

**BALIS Administrative Council Meeting**

**AGENDA**

**April 4, 2025**

**Oakland Public Library – Main Branch**

**125 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland, CA 94612**

**10:00 a.m.**

**BALIS Administrative Council**

Tess Mayer – Berkeley Public Library (Chair)

Deb Sica – Alameda County Library

Mike Eitner – Alameda Free Library

Alison McKee – Contra Costa County Library

Jayanti Addleman – Hayward Public Library

Anwan Baker – Livermore Public Library

Jamie Turbak – Oakland Public Library

Heidi Murphy – Pleasanton Public Library

Kate Eppler – Richmond Public Library

Michael Lambert – San Francisco Public Library

Brian Simons – San Leandro Public Library

- I. Call to Order and Introductions** Mayer
- II. Approval of Consent Items (Action Item)** Mayer
  - A. Adoption of Agenda**
  - B. Approval of the January 10, 2024 Minutes** Attachment 1, pg. 3
  - C. FY 2024-25 BALIS Financial Support for Libraries Update** Attachment 2, pg. 6
- III. New Business**
  - A. Recommendations from Nominating Committee for FY 2025-26 and FY 2026-27 BALIS Officers (Action Item)** Mayer Attachment 3, pg. 7
  - B. Discussion on Libraries and Disinformation** Mayer
  - C. Discussion on State Library Programs and Priorities** Mayer
  - D. Dolly Parton Imagination Library** Mayer
  - E. Day in the District** Mayer Attachment 4, pg. 8
  - F. Review of BALIS Council Meeting Schedule for FY 2025-26** Mayer Attachment 5, pg. 13
- IV. Reports**
  - A. Report of System Chair** Mayer
  - B. Report of System Administration** Frost

- V. **Public Comment** - (Individuals are allowed three minutes, groups in attendance, five minutes. It is system policy to refer matters raised in this forum to staff for further investigation or action if appropriate. The Brown Act prohibits the Administrative Council from discussing or acting on any matter not agendaized pursuant to state law.)
- VI. **Agenda Building and Location for July 11, 2025 Meeting**
- VII. **Announcements**
- VIII. **Adjournment**

**BALIS Administrative Council Meeting  
MINUTES**

**January 10, 2025**

**Alameda County Library – Castro Valley Branch**

**2600 Norbridge Ave, Castro Valley, CA 94546**

**1:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:**

**Council:**

Tess Mayer, Chair, Berkeley Public  
 Deb Sica, Alameda County  
 Mike Eitner, Alameda Free  
 Jayanti Addleman, Hayward Public  
 Anwan Baker, Livermore Public  
 Jamie Turbak, Oakland Public  
 Heidi Murphy, Pleasanton Public  
 Kate Eppler, Richmond Public  
 Shellie Cocking, San Francisco Public  
 Brian Simons, San Leandro Public

**Staff:**

Justin Wasterlain, PLP/BALIS

**I. Call to Order and Introductions**

Chair Mayer called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

**II. Approval of Consent Items**

**A. Adoption of Agenda**

**B. Approval of the October 4, 2024 Minutes**

**C. FY 2024-25 BALIS Financial Support for Libraries Update**

A motion was made, and passed unanimously, to approve the Consent Items. (M/S Eitner/Simons)

**III. Old Business**

**A. Reallocation of Unspent FY 2023-24 Spotify Cross-Marketing Funds to FY 2024-25**

Wasterlain explained two of the Spotify campaigns which aired in FY 2023-24 were billed to Oakland Public in October 2024, after the fiscal year ended. He recommended reallocating the unspent \$10,000 in reserve funds for these campaigns in FY 2023-24 to FY 2024-25 to pay for this invoice. He noted this would ensure there was still funding available for three campaigns in FY 2024-25. A motion was made, and passed unanimously, to reallocate \$10,000 of unspent Spotify campaign funds from FY 2023-24 to FY 2024-25 resulting in \$25,000 available for Spotify campaign costs in FY 2024-25. (M/S Simons/Addleman)

**IV. New Business****A. Formation of Nomination Committee for FY 2025-26/FY 2026-27 BALIS Officers**

Addleman and Eitner volunteered to be on the nomination committee. Turbak volunteered to be Vice-Chair in FY 2025-26, Baker agreed to serve as Chair. The recommendations will be brought back to the Council in April for formal approval.

**B. Budget and Alternative Revenue Discussion**

The Council discussed budgetary issues facing their jurisdictions and ideas for mitigating impact of reductions. The results and potential effects of local bond measures voted on in the November election was discussed.

**C. Addressing Concerns with Vendor Selected Collections**

The Council discussed concerns about the collection quality of some vendor-selected content platforms. Cocking shared information on how to limit which items appear in the catalog and other strategies for suppressing low quality material which does not meet the standards of the library's collection.

**D. Hiring and Retention of Neurodiverse Staff**

Murphy reported Pleasanton worked with partner agencies that provide neurodiverse individuals opportunities to gain library work experience. She notes these are not initially regular library jobs but could transition towards one over time. Baker noted the importance of having neurodiverse representation on staff. Sica suggested neurodiverse staff may have different, unique skill sets that could be an asset to an organization. Simon recommended coaching staff to make sure they succeed in their roles.

**E. Viable Media Formats for Collections**

The Council discussed low usage of some databases. Cocking recommended evaluating databases by per-use cost rather than overall cost, noting a low-cost database that gets little usage may have a high per use cost in comparison to a higher cost database that's more popular. Eppler asked what the alternative to databases would be for authoritative information since reference books have also been reduced. Murphy asked if PLP funds could be used for system-wide database subscriptions.

**V. Reports****A. Report of System Chair**

Mayer reported on planning for PLP's annual meeting in May.

**B. Report of System Administration**

Wasterlain provided information on CLSA funding.

**VI. Public Comment**

No public comment.

**VII. Agenda Building and Location for Next Meeting on April 4, 2025**

The next meeting will be held at the Richmond Public Library.

- Approval of BALIS Officers for FY 2025-26
- The problem of disinformation
- State Library changes and priorities
- Dolly Parton Imagination Library

**VIII. Announcements**

No announcements.

**IX. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

DRAFT

BALIS Financial Support for Libraries  
FY 2024-25

<b>LIBRARY</b>	<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT AVAILABLE</b>	<b>AMOUNT CLAIMED</b>	<b>DATE CLAIMED</b>
Alameda County		\$6,183		
Alameda Free		\$6,183		
Berkeley Public		\$3,500		
Contra Costa County		\$8,633		
Hayward Public	Inclusive displays and programming	\$8,633	\$8,633	1/14/2025
Livermore Public	Transformational Security training and OverDrive ebooks	\$6,183	\$6,183	2/19/2025
Oakland Public	Trainings, resilience via skill building	\$6,183	\$6,183	12/23/2024
Pleasanton Public	Trauma informed training, de-escalation training	\$6,183	\$6,138	1/21/2025
Richmond Public	ILS Repair/Troubleshooting	\$8,633	\$8,633	2/6/2025
San Francisco Public		\$3,500		
San Leandro Public	Partial funding of Unique Management Services in FY 2024-25	\$6,183	\$6,183	12/18/2024
	<b>Total disbursement</b>		<b>\$41,953</b>	
	<b>Budgeted</b>		<b>\$70,000</b>	
	<b>Variance</b>		<b>\$28,047</b>	

## BALIS Term Limits and Appointment

### From the Bylaws:

#### “Section 2 Officers

- A. *The elected officers will be a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson (Chair-elect) elected by the Administrative Council.*
- B. *The term of elected officers will be for two years starting July 1st.*
- C. *Election of officers will take place at the Administrative Council meeting in May of appropriate election years...”*

### BALIS Administrative Council Chairs Chronology

	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Vice-Chair</b>
2025/26 2026/27	Anwan Baker Anwan Baker	Jamie Turbak Jamie Turbak
2024/25 2023/24	Tess Mayer Tess Mayer	Anwan Baker Anwan Baker
2022/23 2021/22	Alison McKee Alison McKee	Tess Mayer Tess Mayer
2020/21 2019/20	Cindy Chadwick Cindy Chadwick	Tamera LeBeau/Michael Lambert Tamera LeBeau
2018/19 2017/18	Cindy Chadwick Cindy Chadwick	Melinda Cervantes Melinda Cervantes

### Recommendation

It is recommended that the BALIS Council approve the nominating committee’s recommendation for Chair and Vice-Chair for the term beginning FY 2025/26 and ending FY 2026/27.



## 2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The California Library Association — through its members and advocates — works to make a difference for all Californians by providing adequately funded libraries, which transform lives through their programs and services.

CLA has adopted the following legislative priorities for 2025:

1. **Restoration of vital library funds which were cut in the previous budget cycle**
  - a. Restoration of CLSA (California Library Services Act) funding to pre-2024-25 levels. CLSA fosters resource sharing among libraries, particularly in rural areas where funding challenges negatively impact library access for patrons. CLSA funding was reduced by 50% in the previous budget cycle to \$1.88 million. CLA seeks a restoration of this funding and specifically requests that \$3.2 million be augmented to the current baseline, which would bring total funding for CLSA to \$5 million. NOTE: This new funding would be utilized for CLSA programs only and would be completely exclusive of Zip Books.
  - b. Restoration of Lunch at the Library funding to pre-2024-25 levels. Lunch at the Library provides 300,000+ free and nutritious summer lunches, accompanied by literacy-enhanced wrap-around programming, at hundreds of libraries each year. Lunch at the Library funding was reduced in the previous budget cycle, from \$5.5 million to \$3 million. This reduction has a direct negative impact on the ability of libraries to fight food insecurity. CLA will seek a restoration of this funding to \$5.5 million.
2. **New and Ongoing Funding Requests**
  - a. Funding support for this mandate, to ensure wrap-around services to enhance literacy and provide learning opportunities for UTK-12 students. This combination of priorities will guarantee low-barrier library access to millions of California school children.
    - i. SB321-Ashby (2023) was passed without accompanying financial support. CLA respectfully requests \$3.5 million in one-time funding to ensure library card access for California's school-aged children, without placing undue financial burden on library jurisdictions.
    - ii. CLA further requests \$3 million in ongoing funding to restore state-wide access to BrainFuse online services. Over 600,000 tutoring sessions were initiated during the two years this service was previously available. Funding restoration would provide universal access to vital learning services, via student library cards issued from SB321-Ashby.
3. **Continuation of Federal funding.** CLA recognizes the invaluable nature of federal funding for California's library jurisdictions. The USDA's Summer Meals Program helps libraries combat food insecurity, by providing meals at public library locations through Lunch at the Library. E-Rate funding ensures vital broadband internet access in at-risk communities. The Institute for Museum



and Library Services provides logistical and financial support for library services and programs throughout the state. To the extent feasible, CLA will advocate for the continuation of federal programs that support California libraries. Should such programs be reduced or eliminated, CLA will request gap funding from the State of California, to ensure continuation of services until such a time that funding can be reinstated.

4. **Equitable Access to Critical Library and Information Services.** When opportunities for advocacy arise, CLA shall take supportive positions on the following core library values:
  - a. Libraries as partners in community resiliency efforts including accessible buildings, upgrades to critical infrastructure, and support in times of disaster, such as wildfires and extreme heat.
  - b. Broadband equity and digital literacy for unserved and underserved communities.
  - c. Support the freedom to read and access to material with diverse points of view.
  - d. Support libraries as a safe haven for all community members.
  - e. Early literacy, school readiness, adult literacy, career development, vocational support, and assistance to vulnerable populations.
  - f. Mandate and fund credentialed Teacher Librarians in all California Public Schools and support creating a Library Lead position in the Statewide System of Support.
  - g. Support for libraries to purchase digital content including eBooks and eAudiobooks at the same price as consumers.
  - h. Support for California's law libraries.

CLA supports positive action in key areas, including, but not limited to Equity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism, Intellectual Freedom, Privacy, and Net Neutrality.

CLA also monitors all state legislation that may impact items on the above list or that are identified as having an impact on libraries, library funding and/or library staff.

**BALIS - US Congress Reps**

District	Name	PLP Libraries	Party	Office Room	Phone	Address	Website
8	Garamendi, John	CCCL, Richmond	(D)	2428 RHOB	(202) 225-1880	440 Civic Center Plaza, 2nd Floor, Richmond, CA 94804	<a href="https://garamendi.house.gov/">https://garamendi.house.gov/</a>
10	DeSaulnier, Mark	CCCL	(D)	2134 RHOB	(202) 225-2095	4703 Lone Tree Way, Antioch, CA 94531	<a href="https://desaulnier.house.gov/">https://desaulnier.house.gov/</a>
11	Pelosi, Nancy	SFPL	(D)	1236 LHOB	(202) 225-4965	90 7th St. Suite 2-800, San Francisco, CA 94103	<a href="https://pelosi.house.gov/">https://pelosi.house.gov/</a>
12	Simon, Lateefah	ACL, Alameda Free, Berkeley, Oakland, San Leandro	(D)	1023 LHOB	(202) 225-2661	N/A	<a href="https://simon.house.gov/">https://simon.house.gov/</a>
14	Swalwell, Eric	ACL, Hayward, Livermore, Pleasanton	(D)	174 CHOB	(202) 225-5065	20990 Redwood Road, Castro Valley, 94546	<a href="https://swalwell.house.gov/">https://swalwell.house.gov/</a>

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<https://www.house.gov/representatives>

**BALIS - CA State Assembly**

District	Name	PLP Libraries	Party	Capitol Building Room	Phone	District Offices	Website
11	Wilson, Lori	CCCL	(D)	8110	(916) 319-2011	One Harbor Center, Suite 270, Suisun City, CA 94585	<a href="https://a11.asmdc.org/">https://a11.asmdc.org/</a>
14	Wicks, Buffy	ACL, Berkeley, CCCL, Oakland, Richmond	(D)	8140	(916) 319-2014	1515 Clay St, Suite 2201, Oakland, CA 94612	<a href="https://a14.asmdc.org/">https://a14.asmdc.org/</a>
15	Avila Farias, Anamarie	CCCL	(D)	6140	(916) 319-2015	2151 Salvio St, Suite P, Concord, CA 94520	<a href="https://a15.asmdc.org/">https://a15.asmdc.org/</a>
16	Bauer-Kahan, Rebecca	CCCL, Livermore, Pleasanton	(D)	5210	(916) 319-2016	12677 Alcosta Blvd, Suite 395, San Ramon, CA 94583	<a href="https://a16.asmdc.org/">https://a16.asmdc.org/</a>
17	Haney, Matt	SFPL	(D)	5740	(916) 319-2017	455 Golden Gate Ave, Suite 14300, San Francisco, CA 94102	<a href="https://a17.asmdc.org/">https://a17.asmdc.org/</a>
18	Bonta, Mia	Alameda Free, Oakland	(D)	390 (N St.)	(916) 319-2018	1515 Clay St, Suite 2204, Oakland, CA 94612	<a href="https://a18.asmdc.org/">https://a18.asmdc.org/</a>
20	Ortega, Liz	ACL, Hayward, San Leandro	(D)	5120	(916) 319-2020	22320 Foothill Blvd, Suite 540, Hayward, CA 94541	<a href="https://a20.asmdc.org/">https://a20.asmdc.org/</a>
24	Lee, Alex	ACL	(D)	6330	(916) 319-2024	1313 N. Milpitas Blvd, Suite 255, Milpitas, CA 95035	<a href="https://a24.asmdc.org/">https://a24.asmdc.org/</a>

Revised 3/7/25

**BALIS - CA State Senate**

District	Name	PLP Libraries	Party	Capitol Building Room	Phone	District Offices	Website
3	Cabaldon, Christopher	CCCL	(D)	7320	(916) 651-4003	420 Virginia St, Suite 1C, Vallejo, CA 94590	<a href="https://sd03.senate.ca.gov/">https://sd03.senate.ca.gov/</a>
7	Arreguin, Jesse	ACL, CCCL, Livermore, Pleasanton	(D)	6710	(916) 651-4007	1515 Clay Street, Suite 2202, Oakland, CA 94612	<a href="https://sd07.senate.ca.gov/">https://sd07.senate.ca.gov/</a>
9	Grayson, Tim	ACL, Alameda Free, Berkeley, CCCL, Oakland, Richmond, San Leandro	(D)	7250	(916) 651-4009	51 Moraga Way, Suite 2, Orinda, CA 94563	<a href="https://sd09.senate.ca.gov/">https://sd09.senate.ca.gov/</a>
10	Aisha Wahab	ACL, Hayward	(D)	8530	(916) 651-4410	39510 Paseo Padre Parkway, Suite 280, Fremont, CA 94538	<a href="https://sd10.senate.ca.gov/">https://sd10.senate.ca.gov/</a>
11	Weiner, Scott	San Francisco Public Library	(D)	8620	(916) 651-4011	455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 14800, San Francisco, 94102	<a href="https://sd11.senate.ca.gov/">https://sd11.senate.ca.gov/</a>

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## 2025/26 BALIS Administrative Council Meeting Schedule

Friday, July 11, 2025 (moved for 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday)

Friday, October 3, 2025

Friday, January 9, 2026 (moved for New Year's Holiday)

Friday, April 3, 2026

Meetings will be held on the first quarterly Fridays of the month at 10 a.m. unless otherwise noted. The location is to be determined. As per past practice, if there are not sufficient agenda items, the meeting will be cancelled.

Updated 4/3/25