



**MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
COUNTY OF PLACER**

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: David Boesch, County Executive Officer
By: Andy Heath, Assistant County Executive Officer

DATE: January 5, 2016

SUBJECT: Placer County Library Consolidation Efforts

ACTION REQUESTED

Receive an update on next steps related to the Placer County Library Services consolidation.

BACKGROUND

On December 8, 2015, the Board of Supervisors considered a staff recommendation to consolidate countywide library services by the closing the Loomis and Meadow Vista branches and concentrating Library resources to stabilize operations where patron use is the highest. Staff's recommendation was brought forward consistent with the Library's Strategic Plan approved by your Board on December 10, 2013 and subsequent to an evaluation of the distribution of system-wide resources.

Staff's recommendation to consolidate Library resources and close the Loomis and Meadow Vista branches was also preceded by Board direction stemming from the "FY 2015-16 Budget Development Challenges and Choices" item on May 19, 2015. Recommendations and alternatives specific to the Placer County Library System considered by your Board during this discussion included the Loomis Library remaining open through December 2015, in anticipation of a proposal from the Town, while keeping the Meadow Vista branch open into November 2015. Further, as an alternative to closure, your Board directed staff to consider potential proposals by Loomis Library advocates within a six-month timeframe.

ANALYSIS

During the December 8, 2015 discussion, the Loomis Library Ad Hoc Committee (Committee) was afforded the opportunity to present to your Board alternatives to closure – specifically, consideration of a possible General Transactional Use Tax ballot measure by the Town of Loomis electorate in June 2016. As a result of the Committee's presentation and ensuing discussion, your Board directed staff to return to the Board with a budget revision to address funding shortfalls related to extending existing levels of countywide library service through the balance of the fiscal year.

Prior to bringing forward a budget revision for Library operations, staff requires additional time to ascertain a comprehensive understanding of all fiscal impacts related to the following:

- The timing, legal framework, and potential approval of the proposed General Transactional Use Tax measure which may be considered by the Loomis Town Council on January 12, 2016; and the implications of resulting funding streams related to continued operations at the Library Branch in Loomis.
- An update of the FY 2015-16 Library Fund anticipated budget-to-actual (two year model) consistent with maintaining existing service levels for all library branches through the end of the current fiscal year.
- Staffing and resource requirements to appropriately maintain sustainable countywide library service delivery for the balance of FY 2015-16 and into the future.

The County Executive Office will continue to work closely with the Town of Loomis and Placer County Library staff to bring back to your Board further recommendations related to the operational and fiscal sustainability of the countywide library system in late February 2016.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact at this time.