



Measure B Citizens Review Panel

Minutes

May 20, 2026

Fig Garden Regional Library

Members Present: Jeannette Davies, Deborah Ikeda, Deborah Janzen, Aimee Kawasaki, ,
James Poptanich, Judith Preuss, Linda Renn, Marcia Sablan
Staff Present: Sally Gomez, Joel Cadenasso, and Vera Scott-Slater
Regrets: Bradley Miranda and Tammie Wenter
Guest: James Delgado and Brooke Payton

- 1) **Call to Order:** Jim Poptanich called meeting to order at 6:07 PM.
- 2) **Adoption of Agenda:** Motion to Approve agenda **Ikeda**; Second: **Janzen**.
- 3) **Approval of January 21, 2026 Minutes.** Linda Renn requested correction that was approved and accepted by Chairman Poptanich. Motion to Approve Minutes **Ikeda**; Second: **Janzen**.
- 4) **Fresno County Librarian – Sally Gomez**
 - Reported the promotion of two (2) Library Assistants; and the continued recruitment for a Sr Library Assistant to operate the Book Mobile.
 - Update: Majority of Central Branch Library staff have relocated to the new 'L' Street location to accommodate renovations that include asbestos abatement. Some divisions will also be housed at the Bitwise Beehive and the building formerly known as the Smoke Shop (next door to Politi Branch Library).
 - Update: 'New' Politi Library is awaiting internet access and progressing well. There is a current work order with a County-contracted vendor (EverOn). The closure of vendor Baker & Taylor has limited access to filling book orders. The opening of this branch is anticipated to be after the conclusion of the Summer At Your Library (SAYL) event.
 - Update: Selma Library is awaiting fire/sprinkler permitting before Library staff may re-occupy.
 - Update: Clovis and Reedley Libraries are progressing well with projected completion in 2027.
 - This year's SAYL will be partnering with the Chaffee Zoo and featuring the theme 'Go Wild For Reading'. Library branches will be adapting/featuring an animal to highlight.
 - The Library will not host a Pride booth at the Pride Parade; but, advocates have reported that they will be present. AB1825-CA Freedom to Read Act protects books from being restricted and/or banned.
- 5) **Coalinga/Huron Librarian – Jeannette Davies**
 - Children's Specialist position is being filled.
 - Working with local schools to bridge the gap of using the public library instead of spending money on building school libraries.
- 6) **Measure B Sales Tax Collection Report –Joel Cadenasso**

Fresno Countywide Financials

 - Expenses: March 31, 2026 of \$28.21 million with revenues collected \$28.45 million; and operating surplus is \$240,000.
 - Setting aside \$2,135,000 for major facilities projects; total reserved \$12,135,000.

- Chairman Poptanich inquired about branch deposits; in response by County Sr Accountant Joel Cadenasso the amount of \$188,433 included photo copies, faxes, fines, and lost books.
- Goals for FY2025-26:
 - Central Library- Logistics and temporary space collaboration with other County departments // Engineer recommendation includes basement abatement and ceiling upgrades // Fire suppression modernization covered by grant// New LED lights upgrades covered by grant // Major repair on secured parking lot fence and gate motorized unit.
- Deborah Janzen questioned whether project delays were creating additional costs; in response by County Sr Accountant Joel Cadenasso delays were not creating additional costs.
- Operational budget is \$44.7 million. Estimated Fund Balance surplus at \$1,655,238.
- The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report is now available at the County's Auditor Controller Treasurer Tax Collector's website.
- Beginning Fund Balance 07/01/2025 was \$95,745,432.
- Total remaining cost of both the Clovis and Reedley Libraries is \$41.35 million.
- The Building Forward Grant's state match amount of \$3,409,871 will be in addition to the non-grant expenses estimated at \$4.1 million.
- Selma Library's fire suppression remaining costs \$167,718.
- Estimated costs for New Politi startup and furnishings \$2 million.
- Deborah Janzen questioned whether the Library owned the property next to the Betty Rodriguez Regional Library (formerly Baskin Robbins); the response affirmed ownership.
- Chairman Poptanich questioned the estimated cost of \$300,000 for the fencing of the mobile literacy fleet.
- Highway City contingency for construction is \$7 million.
- The total contingency amount set aside is \$30,324,730.
- Fund Balance after all commitments estimate is \$11,569,913.

Measure B Revenues-Fresno & Coalinga Monthly Tax Proceeds

- Revenue in the current year has increased 1.72%. FY 24-25 revenue increased by 1.73%.
- Current Collection: The reports for Fresno, Coalinga, and combined Sales Tax Proceeds. FY 25-26 Fresno is \$15,744,258. FY 25-26 Coalinga-Huron \$371,520.
- Fresno: Anticipate that Measure B Sales Tax revenue will be around the FY 25-26 budgeted amount of \$25.7 million.
- This represents a decrease of 3.2% (\$860,212) from FY 24-25 collections at \$26,560,212 collections were increased by \$470,969 over FY 23-24, a 1.8% increase.
- Coalinga: Prior year collections at \$626,745 revenue in FY 24-25 were \$8,856 less than in FY 23-24, a 1.39% decrease. Anticipate a decrease of 3.2% (about \$24,000) to \$606,500 in FY 25-26.
- Combined Measure B Collected: The last page reflects the history of actual receipts since FY 2015-16 (ten years, seven months), the combined receipts are \$238.9 million. Since 1998, the combined receipts are \$448.4 million.
- Explained possible affects of Governor's proposed electronically delivered prewritten software sales and use tax on Measure B revenues beginning 01/01/27.
- Last two fiscal year property taxes counted for 36% of revenue; and Measure B sales tax counted for 55%.

10) Suggested next CRP meeting convene on Wednesday, August 19, 2026 @ 6pm at Fig Garden Regional Library.

11) Everyone is in good standing with their attendance.

12) Motion to Adjourn at 6:56PM.