

SVLS Administrative Council Meeting**Agenda****Thursday, October 16, 2025 - 10:00 a.m.****Palo Alto Public Library, Downtown Branch, 270 Forest Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94301****SVLS Administrative Council**

Gayathri Kanth, Palo Alto City Library (Chair)
 Patty Wong, Santa Clara City Library (Vice-Chair)
 Jill Bourne, San Jose Public Library
 Jennifer Weeks, Santa Clara County Library District

Michelle Perera, Sunnyvale Public Library
 Ryan Baker, Los Gatos Public Library
 Tracy Gray, Mountain View Public Library

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|--------------|--|-------|---------------------|
| I. | Call to Order and Introductions | Kanth | |
| II. | Approval of Consent Items (Action Item) | Kanth | |
| | A. Adoption of Agenda | | |
| | B. Approval of July 17, 2025 Minutes | | Attachment 1, pg. 2 |
| III. | Old Business | | |
| | A. Introduction to West Valley Community College Discussion with Joanna Messer, Director, Library and Learning Support Services, West Valley College | Frost | |
| | B. Imagination Library Update | Weeks | |
| | C. Silicon Valley Reads Update | Weeks | |
| | D. Advocacy Update | Frost | Attachment 2, pg. 4 |
| IV. | New Business | | |
| | A. Consideration of 2026 Contribution to Silicon Valley Reads (Action Item) | Weeks | Attachment 3, pg. 7 |
| | B. Baker and Taylor Alternatives Discussion | Kanth | |
| V. | Reports | | |
| | A. PLP Executive Committee Update | Kanth | |
| | B. System Administration Report | Frost | |
| VI. | Announcements and Updates from Libraries | | |
| VII. | Agenda Building and Location for Next Meeting on January 15, 2026 | | |
| VIII. | Public Comment (Individuals are allowed three minutes, groups in attendance five minutes. It is a 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 agendized pursuant to state law.) | | |
| IX. | Adjournment | | |

SVLS Administrative Council Meeting**MINUTES****July 17, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.****Saratoga Public Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070****Council:**

Gayathri Kanth, Chair, Palo Alto City Library
 Tracy Gray, Mountain View Public Library
 Jill Bourne, San Jose Public Library
 Patty Wong, Santa Clara City Library
 Jennifer Weeks, Santa Clara County Library District

System Staff:

Justin Wasterlain, PLP

I. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chair Kanth.

II. Approval of Consent Items**A. Adoption of Agenda****B. Approval of the October 7, 2024 Minutes**

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

III. Old Business**A. Dolly Parton Imagination Library**

Weeks reported that the Santa Clara County Library District Foundation has secured funding to support the Dolly Parton Imagination Library (DPIL) for Santa Clara County children ages 0-5. The Library District will be providing the administrative support starting in the fall. She asked that other SVLS directors let her know which staff member at their libraries would be the contact point for DPIL activities. Weeks stated the Los Altos Rotary Club was taking the lead to encourage other Santa Clara County Rotary Clubs' involvement. Wong asked how many people the funding will cover. Weeks answered, it should be enough to cover two- or three-years' worth of participants. Bourne noted this program could align with SJPL's "read by 3rd grade" initiative. Wong asked if DPIL would be okay with being included in other programs or if they required promotion to be stand alone. Weeks agreed to inquire with DPIL to make sure that is allowable.

IV. New Business**A. Review of SVLS Bylaws and Membership Levels (West Valley Community College Interest)**

Wasterlain described an email received from Joanna Messer, Director of Library and Learning Support Services at West Valley Community College, expressing interest in joining SVLS. Wasterlain noted that Messer was previously the director of Cabrillo Community College Library and an active member of the Monterey Bay Area

Cooperative Library System. He mentioned West Valley Community College and Mission College in Santa Clara are connected organizations, so both colleges would likely become members. The Council was excited about the potential of including these two colleges. Wasterlain stated he would contact Messer and John Schoppert (Mission College) to meet with the Council in October to further discuss the potential of them joining SVLS.

B. Piggyback Contract Discussion

Weeks asked if directors could inform each other of RFPs their organizations have done in case there are chances to piggyback on each other's contracts. Wong noted this is often better for the vendors as well as the libraries since they don't need to spend resources applying for the RFP multiple times. Wong asked if there might be a way of collecting RFPs from across PLP in a clearinghouse manner for libraries to have access to. Wasterlain noted there was a previous website that did something similar statewide, but he was unsure what the status of it is. He stated he would explore the possibility.

V. Reports

A. Silicon Valley Reads

Weeks reported she and Bourne were meeting with Reid Myers to plan for next year's program. She noted the kickoff date in January would be finalized soon.

B. PLP Executive Committee Update

Kanth provided an overview of the June PLP meeting and activities.

C. Report of System Administration

No report.

VI. Announcements and Updates from Libraries

Directors provided updates about the activities at their libraries.

VII. Agenda Building and Location for Next Meeting on October 16, 2025

Meeting will be held at Palo Alto.

VIII. Public Comment

No public comment.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m. by Chair Kanth.

US CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES							
District	Name	PLP Libraries	Party	Office Room	Phone	Address	Website
16	Liccardo, Sam	Los Gatos, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Santa Clara County	(D)	1117 LHOB	(202) 225-8104	N/A	https://liccardo.house.gov/
17	Khanna, Ro	Santa Clara City, Sunnyvale	(D)	306 CHOB	(202) 225-2631	3150 Del La Cruz Blvd. Suite 240, Santa Clara, CA 95054	https://khanna.house.gov/
18	Lofgren, Zoe	San Jose	(D)	1401 LHOB	(202) 225-3072	142 West Alisal St., Rm. E116, Salinas, CA 93901	https://lofgren.house.gov/

CA STATE ASSEMBLYMEMBERS							
District	Name	PLP Libraries	Party		Phone	District Offices	Website
23	Berman, Marc	Mountain View, Palo Alto, Santa Clara County, San Jose	(D)		(916) 319-2023	721 Colorado Ave, Suite 101, Palo Alto, 94303	https://a23.asmdc.org/
24	Lee, Alex	Santa Clara County, San Jose	(D)		(916) 319-2024	1313 N. Milpitas Blvd, Suite 255, Milpitas, CA 95035	https://a24.asmdc.org/
25	Ash Kalra	San Jose	(D)		(916) 319-2025	111 W. St John St, Suite 1150, San Jose, CA 95113	https://a25.asmdc.org/
26	Patrick Ahrens	Santa Clara City, Santa Clara County, San Jose, Sunnyvale	(D)		(916) 319-2026	20111 Stevens Creek Blvd, Suite 220, Cupertino, CA 95014	https://a26.asmdc.org/
28	Gail Pellerin	Los Gatos, Santa Clara County, San Jose	(D)		916-319-2028	701 Ocean St, Room 318B, Santa Cruz, CA 95060	https://a28.asmdc.org/
29	Robert Rivas	Santa Clara County	(D)		916-319-2029	60 W. Market St, Suite 110, Salinas, CA 93901	https://a29.asmdc.org/

CA SENATORS							
District	Name	PLP Libraries	Party		Phone	District Offices	Website
10	Aisha Wahab	Santa Clara City, Sunnyvale	(D)		(916) 651-4410	39510 Paseo Padre Parkway, Suite 280, Fremont, CA 94538	https://sd10.senate.ca.gov/
13	Becker, Josh	Mountain View, Palo Alto	(D)		(916) 651-4013	1528 South El Camino Real, Suite 302, San Mateo, 94402	https://sd13.senate.ca.gov/
15	Dave Cortese	Los Gatos, Santa Clara County, San Jose	(D)		(916) 651-4015	1155 Meridian Ave, Suite 100, San Jose, CA 95125	https://sd15.senate.ca.gov/
17	John Laird	Santa Clara County, San Jose	(D)		(916) 651-4017	99 Pacific St, Suite 575F, Monterey, CA 93940	https://sd17.senate.ca.gov/

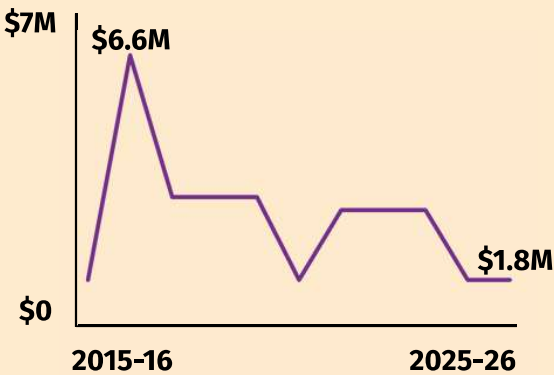
Restore California Library Services Act Funding to Public Libraries



Public libraries are trusted spaces for information, community gathering, and connection. California Library Services Act (CLSA) funds support libraries as **building blocks for community and economic development**. They help job seekers, teach English-language learners, and build literacy skills for children and adults.¹

Libraries are stronger when they work together. CLSA funds enable library cooperatives to **share millions of books and electronic materials** in both rural and urban communities, saving taxpayer money. CLSA funds also provide critical funding to **support internet access** in rural libraries.

CLSA Funds have decreased from a high of \$6.6M in 2016-17 to \$1.8M in 2025-26:²



Libraries are at a tipping point. CLSA funds now stand at \$1.8 million or just 5 cents per person in California. While state funds are cut, service costs rise 5% annually, federal funding to libraries is under threat, and libraries are cutting services.

Our Ask: Please write a letter of support for the restoration of CLSA funds for public libraries to \$5M to be included in the January 2026 Preliminary Budget.



“San Leandro Public Library uses CLSA funds for LINK+, which **helps us provide for the underserved by connecting users to materials** the library simply cannot buy because of its size.”

“Downloadable digital books continue to be an important resource in Santa Cruz County, **especially for seniors who live in part of the County not immediately served by a library branch**. Materials in Spanish help local immigrant populations who have limited English reading skills.”

¹ The California Library Services Act is defined in Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 20100 – 20265. Funding for CLSA is in section 6120-211-0001 of the state budget.

² Values reflect funding distributed as local assistance to the nine library cooperative systems and do not reflect \$1M in Zip Books funding administered by the State Library that was added to the budget in 2021.

Pacific Library Partnership and California Library Services Act Funding

CLSA funds go to the nine library cooperatives statewide, including the Pacific Library Partnership (PLP). **The Pacific Library Partnership (PLP) serves 43 public and community college member libraries and 7,102,693 Californians in 8 counties.**



PLP’s mission is to empower member libraries through **innovation, collaboration, and training.**

- 23 libraries are small or rural with budgets below \$10M
- 44% of our communities are non-English speaking
- 14% of our communities are economically disadvantaged

PLP received **\$367,803** in CLSA funds in FY 24-25, or **5 cents per capita**. Funds go directly to libraries for resource sharing that best suits their community needs.

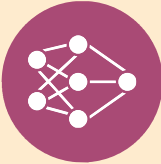
How did PLP libraries use CLSA funds in 2024-2025?



Courier services **traveled over 102,000 miles to deliver 2.5+ million books** and other materials among libraries, ensuring residents in rural and isolated areas have access to library collections.



2,900 eBooks and eAudiobooks purchased in multiple languages so patrons can access materials in their preferred language. These shared materials were used nearly 40,000 times.



117,000 items loaned and 96,000 borrowed among libraries through Link+, a wider lending network across California and Nevada.



eMagazines were available to 8 library communities with the most limited budgets. This service is being cut due to continued CLSA reductions.



The smallest member library, with an annual budget of \$60K, used CLSA funds to **provide access to the internet.**

To: Silicon Valley Library System Administrative Council
From: Jennifer Weeks
Subject: Consideration of 2026 SVLS Contribution to Silicon Valley Reads
Date: October 16, 2025

Background

Silicon Valley Reads has been offering the One Book, One Community program since 2003. The Silicon Valley Library System Administrative Council has financially supported this event by annually allocating \$5,000.

At the October 7, 2024, meeting, the Council approved allocating \$5,000 to Silicon Valley Reads' 2025 program.

The 2026 Silicon Valley Reads theme and book titles has not been publicly announced yet, but information will be released soon.

Recommendation

SVLS has used the SVLS Fund Balance to contribute towards Silicon Valley Reads. The current Fund Balance is \$111,257.

It is recommended that the SVLS Administrative Council consider and approve the use of \$5,000 of SVLS Fund Balance to support the 2026 Silicon Valley Reads.