May 7, 2019

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Subject: Celebrating Launch of the Ventura County Library Mobile Library. Receive and File Mobile Library Presentation.

Recommendations:

1. Receive and File the Launch of the Ventura County Library Mobile Library Presentation.

Discussion:

The Ventura County Library Foundation was established in 2012 as a 501(c)3 public charity with the purpose of supporting and enhancing library services throughout Ventura County. The Foundation’s initial priority was to purchase and outfit a fuel-efficient mobile library to offer a full range of library services to the underserved areas and people of Ventura County. This includes the unincorporated areas where many people have little or no library service, as well as the areas of larger cities where lack of transportation, age or disability may bar residents from having access to library buildings.

The Foundation successfully raised funds in support of a mobile library, and presented the Ventura County Library System a check in the amount of $100,000 at the Ventura County Board of Supervisors meeting on August 7, 2018. A grant awarded by the California State Library matched those funds.

The Foundation raised the $100,000 through the Ventura County community. The Foundation received a major donation from Premier America Credit Union in 2016 of $50,000 in support of the mobile library to jumpstart the fundraising process. The Foundation recognizes Premier America Credit Union as primary private and Founding
Sponsor of the mobile library. Other significant donors include The Port of Hueneme and Rotary Club of Camarillo.

The mobile library will offer many of the same services that patrons find in their community libraries, including popular materials in multiple formats, story times, class visits, computer access, Wi-Fi, printing and participation in community events. It will serve communities with collections that include materials for children, teens, adults and seniors in English and Spanish. The mobile library is a great opportunity to introduce the love of reading to children and to discover the benefits of lifelong learning. Our patrons will be able to use the mobile library just as they would any public library.

The Foundation realizes how important it is to provide an extension of the library to the citizens of Ventura County, especially those who are not able to visit the library often. The mobile library runs on clean diesel and solar panels, and is green-friendly. It is ADA compliant.

The mobile library will play an important outreach role, connecting new users and raising awareness of library services throughout the county. We are pleased to announce the official launch of the Ventura County Library Mobile Library.

Please join us in welcoming Sandy Berg, Chair, of the Ventura County Library Foundation.

Sincerely,

NANCY SCHRAM
Library Director