



**Date:** December 14, 2018  
**To:** Patrick H. West, City Manager *T.H.W.*  
**From:** Glenda Williams, Director of Library Services *Glenda*  
**For:** Mayor and Members of City Council  
**Subject:** **FY 19 Library Open Hours Survey Results**

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During the Library Services Department FY 19 budget presentation on August 21, 2018, I provided a plan to restructure the current Long Beach Public Library schedule by moving half the libraries to a Sunday through Thursday schedule (retaining the other six libraries on the current Tuesday through Saturday schedule), in order that a library would be open and accessible every day of the week. The proposal did not require one-time funds to pay for open Sunday hours as in previous years.

After much dialogue about the restructured schedule following the presentation, on August 27, 2018, the City Manager provided a memo to the City Council outlining a proposal to engage the public and continue the current schedule at all Long Beach Public Library locations for three months (Attachment). The current schedule also includes Bay Shore, Burnett, El Dorado, and Michelle Obama Libraries open a half day on Sundays. This has been done without a dedicated (one-time) funding source for Sunday hours, which has been an unbudgeted cost assessed to the Library's budget.

Library Services staff engaged the public by creating a survey in multiple languages regarding schedule preferences. The survey was made available online and in print at every branch and has been promoted on all the Library's social media accounts and website. To date, more than 1,010 responses have been received, with 80 percent of respondents preferring to maintain the current Tuesday through Saturday schedule. For those responding in languages other than English, the preference for retaining the existing schedule was 90 percent.

Respondents were also asked their preference for a sixth day of service, if funding was made available. Of the respondents that preferred the Tuesday through Saturday schedule, 55 percent selected Monday for a sixth day of service. For those responding in languages other than English, the preference for Monday as a sixth day of service was 80 percent.

Based on the public's response, Long Beach Public Library hours will remain Tuesday through Saturday, with the current four sites open four hours on Sunday, for the remainder of FY 19. The temporary closure of Main Library will assist with the current schedule, and any additional overtime funding to keep the current Sunday hours will be identified as part of year-end close of the FY 18 budget. Funding for open library hours beyond the normal Tuesday through Saturday

FY 19 Library Open Hours Survey Results  
December 14, 2018  
Page 2

schedule will need to be identified and approved by the City Council during the FY 20 budget process.

Thank you for your support and patience during this process. Please contact me at (562) 570-6016 or [Glenda.Williams@lbpl.org](mailto:Glenda.Williams@lbpl.org) if you have any questions.

GW:AA

CC: CHARLES PARKIN, CITY ATTORNEY  
LAURA DOUD, CITY PROSECUTOR  
TOM MODICA, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER  
KEVIN JACKSON, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER  
REBECCA GARNER, ADMINISTRATIVE DEPUTY TO THE CITY MANAGER  
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