

MARIN COUNTY FREE LIBRARY

February 25, 2014



Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

Sara Jones

Director of County Library Services

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SUBJECT: Resolution No. 2014-
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE MARIN COUNTY FREE LIBRARY CALLING FOR AN ELECTION TO RENEW A SPECIAL TAX UPON PARCELS LOCATED WITHIN THE COUNTY OF MARIN FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ESSENTIAL FUNDING TO PROTECT AND MAINTAIN LIBRARY SERVICES

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION: Approve Resolution No. 2014-

SUMMARY: The Marin County Free Library (MCFL) serves the unincorporated areas of Marin County as well as the City of Novato and the Towns of Fairfax and Corte Madera. In 2010, Measure A passed with a 74% approval rating from voters. It provided a tax of \$49 per parcel for a period of 5 years. This funding will end when the measure expires on June 30, 2015 unless a renewal of the parcel tax is approved by voters.

Measure A provides the MCFL approximately \$2.5 million per year, or roughly 15% of our overall budget for library services. This parcel tax funding provides a critical part of the needed financial resources to keep our library system whole to avoid reduced hours or closure of any of our branches. It also funds critical services to children that support their formal education and encourages them to become lifelong learners.

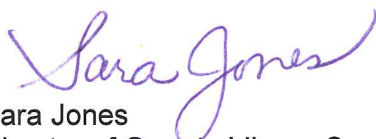
In November of 2013 a community telephone survey was conducted to assess support for a renewal of Measure A. The survey results indicate a strong base of support for a renewal of Measure A among likely June 2014 voters. A ballot measure to extend the parcel tax for nine years with a CPI adjustment would provide necessary funding to: keep local libraries up to date, prevent closures, and maintain library hours; provide children, teen, senior and disabled programs - including adult and family literacy; maintain collections of books, CDs, DVDs, materials and services; provide ADA accessibility; and ensure local funding that can't be taken by the State.

FISCAL/STAFFING IMPACT: The extension of the parcel tax as described would allow the library to continue current services, potentially expand some library hours on Fridays where they currently are not open and continue much needed further ADA accessibility improvements. If it does not pass, MCFL would be forced to reduce staff, library hours and services.

REVIEWED BY:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Auditor Controller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Human Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



Sara Jones
Director of County Library Services

cc: Roy Given, Director of Finance
Sheila Lichtblau, Deputy County Counsel
Jacalyn Mah, Administrative Analyst III
Alison Dana Howard, President, Library Commission