



CITY *of* ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

September 11, 2025 at 4:00 PM

Council Chambers: 201 North Broadway, Escondido, CA 92025

WELCOME TO YOUR BOARD MEETING

We welcome your interest and involvement in the legislative process of Escondido. This agenda includes information about topics coming before the board.

PRESIDENT

Maribel Reyes

SECRETARY

Giselle Luevanos

TRUSTEES

Francis X. Bova III

Virginia Bunnell

John Schwab

ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

Sarena Garcia

HOW TO WATCH

The City of Escondido provides one way to watch a board meeting:

In Person



201 N. Broadway, Escondido, CA 92025



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

The City of Escondido provides two ways to communicate with the board during a meeting:

In Person



Fill out Speaker Slip and Submit to City Clerk

In Writing



<https://escondido-ca.municodemeetings.com>

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED

If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact our ADA Coordinator at 760-839-4869. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the city to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired – please see the City Clerk.



ROLL CALL

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- [1.](#) Review and Approve the minutes from the August 14, 2025 meeting

CURRENT BUSINESS

- 2. Updates: City of Escondido**

General updates from the City.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Community Services Department: Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services)

Presenter(s): Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services

- [3.](#) Library Trust Fund: FY24/25 Quarter 4**

Review of the current balance and any expenditures during the latest quarter. This quarter reflects the Library Trust budgets through June 30, 2025.



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): Rino Landa, Library Director

4. **Authorization to Use Library Trust Funds for Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FF&E) for Library Infrastructure Project (First Floor)**

Request the Library Board of Trustees allocate and commit \$255,000 of Library Trust funds to purchase unfunded furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E) for the first floor of the library as part of the Building Forward Library Facilities Improvement Program state grant.

Staff Recommendation: Approval (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): Rino Landa, Library Director; Ed Vasquez, Project Manager; Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services

5. **Library Collections Budget FY25-26**

Review of the library's FY25-26 collections budget. The budget covers costs related to the purchase of books, audiobooks, DVDs, and other items available for checkout; as well as digital resources, including eBook and eAudiobooks.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): Rino Landa, Library Director

6. **Impact of a Flat Collections Budget (2017–2025)**

Request the Library Board of Trustees to provide direction regarding the state of the library collection budget, inclusive of the use of Library Trust funds to supplement future funding. Includes a presentation on the subject of how maintaining the Library's annual collections budget at \$250,000 since 2017 has affected the quality, breadth, and responsiveness of collections (books, movies, and other materials), and to outline what a modest increase would enable, as requested by Board Member John Schwab.

Staff Recommendation: Provide Direction (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): Rino Landa, Library Director

STATISTICS REPORT

7. **Statistics Report**



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

Presentation of monthly statistical report.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): Rino Landa, Library Director

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

8. Director's Report

Presentation of monthly report and general library updates.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): Rino Landa, Library Director

TRUSTEE LIBRARY USE REPORT

9. Reports by Board members

Reports by the Library Board of Trustees of their use of the library and its services.

Staff Recommendation: None (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

ADJOURNMENT

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

10. Upcoming Meetings

Unless otherwise noted, the Library Board of Trustees meets on the second Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

09/11/2025 - 4:00pm

10/09/2025 - 6:00pm

11/13/2025 - 4:00pm

12/11/2025 - 4:00pm



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

August 14, 2025 at 4:00 PM

MINUTES

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

President Virginia Segarra Bunnell
Secretary Francis X. Bova III
Trustee John Schwab (Left at 4:30 p.m.)
Trustee Maribel Reyes
Trustee Giselle Luevanos

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Review and Approve the minutes from the July 10, 2025 meeting

Motion made by President Bunnell

Seconded by Trustee Schwab

Approved 5-0

CURRENT BUSINESS

2. Election of President for Library Board of Trustees

The Library Board of Trustees will elect a President to serve as the presiding officer for the upcoming term. The President shall preside at meetings and may appoint members to special committees. The term of office is one (1) year and until a successor is elected.

Motion made by President Segarra Bunnell to nominate Trustee Reyes

Seconded by Secretary Bova III

Approved 5-0

3. Election of Secretary for Library Board of Trustees (Short Recess 4:04 p.m. – 4:06 p.m.)



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

August 14, 2025 at 4:00 PM

The Library Board of Trustees will elect a Secretary to serve for the upcoming term. The Secretary shall certify Board minutes and shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President. The term of office is one (1) year and until a successor is elected.

Motion made by Trustee Schwab to nominate Trustee Luevanos,

Seconded by Trustee Bunnell

Approved 4-0 (Luevanos - Abstain)

4. City of Escondido Staff Monthly Update and Report

The Assistant Director of Community Services will provide the Library Board of Trustees with the City's monthly update, including relevant City projects, initiatives, and activities that may impact library operations, programs, or services.

Presenter(s): Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services

Presentation by Eduardo Vasquez, Project Manager

5. Unfunded Items Workshop

The Board will share the take aways and items covered at the public workshop held August 14, 2025, to identify and review priority unfunded needs for the Escondido Public Library *Building Forward: Library Infrastructure Grant Project*. This discussion will provide an opportunity for the Board to explore potential funding strategies, align unfunded items with the Library's strategic goals, and inform future planning and budget recommendations.

Update by Trustee Bunnell

STATISTICS REPORT

6. The Library Director will present the most recent statistical report, including circulation figures, program attendance, public computer and Wi-Fi usage, and other key performance measures. The report will highlight trends, seasonal impacts, and comparisons to prior reporting periods.

Presented by Rino Landa, Library Director

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

7. The Library Director will present the monthly report, providing updates on library operations, programs, staffing, facilities, and ongoing projects. This report may include notable achievements, upcoming events, and other developments affecting library services.



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

August 14, 2025 at 4:00 PM

Presented by Rino Landa, Library Director

TRUSTEE LIBRARY USE REPORT

8. Members of the Library Board of Trustees will report on their recent use of the Library and its services. Reports may include observations, feedback from the public, and participation in library programs, events, or outreach activities.

Trustee Bunnell received input from the community that the Chess Club is missed; Library Director Rino Landa confirmed it will be returning September/October

President Reyes requested posting chess club returning on social media; had positive experience with Hoopla and was able to check out items; Likes layout of the Spanish books at Mall location and enjoyed dinosaur books with her kids

Secretary Luevanos visited the mall location and reported staff were very helpful and friendly and the space was clean and easy to navigate

Trustee Bova visited mall location with kids and utilized seating areas outside the library to read; neighborhood people have shared they enjoy the mall location; thanked Trustee Bunnell for being President and for her service

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

9. Unless otherwise noted, the Library Board of Trustees meets on the second Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

09/11/2025 - 4:00pm

10/09/2025 - **6:00pm**

11/13/2025 - 4:00pm

12/11/2025 - 4:00pm

PRESIDENT

ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

**City of Escondido
Library Trust
Fund 004
FY 2024-25 through June 30, 2025**

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description of Activity</u>		
General Library Trust					
3050	Beginning Fund Balance, 07/01/2024	\$ 737,769.79			
	Revenues, 07/01/2024 - 06/30/2025				
4601	Library Trust Dividends	1,858.84	Signal Hill Petroleum & JP Oil Dividends		
4602	General Donations	-			
4609	Investment Earnings	12,713.57	City Investment Pool allocated based on the cash balance in the Library Trust Fund.		
4621	Library Sales	63.00	Sale of Headphones, Library Tote Bag, and USB Flash Drive		
4370	Reimbursement from Outside Agencies	-			
4990	Other Revenue	8,345.80	Reimbursements from CENIC grant		
	Total Revenues	\$ 22,981.21			
	FY 2024/25 Budgeted Expenditures	Beginning Budget	Actual Expenditures		
			Remaining Budget		
400501	Neihoff Donation	36,493.00	-	36,493.00	Restrictive funds used towards purchasing adult/teen materials in a variety of formats.
400819	Library Technology	5,848.02	-	5,848.02	
400839	Literacy Projects	11,644.27	7,180.40	4,463.87	
408201	Pioneer Room	17,388.30	-	17,388.30	
409201	Youth Services-Library	25,000.00	20,026.34	4,973.66	
409401	Ryan Trust Pioneer Room	31,920.80	-	31,920.80	Ryan Trust Fund project
	Total Expenditures	\$ 128,294.39	\$ 27,206.74	\$ 101,087.65	*This is the remaining balance of budgeted projects.
	Ending Fund Balance, 06/30/2025		733,544.26		This balance includes actual expenditures.
	Remaining Project Budgets*		(101,087.65)		
	Available Fund Balance for Future Projects, 06/30/2025	\$ 632,456.61			This balance includes budgeted expenditures.

Consolidation Data

Ledger Account	Beginning Balance	Debit Amount	Credit Amount	Ending Balance
1000:Cash	735,920.27	15,860.47	18,177.84	733,602.90
1005:Equity in Pooled Cash	0.00	3,699.34	0.00	3,699.34
1100:Accounts Receivables	0.00	9,292.34	9,292.34	0.00
1110:Interest Receivables	1,849.52	0.00	1,849.52	0.00
2000:Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00	3,757.98	(3,757.98)
2701:Undeposited Payments	0.00	9,292.34	9,292.34	0.00
3001:Fund Balance/Retained Earnings - Prior Year	(737,769.79)	0.00	0.00	(737,769.79) x
4100:Miscellaneous Revenue	0.00	0.00	8,345.80	(8,345.80)
4600:Charges for Services	0.00	0.00	63.00	(63.00)
4800:Investment Income	0.00	0.00	14,572.41	(14,572.41)
5109:Supplies	0.00	27,206.74	0.00	27,206.74
Total	0.00	65,351.23	65,351.23	0.00

737,769.79 Beg. F/B
 22,981.21 Revenue
 (27,206.74) Expenditures
733,544.26 Ending F/B



STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT:

Authorization to Use Library Trust Funds for Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FF&E) for Library Infrastructure Project (First Floor)

DEPARTMENT:

Escondido Public Library

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval (Rino Landa, Library Director)

Staff recommends the Escondido Library Board of Trustees approve the use of Library Trust funds in the amount of \$255,000 for the purchase of furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E). These funds will cover the cost of unfunded FF&E for the first floor of the library's public and staff areas.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The proposed expenditure of \$255,000 for FF&E will be funded through the Library Trust, which has an available project fund balance of \$632,456.61 as of June 30, 2025. This fund includes a significant donation of \$256,853.53 received in 2024 from the Seelig family. The quoted FF&E cost includes installation, delivery, applicable taxes, and a 15% contingency for potential future cost increases. Pricing is based on a cooperative purchasing agreement initially negotiated by Orange County, ensuring competitive and favorable pricing. Approximately \$195,000 of the funds will be dedicated to public areas and \$9,400 to staff areas; additional costs include ~\$16,000 in sales tax and a ~\$31,000 contingency of 15%.

PREVIOUS ACTION:

At the July 11, 2024, Board meeting, Trustees directed the City Manager to formally incorporate the Patricia D. Seelig donation into the Library Trust. On October 22, 2024, the Library Board of Trustees held its first public workshop to discuss expenses associated with the Library Infrastructure grant project not covered by grant funds. Additional public workshops were held on May 8, 2025 and August 14, 2025, to provide updates on the project and unfunded costs. No Library Trust funds or outside funds or donations have been committed to the project as of the writing of this report.

BACKGROUND:

The Escondido Public Library secured a \$10 million grant through the Building Forward Library Facilities Improvement Program ("Infrastructure grant") administered by the California State Library. The grant has a clearly defined scope, strictly limited to infrastructure improvements. Grant funds may only be used for items





permanently affixed to the building, including fixed shelving, carpeting, and related demolition. Conversely, furniture, mobile shelving, and equipment fall outside the grant scope and must be funded separately.

Given these grant limitations, FF&E items including furniture, fixtures, and movable equipment for the library's first and second floors require alternative funding sources. Staff recommends allocating \$255,000 of trust funds, less than the full amount of the Seelig donation (\$256,853.53), to cover the needed FF&E for the first floor as quoted by GM. These costs are slightly less than previously requested.

During the August 2025 public workshop, Project Manager Ed Vasquez reported that some unfunded FF&E can be built-in to the building, thereby making them allowable for inclusion as part of the grant-funded construction. This included built-in storage and select booth seating. Study pods, previously estimated to cost between \$80,000 - \$160,000 depending on the number purchased, are now being evaluated as built-ins. As a result, first floor study pods are not included in this report and request.

Additionally, Mr. Vasquez reported that due to the project bid being less than expected, further improvements are now planned throughout the second floor, including new carpets. However, the changes to the second floor, particularly in staff areas, will require additional unfunded FF&E. Notably, approximately \$100,000 is estimated to furnish the public areas of the second-floor Children's space; \$20,000 is estimated for expanded and reorganized staff offices; and \$10,000 is estimated for a new public classroom planned to support the library's literacy services. This represents a total unfunded need \$130,000 for the second floor. The nonprofit Library Foundation has expressed an interest in donating funds to cover the cost of the Children's space, but no commitment has been secured. If the Foundation funds the entirety of the Children's space, the remaining unfunded FF&E is expected to be approximately \$30,000. These costs are planned for discussion in future public workshops and Board meetings during September and October 2025 following the submission of a quote from GM.

Finally, the City continues to explore funding options for necessary exterior improvements, including landscaping updates, parking lot repaving, and ADA enhancements, which also fall outside the Infrastructure grant's eligible scope.

Attachment:

Updated FF&E Budget – prepared by Rino Landa, Library Director – 9/7/2025

GM City of Escondido Library Budget with Finishes – submitted 03/27/2025



Area	User	Quantity	Manufacturer	Product	Type	Unit Cost	Extended Cost
Café	Public	4	Arcadia	TooTheLounge w/ Table	Lounge Chair/Sofa	\$ 7,771.34	\$ 31,085.36
Café	Public	5	Arcadia	TooTheLounge	Lounge Chair/Sofa	\$ 3,807.23	\$ 19,036.15
Café	Public	16	Sit On It	Rio Counter Stool	Chair	\$ 215.07	\$ 3,441.12
Café	Public	4	Sit On It	Parallon Table	Table	\$ 742.00	\$ 2,968.00
Café	Public	6	Sit On It	Parallon Table	Table	\$ 406.19	\$ 2,437.14
Café	Public	4	Sit On It	Parallon Table	Table	\$ 411.57	\$ 1,646.28
Café	Public	2	Sit On It	Parallon Table	Table	\$ 744.44	\$ 1,488.88
Café	Public	6	Sit On It	Rio Chair	Chair	\$ 141.26	\$ 847.56
Makerspace	Public	11	Herman Miller	Everywhere Flip Top Table	Table	\$ 964.64	\$ 10,611.04
Makerspace	Public	1	Herman Miller	Tu Storage	Storage	\$ 4,444.06	\$ 4,444.06
Makerspace	Public	10	Sit On It	Rio Chair	Chair	\$ 141.26	\$ 1,412.60
Open Seating	Public	10	Arcadia	Leaf Lounge Chair	Lounge Chair/Sofa	\$ 1,582.30	\$ 15,823.00
Open Seating	Public	10	Arcadia	Leaf Lounge Chair	Lounge Chair/Sofa	\$ 1,527.39	\$ 15,273.90
Open Seating	Public	2	Sit On It	Prise Benching Stations	Computer Table	\$ 7,222.03	\$ 14,444.06
Open Seating	Public	16	Sit On It	Tensor Table	Table	\$ 429.17	\$ 6,866.72
Open Seating	Public	48	Sit On It	Rio Chair	Chair	\$ 141.26	\$ 6,780.48
Open Seating	Public	2	Herman Miller	Headway Communal Table	Table	\$ 3,187.97	\$ 6,375.94
Open Seating	Public	1	Herman Miller	Headway Communal Table	Table	\$ 4,423.70	\$ 4,423.70
Open Seating	Public	16	Sit On It	Rio Light Task Chair	Chair	\$ 224.36	\$ 3,589.76
Open Seating	Public	8	Sit On It	Rio Counter Stool	Chair	\$ 215.07	\$ 1,720.56
Quiet Room	Public	2	Herman Miller	OE1 Communal Tables	Table	\$ 3,587.58	\$ 7,175.16
Quiet Room	Public	4	Sit On It	Gobi	Lounge Chair/Sofa	\$ 1,001.06	\$ 4,004.24
Quiet Room	Public	4	Sit On It	Parallon Table	Table	\$ 406.19	\$ 1,624.76
Quiet Room	Public	11	Sit On It	Rio Chair	Chair	\$ 141.26	\$ 1,553.86
Quiet Room	Public	4	Sit On It	Uni Laptop Table	Table	\$ 255.15	\$ 1,020.60
Study Rooms	Public	2	HON	Preside Touchdown Table	Table	\$ 933.83	\$ 1,867.66
Study Rooms	Public	10	Sit On It	Rio Chair	Chair	\$ 141.26	\$ 1,412.60
Teen Space	Public	2	Herman Miller	OE1 Communal Tables	Table	\$ 3,483.64	\$ 6,967.28
Teen Space	Public	3	Arcadia	Scenery Modular	Lounge Chair/Sofa	\$ 1,804.01	\$ 5,412.03
Teen Space	Public	3	Arcadia	Leaf Lounge Chair	Lounge Chair/Sofa	\$ 1,499.15	\$ 4,497.45
Teen Space	Public	1	Herman Miller	Tu Storage	Storage	\$ 2,735.34	\$ 2,735.34
Teen Space	Public	3	Sit On It	Tensor Table	Table	\$ 480.98	\$ 1,442.94
Teen Space	Public	6	Sit On It	Rio Chair	Chair	\$ 141.26	\$ 847.56
Staff Office - AS	Staff	5	HON	Mod Desk	Desk	\$ 856.99	\$ 4,284.95
Staff Office - Supervisors	Staff	4	HON	Mod Desk	Desk	\$ 856.99	\$ 3,427.96
Staff Office - Teen	Staff	2	HON	Mod Desk	Desk	\$ 856.99	\$ 1,713.98

Row Labels	Sum of Extended Cost
Public	\$ 195,277.79
Café	\$ 62,950.49
Makerspace	\$ 16,467.70
Open Seating	\$ 75,298.12
Quiet Room	\$ 15,378.62
Study Rooms	\$ 3,280.26
Teen Space	\$ 21,902.60
Staff	\$ 9,426.89
Staff Office - AS	\$ 4,284.95
Staff Office - Supervisors	\$ 3,427.96
Staff Office - Teen	\$ 1,713.98
Grand Total	\$ 204,704.68
Sales Tax (7.75%)	\$ 15,864.61
Contingency (15%)	\$ 30,705.70

Grand Total \$ 251,274.99

Collection Funds	Previous Year's Budget 2024-2025		Budget Based on Circulation		Planned Budget 2025-2026	
	Dollars	% total budget	Collection Circ %	How that translates to budget \$	Dollars	% total budget
Adult Fiction	\$ 12,001	5.04%	13%	\$ 23,630	\$ 15,000	6.42%
Adult Lease Fiction	\$ 6,356	2.67%	0%	\$ -	\$ 6,000	2.57%
Adult Nonfiction	\$ 15,000	6.30%	8%	\$ 14,529	\$ 13,000	5.56%
Adult Lease Nonfiction	\$ 2,000	0.84%	0%	\$ -	\$ 2,000	0.86%
Adult Graphic Novels	\$ 5,000	2.10%	2%	\$ 4,468	\$ 4,500	1.93%
Adult Large Print	\$ 5,000	2.10%	2%	\$ 3,175	\$ 5,000	2.14%
Spanish Adult Fiction	\$ 3,000	1.26%	0%	\$ 868	\$ 2,500	1.07%
Spanish Adult Nonfiction	\$ 5,000	2.10%	0%	\$ 665	\$ 2,500	1.07%
TOTAL ADULT PRINT	\$ 53,356	22.41%	26%	\$ 47,333	\$ 50,500	21.61%
Children's Board Books	\$ 5,000	2.10%	4%	\$ 6,738	\$ 5,000	2.14%
Children's Easy Readers	\$ 7,000	2.94%	8%	\$ 14,141	\$ 9,000	3.85%
Children's Picture Books	\$ 11,000	4.62%	14%	\$ 25,605	\$ 13,000	5.56%
Children's Fiction	\$ 9,000	3.78%	9%	\$ 17,390	\$ 12,000	5.13%
Children's Nonfiction	\$ 10,000	4.20%	5%	\$ 9,600	\$ 9,000	3.85%
Children's Graphic Novels	\$ 10,000	4.20%	6%	\$ 11,741	\$ 12,000	5.13%
Children's Wonderbooks	\$ 2,000	0.84%	0%	\$ -	\$ 2,000	0.86%
Spanish Children's	\$ 7,000	2.94%	3%	\$ 5,926	\$ 6,000	2.57%
TOTAL CHILDREN'S PRINT	\$ 61,000	25.62%	49%	\$ 84,403	\$ 68,000	29.09%
Teen Fiction	\$ 4,000	1.68%	2%	\$ 3,212	\$ 4,000	1.71%
Teen Graphic Novels	\$ 9,000	3.78%	4%	\$ 7,754	\$ 9,000	3.85%
Teen Nonfiction	\$ 1,057	0.44%	0%	\$ 148	\$ -	0.00%
TOTAL YA PRINT	\$ 14,057	5.90%	6%	\$ 10,966	\$ 13,000	5.56%
Adult DVDs	\$ 8,020	3.37%	16%	\$ 29,316	\$ 8,200	3.51%
Children's DVDs	\$ 1,000	0.42%	4%	\$ 6,738	\$ 2,000	0.86%
Adult Audiobooks	\$ 3,000	1.26%	1%	\$ 1,569	\$ 1,500	0.64%
Children's Audiobooks	\$ 500	0.21%	0%	\$ 443	\$ 640	0.27%
TOTAL AV	\$ 12,520	5.26%	21%	\$ 38,066	\$ 12,340	5.28%
Periodicals (Local) Adult	\$ 6,999	2.94%			\$ 6,000	2.57%
Periodicals (Local) Children's	\$ 350				\$ 350	0.15%
Pioneer Room (Local)	\$ 1,000	0.42%			\$ 1,000	0.43%
Processing Supplies (Local)	\$ 46	0.02%			\$ -	0.00%
TOTAL LOCAL ORDERS	\$ 8,395	3.53%			\$ 7,350	3.14%
Database Subscriptions	\$ 10,610	4.46%				0.00%
hoopla	\$ 15,000	6.30%			\$ 18,000	7.70%
OverDrive	\$ 13,000	5.46%			\$ 24,000	10.27%
Niche Academy		0.00%			\$ 1,400	0.60%
OCLC - Comics Plus		0.00%			\$ 4,725	2.02%
Gale - Chilton's					\$ 2,084	0.89%
A to Z					\$ 2,240	0.96%
OverDrive Adult eBooks	\$ 11,000	4.62%			\$ -	0.00%
OverDrive Children	\$ 1,577	0.66%			\$ 1,500	0.64%
OverDrive Teen	\$ 1,500	0.63%			\$ 1,500	0.64%
TumbleBooks	\$ 799	0.34%			\$ -	0.00%
TOTAL DATABASES	\$ 53,486	22.46%			\$ 55,449	23.72%
Discretionary Adult Bks	\$ 12,870	5.41%			\$ 9,600	4.11%
Discretionary Child Bks	\$ 10,050	4.22%			\$ 8,000	3.42%
Discretionary DVDs	\$ 3,041	1.28%			\$ 3,000	1.28%
Discretionary Spanish	\$ 3,318	1.39%			\$ 4,000	1.71%
Discretionary YA Bks	\$ 6,000	2.52%			\$ 2,500	1.07%
TOTAL DISCRETIONARY	\$ 35,279	14.82%			\$ 27,100	11.59%
TOTAL OF ENTIRE BUDGET	\$ 238,094	100.00%			\$ 233,739	100.00%
Physical Materials Total	\$ 184,608				\$ 178,290	Proposed Physical Totals
Digital Materials Total	\$ 53,486				\$ 55,449	Proposed Digital Totals
	\$ 238,094				\$ 233,739	

Executive Summary: Impact of a Flat Collections Budget (2017–2025)

Purpose

To summarize how maintaining the Library's annual collections budget at \$250,000 since 2017 has affected the quality, breadth, and responsiveness of collections (books, movies, and other materials), and to outline what a modest increase would enable.

Headline Findings

- **Budget held flat** at \$250,000 since 2017 (the contract minimum under Library Systems & Services). This allocation is funded through the City's Capital Improvements Project (CIP) budgets and sourced from Public Facilities Fees (PFF) collected from new developments.
 - **Purchasing power has eroded** as per-item costs have risen substantially—especially in high-circulation categories—while required non-item costs (sales tax, shipping, and processing such as labels and RFID) are not captured in the figures below.
 - **Staff mitigations** (e.g., shifting from hardcover to paperback) stretch dollars but reduce durability and increase replacement needs, masking the true cost of keeping shelves current.
 - **Digital costs remain a structural pressure:** spending caps (Hoopla) and selective database cancellations have been necessary to protect core print and youth collections.
 - **A modest increase of ~\$4,000 per month** (i.e., \$48,000 annually, ~\$50,000) would materially improve fulfillment of patron demand in youth and adult popular materials, stabilize digital access, and fund carefully targeted new formats and services.
-

Budget Trajectory (Context)

- **1990–1994:** > \$600,000 annually (City General Fund + state and capital funds). Reflects the print-centric, pre-internet era.
- **1995–2008:** ~\$450,000 average annually (mixed sources: City General Fund, state Public Library Foundation [PLF], capital funds, Library Trust, Friends).
- **2010–2017:** ~\$255,000 average annually following the 2008 recession; ~\$60,000/year of this came from the Library Trust and Friends.
- **2018–2025:** \$250,000 annually—contract minimum—funded via CIP.

Takeaway: Collections funding has been on a long downward glide path from early-1990s peaks, with the recent flat budget representing the lowest real purchasing power of the modern era.

Cost Pressures on Core Collections (2018–2024)

Average per-item costs have risen meaningfully in most categories:

- **Adult Fiction:** +27%
- **Adult Nonfiction:** +19%
Together these two account for nearly a quarter of all checkouts.
- **Children’s Picture Books:** +5%
- **Children’s Fiction:** +5%
Together these two account for nearly a quarter of all checkouts.
- **Board Books:** +20%
- **Early Readers:** +42%
These two categories account for another ~10% of total checkouts.

Hidden cost drivers not included in unit prices: sales tax, shipping, and processing (e.g., labels, barcodes, RFID). These have also increased, further diluting buying power.

Format shift masking costs: To maximize item counts within a flat budget, staff increasingly purchase paperbacks (typically costing 30–50% less than hardcovers). While cost-effective upfront, paperbacks wear out faster, generating higher replacement rates and reducing overall collection longevity.

Digital Access Dynamics

- **Databases:** Since 2023, the Library cancelled >\$30,000 in under-used electronic resources to reallocate funds to children’s and Spanish collections that were historically underfunded.
- **Hoopla:** On-demand costs peaked at ~\$50,000; to control volatility, the Board adopted monthly checkout limits and a monthly spending cap. FY25–26 budget: \$15,000.
- **OverDrive/Libby:** Typical single-user eBook licenses average ~\$100/year, with costs higher for popular or trending titles. Sustaining reasonable holds ratios is increasingly expensive under this model.

Implication: Without growth in the base budget, sustaining equitable digital access necessitates either tighter controls (caps/holds) or offsetting cuts elsewhere.

Illustrative Service Impacts

- **Children's Picture Books:** Based on their share of circulation, the Library should budget ~\$25,000 to meet demand; the most recent plan allowed ~\$13,000, to avoid more severe deficits in other collections.
 - **High-circulation adult categories** (fiction and nonfiction) see fewer copies per title relative to demand, leading to longer hold queues and slower refresh of front-list titles.
 - **Early literacy materials** (Board Books, Early Readers) face the steepest price growth (+20% to +42%), challenging our ability to maintain robust, attractive, and age-appropriate sets.
-

What a ~\$48,000–\$50,000 Annual Increase Would Enable

A **\$4,000/month increment** (\$48,000 annually, ~\$50,000) would:

1. **Right-size youth and popular collections**
 - Restore Children's Picture Books to ~\$25,000 to meet demonstrated demand.
 - Add copies in Adult Fiction/Nonfiction consistent with their cost growth (+27% / +19%) and circulation share.
2. **Stabilize digital access**
 - Increase targeted purchases in OverDrive/Libby (eBooks/eAudiobooks/eMagazines) to improve holds ratios and reduce wait times.
 - Maintain prudent Hoopla access within the current cap, reducing pressure to curtail checkouts.
3. **Pilot high-interest formats**
 - Launch Video Games (widely used by peer libraries) to engage teens and young adults (approx. ages 12–25) and broaden community reach.
 - Begin a "Library of Things" tranche (tools, devices, and skill-building kits) aligned with programs that support hands-on learning and new hobbies.
4. **Enhance educational supports**
 - Position the Library to add Brainfuse (live homework help/tutoring from pre-K through college), filling a well-documented local need and aligning with literacy and student success goals.
5. **Continued support of Link+**
 - Courier costs for Link+ through the Serra Cooperative have increased dramatically. An additional \$10,000 is expected to cover these costs starting in FY26-27.

Risks of Maintaining the Flat Budget

- **Growing gaps between demand and supply** in the highest-use print categories, with longer holds and slower refresh.
 - **Accelerating replacement costs** as a higher share of paperbacks age out.
 - **Digital equity pressures** as per-license costs rise and caps limit responsiveness.
 - **Deferred innovation** in formats/services that draw new users and address learning gaps.
 - **Increased customer dissatisfaction** is expected as collections age and fewer relevant materials are added back.
-

The following can be found in the appendixes:

- Collection Budget History (1990-2025)
- Average Collection Costs by Item (2018-2024)
- Database Cancellations and Costs (2023-2025)

Collection Budget History (1990-2016)

FY	General Fund	PLF	Capital / PFF	Other	Total	Notes	Budget Note
1990-91	\$ 672,660.00	?	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 672,660.00		
1991-92	\$ 720,572.00	?	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 720,572.00		
1992-93	\$ 418,569.00	?	\$ 305,000.00	\$ -	\$ 723,569.00		"Capital": Capital Reserve (92-93, 93-94) = Public Facilities Fee - PFF (94-95 to date)
1993-94	\$ 329,114.00	\$ 37,496.00	\$ 85,800.00	\$ -	\$ 452,410.00		
1994-95	\$ 165,772.00	\$ 39,868.00	\$ 252,000.00	\$ -	\$ 457,640.00		
1995-96	\$ 138,232.00	\$ 39,868.00	\$ 252,000.00	\$ -	\$ 430,100.00		
1996-97	\$ 76,683.00	\$ 39,677.00	\$ 209,110.00	\$ -	\$ 325,470.00		
1997-98	\$ 279,266.00	\$ 67,174.00	\$ 112,000.00	\$ -	\$ 458,440.00		
1998-99	\$ 271,330.00	\$ 69,850.00	\$ 137,500.00	\$ -	\$ 478,680.00		
1999-00	\$ 195,442.00	\$ 144,663.00	\$ 112,500.00	\$ -	\$ 452,605.00		
2000-01	\$ 169,419.00	\$ 211,606.00	\$ 112,500.00	\$ -	\$ 493,525.00		
2001-02	\$ 258,120.00	\$ 211,780.00	\$ 112,500.00	\$ -	\$ 582,400.00		
2002-03	\$ 212,388.00	\$ 208,532.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -	\$ 495,920.00		
2003-04	\$ 288,977.00	\$ 123,373.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -	\$ 487,350.00	Major reductions in the Public Library Foundation Fund (PLF) occur	
2004-05	\$ 220,128.00	\$ 61,987.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 427,115.00		Other: Library Trust Fund (\$50,000) and Friends of the Library (\$20,000)
2005-06	\$ 211,718.00	\$ 55,847.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 412,565.00		Other: Library Trust Fund (\$50,000) and Friends of the Library (\$20,000)
2006-07	\$ 236,501.00	\$ 81,264.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 412,765.00		Other: Friends of the Library (\$20,000)
2007-08	\$ 228,190.00	\$ 81,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 404,190.00	Library asked to identify budget cuts for '08-'09 (3%-7%)	Other: Friends of the Library (\$20,000)
2008-09	\$ 158,800.00	\$ 54,465.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 348,265.00		Other: Friends of the Library (\$35,000)
2009-10	\$ -	\$ 48,700.00	\$ 208,000.00	\$ 73,000.00	\$ 329,700.00		
2010-2011	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 111,000.00	\$ 68,000.00	\$ 179,000.00	East Valley Branch (EVB) Library Closes	Other: Library Trust Fund (\$68,000)
2011-2012	\$ -	\$ 50,455.00	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 280,455.00	Final year of state funding for the Public Library Fund (PLF)	Other: Library Trust Fund (\$60,000)
2012-2013	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 245,360.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 305,360.00		Other: Library Trust Fund (\$60,000)
2013-2014	\$ 37,150.00	\$ -	\$ 181,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 278,150.00		Other: Library Trust Fund (\$60,000)
2014-2015	\$ 28,318.00	\$ -	\$ 184,000.00	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 268,318.00		Other: Library Trust Fund (\$56,000)
2015-2016	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 225,000.00		Other: Library Trust Fund (\$50,000)

Collection Budget History: Continued (2017-2025)

FY	General Fund	PLF	Capital / PFF	Other	Total	Notes	Budget Note
2017-2018	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 300,000.00		Other: Library Trust Fund (\$50,000)
2018-2019	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00	Library Systems & Services begins managed services of the library. Collection budget contractually set at a \$250,000 minimum.	Friends of the Library continue to support purchases for programs and book clubs, but no longer donate to the Library Trust for materials purchases.
2019-2020	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00		
2020-2021	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00		
2021-2022	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00		
2022-2023	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00		
2023-2024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00		
2024-2025	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00		

Average Item Cost by Collection (2018-2024)

Average Cost of Library Materials by Year		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2018 vs 2024	% of Circulation	2019-2020 Budget	2024-2025 Budget
Adult Print	Adult Fiction	\$ 20.73	\$ 20.77	\$ 22.62	\$ 39.44	\$ 23.75	\$ 24.24	\$ 26.24	27%	14.81 %	\$ 21,260.00	\$ 18,000.00
	Adult Nonfiction	\$ 23.74	\$ 25.21	\$ 25.30	\$ 31.42	\$ 28.10	\$ 26.79	\$ 28.30	19%	8.18 %	\$ 28,012.00	\$ 17,000.00
	Adult Graphic Fiction	\$ 19.50	\$ 18.27	\$ 17.85	\$ 19.12	\$ 17.98	\$ 19.44	\$ 18.12	-7%	2.15 %	-	\$ 5,000.00
	Adult Large Print Fiction	\$ 34.12	\$ 33.04	\$ 33.54	\$ 34.56	\$ 33.45	\$ 34.02	\$ 35.60	4%	1.73 %	-	\$ 6,000.00
	Spanish Adult Fiction	\$ 17.25	\$ 17.01	\$ 18.15	\$ 19.32	\$ 20.38	\$ 20.38	\$ 20.95	21%	0.5 %	\$ 1,098.00	\$ 4,500.00
	Spanish Adult Nonfiction	\$ 17.68	\$ 21.12	\$ 18.91	\$ 19.02	\$ 20.06	\$ 18.96	\$ 24.12	36%	0.5 %	\$ 754.00	\$ 5,000.00
Children's Print	Children's Board Books	\$ 7.95	\$ 9.37	\$ 8.90	\$ 8.95	\$ 8.33	\$ 9.08	\$ 9.52	20%	2.94 %	-	\$ 5,000.00
	Children's Easy Readers	\$ 10.07	\$ 13.64	\$ 16.32	\$ 14.50	\$ 10.87	\$ 10.39	\$ 14.25	42%	6.69 %	\$ 2,367.00	\$ 7,000.00
	Children's Picture Books	\$ 17.02	\$ 17.07	\$ 22.00	\$ 17.52	\$ 16.46	\$ 17.20	\$ 17.87	5%	13.02 %	\$ 7,510.00	\$ 11,000.00
	Children's Fiction	\$ 14.84	\$ 15.10	\$ 16.01	\$ 15.25	\$ 12.70	\$ 13.75	\$ 15.40	4%	9.47 %	\$ 6,139.00	\$ 9,000.00
	Children's Nonfiction	\$ 21.72	\$ 20.98	\$ 20.13	\$ 21.28	\$ 21.01	\$ 19.97	\$ 20.16	-7%	4.82 %	\$ 6,473.00	\$ 10,000.00
	Children's Graphic Novels	\$ 14.95	\$ 16.43	\$ 15.52	\$ 17.32	\$ 16.08	\$ 16.27	\$ 16.67	12%	5.19 %	\$ 3,313.00	\$ 10,000.00
	Spanish Children Fiction	\$ 12.65	\$ 13.48	\$ 14.92	\$ 12.12	\$ 16.29	\$ 16.22	\$ 13.03	3%	3.09 %	\$ 100.00	\$ 7,000.00
YA Print	Teen Fiction	\$ 17.94	\$ 18.32	\$ 18.48	\$ 18.50	\$ 18.35	\$ 18.86	\$ 19.49	9%	2.11%	\$ 5,691.00	\$ 4,000.00
	Teen Graphic Novels	\$ 13.16	\$ 13.63	\$ 12.95	\$ 13.02	\$ 13.57	\$ 13.76	\$ 14.28	9%	4.41%	\$ 7,025.00	\$ 9,000.00
	Teen Nonfiction	\$ 20.92	\$ 21.52	\$ 19.58	\$ 20.30	\$ 20.75	\$ 18.99	\$ 18.73	-10%	.09%	-	\$ 1,000.00
Audiobooks	Adult Audiobook Fiction	\$ 37.35	\$ 38.93	\$ 39.98	\$ 39.44	\$ 41.71	\$ 40.53	\$ 42.71	14%	1%	\$ 2,396.00	\$ 3,000.00
	Children's Audiobooks Fiction	\$ 22.09	\$ 23.40	\$ 35.00	\$ 31.41	\$ 32.31	\$ 34.49	\$ 40.07	81%	0.25%	\$ 395.00	\$ 500.00
Periodicals	New York Times	?	\$ 958.13	\$ 1,192.62	\$ 1,129.78	\$ 1,721.34	\$ 1,144.00	*	19%	NA	NA	NA
	Wallstreet Journal	?	\$ 458.80	\$ 772.77	\$ 440.71	\$ 459.18	\$ 443.88	*	-3%	NA	NA	NA
	San Diego Union Tribune	?	\$ 661.49	\$ 651.95	\$ 1,395.57	\$ 2,327.61	\$ 1,016.97	*	54%	NA	NA	NA
	Los Angeles Times	?	\$ 771.19	\$ 772.77	\$ 785.11	\$ 938.52	\$ 1,016.97	*	32%	NA	NA	NA
	USA Today	?	?	\$ 390.33	\$ 273.03	\$ 421.39	\$ 439.35	*	13%	NA	NA	NA

Note: Costs are based on the average retail price of each item added to the library's collection during the listed year. Cost do not include tax, shipping, or vendor processing fees.

Note: Periodical costs for 2025 were not available in time for this report. Also not included in the budget is whether a single or multiple copies were purchased. The library has seen the need to reduce newspaper copies from more than three (3), to just one (1) to maintain access.

Recent Database Cancellations

Database	Description	Year Cut	Final Cost	Quoted Cost
Ancetry by Proquest	Ancestry and genealogy.	2023-2024	\$ 7,241.09	
Ebsco Masterfile	Research and reference resources for all ages	2023-2024	\$ 12,560.00	
Cloud Library	Connection fee for Cloud Library (eBooks & eAudio)	2023-2024	\$ 4,500.00	
Pronunciator	Language learning	2023-2024	\$ 2,995.00	
A to Z Databases	Business reference and research	2023-2024	\$ 2,175.00	
Flipster	eMagazines	2024-2025	Cooperative-Funded	\$ 11,000.00
Brainfuse	Tutoring and homework help	2024-2025	Cooperative-Funded	\$ 7,000.00



STATISTICS REPORT

Monthly Statistics 2025-2026		May	June	July
CIRCULATION:	Physical Materials	17,401	27,978	34,152
	Digital Materials	7,926	7,572	7,786
	Total Circulation	25,327	35,550	41,938
	Holds Satisfied	739	1,602	1,586
INTER-LIBRARY LOANS:	ILLs Checked Out	6	-	-
	Link+ Items Borrowed (EPL patrons)	1	227	315
	Link+ Items Lent (to patrons at other libraries)	-	223	168
POPULATION & BORROWERS:	Total Registered Borrowers	95,251	96,137	97,524
REFERENCE QUESTIONS:	Total Reference Transactions	4,609	8,172	8,424
LIBRARY SERVICES:	Public Service Hours	239	250	260
	Library Visits	11,671	19,940	23,796
ELECTRONIC SERVICES:	Users of Public Internet Computers	653	472	547
	Wireless Sessions	8,021	9,086	4,502
	Number of Website Visits	12,451	14,395	13,564
VOLUNTEERS:	Total Active Volunteers	34	34	55
	Total Volunteer Hours	120	171	660
PROGRAMS:	# of live, in-person programs	188	47	153
	Live, in-person attendance	394	971	2,049
	# of live, virtual programs	873	-	-
	Live, virtual program attendance	-	-	-
	# of pre-recorded programs	-	-	-
	# of views of recorded program content	-	-	-
	# of live, off site programs (outreach)	2	4	6
	Live, off site program (outreach) attendance	100	555	70
	# of take home kits given out	80	80	80
PIONEER ROOM:	Pioneer Room Visits:	8,786	526	550
	Digital Collection Items Accessed:	493	215	87
	On-Site Items & Resources Accessed:	115	210	90





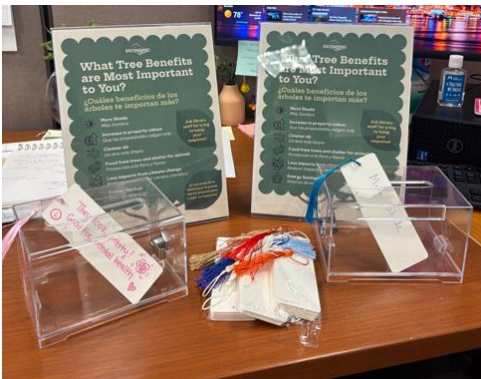
LIBRARY DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Library Book Returns

Two new book returns—one drive-up and one walk-up— have been installed. The drive-up return is located in the north parking lot, allowing patrons to return items without leaving their vehicles. The walk-up return is positioned near the southern entrance between Target and the electric vehicle charging stations. Currently, only the drive-up option is available. Due to a manufacturing defect, the walk-up book drop is still unavailable. Staff are currently in communication with the manufacturer on a resolution to fix a problem affecting closing the book drop’s door.



Partnership: Urban Forestry Management Plan (UFMP)



In partnership with the City of Escondido UFMP, the library and North County Mall are hosting several “Wish Trees” provided to promote an online survey related to the future of tree coverage and planting in Escondido. From August 2025 through summer 2026, anyone can participate by scanning QR codes near the trees and or in the library. Additionally, those who are interested in sharing their tree-related or unrelated wish, can pick up a tree tag at the General Library service desk or Children’s Library service desk in the North County Mall. Library staff will provide the tag, which participants can fill out in response to the question: “What tree benefits are most important to you?”. This engagement tool offers the public a fun way to share their thoughts on the state of trees in Escondido while also encouraging their visit to the library.



PIONEER ROOM HIGHLIGHTS

The Pioneer Room served **60 patrons** in August, including visiting researchers from Valley Center, a Grand Avenue business owner, and recent homebuyers in the Old Escondido Historic District. We recorded our first oral history for the *Latinos in Escondido Oral History Project* and are in the transcription phase of the interview. Keep a lookout on the Pioneer Room's digital platforms in the coming months for access to this and other great histories with Escondido residents.

ADULT HIGHLIGHTS



On Saturday, August 9, the Library proudly hosted its first-ever Speedrun Jigsaw Puzzle Competition, and what an afternoon it was! **Five enthusiastic teams** of 2–4 players each put their puzzle-solving skills to the test, racing to complete a 500-piece puzzle in record time.

From the very first piece placed at 1:30 p.m. to the final countdown at 3:30 p.m., the energy in the room was electric. Participants showed not only speed and determination, but also teamwork, creativity, and plenty of good humor. The Library was thrilled to see such wonderful attendance and participation in this new program.

YOUTH HIGHLIGHTS

The start of August brought the end of the annual **Summer Reading Challenge** at the library. Below are the key statistics from this year's challenge. This year's challenge was more streamlined in order to accommodate the changes of moving and presenting the program at the mall.

Total Signups: 1,058 (2025) / 1,439 (2024)

- **Babies (Ages 0 to 3):** 147 (2025) / 180 (2024)
- **Kids (Ages 4 to 8):** 335 (2025) / 598 (2024)
- **Tweens (Ages 9 to 12):** 193 (2025) / 281 (2024)
- **Teens (Ages 13 to 18):** 59 (2025) / 120 (2024)
- **Adults (Ages 18+):** 324 (2025) / 260 (2024)

Completion Rates: Participants who met the required reading or activity challenges.

- **Babies (Ages 0 to 3):** 91 (Goal: 9 activities completed)





- **Kids (Ages 4 to 8):** 162 (Goal: 10 hours read)
- **Tweens (Ages 9 to 12):** 94 (Goal: 15 hours read)
- **Teens (Ages 13 to 18):** 29 (Goal: 30 hours read)
- **Adults (Ages 18+):** 176 (Goal: At least one activity completed)

Fun facts: During the full summer reading challenge date range, **942 Baby Activities** (read to baby, sign to baby, walk with baby) were completed. These activities encouraged early learning and interaction between baby and caregiver. Adults finished **442 activities** that encouraged them to read, engage with various library programs and services, and to try new things in the community through our *Read Local and Shop Local* Program.

Hours read

- **Kids (Ages 4 to 8):** read 217,078 minutes or 3,618 hours
- **Tweens (Ages 9 to 12):** read 204,721 minutes or 3,412 hours
- **Teens (Ages 13 to 18):** read 122,400 minutes or 2,040 hours
- Note: Babies and Adults completed activities, instead of tracking time spent reading.

661 books were handed out as SRC prizes and **569 books** were given away at community sites for a total of **1,230 books** gifted for personal home libraries for **2025**. This is close to the **701 Books** that were handed out for personal libraries as reading incentives for **2024**.

Finally, from June 1 to August 31 we created **1,382 new library cards**.

