



CITY OF

NEWPORT BEACH

City Council Staff Report

June 24, 2025
Agenda Item No. 12

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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TITLE: Newport Beach Public Library Foundation Donation – Witte Hall LED
Screen Wall

ABSTRACT:

At its February 25, 2025, meeting, the City Council voted not to participate in cost sharing for a larger LED screen wall with the Newport Beach Public Library Foundation (NBPLF) and to continue with the installation of the LED screen wall in the contract documents. Subsequently, the NBPLF agreed to provide a donation for 100% of a larger LED screen wall.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- a) Determine this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) and 15060(c)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines because this action will not result in a physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly;
- b) Accept Newport Beach Public Library Foundation's \$130,000 donation for a 11-foot by 19-foot (209 SF) LED screen wall; and
- c) Approve Budget Amendment No. 25-079 recognizing contribution funds of \$130,000 from the Newport Beach Public Library Foundation in Account No. 13501-561005-19F11 and appropriating \$130,000 in increased expenditures for the Library Lecture Hall (C-7444-3) in Account No. 13501-980000-19F11.

DISCUSSION:

At its January 9, 2024, meeting, the City Council awarded a contract for the construction of Witte Hall. During construction of the building, the NBPLF approached staff with a request to install a larger LED screen wall in the lecture hall and requested for the City to pay an equal share of the increased cost. Staff presented this request at the February 25, 2025, City Council meeting, and the City Council voted not to participate in the cost and continue with the installation of the 9-foot by 16-foot (144 sf) LED screen wall per the approved contract documents with no additional cost.

After the City Council denied participating, the NBPLF provided a \$130,000 donation for a 11-foot by 19-foot (209 SF) LED screen wall which covers 100% of the cost increase for the larger LED screen wall.

Accepting this donation is consistent with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Change Order section between the City and the NBPLF. Per Section 1.5 - Change Orders, "the Party requesting the Change Order shall provide all additional funds necessary to implement the Change Order over and above the requesting party's financial commitment set forth in Sections 2.1 and 3.1 respectively."

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Budget Amendment appropriates \$130,000 in additional revenue from the NBPLF and \$130,000 in increased expenditure appropriations. The revenue will be posted to the 13501-561005-19F11 project account, and the change order will be expensed to the 13501-980000-19F11 account. This appropriation will cover the full cost of the larger LED screen wall change order.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

Staff recommends the City Council find this action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

NOTICING:

The agenda item has been noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which the City Council considers the item).

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment A – Budget Amendment