

Nashville Public Library – Updated 6/5/2020

Q&A From WebEx Meeting 5/12/2020

1. What would be the cost savings if you continue the protocol of how the library has been operated since the Safer at Home? What would that look like for the 2021 budget?

Library Response: NPL has approximately 30 frozen open staff positions from this year's budget if unfilled would save about \$1.5 million. The impact of this coupled with the 17 positions lost in the previous budget year will mean that many library locations would be unable to open at any point in the coming budget year regardless of the COVID situation. Certainly, all community branches would be at risk if the open position freeze continues to be applied and some mid-sized locations. NPL has been delivering robust online and virtual services since closing buildings. Curbside materials delivery should commence in June at regional library locations and the Main Library.

2. Is there an opportunity to do partial funding for all programs instead of eliminating any program based on CARES ?

Library Response: NPL has applied for CARES funding to support NAZA online access and purchase online materials and services. In addition, some CARES and related funding has been applied for to support capital repairs and technology equipment. These opportunities will not replace support for the program or replace operational funds. CARES funds will be supporting the CPF in FY21 since that is being deleted in this year's budget proposal which were in our operating budget.

3. Could you assess and provide a cost on library's equipment needs?

Library Response: [Attached is our Hyperion 4% document](#) for equipment and repairs request from January this year. NPL's major issue we are faced with is the need to replace aged building equipment, systems and furniture. While many Nashvillians think of the Main Library as the "new" Main Library it is nearly 20 years old with building systems in failure. Much of these are basic infrastructure needs. Other pieces include updating technology equipment, building roofs and a need to refresh the Civil Rights Room.

The library materials and collections budget is a 4% item. During the Council Budget and Finance Committee presentation we pointed out this allocation really should be in the operating budget. We have requested that it be moved for several years. Due to the uncertainty of NPL's 4% allocations it makes it incredibly difficult to strategically manage this aspect of our services.

4. Can Nashville Public Library provide some clarification on the use of Lynda.com through the library - how many licenses we have access to in the city, are they allocated by branch, etc?

Library Response: Nashville Public Library has an annual agreement with LinkedIn Learning that expires on Nov 1st, 2020. Last year's agreement cost was \$27,500. It allows us access to 100 simultaneous library card users and is not limited by branch location.

5. I'm also interested in what our anticipated usage rate is as well as the length and terms of the contract (for instance - is it a 3-year agreement? month to month?)

Library Response: Nashville Public Library has an annual agreement with LinkedIn Learning that expires on Nov 1st, 2020. We average around 1200 users a month with 4617 logins and 24,314 video views a month. However, we've seen an increase in usage of 15% since our closure and anticipate a steady growth in interest as more people work from home, even after the pandemic is over.