one day per week (33%). The Literacy Coach served over 4,600 County residents last year. The Recommended Budget also eliminates several popular databases including the online automobile manuals and cuts ebook buying by over 75%. In addition, it reduces buying popular physical books by half, leaving less than \$500 dollars per month amongst all branches. Only 37% of the County library patrons get books from other library branches. This means 60% of library users only check out what their branch has on the shelf.

Should the Board choose to augment Library funding, it is my strong recommendation that any additional funds be dedicated to increasing library materials at all branches rather than increasing branch library hours.

As always, I am available to answer questions from the board or from the public at any time.

cc: Butte County Library Advisory Board
 Friends of the Library

Table of Proposed Branch Operating Hours

Branch	Sat	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Total Hours	Diff.
Biggs									
Proposed	10 to 4pm			noon to 6pm				12	0
Current	<i>no change</i>			<i>No change</i>					
Chico									
Proposed	10 to 5pm	1pm to 5pm		10am to 6pm	10am to 6pm	10am to 6pm	10am to 5pm	42	8
Current	9 to 5pm	<i>no change</i>		9am to 7pm	9am to 7pm	9am to 7pm	9am to 5pm		
Durham									
Proposed				noon to 6pm	noon to 6pm	10am to 5pm	10am to 5pm	26	4
Current	10am to 4pm			<i>No change</i>	<i>no change</i>	10am to 4pm	10am to 4pm		
Gridley									
Proposed	10am to 4pm			noon to 6pm	noon to 6pm	10am to 4pm	10am to 4pm	30	6
Current	<i>no change</i>	1pm to 5pm		<i>no change</i>	<i>no change</i>	10am to 5pm	10am to 5pm		
Oroville									
Proposed	10am to 5pm	1pm to 5pm		10am to 5pm	10am to 5pm	10am to 5pm	10am to 5pm	39	2
Current	<i>no change</i>	<i>no change</i>		10 to 6pm	10am to 6pm	<i>no change</i>	<i>no change</i>		
Paradise									
Proposed	10am to 5pm			10am to 6pm	10am to 6pm	10am to 5pm	10am to 5pm	37	4
Current	<i>no change</i>	1pm to 5pm		<i>no change</i>	<i>no change</i>	<i>no change</i>	<i>no change</i>		
								186	24