



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES STAFF REPORT

July 20, 2026
Agenda Item No. 7

TO: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

FROM: Library Services Department
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PREPARED BY: Rebecca Lightfoot, Library Services Manager

TITLE: Acceptance of a Grant from the Library Foundation of Newport Beach

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board of Library Trustees review and accept a grant from the Library Foundation of Newport Beach.

DISCUSSION:

The Library Foundation of Newport Beach (Foundation) funds valuable library resources and collections. The Foundation granted \$182,500 to the Newport Beach Public Library (Library) to fund the following requests for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

- \$100,000 for space planning services and new furniture. The Library is looking to reimagine and refresh some of the public areas in the Central Library. The Library will hire a consultant to assess facility uses and provide recommendations for general layouts and furnishings. Remaining funds will support strategic replacement of furniture, some pieces of which are original to the building opening in 1994.
- \$40,000 for Stay and Play items for the Mariners Branch Children's Room. Funding will support replacement of the furnishings, and the addition of interactive wall elements to encourage tactile learning skills for our youngest patrons.
- \$30,000 for the Balboa Branch Opening Day Collection. When the newly rebuilt Balboa Branch opens to the public, it will have a brand-new collection of materials for patrons to enjoy.
- \$10,000 for new Tech Toys for adults and children. Funds for these popular collections will buy additional items to decrease hold queue wait times, replace aging items with newer versions, as well as expand offerings to include some patron suggestions.
- \$2,500 for 3rd Thursday programs at Corona del Mar Branch (CdM). Staff will utilize the funds to offer high-quality programming to enhance community engagement in 3rd Thursday events at CdM.

Staff recommends the Board of Library Trustees accept these funds. If accepted, funds will be allocated into the Library Operations accounts via a City Council budget amendment.

NOTICING:

This agenda item has been noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which the Board of Library Trustees considers the item).