



AGENDA CITY OF WATSONVILLE LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING

Working with our community to create positive impact through service with heart.

Values: Teamwork, Integrity, Honesty, Service and Respect

**VACANT, District 1
Pedro Reynoso, District 2
Ruth Landmann, District 3
Jesus Vega, District 4
Don Brown, District 5
Tony Camargo, District 6
Wayne Hayashibara, District 7**

Location:

***Watsonville Public Library- 2nd Floor Robert & Elayne Stein Meeting Room
275 Main Street
Watsonville, CA 95076***

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(b), Commissioner Reynoso will be participating in the meeting via Teleconference from: 25555 Hesperian Blvd, Hayward, CA 94545.

Anyone addressing the Library Commission is asked to fill out a speaker card and leave it at the podium for recording purposes.

IF YOU CHALLENGE ANY ACTION APPEARING ON THIS AGENDA IN COURT, YOU MAY BE LIMITED TO RAISING ONLY THOSE ISSUES YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE RAISED AT THE PUBLIC MEETING DESCRIBED ON THIS AGENDA, OR IN WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE DELIVERED TO THE CITY CLERK PRIOR TO, OR AT, THE PUBLIC MEETING.

For information regarding this agenda, please call the Watsonville Public Library at (831) 768-3400.

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If you wish to attend a meeting and you will require assistance in order to attend and/or participate, please call the Watsonville Public Library at least three (3) business days in advance of the meeting to make arrangements. The City of Watsonville TDD number is (831) 763-4075.



AGENDA
CITY OF WATSONVILLE
LIBRARY COMMISSION

Thursday, April 17, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

Watsonville Public Library - 2nd Floor Robert & Elayne Stein Meeting Room - 275 Main Street

Pages

1. ROLL CALL

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(b), Commissioner Reynoso will be participating in the meeting via Teleconference from: 25555 Hesperian Blvd, Hayward, CA 94545.

Motion to excuse absent Commissioners (If any)

Pursuant to Charter Section 900, Paragraph 2.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

All items appearing on the Consent Agenda are recommended actions which are considered to be routine and will be acted upon as one consensus motion. Any items removed will be considered immediately after the consensus motion. The Chair will allow public input prior to the approval of the Consent Agenda.

2.a MOTION APPROVING MINUTES OF MARCH 20, 2025

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3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

4. PRESENTATIONS & ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

This time is set aside for members of the general public to address the Commission on any item not on the Agenda, which is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. No action or discussion shall be taken on any item presented except that any Member may respond to statements made or questions asked, or may ask questions for clarification. All matters of an administrative nature will be referred to staff. All matters relating to Commission will be noted in the minutes and may be scheduled for discussion at a future meeting or referred to staff for clarification and report. Any Member may place matters brought up under Oral Communications on a future agenda.

4.a ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & COMMISSIONERS

4.b ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

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- a) Staffing
- b) Facilities
- c) Teen Action Council (TAC)
- d) OTR Literacy
- e) City and State News

4.c COMMENT FORMS

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.a LIBRARY STRATEGIC PLAN

a) Project Updates

5.b MEASURE R

a) Project Updates

b) Outreach Efforts

5.c STUDENT SUCCESS CARDS

a) Class Visits

b) Stats

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.a COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

15

a) Policy

b) Commissioners Questions & Input

c) Public Input

d) Appropriate Action

7. REPORTS

7.a FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

7.b PROGRAMS

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a) Calendar of Events

8. ADJOURNMENT

The next Commission meeting will be held on May 15, 2025

This agenda was posted in accordance with the California Brown Act. The agenda packet can be accessed on the City of Watsonville website at <https://watsonville.gov/184/Library-Commission> and available for public inspection in the Watsonville Public Library (275 Main Street) during normal business hours). Any materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet will be made available to the public in accordance with Government Section 54957.5.

**LIBRARY COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING**



**MARCH 20, 2025, 6:00 PM
WATSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
ROBERT & ELAYNE STEIN MEETING ROOM**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(b), Commissioner Reynoso will be participating in the meeting via Teleconference from: 25555 Hesperian Blvd, Hayward, CA 94545.

1. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1.a NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF LIBRARY COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

a) Nomination Period:

- Commissioner Brown nominated himself.
- Commissioner Landmann nominated Hayashibara, who accepted the nomination.
- Commissioner Brown explained his reasons for wanting to be chairperson.
- Commissioner Hayashibara rescinded his acceptance of chairperson position and agreed to accept nomination for vice-chairperson instead.

b) Public Input:

- No public input

c) MOTION: Motion to elect Commissioner Brown as Chairperson

Moved by: Commissioner Landmann

Seconded by: Commissioner Hayashibara

AYES (5): Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Camargo, Commissioner Hayashibara, Commissioner Landmann, Commissioner and Commissioner Vega

ABSTIAN (1): Commissioner Reynoso

Carried (4-0)

1.b NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF LIBRARY COMMISSION VICE-CHAIRPERSON

a) Nomination Period:

- Commissioner Landmann nominated Hayashibara, who accepted the

nomination.

b) **Public Input:**

- No public input

c) **MOTION:** Motion to elect Commissioner Hayashibara as Vice-Chairperson

Moved by: Commissioner Landmann

Seconded by: Commissioner Brown

AYES (5): Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Camargo, Commissioner Hayashibara, Commissioner Landmann and Commissioner Vega

ABSTIAN (1): Commissioner Reynoso

Carried (4-0)

2. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Camargo, Commissioner Hayashibara, Commissioner Landmann, Commissioner Reynoso and Commissioner Vega

Staff Present: Library Director Martinez, Administrative Analyst Martinez, Principal Librarian Addison

3. CONSENT AGENDA

3.a MOTION APPROVING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 21, 2024

MOTION: Approve November 21, 2024, minutes

Moved by: Commissioner Landmann

Seconded by: Commissioner Hayashibara

AYES (5): Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Camargo, Commissioner Hayashibara, Commissioner Landmann, and Commissioner Vega

ABSTIAN (1): Commissioner Reynoso

Carried (4-0)

4. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

No items have been removed.

5. PRESENTATION & ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

5.a ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Landmann expressed that the bookmobile visits to the mobile park have become an eagerly anticipated event within the community, with active participation from residents. She recommended creating a flyer in Spanish to better serve Spanish-speaking patrons. The Library Director noted that a Spanish

version of the flyer already exists and can be promptly emailed to Commissioner Landmann.

Commissioner Hayashibara mentioned that he had the opportunity to visit his daughter's class, as she teaches at Bradley. He expressed enthusiasm about the large number of students who enjoy reading, especially with the bookmobile making its rounds at various locations. Reflecting on his time as an English teacher, he stressed the importance of providing a diverse range of reading materials, believing that encouraging students to read is a journey they will never regret.

Commissioner Brown is consistently impressed by the library's displays, particularly the featured book displays. He especially enjoyed the banned book display and is eager to see it again.

5.b ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

a) STAFFING

The Library Director welcomed new Library Commissioners Camargo and Reynoso. She shared that the library recently held a staff day. During this half-day closure, staff focused on emergency procedures, including de-escalation scenarios and hands-on training for bloodborne pathogens. The goal was to equip staff with the resources they need to handle various situations, such as odor, behavioral issues, and whether that means contacting the Watsonville Care Team or providing patrons with locations where they can access resources and showers. The team also reviewed ICE protocols, which are included in the Library Commission packet. Some staff members had the opportunity to immediately apply what they learned that morning when issues arose just as the library reopened at 1:00pm. The library holds quarterly staff days. The next Staff Day is scheduled for May 12, 2025.

We recently hired a part-time custodian and he's doing an excellent job. We're also in the process of recruiting new Literacy Program Assistants to support our strong and growing literacy program.

Commissioner Brown inquired about the number of staff members at the library. Administrative Analyst Martinez responded that the library has approximately 51 staff members, including hourly employees.

2. BUDGET REPORT

The Library Director noted that the library is on track with its expenditure, with much of the budget allocated to salaries. The team is currently working on creating the budget for the upcoming two fiscal years, keeping in mind that the sales tax revenue, and stock market conditions are not favorable. The library has been mindful of its spending and has a reserve fund balance of \$1.9 million. We are hopeful the economy will improve soon.

Commissioner Brown asked what the biggest concern regarding the budget

is. The Library Director explained that a compensation study was recently conducted to review employee job descriptions within the city. She anticipates that a particular group may not reach market rate, and the library will need to plan for that potential increase, as well as any compaction issues that may arise. Additionally, the library must account for COLA (Cost of Living Adjustments), as all bargaining units are in negotiations, and the increases will not be determined until the contracts are finalized, which is expected to happen in May.

Commissioner Camargo then asked if any employees are capped with their salaries. The Library Director responded that yes, the majority of library staff members are at the top step, which is step seven. She added that the library has been fortunate in retaining staff, with very low turnover. While the library may not offer salaries as high as other organizations or departments, many staff members have been with the library for 35 years or more.

Commissioner Brown asked if the library would need to lay off any staff. The Library Director explained that the library primarily receives its revenue through a special sales tax, with only about \$541,000 coming from the General Fund. Given this, there are no plans for layoffs.

Commissioner Camargo asked why some of the line items have exceeded the budgeted amount. Admin Analyst Martinez explained that sometimes all departments are required to contribute to unexpected citywide expenses, such as increases in software costs.

c) MID-YEAR STATS REPORT

The Library Director briefly reviewed the mid-year statistics report, explaining why certain areas are slightly down compared to the previous year. She also highlighted areas where the library has exceeded last year's numbers, such as the number of programs offered and the increase in attendance, which has been made possible by Measure R funding. Additionally, the next statistics report will include the number of library cards issued, in compliance with the State Bill Ashby 1329 initiative.

Commissioner Brown asked where the BiblioVan statistics are noted. The Library Director answered that the BiblioVan is considered a program, so its statistics are included in that category. She mentioned that she is considering creating a separate category for the BiblioVan, which could help justify the need for an additional vehicle.

d) FACILITIES

The library has awarded the bid to San Onofre Construction Inc. to build the platform that will accommodate the necessary wiring for the new service desk. As you walk through the library you may have noticed that we are painting various walls. At the Freedom Branch, we have awarded the bid to remodel all the restrooms to the same company, San Onofre Construction Inc. This work will begin in April and is expected to take about three weeks to

complete. During the construction, we will provide an ADA-compliant portable restroom for patrons to use.

e) TEEN ACTION COUNCIL (TAC)

The Library Director explained to the new commissioners what the Teen Action Council is and its members. The council recently met with Mayor Orozco, a field representative from Speaker Rivas' office, Santa Cruz County Supervisor Felipe Hernandez, and student representative Daniel Esqueda from PVUSD. During the meeting, they all shared their experiences as community leaders and discussed what inspired them to become advocates for their communities. It was a truly inspiring moment for the students to hear from Santa Cruz County natives who are so dedicated to their community.

Additionally, the Teen Action Council hosted a youth leadership mixer that was attended by various local youth organizations. They are currently in the process of sponsoring a Wetlands Day event in April, with more information to come so that we can attend and offer support. TTAC remains very active in the community.

f) OTR Literacy

The Library Director explained to the new commissioners what the Literacy Program and Plaza Comunitaria offer.

The program has grown significantly, attracting many learners. We have finalized contracts with UCSC, CSUMB, and Cabrillo for student interns. Cabrillo students are particularly fortunate, as they will not only earn college credit but also receive a stipend. We are working to persuade UCSC and CSUMB to offer similar benefits. The interns are committing to about 200 hours and follow a work plan that was approved by the Library Director. The interns are involved in various tasks, such as in-person tutoring, outreach efforts, and literacy workshops. This experience provides them with valuable insight into what it's like to work in a literacy department within a library setting.

Commissioner Brown asked if this group is concerned with ICE. The Library Director explained that the City of Watsonville is a sanctuary city, and as a department, they are committed to creating a safe and welcoming environment. However, she emphasized that they still need to follow established protocols.

g) City and State News

The Library Director clarified that the ICE protocols included in the packet have been thoroughly reviewed and approved by the City Attorney. As you are aware, one of the executive orders issued by President Trump aims to eliminate federal funding for libraries nationwide. To address this, the Library Director has included an infographic encouraging commissioners to advocate for libraries by contacting their government representatives. Libraries play a crucial role as democratic institutions, offering free services that ensure

equitable access to information. The potential elimination of funding would have a detrimental effect, leading to the unfortunate closure of libraries across the country.

Commissioner Vega inquired about the amount of funding the library receives. The Library Director explained that the library receives funding through a cooperative, as it is a smaller library, with an allocation of approximately \$20,000. However, the proposed funding cuts would impact not only libraries but also museums.

The Library Director announced her involvement in the Prevention and Resources Working Group of the Homelessness Task Force. There are four working groups within the task force: Enforcement & Management, Housing, Policies and Funding, and Prevention and Services. The group's commitment is to deliver an Action Plan by May. Monthly meetings have been held at the library. The group is collaborating to identify gaps in preventive services and develop recommendations. Once the Action Plan is finalized, it will be presented to the commission and approved by the city council.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.a LIBRARY STRATEGIC PLAN

a) PROJECT UPDATES

The Library Director announced that the BiblioVan now operates on a set schedule, alternating the focus on different groups. One week, it visits youth-focused locations such as parks and schools, while the other week, it serves adults by visiting mobile home parks, senior living facilities and senior centers. The goal is to increase visits to more locations in the future. Additionally, the BiblioVan has been requested to participate in various outreach events, including parent nights and local teen activities. The library has also expanded its services and marketing efforts to raise awareness about the Library Link program, which provides library services to homebound patrons.

As you walk through the library, you will notice improved signage designed to highlight different monthly themes and engage patrons. The library is now open every Saturday, with a variety of performers scheduled to encourage greater patron participation and enhance the Saturday experience.

As you exit the library, you'll notice two new self-checkout machines. These machines are designed to be user-friendly, providing a convenient and efficient way for patrons to check out their materials. We have also upgraded our service desk scanners, allowing patrons to scan their library cards directly from their mobile devices for added convenience.

6.b MEASURE R

a) BUDGET UPDATES

The Library Director mentioned that the library is on track to fully expend the

Measure R funding and is planning to request additional funding in the upcoming budget cycle. Specifically, she intends to ask for \$2.6 million for the Library Rooftop Project.

b) **PROJECT UPDATES**

The Library Rooftop Project construction documents are currently under review by the necessary departments to secure the required permits, with the goal of issuing an RFP and beginning construction in August. Additionally, the proposal to upgrade the AV equipment in the meeting room, totaling \$75,000. Commissioner Brown inquired whether the public would be able to reserve the rooftop area. The Library Director responded that the rooftop area will not be available for public reservations, but the meeting room will continue to be available for not-for-profit organizations.

c) **OUTREACH EFFORTS**

The Library Director announced that Mayor Orozco requested the BiblioVan participate in Read Across America. The BiblioVan visited all seven districts, and council members were invited to attend. The BiblioVan schedule is posted on the library's website, and requests to have the BiblioVan visit your neighborhood can be submitted.

6.c STUDENT SUCCESS CARDS

Principal Librarian Addison expressed pride in the library staff for being ahead of the curve and taking a leadership role in extending library card access. This initiative is part of a legislative priority to ensure that students have library cards by third grade. While there have been some logistical challenges, to ensure due diligence, the library is collaborating with the Pajaro Valley Unified School District (PVUSD). A pilot program has already been launched with several schools to distribute library cards to students. The library is working closely with individual schools and classrooms to meet this mandate through outreach efforts and plans to visit classrooms to educate students about the valuable resources a library card provides. Five schools have been identified with the help of PVUSD. Additionally, there is consideration of making library card registration a mandatory stop during kindergarten roundup events.

Commissioner Brown asked how many student success cards have been issued. Principal Librarian Addison did not have the exact numbers, and that figure will be provided at the next commission meeting.

Commissioner Camargo inquired whether schools located outside the city limits but still part of the PVUSD can receive a Watsonville Public Library card. Principal Librarian Addison confirmed that this is indeed a common situation for families in the PVUSD, and these families are welcome to be part of both the Watsonville and Santa Cruz County library systems. The library serves many areas that are considered unincorporated outside of Watsonville city limits.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.a LIBRARY COMMISSION BYLAWS

a) **Staff Report**

The Library Director explained that there have been no significant changes to the bylaws, except that the group is now officially recognized as a Commission rather than a Library Board. The bylaws have been aligned with those of other city commissions to ensure consistency, making the structure more legal and formal.

b) Commissioner Questions & Input
No Questions

c) Public Comment
No Public Comment

d) Appropriate Action: Motion

MOTION: Approve revised Bylaws

Moved by: Commissioner Landmann

Seconded by: Commissioner Hayashibara

AYES (5): Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Camargo, Commissioner Hayashibara, Commissioner Landmann, Commissioner Reynoso and Commissioner Vega

Carried (5-0)

8. REPORTS

8.a FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The Library Director announced that the annual meeting held in January was a great success, with over 75 attendees. Poet Laureate Bob Gomez read his poem, and the event also celebrated the incoming Poet Laureate Dr. Victoria Bañales. A highlight of the meeting was the youth Poet Laureates, who read their powerful poems reflecting on these emotional times. Their inspiring performances left a lasting impact, and the Library Director expressed a desire to feature their work on the library's website. Rachel Huerta and Eva Sophia Martinez, the current youth Poet Laureates, have agreed to extend their terms, which end in June to December to continue collaborating with Dr. Bañales. The event also provided a wonderful opportunity for the Friends of the Library to see firsthand the positive impact of sponsoring the Poet Laureate programs.

The Library Director shared that the Watsonville Reads event, commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Watsonville Cannery Strike, was a great success, with more than 250 attendees. The event was heartwarming, inspiring, and enlightening, as it highlighted the legacies of these local strikers and their ongoing contributions as activists in the community. It was especially impactful to hear the stories from various children of former strikers who have gone on to become teachers, doctors, health professionals, and lawyers. The library received numerous inquiries about hosting similar events in the future. In response, the library is committed to holding such an event annually as part of Watsonville Reads.

8.b PROGRAMS

a) CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Principal Librarian Addison briefly mentioned the upcoming events in March and April. The calendars for both March and April events were distributed to the commissioners for their reference.

Commissioner Camargo asked if the library had considered collaborating with Nerdville. Principal Librarian Addison responded, Nerdville is a city-sponsored event taking place in mid-June, we are looking into ways to participate.

Please remember to visit the library's website, sign up for the library's newsletter and mobile app; and social media outlets to learn more about the library's resources and programs.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm

Commissioner Brown, Chair

ATTEST:

Alicia Martinez, Library Director

California Freedom to Read Act Process and Checklist

To help libraries be compliant with the California Freedom to Read Act, the State Library will review collection development policies following this process and checklist:

1. Review the collection development policy from a library in accordance with the checklist and verify the following statements are true:
 - ☐ The library posted their collection development policy on their public website.
 - ☐ The policy establishes a process for community members to share their concerns regarding library materials and to request that library materials be reconsidered for inclusion in the library's collection.
 - ☐ The policy guides the selection and deselection of materials.
 - ☐ The policy contains the following statements:
 - ☐ The "collection meets the broad and diverse interests of the community and respects both the library's autonomy and their specific community needs."
 - ☐ The "public library serves as a center for voluntary inquiry and the dissemination of information and ideas."
 - ☐ "Library materials should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people, and should present diverse points of view in the collection as a whole."
 - ☐ The "right of the public to receive access to a range of social, political, aesthetic, moral, and other ideas and experiences" is acknowledged.
2. If the policy meets all the requirements on the checklist:
 - a. Update the tracking spreadsheet to show that the library is fully compliant.
 - b. Notify the library that their policy is compliant.
3. If the policy does not meet the requirements on the checklist:
 - a. Return the policy to the library,
 - b. Indicate to the library what is missing,
 - c. Provide additional technical assistance as needed.



California State Library Receives Notice of Termination of Federal Grant by IMLS

For Immediate Release:

April 3, 2025

Contact: Jeff Barbosa

(279)-399-8981

press@library.ca.gov

SACRAMENTO, CA – The California State Library has been notified by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) that, effective April 1, 2025, the 2024-25 federal grant awarded under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) has been terminated.

In the current fiscal year (2024-25), the State Library received \$15,705,702 in funding to assist local California libraries to provide programs and services, as well as supporting the services provided by the State Library to state government, policymakers, and the public. Over 21 percent of that funding has yet to be sent to California.

“We are deeply disappointed by this ill-informed decision, which immediately affects critical programs supported by these funds,” said Rebecca Wendt, California Deputy State Librarian. “The California State Library remains committed to serving all of the people of California and will explore alternative means to ensure continued access to essential library services.”

Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) in California

The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) has provided critical funding for a wide range of programs that benefit communities across California. These funds support early learning and literacy programs, such as storytimes and play spaces for low-income families, summer reading initiatives that engage over a million children and teens, and programs that help at-risk youth develop workforce-readiness skills. Additionally, LSTA funds have enabled State Library staff to assist with the expansion of the Student Success Card program, ensuring that all California students receive a public library card by third grade.

Beyond literacy, LSTA funding strengthens communities by supporting diverse programs that align with California’s cultural, educational, and environmental priorities. Local libraries have used these funds to create climate education programs, community gardens, tool libraries, and telehealth privacy pods for individuals without home internet access. Libraries also provide valuable services for veterans, formerly incarcerated individuals, and tribal and rural communities. High-speed broadband initiatives, along with

programs like California Revealed and the Cultural Heritage Disaster Preparedness Program, ensure that California's history and cultural treasures are preserved and accessible to the public.

LSTA funding also expands access to learning resources for Californians of all ages. It supports the state's only shared eBook collection, free access to major news publications like The New York Times and CalMatters for Learning, and databases that serve state employees, lawmakers, and the general public. The Career Online High School program, supported by State Library staff, enables adults to earn their high school diplomas through local libraries, while the Braille and Talking Book Library ensures that visually impaired Californians have free access to books in accessible formats.

Additionally, these funds help strengthen California's library workforce through statewide training, leadership development, and tuition reimbursement for those studying to become librarians. Libraries also benefit from partnerships with state agencies, including the Departments of Aging, Public Health, and Technology, which allow public libraries to serve as vital hubs for government resources and community engagement. Moreover, LSTA funds support programs that promote government transparency, such as cataloging and maintaining access to federal and state government documents.

From fostering literacy and lifelong learning to preserving history and expanding digital access, LSTA funding plays an essential role in ensuring that California's libraries remain innovative and responsive to the evolving needs of the communities they serve.

The California State Library will provide further updates as additional information becomes available.

END RELEASE TEXT

About the State Library: Established in 1850, the California State Library is the central reference and research library for state government and the Legislature. The library collection includes more than 4 million titles, 6,000 maps and 250,000 photographs, and includes an extensive collection of documents from and about the state's rich history. The State Library also serves California's local libraries, providing state and federal funds to support public libraries and deliver statewide programs and services. [State Library Website](#)



Watsonville
PUBLIC LIBRARY
Gather, Learn & Celebrate!

Collection Development Policy

I. Mission Statement

Watsonville Public Library acquires, organizes, and provides access and guidance to a wide variety of information and materials of contemporary interest and permanent value for the education, intellectual stimulation and social needs of its diverse community.

II. Purpose of Policy

The collection development policy is intended to provide guidance within budgetary and space limitations for the selection and evaluation of materials. It anticipates and meets the needs of the Watsonville and Freedom community as outlined in the Strategic Plan. As the community changes, the library will reassess and adapt its collections to reflect new and differing areas of interest and concern. This document provides a framework for continuous collection development and improvement and will be periodically evaluated and revised to provide guidance for implementing changes in the collection.

III. Philosophy of Selection

The Watsonville Public Library fully endorses the principles documented in the [American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights](#), [Freedom to Read Statement](#) and [Freedom to View Statement](#). Further, California State Law, AB 1825 passed in 2024, requires the following statements to be included in public library collection development policies:

1. The collection meets the broad and diverse interests of the community and respects both the library's autonomy and their specific community needs.
2. The public library serves as a center for voluntary inquiry and the dissemination of information and ideas.
3. Library materials should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people, and should present diverse points of view in the collection as a whole.
4. The right of the public to receive access to a range of social, political, aesthetic, moral, and other ideas and experiences is acknowledged.

The library upholds the right of the individual to secure information, even though the content may be controversial, unorthodox, or unacceptable to others. Materials available in the library represent a spectrum of viewpoints, enabling citizens to make informed choices that are necessary in a democracy.

IV. Scope of the Collection

The primary responsibility of the Watsonville Public Library is to serve the citizens of Watsonville by providing a broad choice of materials to meet their educational, cultural and recreational needs. Materials are selected to aid individuals, groups, and organizations to attain practical solutions to daily problems, and to enrich the quality of life for all community members.

Budget and space limitations, as well as local needs, preclude the library from purchasing materials for obscure or specialized materials. Access to such materials is made available through interlibrary loan or by referral to other institutions.

V. Scope of the Library

The Library serves as a center for voluntary inquiry and the dissemination of information and ideas for its Watsonville residents. Users from Santa Cruz County may also use the facilities, but the main purpose is to serve the citizens of Watsonville. A broad choice of circulating print and non-print materials are selected to accommodate the diversity of interests, reading levels, and languages of users of all ages thus respecting both the library's autonomy and their specific community needs.

Scholarly and highly technical or specialized materials are not purchased unless they add body and substance to the collection, and at the discretion of the subject librarians. Access to these materials is made available through interlibrary loan or by referral to other institutions.

VI. Selection Criteria

All materials, whether purchased or donated, are considered in terms of the criteria listed below. An item need not meet all of these standards in order to be added to the collection:

1. Popular interest
2. Contemporary significance or permanent value
3. Currency of information
4. Accuracy
5. Local emphasis
6. Readability or ability to sustain interest
7. Treatment of subject is suitable for age of intended audience
8. Reputation of author, publisher, producer or illustrator
9. Creative, literary or technical quality
10. Critical assessments in a variety of journals
11. Format and ease of use
12. Cost and availability
13. Durability/type of binding
14. Relationship to existing materials in collection
15. Relationship to materials in other area libraries

VII. Selection Tools

Reviews in professionally recognized periodicals are the primary source for materials selection. Standard bibliographies, booklists by recognized authorities and the advice of experts in specific subject areas are used.

Items in any format which have received significant awards or critical acclaim are evaluated for inclusion in the collection. This includes (but is not limited to) bestsellers on lists generated by the New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Publishers Weekly, and Library Journal.

VIII. Suggestions for Purchase

The library strongly encourages input from the community concerning the collection. A suggestion for purchase procedure enables citizens to request that a particular item or subject be purchased by the library. All suggestions for purchase are subject to the same selection criteria as other materials and are not automatically added to the collection. Suggestions can be made using forms available at the public service desks, [online](#), or in person to any library staff member.

Multiple copies of materials are purchased in response to user demand as evidenced by number of requests, anticipated popularity, and monitoring of the collection. All things being equal, an additional copy may be purchased or leased.

IX. The Collection

The library and staff recognize there are differences between various collections at the library. Library materials should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people, and should present diverse points of view in the collection as a whole.

The library purchases print and audio materials in the following areas:

1. Fiction
2. Non-Fiction
3. Foreign Language
4. Periodicals
5. Reference
6. Media

The library purchases and/or maintains materials for the following Special Collections:

1. California Agricultural Workers History
2. Local History
3. Local Government Documents
4. Genealogy
5. Graphic Novels
6. Web Archive

The library purchases digital resources in the following formats:

1. Media
 - a. Streaming platforms
2. Databases
3. E-resources
 - a. Digital catalogs
4. Future Media

The library must continually assess new electronic media and evaluate the capabilities and enhancements that they offer over existing formats. When deciding whether to replace or

augment existing formats with future media, the following factors will be considered: anticipated improvements in information storage and retrieval, user demand, quality of the product, ease of use, equipment requirements, cost, and staff requirements for processing, maintenance, and training.

X. Collection Replacement and Withdrawal

It is not the library's policy to automatically replace all books withdrawn because of loss, damage or wear. Need for replacement in each case is weighed with regard to several factors: number of duplicate copies; existence of adequate coverage in the subject area; other similar material in the collection; and demand for a particular title or subject.

Maintenance of the library's collection through constant re-evaluation by the library staff ensures its usefulness and relevance to the community. This evaluation depends heavily on the staff's professional expertise in assessing the needs of the community and the content of the collection. Those materials determined to no longer be of value are withdrawn from the collection.

Library materials are discarded for one or more of the following reasons:

1. Obsolescence: subject matter is no longer timely, accurate, or relevant
2. Damage or poor condition
3. Space limitations
4. Insufficient use

Additionally, staff refers to the standard resource [CREW: A Weeding Manual for Modern Libraries](#) (CREW = Continuous Review, Evaluation and Weeding) for guidance on specific Dewey/subject categories in the collection.

Each Dewey class is addressed, listing considerations for retention and age of item suggestions. In addition, at the library, last copies of a work are evaluated in terms of their value to the community, with consideration to the following:

1. Local interest
2. Reputation of author, publisher, producer, illustrator
3. Significance as identified in standard bibliographies
4. Quality of graphics
5. Uniqueness of information for research

Depending on the condition of the materials, withdrawn items are disposed of or surplus to the Friends of the Library for sale or given to other libraries.

XI. Gifts

Watsonville Public Library will encourage and accept gifts with the understanding that all gifts of materials become the property of the library whether or not they are added to the library collection. Gift items selected to become part of the regular library collection are integrated into the collection in normal sequence, available to all patrons, and otherwise handled according to the same rules as any other material belonging to the library, including the book withdrawal policy. The library makes every effort to dispose of gift materials not added to the collection to the library's best advantage, such as through Friends of the Library book sales.

Monetary gifts to the collection are welcome and may be designated as “in honor” gifts or memorials. Donors of the funds may suggest subjects or titles to be acquired with their donation, but the library reserves the right of final selection to meet the collection development needs and criteria of the library. Items purchased with gift funds may be marked with an appropriate bookplate. A letter for tax purposes may be sent to the donor if requested at the time of donation is made, acknowledging the receipt of the gift.

XII. Objections to Material

The library commission and staff believe that the right to read is an important part of the intellectual freedom that is basic to democracy and hereby adopt the [Library Bill of Rights](#) and the [Freedom to Read Statement](#).

Objections to library materials can be voiced by filling out a [Reconsideration of Materials Form](#). This includes copyright concerns and take down requests for digital and web archive items. Library staff will review all objections in an unbiased and fair manner, considering the nature of the objection against the Watsonville Public Library Collection Development Policy.

XIII. Revision of Policy

This policy will be reevaluated periodically as circumstances require and/or every five years from date of adoption.

Approved by the Library Commission: January 2019

Revised and approved: January 2022

Revised: April 2025

April 2025 Calendar of Events



WATSONVILLE Reads
2025 Programs



Rice Workshop
Thursday, April 3
Main Library 6:00pm
Learn the variety of ways rice is prepared around the world.
Audience: For all ages



Writing Workshop
Thursday, April 17
Main Library 6:00pm
Come share immigration histories through poetry.
Audience: Teens & Adults



Tech Drop-In

Tech Drop-In
Main Library
Tuesdays 3pm-6pm **Thursdays 2pm-4pm**
Freedom Branch
Thursdays 10am-1pm
Basic tech questions answered.
Audience: All Ages



Lego Club

Lego Club
First Tuesday of the Month
April 1
Main Library 4:00pm
Get creative with a provided theme or build whatever you want with the library's collection of bricks.
Audience: Families



GOLDEN GAME TIME

Golden Game Time
First Wednesday of the Month
April 2
Freedom Branch 1:30pm
Grab some snacks, meet new friends, learn new games, play old favorites.
Audience: Adults & Teens



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
FREE SNACKS

Family Movie Night
First Wednesday of the Month
April 2
Main Library 5:30pm
Showing: *Moana 2* (PG)
Light refreshments provided
Audience: Families



MOTHERSONG

Mothersong
First Friday of the Month
April 4
Main Library 10:30am
Join us for a fun and musical program.
Audience: Families



Spring Break Activities

Secret Garden Plant Swap Party
Saturday, April 5 **Freedom Branch 10:00am**
Are you planning to garden this Spring season? Bring a plant or seeds to swap & connect with community partners.
Audience: All ages

Tinker Faire
Monday, April 7 **Main Library 3:00pm**
Do you love to take things apart and see what makes them tick? This is a hands-on event where kids can explore, create, and discover the world inside everyday gadgets.
Audience: All ages

Stop! Look! Listen! Storytime  
Tuesday, April 8 & Thursday April 10 10:30am
Main Library
Children will learn about how to stay safe when on the move in the community through books, song rhymes and games.
Audience: Ages 1-4 and their caregivers

Not too Serious Yoga
Tuesday, April 8 **Main Library 6:00pm**
Learn a simple breathing practice, do animal yoga, & try partner activities that will stretch your muscles & make you laugh. Make a "mind jar" to use as a tool for mindfulness in your daily life.
Audience: All Ages

Bug Science
Wednesday, April 9 **Freedom Branch 12:00pm**
This one-hour-program will feature bug displays, live arthropods to interact with and snacks.
Audience: All ages

Pick-a-Craft Party
Thursday, April 10 **Main Library 6:00pm**
Join us for a night of socializing, crafting & fun with your families & friends ~ we will have snacks and a variety of crafts available.
Audience: All ages

After Hours Laser Tag
Friday, April 11 **Main Library 5:30pm**
Grab your friends and join us for After Hours Laser Tag & pizza. Make sure to arrive on time to ensure you get a time slot. Late arrivals will not be let into the library. Parents/guardians must sign waivers for minors but do not have to stay for the entire program.
Audience: For Tweens/Teens Ages 8+

Photographs and videos may be taken at these events and may be used in marketing materials of library activities



watsonvillelibrary.gov



Contact Us
275 Main St. STE 100
(831) 768-3400

All events are sponsored by the Friends of the Library

Hours	Main Library Mon - Thu 10am - 8pm Fri 10am - 6pm Sat 12pm - 4pm	Freedom Branch Tues - Fri 10am - 6pm Sat 12pm - 4pm
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Find us on social media



@watsonvillelibrary



Latino Poetry
Saturday, April 5
Main Library 1:00pm

Join in person for a panel reading, & conversation about the book "Latino Poetry...". Join virtually via Zoom at <https://bit.ly/3PTFBvK>

Audience: Teens & Adults



Coffee with a Professional
Tuesday, April 8
Freedom Branch 10:30am

Featuring Beth Scrutton, from Fish & Wildlife & Elkhorn Slough.

Audience: Adults



Toddler Tumble Time
Second Tuesday of the Month
April 8
Main Library 10:30am

Toddlers can develop coordination, & cooperation skills with fun activities.

Audience: Ages 4 & under who are walking



Sewing Workshop
Tuesday, April 8 & 15
Freedom Branch Library 4:00pm

Whether you're a total beginner or an experienced sewer, our free sewing classes are for you.

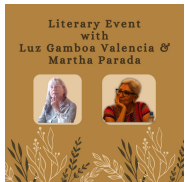
Audience: All Ages



Video Game Tournament
Tuesday, April 8
Main Library 4:30pm

Socialize with other teens & play games using a Nintendo Switch. Winners will earn prizes!

Audience: Grades 7-12



Literary Event
Thursday, April 10
Main Library 1:00pm

Are you a reader and/or writer of Spanish poetry and/or novels? Join us a for a special reading featuring Luz Gamboa Valencia and Martha Parada.

Audience: Adults



Sensory Play
Tuesday, April 15
Main Library 11:00am

Each month features a different theme & new ways to stimulate your child's senses.

Audience: Ages 0-5 & their care givers



Teen Anime Club
Wednesday, April 16
Main Library 4:30pm

Learn about different countries through delicious snacks & interactive activities.

Audience: Teens in grades 7-12



Art Explorations
Saturday, April 19
Main Library 1:00pm

Michele Faia will focus on watercolor mandalas.

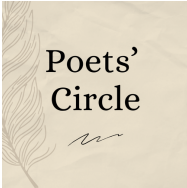
Audience: Adults



Books 'n Bites: Nutrition & Wellness Classes
Tuesday, April 22
Main Library 6:00pm

Learn about balanced eating, & practical tips for making nutritious choices in your daily diet. Taste & enjoy delicious food. Recipe: cabbage & beef stir fry

Audience: All ages



Poets' Circle
Thursday, April 24
Main Library 1:00pm

Featuring Nancy Miller Gomez, Santa Cruz County Poet Laureate.

Audience: Adults & Teens



Pokémon Club
Thursday, April 24
Main Library 6:30pm

Learn how to build a deck & play the card game. Beginners to pros are welcome.

Audience: All Ages



Roleplaying Games
Saturday, April 26
Freedom Branch 12:00pm

Play multiple role-playing games including Dungeons & Dragons (D&D) and Coyote & Crow. All skill levels are welcome!

Audience: Adults



Audience: Adults & Teens

Virtual Author Talks

Jodi Picoult
Wednesday, April 2
4:00pm

Matthew Fleming
Tuesday, April 8
11:00am

Gregg Hurwitz
Thursday, April 24
4:00pm

Register at



Storytimes

Bilingual Baby Laptime

Freedom Branch **Main Library**
Wednesdays **Fridays**
10:30am **10:30am**

Audience: Ages 0 - 24 months

Toddler Storytime

Freedom Branch **Main Library**
Wednesdays **Thursdays**
11:30am **10:30am**

Audience: Ages 18 months - 4 years old