

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: June 21, 2010
Reviewed By: BP

SUBJECT: Contract with the County of Alameda for Additional Library Services,
Fiscal Year 2010-11

REPORT BY: Charlie Adams, Finance & Administrative Services Director

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve a contract between the City of Albany and the County of Alameda for Additional Library Services for fiscal year July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011.

BACKGROUND

In June 1994, Albany voters approved the Library Services Act of 1994, which assessed a \$42.00 per year tax on single-family residential parcels. In June 2006, Albany voters approved Measure G, the Albany Library Board's request for a supplemental parcel tax of \$24.00 to fund restoration of staff hours, the addition of four hours on Sunday, and the purchase of new materials as needed. These acts allow for the City Council to annually increase the taxes by the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for the San Francisco Bay Area, not to exceed 5%.

DISCUSSION

The contract with the County for fiscal year 2009-10 was \$676,285. The proposed contract for fiscal year 2010-11 is \$680,186, an increase of .6%. The proposed contract is equal to the projected revenue for the year from the two tax measures noted above. The total County budget for the Albany Library decreased from \$1,982,560 in fiscal year 2009-10 to \$1,907,352 in fiscal year 2010-11, a decrease of 3.8%. In fiscal year 2009-10 the city contract funded 34.1% of the library's budget, in fiscal year 2010-11 the city contract is budgeted to fund 35.7% of the library's budget.

Although the County has offered a contract supported by a budget of \$1,907,352, the County Librarian has advised the Albany Library Board that the County intends to reduce the budget by \$150,000. The County Librarian has not provided an analysis of service impacts as a result of the anticipated budget cut.

In its meeting of May 26, 2010, the Albany Library Board voted to recommend that the City Council accept the contract proposed by the Alameda County Library for fiscal year 2010-11. The Board also voted to send a letter to the City Council detailing the specific

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concerns of the Board regarding the contract, and the questions asked the county for which the Board has not received answers to its satisfaction.

ANALYSIS

The increase cost of the contract in the fiscal year 2010-11 does not require the expenditure by the City of funds estimated to be held in reserve at June 30, 2010.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The contract payment by the City to the County will be fully covered by the special library taxes collected in fiscal year 2010-2011, and will not impact the City's general fund.

Attachments:

1. Agreement Between the City of Albany and County of Alameda for Additional Library Services Fiscal Year 2010-2011.
2. Letter from the Albany Library Advisory Board