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; 04/30/18 3:28 PM
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;;;BOSTON CITY COUNCIL 2-4PM
;;;5/1/2018

>>> TODAY IS TUESDAY, MAY 1st.
AND WE ARE HERE WITH THE LIBRARY
DEPARTMENT, WANT TO WELCOME, WE
LOVE OUR LIBRARIES.
THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE TODAY.
LIKE TO REMIND YOU THAT THIS IS
A TAPED AND BROADCAST BOTH ON
RCN CHANNEL 82, COMCAST CHANNEL
8.

VERIZON 1964 AND STREAMED AT
BOSTON.GOV/CITY-COUNCIL-TV.
I'D ASK FOLKS IN THE CHAMBER TO
SILENCE THEIR ELECTRONIC
DEVICES.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE
DEPARTMENTAL PRESENTATION, AND
QUESTIONS FROM MY COLLEAGUES
WE'LL TAKE PUBLIC TESTIMONY.
THERE'S A SIGN-IN SHEET TO MY
LEFT.

WE ASK THAT YOU CHECK THE BOX IF
YOU WISH TO TESTIFY.

STATE YOUR NAME, AND THE
AFFILIATION, AND RESIDENCE.

I'D LIKE TO ENCOURAGE OUR
RESIDENTS TO ENGAGE IN THIS
PROCESS.

WHETHER IT IS HERE IN THE
CHAMBER, OR AT HOME, TO TAKE A
FEW MINUTES, AND BY GIVING
TESTIMONY FOR THE RECORD.
AND YOU CAN DO THIS IN SEVERAL
WAYS.

YOU CAN COME TO A HEARING AND
SIGN UP TO TESTIFY.

YOU CAN COME TO A HEARING,
SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 5th, BETWEEN
2:00 AND 6:00 P.M., WHICH WE
WILL TAKE EXCLUSIVELY PUBLIC
TESTIMONY.

YOU CAN SEND YOUR TESTIMONY BY
MAIL TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS
AND MEANS, BOSTON CITY HALL, 1
CITY HALL PLAZA, BOSTON, 02201.
OR E-MAIL THE COMMITTEE AT
CCC.WM@BOSTON.GOV.

WE ARE HERE, AGAIN AS I SAID,

WITH THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT AS
THEY PERTAIN TO DOCKETS 0559 TO
0563.

ORDER FOR THE FY'19 OPERATING
BUDGET, INCLUDING ANNUAL
APPROPRIATIONS FOR DEPARTMENTAL
OPERATIONS, ANNUAL APPROPRIATION
FOR THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT,
APPROPRIATION FOR OTHER POST
EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS,
APPROPRIATION FOR CERTAIN
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC REALM
IMPROVEMENTS, AND APPROPRIATION
FOR CERTAIN PARK IMPROVEMENTS.
AS WELL AS DOCKETS 0564, AND
0565, CAPITAL BUDGET
APPROPRIATIONS, INCLUDING LOAN
ORDERS AND LEASE AGREEMENTS.
WE ARE HERE IN ORDER OF THEIR
ARRIVAL WITH MY COLLEAGUES CITY
COUNCILOR ED FLYNN.
CITY COUNCILOR AT LARGE MICHAEL
FLAHERTY.

AND TO MY IMMEDIATE LEFT, CITY
COUNCILOR AT LARGE ANNISSA
ESSAIBI-GEORGE.

AND DISTRICT CITY COUNCILOR JOSH
ZAKIM IS JOINING US, AS WELL.
WITH THAT I'D LIKE TO TURN IT
OVER TO PRESIDENT LEONARD.
THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE.
WANT TO JUST SAY, AS I SAID, WE
LOVE OUR LIBRARIES.
YOU GUYS DO A GREAT JOB, AND
IT'S A TRIBUTE TO YOU AND YOUR
TEAM.

THANK YOU.

>> GOOD AFTERNOON, MR. CHAIRMAN.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR WELCOME.
GOOD AFTERNOON, MEMBERS OF THE
CITY COUNCIL WAYS AND MEANS
COMMITTEE AND OTHER COUNCIL
MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE OR JOINING
US LATER.

WE ARE HERE TODAY FOR THE
HEARING ON THE CITY OF BOSTON
BUDGET APPROPRIATION FOR THE
BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY AS A
DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF
BOSTON.

LET ME BEGIN MY INTRODUCING MY
COLLEAGUES HERE AT THE TABLE.
AND THEN I'D LIKE TO OFFER SOME
OPENING REMARKS.

TO MY IMMEDIATE LEFT IS ELLEN DONAHA, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND MICHAEL KULFORD DIRECTLY OF LIBRARY SERVICES.

AND TO MY FAR LAURA EARPSLER CHIEF OF COLLECTIONS.

AS I NEAR COMPLETION OF MY SECOND FULL YEAR IN THIS POSITION AS PRESIDENT OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY. THE LIBRARY IS STRONG. OUR COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES REMAIN IN DEMAND ACROSS THE CITY AND STATE.

AND IN PARTICULAR, THE MOST RECENTLY RENOVATED SPACES ARE THE MOST USED SPACES AS THEY ARE INVITING, WARM, WELCOMING, AND DYNAMIC AND OPEN.

WHILE THE LIBRARY MARKED 170 YEARS LAST MONTH SINCE THE CHARTER WAS SIGNED INTO LAW BY THIS BODY, LIBRARIES TODAY ARE ABOUT FOUR AREAS OF SERVICE. PROVIDING ACCESS TO READING MATERIALS AND LITERACY PROGRAMS. BEING GATHERING SPACES FOR THE COMMUNITY WITH DYNAMIC AND INTERESTING PROGRAMS. PROVIDING SKILLED STAFF THAT OFFER A RANGE OF MODERN LITERACY REFERENCE AND INSTRUCTION SERVICES.

AND FOURTH, IN OUR SPECIAL ROLE OF PRESERVING THE HISTORICAL LEGACY OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, THE NATION, AND SOMETIMES HUMANITY ITSELF, MOSTLY IN THE FORM OF THE PRINTED WORD OR VISUAL MATERIALS.

THANKS FOR THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE LAST YEAR GO TO OUR STAFF, REPRESENTED IN THE MOST PART BY THE TWO UNIONS AT THE LIBRARY, AFSCME 1526 AND THE PSA.

FURTHER, MANY, IF NOT ALL OF OUR LOCATIONS ARE ALSO SUPPORTED BY VIBRANT AND HEALTHY FRIENDS GROUPS.

THE LIBRARY, HOWEVER, IS STRONGEST WHEN IT HOLDS ALL ASPECTS OF ITS MISSION IN PERFECT BALANCE, SERVICES OF THE

CENTRAL LIBRARY SERVICES AT BRANCHES, SERVICES TO SCHOLARS AND RESEARCHERS, BUT SERVICES TO THOSE MOST IN NEED IN OUR SOCIETY, AS WELL.

SERVICES ONLINE AND IN DIGITAL FORM, AS WELL AS VIA THE PRINTED WORD, AND IN PERSON.

COLLECTIONS EXPAND THE RAREST OF THE RARE TO THE MOST POPULAR READING MATERIALS OF THE DAY.

WHILE YOU HAVE A DOCUMENT IN YOUR PACKETS COVERAGE A RANGE OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY'18 AND A LIST OF PRIORITY GOALS FOR FY'19, I WOULD LIKE TO REFERENCE SOME MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LAST YEAR.

FIRST, THE NEW CHINATOWN BRANCH, A TEMPORARY LOCATION WHICH OPENED IN FEBRUARY OF THIS YEAR. AND OF COURSE, THE FIRST FULL YEAR OF THE COMPLETED, RENOVATED, AND REOPENED JAMAICA PLAIN BRANCH, WHICH SHOT RIGHT TO THE TOP OF THE MOST USED BRANCH IN THE SYSTEM.

NEW INITIATIVES ALSO INCLUDE THE ADDITION OF AN OUTREACH WORKER, WHO IS A SOCIAL WORKER FUNDED BY THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT.

THAT PERSON IS AN EMPLOYEE OF PINE STREET INN.

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF PATRONS IN CRISIS, PARTICULARLY THOSE EXPERIENCING SHELTER AND HOUSING CHALLENGES.

WITH NEW DEMAND AND EXPECTATIONS, MANY OF OUR INTERNAL DEPARTMENTS WOULD LIKE TO SEE INCREASED SUPPORT, WHICH IS THE LARGEST DRIVER BEHIND OUR OVERHAUL OF THE PHILANTHROPIC AND FUND-RAISING CAPACITY FOR THE LIBRARY.

THE LAST YEAR HAS BEEN TAKEN UP WITH ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING AND IN THE COMING MONTHS WE WILL, THROUGH OUR TRUSTEES, MOVE FROM STRATEGY TO IMPLEMENTATION, ALL WITH THE GOAL OF INCREASING THE AMOUNT OF PRIVATE DONATIONS THAT

GO TO SUPPORT THE LIBRARY, WHICH IS SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE BUDGETS THAT YOU HAVE IN FRONT OF YOU TODAY.

SWITCHING BACK TO CAPITAL PROJECTS, WORK IS CURRENTLY ONGOING FOR THE BRANCHES OF PARKER HILL, AND DUDLEY.

AS WELL AS THE NEXT PROJECT OF THE CENTRAL LIBRARY A RENOVATION OF THE RARE BOOKS DEPARTMENT IN THE JOHNSON BUILDING.

WE HAVE ALSO COMPLETED A PROGRAMMING STUDY AT THE ADAMS STREET BRANCH, AND ARE PROCEEDING TO THE DESIGN STAGE. IN FACT THE KICKOFF MEETING FOR THAT PROJECT'S DESIGN IS THIS EVENING.

WE ARE NEAR THE END OF THE DESIGN PROCESS FOR THE ROTH BRANCH AND SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROCEED INTO CONSTRUCTION FORTHWITT.

WE ARE CONTINUING TO DO JOINT PLANNING WITH THE CITY'S OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE DPDA, IMAGINE BOSTON REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS IN THE UPMAN'S CORNER NEIGHBORHOOD WHICH INCLUDE AN ANCHOR PROJECT FOR A NEW LIBRARY SPACE.

WE WILL SHORTLY BEGIN A PROGRAMMING STUDY FOR THE FIELDS CORNER BRANCH, AND MORE MINOR BUT NONETHELESS SUBSTANTIAL INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR PROJECTS AT LOWER MILLS, SOUTH BOSTON, SOUTH END, AND WEST ROXBURY BRANCHES FOR WHICH WE HAVE JUST SELECTED A DESIGNER, AND THIS WORK WILL CONTINUE INTO NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

AS WE LOOK AHEAD TO NEXT YEAR'S FY'19 CAPITAL BUDGET, THE ONE CURRENTLY BEFORE THE COUNCIL, IN ADDITION TO WORK IN PROGRESS THAT I HAVE MENTIONED, I WOULD ALSO NOTE NEW OR SCHEDULED PROJECTS WHICH INCLUDE STARTING THE DESIGN PHASE FOR THE FANEUIL BRANCH, KICKING OFF A PROGRAMMING STUDY FOR THE EGGLESSTON SQUARE BRANCH, A ROOF

REPLACEMENT PROJECT FOR THE CENTRAL LIBRARY, AND THE SCHEDULING OF SITE SELECTION FOR PERMANENT HOME FOR THE CHINATOWN LOCATION.

ADDITIONALLY, THERE IS A NEW PROGRAMMING STUDY FOR THE SOUTH END BRANCH.

AND AN UPDATE TO THE MASTER PLAN FOR THE McKIM BUILDING IN COPLEY SQUARE.

THE FIVE-YEAR LOOK AHEAD ALSO INCLUDES FUTURE WORK FOR A NORTH END PROGRAMMING STUDY.

PROJECTS IN OTHER BUDGETS WHICH THE LIBRARY WILL BENEFIT FROM INCLUDE A SERIES OF ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS ACROSS MULTIPLE LOCATIONS, THROUGH A PROGRAM MANAGED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND OPEN SPACES.

PARK IMPROVEMENTS WHICH INCLUDE OF NOTE TO THE LIBRARY PARK AT THE SOUTH END.

AND, OF COURSE, THE PERCENT FOR ART CAPITAL PROGRAMS, A JOINT COLLABORATION BETWEEN PFD AND THE ARTS AND CULTURE CABINET OFFICE WITH SPECIFIC PROJECTS UNDER WAY FOR BOTH JAMAICA PLAIN AND DUDLEY IN PARTICULAR.

PROJECT EXPENDITURES FOR FY'19 IN THE CAPITAL BUDGET ARE NOW PROJECTED AT JUST OVER \$26 MILLION.

WITH A FIVE-YEAR PROJECTION NOW TOTALLING \$128 MILLION.

AGAIN, AN INCREASE OVER THIS TIME LAST YEAR, AND WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE MAYOR, AND THE SENIOR STAFF FOR THAT COMMITMENT TO THE LIBRARY.

THESE INCREASED AMOUNTS INCLUDE SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONS FOR THE ADAMS STREET AND ROSLINDALE BRANCH PROJECTS TO MAKE ACCOUNT FOR RECENT PROGRAMMING AND DESIGN WORK AS WELL AS UPDATED COST ESTIMATES.

IN OTHER AREAS, THE LIBRARY WILL LAUNCH ITS REDESIGN OF A PUBLIC WEBSITE LATER THIS MONTH.

THE FIRST MAJOR OVERHAUL IN OVER

TEN YEARS.

OUR WORK CONTINUES ON BRINGING
OUR HISTORICAL AND SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS UNDER INTELLECTUAL
CONTROL.

AND CONTINUING TO MAKE THOSE
COLLECTIONS ACCESSIBLE ONLINE AT
DIGITALCOMMONWEALTH.ORG.

A STATEWIDE PROJECT OF THE
BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

ACROSS THE SYSTEM WE OFFERED
OVER 12,000 INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS,
WITH A STRONG FOCUS ON CHILDREN
AND TEEN SERVICES.

SUMMER READING.

AS WELL AS, AGAIN, OFFERING
SPECIALIZED BOOK LISTS AND
PROGRAM OFFERINGS SUCH AS BLACK
IS, LATINO LIFE AND THE
FORTHCOMING WE ARE PRIDE.

AND AN ESPECIALLY POWERFUL
THEMATIC ORGANIZATION OF
PROGRAMMING UNDER THE NAME OF
SPEAKING UP, SPEAKING OUT.

PARDON ME FOR ONE SECOND.

>> SURE.

I'M MISSING MY LAST PAGE OF
NOTES, SO I WILL TAKE THAT FROM
MY PHONE.

AH, THAT'S WHERE IT WENT.

COUNCILORS YOU HAVE GREAT STAFF.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>> AND AS WE NOW TURN TO THE
OPERATING BUDGET BEFORE YOU
TODAY, WHAT YOU WILL SEE IS A
2.3% INCREASE IN THE CITY OF
BOSTON ALLOCATION FOR THE
LIBRARY.

THIS IS EFFECTIVELY A
MAINTENANCE BUDGET WITH TWO
SPECIFIC AREAS OF INCREASE.
\$115,000 INCREASE TO THE
COLLECTIONS BUDGET, AND \$118,000
INCREASE TO OUR I.T. AND
EQUIPMENT LEASE PURCHASE
ALLOCATION.

ADDITIONAL CHANGES AT THE LINE
ITEM LEVEL REFLECT SOME MINOR
CHANGES, AND RECLASSIFICATION OF
SOME EXPENSES.

THESE MAINTENANCE COMMITMENTS
AND INCREASES BUILD ON THE FY'18
ADDITIONS IN THE AREAS OF

SECURITY, NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES,
SPECIFICALLY WITH THE ADDITION
OF CHINATOWN, COLLECTIONS, AND
FACILITIES.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR COMMENTS
AND QUESTIONS, AND HOPE FOR AN
ULTIMATE VOTE IN FAVOR OF
PASSING THIS YEAR'S FY'19
BUDGET.

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH,
PRESIDENT LEONARD.

WE'VE SINCE BEEN JOINED BY
DISTRICT CITY COUNCILOR KIM
JANEY AS WELL AS COUNCIL
PRESIDENT ANDREA CAMPBELL.
YOU MENTIONED IN YOUR OPENING
REMARKS ABOUT AN OUTREACH
WORKER.

FIRST, IS THAT THE ONLY ADDED
STAFF?

AND, "B," WHAT'S THE OUTREACH
WORKER DO?

AND HOW ARE THEY DEPLOYED?

>> SO, THE ADDITION OF THIS
PERSON WAS PART OF OUR OVERALL
RESPONSE TO INCREASED CONCERNS
OVER THE LAST YEAR OR SO.

WITH OUR PATRONS IN CRISIS,
SPECIFICALLY PEOPLE WHO ARE
LIKELY HOMELESS, OR DEALING WITH
OTHER CHALLENGES.

AND THIS CAME ABOUT THROUGH A
CONVERSATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT
OF NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT,
SPECIFICALLY THE HOUSING AND
THOSE WORKING WITH THOSE SHELTER
CHALLENGE THROUGHOUT THE CITY.

IN ADDITION WE'VE REPURPOSED A
VACANT LIBRARYIAN TO WORK ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ISSUES
MORE BROADLY.

AND CONTINUED TO OFFER RESOURCES
TO THOSE COMMUNITIES IN NEED.

>> RIGHT.

TO YOUR QUESTION ABOUT
ADDITIONAL STAFF, OUR PERSONNEL
LEVELS ARE ESSENTIALLY FLAT FROM
LAST YEAR INTO THIS YEAR.

ALTHOUGH WE CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR
VACANCIES THAT HAVE OCCURRED.

AND REPURPOSE THEM WHERE
POSSIBLE.

IN MANY CASES UPON COMPLETION OF

BARGAINING OBLIGATIONS WITH OUR
LABOR COLLEAGUES.

>> GREAT.

SO THE ADDITIONAL \$384,000 PLUS
ACCOUNTED FOR THROUGH THE
RAISES, I'M ASSUMING THEN?

>> STEP INCREASES.

>> STEP INCREASES AND RAISES.

YOU CONTRACTED SERVICES, LINE
52-900.

IT'S INCREASING BY

\$280,000-PLUS.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE SERVICES WE
CONTRACT OUT?

>> SURE.

THE SERVICES WE CONTRACT OUT ARE
THE LARGER CONTRACTS OF THE HVAC
SYSTEM, AND THE SECURITY GUIDE.

I WOULD SUGGEST YOU LOOK AT THE
LAST 1, 2, 3RKS 4 NUMBERS
TOGETHER.

SOME OF THAT IS LESS THAN
INCREASE.

IT'S NOT AS LARGE OF AN INCREASE
AS YOU WOULD THINK, SIMPLY
BECAUSE WE'RE REALLOCATING SOME
COSTS WE HAD HIGHER IN REPAIR OF
BUILDINGS DOWN TO CONTRACTED
SERVICES.

OVERALL THAT BUDGET CATEGORY IS
UP BY ABOUT 2.3% AND SOME OF
THAT IS SIMPLY BECAUSE
INCREASES, ROUTINE INCREASES TO
HVAC, PLACE HOLDER FOR INCREASES
FOR OUR SECURITY CONTRACT.

>> OKAY.

AND YOU MENTIONED ABOUT ADDED
MONEY FOR SECURITY.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE MEASURES
YOU'RE PUTTING IN PLACE, AND
WHERE?

>> SO THIS STEPS FROM THE
CURRENT YEAR'S BUDGET, AND NOT
AN INCREASE IN FY'19.

>> OKAY?

>> SO THE CURRENT INCREASE IN
SECURITY.

WHAT WE WANTED TO DO IS
BASICALLY BE ABLE TO COVER THE
NIGHT HOURS AT THE CENTRAL
LIBRARY WHEN IT'S CLOSED AND
HAVE THAT SECURED.

AND THEN WE ALSO LOOKED AT
DIFFERENT BRANCHES WHERE WE

HAD -- WHERE WE HAD A NEED.
AND SO MOST RECENTLY WE'VE
DEPLOYED SECURITY OFFICERS OUT
AT THE DUDLEY -- I'M SORRY NOT
THE DUDLEY, THE UPHAM'S CORNER
BRANCH.
WHEN WE HAVE A RISE IN INCIDENTS
OR ISSUES, WE ROTATE THE GUARDS
IN AND OUT.
WE'VE ALSO MORE RECENTLY
ALLOCATED SOME OF THOSE
ADDITIONAL HOURS TO MATTAPAN
WHERE WE'VE INCREASED SECURITY
AND BROUGHT IN A SECOND GUARD
FOR CERTAIN HOURS.

>> OKAY.

ON THE REVENUE SIDE IN LOOKING
AT OH, WHERE IS IT HERE?
ESPECIALLY THE LIBRARY FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH, ALL LEVEL FUNDED,
RIGHT?

DO WE CONTINUE TO BASICALLY GET
LEVEL FUNDED FROM EXTERNAL
SOURCES, NAMELY STATE SOURCES,
AS WELL?

>> LIBRARY FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
IS LEVEL FUNDED BASED UPON THE
GOVERNOR'S BUDGET.

BUT THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS IS
UP THIS YEAR.

SO, BY ABOUT \$104,000.

AND WE ARE, AS I THINK YOU KNOW,
WAITING TO HEAR FROM THE SENATE.
HOPEFULLY LATER THIS MONTH.

>> REPRESENTATIVE RUSHING IS A
MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY AND
CONTINUES TO ADVOCATE POSITIVELY
FOR INCREASES WHERE POSSIBLE.
BUT, AS WE KNOW, SOMETIMES
THAT'S SUCCESSFUL AND SOMETIMES
THAT'S NOT.

>> RIGHT, RIGHT.

AND LASTLY, SPEAKING OF THE
BOARD, WE, I GUESS YOU HAVE THE
ABILITY TO ADD UP TO 15 BOARD
MEMBERS.

IS THAT RIGHT?

>> THAT'S CORRECT.

THE -- ALL OF THE LEGISLATIVE
STEPS REQUIRED TO ALLOW US TO
INCREASE THE BOARD UP TO 15
MEMBERS, FROM 9, WERE COMPLETED
OVER THE COURSE OF THE LAST

YEAR.

AND OUR BOARD HAS FORMED A
NOMINATING SUBCOMMITTEE.
ITS FULL TITLE IS DEVELOPMENT
GOVERNANCE AND NOMINATING.
AND IT IS IN CLOSE COLLABORATION
WITH THE MAYOR'S OFFICE WITH
REGARD TO HOW TO PROCEED ON
FILLING THOSE SEATS.
APPOINTMENT IS AT THE DISCRETION
OF THE MAYOR.

>> AND DO YOU HAVE -- SO YOU
HAVE THE STILL NINE RIGHT NOW?
>> WE ARE CURRENTLY AT NINE.
>> RIGHT.

>> AND WE HOPE TO HAVE NEWS IN
THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE.
>> WELL, I THINK THAT'S ACTUALLY
A GREAT DEVELOPMENT FOR REASONS
MAYBE SUCH AS DEVELOPMENT.
AND SO I WISH YOU SUCCESS WITH
THAT.

AND LET ME NOW RECOGNIZE
COUNCILOR ED FLYNN.
>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR CIOMMO.
THANK YOU PRESIDENT LEONARD.
I KNOW WE'VE TALKED SEVERAL
TIMES ABOUT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY
IN CHINATOWN.
IT OPENED AS YOU KNOW FEBRUARY
2018, IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THE
NEIGHBORHOOD HAS HAD A LIBRARY
IN 50 YEARS, AND I BELIEVE ABOUT
10,000 PEOPLE HAVE GONE THERE
SINCE.

WHAT'S THE LATEST ON, I KNOW
IT'S TEMPORARY, YOU GUYS HAVE
DONE A GREAT JOB, AS HAS THE
MAYOR, IN LOCATING THE LIBRARY
THERE.

BUT WHAT'S THE STATUS OF THE
PERMANENT LIBRARY FOR THE
NEIGHBORHOOD?
>> SO, WE DID OPEN IN FEBRUARY,
THE SIZE OF THE SPACE IS ABOUT
1500 SQUARE FEET.
MOST OF OUR LIBRARY BRANCHES RUN
FROM 7,000 TO 20,000 SQUARE FEET
IN TOTAL.

THE EXISTING SPACE AT THE CHINA
TRADE CENTER IS A THREE TO
FIVE-YEAR LEASE, WITH THE BPDA.
AND IN THE CAPITAL BUDGET FOR
FY'19 IN FRONT OF YOU, YOU SEE A

PROJECT TO CONDUCT SITE
SELECTION FOR A NEW PERMANENT
HOME FOR THE BRANCH LIBRARY IN
CHINATOWN.

THERE ARE A COUPLE OF SITES THAT
HAVE BEEN UNDER CONSIDERATION,
INCLUDING ONE THAT WAS STRONGLY
REPORTED IN THE PRESS, AS A
DEVELOPMENT-LED INITIATIVE.
SO WE ARE STAYING CLOSE TO,
AGAIN, TO OUR COLLEAGUES AT THE
BPDA TO UNDERSTAND THE VIABILITY
OF THAT LOCATION, AND I KNOW
MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ARE
ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THOSE
CONVERSATIONS, AS WELL.

>> YES, THAT'S CORRECT.
I'M IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD EVERY
DAY.

AND THAT'S ONE OF THE ISSUES
THEY TALK TO ME, IS THE STATUS
OF THE LIBRARY, AND THEY WANT TO
SEE IT A BEAUTIFUL,
STATE-OF-THE-ART LIBRARY.
AND I CERTAINLY SUPPORT THAT.
IN CANTONESE AND MANDARIN ACCESS
AS WELL.

>> AND WE'RE VERY HAPPY TO SEE
HOW THE COMMUNITY HAS, IN FACT,
EMBRACED THIS TEMPORARY
LOCATION.

AND SO, WE LOOK FORWARD TO
SEEING THIS PROJECT MOVE FORWARD
AS THE MONTHS COME BY.

>> THANK YOU.
AND I'VE BEEN IN CONTACT SEVERAL
TIMES WITH THE FRIENDS OF THE
SOUTH END LIBRARY, AND HAVE BEEN
THERE SEVERAL TIMES, TALKING TO
THEM.

THEY'RE ASKING FOR OUR SUPPORT
FOR THE ALLOCATION OF \$350,000
TO COMPLETE THE SECOND PHASE OF
THE RENOVATION OF THE BRANCH
THAT'S DOWNSTAIRS INTERIOR.
IT DOES NEED A LOT OF WORK.
IT'S AN EXCELLENT LIBRARY.
A LOT OF PEOPLE USE IT.
PEOPLE FROM VILLA VICTORIA, IT'S
VERY DIVERSE.

IS THERE ANY CHANCE THAT WE
COULD GET THAT FUNDING FOR THE
SECOND PHASE?

>> SO, THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE

TWO PROJECTS THAT ARE NOW LISTED IN THE CAPITAL BUDGET WITH RESPECT TO THE SOUTH END INCLUDE THE \$132,000 ALLOCATION FOR THE PHASE ONE INTERIOR RENOVATIONS. AND EAMON CAN GIVE US AN UPDATE ON THE SPECIFICS OF THAT IN A SECOND BUT WE HAVE JUST COMPLETED DESIGNER SELECTION AND THAT PROJECT WILL KICK OFF IN THE COMING MONTHS.

ADDITIONALLY, THERE IS NOW A \$100,000 ALLOCATION FOR A PROGRAMMING STUDY TO PLAN OUT EXACTLY WHAT THE LONG-TERM BEST PATH FOR RENOVATION OF THE FULL LIBRARY SHOULD BE.

WE ARE CERTAINLY NOT CLOSED TO THE IDEA OF ADDITIONAL EARLY ACTION, SUCH AS THE PHASE TWO ITEMS, IF YOU WILL, THAT YOU HAVE REFERENCED.

AND THE FRIENDS OF THE SOUTH END LIBRARY, IN PARTICULAR, ARE TO BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR ADDITIONAL LOCAL FUND-RAISING THAT THEY HAVE DONE TO SUPPLEMENT THE NUMBERS THAT WE'VE ALREADY TALKED ABOUT. AT THIS POINT IN TIME, WE DO NOT, IN THE CURRENT CAPITAL BUDGET, HAVE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THOSE PHASE TWO ACTIVITIES. BUT WE REMAIN OPEN TO THE POSSIBILITY OF ADVOCATING AND ASKING FOR THOSE POSSIBLY OVER THE COURSE OF THE NEXT YEAR. THAT'S THE LIBRARY'S POSITION AT THE MOMENT.

>> WHAT'S THE LATEST ON THE SOUTH BOSTON BRANCH LIBRARY AS IT RELATES TO THE ACCESS TO THE BACKYARD?

>> SO THAT'S ONE OF THE FOUR PROJECTS IN ADDITION TO THE SOUTH END THAT I REFERENCED, THAT DESIGNER SELECTION HAS OCCURRED FOR.

EAMON, WOULD YOU LIKE TO COMMENT ON BOTH OF THOSE?

>> SURE.

YEAH, SO, FOR EFFICIENCY WHAT WE'VE DONE IS COMBINED THESE RELATIVELY SMALLER PROJECTS

TOGETHER.

WE'RE DOING ONE PROCUREMENT SO WE'LL HAVE ONE DESIGNER ON BOARD, AND SO AS DAVID MENTIONED, WE JUST COMPLETED DESIGNER SELECTION.

THEY'RE DOING SITE VISITS, AND WE EXPECT COMMUNITY MEETINGS ACTUALLY IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS.

AND THEY'LL BE WORKING ON, AS DAVID MENTIONED, SOUTH END, SOUTH BOSTON, LOWER MILLS.

I KNOW SOUTH END, AND SOUTH BOSTON HAVE TWO OF THE OLDEST LIBRARIES ACROSS THE CITY.

SO I HOPE THAT WE CAN PUT THEM ON A PLAN FOR A NEW LIBRARY SOMETIME.

AND I THINK BOTH COMMUNITIES DESERVE IT.

MY FINAL POINT IS I SEE THE WORKERS, A LOT OF THEM ARE AFSCME WORKERS, DEDICATED, HARD-WORKING, VERY PROFESSIONAL. YOU KNOW, THEY TREAT THE RESIDENTS WITH GREAT RESPECT, SO I'M PROUD TO SEE THEM EVERY DAY WORKING HARD.

THEY'RE LIVING IN OUR COMMUNITY, AS WELL.

WHAT IS THE STATUS OF ANY OUTSTANDING ISSUES AS IT RELATES TO UNION NEGOTIATIONS, OR CONTRACTS?

>> SO WITH RESPECT TO BOTH OF THE LIBRARY UNIONS, BOTH AFSCME AND THE PSA WE'RE AT ADVANCED STAGES OF MAINTAINABLE BARGAINING, AND REALLY AT THIS POINT, THOSE NEED TO COMPLETE BEFORE I CAN COMMENT FURTHER.

>> THANK YOU FOR TAKING MY QUESTIONS.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR FLAHERTY.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

AND THANK YOU, PRESIDENT, AND YOUR TEAM, FOR THE JOB YOU'VE BEEN DOING FOR THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS.

REALLY FROM THE PROGRAMMING PERSPECTIVE, I REMEMBER SORT OF TALKING TO YOU WHEN YOU WERE

GOING THROUGH THE PROCESS FOR
THE POSITION.
IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE BRICKS
AND MORTAR.

LIBRARIES ARE LIKENED A LOT TO
OUR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS.
THEY'RE SORT OF THE LIFE LINE
FOR A LOT OF OUR RESIDENTS.
AND THEY'RE SORT OF UNIQUELY
SITUATED WITHIN OUR
NEIGHBORHOODS.

THEY'RE IN THE HEART OF OUR
NEIGHBORHOODS, AND MANY OF THEM
ARE IN THE HEART OF THE LOCAL
BUSINESS DISTRICT.

SO IN THE PARTNERSHIPS THAT ARE
THERE HAVE BEEN TREMENDOUS,
PARTICULARLY TO THE PROGRAMMING.
WHETHER IT'S THE ADULT LITERACY,
THE STORY THYMES, THE ARTS AND
CRAFTS, THE BAKING CLASSES,
BRINGING IN GUEST SPEAKERS,
AUTHORS, TO HOPEFULLY INSPIRE
THE NEXT GENERATION OF WRITERS.
KUDOS TO THE JOB YOU'RE DOING.
WE'RE LUCKY TO HAVE YOU HERE IN
BOSTON AS WELL AS YOUR TEAM.
JUST WANTED FROM THE ONSET SAY I
THINK YOU'RE DOING A TREMENDOUS
JOB.

AS I SEE IT BECAUSE AS A
CITYWIDE COUNCILOR I GO TO A LOT
OF EVENTS ACROSS THE CITY.
AND LIBRARIES ARE A BIG FOCAL
POINT OF ALL OUR NEIGHBORHOODS.
SO KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR.

>> WANT TO TOUCH BASE ON IT
HAPPENS TO MY KIDS, MY BOYS ARE
OVER AT BCI AND THEY NO LONGER
HAVE THE BOOKS, THEY'RE iPADS,
SO THAT HOLD HARD COVER, SOFT
COVER, CONVERTING TO iPad
PHENOMENON.

WHAT, IF ANY IMPACT IS THAT
HAVING ON YOUR LIBRARY?
OF SPACING IN YOUR LIBRARY?
PARTICULARLY AS YOU'RE
ENDEAVORING TO BUILD SOME NEW
ONES, AND TO RENOVATE SOME OF
OUR EXISTING LIBRARIES?

>> YEAH, I'LL ASK LAURA OUR
CHIEF OF COLLECTIONS TO TALK
ABOUT THE PHYSICAL CONTENT AND

E-CONTENT AND WHAT PAT ERNST
WE'RE SEEING THERE, SO IT
AFFECTS YOUR QUESTION GOES TO
NOT JUST THE COLLECTIONS, BUT
ALSO OUR SPACES AND EQUIPMENT,
AS WELL.

LAURA?

>> THANK YOU, DAVID.

SO, CAN YOU HEAR ME OKAY?

>> YES.

>> SO OUR DIGITAL COLLECTIONS
CONTINUE TO GROW.

ANY GROWTH WE HAVE IN ANY OF OUR
PHYSICAL LOCATIONS, SO OVER THE
LAST 12 MONTHS, IF YOU COMPARE
THAT TO THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS
OUR DIGITAL COLLECTIONS, THE
CIRCULATION GREW 16%.

AND WHAT'S EVEN MORE INTERESTING
IS THE UNIQUE USERS CONTINUE TO
GROW.

WE HAVE OVER 18% MORE PEOPLE
THAT ARE COMING IN USING THE
COLLECTIONS.

AND WHEN I TALK ABOUT OUR
DIGITAL OR E-CONTENT IT INCLUDES
E-BOOKS AND DOWNLOADABLE AUDIO
BOOKS AND STREAMING VIDEO AND
MUSIC.

THE HIGHEST CATEGORY IS E-BOOKS
BUT A CLOSE SECOND IS
DOWNLOADABLE AUDIO BOOKS.
THAT'S CONTINUING TO GROW.

A LOT OF PEOPLE, AS THEY ARE ON
THE MOVE IN TRANSIT ARE TENDING
TO LISTEN TO THEIR AUDIO BOOKS,
ALONG WITH PODCAST, AND OTHER
DIGITAL MEDIA.

SO WE'RE CONTINUING TO SEE
DEMAND FAR OUTPACE WHAT WE HAVE
IN OUR COLLECTIONS BUDGET, AND
THE INCREASE TO OUR BUDGET IS
GOING RIGHT TO OUR DIGITAL
CONTENT.

THAT WAS THE FOUNDATION OF ONE
OF OUR REQUESTS FOR THE INCREASE
WE SEE YEAR AFTER YEAR AS MORE
PEOPLE ARE LEARNING ABOUT OUR
COLLECTIONS, WE HAVE A HARDER
TIME BEING ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH
THIS DEMAND.

SO RIGHT NOW, IF YOU WENT ON TO
OUR WEBSITE AND REQUESTED AN
E-BOOK YOU'D HAVE ANYWHERE FROM

A TWO TO 58-DAY WAIT ON WHAT YOU
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.

SO WE'RE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT
HOW TO MANAGE THE SCOPE OF WHAT
EVERYONE IS ASKING FOR SO WE CAN
DELIVER THE CONTENT, AND THE
COLLECTIONS IN AS FAST AS
POSSIBLE, MANAGING HOW FAST IT'S
GROWING.

>> I THINK THE PATTERN WE'RE
SEEING IS THAT IT'S NOT PURELY A
MOVE TO DIGITAL INSTEAD OF THE
PRINTED OR THE PHYSICAL BUT IT'S
IN ADDITION TO -- SO THAT'S PART
OF THE CHALLENGE THAT LAURA AND
HER TEAM HAVE IN TERMS OF
KEEPING THAT BALANCED.

THE OTHER COMPONENTS OF THE
TECHNOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF OUR
SERVICES THEN ARE OBVIOUSLY IN
PERSON.

FOR MANY OF OUR POPULATION, THE
LIBRARY IS THE PLACE WHERE THEY
GO TO USE A COMPUTER, LEARN HOW
TO USE AN iPad.

GET ONLINE.

WE CERTAINLY KNOW TODAY THAT YOU
CAN'T APPLY FOR A JOB FOR
HOUSING SERVICES, FOR MANY OF
THE CIVIC SERVICES ACROSS THE
NATION WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO GO
SO ONLINE.

THE LIBRARIES ARE NOW THE FIRST
PORT OF CALL FOR MANY OF OUR
RESIDENTS WHO DON'T HAVE ACCESS
TO THOSE RESOURCES IN ANOTHER
PLACE.

>> IF THE DEMAND IS THERE, THEN
AS PRESIDENT DON'T BE BASHFUL.
EVERYONE LOVES LIBRARIES.
SO IF YOU HAVE TO HAVE A ZERO IN
THAT COLUMN, NOW IS THE TIME.

>> I DON'T THINK ANYONE'S EVER
CALLED ME BASHFUL.

>> WE'RE RESPONDING TO THE
DEMAND.

OBVIOUSLY WITH THAT DEMAND, AND
THOSE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SORT OF
SAFE SPACES IN THE COMMUNITY BUT
WE'RE IN A DAY AND AGE WHERE
MOST RECENTLY, NOT FORTUNATELY
NOT IN OUR COMMUNITY BUT
SOMEWHERE UP ON THE NORTH SHORE
YOU GOT A FATALITY, I KNOW WE'VE

GOT -- WE'VE GOT FOLKS TRAINED
IN NARCAN, WE'VE GOT THE SAFE
NEEDLE DISPOSALS COINCIDING WITH
JUST COLLEAGUE JOSH ZAKIM JUST
HAD THE COUNCIL PASSED MAKING
VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS
AVAILABLE.

SO LIBRARIES ARE SORT OF THAT
MELTING POT OF OUR COMMUNITIES.
BUT WHICH RAISES THE ISSUE
AROUND SECURITY AND SAFETY.
THERE ARE ALSO THOSE THAT USE
LIBRARIES TO PREY ON CHILDREN
AND BE PURVEYORS OF POISON AND
USE TECHNOLOGY TO, YOU KNOW,
SORT OF PERPETRATE, YOU KNOW,
THEIR BAD BEHAVIOR, I GUESS ON
OTHERS.

I KNOW WE SORT OF HAVE THE
CENTRAL, WHICH IS THE MOTHERSHIP
OVER THE ISSUES WE DEAL WITH
OVER THERE.

INDIVIDUAL BRANCH LIBRARIES IN
OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, PARENTS NEED
AT SURANCES THAT THEIR CHILDREN,
WHILE GOING TLL AFTER SCHOOL,
AND WE HAD MISS FLEMING WHO I
SAW THIS MORNING, ACTUALLY
VOTING.

SHE USED TO THROW THE FLYNN KIDS
OUT OF THE SOUTHIE LIBRARY.
SHE WAS A STICKLER FOR MAKING
SURE IF YOU'RE THERE, YOU'RE
PAYING ATTENTION, YOU'RE THERE
TO DO YOUR HOMEWORK, YOU'RE
THERE TO LEARN, SHE'S THERE TO
HELP YOU.

IF SOMEONE IS THERE TO GOOF
AROUND OR BE INVOLVED IN SOME
OTHER KIND OF ACTIVITY SHE THREW
YOU STRAIGHT OUT ON BROADWAY.
IS THAT STILL HAPPENING IN OUR
LOCAL BRANCH LIBRARIES AND ARE
THEY SECURE FACILITIES?

>> I THINK A COUPLE OF POINTS.
ONE, THIS IS ALWAYS A CONCERN.
HOW DO WE BALANCE BEING
WELCOMING AND FREE TO ALL AND
MAKING THAT A REALITY.
BUT AT THE SAME TIME ENSURING
THAT BOTH OUR STAFF, AND WHERE
NECESSARY CONTRACTED GUARD
SERVICE ARE PRESENT SO THAT ANY
INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR BY

PATRONS JUST ISN'T TOLERATED.
AND WE'VE RECENTLY HIRED A
POSITION THAT HAD BEEN VACANT
FOR SOME TIME, WHICH WAS A
MANAGER OF SYSTEMWIDE SECURITY,
WHO IS TAKING A NEW LOOK AT MANY
OF THE PROCEDURES, AND PROCESSES
THAT WE HAVE IN PLACE, TO ENSURE
THAT THEY ARE CURRENT.

THEY ARE UP TO DATE.

THAT WE CAN SAY WITH CERTAINTY,
WE HAVE THE RIGHT RESOURCES IN
PLACE WHERE THEY NEED TO BE.

YOU KNOW, THE NOTION OF A
LIBRARY AS A SAFE SPACE IS ONE
THAT IS PRECIOUS TO US, AND ONE
THAT WE MUST CONTINUE TO SEE
MAINTAINED.

WE HAVE RECENTLY RE-ENGAGED WITH
SOME STAFF GROUPS AROUND DO THEY
HAVE THE SKILLS, ARE THEY
TRAINED ON ALL OF THE
PROCEDURES, TO ENSURE THAT THEY
CAN DO WHAT TODAY WOULD BE THE
EQUIVALENT OF WHAT MISS RUNNING
DID IN THE EXAMPLE THAT YOU
REFERENCED.

>> AND JUST LASTLY COUNCILOR
BAKER HAD KIND OF A GREAT IDEA A
FEW YEARS AGO AS YOU'RE THINKING
ABOUT ALL OF YOUR SITES AS WELL
AS ON THE CAPITAL SIDE, AND AS I
REFERENCED YOU'RE UNIQUELY
SITUATED IN THE LOCAL BUSINESS
DISTRICTS OR THE COMMUNITIES,
WHETHER IT'S NEXT TO A MUNICIPAL
PARKING LOT AND OR WITH SMALL
LOCAL BUSINESSES BEING PRICED
OUT, OR EVEN BEING A PARTNER IN
THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CRISIS,
JUST CONCEPTUALLY DOESN'T REALLY
REQUIRE AN ANSWER, PROBABLY MORE
OPINING, JUST GIVE SOME THOUGHT
TO WAYS THAT YOU COULD BE SORT
OF A CREATIVE PARTNER OR A
PROBLEM SOLVER WITH A FACILITY
THAT HAS AN ADJACENT PARKING
LOT.

MAYBE WE COULD MAKE THAT A
TWO-LEVEL PARKING LOT.

OR MAYBE WE CAN ALLOW FOLKS TO
USE IT, YOU KNOW, AT NIGHT AND
WEEKENDS WHEN THE LIBRARY HOURS
ARE NOT THERE TO HELP WITH THE

PARKING CRUNCH.
MAYBE PUTTING A SECOND LEVEL ON.
FOR SOME RESIDENTIAL AND/OR
MAYBE A LOCAL BUSINESS THAT
COULD FIT ON THE FIRST FLOOR,
MAYBE A COFFEE SHOP OR SOMETHING
LIKE THAT.

SO, AGAIN, JUST THINKING OUT --
WITH THE DEVELOPMENT BOOM THAT
WE'RE EXPERIENCING IN THE CITY
AND THE NUMBER OF PERMITS.
THE CITY, WE OWN A LOT OF, YOU
KNOW, KEY PROPERTY THAT COULD
PLAY A ROLE IN ALL THAT.
AND WE COULD ALSO DERIVE A
REVENUE STREAM TO HELP FUND THE
PROGRAMMING, AS WELL.
SO I JUST WANT US TO SORT OF
THINK STRATEGICALLY AND THINK
LIKE A SORT OF A REAL ESTATE
BRAIN WOULD, I GUESS, AROUND OUR
FACILITIES.

NOT JUST YOU GUYS.
IT'S OUR HEALTH CENTERS, IT'S
OUR COMMUNITY CENTERS.
IT'S ALL THE PROPERTY THAT THE
CITY OWNS.

WE SHOULD BE THINKING A LITTLE
BIT OUTSIDE THE BOX HOW WE COULD
MAXIMIZE THAT POTENTIAL AROUND
PARKING, AFFORDABLE HOUSING, JOB
CREATION AND SMALL LOCAL
BUSINESSES TO AGAIN CONTINUE THE
GREAT WORK THAT LIBRARIES DO FOR
OUR CITY AND OUR NEIGHBORHOODS.
>> WE WOULD CALL THAT MIXED-USE
DEVELOPMENT.

AND WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR
ENCOURAGEMENT AND COUNCILOR
BAKER'S ENCOURAGEMENT ON THAT
FRONT.

THE MOST LIKELY PROJECTS TO
EXPLORE THAT IN THE NEAR TERM
ARE THE UPHAM'S CORNER AND THE
POSSIBLE NEW CHINATOWN SITE.
WE THINK THAT HAS A ROLE AS A
MODEL FOR FUTURE LIBRARY
DEVELOPMENT AND WE KNOW THAT
OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS ARE
INTERESTED IN FURTHER EXPLORING
THAT, TOO, BOTH WITH US, AND
WITH THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE.
SO, WE WILL VERY MUCH STAY CLOSE
TO THOSE IDEAS.

>> THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND
EFFORT.
THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.
>> THANK YOU.
COUNCILOR ESSAIBI-GEORGE?
>> THANK YOU, CHAIR.
THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE.
THERE'S ACTUALLY A, I WAS
INTERVIEWED SPEAKING TO
COUNCILOR FLAHERTY'S POINT ABOUT
THE MIXED USE AND FUTURE
DEVELOPMENT.
WAS THERE A DESIGN COMPETITION
THROUGH THE FEDERAL HOME LOAN
BANK OF BOSTON, WORKING WITH THE
SOUTH BOSTON NDC, AS WELL AS THE
LIBRARY, ON DEVELOPING SOME
CREATIVE IDEAS THERE.
SO IT'S EXCITING THAT PEOPLE ARE
ACTIVELY THINKING ABOUT IT AND
PARTICIPATING.
I AM CURIOUS ABOUT A COUPLE OF
QUESTIONS, JUST FOLLOW-UP
QUESTIONS TO SOME STUFF THAT'S
BEEN ASKED ALREADY.
THE SECURITY CONTRACT FOR THE
LIBRARY SYSTEM.
WHY DO WE USE CONTRACT SECURITY
AS OPPOSED TO MUNICIPAL POLICE
SERVICES?
>> SO THIS HAS BEEN A
TRADITIONAL APPROACH WHICH GIVES
US INCREASED FLEXIBILITY.
IN MANY CASES, WHEN WE HAVE
LOOKED AT MUNICIPAL PROTECTIVE
SERVICES, THEY WOULD HAVE
FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES FOR EVERY
POSITION THAT WE WOULD NEED.
MANY OF OUR LOCATIONS NEED, YOU
KNOW, A PART-TIME, OR LIKE JUST
FOR A FEW HOURS DURING THE DAY,
ALL OF THEM PRETTY MUCH THE SAME
TIME, AND SO THERE'S INCREASED
FLEXIBILITY THAT A CONTRACTED
SERVICE GIVES US.
>> AND THEN THERE WAS, I KNOW,
LOOKING THROUGH SOME OF MY NOTES
FROM THE LAST TWO BUDGET
HEARINGS, WITH THE LIBRARY
SERVICES, THERE WAS SOME
TRAINING THAT WAS HAPPENING WITH
SECURITY SERVICES AS IT RELATES
TO VULNERABLE POPULATIONS, WE

TALKED A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THOSE
EXPERIENCE HOMELESSNESS AND
ACTIVE ADDICTION.

CAN YOU TALK A LITTLE BIT MORE
ABOUT THAT TRAINING.

HOW IT HAS BEEN ROLLED OUT TO
STAFF SYSTEMWIDE?

AND THEN SPECIFICALLY ABOUT
NEEDLE PICKUP, AND DISPOSAL.
BECAUSE I KNOW SOME STAFF AT ONE
POINT WAS TRAINED, AND I'M
WONDERING IF THAT'S CHANGED OVER
TIME.

>> YEAH, I'LL ASK EAMON TO TAKE
THAT FROM A SECURITIES AND
FACILITIES POINT OF VIEW AND
MICHAEL CAN TAKE IT FROM A
GENERAL STAFF TRAINING POINT OF
VIEW, AS WELL.

>> SURE.

SO, LET ME JUST TAKE THE NEEDLE
PICKUP SPECIFICALLY, SO, AS YOU
MENTIONED, WE HAD A VOLUNTARY
TRAINING FOR OUR STAFF ON
NARCAN, ON THE USE OF NARCAN,
AND AT THAT TRAINING THEY WERE
GIVEN NARCAN AND THEY COULD, AT
THEIR DISCRETION, USE IT IN
LOCATIONS, AND THAT'S SOMETHING
WE LOOK TO CONTINUE TO DO.

MORE RECENTLY, AS OF AROUND
DECEMBER OF LAST -- CALENDAR
YEAR, JANUARY OF THIS YEAR,
WE'VE ACTUALLY INSTALLED A
NEEDLE PICKUP BOXES AT EACH OF
OUR LOCATIONS.

AT ALL OF OUR SHARPS CONTAINERS
AT ALL OF OUR LOCATIONS, IN ALL
REST ROOMS IN CENTRAL LIBRARY.
WE STILL HAVE STAFF TRAINED,
SPECIFICALLY CUSTODIAL STAFF,
TRAINED IN PICKING UP AND
DISPOSING OF NEEDLES SAFELY.
BUT THIS ALSO GIVES ANOTHER
AVENUE WHERE THERE'S ACTUALLY AN
OUTSIDE VENDOR THAT WILL COME IN
AND PICK UP AND EMPTY THESE
NEEDLES FOR PATRONS TO USE THEM
DIRECTLY.

TO DISPOSE OF THEM DIRECTLY.

>> SO THERE'S A NEEDLE KIOSK IN
EACH BATHROOM IN BPL?

>> CORRECT.

>> IN ALL BATHROOMS?

>> IN ALL BATHROOMS.
>> CAN YOU TALK THROUGH A LITTLE
BIT ABOUT THE COST OF
MAINTAINING THAT CONTRACT?
>> YEAH, SO IT'S AN -- I'LL HAVE
TO GET THE FIGURES FOR YOU AFTER
THE MEETING TODAY.
BUT IT'S AN INITIAL PILOT
PROGRAM WE'VE JUST ROLLED OUT.
AND BASICALLY THE COST, THERE'S
AN UPFRONT COST IN THE
INSTALLATION, AND THEN THE COST
IS IN THE ANNUAL PICKUP.
AND SO FAR WE'VE HAD SORT OF A
LIMITED ANNUAL PICKUP BECAUSE
IT'S JUST --
>> ANNUAL, MONTHLY?
>> I MEAN I'M SORRY.
IT'S BASED ON THE PICKUP.
SO RIGHT NOW WE INITIATED AS AN
ANNUAL PICKUP.
AND WE ARE GOING TO INCREASE IT
AS NEEDED AT THE VARIOUS
LOCATIONS.
WE HAVE SOME LOCATIONS WHERE WE
HAVEN'T HAD ANY PICKUPS AT ALL
SINCE -- WE HAVEN'T HAD TO EMPTY
THEM AT ALL SINCE DECEMBER.
AND THEN WE'VE HAD A COUPLE OF
LOCATIONS WHERE WE'VE HAD TO
CLEAN THEM OUT MORE FREQUENTLY.
>> SO LET'S START IN DECEMBER
2017.
>> CORRECT
>> HOW MANY LOCATIONS YOU SAY
ARE THE PILOT?
>> IT'S A PILOT FOR US BECAUSE
IT'S A NEW PROGRAM.
BUT WE HAVE IT AT ALL LOCATIONS.
>> SO IT'S AT ALL LOCATIONS.
SO I WOULD LOVE TO KNOW THE
NUMBER OF, SORT OF REST ROOMS OR
KIOSKS THAT YOU HAVE, THE
FREQUENCY OF PICKUP, AND THE
COST OF THAT CONTRACT.
>> SURE.
>> AND THEN IS IT WORKED AT ALL
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE PUBLIC
HEALTH COMMISSION OR THE MOBILE
SHARPS TEAM FOR THE CITY OF
BOSTON?
>> WE WORK PRETTY CLOSELY WITH
THEM.
WE'VE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THEM.

THEY'RE ACTUALLY CONSIDERING A SIMILAR PROGRAM, TWO HOURS AS I UNDERSTAND IT, AND ASK US SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT IT.

WE STILL USE THEM AS A RESOURCE. AND WE STILL USE THEM TO EMPTY -- LET ME JUST STEP BACK. THE NEW PROGRAM INSTALLED ALL OF THE SHARPS CONTAINERS IN THE PUBLIC REST ROOMS.

BUT PRIOR TO THAT WE'VE HAD SHARPS CONTAINERS IN OUR FACILITIES BUT IN THE BACK OF HOUSE.

WHEREAS, CUSTODIANS OR OTHERS WOULD PICK THEM UP AND DISPOSE OF THEM.

AND WE WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE VARIOUS CITY AGENCIES TO COME AND REPLACE THEM.

NOW THAT WE HAVE THEM IN ALL THE PUBLIC ROOST ROOMS WE'VE MOVED OVER TO A CONTRACT SERVICE.

>> I WOULD BE VERY INTERESTED, BECAUSE IT'S MY INTENTION TO HAVE PHARMACIES PARTICIPATE IN NEEDLE COLLECTIONS.

AND THEY BALKED AT THE GREAT EXPENSE.

YOU CAN IMAGINE RETAILERS BALKING AT THE GREAT EXPENSE. AND THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY CAN DO THIS WORK, THOSE PHARMACIES --

>> WHILE THE HEARING IS GOING ON I'LL SEE IF I CAN PULL IT UP. IT'S NOT A GREAT EXPENSE. BUT I'LL PULL IT UP.

>> THAT WOULD BE WONDERFUL. THANK YOU.

>> I THINK MICHAEL IS GOING TO TALK ABOUT STAFF TRAINING MORE.

>> SURE, FOR STAFF TRAINING WE'VE RECENTLY LAUNCHED SEVERAL INITIATIVES.

WE'VE BEEN PROVIDING MORE VOLUNTEER NARCAN TRAINING FOR ALL STAFF SYSTEMWIDE.

WE HAVE INITIATED SOME ACTIVE BYSTANDER TRAINING FOR ALL STAFF.

WE ARE BRINGING IN CONFLICT DE-ESCALATION TRAINING WHICH WE ALSO EXTENDED TO OUR CONTRACT

SECURITY OFFICERS SO THEY WILL
BE PARTICIPATING IN THAT
TRAINING, AS WELL.
AND ALSO SOME YOUTH MENTAL
HEALTH WORKSHOPS.
FOR OUR YOUTH SERVICES STAFF.
WE'VE ALSO UPDATED OUR
APPROPRIATE LIBRARY USE POLICY
AND POSTED THAT AS A TOOL FOR
STAFF TO BE ABLE TO VISUALLY LET
PEOPLE KNOW IF THEY ARE BREAKING
THE APPROPRIATE USE POLICY AND
WE ARE CONTINUING TO UPDATE OUR
INCIDENT REPORT PROCESS, AND OUR
INCIDENT REPORT WE ARE
CONTINUING TO PROVIDE INCIDENT
REPORT TRAINING TO ALL STAFF,
ESPECIALLY NEW STAFF.
WE CREATED A VIDEO SO THEY CAN
WATCH IT ONLINE BUT ALSO TO DO
IN-PERSON TRAINING AND WE'VE
IMPROVED THE RESPONSE TIME TO
ANY INCIDENT REPORT.
SO THAT MORE MANAGERS ARE
INVOLVED IN RECEIVING THE
INTERNAL REPORTS AND RESPONDING
FASTER.
>> GREAT.
AND WHAT'S THE PERCENTAGE OF
STAFF THAT'S BEEN TRAINED BOTH
ON NARCAN, ON THE BYSTANDER
TRAINING, AND THEN ALSO I THINK
ON PROPER NEEDLE PICKUP?
>> SO THE -- I CAN GET YOU THE
EXACT PERCENTAGES AT A CERTAIN
POINT.
THE NARCAN TRAINING IS
VOLUNTEER, AND WE'VE BEEN HAVING
GOOD RESPONSE TO THAT.
THE ACTIVE BYSTANDER TRAINING WE
HAVE IN LARGE GROUPS, AND THOSE
ARE ALL LARGELY FILLED, THE
TRAININGS WE HAVE SCHEDULED.
SO I THINK WE'RE DOING A VERY
GOOD JOB AND THERE'S A LOT OF
INTEREST THERE.
AND THE CONFLICT DE-ESCALATION
TRAININGS ARE A SMALLER GROUP,
BUT THEY HAVE ALL BEEN FILLED AS
WELL.
SO WE'LL BE ADDING SOME OF
THOSE.
>> BUT YOU'D LIKE NUMBERS ON ALL
OF THOSE?

>> I'M INTERESTED IN THE
PERCENTAGE OF STAFF THAT'S BEEN
TRAINED.
>> SURE, I'LL GET THAT.
>> AND THEN ON THE PROPER NEEDLE
PROTOCOL NUMBERS, AS WELL.
THANK YOU, CHAIRMAN.
THANK YOU.
>> THANK YOU.
COUNCILOR ZAKIM?
>> YES, THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN,
DAVID, TEAM, GREAT TO SEE YOU
ALL.
I HAVE A COUPLE QUESTIONS THAT
HAVE BEEN TOUCHED ON A LITTLE
BIT ALREADY.
NUMBER ONE, ON THE CENTRAL
BRANCH IN COPLEY, AND EAMON THIS
MAY BE BEST TO YOU.
BUT WHOMEVER.
AROUND SECURITY.
I KNOW YOU'VE MENTIONED THAT
YOU'VE ADDED THE OUTREACH WORKER
WHICH IS GREAT AND IT'S BEEN
VERY WELL RECEIVED IN THE
NEIGHBORHOOD.
SO THANK YOU FOR THAT.
BUT YOU KNOW, I REGULARLY GET
CALLS, E-MAILS, VISITS TO MY
OFFICE HOURS IN THE
NEIGHBORHOOD, ABOUT ACTIVITY,
PARTICULARLY ON BLAGDON STREET
ON THE SIDE AT ALL HOURS OF THE
DAY, PARTICULARLY AT NIGHT, OF
NOT JUST LOITERING, BUT DRUG
USE, DRUG SALES, SO I'M CURIOUS
WHAT THE PROTOCOL IS FOR OUR
CONTRACTED SECURITY THERE.
ON, YOU KNOW, ARE THEY
PATROLLING ON THE OUTSIDE.
IS THIS JUST THE INSIDE?
AT WHAT POINT ARE THEY CALLING
THE BOSTON POLICE FOR ASSISTANCE
TO REMOVE PEOPLE?
TRESPASSING ISSUES, THAT SORT OF
THING.

>>> SURE, SO, YEAH WE HAVE
SECURITY THAT IS -- CONTRACTED
SECURITY IN THE BUILDING.
THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY IS
THE INSIDE OF THE BUILDING.
ALTHOUGH THEY DO PATROL OUTSIDE.
THAT'S LESS SO AT NIGHT.

IN REGARD TO THEIR COLLABORATION
OR COORDINATION WITH BPD IT'S
DAILY.

OUR CONTRACT MANAGER HAS A GREAT
RELATIONSHIP WITH D-4 POLICE.

I WOULD SAY WE'VE ACTUALLY
WORKED QUITE A BIT WITH THEM ON
EFFORTS TO CLEAN UP, AND CLEAR
UP SOME OF THE ISSUES THAT WE'VE
BEEN HAVING OVERNIGHT.

WE'VE -- I FEEL LIKE WE'VE MADE
GREAT PROGRESS.

WE'VE HAD A GREAT REDUCTION IN
PEOPLE SLEEPING AND CARVING OUT
ON THE SITE OVERNIGHT.

BUT TO YOUR POINT, IT'S A
REGULAR ISSUE, AND NOW THAT THE
WEATHER IS WARMING UP, WE DO
EXPECT TO SEE AN INCREASE OF
THAT ACTIVITY.

>> DOES YOUR SECURITY ON DUTY
AFTER HOURS?

>> THEY DO, BUT AFTER HOURS WE
ARE CERTAINLY MORE LIMITED AND
REALLY PRIMARILY GUARDING THE
INSIDE OF THE BUILDING.

NOT OUTSIDE.

>> OKAY.

I THINK THAT'S -- AND I DON'T
KNOW IF THAT'S A CONTRACT OR A
FUNDING ISSUE OR WHATEVER IT IS,
BUT I CERTAINLY THINK, YOU KNOW,
DURING THE DAY, MAKING SURE
PATRONS AND EVERYONE INSIDE THE
LIBRARY, YOU KNOW, IS HAVING A
SAFE ENVIRONMENT, IS CERTAINLY
IMPORTANT.

BUT, YOU KNOW, IF WE DO HAVE
STAFF AVAILABLE, OBVIOUSLY THE
DOORS ARE LOCKED.

YOU KNOW, WALKING AROUND, YOU
KNOW, I THINK IT WOULD BE VERY
HELPFUL, I LIVE A FEW BLOCKS
AWAY, AND WALKING THROUGH, YOU
KNOW, NOT JUST A COUPLE NIGHTS
AGO, YOU KNOW, I CERTAINLY DON'T
FEEL UNSAFE, BUT I CAN SEE WHY
SOME OF MY MORE ELDERLY
NEIGHBORS SOMETIMES DO.

AND WHY IT CAN BE AN ISSUE.

SO IF IT IS FEASIBLE, UNDER THE
CURRENT CONTRACT, I WOULD
CERTAINLY ENCOURAGE THAT AFTER
HOURS IF, OBVIOUSLY, THE INSIDE

THE DOORS ARE LOCKED.
GO AROUND, AND I KNOW, AND I'VE
SEEN D-4 OUT THERE A LOT, TOO,
SO I DON'T THINK THERE'S PASSING
BLAME BUT IT CONTINUES TO BE AN
ONGOING PROBLEM, NOT JUST DURING
THE DAY.

>> WE HAVE HAD REGULAR MEETINGS
WITH THE SUB GROUP OF THE BACK
BAY ASSOCIATION WITH RESPECT TO
BEHAVIOR GENERALLY IN THE
TWO-BLOCK AREA AROUND THE
LIBRARY.

AND CERTAINLY, WE HAVE BEEN
ADVISED AND HAVE RELAYED THE
MESSAGE THAT IF ANYONE SEES ANY
ILLEGAL ACTIVITY HAPPENING THEY
SHOULD CALL 911.

AND THAT'S THE APPROPRIATE USE
FOR OUR RESIDENTS AND FOR OUR
OWN SECURITY GUARDS TO FOLLOW.
AND I THINK FROM THE LAST TWO
MEETINGS I ATTENDED, THE
ATTENDEES WERE HAPPY THAT THERE
HAD BEEN A DECREASE IN THE
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS.

AND SO, THE OPPORTUNITY NOW IS
TO CONTINUE MANAGING THE
SITUATION AS THE WARMER WEATHER
OCCURS.

>> RIGHT.

THANK YOU.

THEN ONE MORE QUESTION,
COMPLETELY DIFFERENT SUBJECT, ON
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, YOU KNOW,
I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE PARKER
HILL BRANCH IN MISSION HILL.
I WANT TO THANK YOU ALL FOR
RESPONDING, I THINK SO PROMPTLY
AND EFFECTIVELY, WHEN WE DID
HAVE A LOT OF NEIGHBORS
CONCERNED ABOUT THE SIMULTANEOUS
CLOSURE OF PARKER HILL AND
DUDLEY, WHICH WAS THE NEXT
CLOSEST FACILITY AND
PARTICULARLY THE STAFF AND THE
LIBRARIANS AT THAT BRANCH WHO
REALLY, I THINK, ADVOCATED TO
KEEP SOME SERVICES GOING NEARBY
AND PARTNERING WITH OTHER
ORGANIZATIONS IN THE
NEIGHBORHOOD.

AND I SEE HERE THAT WE'RE
PLANNING FOR A JULY REOPENING.

IS THAT STILL ON SCHEDULE?
>> CORRECT.
IT IS.
WE HAVEN'T ANNOUNCED THE
OFFICIAL DATE YET.
BUT THAT'S CORRECT.
>> THAT'S GREAT.
AND I JUST SAY, I IT'S, YOU
KNOW, PERHAPS A LESSON LEARNED.
I UNDERSTAND IT'S UNUSUAL FOR
THE TWO BRANCHES THAT ARE
CLOSEST TO EACH OTHER TO BE
CLOSED AT THE SAME TIME.
BUT YOU KNOW, MOVING FORWARD, IF
WE ARE IN SITUATIONS LIKE THIS
AGAIN, I THINK IT'S SORT OF
CAUGHT EVERYONE, PARTICULARLY
PEOPLE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, OFF
GUARD, AND AGAIN, IT'S PROBABLY
AN UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE THAT TWO
SUCH GEOGRAPHICALLY CLOSE
BRANCHES ARE GOING TO BE CLOSED
FOR THE SAME PERIOD.
BUT, I DO THINK FOR STAFF, FOR
PATRONS, YOU KNOW, WE NEED TO BE
PRO-ACTIVE ABOUT THAT.
IT WAS A LITTLE BIT OF A
SCRAMBLE THIS TIME.
AND I THINK EVERYONE ONCE WE
REALIZED WHAT WAS GOING ON WAS
MORE THAN WILLING TO HELP AND IT
WORKED OUT.
BUT IT WOULD BE NICE IF WE CAN
AVOID THAT GOING FORWARD, AND I
CERTAINLY APPRECIATE WHAT IS
GOING ON IN PARKER HILL AND
LOOKING FORWARD TO THE
REOPENING.
>> THANK YOU.
>> THANK YOU.
COUNCILOR JANEY.
>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR.
THANK YOU, DAVID, THANK YOU TO
YOUR TEAM PIP REALLY APPRECIATE
THE WORK THAT YOU ALL DO.
FOR ME, LIBRARIES ARE SO
IMPORTANT.
CERTAINLY WAS A BIG PART OF MY
CHILDHOOD, AND CERTAINLY MY
ADULTHOOD.
BUT AS A CHILD, VERY MUCH A SAFE
HAVEN.
IT'S WHERE I HAD TO GO EVERY DAY
AFTER SCHOOL, WAS TO MY LOCAL

LIBRARY.

AND SO THE LIBRARIANS, AND ALL
THOSE WHO STAFF OUR LIBRARIES
ARE AMAZING.

I'D LOVE TO JUST GIVE A QUICK
SHOUT-OUT TO A RECENT RETIREE
JOYCE KILGROW WHO IS A DEAR
FRIEND WHO WORKED AT THE DUDLEY
BRANCH.

CERTAINLY APPRECIATE HER
SERVICE.

AND ALL THE FOLKS AT THE SOUTH
END BRANCH, AS WELL.

WANTED TO ECHO SOME OF THE
COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS EARLIER
BY COUNCILOR FLYNN CONCERNING
THE SOUTH END BRANCH, SO I
UNDERSTAND THAT \$132,000 WAS
COMMITTED FOR THE FIRST PHASE.
AND THAT THE FRIENDS OF THE
SOUTH END BRANCH COMMITTED 50
BUT RAISED 90.

WHICH NEEDS TO BE COMMENDED.

>> ABSOLUTELY.

>> BUT THERE'S A BIG GAP IN
TERMS OF PHASE TWO.

AND WHAT THE ASK IS IS \$350,000.
TO MAKE SURE THAT WE GET THE
RENOVATIONS NEEDED THERE.

AND I CERTAINLY SUPPORT THEM IN
THAT ASK, AND HOPE THAT THERE IS
AN OPPORTUNITY WITHIN THIS
BUDGET TO MOVE SOME THINGS
AROUND, TO MAKE SURE THAT WE GET
THAT.

I WAS VERY ENCOURAGED THIS
MORNING, HEARING THE MAYOR TALK
ABOUT OUR LIBRARIES AT THE
COFFEE HOUR IN THE SOUTH END.
TALKING ABOUT HOW, YOU KNOW,
PEOPLE LOOK AT THE COPLEY BRANCH
AND THEY LOOK AT ALL THE
NEIGHBORHOODS DOWN HERE, BUT
THERE REALLY SHOULDN'T BE A
DIFFERENCE.

AND THAT WE WANT ALL OF OUR
LIBRARIES TO BE UP HERE, AND SO,
I CERTAINLY SUPPORT THAT.

AND WOULD HOPE THAT WE COULD
FUND THAT REQUEST.

ALSO SHARE THE COMMENTS JUST NOW
ABOUT THE CLOSING OF BOTH THE
DUDLEY LIBRARY AND THE LIBRARY
IN MISSION HILL AND HOW

DIFFICULT THAT IS FOR THE
COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY
RESIDENTS OF ROXBURY.
HAD SOME QUESTIONS JUST HOPING
THAT YOU COULD UPDATE US ON
WHERE THINGS ARE IN ROXBURY.
IN TERMS OF THE DUDLEY BRANCH.
WITH THOSE RENOVATIONS?
>> SURE.
SO AS YOU KNOW THE DUDLEY BRANCH
IS CLOSED FOR CONSTRUCTION.
THE CONTRACTOR IS ON BOARD, AND
THEY'RE IN THE DEMOLITION PHASE.
I'VE SEEN SOME PICTURES.
WE SHOULD ACTUALLY, IT WOULD BE
GREAT TO SHARE THEM.
THE BUILD SOMETHING COMPLETELY
CLEANED OUT AND READY FOR A
BEAUTIFUL RENOVATION.
ALSO, SOME OF THE EXTERIOR ART
THAT A LOT OF THE COMMUNITY
MEMBERS HAD SOME CONCERNS ABOUT
HAS NOW BEEN TAKEN DOWN AND
STORED SAFELY.
AND WE ARE SET FOR A SPRING 2020
REOPENING OF THE DUDLEY BRANCH
LIBRARY.
>> AND THAT'S WONDERFUL.
I'M CERTAINLY LOOKING FORWARD TO
THE OPENING.
IT IS A LONG TIME FROM NOW,
THOUGH.
AND YOU KNOW, WANT TO KNOW WHAT
PLANS ARE IN PLACE IN TERMS OF
PARTNERSHIPS, IN TERMS OF
POP-UPS FOR SERVICES PAP CORDING
TO THIS FACT SHEET HERE, WE KNOW
THAT THE DUDLEY BRANCH HAD THE
MOST WI-FI SESSIONS.
AND A LOT OF OUR SENIORS, A LOT
OF RESIDENTS, WHO DON'T HAVE
ACCESS TO INTERNET, WHO DON'T
HAVE COMPUTERS, WHO ARE NOT READ
E-MAIL WITHOUT GOING TO A
LIBRARY, CAN'T PRINT SOMETHING
OUT, WERE UTILIZING THE DUDLEY
BRANCH LIBRARY, AND SO I'M JUST
WONDERING, WAS THERE ANY THOUGHT
GIVEN TO UTILIZING SOME OF THE
MAYBE NONPROFIT NEIGHBORS OR THE
BOLLING BUILDING WHICH IS CLOSE
BY TO ENSURE THAT RESIDENTS
WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE THOSE
SERVICES THAT THE DUDLEY LIBRARY

PROVIDED?

>> I'D LIKE TO ASK PRISLELY FOLEY WHO IS HERE TODAY WHO IS OUR DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES, SHE OVERSEES ALL THE BRANCHES, TO JOIN US AT ONE OF THE MICROPHONES AND BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO THAT QUESTION. I THINK THERE HAS BEEN SOME PROGRAMMING SIMILAR TO THE PARKER HILL EXPERIENCE WHERE STAFF AND THE FRIENDS GROUP, AND INDEED PARTNERS IN THE COMMUNITY, HAVE CONTINUED DOING ON A LIMITED BASIS SOME OF THE SERVICE OFFERINGS.

PRISCILLA?

>> GOOD AFTERNOON.

WE ACTUALLY HAVE SEEN AN INCREASE IN COMPUTER USAGE AT OUR EGGLESTON BRANCH, AND OUR GROVE HALL BRANCH WHICH IS ACTUALLY ALREADY HAD A PRETTY HIGH COMPUTER USAGE. SO WE HAVE SEEN A SHIFT OF THAT TO OTHER BRANCHES. IN ADDITION WE HAVE STAFF THAT ARE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD STILL TEACHING COMPUTER CLASSES. AND HAVING BOOK TALKS AND DO STORYTIME. SO USING ALL OF THOSE AMAZING SERVICES THAT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD STILL, AND STAFF ARE CONNECTING ON A WEEKLY BASIS WITH THOSE -- WITH THOSE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS.

>> THAT'S WONDERFUL TO HEAR. I THINK ANYTHING ELSE THAT WE CAN DO IN TERMS OF MAKING SURE THAT ACCESS TO BOOKS, TO THE INTERNET, TO COMPUTER SERVICES, IN THE ACTUAL DUDLEY AREA WOULD BE HELPFUL, AS WELL, AND HAPPY TO HELP YOU THINK ABOUT WHAT THAT MIGHT LOOK LIKE OFFLINE. I REALLY APPRECIATE THAT, YOU KNOW, THE THOUGHT AND CONSIDERATION GIVEN, BECAUSE I KNOW FOR SO MANY RESIDENTS, IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD, THEY REALLY COUNT ON THE LIBRARY TO GET ACCESS TO THOSE THINGS. JUST A COUPLE MORE QUESTIONS.

REGARDING THE DUDLEY LIBRARY, IF YOU COULD TALK ABOUT THE CONSTRUCTION, YOU TALKED ABOUT THE DEMOLITION, WHICH I SEE EVERY DAY, AND THE SIDEWALK IS LIKE COMPLETELY GONE AS I SAW THIS MORNING.

WORKERS THERE.

I WAS AT A RECENT BECK HEARING AND I UNDERSTAND THIS IS A \$14.7 MILLION PROJECT.

THERE WERE CONCERNS RAISED ABOUT THE DIVERSITY OF THE WORKERS THERE, AND ALSO THE MBE AND WBE AND THAT THIS SITE, THIS PROJECT WAS NOT MEETING THE GOALS.

AND I WAS JUST HOPING THAT THERE WAS A PLAN IN PLACE TO MAKE SURE THAT WE HIT THOSE GOALS.

CAN YOU SPEAK TO THAT?

>> WELL, SO THE PUBLIC FACILITIES DEPARTMENT IS RUNNING THE CONSTRUCTION, AND SO THEY WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT. I KNOW THEY PARTICIPATE IN THOSE PROGRAMS AND REGULARLY GET UPDATES SO I'M HAPPY TO GATHER THE NEXT UPDATE, AND THEN SHARE IT WITH YOU.

>> I APPRECIATE THAT.

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

MR. CHAIR?

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR CAMPBELL.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR CIOMMO. AND THANK YOU GUYS FOR BEING HERE.

DAVID, THANK YOU AND YOUR INCREDIBLE TEAM FOR THE HARD WORK THAT YOU GUYS DO.

I JUST HAD A QUESTION THAT'S -- PROBABLY UNRELATED TO THE SPECIFICS OF THE BUDGET.

AND IT HAS TO DO WITH THIS PRESERVATION OF BOOKS.

AND ONE, HOW DO YOU SORT OF PRESERVE BOOKS WITHIN THE LIBRARY SPACE?

AND WHY I ASK THAT IS GIVEN MY NEW ROLE HERE IN THE COUNCIL, SOME OF OUR AWESOME CENTRAL STAFF MEMBERS, SOME OF WHOM ARE RIGHT BACK THERE RUNNING THIS BUDGET HEARING HAVE ASKED

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BOOKS
RELATED TO THE COUNCIL.
AND WE DO NOT HAVE THE RESOURCES
TO PRESERVE THOSE BOOKS AT ALL
AND IT WOULD BE, I THINK A
SHAME, IF THEY WERE TO
QUOTE/UNQUOTE DIE OR SORT OF
FALL APART.

SO I'M JUST CURIOUS AS TO WHAT
THE LIBRARY DOES IN TERMS OF
PRESERVATION OF ITS OWN BOOKS,
BOTH FOR ANY DEPARTMENTS IN THE
CITY, AND WHAT APPETITE THERE
MIGHT BE FOR LOOKING AT BOOKS
FOR THE COUNCIL.

>> SURE.

LAURA WOULD YOU LIKE TO TALK TO
A GENERAL LEVEL AND THEN WE CAN
MAKE SOME SPECIFIC OFFERINGS?

>> ALL RIGHT, THANK YOU, LAURA.

>> SO MOST OF OUR SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS ARE HELD EITHER AT
THE CENTRAL LIBRARY IN COPLEY
SQUARE OR AT OUR OFFSITE STORAGE
FACILITY IN WEST ROXBURY AT THE
ARCHIVAL CENTER.

SO WE ADDRESS THE PRESERVATION
OF MATERIALS IT THROUGH THE
CLIMATE.

AND THAT'S THE DRIVING FORCE OF
OUR RENOVATION TO OUR RARE BOOKS
DEPARTMENT.

SO WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT
THEY'RE IN A CLIMATE WHERE THE
TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY IS
CONTROLLED.

THAT IT'S STEADY.

AND THAT IT'S AT THE APPROPRIATE
LEVEL SO THERE'S NO DEGRADATION
TO THE MATERIAL.

WE ALSO ADDRESS IT THROUGH THE
HOUSING OF OUR MATERIALS.

SO IF IT'S DOCUMENTS WE WANT TO
MAKE SURE THAT THEY'RE IN ACID
FREE FOLDERS, THAT THEY'RE IN
THE APPROPRIATE CONTAINERS THAT
ARE GOING TO PROTECT THE
MATERIAL FROM ANY FLUCTUATIONS
OR CHANGES.

WE WANT TO THINK ABOUT LIGHT
EXPOSURE.

AGAIN, DEPENDING ON THE TYPE OF
MATERIAL, IF IT'S BOOKS, WE'LL
THINK ABOUT THE SHELVING THAT

IT'S ON TO MAKE SURE THAT IT'S
SHELVED IN THE APPROPRIATE WAY
SO IT'S NOT BREAKING THE
BINDINGS OF THE BOOKS.
SO WE LOOK AT IT FROM -- FIRST
FROM THE FORMAT OF WHETHER ALL
OF THE CONDITIONS THAT ARE
NECESSARY TO MAKE SURE THAT
WE'RE NOT ADDING TO THE
DETERIORATION OF ANY MATERIALS.
AND WE ALSO HAVE WITHIN THE
CENTRAL LIBRARY WE HAVE A
CONSERVATION LAB WHERE WE HAVE A
TEAM THAT ARE WORKING ON THE
CONSERVATION OF OUR EXISTING
COLLECTION.

SO THERE ARE THINGS WE'VE HAD
FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS THAT HAVE
DETERIORATED OVER TIME.
SO WE HAVE STAFF THAT ARE
WORKING ON THAT, WHETHER IT'S
THROUGH PAPER CONSERVATION,
THROUGH BINDINGS, ADDRESSING ANY
DAMAGE THAT HAS OCCURRED AND
PRESERVING IT, AND WE ALSO
CONTRACT WITH OUTSIDE SERVICES
IF IT'S SOMETHING THAT'S EITHER
JUST SIZE AND SCOPE, THAT'S
SOMETHING THAT WE NEED TO
ADDRESS THAT WAY.

>> WE'D BE HAPPY TO CONSULT, AT
LEAST, OF WHAT YOUR CONCERNS
ARE.

I ALSO, AS OF MY ROLE, HAPPEN TO
SERVE ON THE CITY'S RECORDS AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION, AND SO
THERE ARE OTHER RESOURCES THAT
CAN BE BROUGHT TO BEAR,
DEPENDING ON WHAT YOUR NEEDS
ARE.

AND DEPENDING ON WHAT THE
RECORDS RETENTION OBLIGATIONS
ARE FOR THE ITEMS IN QUESTION.

>> NOW, THANK YOU.

THIS IS EXTREMELY HELPFUL.
AND LASTLY, SOME OF THESE BOOKS
HAVE BEEN ELECTRONICALLY --
THEY'RE STARTING TO
ELECTRONICALLY UPLOAD SOME OF
THE MATERIALS, AS WELL TO
PRESERVE THEM THAT WAY.

I'M CURIOUS AS TO WHAT YOU DO ON
YOUR END IN SORT OF CREATING
DIGITAL FORMS OF THESE BOOKS.

OR YOUR SPECIAL COLLECTIONS.
>> SO WE HAVE A DIGITIZATION PROGRAM.
SO WE HAVE STAFF WITHIN OUR --
CONDITION CONTENT DISCOVERY DEPARTMENT THAT WORK ON THE DIGITIZATION OF OUR OWN COLLECTIONS.
AND WE ALSO HAVE A STATEWIDE PROGRAM THROUGH THE LIBRARY FOR THE COMMONWEALTH WHERE WE DIGITIZE OTHER LIBRARY'S MATERIALS AND THOSE ARE ALL HOSTED ON DIGITAL COMMONWEALTH WHICH IS A WEBSITE THAT IS ACCESSIBLE FREELY WHERE LIBRARIES ACROSS THE STATE HAVE THEIR COLLECTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC, SO YOU CAN SEARCH ACROSS INSTITUTIONS AND FIND THINGS.
DEPENDING ON THE COPY RIGHT STATUS.
YOU COULD DOWNLOAD THINGS OR IF IT'S STILL IN COPYRIGHT YOU MIGHT JUST BE ABLE TO VIEW THE THINGS.
BUT IT'S A WAY FOR OUR INSTITUTION TO PROMOTE OUR OWN WORKS, FOR OTHER LIBRARIES TO USE THE RESOURCES THROUGH THE LIBRARY FOR THE COMMONWEALTH TO DIGITIZE THEIR OWN COLLECTIONS. AND THEN FOR USERS TO BE ABLE TO FIND THINGS AND MAKE THE CONNECTIONS ACROSS INSTITUTIONS. VERY HELPFUL.
I JUST LEARNED A GREAT DEAL.
>> DO YOU RECALL ESSAIBI GEORGE?
THANK YOU, CHAIR.
COUPLE OF QUESTIONS ABOUT LIBRARY SERVICES AS OPPOSED TO ALL OF THE OTHER WORK THAT YOU DO AND CAN JUST DEMONSTRATE OR CHANGE IN TIME.
COULD YOU TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT BRANCH LIBRARIES.
I THINK THERE IS OFTEN SOMETIMES DISCONNECT BETWEEN THE TWO.
WE WANT TO BE ABLE TO CELEBRATE BOTH EQUALLY.
>> WE AGREE.
I'LL ASK MIKE TOLL TALK ABOUT THAT BECAUSE THERE'S MANAGER OF

THE CENTRAL LIBRARY AND WE ALSO WHO MANAGES A BRANCH. HE IS THE POINT OF WHICH THAT COMES TOGETHER FROM SERVICES POINT OF VIEW.

>> WE TRY REALLY HARD AS YOU KNOW THAT EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD HAS IT'S OWN DISTINCT FLAVOR. HAS A LOT OF UNIQUE ATTRIBUTES. WE TRY IN THE BRANCHES TO -- WE TRY TO PROVIDE NICE CONSISTENT HIGH LEVEL OF SERVICE THAT YOU CAN FIND IN ANY LOCATION YOU GO TO WHETHER IT'S CENTRAL LIBRARY OR ANY BRANCH.

AT THE SAME TIME WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT WE'RE CELEBRATING THE DIVERSITY OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS ALLOW BRANCHES TO HAVE FREEDOM TO REALLY, WHETHER IT'S IN THEIR COLLECTIONS OR PROGRAMS OR ETHNICITY OF THEIR USERS. BUT THE MANAGERS WHO OVERSEE THE SERVICES THAT WE PROVIDE ARE GENERALLY THINKING ABOUT SERVICE SYSTEM-WIDE.

WHILE WE HAVE STACK IN NEIGHBORHOOD THAT OVERSEES THE STAFF THAT WORK IN THE BRANCHES, WE HAVE OUR YOUTH SERVICES MANAGER WHO IS ACTUALLY THINKING OF THE SERVICES ACROSS THE ENTIRE SYSTEM AND OUR LITERACY IS ACROSS SYSTEMS.

WE THINK OF THE SERVICES WE DELIVER UNIFORMLY ACROSS THE ENTIRE SYSTEM IN ALL LOCATIONS. THE CENTRAL LIBRARY HAS INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF RESOURCES WITH REGARD TO COLLECTIONS AND SOME OF THE LAB IN TEAM CENTRAL WE HAVE THERE.

BUT IT IS A DESTINATION FOR MANY PEOPLE WHEREVER THEY LIVE IN THE CITY OR OUTSIDE OF THE CITY WE HAVE FOUND PARTICULARLY FOR TEENS THAT COPLEY SQUARE IS A BIT OF A HUB WHEN THEY COME BACK FROM WHATEVER NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL THEY OFTEN LAND IN BACK BAY STATION BEFORE THEY HEAD HOME TO THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD. WE SEE THEM COME IN THE AFTERNOON AND USE THE RESOURCES

WE HAVE AT CENTRAL LIBRARY.
BUT WHEN WE HAVE OUR MEETINGS
AROUND SERVICES, WE BRING OUR
BRANCH AND CENTRAL STAFF
TOGETHER SO THEY CAN SHARE THEIR
IDEAS AND SHARE THEIR SPECIAL
RESOURCES WE HAVE WITH OUR
BRANCH COLLEAGUES.

>> WHO DETERMINES WHERE
COLLECTIONS, FOR EXAMPLE, LAND,
THINKING ABOUT THE CULTURE OF
EACH OF THOSE BRANCH LIBRARIES
AND THE COMMUNITY NEEDS.

>> WE HAVE A BIT OF A HA HYBRID
SYSTEM.

WE HAVE COLLECTION DEPARTMENT
THAT MANAGES THE COLLECTION
SYSTEM-WIDE AND SO THEY ARE
ORDERING A LOT OF THE MATERIALS.
THEN LIBRARIANS AT EVERY
LOCATION THAT ALSO ORDER
MATERIALS FOR THEIR LOCATIONS.
AND IN REGULAR COMMUNICATION
WITH THE STAFF AT EACH BRANCH TO
TALK ABOUT GENERAL TRENDS ABOUT
THE MATERIAL THEY MIGHT BE IT'S
COMBINATION OF TALKING WITH THE
STAFF, HEARING FROM THE
COMMUNITY, LOOKING AT THE DATA,
WHERE WE'RE SEEING MATERIALS
MOVING AROUND THE SYSTEM.

THEN WE ALSO HAVE SOME
COLLECTIONS THAT AREN'T
PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED TO ANY
LOCATION SO THEY FLOAT FROM
LOCATION TO LOCATION.
IT WILL STAY THERE UNTIL IT
MOVES ALONG.

WE TRACK THE DATA THAT WAY TO
SEE HOW PEOPLE ARE MOVING THE
COLLECTIONS AROUND THE SYSTEM.

>> THERE IS ALSO PATRON REQUEST
FORM.

CAN REQUEST SPECIFIC ITEMS GET
ADDED TO THE COLLECTION ALSO.

>> WHAT ABOUT PROGRAM DECISION
MAKING WHICH WAS REALLY TO
EXTEND EACH OF THE BRANCHES
VERSUS CENTRAL.

>> EACH BRANCH LOCATION DOES
HAVE BUDGE TOTE DO THEIR OWN
PROGRAMMING TWO WHO WORK, ONE IS
IN CHARGE.

ADULT PROGRAMMING OTHER IN

CHARGE OF YOUTH PROGRAMMING.
THEY WORK VERY CLOSELY WITH THE
BRANCHES TO PROVIDE BLOCK
PROGRAMMING.
ALSO GIVES US THE OPPORTUNITY TO
BRING IN PEOPLE WHETHER IT'S
AUTHORS OR MUSICIANS OR WHATEVER
PROGRAM WE'RE DOING THEY CAN
VISIT MULTIPLE LOCATIONS THEN
CAN BE COORDINATED THROUGH
CENTRAL BLOCK PROGRAMMING TEAMS.
>> WE HAVE TWO TRUCKS MOVING
PROGRAMMING AROUND.
ONE IS THE TRUCK, OTHER IS
HUMANITIES TRUST, I CAN'T
REMEMBER WHAT THE DISTRIBUTION
IS.
I THINK OUR BUDGET DIRECTOR
TELLING US 200,000 ANNUALLY.
BOTH AT CENTRAL AND LIBRARY AT
THE BRANCHES.
THEN WE DO HAVE SOME --
>> IS THERE A LUMP SUM GIVEN TO
EACH BRANCH BOTH FOR PROGRAMMING
AND PROGRAMMING SUPPORT.
>> SO THEY CAN BUY THE MATERIALS
THAT THEY NEED.
THEN WE HAVE FEW SPECIFIC ONES,
OUR SPECIALTY ONES, FOR EXAMPLE,
LAST NUMBER OF YEARS THROUGH
FOUNDATION WE'VE RECEIVED FENWAY
MONEY, RED SOX GIVE US THOSE
TICKETS THEN -- ALSO HAD SOME
MONEY TO DO SOME PROGRAMMING
AROUND THAT AS MICHAEL SAID WE
DO YOUTH BLOCK PROGRAMMING AND
THAT I THINK WAS \$50,000 THAT
ALSO CAME THROUGH THE
FOUNDATION.
>> DOES THAT DISTRIBUTION
DEMONSTRATE AT ALL IN THE
BUDGETING REPORT?
>> IF YOU LOOK IN THE OPERATING
BUDGET AND YOU SEE TRUST FUND
INCOME, THAT WOULD TELL YOU HOW
MUCH WE EXPECT TO SPEND OUT OF
THE TRUST FUNDS.
WE DON'T SPEND ALL OF THE DID I
TRIBUICKS EVERY YEAR.
WE HAVE APPROXIMATELY JUST UNDER
200 -- 80% ARE RESTRICTED.
>> WOULDN'T SHOW AGGREGATED
COSTS.
BUT WE CAN CERTAINLY SHOW YOU

STAFFING THAT SORT OF THING.
>> THE WAY THAT THE SCHOOL IS
BUDGE FOR OUR PURPOSES IS ONE
PAGER.
>> A LITTLE BIT LONGER THAN
THAT.
I WOULD IMAGINE AT EACH BRANCH
LIBRARIAN HAS SOME AUTONOMY AND
SOME AUTHORITY OVER HIS OR HER
BUDGET.
>> THAT IS AT THE DISCRETION OF
THE LOCAL TEAM BUT THE MODEL
THAT THE SCHOOL USE NOT MODEL
THAT WE HAVE USED TO DATE FOR
BUDGETING PURPOSES.
>> IF YOU JUST REMIND ME HOW
MANY -- THERE'S CENTRAL AND THEN
HOW MANY BRANCHES?
>> 25 BRANCHES WITH THE RECENT
ADDITION BACK OF CHINATOWN SINCE
1956.
>> WHICH WE'RE ALL VERY EXCITED
ABOUT.
>> LEGITIMATE OPENINGS.
THERE ARE ALWAYS A NUMBER OF
VACANCIES IN THE SYSTEM.
SYSTEM MOI PROVIDE AN
OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW HIRE TO THE
SYSTEM I DON'T HAVE THAT
MATERIAL IN FRONT OF ME TODAY TO
TELL YOU EXACTLY HOW MANY THERE
ARE.
>> GENERALLY FULLY STAFFED OR
UNDER STAFFED?
AT ANY MOMENT IN TIME THIS MAY
BE SOME GAPS IN SERVICE WE FILL
THOSE THROUGH FLOATING POSITIONS
SO THAT WE HAVE MINIMUM WHICH
EACH LOCATION MUST BE AT IN
ORDER TO BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
>> THE SPECIFICALLY GOING TO
NETWORK UPGRADE.
SO WE CONTINUE TO TRY TO KEEP
PACE WITH THE DEMAND IN THE
COMMUNITY.
CERTAINLY IN THE LAST SEVERAL
YEARS WE'VE SEEN PEOPLE START
BRINGING MULTIPLE DEVICES AS
OPPOSED TO JUST WANTING TO USE A
LAPTOP AND SO IT'S REALLY, THE
TOTAL NUMBER OF SESSIONS ACTIVE
AT ANY ONE TIME THAT WE SEE AN
INCREASE IN, IT'S SOMETHING WE
KEEP AN EYE ON.

MORE LIKELY AT THE CENTRAL LIBRARY WHERE A LOT OF PEOPLE MAYBE DURING SCHOOL FINALS WEEK, LOT OF PEOPLE ACCESSING THE SYSTEM AT ONE TIME.

AND WE DO HAVE THE ABILITY TO ADD HIGHER DENSITY ACCESS POINTS AS NEEDED.

AND OUR NETWORK MR. MANAGER TRIES TO KEEP UP WITH THAT.

>> I KNOW MY COLLEAGUE ADVOCATED FOR IT BUT I DO KNOW THAT WE'VE RECEIVED PUBLIC TESTIMONY ABOUT DESIRE FOR A GREATER INVESTMENT IN THE SOUTH END BRANCH.

THEN LOTS OF EXCITEMENT AROUND THE RENOVATION AT ALL THE LIBRARIES THAT HAVE BEEN WORKED ON, THE ROSLINDALE LIE BURY PARTICULARLY.

>> AND THANNIAL HALL.

-- THE AUCTION WHICH IS A WHOLE LOT OF FUN.

AND THIS IS MY THIRD BUDGET NOW ON THE COUNCIL.

LAST TWO YEARS HAS BEEN GREAT DEAL OF ADVOCACY AROUND THE CHINATOWN LIBRARY THERE'S LOT HAPPINESS THAT THAT IS UNDERWAY.

>> THIS IS MY 11th AND IT'S BEEN THAT LONG ADVOCATING FOR CHINATOWN LIBRARY.

I KNOW IT'S A LONG TIME COMING.

>> ALL THE OTHER LIBRARIES.

HOW MANY GROUPS ARE THERE?

THERE'S ONE FOR EVERY BRANCH

AND THERE IS ALSO THE CITY WIDE

TRENDS TO NOT ONLY SUPPORT SOME

OF THE PROGRAMS SYSTEM-WIDE IN

THAT CENTRAL BUT ALSO REGRANT ON

OCCASION BACK TO SOME OF THE

BRANCH LOCATIONS ALSO.

>> JUST ONE LAST THING.

YOU SPOKE ABOUT EARLIER THE

SMALLER RENOVATIONS BUNDLING

THEM, I THINK A SMART IDEA.

WHAT ABOUT THE LARGER

RENOVATIONS, ARE THEY GOING TO

BE PICKED THROUGH PUBLIC

FACILITIES ARE YOU GOING TO BE

--

>> THAT'S CORRECT.

THE LARGER PROJECTS WILL BE RUN

THROUGH PUBLIC FACILITIES AND

INTERNALLY --

>> OKAY.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR TIME
AND TESTIMONY FOR THE PANEL, FOR
YOUR TEAM MEMBERS AND AUDIENCE
AND ESPECIALLY FOR THE STAFF OUT
IN THE FIELD.

THE FRIENDS GROUPS.

I THINK THIS HAS BEEN WONDERFUL
GROWTH IN THE LIBRARY SYSTEM
FROM WHERE WE WERE SEEMS LIKE
NOT THAT LONG AGO IT WAS ABOUT
EIGHT YEARS AGO WE WERE TALKING
ABOUT CLOSING BRANCHES AND SUCH.
I WANT TO THANK YOU, YOU AND
YOUR TEAM.

I'M GOING TO PUBLIC TESTIMONY
NOW.

YOU GUYS CAN FEEL FREE TO SIT
BACK AND.

ALYSSA.

LYDIA.

EITHER ONE THAT'S CLOSER.
AND MARLENE IN THAT ORDER.

>> THIS IS MUCH EASIER.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME HEARING
THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.
I'M A MEMBER OF LOCAL 1526 THE
HARD WORKING MEMBERS THAT THE
BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE LIBRARY SYSTEM, PAINTERS,
MOVERS, CUSTODIANS AND CLERICAL
WORKERS WHO SHOW UP EVERY DAY.
ASK TO HELP EVERYONE TO WALK
THROUGH THE DOORS REGARDLESS OF
THE SITUATION.

AND THEY DO, SOMETIMES AT RISK
TO THEMSELVES.
YOU HEARD ABOUT THE NEEDLE PICK
UP.

I HAD ONE OF MY MOTHERS WHO WAS
STUCK BY A NEEDLE AND HAD TO GO
THROUGH PROTOCOL.

WE DON'T EVER WANT THAT TO
HAPPEN.

THE FACE OF PUBLIC SERVICE IN
THE CITY OF BOSTON, I THINK ASK
YOU TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE
WORK THAT WE DO.

WE HAVE SHOWN SUPPORT FOR THE
LIBRARY, THANK YOU FOR THAT.

IT'S NOT ENOUGH.

I'LL BE THE ONE TO SAY IT WE ARE

UNDERSTAFFED WE DO NOT HAVE
ENOUGH STAFF TO STAFF OUR
CURRENT FACILITIES.
TALK ABOUT RENOVATIONS, WE DON'T
HAVE ENOUGH STAFF FOR THAT
EITHER.
WE ARE STILL UNDERSTAFFED AT THE
JAMAICA PLAINS AND EAST BOSTON
BRANCH EXPECT UNLESS SOMETHING
CHANGES IN TERMS OF BUDGET AND
ADVOCACY WE WILL BE UNDER
STAFFED.
OPEN PARKER HILL AND OTHER
BRANCHES IN THE FUTURE.
I DON'T HAVE STUFF TO PERFORM
BASIC MAIN CONTINUANCE ON OUR
BUILDINGS NEVER MIND THE
RENOVATIONS THAT ARE COMING
THROUGH PUBLIC FACILITIES.
LAST YEAR I SENT IN RATHER IN
2009 AND 2010 TOOK ONE OF THE
HARDEST HITS IN THE CITY OF
BOSTON FOR BUDGET AND STAFFING
LEVELS WE STILL HAVE NOT
RECOVERED.
AGAIN I ASK YOU, ASK THE
LIBRARY, ASK THE MAYOR'S OFFICE
TO PUT BACK IN THE BUDGET MORE
POSITIONS NEEDED FOR FRONT LINE
STAFF.
OUR NEIGHBORHOODS DESERVE
BETTER.
DESERVE TO HAVE SOMEBODY
DEDICATED TO HELPING, LIKE WE
DID AT THE JP BRANCH, WE
SHOULDN'T HAVE TO USE --
ROTATING THEY DON'T GET TO KNOW
THE NEIGHBORHOOD ON REGULAR
BASIS.
THE NEIGHBORHOODS COME IN THEY
CAN SEE THE SAME PEOPLE DAY IN
AND DAY OUT.
STILL CLOSING BRANCHES FOR LUNCH
HOURS.
AGAIN, WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH
BODIES.
EXTERNAL FUNDING SHOULD NOT BE
USED TO FUND THESE POSITIONS
THAT ARE ESSENTIAL TO CORE
OVERALL FUNCTION OF LIBRARY.
THEY SHOULD BE PAID BY
DEPARTMENT FUNDING.
IF YOU LOOK AT THE BUDGET THAT
IS PUT BEFORE YOU WE HAVE

DEPARTMENTAL BUDGETS AND WE HAVE EXTERNAL.

EXTERNAL ARE THOSE OTHER TRUST FUNDS I THINK YOU HEARD ABOUT LOOKING FOR FUND KNOWLEDGE.

I ASK YOU TO GO BACK TO THE MAYOR'S OFFICE TO ASK FOR WELCOME SERVICES POSITION.

UNFORTUNATELY WE CANNOT STAFF MOST OF THE TIME.

BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH PEOPLE TO FILL IT OR HOURS IN THE DAY TO COVER THAT.

AND THESE ARE EXTERNAL POSITIONS.

THESE ARE THE FOLKS WHO FIGURED OUT, WE SPEAK SPANISH AND OTHER LANGUAGES WHICH IS SIGNIFICANTLY HELPFUL FOR VISITORS THAT KNOW, I CAN JUST START SPEAKING TO YOU IN SPANISH GET THAT INFORMATION THAT I NEED.

YET WE CAN'T FUND THAT.

WE FORGET SOMETIMES I THINK THAT THESE POSITIONS ARE FUNDED EXTERNALLY.

OUR CAN DECIDE NO LONGER WANT TO FUND THAT IT WILL LEAD TO LAYOFFS.

WHERE AT THE END OF THE DAY, THEY WILL GO BACK TO ORIGINAL POSITIONS AND SOMEBODY AT THE END OF THE DAY WILL WALK OUT THE DOOR WITHOUT A JOB.

WE CAN'T FORGET THAT.

WE SHOULDN'T EVEN BE CONSIDERING THAT.

WE'VE HAD -- STILL PLENTY OF WORK TO DO.

YOU HEARD ABOUT THE CORNER BRANCH.

WE NEED TEMPORARY SPACE NOW. DETRIMENT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD. OUR NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY DOES NOT DESERVE THAT NEITHER DOES BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

LOOK AT THE STAFFING LEVELS FOR THE MEMBERS ACROSS THE LIBRARY. WE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO AS I SAID WE SEE THE PEOPLE WALKING IN THE DOOR, DELIVERING THE BOOKS AROUND THE SYSTEM WHICH HAS INCREASED.

WE NEED PEOPLE TO DO THOSE JOBS

AND WE NEED THAT IN THE
DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.
>> THANK YOU.

LYDIA.

>> I GUESS I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF
THE FRIENDS OF THE CHINATOWN
LIBRARY AND I'D BE HAPPY TO
REPORT TO THE REST OF OUR BOARD
HOW MANY TIMES THAT NEW
CHINATOWN BRANCH WAS MENTIONED
HERE.

IT'S BEAUTIFUL.

IT'S BEING UTILIZED.

PEOPLE ARE JUST SO HAPPY TO HAVE
LIBRARY SERVICES IN THE
COMMUNITY AGAIN.

AND WE WERE LOOKING FORETOWARD
TO WE HOPE IN THE FUTURE SOME
EVENING HOURS AND LOOKING
FORWARD TO WORKING TOGETHER WITH
BPO ON I'M HAPPY TO SEE THE
STUDY IN THE CAPITAL BUDGET SO
THAT EVEN AS WE ARE STILL
CELEBRATING THE NEW SPACE THAT
WE CONTINUE TO MOVE LONG TERM
VISION FORWARD.

THANK YOU.

MARLENE.

>> HELLO.

MARLENE.

TEN OR 11 YEARS AGO I WAS HERE,
FROM CHINATOWN ASKING FOR
FUNDING AND JUST NOT GETTING IT.
THIS IS MY ADVOCACY BUSINESS,
DON HABER WHO I THINK WAS READY
FOR THE LIBRARY IN JP.

CHINATOWN HAS ITS LIBRARY, JP
HAS ITS LIBRARY AND SOUTH END
LIBRARY IS ON ITS WAY TO REALLY
NICE RENOVATION AS WELL.

FIRST OF ALL I REALLY WANT TO
THANK THE MAYOR AND HIS
ADMINISTRATION FOR MAKING THIS
EXTRAORDINARY COMMITMENT TO THE
IMPROVEMENT OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC
LIBRARY SYSTEM AND ITS BRANCHES.
ONE ONE OF THE FEW CIVIC SPACES
THAT IS LEFT IN OUR
NEIGHBORHOOD.

THEY DON'T HAVE TO BUY SOMETHING
TO BE THERE.

AND LIBRARIES ARE ALSO PLACES
THAT REJUVENATE NEIGHBORHOODS.

PEOPLE WANT TO MOVE WHERE
LIBRARIES ARE.
THEY MAKE THOSE NEIGHBORHOODS
BETTER, MORE VALUABLE AND I
REALLY THANK THE MAYOR FOR THIS,
I ALSO THANK OUR COUNCILORS FOR
STANDING UP FOR THEIR LIBRARIES,
COUNCILOR FLYNN, I KNOW
COUNCILOR BAKER AS WELL.
IN THE LAST -- I WANT TO THANK
AS WELL JACOB LEONARD AND HIS
TEAM.

IN THE LAST YEAR OR TWO WE HAVE
BEEN TALKING HOW TO GET THE
SOUTH END BRANCH RENOVATED.
DIFFICULT POPULATION WITH MENTAL
HEALTH AND ADDICTION AND OTHER
ISSUES THAT ARE ESPECIALLY
DIFFICULT IN SUCH A SPACE.
WHICH WE EXPRESSED TO DAVID AND
HIS TEAM AND THE MAYOR AND OUR
COUNCILORS THEY HAVE RESPONDED.
BASICALLY, WE FORMED A
PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FOR
THE FIRST TIME IN BOSTON TO
RAISE CAPITAL MONEY TO PHASE IN
THE RENOVATION WITHOUT PUSHING
ASIDE OTHER PLANNED PROJECTS
THAT ARE ALSO VERY MUCH NEEDED
IN THE OTHER NEIGHBORHOODS.
THE FIRST PHASE WHERE THEY HAVE
HEARD AN ALLOCATION IN THE
PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR OF 132,000.
WE RAISED 90.
MONEY IS COMING IN.
WHAT THIS SHOWS IS THAT THERE IS
AN EXTRAORDINARY COMMITMENT AND
ABILITY TO PAY FOR GREAT
RESOURCE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD
SUCH AS A LIBRARY.
THE SECOND PHASE OF OUR
TWO-PHASE RENOVATION FOR
INTERIOR.
THE TOTAL PROJECT OF THE TWO
PHASES WOULD BE ESTIMATED TO BE
ABOUT \$650,000.
182,000 FOR FIRST PHASE IS ON
ITS WAY.
WHAT WE NEED IS \$350 FROM THE
CITY IN THE BUDGET.
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE FY19 IT BE
CAN BE FY20 AND '21.
THE REASON WHY WE WANT TO
CONTINUE RAISING MONEY

PRIVATELY.

THIS TIME FROM THE BUSINESS
COMMUNITY THAT IS READY TO
ASSIST.

WE WANT TO RAISE 100,000 FROM
THEM TO COMPLETE THIS RE
RENOVATION.

THE REASON WHY FIRST PHASE
FUNDRAISING IS SO SUCCESSFUL
THAT FIRST OF ALL WE HAVE
PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP WITH
FUNDRAISING COMMUNITY THAT IS
INCLUDED DAVID LEONARD AND
COUNCILORS, NUMBER OF REALTORS
AND COMMUNITY ICONS, REALLY.

THIS IS WHAT WE NEED FOR THE
SECOND PHASE WHEN NEXT DONORS
COMING UP ARE AT OUR PROPOSAL.
THEY NEED TO SEE THAT IT IS A
PUBLIC COMMITMENT.

THIS IS WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO
INSERT THE ADDITIONAL \$350 INTO
THE -- \$350,000 BUDGET FOR.

I CAN TALK ENDLESSLY ABOUT
LIBRARIES AND HOW EXCITED I AM
ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE
SOUTH END.

BUT IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS
I'D BE GLAD TO ANSWER IT.

>> THANK YOU.

I WANT TO JOIN YOU IN THANKING
THE MAYOR AND THE PRESIDENT FOR
THEIR COMMITMENT ESPECIALLY TO
THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT.

ALMOST DOUBLING OF LAST YEAR'S
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AS I THINK
YOU SAID OVER NEXT FIVE YEARS
OVER 125 MILLION CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT THROUGHOUT THE
SYSTEM.

THERE IS A COMMITMENT FROM ALL
OF US TO CONTINUE TO FUND OUR
LIBRARIES AND MAKE THEM THE
SAFE, WELCOMING SPACES THAT
WE'VE GROWN TO BE USED TO, SO
THANK YOU.

EVERYBODY'S GOOD?

AGAIN, THANK YOU DAVID, YOUR
TEAM, STAFF OUT IN THE FIELD
ESPECIALLY THE HONNA, FANNIAL
AND BRIGHT ON LIBRARY STAFF.

THIS HEARING IS ADJOURNED