



## LIBRARY COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

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July 7, 2022  
Item 6

### **SUBJECT: REVIEW AND APPROVE ANIMALS IN THE LIBRARY ADDENDUM TO THE LIBRARY CODE OF CONDUCT**

#### **SUMMARY**

Based on recent interactions inside the Pleasanton Library, as well as incidents at other Bay Area libraries involving animals, staff have recommended specific language be added to the Library Code of Conduct regarding animals on the Library premises to maintain an environment that is safe and conducive to Library use for all.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Review and approve the Animals in the Library addendum to the Library Code of Conduct.

#### **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

There is no financial impact to this item.

## **BACKGROUND**

The current Library Code of Conduct, established in 2018, only addresses animals in the Library under Prohibited Conduct, section N: "Bringing animals into the library, with the exception of service animals or animals brought in for special programs approved by the library." The Code of Conduct does not specifically address animal behavior or requirements of animals allowed the building.

To address this, Library staff worked in consultation with the City Attorney's Office to craft an Animals in the Library addendum to the Code of Conduct that is lawful, enforceable, and consistent with policy throughout the City in all City-operated buildings. The addendum was then reviewed by the Library Commission Policy Sub-Committee and the Department Diversity Equity and Inclusion Work group.

## **DISCUSSION**

As proposed, the Animals in the Library addendum specifically addresses which animals are welcome and allowed in the Library, identifying both service and/or support animals, and defining each. The addendum also outlines requirements for service animals and identifies questions that may be asked of individuals who bring animals into the Library. Finally, the addendum specifically outlines the responsibilities of individuals who bring animals into the Library as well as behavior requirements of animals on the Library premises. Enforcement procedures, already established in the current Code of Conduct, will remain unchanged.

Library staff and the Policy Sub-Committee recommend the instatement of the Animals in the Library addendum into the Code of Conduct.

Submitted by:



Jeff Gibson  
Senior Librarian

Attachment:

1. Animals in the Library proposed addendum
2. Library Code of Conduct (2/1/2018)