



NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: August 25, 2020

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Nick Wilczek, County Librarian

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the Nevada County Community Library to temporarily suspend the imposition of overdue fines for Nevada County Community Library during the local health emergency proclaimed by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the Resolution

FUNDING:

In Fiscal Year 2019-2020 all fines and fees accounted for less than 0.26% of the Library's revenue. Suspension of overdue library fines would not have a significant impact on the Library's ability to meet the 2020 Board Objective of fiscal stability, and would support the accessibility of core library services to Nevada County Community members, especially to those who have been affected by the economic downturn brought on by the local health emergency. There will be no impact on the General Fund.

BACKGROUND:

The Nevada County Community Library provides services that can help to mitigate the effects of the local health emergency and economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, including educational resources for children, teens and adults, literacy services and resources for professional development. The Library currently collects fines from community members in accordance with Resolution 20-192, including fines of \$0.25 per day for overdue items, with a maximum fine of \$5.00 per item.

On March 10, 2020, per Resolution 20-063, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors proclaimed the existence of a local emergency in Nevada County due to the anticipated impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 has since resulted in severe financial hardships for many residents of Nevada County, which compromises the ability of some library patrons to pay overdue fines. In recognition of the financial hardship currently faced by some members of the community, and in the interest of keeping core library services accessible, the Nevada County Community Library is seeking approval to temporarily suspend the overdue library fines during the local health emergency in order to promote continued public access to library resources.

Item Initiated and Approved by: Nick Wilczek, County Librarian