April 24, 2020

The Honorable Paul Krekorian, Chair
City Council Budget and Finance Committee
c/o Richard Williams, Office of the City Clerk
Room 395, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012

MAYOR’S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21

Dear Councilmember Krekorian:

The Los Angeles Public Library provides social, cultural and education services unmatched by any other public institution in the City. I am proud of the Library’s ability to continue vital services to children, adults and seniors during the city’s “Safer at Home” response to the COVID-19 crisis.

The Mayor’s proposed FY 2020-21 budget provides LAPL resources to enhance services and build on a proud tradition of meeting the needs of our city’s diverse communities.

LAPL is proud of its ongoing accomplishments in citizenship and immigrant integration, the Student Success Library Card (particularly beneficial to students during the current crisis), helping adults receive high school diplomas through the Career Online High School program, assisting people experiencing homelessness, increasing equitable access to library services, and its leadership role in increasing sustainability.

Under the provisions of Measure L, property values in the city provide the Library with additional funds for FY 2020-21. Funds will allow the Library to address increased costs for personnel as well as enhance security services, facility repairs, IT upgrades, and add print and digital library materials.

As stipulated by Measure L, the proposed budget contains funds for the Library to reimburse the General Fund for direct costs such as security, utilities, custodial services, building maintenance, refuse collection, human resources and payroll projects, and sidewalk repairs.
In addition, the proposed budget contains increasing General Fund reimbursements for central services. This remains an ongoing concern.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact me or Assistant City Librarian Susan Broman at (213) 228-7515.

Sincerely,

John F. Szabo
City Librarian

cc: Honorable City Councilmembers
    Board of Library Commissioners
    Ana Guerrero, Chief of Staff, Office of Mayor Garcetti
    Matthew Szabo, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Mayor Garcetti
    Barbara Romero, Deputy Mayor for City Services
    Miguel Sangalang, Deputy Mayor, Budget and Innovation
    Diana Mangioglu, Budget Director, Mayor’s Office
    Sharon Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst
    Richard Llewellyn City Administrative Officer
    Maria Gutierrez, Chief Administrative Analyst, CAO
    Andy Chen, Senior Administrative Analyst, CAO
    Madeleine M. Rackley, LAPL Business Office Manager