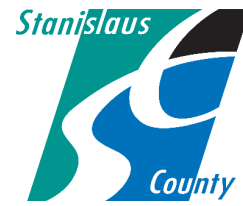


Annual Report 2020-2021



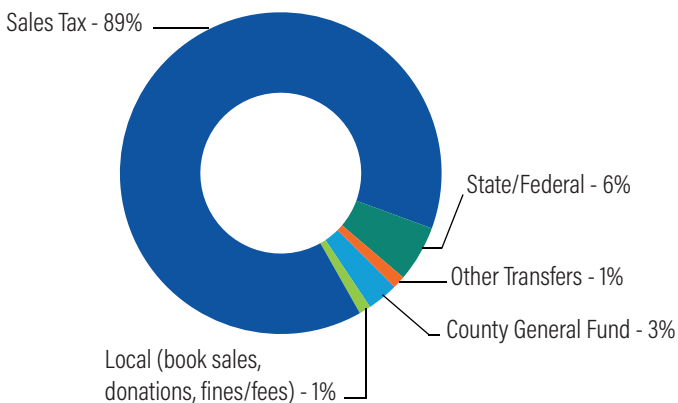
Fiscal Year 2020-2021 presented the challenge of continuing modified services amid the COVID-19 pandemic, while moving forward with long-term planning and growth for the library. An interim strategic plan, based on the public input that informed the previous plan, was completed. This plan keeps the majority of the Library’s existing strategic objectives in place, and will guide library efforts for the next two years. As outlined by the interim strategic plan, the library will demonstrate fiscal responsibility, ensure that the library is a welcoming environment, increase community connections and partnerships, provide responsive and creative programs, and expand the reach of the library. Highlights in each of these areas are included here.

Demonstrate Fiscal Responsibility

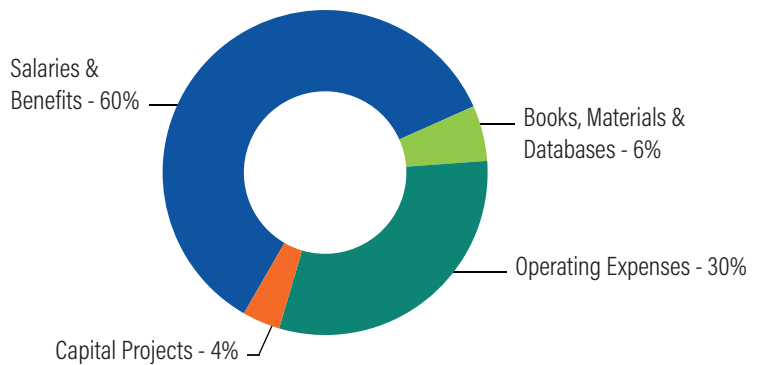
The library’s primary funding source is the 1/8-cent sales tax earmarked for libraries, last approved by voters in 2017. The sales tax provides a secure, dedicated revenue stream, dependent upon local consumer spending. As a good steward of public funds, library core operations are being aligned with existing and projected revenue. Sales tax revenues were higher than expected in 2020-2021, and unutilized revenue is designated for necessary infrastructure maintenance and future library operations.

Circulation of Physical Materials	477,841
Circulation of Electronic Materials	243,601
Total Circulation	721,442

REVENUE: \$15,707,207



EXPENSES: \$11,824,799



READ TO ME! KITS
A new way to bring Story Time home!

Enhancements to library services and programs are provided through grants, donations and one-time funding. In FY 2020-2021, the Stanislaus County Library received nearly \$100,000 in grants. Projects supported in whole or in part by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian include Read to Me! kits, for parents and caregivers to create Story Time experiences at home; STEAM activities, which provide learning opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math; and the popular Uke Got This! program, which enables people of all ages to check out a ukulele kit and participate in a ukulele class offered virtually. Lunch at the Library is offered through a partnership with the California State Library and the California Library Association, and enabled families picking up lunches at school sites to receive free books from the library. Online banking classes were offered and mobile hotspots were made available for checkout through a Community Connect grant, provided through a partnership with the American Library Association and Capital One.

Ensure the Library is a Welcoming Environment

The Turlock Library underwent a total renovation and expansion in its existing park-like setting, while a new library was built in Empire adjacent to the community pool and park. Both libraries were long overdue for upgrades. The 16,000 square-foot Turlock Library features dedicated spaces for children and teens, a community room, a Friends of the Library book store, and more.



Turlock Library



Empire Library

The 4,720 square-foot Empire Library, conveniently located near schools, is a welcoming space for children, teens and adults, with an expanded children's collection and more Spanish language books, to reflect the needs of the community. The library's community room opens to an outdoor patio space, which allows for creative and flexible programming.

A makerspace was added inside the Modesto Library. The space will be used for creative programming and offer special equipment, such as computers for creative design, 3-D printers, sewing machines and more.

Increase Community Connections and Partnerships

Although volunteers were not helping on site for most of 2020-2021, library support groups were working hard behind the scenes. Friends of the Library groups, the Library Foundation and Library Advisory Board met virtually, and used the opportunity to find new and creative ways to support the library. Scholastic Book Sales were held online. The Stanislaus Library Foundation conducted a successful mail campaign in lieu of the annual Author's Garden Gala, and the 2020 Party at the Library was held online. Friends of the Turlock Library raised more than \$1 million toward enhancements and future programming at the new library.

Provide Responsive and Creative Programs

Modified library services and programs continued to evolve due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Virtual programming expanded to include not only Story Times, but live virtual book club meetings, themed virtual trivia nights for families, virtual art classes and more. Reading challenges moved to an online platform called Beanstack, giving easy access to tracking participation from a computer or mobile device. Children could pick up Grab 'N Go Activity Kits, with materials and instructions for crafts and STEAM* program activities to do at home.

182 Live Virtual Programs
3,707 attended
90 Recorded Virtual Programs
760 views
STEAM Program Kits
12,283 kits distributed at
libraries and partner sites

live virtual book club meetings, themed virtual trivia nights for families, virtual art classes and more. Reading challenges moved to an online platform called Beanstack, giving easy access to tracking participation from a computer or mobile device. Children could pick up Grab 'N Go Activity Kits, with materials and instructions for crafts and STEAM* program activities to do at home.

*Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math



Expand the Reach of the Library

The library's outreach efforts continued, with modifications due to COVID-19. Bilingual Story Times were among the most viewed in the library's virtual programming line-up. In addition to Story Times and other public programs delivered on Facebook and Zoom, staff developed and shared virtual presentations to community groups focusing on early literacy, library services, and library resources.

Due to the pandemic, the library at the Juvenile Justice Center has been unavailable in the traditional manner, and the Library's Youth Outreach department delivered books for students to keep.

The April 2021 celebration of Día de los niños, Día de los libros/Day of the Child, Day of the Book, featured children's book giveaways at libraries and a virtual author visit. Community partners who traditionally participate in Día events continued to do so by promoting Día with the audiences they serve. Throughout the year, library staff distributed books at school sites and outdoor community events to support children's literacy development.

Home delivery services continued unabated, with staff delivering materials to homebound seniors and others unable to travel to their local library.

- Distributed 9,220 books to children at libraries and other community partner sites.
- Provided 587 deliveries of library materials to homes and care facilities.